



Yankton Soccer Tourney Gets Under Way • 10

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City Building Permits Lag

Cool, Wet Spring Cited As Possible Cause For Slowdown In Construction

BY NATHAN JOHNSON
nathan.johnson@yankton.net

Nearly half way through the year, the estimated value of building permits issued in Yankton was a fraction of what it was a year ago.

City officials estimated the value of the building permits issued through the end of May at \$2.3 million.

May permits alone had an estimated value of \$13.3 million in 2012. Of that, \$11.7 million was due to Avera Sacred

Heart Hospital's Northern Lights addition. The total estimated value of building permits through May 2012 was \$20.4 million.

City Manager Amy Nelson speculated that the slow construction season may be due in part to cool, wet weather.

"Hopefully things will pick up now that the weather is becoming more favorable," she said. "I hope that warmer days will mean more projects, and hopefully more housing starts."

"But I think it's going to be lagging from last year," Nelson added.

The accumulated value of building permits so far this year is also anemic compared to years previous to 2012.

The estimated value of building permits through May was:

- \$7.9 million in 2011;
- \$10.6 million in 2010;
- \$7.6 million in 2009; and

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KELLY HERTZ/P&D

Yankton Elks member Dutch Erickson unfurls a historic American flag during the Elks Lodge's annual Flag Day ceremony Friday.

Flag Day Ceremony Celebrates U.S. Spirit

BY NATHAN JOHNSON
nathan.johnson@yankton.net

"I am the flag of the United States of America. My name is Old Glory ..."

As Yankton resident and U.S. Navy Capt. (retired) Debra Bodenstedt

recited the words of the poem "My Name is Old Glory" during the annual Flag Day program at the Yankton Elks Club Friday afternoon, some members of the audience audibly swelled with emotion.

Accompanied by the music of "America the Beautiful," Bodenstedt said the poem was a favorite of hers and used it to close her speech.

President Woodrow Wilson established June 14 as Flag Day in 1916, a nod to the fact that the flag was adopted on June 14, 1777.

Bodenstedt cited part of an address delivered by Wilson during his presidency: "The flag of the United States has not been created by rhetorical sentences in declarations of independence and in bills of rights. It has been created by the experience of a great people, and nothing is written upon it that has not been written by their life. It is the embodiment, not of a sentiment, but of a history."

Bodenstedt also recalled the words of Pfc. Patrick R. Raymond: "It's important to remember the sacrifices people have made for that flag. A flag is just a flag, but a flag with meaning"



Bodenstedt

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Reaction Cool To US Arms Plan For Syrian Rebels

WASHINGTON (AP) — The Obama administration hopes its decision to give lethal aid to Syrian rebels will prompt other nations to beef up assistance, now that the U.S. has cited evidence that the Syrian government used chemical weapons against its people. But the international reaction Friday ranged from flat-out disbelief of the U.S. intelligence assessments to calls for negotiation before more weapons pour into the vicious civil war.

The administration now says it has "high confidence" that President Bashar Assad's forces have killed up to 150 people with sarin gas. Although that's a tiny percentage of the approximately 93,000 killed in the civil war so far, the use of a chemical weapon crosses President Barack Obama's "red line" for escalating U.S. involvement in the conflict and prompted the decision to send arms and ammunition, not just humanitarian aid and defensive non-lethal help like armored vests and night goggles.

The administration's plan heading into the G8 meeting of industrialized nations beginning Monday is to use the chemical weapons announcement and Obama's decision on arms to persuade Russia to increase pressure on Assad to send a credible negoti-

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Yankton Inmate Captured In Florida

State Trusty Walkaway Is Found In Jacksonville

BY NATHAN JOHNSON
nathan.johnson@yankton.net

A Yankton Minimum Unit inmate that left his work release job in

Yankton last weekend is back in custody, according to the South Dakota Department of Corrections.

Richard Beckwith, 51, was apprehended in Jacksonville, Fla., Friday as part of a joint investigation involving the U.S. Marshals Service and law enforcement there.

U.S. Marshals in Sioux Falls and investigators with the Yankton County Sheriff's Office obtained information that Beckwith was at a residence in Jacksonville, according to the U.S. Marshals office in Sioux Falls.

"We began to conduct surveillance on that location until we felt we saw him," said David Alred, supervisory inspector of the Florida Regional Fugitive Task Force. "We then approached the residence and confronted several people who denied he was there."

After being interviewed separately, the individuals admitted that Beckwith was in the house.

"We went in the house to search for him with a police K-9," Alred said. "We called for him to come out numerous times, and he wouldn't. Eventually, he was located hiding in a bedroom closet under some clothes. The police K-9 engaged him, and he began to fight with the dog. He was subsequently subdued,

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CHAMPIONS OF THE CAUSE



EMILY NIEBRUGGE/P&D

David and Janet Jensen of Yankton have been named the 2013 Arts Advocates of the Year by Yankton Area Arts. Besides being busy artists themselves, they are also tireless volunteers for and promoters of the arts in Yankton.

Jensens Honored For Arts Advocacy

BY EMILY NIEBRUGGE
news@yankton.net

As David and Janet Jensen have gotten older, they have become more appreciative of and passionate about the arts.

"You get more passionate as you get older," Janet said. "Artists don't retire, they just fade away."

For their devotion to the arts, the Jensens have been named the art advocates of the year by Yankton Area Arts (YAA). The award is given based on the amount of volunteer work the advocates spend on exhibits and committees, their attendance at events and elevating the local artistic climate with their professional expertise and work.

Jackie Quinn, YAA's executive director, said the Jensens were honored for making significant contributions to the arts and supporting the community.

"People like Janet and David are fundamental to bringing a dynamic to our community that might not be in other places, but that Yankton finds an enrichment from and elevates our environment here to not just be a standard town. They definitely fall into that category," Quinn said. "They value the arts, they contribute to the arts, they advocate for the arts in their

"We see a lot of public art that has gone up since we've come here. It's growing here, and that's a good thing. It makes it a better place to live."

DAVID JENSEN

daily life and they make a significant contribution to the arts in the community."

Janet became interested in art in her 20s. She attended Bradley University and began working with ceramics. Because she could not afford a ceramics studio, she became a painter and eventually started working as a pastel artist.

Janet currently has an exhibit on display with the YAA and is a working artist.

"As an artist you don't just make your art and stick it in the closet," she said. "You have to get it out there for people to see and hopefully buy, and then you move on to the next show. I'm constantly working on another show — that's what I've done for the past 40 years."

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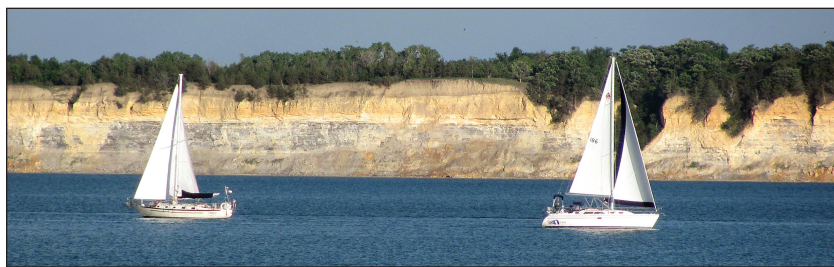
Summer's Here, And Water Safety Is Essential

BY ANDREW ATWAL
andrew.atwal@yankton.net

Officials across the region are stressing the importance of safety this summer when you head out on the water — whether it's a river or a lake, or if it's a backyard swimming pool.

Brittany Orr, recreation coordinator for the City of Yankton, said there are a number of safety precautions families should take when they go swimming with their kids, either at a home pool or a city pool.

"I would tell parents that do have a home in-ground pool to have a gate or fence around it in order to prevent neighbors or anyone else from being able to get in there," she said. "If it's an above-ground pool with a ladder that goes into it, par-



KELLY HERTZ/P&D

Many people spend much of the summer season either on or in the water, whether they are boating or swimming. Officials emphasize the need to use safety while engaging in such activities.

ents should remove the ladder so their kids can't get into it at any time."

Orr said most issues that take place at city pools, including Memorial Pool and

the Summit Activities Center (SAC) pool, come from supervision.

"If you bring kids to a pool, especially those who are 5 or 6 years old and

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