



Sunny And Warm

9 a.m.: **78** | 3 p.m.: **87** | DETAILS: PAGE 2

WEDNESDAY ■ June 26, 2013



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Chat at 3:30 p.m. today
to discuss Colton Iverson
& the NBA Draft

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75¢



Supreme Court

SD Officials Laud Ruling

Predictions Vary With Voting Rights Act Change

BY CHET BROKAW
Associated Press

PIERRE — South Dakota officials predicted there would be little impact on how the state writes election laws following a Supreme Court decision Tuesday striking down a key component of the Voting Rights Act, but critics expressed fear the ruling could jeopardize the rights of Native Americans in the state.

The South Dakota counties of Todd and Shannon, which cover the Rosebud Sioux and Pine Ridge reservations, were among the few jurisdic-

tions outside the Deep South required to get approval from the federal government before changing their voting laws. Although Tuesday's ruling doesn't strike down that provision of the landmark 1965 act, it does eliminate the requirement until Congress comes up with a new formula based on current conditions.

State officials said at one point, South Dakota had to get approval for 3,333 state laws or rules

also

■ High Court
Halts Key Part
Of Voting Law.
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passed over many years, but federal officials approved all of them.

"South Dakota's laws over the past couple of years have always been approved, so it's not going to be a big change for us," Secretary of State Jason Gant, the state's top election official, said of the court decision.

But Heather Smith of the ACLU South Dakota said the organization is disappointed with the ruling because South Dakota has a history of discriminating against Native American voters.

"A roadblock has been put up to make voting less free and accessible," Smith said.

All or parts of 15 states with a history of dis-

RULING | PAGE 3

Obama: Pollution In Play With Keystone Approval

BY JOSH LEDERMAN
AND MATTHEW DALY
Associated Press

WASHINGTON — President Barack Obama said Tuesday that the proposed Keystone XL pipeline project from Canada to Texas should only be approved if it doesn't worsen carbon pollution.

The \$7 billion pipeline has become a contentious issue, with Republicans touting the jobs it would create and demanding its approval and environmentalists urging the Obama administration to reject it,

because it would carry carbon-intensive oil from Canadian tar sands to the Texas Gulf Coast.

"Allowing the Keystone pipeline to be built requires a finding that doing so would be in our nation's in-

terests," Obama said in a speech on climate change at Georgetown University. "Our national interest would be served only if this project does not significantly exacerbate the problem of carbon pollution."

While his remarks appeared designed to reassure environmentalist fearful that the pipeline will be approved, they could also indicate an easing of the way for the pipeline, if the carbon standard is met.

The White House has insisted the State Department is making the decision about whether the pipeline is in the national interest, but Obama made it clear Tuesday he was instructing the department to approve it only if the project won't increase overall, net emissions of greenhouse gases that contribute to global warming.

A State Department report on the pipeline earlier this year acknowledged that development of tar sands in Alberta would create greenhouse gases, but also made clear that other methods to transport the oil — including rail, trucks and barges — also pose a risk to the environment. For instance, a scenario that would move the oil on trains to mostly existing pipelines would release 8 percent more greenhouse gases such as carbon dioxide than Keystone XL, the State report said.

The report also said that even without the pipeline, extraction of oil from the tar sands would likely not be affected.

A top aide to House Speaker John Boehner, R-Ohio, said Obama's comments indicated that the pipeline should be approved.

"The standard the president set today should lead to speedy approval of the Keystone pipeline,"

Walking With Ghosts



KELLY HERTZ/P&D

The "ghost" of Dr. Jennie E. Murphy (portrayed by Crystal Nelson) discusses her life and experiences with visitors to her grave site during the Historic Yankton Cemetery Walk, held Tuesday night at the Yankton Municipal Cemetery. Murphy (1865-1959) was one of the first female doctors in Yankton, as well as the first female member of the Yankton City Commission. Other ghosts who materialized during the tour included Laura Stone (1803-1890; portrayed by Joan Neubauer), Adel Pettersen (1864-1899; Nathan Johnson); Bridget (Murnan) Stanage (1832-1910; Heidi Henson); Joseph Mills Hanson (1876-1960; Stan Hoffart) and the wandering spirit of Jack McCall (1850s?-1877; Chad Nelson). The event was sponsored by the Yankton Community Library, the Dakota Territorial Museum and the Yankton Parks and Recreation Department. To see or purchase images from this event, visit spotted.yankton.net.

Law Change Allows More Time To Shoot Fireworks

BY NATHAN JOHNSON
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A change in state law will extend the time in which fireworks can be discharged in South Dakota this year.

According to State Fire Marshal Paul Merriman, action by the 2013 South Dakota Legislature will allow the discharge of fireworks from June 27 until the Sunday after July 4. In other words, South Dakotans can shoot off fireworks until July 7 this year.

Yankton Deputy Fire Chief Larry Nickles said he doesn't expect the extended discharge period to cause problems.

"Most people get their fireworks shot up the fourth and fifth, anyway," he said.

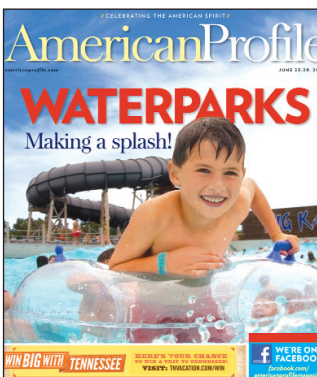
Conditions are much better for fireworks this year than in 2012, when the region was dry enough by the Fourth of July that discussions of a county-wide burn ban were taking place.

"We're doing pretty good," Nickles stated. "The humidity is up, we've had some nice rains and it's really green outside."

"We had one incident where there was a really little fire out in the county, and it wouldn't move

FIREWORKS | PAGE 3

INSIDE



American Profile

* * *

Hunger On The Rise In S. Dakota

BY ANDREW ATWAL
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South Dakota is a state that prides itself on feeding its residents, yet many go without meals on a daily basis.

A new study shows that 103,180 people in South Dakota do not know where their next meal will come from. In addition, of those 103,180 people, 36,110 are children.

The Feeding America study also shows that 12.5 percent of the state population will struggle with hunger.

Locally, there are varying levels of people who are "food insecure." Food insecurity is defined by the USDA as "consistent access to adequate food is limited by a lack of money or other resources at times throughout the year."

In Yankton County, 10.9 percent of the population is considered food insecure, or 2,450 total people. Of that total, 40 percent fall below the Supplemental Food Assistance Program (SNAP) threshold of 130 percent of the poverty level.

In Bon Homme County, 10.8 percent of the population is deemed food insecure. This percentage is 13.9 percent in Charles Mix County and 15.1 percent in Clay County.

Nearly 14 percent of the Nebraska population deals is food insecure, including 11.3 percent for Knox County and 9.2 percent in Cedar County.

"This is the third study Feeding America has done, going back to the time when the measurement for the need of food assistance was based on just a few factors," said Matt Gassen, executive director of Feeding South Dakota. "The new approach and formula was created using those few factors and adding in others to have a better determination of the amount of people across the

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COURTESY PHOTO

Alexis Logue of Irene-Wakonda will be attending Girls Nation in Washington, D.C., next month. Logue was selected for the honor during South Dakota Girls State last month in Vermillion.

Area Teen Set For Girls Nation

BY EMILY NIEBRUGGE
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WAKONDA — After participating in South Dakota Girls State, Wakonda's Alexis Logue is ready for a week at Girls Nation.

Logue, a student at Irene-Wakonda, was one of two South Dakota Girls State delegates selected to spend a week in Washington, D.C., where participants will become "senators" who run for office, elect a mock U.S. Girls Nation President, campaign for the mock legislation and meet with national government leaders.

Logue said she left Girls State, held in Vermillion last month, with a greater respect for politicians and what they do for the government and was surprised by how much she learned during the week.

"You didn't really know you were learning so much because it was such a fun environment," she said. "We were with girls we had just met and we were all becoming friends. I feel like I got a lot out of the week and it was an experience of a lifetime."

Going into Girls State, Logue said she had no idea what Girls Nation was, but as the week progressed she learned more and decided it was something she really wanted. After speaking with junior counselor and Yankton native Kayla Sylvester, who attended



Girls Nation last year, Logue decided to go through with the interviews to be selected for Girls Nation.

"I started thinking about it and it was kind of in the back of my mind — I wasn't dead set on going because I knew there were so many other girls who would be just as good if not better," Logue said. "I got the interview and when I went in for it, I was so nervous — there were six panelists on one side of the table and I was on the other. But I just tried to bring out my best qualities about myself."

The panelists asked Logue what she thought the biggest problem facing her generation is, which historical figure she admires most and why she should be chosen to attend Girls Nation.

"I got done and I felt really confident, but I still knew there were really good people going up against me," Logue said.

Because inauguration was that night, Logue said

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