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## Court Dumps DOMA

### Supreme Court Gives Gay Marriage Historic Boost

BY MARK SHERMAN  
Associated Press

WASHINGTON — In a historic day for gay rights, the Supreme Court gave the nation's legally married gay couples equal federal footing with all other married Americans on Wednesday and also cleared the way for same-sex marriages to resume in California.



HECTOR AMEZCUA/MCT  
Shelly Bailes, left, and her wife, Ellen Pontac, celebrate in Sacramento, California, after hearing the Supreme Court struck down the Defense of Marriage Act and refused to rule on California's Proposition 8 effectively uncutting the law on June 8, 2013.

In deciding its first cases on the issue, the high court did not issue the sweeping declaration sought by gay rights advocates that would have allowed same-sex couples to marry anywhere in the country. But in two rulings, both by bare 5-4 majorities, the justices gave gay marriage supporters encouragement in confronting the nationwide patchwork of laws that outlaw such unions in roughly three dozen states.

Gay-rights supporters cheered and hugged outside the court. Opponents said they mourned the rulings and vowed to keep up their fight.

In the first of the narrow rulings in its final session of the term, the court wiped away part of a federal anti-gay marriage law, the Defense of Marriage Act, that has kept legally married same-sex couples from receiving tax, health and pension benefits that are otherwise available to married couples.

Justice Anthony Kennedy, joined by the four liberal justices, said the purpose of the law was to impose a disadvantage and "a stigma upon all who enter into same-sex marriages made lawful by the unquestioned authority of the states."

DOMA | PAGE 9

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## Advocates In S.D., Neb. Praise Court Ruling

By The Associated Press

The head of the American Civil Liberties Union of South Dakota said Wednesday she's ecstatic with the U.S. Supreme Court's rulings on same-sex marriage, but the decisions do little to affect state laws banning the practice.

And in Nebraska, supporters of same-sex marriage in are looking at new possible challenges to a state constitutional amendment that defines marriage as the union of one man and one woman.

The nation's high court ruled Wednesday that same-sex couples should get the same federal benefits as heterosexual couples, invalidating provisions of the federal Defense of Marriage Act. The justices also cleared the way for the resumption of same-sex marriages in California, the most populous U.S. state.

"Today's ruling is a historic victory for gay and lesbian Americans and a tremendous step forward for the cause of equality," said Jana Kooren, ACLU of South Dakota's acting executive director. "But striking down DOMA does not change our state marriage laws."

Gay marriage has been banned in South Dakota since the Legislature passed a law in 1996, and the prohibition was



Jackley

RULING | PAGE 3

## Signs Of Something New



KELLY HERTZ/P&D

The City of Yankton recently approved a sign ordinance that is expected to go into effect July 21. Officials hope it will streamline the permitting process for the public and reduce some of the less desirable signage in the community.

## Yankton Approves New Sign Ordinance

BY NATHAN JOHNSON  
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After 18 months of development, a new sign ordinance was recently approved for the City of Yankton that officials believe will better equip the community for the future.

"I now think the City of Yankton has modern terminology relating to the regulation of signs," Community Development Director Dave Mingo said. "There was a big learning curve not only for staff but also for the Planning Commission and City Commission because we transferred from a content-based ordinance to an on- or off-premises-based ordinance. That changes all the language in the code, even though the end result is a

lot of the signs are allowed the same as they were before."

The new ordinance, which folds the regulation of signs into the city's overall zoning ordinance, is expected to become law July 21.

Yankton's current sign ordinance was first implemented in 1958 and underwent revisions in 1976 and 1979.

When setting out to rewrite the ordinance, Mingo said there were three goals:

- streamlining the permitting process through a series of regulated exemptions, making the process more user friendly;
- reducing some of the less desirable types of signage, thereby helping with the overall image of the

community; and

- modernizing the ordinance language, including the addition of terminology that reflects current laws and court decisions related to signs and also to reflect today's technology.

During the commission meeting earlier this month when the ordinance was approved, a decision was made not to make some significant changes that were agreed to by the Planning Commission.

The alternate version pertained to off-premise signs — which are any signs that identify a use, facility or service which is not located on the premises — in the Highway Business

SIGNS | PAGE 13

## Potential U.S. Senate Run Explored By Bosworth

BY DEREK BARTOS  
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Congress needs fewer "yes" men, and Sen. John Thune (R-S.D.) could use a good wingman, according to a Sioux Falls physician considering a run for the U.S. Senate.

"One of the frustrating things about what's gone on in Washington is the stuckness in thinking," said Dr. Annette Bosworth during an informal meet and greet Wednesday at JoDean's.

The physician's stop in Yankton was part of her statewide tour to speak with South Dakotans and explore a run for Congress on the Republican ballot.

In an interview with the Press & Dakotan, Bosworth said one of the primary problems with Congress is the "career politician."

"They want to get re-elected and satisfy where the money comes from," she said. "They spend as much time raising money and politicking for funds as they do understanding the issues they are there to represent your state for. That needs to change."

Bosworth said those in Washing-



DEREK BARTOS/P&D

Sioux Falls physician Dr. Annette Bosworth speaks at an informal meet and greet Wednesday at JoDean's in Yankton.

ton who are making changes are the people who have served "on the front lines of industry." With her experience in healthcare, she believes she could join those difference-makers, she said.

"I work outside the big businesses. I serve primary care," she said. "I've been serving addiction and mental health and the underserved with innovative ways to deliver high-quality care."

Bosworth said she has had to become even more innovative with ways to treat underserved patients with the arrival of the Affordable Care Act, which she believes is "essentially a bailout" and will do more harm to healthcare than good.

"There has hardly been a time in medicine where you've heard people cry for such reform," she said. "As

BOSWORTH | PAGE 2

## Freeman Police Chief Pleads Guilty

BY RANDY DOCKENDORF  
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FREEMAN — As part of a plea agreement, the Freeman police chief has pleaded guilty to a misdemeanor drug charge that could eventually be removed from his record.

Eric Seitz appeared Wednesday before Magistrate Judge Tami Bern in First Circuit Court at Yankton. He received a suspended imposition of sentence and was given six months of unsupervised probation.

Seitz pleaded guilty to one count of obtaining controlled substances concurrently from medical practitioners, a Class I misdemeanor. The substances were hydrocodone, used as a pain reliever, and carisoprodol, used as a muscle relaxer.

Seitz had faced three counts of the same offense, but the other two



Seitz

SEITZ | PAGE 9

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