



Knock On Wood: L&C Wood-Bat Classic Under Way • 7



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Yankton Group: Change HSC Buildings Plan

Proposal Urges State Officials To Prepare Plan Focused More On Economic Benefits

BY NATHAN JOHNSON
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A group of Yankton citizens is asking the State of South Dakota to reconsider its three-phase plan for the historic South Dakota Human Services Center (HSC) campus.

Friday was the deadline set by the state for the submission of proposals regarding the development and restoration of select buildings. The request for proposals was put out April 16. Most buildings on the campus are slated for demolition during the next several years.

Yankton County Commissioner Donna Freng, Robert Gehm of the Gehm Group, Yankton City Commissioner Jake Hoffner, Jason List of List Construction, and Paul Lowrie of the Gurney Redevelopment Group, as well as Yankton County Historical Society members Joan Neubauer and Tom Steinbach, are listed as signatories of a proposal issued late Friday afternoon.

"We ... urge the state to consider the value and advantage of working with the City of Yankton to prepare a plan for the Human Services Center that enables efficient, rational and long-term economic redevelopment of this asset," states the conclusion of the proposal.

The plan consists of an overview of similar efforts undertaken at other locations across the country, a brief overview of the advantages of a comprehensive redevelopment plan and sugges-

tions for implementing the plan.

"It was an 11th-hour meeting of the minds between people who really would like to see a maximum return out of that property," said Richard Jensen, a historic preservation consultant assisting the group with its efforts. "What should be done is a survey to go through and evaluate the buildings from both a market perspective, and a structural and architectural perspective so that we know what we've got. We want a well-informed evaluation of the campus. We understand that there are almost certainly buildings that have to go. At the very least, there are some garages and out-buildings that are not historical or well built."

Jensen said he has spoken with several developers who have a serious interest in considering uses for the campus but need more time.

The state had asked that any proposal address issues of financial sustainability, compatible use, appropriate liability insurance, a performance bond and indemnity. The proposal submitted Friday does not meet that criteria, and Jensen readily acknowledges it.

"Our proposal is basically a request that the state revisit the terms of its plan," he said.

Without more information than what is currently available, Jensen said it is unlikely anyone would submit a proposal

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DAVID LIAS/VERMILLION PLAIN TALK
Gov. Dennis Daugaard spoke to delegates at South Dakota Girls State during Friday morning's session at the University of South Dakota in Vermillion.

Gov. To Girls State: Use Your Ability To Achieve

BY TRAVIS GULBRANDSON
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VERMILLION — Gov. Dennis Daugaard had some advice for the attendees of the 67th annual South Dakota Girls State: Get involved.

"You're here because you have been identified by your school as the best," the governor said during a presentation Friday morning. "I hope you will recognize that as something that should encourage you to see yourself as a leader, and see yourself as having the potential to become involved in your communities and in public service."

Daugaard acknowledged that this message is not a new one, particularly in commencement speeches where the orator encourages the audience to "dream big."

"We hear that so often that we sometimes drift off ... but I do think that it's especially relevant to this audience, to you, because you are the best and brightest young women that we have in South Dakota," Daugaard said.

He added that much as made of those who achieve great things despite obstacles, be they economic, social or personal.

Daugaard told the audience that while most of these obstacles are out of their control, the biggest one they face is often in their own head.

"What we believe we're capable of is probably the greatest constraint on our ability to achieve," he said. "So, I encourage you to recognize that and refuse to be constrained, refuse to let those self-doubts or your beliefs about what might be possible for your own life. Don't let them hold you back."

A former Boys Stater, Daugaard said that if someone asked him when he was a teen if he would ever be governor of the state, he would have told them, "No way. I could never do that."

"We tend to think of other people as the doers in the world, even those of us who have achieved," he said. "We still tend to think of other people as being those who can achieve elective offices or economic success or community leadership roles, and really, there is every reason why you should see yourselves as that future governor, or that future mayor, or community leader, or high school superintendent - whatever your aspirations are."

You do not have to be the leader, either, to be successful, Daugaard said -

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Officials Pleased With Sedimentation Progress

Build-Up Of Silt And Sand Behind Gavins Point Dam Has Been A Concern For Decades

BY DEREK BARTOS
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With the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers releasing its initial findings from its sedimentation management study last week, area sedimentation officials are pleased progress is being made, but acknowledge much more work is ahead.

According to results from the Phase I Lewis and Clark Lake Sedimentation Management Study (LCLSMS), the Corps believes high-discharge, short-duration reservoir releases out of Fort Randall Dam



Stockholm

could help transport significant amounts of fine sediment out of the Missouri River.

"Any progress in learning more about how sediment moves in Lewis and Clark Lake is a step forward," said Sandy Stockholm, executive director of the Missouri Sedimentation Action Coalition (MSAC), in a statement. "In reviewing the recent Corps' fact sheets, it's encouraging to know advancements are being made in modeling the various flushing scenarios. Knowing the Corps realizes that deposition of sediments in the reservoirs is an 'important concern' provides optimism in tackling this large problem."

The build-up of silt and sand behind Gavins Point Dam has been an area of concern for the Corps since

the dam was constructed during the 1950s. The LCLSMS was developed in response to the 2000 Missouri River Biological Opinions and its 2003 amendment issued by the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service.

The report states the study "aims to establish the engineering feasibility of using hydraulic flushing to move deposited sediments in the Lewis and Clark Lake delta through Gavins Point Dam, and estimate the benefits/impacts to the Missouri River channel downstream of Gavins Point Dam."

Flushing scenarios modeled in the study included releases of 88,000 cfs and 176,000 cfs following draining of the lake.

MSAC President Larry Weiss told the *Press & Dakotan* that the movement of some sediment from the

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The British Invasion: English Author Aims To Write Book About Yankton

BY NATHAN JOHNSON
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Fraser Harrison admits that his opinion of Yankton during his first visit was not entirely flattering.

The British author and broadcaster first voyaged to the city in 2011 and wrote about it in his book, "Infinite West: Travels in South Dakota," which was published last year by the South Dakota State Historical Society Press.

Only a few of pages in the book are dedicated to his overnight stay in Yankton. In one passage, he writes, "On its last couple of miles, as it approaches the river, [Highway 81] assumes the name Broadway Avenue and under this new alias turns into a characterless strip lined with the usual gas stations, fast food outlets, motels, malls. My guidebook had promised a 'gem-like historic town,' but any such claims could only be justified by the few blocks squeezed into the small business area close to the riverbank."

Through a stroke of luck, Harrison, 68, has re-

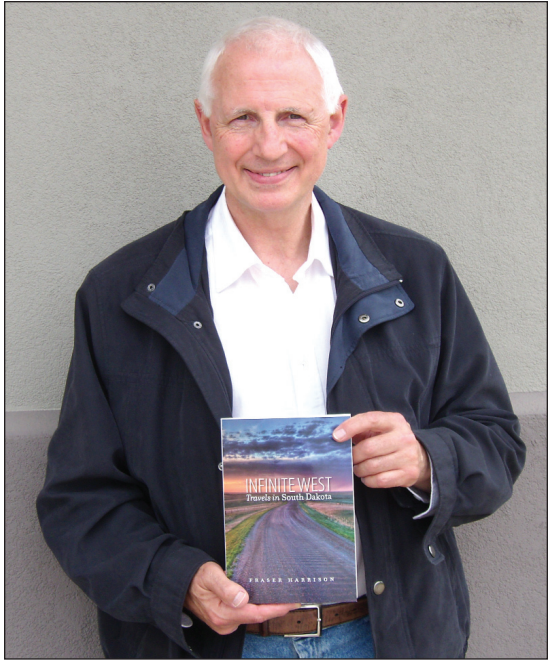
turned to Yankton and has just begun a six-week stay that he hopes will lead to a new book about the community and its people.

Harrison calls the village of Walsham le Willows in Suffolk, England, his home and has written 10 books, as well as two radio plays for the BBC. One of the plays is called "Voyage of Discovery" and is based on the journals of the Lewis and Clark expedition.

Speaking with the *Press & Dakotan* this week, Harrison said he now feels he misjudged aspects of Yankton during his first short stay. He has enjoyed deepening his familiarity with the community.

Harrison first visited South Dakota in 1992. He was teaching at St. Olaf College in Northfield, Minn., and during spring break he took his family to the Black Hills. As he drove over the Missouri River at Chamberlain, he was taken back to childhood memories of tales of the Wild West. The trip was the beginning of a long-held fascina-

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NATHAN JOHNSON/P&D

British author and broadcaster Fraser Harrison is spending six weeks in Yankton in the hopes of writing a book about the community. Last year, he penned the book (pictured above) "Infinite West: Travels in South Dakota," which chronicled his exploration of the state.

Group Hopes To Oust Alderman

RAPID CITY (AP) — Organizers of a campaign to recall a South Dakota alderman accused of making racially insensitive remarks to a black TV reporter say they have more than enough valid signatures and plan to turn them in Friday.

Recall leader and former Rapid City councilman Gary Brown said the group collected about 7,000 signatures calling for the ouster of current Councilman Bill Clayton. About 6,200 names were needed for the recall, which would force a special election.

Clayton took Brown's seat when he retired. If the recall is successful, Brown said he intends to run against Clayton.

Clayton allegedly suggested during a telephone interview that the TV reporter be deported to Kenya. The alderman said he was not aware of the reporter's race and publicly apologized.

Clayton tells the *Rapid City Journal* that the reporter's account and ensuing coverage has not been accurate.

"I have said all along, this is what happens when you try to hoist a lie up the flag pole," Clayton said.

The city council had investigated complaints over the August 2012 interview, but declined to take action against the alderman.

Clayton said he'll be checking the signatures to make sure they're valid. Brown said he's preparing for that.

"When they come in to try and tear us apart," Brown said, "hopefully it will be enough."