



Clouds Moving Off; Warmer

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SATURDAY ■ June 20, 2015



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Baseball Play  
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YANKTON DAILY  
**PRESS & DAKOTAN**



Volume 141  
Number 47

The Dakotas' Oldest Newspaper | **20 PAGES** | [www.yankton.net](http://www.yankton.net)

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**Boston  
Firm To  
Expand To  
Vermillion**

VERMILLION — A Boston-based provider of artificial intelligence-based complex care management technology, has announced its intent to create a regional hub in Vermillion.

Senscio Systems announced in a press release Friday that it was expanding to Vermillion.

The partnership with the Vermillion Chamber and Development Corporation (VDC) begins immediately and reflects Senscio's intent to explore growth in South Dakota in both the manufacturing and service sectors.

"It was a pleasure meeting with Dr. De in Philadelphia at the BIO Convention earlier this week," Gov. Dennis Daugaard said. "As our population continues to age, comprehensive healthcare and services will be in high demand. I appreciate that Dr. De and her team see the value of expanding to South Dakota, and it's a privilege to welcome such an innovative company to Vermillion."

Senscio Systems was founded in 2010 by two PhD physicists — Dr. Piali De and Dr. Hugh Stoddart — committed to helping older adults age in place and ensuring that acute episodes — unnecessary hospitalizations due to complex medical conditions — are minimized through behavioral coaching, industry-leading artificial intelligence, and individual and population health management. Senscio's Ibis System allows people with complex medical conditions to live at home while providing health data that allows caregivers to know how patients are doing in real-time. The Ibis System allows caregivers to intervene with preventative services that reduce health care costs for people, insurance companies, and governments.

"We are delighted to bring a forward-thinking technology company to Vermillion to create a strong base for operations and growth," says Nate Welch, executive director of the VDC. "Senscio Systems and its Ibis technology represent

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CHECKING OUT  
**Czech Days**



Two members of the Rothschild family reunion share their bucket list with the large crowd on hand for Friday's Czech Days parade in Tabor. The annual festival also provides for a season of reunions and homecomings. (Kelly Hertz/P&D)

**Tabor Festival Attracts All Ages**

ALYSSA SOBOTKA  
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Tabor's three-day Czech Day festival kicked off Friday with a massive parade, which also gave the first indication that the celebration is not limited to the Tabor community.

On Friday afternoon, a crowd lined the streets to view the hour-long parade.

The Bon Homme Sheriff's flashing lights led the parade, followed by the colors presented by the American legion. The group paused at the street's intersection, where spectators rose and clapped for the colors blowing on the windy afternoon.

For Tyndall native Leonard Hisek, this year's patriotic parade was special.

"It kind of hit me when the veterans came around with the flags," said Hisek, a World War II veteran.

Other patriotic floats

included Tabor's American Legion and Auxiliary Post 183 float with a "Thank You Veterans, We'll Never Forget You" sign, First National Bank's float and Avera Sacred Heart Majestic Bluff's float that portrayed the classic television show, "M\*A\*S\*H," saluting the United States Army, Navy, Marines and Air Force.

The patriotic theme was memorable for Hisek, but he also mentioned that Friday was the kids' day.

Kids popped the "snaps" firework prior to the parade and received a sizeable amount of colorful candy, Frisbees and beach balls, among other items, from the floats.

The parade offered proof that individuals from other communities also partake in Tabor's festival. But it was not the only example.

"I'm a full-blooded Czech, and these are my stopping grounds," said Florence Soukup of Wagner. "My rela-



KELLY HERTZ/P&D

Jack (left) and David Kostal discuss their memories of Czech Days while sitting in the shade outside of Sokol Park Friday afternoon. Jack attended the festival from Portland, Oregon, while David came in from Asheville, North Carolina. To see more photos from Friday's Czech Days activities, visit [www.yankton.net/](http://www.yankton.net/).

tives gather here once a year, every year."

Soukup grew up in Tyndall and attended school

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REILLY BIEL/P&D

Sen. John Thune speaks at Friday's VFW/Ladies Auxiliary Convention joint opening session in Yankton. The convention continues through the weekend.

**Thune  
Speaks At  
State VFW  
Convention**

BY REILLY BIEL

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This year's VFW/Ladies Auxiliary State Convention, held at Yankton's Kelly Inn, had many speakers at its opening session Friday. One in particular stood out: Sen. John Thune was present to give a formal opening address. "I am grateful to be here," he said.

Thune had an uncle in the Navy who was stationed at Pearl Harbor when it was attacked on Dec. 7, 1941.

This family story has prompted Thune to be invested in veteran affairs, which is especially prevalent given the VA scandals of the recent year.

"The Veteran Choice Act is in the process of being implemented," Thune told the audience Friday. "We want to make sure we're giving veterans access to full quality care in the most convenient, accessible way."

Despite the VA scandal, usage of its facilities has gone up this year by 18 percent, Thune said, and 75 people in South Dakota have been hired to manage the additional workload.

However, the senator said he wants to make sure that a mistake isn't made like in Denver, where the VA facility had a \$1.7 billion overrun.

"We need to make sure that we're holding accountable in ensuring that the taxpayer gets the best return on their dollar," Thune said.

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**Yankton**

**National Cribbage Tourney In The Cards**

BY ALISSA WOOCKMAN  
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In the midst of recovering from world archery, another large tournament is in the cards for Yankton. Between the thousands of card games you can play with a deck of cards, you may never have heard of the game cribbage.

Well, you are about to.

The American Cribbage Congress (ACC) is set to host its 34th annual 2015 Grand National Tournament in Yankton from Sept. 17-20 at the Best Western Kelly Inn.

Yankton's cribbage club was started two years ago by Scott Kooistra, organizer of this year's event. He used his long history with the game and his extended experience in hosting tournaments to submit Yankton as a location of the Grand National Tournament more than three years ago.

The Yankton cribbage club has had more than 50 people who have played in the club, of which 35 are official ACC members. Although you don't have to be a member of a Yankton club to

participate in this tournament, you do have to be an ACC member and at least 18 years old.

"It's not a teaching club," Kooistra said. "You do need to know how to play



to join, but playing with other people of different styles will make you better."

Besides being named an All-American cribbage player six times, a world record holder for 11 years and the youngest Hall of Fame member in

ACC history, Kooistra is no stranger to coordinating such events. After having directed tournaments in seven different states, Kooistra is ready and willing for this year's Grand Nationals.

"We have over 30 states already entered to compete," Kooistra said. "Three years ago, I blocked off the entire Kelly Inn."

Along with the block of rooms at the Econo Lodge, Yankton has 370 hotel room nights already reserved so far just for this tournament. With more than 7,000 ACC members throughout the world, Yankton will have another busy weekend on its hands.

"It's not as big as archery, but it's not bad," Kooistra said.

There will be four days of competition, with the top 25 percent of players from each of the four days receiving prize money. All the money donated to the tournament goes back to the players. Along with money, many of the supplies for the tournament will also be donated from Yankton sponsors like Yankton Convention and

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REGION **2** | OBITUARIES **3** | LIFE **5** | NEIGHBORS **6** | MIDWEST **10** | SPORTS **11** | WORLD **14** | CLASSIFIEDS **15**

**MONDAY: Fishing Event Serves To Mentor Kids**

YANKTON RECYCLING FOR NEXT WEEK

**NORTH**  
OF 15TH STREET