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75¢



Sports



South Dakota St.
Draws Oregon St.
In 1st Round • 7

3 DAYS UNTIL
SPRING
#ThinkSpring

County Fire Ban Lifted

But Officials Still Urge Extreme Caution Amid Dry Conditions

BY KELLY HERTZ
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The temporary burn ban has been lifted for Yankton County — but caution is still being urged. In a press release issued late Monday afternoon, Yankton County Emergency Management director Paul Scherschligt is asking county residents to use “extreme caution” in their burn plans — and postpone their plans, if possible. “We are lifting the burn ban but, due to the dry

conditions, we are asking that no burning (take place),” he said. “If you have to burn, please use extreme caution. Scherschligt said the temporary burn ban, which was issued last week, could not be renewed due to county resolution, but dangerous conditions are still prevalent. “We have to be in the very high or extreme condition” to extend the ban, he said. “Otherwise, we would put it back on due to the dry conditions.” After several days of warm, dry and breezy weather, colder and more seasonal temperatures

are in the forecast beginning today (Tuesday). However, there is little precipitation in the forecast. “We will still have winds that can push a grass fire quickly,” Scherschligt warned. “Until we receive moisture, conditions remain extreme.” For more weather details, see page 2. You can follow Kelly Hertz on Twitter at twitter.com/kelly_hertz/. Discuss this story at www.yankton.net/.

County Hears State Lake Concerns

Residents Say Lake Levels Have Fallen Since Recent Construction

BY ROB NIELSEN
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Residents living around State Lake, also known as Beaver Lake, behind the Beaver Dam have noticed the waters of their lake recede following the completion of a dam renovation. Just as quickly, they’ve also noticed the disappearance of response on the situation from the South Dakota Game, Fish & Parks Department (GF&P) which administers the lake. Cheri Loest, who owns nearby property along Beaver Creek which drains into the lake, told the commission that residents noticed a change around the time the bridge and spillway project were completed last August and took their concerns to the GF&P. “Construction on Beaver Lake bridge in August 2012 and it was considered complete in August 2014,” Loest said. “The first overflow of this spillway occurred on June 14, 2014. Property owners around the lake met with GF&P in July after the first overflow had occurred and voiced concerns that the lake

CHERI LOEST

“We have no desire for a lawsuit. We are not asking for personal damages. We only want the lake returned to its normal level.”

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KELLY HERTZ/P&D
Cheri Loest points to some of the details displayed in a PowerPoint demonstration about the water levels at Beaver Lake, sometimes called State Lake, during Monday’s Yankton County Commission meeting.

Siren Project Moves Forward

BY ROB NIELSEN
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A plan to place three additional sirens in Yankton County got final approval from the County Commission during its meeting on Monday. Yankton emergency management director Paul Scherschligt said that the sole siren bid from Danko Emergency Equipment came in under budget. “The bid came in at \$94,444.44,” Scherschligt said. “It is below the \$100,000 that was set aside.” The three sirens will be placed at three different locations around Lewis & Clark Lake, including one at the Boy Scout camp and two in the Lewis & Clark

Recreation Area. While the sirens have the capability to be used for fires and other events, the plan is to just use them for severe weather for the time being. Scherschligt said other companies had been contacted during the bid process but either found the specifications too strict or were late in applying for the process. An attempt to bid out the sirens last September netted three bids, but all three were rejected when lake area residents raised concerns about the sirens’ effect on their properties. A public meeting was held earlier this month to address those concerns. Scherschligt told the commission Monday that the bid covers a number of elements around the siren and not just the sirens themselves. “(It includes) the control center, three spare boards, installation, putting the pole in the ground and the whole nine yards,” he said. The commission unanimously approved to award the bid to Danko. Commissioner Don Kettering was absent during Monday’s meeting. Scherschligt also used the opportunity to detail another, unrelated, siren project being done by the U.S. Army Corps of Engi-



Scherchligt

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Man Who Died In Mitchell Crash ID’d

MITCHELL (AP) — Authorities have identified a Mitchell man who was killed over the weekend when he fled from police and crashed into a parked car. Police tell The Daily Republic newspaper that 33-year-old Ryan McManus fled from a Davison County sheriff’s deputy shortly after 2 a.m. Saturday and led authorities on a chase until losing control of his car and crashing into the parked vehicle. Police declined to say how fast McManus was traveling at the time. The state Highway Patrol and the Mitchell Police Department are investigating the incident.

Two Hurt In Accident



KELLY HERTZ/P&D
Two people were injured in an accident involving two vehicles that occurred at the intersection of Eighth and Summit in Yankton at 1:26 p.m. Monday. According to police reports, an individual was driving southbound on Summit St. en route to Avera Sacred Heart Hospital with a medical condition. The individual apparently lost consciousness, causing the car to veer into a parking lot where it struck a parked vehicle. The driver and the passenger were transported to the hospital with minor injuries. Yankton emergency responders were also on the scene.

YSD Schools Rated Among Best In SD

BY JORDYNNE HART
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A website called Niche has ranked all four of Yankton School District’s elementary schools in the Top 100 Elementary Schools in South Dakota. The website ranks the schools based on key students statistics and 4.6 million opinions from 280,000 students and parents. According to the website, a high ranking — such as received by Stewart, Webster, Lincoln and Beadle schools — indicates that the school is an exceptional academic institution with a diverse set of high-achieving students and faculty, and the students are

also

Proposed Standards For Science Stir Criticism At Meeting. PAGE 10

very happy with their experiences. Stewart Elementary School’s principal, Jerome Klimisch, said that it is exciting to be recognized. “We have great students, great parents and great teachers all working together,” he said. “I think a big part of it is we have the community and parents involvement in their kids. It recognizes all the hard work.”

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