



Sunshine On Your Shoulder!

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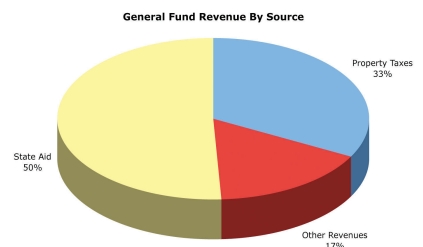
## WHITEWATER RUSH!



KELLY HERTZ/P&D

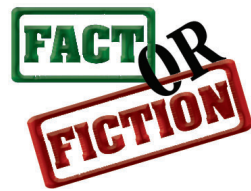
One of the Yankton area's more popular (albeit intermittent) attractions can be found roaring out of the gates at Gavins Point Dam. With the mountain snowpack melt well above normal, the river system is expected to see its second-largest runoff since records have been kept. (The largest recorded was in 1997.) This wide-angle image, taken last week above the Gavins Point Dam gates and underneath

Crest Road that goes over the dam, shows the reach of the violent whitewater as it rolls through the gates. The discharge at the dam today (Tuesday) is 56,500 cubic feet per second. It's a sight that will likely draw many sightseers, not to mention those locals who find the whitewater rush to be relaxing. For details on the Gavins Point Dam releases and weather, see page 2.



## How Does District's Tax Money Break Out?

**EDITOR'S NOTE:** The Press & Dakotan series "Fact or Fiction," is our attempt to clarify the issues surrounding the Yankton School District opt-out. By checking with state and local authorities, as well as other resources, we hope to give you the best answers from as independent sources as possible.



If you have a question or concern about the opt-out that you want clarified, send the question to: Fact or Fiction, c/o Shauna Marlette, PO Box 56, Yankton, SD 57078; or e-mail the question to news@yankton.net. We will do our best to provide as much information as possible ahead of the May 24 vote.

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**QUESTION:** Could I see a pie chart showing what percentages of my tax dollar goes where for the district?

**ANSWER:** There are five different funds for which taxes are collected and received by the Yankton School District.

The opt-out is specific to the General Fund. The definition of the General Fund, according to §13-16-3 is: "The general fund of the school district is a fund provided by law to meet all the operational costs of the school district, excluding capital outlay fund and special education fund expenditures pursuant to §13-13-37, and to redeem all outstanding warrants against the general fund."

Because the opt-out is specific to the General Fund, the above graphic shows only General Fund moneys and does not reflect the district's Capital Outlay, Special Education, Bond Redemption or Pension funds and tax uses. This chart reflects the 2010-2011 percentages and does not address the cuts to education funding for the 2011-2012 budget.

The General Fund revenues break

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## Yankton Housing Complex Earns Award For Affordability

BY NATHAN JOHNSON  
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A Yankton housing complex has been given a prestigious award from the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) for promoting long-term affordability.

The recently-renovated Sir Charles Apartments in downtown Yankton was recently chosen to receive one of 14 "Door Knocker Awards" bestowed to entities across the country. Four other projects — located in Massachusetts, New York, Vermont and Wisconsin, respectively — were also recognized for promoting long-term affordability.

"It represents the hard work, cooperation and efforts of a lot of people dedicated to preserving affordable housing in Yankton," said Dr. Tom Stange, executive director of Lewis & Clark Behavioral Health Services (LCBHS), said of Sir Charles.

In 2009, LCBHS raised the funds to purchase and rehabilitate the building. Sir Charles Housing, LLC, was created in late 2009 as a limited-liability company with LCBHS as the single member to own and

COMPLEX | PAGE 7

## Opt-Out Summit Targets Finances, Stirs Challenges

BY SHAUNA MARLETTE  
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Opt-out opponent and financial planner Rick Althoff invited the community to a summit at the Summit Activities Center to explore the Yankton School District's (YSD) upcoming \$4.175 million opt-out referendum. In the process, he drew criticism from several of those in attendance.

Althoff said and he had invited several panelists including South Dakota Gov. Dennis Daugaard, South Dakota Secretary of Education Dr. Melody Schopp and Yankton superintendent Dr. Joseph Gertsema. However, at the meeting Monday night, Althoff was the only speaker.

"I put out an open invitation to everyone," he said. "I heard nothing and a decision had to be made to move forward or not. I made a special trip to Pierre to invite the governor and I still have not heard anything."

Althoff explained he believes the school district is running on credit and that, in his mind, credit is an investment in trust. As such, he felt it was important to examine credible facts.



SHAUNA MARLETTE/P&D  
Rick Althoff addresses the audience during the "Summit at the Summit" Monday night.

to close their businesses and move away, further decreasing the Yankton community.

"Businesses in our community are struggling," he

"Education is very important to me ... my heart is here," he said. "I have a great investment in the school system: it has been the mechanism that has allowed my children to be educated and given them the ability to go on to success at the next level."

However, he said potential increases in property taxes would cause people

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## 150-Year-Old Log Cabin Being Restored

BY DEREK BARTOS  
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After a long wait, the Hovden log cabin is finally getting its facelift.

The historic cabin, located at the Dakota Territorial Museum at 610 Summit, was acquired by the Yankton County Historical Society in 2006 and has been in need of repairs for quite some time.

"By the time it got here, it was starting to look pretty rough," said museum director Crystal Mensch-Nelson.

Mensch-Nelson said the museum delayed the cabin's restoration so it could find the right person for the job, which it did last year in preservationist Gary Barker of Dodge, N.D.

"He actually found us. He was

looking for some work in between some other jobs," Mensch-Nelson said. "He happened to have this really nice craft in knowing how to work with these structures. We investigated some more, and we were able to determine that we was the right man for the job."

While the cabin needs a lot work, Barker said he is up to the task.

"I did another square cabin like this and it was in just as bad of shape," he said. "That's when I learned anything is possible."

Mensch-Nelson said part of the reason the cabin is in such poor shape is because of the number of times it has been moved.

After it was built around 1860

CABIN | PAGE 7



KELLY HERTZ/P&D

Preservationist Gary Barker is restoring the Hovden log cabin at the Dakota Territorial Museum in Yankton. To maintain historical accuracy, Barker is using the same type of materials and tools that were used when the cabin was built by Norwegian immigrants 150 years ago.

## AG Opinion Sought On Extension Cuts

BY RANDY DOCKENDORF  
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SCOTLAND — A District 19 legislator is seeking the attorney general's opinion on whether state budget cuts to the Cooperative Extension Service are illegal.

State Rep. Frank Kloucek (D-Scotland), along with State Rep. Peggy Gibson (D-Huron) and State Sen. Jason Frerichs (D-Wilmot), filed the request Friday with Attorney General Marty Jackley. The three legislators contend the state budget cuts may violate the 1862 Morrill Land Grant Act and the 1914 Smith-Lever Act.

"We faxed (the request) Friday.



Kloucek

We are pretty confident (Jackley) is going to give us some direction on this, one way or another," Kloucek told the Press & Dakotan Monday. "Once he does, we will take it from there."

Gibson, an educator, said the Extension cuts will harm informational opportunities for the state's farmers and ranchers. She has also expressed concern

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After 39 years of hard work and dedication, **Joyce Wentworth** is retiring from the Yankton School District. **Open House** Tuesday, May 17, 2011 3:00-5:00pm Yankton Schools Administration Offices, 2410 West City Limits Road



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TOMORROW: Yankton, Bon Homme County Commissions Confer

YANKTON RECYCLING THIS WEEK: NORTH OF 15TH STREET