



PHOTO: DAVE TUNGE/DAKOTA AERIALS

## VIEWS FROM A RIVERLESS RIVER

The week's brief halting of discharges from Gavins Point Dam revealed a different side to the river, and it was something a lot of people couldn't resist. ABOVE: Dave Tunge of Dakota Aerials took this photo of people exploring the exposed river bottom, which revealed items ranging from old bones (many of which may well have been from buffalo) to assorted debris such as fish lines and boat accessories. RIGHT: Images such as this one shot, shot near Myron Grove, by Linda Clatworthy were common just below the dam for much of Wednesday. Large tree trunks were some of the most conspicuous items to be revealed as the water levels dropped. Corps officials, who halted the discharges in order to inspect the dam for damage from last year's record flooding, began boosting water discharges late in the day, with the river returning to normal.



PHOTO: LINDA CLATWORTHY

## HSC

From Page 1

get someone who would speculate on the (HSC) land, hold it and do nothing with it," he stated. "They may throw it on the tax rolls, but they do it in the hopes that in 10 years it is going to be worth a lot more money and nothing ever happens at that corner. We're a lot better off having that developed than having it sit there and someone mowing it."

With the fresh success of the Menards project, Russell said it adds a sense of realism when the city talks about purchasing the HSC ground and developing it into a retail area.

"After the agreements were done and we had signed documents from Menards, Inc., there was still speculation and people doubting that it was ever going to occur," he said. "Until the building started going up, people were really skeptical. I think by having it there, people can see maybe there is a market here that we just didn't realize."

Russell said discussions have been had about the HSC property with Greenbow Real Estate Partners, which was the developer for the Menards project. The firm agrees that it is a marketable piece of property, he stated.

In his written memorandum to the commission about Monday's agenda item, Russell notes, "While the HSC property may take some time to develop (the Menards deal took three years to finalize), there have already been some initial discussions related to retailers suited for this property."

A proposed layout of how the

HSC property could be developed into a retail center has been composed, and Russell said it will be displayed by Greenbow Real Estate Partners at the International Council of Shopping Centers later this month.

The memorandum also reminds the commission that part of the HSC property is used for the fields of the Yankton Youth Soccer Association.

"The ground is ultimately being acquired for economic development purposes, not for parks and recreation," Russell states. "This future development would necessitate the soccer association finding an alternative location."

As for what type of retail stores the city might try to recruit to Yankton if the purchase is approved, Knoff said Friday he doesn't know specifically.

"You look at those items that people want to leave town for ... and what you can do to keep them here," he said. "I don't know that you'll find a hole as big as home improvement was."

Russell said he hopes people look at the potential pay-off of the purchase in the long term.

"What's it going to mean to us 10-15 years in the future if we're building on what we've done (with Menards), and what is the population base going to be because Yankton offers what people are looking for?" he asked. "It's going to be more of a draw for people to come in and establish a residence here."

The Monday City Commission meeting gets under way at 7 p.m. in the City of Yankton Meeting Room, located at the Technical Education Center, 1200 W. 21st St.

You can follow Nathan Johnson on Twitter at [twitter.com/AnInlandVoyage](https://twitter.com/AnInlandVoyage)

## Farmers

From Page 1

flooding along the Souris River. Nearly 7 million acres of normally productive cropland went unseeded, about one-fifth of the land typically planted with annual crops in the two states.

The flooding hit hardest in North Dakota, where the amount of unseeded land in 2011 was historic. The federal Risk Management Agency and the federal Farm Service Agency, which use different methods of calculating "prevented planting" acres, estimate the number of acres that couldn't be seeded due to weather at between 5.3 million and 5.6 million. Both figures shattered the 1999 record of 3.9 million acres.

South Dakota had between 1.2 million and 1.4 million prevented planting acres in 2011, fourth most in state history.

North Dakota State University researcher Dwight Aakre estimates the state's farmers last year took a direct financial hit of more than \$1 billion because they couldn't plant.

"That \$1.1 billion loss, you're actually talking, with a multiplier effect, of almost a \$4 billion effect on our state economy," state Agriculture Commissioner Doug Goehring said.

In Bottineau County, for example, Terry Holsten, general manager of the Theel Inc. automobile dealership in the city of Bottineau, saw his business suffer after more land sat empty than got planted.

"Farmer sales weren't as high as they were the year before, without a doubt," Holsten said.

What a difference a year makes.

"This will be one of the lowest years in both states (for unseeded acres) — if not the lowest," said Doug Hagel, regional director for the Risk Management Agency, which oversees crop insurance programs.

Doug Opland, who farms near Des Lacs, typifies the turnaround: He didn't get any durum wheat planted last year. This year, he got his crop in a month early.

"Anyone in the Minot area, within 150 miles, was glad to see last year disappear," Opland said. "Jan. 1 came, and we just said, 'Good, the new year has come.'"

The situation was just as dire last year for some corn growers in South Dakota, said Bridgewater farmer Mark Gross, president of the South Dakota Corn Growers Association.

Corn acres in South Dakota are expected to total 5.5 million this year, up 300,000 from last year and rivaling the 1931 crop as the largest in state history. Good prices have a lot to do with that, but good weather also is a

## Museum Requests HSC Memories

After completing research and a booklet about the history of the Dakota Hospital for the Insane, Susan Miles, Dakota Territorial Museum volunteer, has decided to take the project one step further and offer an opportunity for current and past employees of the campus to share their stories.

These oral histories will be recorded and preserved by the Dakota Territorial Museum and will tell the story of the hospital in the words of those that were vital to its operations, the employees.

If you or anyone you know worked at the South Dakota Human Services Center and is willing to share your experiences, contact the Dakota Territorial Museum at 605-665-3898, to make an appointment. Interviews will be conducted in the Dakota Territorial Museum Conference Room or if you are unable to come to the Museum, arrangements can be made for Miles to come to you.

## MMC Seeks Public Input For Accreditation

Mount Marty College is currently preparing for its 10-year review for continued accreditation by the Higher Learning Commission.

An important part of the review process is collecting comments from the public concerning the college. Comments may be submitted electronically at the website of the Higher Learning Commission at <http://www.ncahlc.org/Information-for-the-public/third-party-comment.html> or mailed to the commission at: Public Comment on Mount Marty College, The Higher Learning Commission, 230 South LaSalle Street, Suite 7-500, Chicago, IL 60604-1411

All comments must be received by the Higher Learning Commission by Sept. 30, 2012. Comments received after that date may not be considered by the commission.

## DENR Recognizes Clay Rural Water System

PIERRE — The South Dakota Department of Environment and Natural Resources (DENR) has announced that the Clay Rural Water System public water system and the system's certified operators have been awarded a Drinking Water Certificate of Achievement Award. The award is for outstanding water system operations and environmental compliance with state drinking water standards for the past year.

The system's certified operators are Gregory Merrigan, Tom Hollingsworth, Phil Iverson, Mike Scholdt, Evan Peterson and Robert Granschow.

"The best bargain in South Dakota is reliable, high quality, safe water from your public drinking water systems — 24 hours per day — 7 days a week," said DENR Secretary Steve Pirner. "The managers and operators receiving this DENR award guaranteed their water was safe by achieving 100 percent compliance with the Safe Drinking Water Act during 2011."

To qualify for the Drinking Water Certificate of Achievement Award, public water systems and their operators had to meet all of the following requirements for 2011:

- compliance monitoring,
- drinking water standards,
- distribute a Drinking Water Report,
- lead/copper action levels, and
- comply with operator certification requirements.

## Lodge

From Page 1

the plan into action.

"It's been a long process to get the approval to do it," he said. "We're just happy to get it going." Many prospective visitors to the area should also be excited about the lodge's opening, as several have previously asked about such a facility.

"We've received inquiries from different avenues over the past couple of years, so there's definitely a demand for it, and it's nice to be able to fill that need that is out there," said Lisa Scheve, director of the Yankton Convention and Visitors Bureau. "The more opportunities that we have and the more places we can bring visitors into the community, the better off the community will be."

The resort plans to open the lodge between spring and November, with availability for Christmas parties as well. For reservation information, call 605-665-2680.

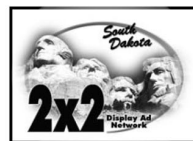
The public is also welcome to stop by for a tour or for more information.

"You just have to see it to believe it," Wahl said. "It's one of a kind."

You can follow Derek Bartos on Twitter at [twitter.com/d\\_bartos](https://twitter.com/d_bartos)

**Blackburn Basement Systems**  
Waterproofing & Repair  
**Basement & Foundation Specialists™**  
**Wet Basement? Basement Wall Bowed?**  
**Foundation Settling?**  
\*Free Estimates \*Financing Available  
**Toll Free 1-800-392-3389**  
[www.blackburnbasementrepair.com](http://www.blackburnbasementrepair.com)

## Advertise statewide in S.D. newspapers



Contact your local newspaper or  
S.D. Newspaper Assoc. for details.

1-800-658-3697 | [www.sdna.com/advertise](http://www.sdna.com/advertise)

## SOUTH DAKOTA SURPLUS AUCTION

**Wednesday, May 16 • 9 a.m. C.D.T.**  
**Ft. Pierre, SD Expo Center**

**Selling 150+ Vehicles,** Sedans, Pickups, SUV's, ALSO '08 Harley, BMW, 2 Cadillacs, Lincoln, Heavy Equipment, Recreational, Trailers, Mowers, Plows, Equipment, Office, Electronics & more!

**Photos/Details at [www.bradeenauction.com](http://www.bradeenauction.com)**  
**Call 605-773-4935 for info.**

**Bradeen Auctions, Brokers, Custer, SD • 605-673-2629**

"Specialists in Real Estate Auctions"

**Steamway**  
CLEANING & RESTORATION

**Graduation Special!**

**2 Rooms** up to 300 sq. ft. **\$72.95**

\$16.50 for additional rooms (traffic only)

**665-5700**

**1-800-529-2450**

Offer expires May 20, 2012



For all *she is*, for all *she does!*

Here's a perfect way to say  
*"Thanks Mom"*

Give her a gift certificate to enjoy these great  
**Mother's Day specials!**

**30-minute**  
Swedish Massage  
**for only \$25.60**

**60-minute**  
Swedish Massage  
**for only \$41.60**

Offer expires 5/12/2012

**Avera**  
Sacred Heart  
Massage Therapy

**Call (605) 668-8376 for appointments or gift certificates.**

