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School Board To Consider Sanctioning Soccer

From P&D Staff Reports

The Yankton School Board will consider the sanctioning of soccer as an extracurricular activity during its monthly meeting Monday. A presentation was made

last month about sanctioning the sport, but due to a change in a deadline by the South Dakota High School Activities Association, the final decision for Yankton was postponed to May.

Also Monday, the school board will have a structural

board will hear a structural report on Crane Youngworth Field; consider adopting the 2014-2015 student handbooks for high school, the middle school and the elementary schools; and consider items on the activities association's ballot.

The meeting starts at 5:30 p.m. at the Yankton School District Administration Building, 2410 West City Lim-its Road.



Parts Of Area Have Yet To Recover The Jobs Lost In The Great Recession

BY NATHAN JOHNSON

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ore than five years since the recession hit the Yankton area, the local economy is still struggling to reach its previous heights. While some

state officials have touted South Dakota's overall job growth since the economic downturn, that trend has not played out across all regions.

Whether looking at the size of the workforce or unemployment levels, Yankton County has not fully recovered from the recession. Some other area counties have experienced the same struggle, and still others appear to be victim more of demographic

trends than economic ones. Yankton Area Progressive Growth president John Kramer, who has only led Yankton's economic development efforts since January, said he isn't necessarily surprised by Yankton County's lack of recovery from a

jobs perspective.
"A lot of the companies are investing in technology that increase production but not the number of employees," he stated.

In Yankton County, the average size of the labor force during 2013 was 11,795 people. According to the South Dakota Department of Labor and Regulation (DLR), labor force estimates include all civilians not in institutions, 16 years of age and older, who are classified as employed or unemployed. That broke down to an average of 11,380 people employed during the year and 415 individuals unemployed, which translates into a 3.5 percent unemployment rate.

Another indication of employment levels is the number of nonfarm wage and salaried workers, which includes all nonfarm full-time and part-time wage earners but excludes the self-employed and unpaid family workers. Persons holding more than one job are counted in each establishment in which they

The DLR estimates there were an average of 12,945 nonfarm wage and salaried workers in Yankton County during 2013.

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CORRECTION

In the photo of Mitchell Technical Institute's (MTI) graduation ceremony at RTEC, published in Friday's Press & Dakotan, one of the officials in the photo was misidentified. The person on the far right was John Darcy, an MTI instructor, not John Heemstra, the MTI outreach coordinator. We apologize for the error.

Irene

New Unit To Welcome Residents Monday

BY RANDY DOCKENDORF

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IRENE — One wing of Sunset Manor Avera sits in silence, with no activity or even occu-

That changes Monday, when the first residents move into the new Challenging Behavior Unit. The unit, named Sunshine Terrace, represents the latest innovative care provided on the

The wing will serve a special population, said Administrator Chad Breidenbach.

The unit is designed for the treatment of individuals with challenging behaviors," he said. "A challenging behavior is usually demonstrated by individuals with schizophrenia, anxiety, dementia, bipolar disorder (or similar needs).

Breidenbach noted the Irene facility is no stranger to innovation, as it created its Trau-

matic Brain Injury (TBI) unit five years ago. The TBI unit was one of the first in South Dakota.

'We have developed an expertise in dealing with special populations, and we are very confident in our approach," he said. "As with any project, there were lessons learned from the formation of our TBI unit. We had the opportunity to take some of the things we learned from that experience and apply the best practices to

this unit.' The 11 residents in the challenging behavior unit will join 33 residents in the long-term care facility, three in the assisted-living area and seven

in the TBI unit. The unit will consist of 11 private room suites, Breidenbach said. The unit has its own living room, dining area, and a low-stimulation

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RANDY DOCKENDORF/P&D Recreation advocate Sandi Stratton examines a call button in a resident's

room, part of the preparation for Mon-

day's opening of the Sunshine Terrace

challenging behavior unit in Irene.

Summit Sailing

Dancers from the Green Room Dance Studio of Yankton are shown tumbling and flying through rehearsal Friday at the YHS/Summit Activities Center theatre in preparation for today's (Saturday) spring recital. The dancers will perform the program "Come Sail Away," featuring dance and musical styles from around the world (and for all ages). Showtimes today are at 1 p.m. and 5 p.m. Tickets will be available at the door. To see or purchase images from Friday's rehearsal, visit spotted.yankton.net. (Kelly Hertz/P&D)



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MCT ILLUSTRATION

Knox Co. May See Record Turnout

BY RANDY DOCKENDORF

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With a number of local races, Knox County may see Tuesday the highest primary election voter

turnout in 40 years, if not all-time. "I think we may be looking at a record number, at least for early ballots," said Knox County Clerk Joann Fischer. "This is the most since I became election commissioner (in 2001) or since I started working in this office in 1975."

The early balloting indicates strong voter interest, Fischer said. We usually have 30 or 40 early ballots for primary elections. The most I think we ever had before was around 140. But we're already at 257 today (Friday), and we still have until Tuesday," she said.

Fischer believes county races are driving the interest, particularly among Republicans. She pointed to the GOP primary elections for sheriff, district clerk of courts and four board of supervi-

'We have 79 who changed their party affiliations, mostly to Republican, and we have 58 new voter registrations, and those are mostly Republican," she said. "I think it's

because of all the local races.'

Knox County registration stands at 5,722, with a breakdown of 3,147 Republicans; 1,709 Democrats, 859 non-partisan and 7 Libertarians.

The Democrats didn't field candidates in some races. However, primary winners without other opponents on Tuesday's ballot don't automatically win office, Fischer

"I learned a long time ago that you can't assume that," she said. "You can still have write-in candidates. And if a party doesn't have

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