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Soccer Is A Go

YSD Adopts Sport Beginning Next School Year

BY DEREK BARTOS
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Following examination of the Yankton School District's financial situation entering next school year, the Yankton School Board Monday night approved soccer as a sanctioned high school activity.
The action will allow Yankton High School to field varsity and junior varsity boys and

girls soccer teams beginning with the 2014-2015 school year.

Earlier in the meeting, YSD Superintendent Wayne Kindle introduced the district's preliminary 2014-15 budget, which included approximately \$15.8 million in general fund expenses. Projected revenue was listed at about \$15 million, resulting in a structural deficit of approximately \$850,000.

Options presented to address the budget

shortfall included reducing payments to the district's health insurance fund by \$800,000 and utilizing South Dakota Senate Bill 91, which allows the transfer of funds from the capital outlay fund to the general fund for specific items.

Kindle noted that, while the district still has a significant structural deficit, the

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A 'Dream Come True'



COURTESY IMAGE

This is an artist's rendition of the expansion that will take place at the Avera Majestic Bluffs facility west of Yankton. Part of the expansion will house a new senior center, replacing the facility on W. Eighth St.

Bluffs Expansion Gets Going

New Senior Center To Be Added To Facility

BY ROB NIELSEN
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Five golden shovels sat ready to break ground on the Avera Majestic Bluffs expansion Monday, but they went unused due to less than ideal weather conditions. But the weather didn't dampen the excitement of those gathered to officially kick off the project that will add 113 private beds, six hospice units and a host of other amenities to the 13-year-old campus. The expansion is intended to replace the Avera Yankton Care Center.

Avera president and CEO Pam Rezac told the audience gathered for the ceremony, since moved indoors, that the idea for the expansion had been proposed before the Majestic Bluffs campus even opened.

"We've been planning for this day for a long time," Rezac said. "First of all, it was a dream of Sister James Souhrada. As many as 60 or more

years ago, she planned for this special senior living community and her dreams are truly coming true today."

She added that it was even planned for when the campus opened.

"When we moved into Majestic Bluffs in 2001, we had already drawn the addition for the Avera Yankton Care Center in hope that it would occur," she said.

Tony Erickson, Avera executive director of Senior Services, told the *Press & Dakotan* the project really gathered steam within the last few years.

"Six years ago, the task force started on the design, what we wanted out of the campus, what we wanted it to be and how we needed to look at what our community needs were and what we felt was going to need to happen in the future," he said. "From there, it's really heated up in the

avera | PAGE 10



KELLY HERTZ/P&D

Avera Sacred Heart Hospital board chairman Rob Stephenson offers some remarks during Monday's groundbreaking, which was moved indoors due to the inclement weather.



KELLY HERTZ/P&D

David Carda was unanimously elected by the Yankton City Commission Monday to serve as mayor for the next year.

City OKS Employee Contract

BY NATHAN JOHNSON
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The Yankton City Commission approved a contract with its employee union Monday that includes a pay increase and an additional paid holiday.

The American Federation of State, County and Municipal Employees (AFSCME) Local 3968 agreed to the contract last week.

In March, the city declared an impasse in negotiations, and a mediator worked with the parties for several hours earlier this month to craft an acceptable contract. The previous agreement expired in December.

"I think it was a helpful process," City Manager Amy Nelson recently said of mediation. "It was good to have a representative from the state talk with both sides collectively and separately."

Nelson outlined the major changes in the employee contract during Monday's meeting. They include:

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Full Band Mode

Members of both Yankton High School's concert and symphonic bands perform excerpts from the Harry Potter movies during Monday's "All School Band Concert." The concert featured fifth, sixth, seventh and eighth grade concert bands along with the YHS band under the direction of Todd Carr and retired director Ted Powell. To see or purchase images from this event, visit spotted.yankton.net. (Rob Nielsen/P&D)



Planning Commission To Weigh Napa Junction TIF Options

BY NATHAN JOHNSON
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Even though Dakota Plains Ag Center has put discussions with Yankton County on hold while it explores other locations, the Planning Commission will consider tax increment financing (TIF) options for the company's proposed grain facility today (Tuesday).

The Planning Commission will hear a presentation from Yankton County Director of Equalization Lori Mackey at 7:10 p.m. about tax increment districts



Garrity

(TIFs). After attending to some other, non-related matters, the commission will resume the TIF discussion at 8 p.m.

Yankton County Planning and Zoning Administrator Patrick Garrity has assembled 11 proposals with various schedules that could be set up to distribute the TIF revenue.

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