



Partly Cloudy And Breezy

9 a.m.: **63** | 3 p.m.: **72** | DETAILS: PAGE 2

WEDNESDAY ■ May 21, 2014



STATE
CHAMPS

Scotland's Fiscel,
Parkston Win Titles

SPORTS/8

YANKTON DAILY
PRESS & DAKOTAN



Volume 140
Number 22

The Dakotas' Oldest Newspaper | **12 PAGES** | www.yankton.net

75¢



**American
Profile**

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Voters To Decide On Proposed Fire District

BY RANDY DOCKENDORF
randy.dockendorf@yankton.net

SCOTLAND — A special election will decide Thursday whether to form a proposed Scotland Rural Fire Protection District.

The polls are open 7 a.m. to 7 p.m. at the Scotland fire hall. A simple majority will decide the election.

The eligible voters consist of the registered rural members of the proposed fire district. Residents within the Scotland city limits are not eligible to vote in the special election.

The proposed district consists of 173 square miles encompassing land in Bon Homme, Hutchinson and Yankton counties, according to Bon Homme County Auditor Tammy Brunken.

"It's the only area that's currently not in a fire district in Bon Homme County," she said. "You have to be a resident of the proposed district in order to vote in Thursday's election."

The 349 eligible voters include 198 in Bon Homme, 142 in Hutchinson and 9 in Yankton.

The three county commissions met jointly at a public meeting to approve the proposed fire district's boundaries, Brunken said. The commissioners also approved the special election, she added.

If passed Thursday, the proposed district would come into existence and become a taxing entity, Brunken said.

Thursday's election will use three poll workers, one from each county, Brunken said. The county auditors will remain available to answer any questions that may arise, and they will be present when the votes are counted, she added.

"If the fire district passes, the group will have to form a board of directors, and the process goes from there," she said.

The new board would set a budget and make other decisions regarding the operation of the new district, Brunken said.

For election results Thursday night, follow Twitter and www.yankton.net.

You can follow Randy Dockendorf on Twitter at twitter.com/RDockendorf. Discuss this story at www.yankton.net.

A Taxing Solution?

SD Gov. Willing To Consider Increasing Taxes To Help State's Roads, Bridges

BY BOB MERCER
State Capitol Bureau

PIERRE — In a major change, Gov. Dennis Daugaard said Tuesday he would be willing to consider raising taxes for maintaining and improving South Dakota's roads and bridges during a second term. Daugaard made his comments in response to

parts of a questionnaire from seven daily newspapers sent to the two Republican and two Democratic candidates for governor.

The Legislature's Executive Board recently selected road and bridge funding as the topic for a special study this summer and fall.

That decision indicates the topic is likely to be



Daugaard

considered in the 2015 legislative session that opens in January.

Daugaard and former state Rep. Lora Hubbel are seeking the Republican nomination for governor in the June 3 primary elections.

Hubbel hadn't returned her questionnaire at the time this story was written. The deadline for the responses was 8 a.m. Tuesday.

The two Democrats, state Rep. Susan Wismer of Britton and Joe Lowe of Piedmont, had somewhat opposing responses on raising the motor fuel tax rates.

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Searching For Solutions



KELLY HERTZ/P&D

Yankton County Planning and Zoning Administrator Patrick Garrity spoke Tuesday at the "State of the Community" forum held at Minervas in Yankton. He was one of several speakers from the City of Yankton and Yankton County to update community members on developments at both levels of government during the Yankton Area Chamber of Commerce event.

Yankton Falling Behind?

Forum Questions Progress Made By City, County

BY NATHAN JOHNSON
nathan.johnson@yankton.net

During a forum Tuesday to assess the state of Yankton, discussion turned to a fear that the community is declining compared to its peers.

"I'm in the business of spending money to make money," said Larry Ness, CEO of Yankton's First Dakota National Bank. "I'm telling you that if we don't do some things that this town needs doing, we can pack up. What you didn't say up there is what I see in Mitchell, Brookings and other communities the same size as us that makes us look terrible. Let's spend some money. Let's invest in our community. Let's forget about this, 'Hold it down. We can't spend money.' Let's do something. Let's get with the program."

The comments from Ness came during a ques-

tion-and-answer session held after officials from the City of Yankton and Yankton County shared information about things such as infrastructure improvements, census figures and planning projects. The long-time Yankton business man made clear that he wasn't pointing a finger at the speakers, but was speaking more generally about the community.

Al Viereck, the city finance officer, spoke on behalf of the city, while County Commission Chairman Bruce Jensen and Planning and Zoning Administrator Patrick Garrity represented the county.

"I've lived in town for 31 years," Ness said. "The taxes on my house are less today than they were

County Co. Sending Planning Co. TIF Proposal

BY NATHAN JOHNSON
nathan.johnson@yankton.net

The Yankton County Commission agreed Tuesday to send the Planning Commission a \$1.35 million tax-increment financing (TIF) proposal for the Dakota Plains Ag Center grain shuttle facility at the Napa rail junction.

The Planning Commission must recommend a TIF plan before it can be considered by the County Commission.

Commissioner Garry Moore drew up the proposal for a \$1.35 million, 12-year TIF plan that could be applied to the reconstruction of 435th Avenue from Highway 50 to 306th Street, as well as 306th Street from 435th Avenue to 436th Avenue.

"The truth of the matter is, neither am I supporting nor am I opposing what I'm bringing here tonight," Moore told the commission. "It is just information."

It supposes the construction of only the initial grain facility and rail infrastructure, which would be an estimated \$40 million investment. The company has outlined further investments for the site in future stages, but Moore doesn't feel the county can count on that to occur.

Only \$1.1 million would be used toward reconstruction of the road, which Moore estimates would have a total cost of \$8 million. The county would be responsible for ongoing maintenance and reconstruction of the artery.

The remaining \$250,000 would be used to cover administrative and/or legal fees associated with the TIF plan.

In his written thoughts on the proposal, Moore added, "I personally feel that we as commissioners cannot risk taxpayer money beyond self-evident truth and what we know. To reach for pie in the sky in proposed future development can go south on one and make it nearly impossible to recover lost money, and damages credit rating



Moore

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COUNTY | PAGE 11

Crofton

Vandals Damage Golf Course

BY DEREK BARTOS
derek.bartos@yankton.net

CROFTON, Neb. — One day after vandalism was discovered at Crofton Community Schools, the nearby golf course found itself the victim of vandals, as well.

Gregg Baily, manager of Lakeview Golf Course north of Crofton, told the *Press & Dakotan* that security cameras captured individuals entering golf carts at the course at approximately 1:20 a.m. Tuesday morning. The carts were then driven throughout the course, causing damage to greens, tee boxes and the carts them-

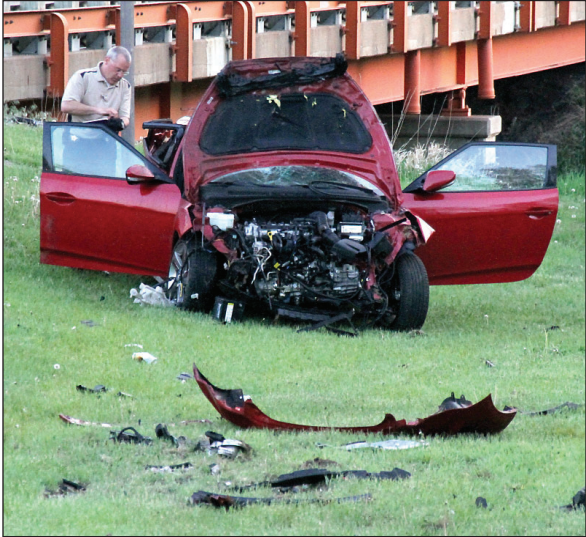
selves. Several carts were also crashed into the course's ravines, he said.

An assessment of damages is still ongoing, Baily said, but he expects it to total at least \$10,000.

The course manager said the carts are typically stored in a shed overnight, but were taken out the previous night in preparation for a tournament Tuesday. However, the keys were not inside the carts, he said.

"These people brought their own keys," Baily said. "They knew exactly

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2 Injured In Rollover

Two people were transported to a hospital with non-life-threatening injuries after this one-vehicle rollover about six miles west of Yankton on Highway 52 at 8:09 p.m. Tuesday. A westbound 2014 Hyundai Velostar driven by Paul Pelayo, 21, of Yankton left the road near the House of Mary Shrine, went into a ditch for about 50 yards and then hit a driveway, after which it flew 50 more yards and rolled end over end. The passenger was Samantha Olson, 18, of Mission Hill. The Yankton County Sheriff's Office said Pelayo will be arrested for driving under the influence and reckless driving. It's believed the vehicle was traveling about 80-90 miles per hour when it left the road. (Kelly Hertz/P&D)



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TOMORROW: Local Chiropractor Wins Big Honor

YANKTON RECYCLING THIS WEEK:
SOUTH
OF 15TH STREET