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It's A Raw Deal

Yankton County
Seeks State
Help To Urge
Mobile Home
Park Owner To
Clean Up
Sewage Issue

BY NATHAN JOHNSON
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A spokesman for a company that manages a mobile home park west of Yankton says attempts are being made to stop raw sewage from streaming up from the septic system and spilling on the ground near dozens of residences.



Garrity

However, Yankton County officials believe too much time has elapsed and are asking state officials for assistance in resolving the situation.

Yankton County Planning and Zoning Administrator Patrick Garrity updated the County Commission about the situation at the Lakeside Mobile Home Park along Deer Boulevard during a meeting Tuesday.

"We have raw sewage that is coming out from the septic tanks and overflows," Garrity said. "It has gotten progressively worse. I've got children out there, and I have a company that owns it that won't respond. It's a major failure."

When the *Press & Dakotan* visited the park Wednesday, sewage was briefly observed streaming out of a clean-out on the north side of the property. A small pool of sewage had collected at the location.

Garrity said that is occurring at four locations, but park manager Pat Ernster told the *Press & Dakotan* Wednesday it is an issue at only two locations.

While Ernster has been



KELLY HERTZ/P&D

Sewage erupted from a septic system clean-out Wednesday and into a pool that extended several feet on the north side of the Lakeside Mobile Home Park along Deer Boulevard west of Yankton. Yankton County officials say sewage has been spilling on the ground since at least January, and attempts to address the situation with the firm that owns the park have been unsuccessful. The county has sought the assistance of several state agencies to remedy the issue.

Yankton Doctor Named Chiropractor Of The Year

BY DEREK BARTOS
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KELLY HERTZ/P&D

Jim Fitzgerald, a partner at First Chiropractic Center in Yankton, was recently named Chiropractor of the Year by the South Dakota Chiropractors' Association. The award is based on professional and civic accomplishments and is voted on by the practitioners' peers.

When Dr. Jim Fitzgerald was an athlete at Scotland High School more than 30 years ago, medical care for students was quite different than it is today.

"Back at that time, there were no athletic trainers, so there really wasn't anywhere to go to help get over those sports-related injuries," he said.

As a result, Fitzgerald had to seek treatment for his injuries outside the school, which he often did with chiropractic care. In doing so, he saw a glimpse into his future.

"The doctors I saw here in Yankton were the ones who got me through those things more than anybody else," he said. "That's what persuaded me to investigate

the chiropractic profession more."

That curiosity blossomed into a highly successful career, with Fitzgerald attaining numerous professional and civic accomplishments. In recognition of his work, the Yankton doctor was recently named Chiropractor of the Year by the South Dakota Chiropractors' Association (SDCA). He was chosen for the honor by his peers.

"It's pretty humbling to know that my peers thought I was deserving of such an award, considering there are about 350 doctors of chiropractic in the state," Fitzgerald said. "I'm very appreciative."

After graduating from high school in 1983, Fitzgerald received his undergraduate degree at Mount Marty College before

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WAG Receives \$50K Grant

BY RANDY DOCKENDORF
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WAGNER — Southern Charles Mix County businesses can receive a major financial boost through a \$50,000 federal grant.

Wagner Area Growth (WAG) received the grant from U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) Rural Development, fueling an ongoing effort to build the regional economy.

WAG, an economic and community development corporation, serves not only Wagner but also Lake Andes, Pickstown, Marty, Greenwood, Ravinia and Dante.

"A great journey starts with one step, and this (grant) was a tremendous step," said WAG president Bryan Slaba.

The USDA grant will build up the local



Charles Mix County

revolving loan fund for entrepreneurs seeking a start-up or expansion of their business, Slaba said.

"The financial institutions may like to see more equity put in by the entrepreneur," he said. "Then, we (at WAG) say, 'Send them our way,' and we work with that business."

The emphasis is on slow, steady growth, Slaba said.

"We're not about bringing in 50 people for a manufacturing plant," he said. "It's one, two and three jobs at a time. If something happens and we

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'Fairy Tale' Dancing

Dancers from Yankton's Academy of Dance rehearsed Wednesday for their spring recital, set for Friday and Saturday at the YHS/Summit Activities Center theatre. The dancers will present the program "Fairy Tales," and it will include a variety of dances and athletic skills. Showtimes are 7 p.m. Friday and 2 p.m. and 7 p.m. Saturday. To see images from Wednesday's rehearsal, visit spotted.yankton.net. (Kelly Hertz/P&D)

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