



Sunny And Warmer

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TUESDAY ■ May 12, 2015



Annual
Exhibition
Celebrates
20th Year
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City OKs Pact With B-Y

Deal Could Pave The Way For City Development, Expansion

BY ROB NIELSEN
rob.nielsen@yankton.net

On a night when the Yankton City Commission reorganized, the board also made headway on solving a long-standing stalemate with BY Rural Water.

During Monday's meeting, City Man-

ager Amy Nelson said a new agreement was a long time in the making.

"This water development agreement comes after many months and, for some of you, many years of discussions with our friends at BY Rural Water," Nelson said.



Nelson

Nelson said a lack of agreement had hampered growth in the past. "We're a little inhibited on the amount we can grow based on where we can serve water in the city of Yankton," she said. "After the consent decree was made by the courts, we were a little bit at a stalemate in terms of how we can move forward. Well, after many months of negotiations and discussion — and with the help of Dan Specht with YAPG (Yankton Area Progressive Growth) — we were able to redraft



KELLY HERTZ/P&D

New Yankton City Commissioner Nathan Johnson, right, shakes hands with city attorney Ross Den Herder after Johnson was officially sworn into office during Monday's City Commission meeting. Incumbents David Carda and David Knoff were also sworn in.

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The Day After



PHOTO: ELIZABETH "SAM" GROSZ

Little remains of this building following Sunday morning's tornado which devastated Delmont.

Delmont Begins To Pick Up The Pieces After Tornado

BY RANDY DOCKENDORF
randy.dockendorf@yankton.net

DELMONT — A day after an EF2 tornado devastated their community, Delmont residents spent Monday trying to pick up the pieces of their homes, their farms — and their lives.

The Douglas County community of about 250 residents was hit shortly before 11 a.m. Sunday by the Mother's Day tornado. The twister carried peak winds of 130 miles per hour. Its path was 17.3 miles long with an estimated path 400 yards wide.

The storm's fury was experienced for just seconds, but its impact will remain for a long time to come.

Nine people were injured and two remained

hospitalized Monday, state public safety spokesman Tony Mangan said. However, the tornado didn't claim any lives.

"We're thankful there were no fatalities," said Delmont mayor Mae Gunnare.

The town was evacuated Sunday for safety reasons and the lack of utilities. On Monday, Delmont residents could re-enter the community to assess their losses and pick up any items.

The residents battled strong winds and temperatures in the 40s as they began the clean-up effort. They sought to salvage important papers, clothes, photos, farm equipment and vehicles.

Gov. Dennis Daugaard toured the town Sunday to assess damage and to conduct a community meeting in the evening. U.S. Sen. John Thune and U.S. Rep. Kristi Noem scheduled



PHOTO: ELIZABETH "SAM" GROSZ

Area residents stop by the emergency shelter which was set up in the Tripp-Delmont school in Tripp to meet the needs of Delmont tornado victims.

visits for Monday.

The number of severely damaged or destroyed structures has been raised to more than 40, and 12 others have minor damage, Gunnare said.

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School Board OKs Special Education Position

BY JORDYNNE HART
jordynne.hart@yankton.net

The Yankton School Board unanimously voted to approve a part-time special education teacher position at Stewart Elementary at the board meeting Monday.

The position was presented and discussed by Kathy Wagner, director of special education and student services.

The new addition will work two days per week to assist with the Birth to Three program. This program that provides early intervention services, at no cost, for children from birth to age three who have a disability or a developmental delay.

The Yankton School District (YSD) is required to identify students suspected of having a disability through the "Child Find" process, which includes referral, screening and evaluation.

According to Wagner, that requirement includes all children residing within the jurisdiction of the YSD, ages birth through 21.

In addition to this process, the state requires that children, birth to three, be evaluated using the Battelle Developmental Inventory (BDI).

The BDI is a developmental assessment that screens and evaluates early childhood developmental milestones.

In a letter to the board, Wagner said a child/student may be evaluated two to four times from birth to age 6. The results of this requirement had increased the number of assessments significantly over the past six years, yet there has been no change in the number of personnel working with this age group.

"Right now we have one person who does that, but who is also required to have a caseload of about 30 (kids)," Wagner said. "I was in that position for six years and I can say that was

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Lanes Named RBD Captain And Belle

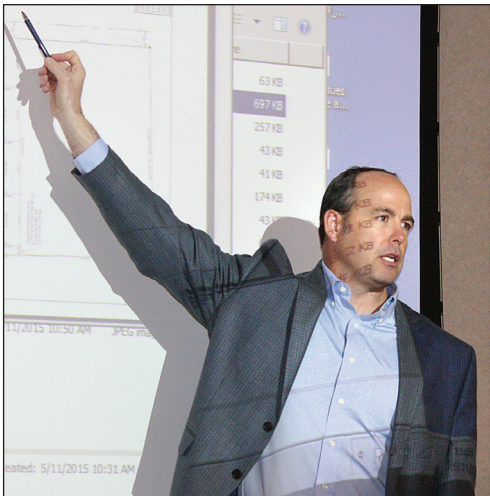
From P&D Staff Reports

The Riverboat Days Board of Directors have selected Dick and Joyce Lane for the 2015 Captain and Belle. The selection was announced during Monday night's exhibition baseball game at Tereshinski Stadium.

The Lanes have both been volunteers for the event, with Dick taking part in the first River Riverboat Days firework show.

The theme for Riverboat Days 2015 is "We Salute You." This year's Riverboat Days is set for Aug. 21-23.

Look for the story in Wednesday's *Press and Dakotan*.



ROB NIELSEN/P&D

Dan Specht, housing task force director for Yankton Area Progressive Growth's (YAPG), addresses YAPG members and other civic officials on the progress of the Westbrook Estates Housing project.

YAPG Offers Updates On Housing, Rail Projects

BY ROB NIELSEN
rob.nielsen@yankton.net

Two of Yankton Area Progressive Growth's (YAPG) biggest projects are continuing to move forward.

YAPG officials were on hand Monday at the Avera Professional Pavilion to address strides made in recent months on the Westbrook Estates affordable housing project and a proposed rail park at Napa Junction — which could potentially host the Dakota Plains grain sorting facility.

Dan Specht, housing task force director for YAPG, said the City of Yankton has been very helpful in facilitating the project that will bring more affordable housing to the area.

"Dave (Mingo) and Amy (Nelson) and the



Kramer

city staff have done a great job working with Eisenbraun and Associates ... about pushing this thing just as hard as we could push it on the timeline," Specht said.

Currently, plans call for 140 apartment units, which YAPG is currently negotiating with Eagle Construction to build. The project would include 28 single-family homes, 28

twin-homes and 16 townhomes. The houses are being developed by Nielson Construction over the next two years with hopes of starting this summer.

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TOMORROW: PUC Hearing On NorthWestern Request Coming Up

YANKTON RECYCLING FOR THIS WEEK

NORTH
OF 15TH STREET