



Chilly With Showers

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Boys Golf Title**

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A Promising State



YAPG, County Officials Offer 'State Of The Community' Insights

BY RANDY DOCKENDORF
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Those attending Tuesday's "State of the Community" luncheon had plenty of good news to digest.

The local economy and government show growing pains, according to Yankton County Commission chairman Todd Woods and Yankton Area Progressive Growth (YAPG) president John Kramer.

The two men emphasized the need to plan now in order to take advantage of future opportunities and to head off any problems.

Kramer spoke of projections that Yankton will add hundreds of jobs by 2020.

"This is a good problem to have," he said. "Yankton looks to add 500-800 jobs in the next five years. That brings with it 2.4 additional jobs (for every new job) elsewhere in the local economy."

Kramer later told the Press & Dakotan that the initial estimate of 500-600 new jobs has been raised to 600-800 jobs because of projected growth in the health care sector.

He pointed to five major employers planning to add 183 jobs. Those jobs each pay an average \$40,000 annually, which puts \$7.3 million into the economy. When using a multipli-

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KELLY HERTZ/P&D
YAPG president John Kramer talks about the anticipated job growth over the next five years during Tuesday's "State of the Community" luncheon at Minerva's.



New Website Promotes Workforce Development

'Yankton Works' Site Goes Online, Showcases Local Job Market

From P&D Staff Reports

The Livability.com website announced what Yankton residents have known all along — the community offers some of the best quality of life in the nation.

Livability.com rated Yankton as seventh best among the nation's Top 10 Small Towns. When it comes to the combination of work and play, Yankton ranks among the nation's best places to live.

Now, Yankton Media, Inc., is offering a website — yanktonworks.com — for those considering a career change or relocating to Yankton and who want to know what the community has to offer.

Yankton Media editor and publisher Gary Wood said the website offers a one-stop shop for people seeking jobs, recreation, housing, education and training.

"This is the new and premier workforce development and lifestyle website. It also is the new information site for why to live in Yankton. It informs you about where to live, play and stay in Yankton," he said.

"This is geared to any and all forms of entry-level positions, on up to executive and professional positions. It's the one and only site for you to find a comprehensive listing of employment in Yankton as well as the best things about living in Yankton."

The site will serve not only Yankton but also residents of surrounding counties in southeast South Dakota and northeast Nebraska, Wood said.

"This is something the community has been asking for, for quite a few years," he said. "The desire has been there to have this, and we have fulfilled that desire."

Yanktonworks.com fills the needs of all age groups, Wood said. However, the site carries particular importance for those who are entering the workforce for the first time and are looking to establish themselves, he added.

"We're focusing on the 18- to 30-year-old demographic," he said. "This is the place to go for those looking to start their new careers or to expand their careers."

Yanktonworks.com offers a place to learn the opportunities available in the city and surrounding region, Wood said.

"It's important that we get this out right now to those kids who are graduating (from high school) and aren't ready to go on to higher education," he said. "They have opportunities even if they aren't looking to move on to college or technical school. If they are looking for employment and a place to live, this is the ideal site to go."

While valuable for entry-level workers, Yanktonworks.com serves the needs for all walks of life, Wood said.

"It's geared toward anybody in the working

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From The Gallery



JAMES D. CIMBUREK/P&D

A large crowd follows the leaders on No. 18 during the final round of the South Dakota State Class B Boys' Golf Championships on Tuesday at Yankton's Fox Run Golf Course. Hitting his approach is Platte-Geddes' Jayden Van Zee. For details on Tuesday's final round, see page 7.

Yankton

Onward Campaign Hits Halfway Mark

BY REILLY BIEL
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It's been 50 days since Onward Yankton launched its 100-day campaign to find the next "big idea" that would lend improvement to the town area.

At halftime, things are looking good. "We currently have received 285 submissions in this first 50 days," said Beth Rye, an Onward Yankton committee member. "One hundred eighty-three of these ideas have been posted online."

From the start, Onward Yankton set big goals for itself.

"We wanted the sky to be the limit," committee member Heidi Marsh explained. "I was hoping for a hundred good ideas and for a lot of young people to get involved, which has happened. We've gotten submis-

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HEIDI MARSH

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The ideas so far have ranged from creating a scholarship to help sway graduates

to stay in the area to starting a driver's education program to building a riverside boardwalk.

The one thing all the submissions have in common is that they have come from a positive place.

"All the ideas, and the process, have been positive," Rye said.

As the final 50 days begins its countdown, the public is encouraged to express any innovative ideas they have that will benefit Yankton. An online poll will soon be created to help committee members get a better feel of what the community wants.

"I look forward to the next 50 days and hopefully we'll continue to grow," Rye said.

For more information, visit www.onwardyankton.com.

Follow @ReillyBiel on Twitter.

Officials Assess Delmont Damage

DELMONT (AP) — State and federal officials on Tuesday were assessing tornado damage to homes and businesses in Charles Mix and Douglas counties, including the town of Delmont.

Officials say the preliminary assessment is the first step to determining whether aid will be made available through the Federal Emergency Management Agency and the Small Business Administration.

The May 10 tornado damaged or destroyed 84 structures in and around Delmont and also injured nine people.

State Public Safety officials say volunteers are still needed for the cleanup.

As far as donations, clothing is no longer needed. Items still needed are paper plates, plastic forks, Styrofoam cups, can openers, pots and pans, brooms, mops, coffee pots, food storage containers and food storage bags.

County Eyes New Bridges In 2016

BY ROB NIELSEN
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KELLY HERTZ/P&D

Yankton County commissioners Deb Bodenstedt and Don Kettering look to a tablet Tuesday afternoon to follow County Highway Superintendent Brian Gustad's presentation on upcoming bridge repairs for the county. The commissioner approved the replacement of two county bridges next year.

Despite 2015 being less than half way over, the Yankton County Commission is already taking a look ahead to some of the projects it will tackle in 2016.

Two bridges — one off 303rd St. near James River Rd. and one on the Volin Oil Rd. south of Volin — are now set to be replaced in 2016 after the commission voted unanimously to move forward on the projects Tuesday.

Yankton County Highway Superintendent Brian Gustad told the commission both have been highlighted previously.

"Both of these bridges that we are looking at are on a 'needs basis,' if you look at our latest bridge reports," Gustad said.

Gustad said the bridge near

James River Rd. is in the most need at the moment.

"That structure is going to be moved down to a three-ton structure, which essentially means I can't even legally drive a 3/4-ton pickup over it without being overloaded," he said. "That one is kind of a dire need."

As for the bridge near Volin, Gustad said that the project would produce a long-term solution.

"We'd have a structure that would essentially last 100 years," he said.

He added that bridge work, in many ways, takes precedence over other road maintenance.

"I think we need to look at our bridges prior to fixing our roads," he said. "The road doesn't mean nothing if you don't have a good

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