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Yankton's Busy Summer • 1B



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Sports



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**State Plans
To Acquire
'Superfund'
Mine Site**

BY BOB MERCER
State Capitol Bureau

PIERRE — Back in 2000, federal environmental regulators put the Gilt Edge gold mine on the national Superfund list, because the site in the Black Hills was so badly polluted with millions of gallons of contaminated water and producing more every day.

Now 15 years later, a plan calls for intense work to start next year on better dealing with the poisonous mess that became the burden of the U.S. government and the state government of South Dakota after the mine's operator, Brohm, went under.

Gilt Edge is four to five miles southeast of Lead. The problem there is massive quantities of sulfide rock were exposed during Brohm's efforts to mine gold. When oxygen reacts with the sulfide, acid is produced. Making matters worse, the acid causes further contamination by dissolving various heavy metals there.

Ever since Brohm went broke and gave up, the federal and state governments have paid for a water treatment system that handles tens of millions of gallons annually. At the same time, a cap system was placed over the sulfide bearing rock to keep water and oxygen out as much as possible.

Brohm held a state permit to mine at Gilt Edge. The state Board of Minerals and Environment granted permission after

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The Wait Is Over

El Nino Arrives In The Upper Midwest

BY ROB NIELSEN
rob.nielsen@yankton.net

After nearly a year of anticipation, El Nino has officially begun, bringing much needed moisture to the upper Midwest after what proved to be a fairly quiet and dry winter.

During Thursday's Great Plains and Midwest Climate Outlook webinar, Illinois state climatologist Jim Angel said there was no doubt about El Nino's arrival — and that it's here to stay for a

little while.

"The big news in the last month is that El Nino has finally arrived," Angel said. "There's a 90 percent chance of it continuing this summer and about 80 percent chance it's expected to continue all the way through the end of 2015. It's likely going to be a major player, not only for the summer, but also for the fall and winter months."

El Nino occurs when Pacific Ocean waters along the Equator warm above average, affecting

weather patterns on their way to North America. Angel noted that this El Nino is a bit unusual in its timing and scope.

"What strikes me about this particular El Nino event is ... it's been kind of lingering in the background in our minds for the last year — I think about a year ago was when we started talking about El Nino showing up," he said. "It's been a little bit odd in that it's just been kind of hovering near a true El Nino event with the warmer water temperatures. We just haven't seen the atmospheric side come into play until

CLIMATE | PAGE 3A

Honoring A Role Model

Kaltsulas Named Teacher Of The Year

BY REILLY BIEL
reilly.biel@yankton.net

Even role models have role models. That was proven Tuesday night when Yankton Middle School's (YMS) sixth-grade math teacher Beth Kaltsulas was awarded with the Yankton School District (YSD) Teacher of the Year Award.

Kaltsulas started her teaching career in 1986 when she was employed at Beadle School here in Yankton. She alternated teaching fourth, fifth and sixth grades there for 25 years before moving to YMS.

She will begin her 29th year of teaching this fall.

"I was shocked, excited and very surprised," she said upon learning of her nomination with 14 other teachers. She was one of eight finalists before it was announced that she was the award recipient.

"I feel very honored and privileged to represent Yankton," she said.

Kaltsulas credits her past and present colleagues for helping her achieve this honor.

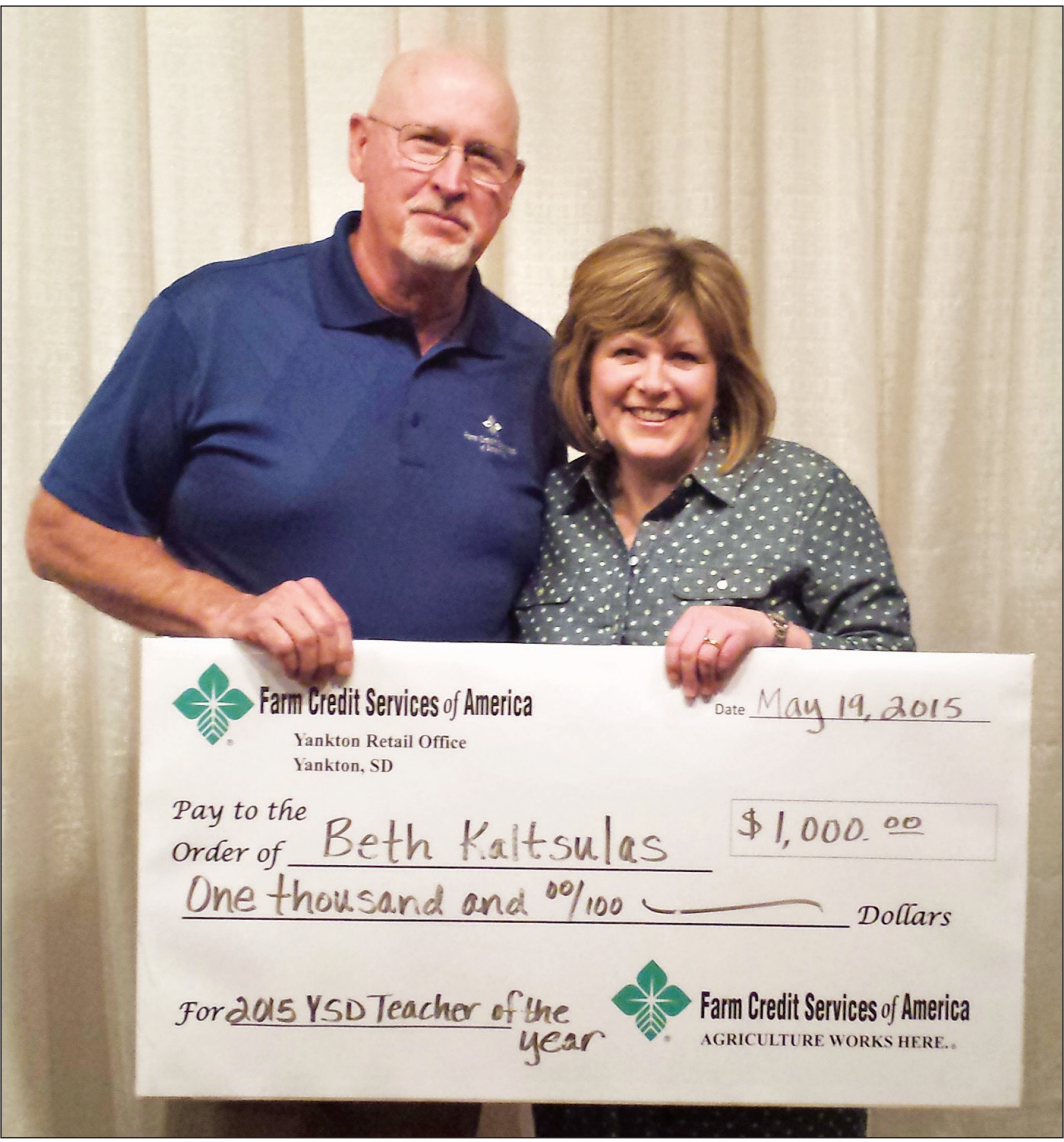
"They were good role models and good mentors for me," she noted.

Yankton school officials believe she is the role model.

"Beth is a role-model teacher," said YMS Principal Todd Dvoracek. "She spends extra time before and after school helping students. She is a first-class teacher, great team player and great employee of the Yankton School District. I am very lucky to have her in my school."

"Beth is very worthy of this honor. She

TEACHER | PAGE 3A



COURTESY PHOTO

Neil Connot presents Beth Kaltsulas with a check for \$1,000 from Farm Credit Services. Kaltsulas was named this year's Yankton School District Teacher of the Year.

Springfield Veterans Memorial To Break Ground

BY ALYSSA SOBOTKA
news@yankton.net

SPRINGFIELD - After more than four years of planning, organizing and fundraising for the Springfield Veterans Memorial, the committee and community are ready to dig into the next step of the process.

The groundbreaking event for the vets monument will be held in conjunction with this year's Memorial Day program on Monday.

Connie Allen, committee chairwoman, describes the decision to combine the two events by quoting a statement made by Abraham Lincoln in the

Gettysburg Address.

"It just seems, as Abe Lincoln said, 'all together fitting and proper' that this day should have been dedicated to our veterans," she said.

The Memorial Day program, sponsored by the Springfield American Legion, will begin at 11 a.m. Monday at the Springfield Community Center. The program will include music by the high school band, readings of the Gettysburg Address and orders establishing Memorial Day, the Posting of the Colors by the Color Guard,

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SHAUNA MARLETTE/P&D

Grand will officially be broken for the Springfield Veterans Memorial this Monday as part of the community's Memorial Day program. The project is running ahead of schedule, and more than 1,400 names of Springfield-area veterans have been collected for the monument.

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