



Sunny And Cooler

9 a.m. **51** 3 p.m. **65** | DETAILS: Page 2

SATURDAY ■ May 30, 2015



Woods Shines
As State Track
Meet Opens
PAGE 13

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End Of The Road



Area engineer Ron Peterson retires June 8 after a 43-year career with the state Department of Transportation, nearly all of it with the Yankton office. He will be honored with an open house from 2-4 p.m. June 4 at the Yankton DOT office, located at the intersection of Highway 50 and West City Limits Road.

Peterson Retiring From DOT After 43 Years

BY RANDY DOCKENDORF
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When it comes to his highway career, Ron Peterson has gone the extra mile, so to speak. Peterson retires June 8 as area engineer in the Yankton office of the South Dakota Department of Transportation (DOT). He has spent his entire 43-year career with the DOT, serving at the Yankton office since spring 1973. "I've been at this job so long that I outlived some of the concrete (on our highway projects)," he joked. "You know you're getting old when you outlive concrete."

Peterson will be honored at an open house from 2-4 p.m. Thursday, June 4, at the Yankton DOT office, located at the

intersection of Highway 50 and West City Limits Road. Peterson has dealt with dramatic events during his career. He worked with the Missouri River flood of 2011 which affected multiple states throughout the basin. He also worked with the Big Sioux River flood of 2014 which closed Interstate 29 at Sioux City. "It's not something you see often in a highway career, and they were challenges for the staff," he said. The two floods brought very different scenarios, he said. The 2011 flood brought challenges in moving traffic in and out of flooded areas, transporting dirt for levees and working with multiple states. The 2014 flood required the I-29 closure because of needed work on the interstate highway, in turn re-routing traffic through Iowa and Nebraska.

PETERSON | PAGE 18

Ethanol Ruling May Have Fallout

Proposal Boosts Ethanol Content In Gasoline, But Below Fed Law Level

BY MARY CLARE JALONICK
Associated Press

WASHINGTON — The Obama administration's latest plan on ethanol, the corn-based renewable fuel, probably will not have a major effect on pump prices, but could have political reverberations in Iowa and other farm states in the 2016 presidential campaign.

Under the proposed rule announced Friday, the amount of ethanol in the gasoline supply would increase in coming years, just not as much as set out under federal law. That approach drew criticism from ethanol and farm groups that have pushed to keep high volumes of ethanol in gasoline.

Democratic presidential candidate Hillary Rodham Clinton has called for a robust renewable fuels standard while campaigning in Iowa, host of the leadoff presidential caucuses next year.

Iowa produces more ethanol than any other state, and the renewable fuel has long been a powerful economic and political issue.

The 2007 renewable fuels law tried to address global warming, reduce dependence on foreign oil and bolster the rural economy by requiring a steady increase in the overall amount of renewable fuels such as ethanol-blended into gasoline over time.

The new proposal would reduce the amount required in the law by more than 4 billion gallons in 2015 and by more than 3 billion gallons next year.

The EPA said the standards set by the law cannot be achieved, due partly to limitations on the amount of renewable fuels other than ethanol that can be produced. Next-generation biofuels, made from

ETHANOL | PAGE 23

Irene Group Aims To Help Foster Kids

BY REILLY BIEL
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IRENE — Children in foster care often receive two trash bags to store the items they take with them from home to home.

The Together We Rise project is looking to change that.

"I saw it (the project) on Facebook and I thought, 'Oh my gosh, that is a project we need to do for our community,'" said Pam Erickson of Irene.

She helped organize an upcoming fundraiser in Irene using one of the project's branches, Sweet Cases for Foster Children, to collect duffel bags for foster children in the Turner, Clay and Yankton counties.

"I asked for some volunteers and had no problem getting the event going," she said.

Erickson has been a foster parent for the past nine years and knows of the need for duffel bags for foster children.

BAGS | PAGE 23

Flying High



JAMES D. CIMBUREK/P&D

Bon Homme's Morgan McAllister focuses before taking off during the Class A girls' pole vault at the South Dakota State Track and Field Meet on Friday in Spearfish. She won the event. Action in the state track meet continues today (Saturday) in Rapid City. For details on Friday's action, see page 13.

Vermillion

Hospital Set To Start \$11M Project

BY SHAUNA MARLETTE
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VERMILLION — With the roar of a backhoe and the sounds of a jackhammer, phase one of Sanford Vermillion's \$11 million construction project began early last week.

According to Timothy Tracy, chief executive officer Sanford Vermillion, it is a three-phase project that he expects to be finished in just more than two years.

In all, the project is expected to cost nearly \$11 million, \$2 million of it funded by the Dakota Hospital Foundation and the balance funded by Sanford Health System.

Although the demolition began last week, Tracy said work was going on before that.

"Some of the preparatory work we did was going before the Planning and Zoning Commission to develop this area into a planned development district for health care," he said. "All the property around here was split up into different lots; even within our own property, we would have had to get variances. Our own property had four lots, so now it is considered one. It was also a process of supplying wa-

"We have been in the planning process for probably seven years or more, really thinking about what long term is best for the facility here given all the changes in health care."

TIMOTHY TRACY

ter and electrical variances for the city and doing those kinds of things.

"We have been in the planning process for probably seven years or more, really thinking about what long term is best for the facility here given all the changes in health care. Through that process and a number of studies, we have come up with our current plan."

The three-phase plan includes adding on to the emergency room department with a drive-through

HOSPITAL | PAGE 23



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