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YANKTON DAILY PRESS & DAKOTAN

TUESDAY ■ NOVEMBER 13, 2012



VOLUME 138
NUMBER 170

The Dakotas' Oldest Newspaper | **14 PAGES** | www.yankton.net

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BID Proposal Advances

Contract For New City Manager OK'd

BY DEREK BARTOS
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The city of Yankton moved closer to the establishment of a proposed business improvement district (BID) Monday as the City Commission approved proposals recommended by the BID board of directors.

The commission voted in favor of the BID's by-laws and plan, which center around the implementation of a \$2 tax on overnight stays for hotels and lodging establishments in Yankton that feature 25 or more rooms, with smaller es-

tablishments having the choice to opt-in.

The BID board has yet to determine how it will use the estimated \$145,000 in funds generated from the tax. Previous discussion has included purchasing Human Services Center land and using the money for building a sports facility. Under the plan approved by the City Commission, the BID will propose to the commission its intents for spending the funds once it has been accounted for by the hotels.



Nelson

"This may seem like it is a very broad definition, but at this point, there still needs to be a lot of conversation that needs to take place on the BID board so they know exactly how they might want to spend those funds," said Mayor Nancy Wenande.

The commission also appointed Rikesh Patel, owner of the Days Inn, to the BID board of directors. Patel joins current board members Sarah Haberman, Bruce Cull, Steve Slowey, Dan Specht, Rob Stephenson and Jason Winterringer.

The date for a public hearing to consider establishment of the BID was set for Jan. 14, 2013.

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Self-Service Registration Terminal For Drivers Coming

BY JEREMY HOECK
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Within the next 2-3 months, local and area residents will be able to avoid the hassle of long lines and travel to renew their vehicle registration or plate tags.

The Yankton Hy-Vee was one of six new sites across South Dakota to be awarded a 24-hour motor vehicle self-service terminal, an automated registration renewal station that also dispenses renewal tags on the spot.

The terminal is part of a series of renovations and upcoming changes to the Yankton Hy-Vee and is set to open after the new year, according to store manager Tonya Graff.

"It's another service that we can bring to our customers, to make life easier for them," Graff said. "Our store up in Sioux Falls has had great success, so we're hoping we see the same thing down here."

Graff compared the stations to plane ticket machines at airports. Customers can scan a valid driver's license, select a registered vehicle and either renew the registration or print out tags. Accessible forms of payment are credit or debit cards, and electronic checks.

The other five locations selected by the South Dakota Division of Motor Vehicles are the Rushmore Mall in Rapid City, Kessler's in Aberdeen, County Fair Food Store in Mitchell, and the Hy-Vee stores in Watertown and Brookings.

If recent history is any indication, the new sites should see plenty of traffic, according to Yankton County treasurer Pam Marchand.

"We do have lines, especially during certain months, but it's not all month-long like the bigger counties," Marchand said. "It'll benefit people who are just traveling through and realize all of a sudden they need to renew some tags."

DRIVERS | PAGE 3

READY TO RUN DOWN



KELLY HERTZ/P&D

Discharges of 37,500 cubic feet per second (cfs) were churning up the tailwaters below Gavins Point Dam Monday, much to the delight of dozens of seagulls looking for some food swimming in the waters. Releases at the dam are expected to drop down to approximately 12,000 cfs in the coming month. However, officials from some downstream states and the barge industry that the flows may not be adequate to support uses downstream due to the drought.

Higher River Flows Sought

Missouri Governor And Barge Industry Urging Action On Rivers By Corps

BY JIM SALTER
Associated Press

ST. LOUIS — Missouri Gov. Jay Nixon and the barge industry are imploring the federal government to take steps to keep enough water flowing on the drought-ridden Missouri and Mississippi rivers to avert a potential "economic disaster."

Nixon sent a letter Friday to the Army's assistant secretary urging the Army Corps of Engineers to continue providing sufficient water flow from the Missouri to the Mississippi River. Current corps plans would reduce the amount of water released from the Missouri's upstream reservoirs, including Gavins Point Dam near Yankton, starting next week.

"I urge the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers to avert potential economic disaster on this vital avenue American farmers use to get their goods into the world market," Nixon wrote to Jo-Ellen Darcy, assistant secretary of the Army.

Meanwhile, the American Waterways Operators and Waterways Council last week urged Congress and President Barack Obama to act or potentially see a halt to the transportation of millions of tons of essential goods up and down the Mississippi.

RIVER | PAGE 3

POWELL HONORED



JAMES D. CIMBUREK/P&D

Former Yankton music instructor Ted Powell, right, was presented with the South Dakota High School Activities Association's Distinguished Service Award during halftime of the Class 11AA football championships on Saturday at the DakotaDome in Vermillion. Making the presentation was Yankton school board president Chris Specht, chairperson of the SDHSAA Board of Directors.

Crofton Native Pursues Her Religion Path

BY LINDA WUEBBEN
P&D Correspondent

CROFTON, Neb. — "It was the most exciting weekend of my life," said Sister LeeAnn Mackeprang, a native of Crofton.

Mackeprang celebrated her Perpetual Profession of vows on Saturday, Nov. 3, in Philadelphia. She is a member of the Sisters of the Good Shepard, a contemplative order that spans the world with programs in 70 countries and five continents. Their core values include mercy, reconciliation, individual worth and zeal for Jesus, the Good Shepherd.

"I remember talking to Sister Charlotte back in seventh or eighth grade, asking her how she knew she wanted to be a nun," said Mackeprang. "She told me to reach out with both hands and



Mackeprang

grab onto the cross and never let go."

As far back as second grade, Mackeprang remembers wanting to be a religious servant, and the talk with Sister Charlotte was the best advice she

ever received.

Mackeprang needed to do some research to find a religious order that she felt right about. She talked with several individuals in South Dakota and Minnesota, and when she visited Sister Adrian Baker in St. Paul, she knew the Good Shepherd

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been



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