

Cedar Catholic Falls In C2 Final • PAGE 8







Volume 140 Number 181

The Dakotas' Oldest Newspaper | 20 PAGES | www.yankton.net



Giving Thanks!



KELLY HERTZ/P&D

This colorful artwork on the wall of the Webster Elementary School gymnasium in Yankton was created by students who made feathers to proclaim what they are

Area School Children Tell The Press & Dakotan What They Are Thankful For This Year

he holiday of Thanksgiving is abot more than feasting on turkey and stuffing, watching football and gearing up for Black Friday spe-It's also about giving

Each year, the *Press & Dakotan* puts the call out to area schools to have their young

students tell us what they are thankful for this season. Here are their responses:

thanks for the many bless-

Avon Schools MRS. HAENFLER/FIFTH GRADE

 ${\sf Eli\ W.-I\ am\ thankful\ for\ my\ family\ because\ they\ get}$ me through hard stuff. I am thankful for my dogs because they help me hunt. I am thankful for my cats because they make me feel better when I am sad. I am thankful for my

house because it gives me shelter. I am thankful for my life because I get to live. These are the things I'm thankful for. Elizabeth B. — I am so lucky to have so many things to be thankful for. There are a bunch but I am only going to tell you a few. One of these things is my family because they care for me and give me love. I don't know what I would do without them. Another thing I am thankful for is the farm I live on, because I get to have animals like cats,

home because it keeps me warm and safe. The last thing I am going to tell you is my animals, because they keep me busy. These are a few reasons out of a ton of things that I am thankful for.

am tnankful for.

Haden C. — I have many things to be thankful for in my life. I am thankful for my family because they are always there for me. I'm thankful for my pets. They always keep me company. I'm thankful for freedom; otherwise we would be under someone's control. This is what I'm thank-

Haleigh T. — There are a lot of things to be thankful for. I am thankful for my family because they take care of me. They also give me shelter. I am also thankful for my classmates because they can be your friend. They also play with me. I am thankful for my friends. They are helpful. They are also fun to play with. I am thankful for this and

- I am thankful for my family because they have provided me with food and a house to live in. I am thankful for my friends because they are good to have around and my best friend is Lincoln because we both like farming. I am thankful for farming. I am thankful for school because it helps me learn. I am thankful for all these

Justin F. — I am thankful for tons of stuff. I am thankful for my family, so you have someone to comfort you when you are sick. I am also thankful for food and water, so I can

drink and eat. I am thankful for video games so we can keep ourselves entertained. That is what I am thankful for. Katie G. — There are a lot things in the world to be thankful for. I am thankful for a lot of things but I picked only four. I am thankful for my house. My house keeps me

THANKFUL | PAGE 10

Iowa Professor Cautions South Dakotans On Tax Increase Financing

BY ROB NIELSEN

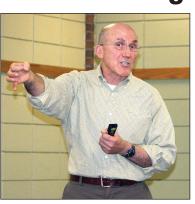
rob.nielsen@yankton.net

The term "Tax Increment Financing" (TIF) has become well known in the area over the last few years with the controversy over the proposed Dakota Plains grain facility as well as construction planning in Bon Homme County.

Iowa State professor Dave Swenson was at the Yankton Community Library Tuesday to speak about his own state's experiences with TIFs — an experience that Swenson said has been very concerning based on the ease with which they were approved.

"In Iowa, the county supervisors can simply, by a vote of affirmation, declare a TIF project," Swenson said. "They don't need a vote of any kind, they don't need any restrictions. It's very hard to catch them at it so it's very easy to do. ... In my state, it's a wholesale shifting of liability and cost of government to the non-benefiting property

TIFS | PAGE 20



ROB NIELSEN/P&D

Iowa professor Dave Swenson speaks at the Yankton Community Library Tuesday afternoon about the impact of TIFs. Swenson mostly spoke about how TIFs have affected lowa and cautioned that they could easily be abused elsewhere.



KELLY HERTZ/P&D

Webster Elementary School students Myshelle Everson (left) and Brie Luken perform in a skit that explores how to diffuse bullving during an anti-bullying rally at the Yankton school Tues-

Webster **Continues Anti-Bullying** Crusade

BY SHAUNA MARLETTE shauna.marlette@yankton.net

Say 'No!' to bullying is a common message in schools across the nation, but Yankton's Webster Elementary School is continuing to go above and beyond to eliminate bullying.

For the third year in a row, the school has developed a plan to not only talk to their students about bullying, but also to give its students the tools to recognize what bullying is and to show them how to put a stop to it.

"I know our efforts to teach our students about bullying are working from seeing it in action," said principal Melanie Ryken during the school's Olweus Anti-Bullying program Tuesday. "I help monitor the students at our football games and twice I have seen it in action where our Webster students have seen bullying happen. They did the right thing they pointed it out to me — but what I was most proud of was they stepped in and tried

BULLY | PAGE 20

Inside



American Profile

Happy Holidays



Nov. 26 29 shopping days to Christmas

Parade Of **Lights Kicks Off Christmas** Season

BY JORDYNNE HART

Get ready for a bright night. The House Of Gurney Historic District will be hosting the annual Parade of Lights in Yankton on Saturday, Nov. 29, to kick-off the Christmas season.

Line-up for the floats will start at 5 p.m. Everyone is welcome to participate, free-ofcharge in this year's parade.

We don't do sign-ups or registration. You can throw lights on yourself, lights on a bicycle or on a car or even a tractor," said Gene Fuller, director of operations at The Landing. "It's pretty informal and it's open for anyone to attend. We are hoping, since it is after Thanksgiving, that people will be off work and will be able to throw a float together."

The parade will begin at 5:30 p.m. and is estimated to take 40

Fuller said that the parade will have a different route than in past years.

We will do a big loop," Fuller said. "We wanted people to end closer to where they

The route will go from Levee to Cedar; Cedar to Third; and Third to Capitol. The parade will finish up on Capitol Street at the 172 Excelsior Flour Mill.

At the end of the parade, prizes will be given away from the Yankton Chamber of Commerce, and a Christmas vendor fair will take place inside of the Excelsior Flour Mill.

Fuller said that the fair is a new addition that is free to help promote Yankton businesses. Any business in Yankton will be able to set up a table in the mill. Fuller said that this year's event was aimed to focus on promoting Small Business Saturday.

When it gets colder, a lot of people forget about the park and lower downtown Yankton," he said. "Hopefully, this will draw the public's attention

Any Yankton vendor will be

LIGHTS | PAGE 20



