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A 'Miracle' For
The Holidays!
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'Christmas Store' Story



Dick Hudson of Yankton is continuing the tradition of the "Christmas Store" for kids that was started by his wife Ann, whose photo Dick holds, back in 2012 after Ann was diagnosed with terminal cancer. She passed away last June.

SHAUNA MARLETTE/P&D

Daugaard Budget Will Be Cautious

Recommendations Will Reflect A Slow And Steady Growth

BY BOB MERCER
State Capitol Bureau



Daugaard

PIERRE — Gov. Dennis Daugaard won't be proposing any big moves when he delivers his budget recommendations in a speech Tuesday to a joint assembly of the Legislature, according to several top officials in his administration.

There aren't the deficit problems that Daugaard immediately faced when he took office in January 2011 and had to make cuts throughout state government, they said.

But, they added, there isn't room to do much beyond what's already been provided as South Dakota's economy rebounded faster than most of the nation in the past three years.

"He's really based his budget on not spending money you don't have," Tony Venhuizen, the governor's chief of staff, said. "This year we have slow, steady revenue growth."

Sales tax revenue increased a total of 4.6 percent

in the first four months of the 2015 fiscal year that began July 1.

Contractor's excise tax revenues meanwhile are up 2.2 percent and insurance tax revenue grew 9.5 percent.

Jason Dilges, the governor's commissioner of finance and management, said sales tax revenue so far is "a little bit behind" the final projection adopted by the Legislature for the fiscal 2015 budget.

But inflation has been low at about 1.5 percent annually and demand slowed for subsidized health care and children's care, Dilges said.

The Legislature was able to provide funding increases of at least 3 percent for state aid to K-12 schools, Medicaid providers and state government employees in the current budget.

Dilges said giving more

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Sports



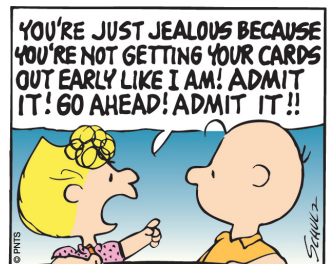
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Inside



USA Weekend

Happy Holidays!



Nov. 28
27 shopping days to Christmas

Man Keeps Store Open To Honor His Late Wife

BY SHAUNA MARLETTE
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Ann Hudson of Yankton was a woman who loved deeply — her husband, Dick, her three children, her community and most importantly, children.

That love for children was made most evident when, in 2012, she was diagnosed with cancer. Rather than giving up, she decided to give back.

"In 2012 my wife was diagnosed with terminal cancer so she wanted to do something," Dick said. "She always loved kids and kids loved her. We had AFLAC with extra money coming in, and she decided she wanted to do a Christmas store

where kids between the ages of 3 and 10 could come in and shop for free."

The Christmas store will return for another year on Dec. 13 at Yankton's Riverview Reformed Church. Bu this time, Ann will not be there: She passed away this past summer. But Dick is carrying the spirit on.

He explained that, growing up, Ann's family had not lived in the best situation, so she knew how important it was for kids to be able to give a gift to their family members. Her idea: Create a Christmas Store for children to come in and "shop"

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On The Job

Bon Homme Alum Dresses For Success

Halsey Lends Hand To Local 'Nutcracker' Ballet

EDITOR'S NOTE: This is part of the Press & Dakotan's monthly series spotlighting occupations, tasks and duties in our coverage area.

BY SHAUNA MARLETTE
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For Travis Halsey coming home again is a beautiful thing — a beautiful costume, that is.

The Bon Homme High School graduate has designed and created a new costume for the Dakota Dance Association's biennial production of "The Nutcracker Ballet." In the process he is showcasing the talents he grew from roots born in the Yankton theatre community.

"I did a lot of stuff with the director Linda Haar back in high school," he said in a phone interview with the Press and Dakotan. "I started working on costuming back when I was in high school, working on 'Oklahoma!' with Pam Kallis at the Dakota Playhouse.



COURTESY PHOTO

Bon Homme High School graduate Travis Halsey is lending a hand with the Dakota Dance Association's production of "The Nutcracker Ballet," which debuts tonight, designing a tutu for the Sugar Plum Fairy. But it's not his first experience with the "Nutcracker": He created this dress for "Mother Ginger" in a "Nutcracker" production by the Los Gatos (California) Ballet. It was 18 feet wide, seven feet deep and consumed more than 90 yards of fabric.

After high school, I did costuming for seven years at the Omaha Playhouse and out at the Black Hills Playhouse under the direction of Jan and Jill Swank."

He said he never thought of cos-

tuming as a hobby, it has always been his job, his calling.

"Since my third year of college, I have been doing costuming for a living,"

BALLET | PAGE 3A

Families Asked To Host Visitors For Pope's US Trip

PHILADELPHIA (AP) — Residents of the Philadelphia area are being asked to show some brotherly love to those coming to see Pope Francis next year.

To help accommodate the expected crowds, officials hope more than 10,000 families will volunteer to host visitors in their spare bedrooms.

Francis plans to attend the Roman Catholic-sponsored World Meeting of Families in Philadelphia in September. Area hotel rooms are filling up fast, and event planners have even looked at hotels 90 miles away in Baltimore.

So far, more than 100 families have registered to welcome guests through the company Homestay, which is coordinating the effort.

Event organizers estimate up to 15,000 people will travel to the conference, which focuses on strengthening family bonds.

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TOMORROW: Shoppers Hit The Stores For Black Friday

YANKTON RECYCLING THIS WEEK:
NORTH
OF 15TH STREET