



# YANKTON DAILY PRESS & DAKOTAN



Smith Brings Culture Change  
To USD Men's Hoops • **11**



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KELLY HERTZ/P&D  
**Dan Specht, head of the Yankton Area Progressive Growth housing task force, updated YAPG members on the progress at the Westbrook Estates development Monday.**

## YAPG

### Westbrook Project Picks Up Speed

BY ROB NIELSEN  
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The Westbrook Estates project along Yankton's West City Limits Road is beginning to rise out of the dirt that's been turned throughout the fall, despite a few minor snags.

During Yankton Area Progressive Growth's (YAPG) quarterly investor's meeting Monday, Dan Specht, head of the YAPG housing task force, provided an update on where the project, intended to bring more affordable housing to Yankton, is at the moment.

"If you've been by Westbrook Estates in the last couple of weeks, it's really shown a lot of progress," Specht said. "The streets have been asphalted with curb and gutter, all the water is to the front of each lot and there's actually construction that has begun on the lots."

Nielson Construction of Harrisburg is currently working on 10 lots on the 30-acre development with a commitment to buy an additional 10 lots in the spring, with the rest being available for

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## Watching For Scams

### Chamber Official: New 'Magnet' Scam Just Latest In Wave Of Fraud Efforts

BY REILLY BIEL  
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It's that time of year again for people to be reminded of the danger of scams.

A recent email scam brought to the Yankton Area Chamber of Commerce has drawn attention to the fact that scams, by phone and email, are still a large problem.

"The email was asking people to purchase

a sponsorship space on a refrigerator magnet," Chamber executive director Carmen Schramm explained. "It mentioned that the company had been approved by local groups, the Chamber being one of them. We don't endorse those kinds of projects, especially if they're out of town."

These types of scams have potential to



Schramm

do more harm than phone scams, which are more common.

"The electronic scams are a concern for us," Schramm said. "If someone clicks on the wrong link, there could be a lot of problems."

Onguardonline.gov offers advice on how to avoid an online scam, with tips like not to wire money or reply to a message asking for financial or personal information.

Much of this advice can also apply to phone scams, which can range from a variety of topics.

SCAMS | PAGE 9



KELLY HERTZ/P&D  
**Workers took advantage of Monday's unseasonably warm conditions to continue work on the new Boys & Girls Club structure on the north end of the Yankton Middle School. The 25,500-square-foot addition will include a gym, art rooms, game rooms, social spaces, a snack area and study areas. Completion of the nearly \$4 million facility is tentatively slated in time for the beginning of the 2016 school year**

## YSD

### Housing Impacts School Numbers, Official Says

BY ALISSA WOOCKMAN  
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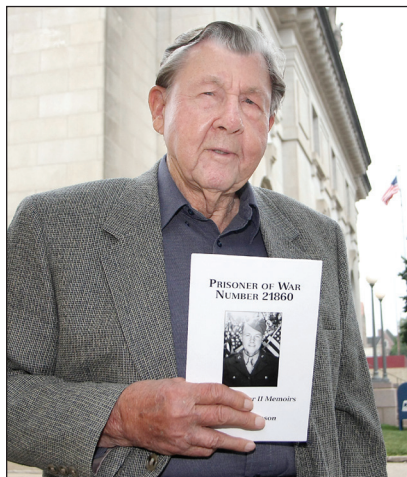
Just as schools are part of a community, a city's housing development can impact how many students attend that community's schools. This has been a concern for Yankton's School District (YSD) and was highlighted at Monday night's Yankton School Board (YSB) meeting.

According to Superintendent Dr. Wayne Kindle, YSD lost the enrollment of approximately 25 students this year because their families couldn't find housing in Yankton. As a result, those families ended up not moving to Yankton or moving to a surrounding community.

Dan Specht, a broker for Vision Real Estate Services gave a presentation to the YSB about what Yankton Area Progressive Growth (YAPG) is doing to build more opportunities for current and future city residents.

The project began in December 2013 when YAPG conducted a housing study that evaluated the target areas for improvement.

"We knew there were needs in housing, but we didn't know where they were for sure," Specht said. "We worked with employers and the school district who said that their employees were having trouble finding places to live."



KELLY HERTZ/P&D  
**Oliver Omanson of Yankton is shown in this 2009 photo. He wrote a book describing his World War II experiences as a prisoner of war. He passed away in 2014.**

## Veterans Day

### As POW, Omanson Found Will To Survive

BY DAVE HOSMER  
For the Press & Dakotan

"You would look in their eyes and tell that they had given up. Two days later they were dead." So said Ken Axelson, a friend of mine from Wanamingo, Minnesota, who was a medic with the 502nd Parachute Infantry Regiment, 101st Airborne and was in a German prison camp for 90 days.

Words nearly identical to that were stated to me by Fiske Hanley, a friend who resides in Ft. Worth, Texas. He was an engi-

neer on at B-29 that was shot down, and he was abused in a Japanese prison for over five months. Why did those boys give up and the others not? According to Axelson, "I never gave up. I was going to [survive] for spite if nothing else."

Victor Frankl, a trained psychiatrist, who himself had been ghettoized at the Theresienstadt Concentration Camp for two years and then made to perform slave labor for five months at camps affiliated with Dachau, suggested an answer in his book

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## City Passes Revisions To Animal Ordinance

BY ROB NIELSEN  
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Yankton's animal ordinance will now be easier to interpret and apply.

During its regular meeting Monday night, the Yankton City Commission unanimously passed a number of language tweaks and additions to the

city's animal ordinance. This was done in order to streamline its application and clear up any confusion over what constitutes certain offenses.

City Attorney Ross Den Herder said the changes came from a study of how the ordinance was working.

"This particular modification is the result of a couple

years worth of enforcement and seeing what works and what doesn't," Den Herder said. "There were quite a few opportunities that we found to clean this up so that enforcement works more efficiently."

Den Herder said one of the key elements was to clarify definitions in the ordinance to streamline the process.

"We cleaned up some of the definitions," he said. "There's a definitions section so that the definitions of the terms used are better clarified and don't accidentally add what we call 'elements' or additional points that need to be proven in order to prove whether one of

CITY | PAGE 9

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**TOMORROW: Nelson, Kindle Discuss 'State Of The Community'**

YANKTON RECYCLING FOR THIS WEEK

**NORTH**  
OF 15TH STREET