



Area Runners Qualify For State

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## Bird Totals Up For SD

### Pheasant Hunting Season Opens With An Increase

BY ALISSA WOOCKMAN  
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South Dakota's pheasant season opens this Saturday, and hunters are in for a large increase in birds compared to previous years.

The South Dakota Game, Fish and Parks (SDGFP) 2015 Pheasant Brood Survey shows a 52 percent increase on pheasants per mile (ppm) in the Yankton area and a 42 percent increase statewide compared to last year's

numbers.

This change can be explained by an increase in the number of acres in SDGFP's Conservation Reserve Program (CRP).

South Dakota does have more than 5 million acres of hunting opportunity on public land and private land that has been leased for public hunting. In the CRP, SDGFP will provide a one-time upfront incentive of \$1-per-acre per year if landowners allow public hunting access to the CRP for multiple years.

This is on top of the \$6-per-acre annual access rental payment.

"In the last 7-8 years, the state has lost quite a few acres of CRP," said Senior Wildlife Biologist Mark Norton. "The southern portion of the state – around Yankton, Hutchinson and Bon Homme counties – have actually been one of the few places that have increased the amount of land enrolled in CRP."

Some of that area is in its fourth or

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## Change Of Seasons



PHOTO: BRENDA K. JOHNSON

Keep Yankton Beautiful (KYB) invigorates downtown Yankton planters with mums and other foliage and pumpkins to celebrate fall and Harvest Festival on Halloween. In cooperation with Lisa Kortan, Yankton Parks & Recreation, KYB reused Purple Fountain grasses; they were planted in the containers this spring for this dual purpose. In partnership with Parks & Recreation, the fall plantings will be extended along Douglas Avenue. Mums were purchased from Diane's Greenhouse in Fordyce, Nebraska. Kortan's staff will maintain the plants. KYB's projects around Yankton are funded by membership, donations and grants. Website: [www.KeepYanktonBeautiful.org](http://www.KeepYanktonBeautiful.org).

## State Universities Might Seek Sale Of Alcohol On Campuses

BY BOB MERCER  
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PIERRE – Officials from all six state universities will meet next week to discuss whether to try changing South Dakota's prohibition against selling alcohol at the campuses.

The task force's findings will be presented in December to the state Board of Regents, whose members will decide then whether to take the issue to the Legislature in January.

The university system's council of presidents and superintendents has already talked about the matter. They want discretion to allow alcohol sales on their campuses as another revenue source for campus activities and scholarships, according to Janelle Toman.

She is the regents' director of communications and is chairwoman of the task force.

The council appointed representatives to the task force.

State law has banned alcohol sales on campuses since at least 1939. The law currently says no on-sale or off-sale license may be granted to operate on the

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## Local Teen Court Program Received YAF Grant

BY REILLY BIEL  
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Having a program that enables teenagers to participate in low-level court proceedings is a worthwhile cause that should not go unrecognized.

Fortunately, Yankton's Teen Court Program did not.

The program, sponsored by the Boys & Girls Club of Yankton, has received a \$4,000 grant from the Yankton Area Foundation (YAF) that will enable the continuation of the program.

YAF receives grant applications in April and October and views presentations given by the applicants at board meetings those same months. The board then decides which programs to award grants.

According to YAF board member Sheila Woodward, the Teen Court program costs approximately \$42,000 a year to operate. Expenses go to having a court coordinator and general day-to-day operations.

This is the first time Yankton's Teen Court, which is locally funded, has received a grant from YAF, she added.

In addition to Teen Court, other grants were awarded to Big Friend-Little Friend, Yankton



County Parents As Teachers, Yankton County Emergency Management, Yankton Seed Library and Ability Building Services.

"We take grants from any non-profit organizations, including city and government agencies," said Woodward.

She is glad that Teen Court is able to benefit from YAF's grant.

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### Springfield

## Veterans Memorial Stands As A True Monument

### Adjutant General To Address Oct. 25 Dedication Ceremony

BY RANDY DOCKENDORF  
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SPRINGFIELD – Later this month, Springfield residents will celebrate the completion of a truly monumental work.

The Oct. 25 dedication at Terrace Park will unveil the Springfield Veterans Memorial. The ceremony also marks the completion of a five-year process. The planning committee was formed in fall 2010, and the project was launched at the Memorial Day 2011 program.

Thanks to the successful fundraising efforts, the groundbreaking was held at this year's Memorial Day program – a year ahead of schedule. The project had sought \$160,000 for the memorial, which will overlook the Missouri River.

"We just raised funds and kept on going," said treasurer

Don Irish of Springfield. "We figured it would take 5 to 6 years to finish the project, and we'll have completed it in five years and five days."

The fundraising isn't completed, Irish said. A Nov. 8 pancake breakfast will be held from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. at the Springfield Community Center.

"We would like to raise another \$10,000 before we turn it over to the Legion so they can cover maintenance and unexpected expenses," Irish said.

The monument consists of a gray granite spire that will stand 22 feet tall, topped with an LED light visible from miles away. The four black granite panels are etched with the names of nearly 2,000 veterans.

The black granite panels will stand 5-8 feet tall, breaking into a zig-zag design at the

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## SD Wheat Emerges Ahead

SIoux FALLS (AP) — About half of South Dakota's winter wheat crop has emerged, after another week of favorable weather.

The Agriculture Department says in its weekly crop report that 89 percent of the crop is now seeded, ahead of average. Forty-seven percent of the crop has emerged, slightly ahead of average.

Winter wheat is seeded and emerges in the fall, goes dormant over the winter, begins growing again in the spring and is harvested in the summer.

South Dakota's corn harvest is still behind average at 21 percent, but the soybean harvest is nearing three-fourths done and is close to average. The sunflower harvest is just getting underway, at 5 percent complete.

Pasture and range conditions statewide are rated 52 percent good to excellent. Stock water supplies are 75 percent adequate to surplus.

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