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Survey Says Residents Generally Happy With Services

BY ROB NIELSEN rob.nielsen@yankton.net

The 2015 City Survey results are out, and generally, Yankton residents are happy with the direction of city services.

During a presentation to Monday's meeting of the Yankton City Com-



manager Amy Nelson said the survey — now completing its seventh year - saw a higher response than similar munici-

mission, city

palities. "There were

1,200 surveys sent out randomly in August," Nelson said.
"We take input back throughout that month and into September.
We received 541 surveys back, which is above the national average for survey response, so we do get really good participa-

The surveys cover a number of areas, including satisfaction with water, fire, police, garbage and other services offered by the City of Yankton.

Nelson said the results were encouraging overall.

"What we've received is a lot of positive feedback in all of the categories — not all of the respondents, of course — but all of the categories, more or less, came back as being posi-

tive," she said. She said one concern amongst Yankton was police

"Police and fire service received really good feedback, she said. "(There was) some concerns about the visibility of police in neighborhoods — both positive and negative comments there. Some felt there was too much presence and some felt there was not enough. I don't know how you win that one.

Nelson added the survey

CITY | PAGE 10

Harrisburg School Shooting

Not-Guilty Plea Entered

Teen Is Arraigned On Charge Of Attempted Murder

BY DIRK LAMMERS

Associated Press

CANTON — A judge entered a not guilty plea Monday on behalf of a 16-year-old boy accused of shooting and injuring the principal inside his South Dakota high school last month.

Mason Buhl was charged as an adult with attempted murder and the commission of a felony while armed with a firearm. A grand jury indicted Buhl earlier this month on the two charges, which each carry a maximum prison term of 25 years.

Circuit Judge Jon Sogn read Buhl his rights and asked the teen if he understood those rights and the charges against him. Buhl, dressed in green jails scrubs with his hands cuffed, politely answered "Yes" or "Yes, your honor" to the questions, but made no other

Buhl's court-appointed attorney, Mike Butler, declined to speak to reporters after the brief hearing in Canton.

Under state law, Butler could ask the judge to try the case in juvenile court, but no such request had been made as of Monday afternoon. Lincoln County State's Attorney Tom

SHOOTING | PAGE 10

School Kicks

Off Annual

Taking A Stand Against Bullies



KELLY HERTZ/P&D

Webster Jr. Kindergarten teacher Amy Bruening looks on as Webster fifth-grader Morgan Milk responds to one of the scenarios that could pop up in school in regards to bullies. It was part of Webster School's bullying prevention kickoff event, held Monday at the school's gymnasium.

Anti-Bullying Program With Love BY ALISSA WOOCKMAN alissa.woockman@yankton.net

Yankton's Webster Elementary School kicked off its fourth year of the Olweus Bullying Prevention program Monday. The rally featured a presentation for parents and community members highlighting the four bullying rules Webster has incorporated towards the

Olweus is the most widely known, best researched antibullying program in the country right now," Principal Melanie Ryken told kids and adults in attendance at Monday's rally. "We very much, passionately believe in it."

This year's theme is "Owl you need is love: Winners stand up to bullying." The students incorporated the message in bullying scenarios that showed the audience what each student would do in conjunction with the Olweus program.

"If you look at the research, adults don't stop bullying," Ryken said. "Who stops bullying? Kids. Does that mean we don't ever have an incident of bullying at Webster School? Not so. But I can tell you, over the past three years, our incidents have dramatically decreased and we are very proud of that."
According to the Olweus

website, "Bullying is aggressive behavior that is intentional and that involves an imbalance of power. Most often, it is repeated over time."

"There is a fine line between what is bullying and what is just being rude, disrespectful or mean," Ryken said. "So it was a learning curve for all of us at Webster school."

The kickoff rally continued with a poem read by students from junior kindergarten through fifth grade and a video created and directed by fourth grade teacher Faydra Christensen. The video featured each classroom showing its own interpretation for the message

"Every single kid is seen in the video somehow, some way," Christensen said.

Christensen, along with other members of the school's anti-bullying committee, designed T-shirts incorporating this year's slogan. "Friends of Webster," spearheaded by Pauline Rhoades, raised more than \$2,000 to provide every Webster student with a free shirt and has done so since the program began.

WEBSTER | PAGE 10

Legislators Want State Panel To Take Look At Race Relations

BY BOB MERCER State Capitol Bureau

PIERRE — The Legislature's permanent committee on state-tribal relations decided Monday to ask the governor to appoint a race The panel would look at relations in South

Dakota 25 years after then-Gov. George S. Mickelson and elected leaders of nine Indian tribes signed a proclamation of reconciliation. The signing in 1990 occurred in a solemn

Capitol ceremony marking the one hundredth anniversary of the Wounded Knee massacre. The action Monday came at the suggestion

of Rep. Shawn Bordeaux, D-Mission. Bordeaux recommended the legislative committee send a letter to Gov. Dennis Daugaard asking for a commission to review what has happened since 1990 and make recommendations about what can be learned from

"past atrocities" in the state. The governor will certainly consider the committee's report," Tony Venhuizen, the governor's chief of staff, said later in response to a newspaperman's question.

Sen. Troy Heinert, D-Mission, said a draft copy of the letter would be circulated to the 10 committee members before the final version is sent to Gov. Daugaard.



Heinert is chairman of the legislative committee. Bordeaux is vice chairman.

Sen. Betty Olson, R-Prairie City, questioned Bordeaux whether "taxpayers' money" would be used.

Bordeaux, who serves on the House Appropriations Committee that helps oversee

state government's budget, replied: "I know we got a big chunk of change somewhere that would be perfect to use for

something like this.' Sen. Craig Tieszen, R-Rapid City, noted the 1990 reconciliation work was "a serious effort

by serious people.' "Just an observation," Tieszen continued, "It's going to take that kind of leadership again.'

Later in the meeting, Tieszen later cautioned that the Flandreau Santee Sioux Tribe's plan to open a marijuana lounge needs to remain on the legislative panel's agenda, because it could affect future relations in South

Various representatives of the marijuana operation spoke to the committee Monday. A tour was held earlier this month for legislators. Four of 105 state lawmakers attended.



Boo-tiful Music

Halloween was on full display during the Yankton fifth-grade orchestra concert, held Monday afternoon at the Yankton Middle School theatre. Besides wearing their seasonal costumes, musicians served up a variety of selections — some of them quite spooky — for their audience.



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