



Partly Cloudy And Cold

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IMAGE: METRO GRAPHICS

Hallelujah Fest Offers Fun And Safe Halloween Alternative

BY REILLY BIEL
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Parents looking for an alternative activity to trick-or-treating on Halloween are in luck.

On Saturday, Oct. 31, the 21st annual Hallelujah Fest will be held at the City Gym, 5th and Walnut, Yankton, from 6-8 p.m. The Fest is sponsored by Redeeming Grace Bible Church. There is no admission fee.

The event was created by a group of people who decided that an alternative to traditional trick-or-treating was needed for children, according to event coordinator Jennifer Morkve.

"We decided to do something different where we can not only get children off the street, but plant a seed and have them reach for Christ outside our church wall," she explained.

The long list of activities includes ring toss, duck ponds, a scavenger hunt and face painting. Prizes are awarded every 15 minutes from tickets given to kids 12 and under.

The prizes are donated from local businesses and range from gift cards to treats to toys.

In the 21 years of the Hallelujah Fest, there has been one distinct change.

"We've gotten larger," said Morkve. "It started with a few games and we've gradually added more. Other churches have gotten involved, whether it's donating their time or adding a game. It's been a lot of fun."

Its longevity has helped the Fest to become better known in the community.

"When we call around the community and begin to explain why we're calling, they say, 'Yep, we've already got you down,'" Morkve said. "It's nice to have great community support."

An event that has become legendary among Fest participants is the pumpkin story that is told every year.

FEST | PAGE 11

Vermillion

Company Wants Tech Center Lawsuit Moved

Case Is Scheduled To Be Heard In Clay Co. Court

BY DIRK LAMMERS
Associated Press

SIoux FALLS — A Minnesota-based software company and four of its shareholders are trying to get a lawsuit filed over the business' failure to move into a \$4.2 million technology center built for it moved into federal court.

The Vermillion Area Chamber of Commerce and Development Company had sued Eagle Creek Software Services in Oc-

tober 2014, saying the company breached a contract by not moving into the tech center. The facility was to be the centerpiece of a partnership backed by South Dakota Gov. Dennis Daugaard, but Eagle Creek never moved in, citing issues with economic development incentives.

After the chamber filed an amended lawsuit this month adding Eagle Creek President and CEO Ken Behrendt and three other company shareholders to the case, Eagle Creek petitioned the

U.S. District Court in Sioux Falls to take over the Clay County circuit court case. Attorney Andrew Damgaard wrote in his motion that federal court is the appropriate venue because the chamber is based in South Dakota yet the company and the four shareholders are all based in Minnesota.

The chamber's original lawsuit said

LAWSUIT | PAGE 11

Playoffs: Chasing Chase



JEREMY HOECK/P&D

Scotland's Chase Mogck, left, avoids a diving Hayden Medicine Horn from Andes Central-Dakota Christian during Tuesday night's Class 9A first round playoff game in Scotland. The football playoffs for the nine-man classes and Class 11B opened Tuesday, while the rest of the teams play Thursday, when the Yankton Bucks host Huron in a Class 11AA opener. For details on Tuesday's action, see page 7.

Students Keep To The Code

YSD's Coding Club Expose Students To New Technological Possibilities

BY ALISSA WOOCKMAN
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As a part of Yankton School District's Five-Year Strategic Plan, educators are working to integrate more Science, Technology, Engineering and Math (STEM) and Career Technical Education (CTE) programs into the schools.

One program recently added is a coding club for fifth graders. Coding is what makes all computer programming possible, including the creation of websites and apps. It has become a vital skill in the 21st century.

Beadle Elementary School students were the first in the district to join the club. Principal Carey Mitzel partnered with Yankton's Southeast Job Link to create this technological opportunity.

"I think coding is hot right now," Mitzel said. "When you talk in education circles about STEM projects, you hear about coding often. There are big names from Bill Gates to Facebook about coding initiatives. They want kids to be involved with that."

Sherri Duke, director of Southeast Job Link and instructor of the coding club, works with the non-profit learning center

to teach a variety of skills and realized the importance of this skill.

"This is what we do to get them that exposure to potential careers down the road in the world of coding," she said. "We are showing them that you can do marvelous things with it."

The coding club uses a program called Google CS First. It's a free, online software that students can access with any computer, which was an important factor when deciding on a type of software to incorporate in the club, Duke said.

"If you're going to teach someone how to do something, they have to have constant access to it to continue to work with it," she said. "We wanted to find something that was accessible to everyone beyond the classroom."

Google CS First has a variety of coding lessons, from social media to fashion design. Both Mitzel and Duke decided that video game design would capture the most intrigue from students.

Students watch instructional videos and essentially create their own video

CODING | PAGE 11

State Council Will Be Asked To Back Change In Work-Comp

BY BOB MERCER
State Capitol Bureau

PIERRE — South Dakota's advisory council on workers' compensation will review a proposal Thursday that would provide more protection for injured employees holding multiple jobs.

Lt. Gov. Matt Michels said the changes under consideration reflect a May 6 decision by the South Dakota Supreme Court.

The justices found a Sioux Falls woman hurt on one job should receive more compensation for her injury because it prevented her from performing her other jobs.

The court's 5-0 opinion found state law was ambiguous in defining earnings.

The justices then determined the worker's wages from her three jobs could be aggregated to determine her weekly compensation.

WORK | PAGE 11



ALISSA WOOCKMAN/P&D

A Beadle fifth-grade student writes a code for a computer character to get through the maze to the finish line during a session of the schools coding club Tuesday.

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TOMORROW: National Park Service Discusses River Plans

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