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Obama:

President Must Work For Everyone

Romney Defends '47 Percent' Remarks Made At Fundraiser

BY KEN THOMAS AND JIM KUHNHENN
Associated Press

SALT LAKE CITY — President Barack Obama declared Tuesday night the occupant of the Oval Office must “work for everyone, not just for some,” jabbing back at Mitt Romney’s jarring statement that as a candidate, he doesn’t worry about the 47 percent of the country that pays no income taxes.

Romney neither disavowed nor apologized for his remarks, which included an observation that nearly half of the country believe they are victims and entitled to a range of government support. Instead, Romney cast his comment as evidence of a fundamental difference with Obama over the economy, adding the federal government should not “take from some to give to the others.”

As the rivals sparred with seven weeks remaining in a close race for the White House, two GOP Senate candidates publicly disavowed Romney’s remarks and Republican officials openly debated the impact that a series of controversies would have on the party’s prospects of winning the presidency.

Top Republicans in Congress declined through aides to offer their reaction to Romney’s remarks — just as they generally refrained from commenting a week ago when he issued a statement that inaccurately accused the Obama adminis-



Obama



Romney

tration of giving comfort to demonstrators after they breached the U.S. Embassy in Cairo.

The most recent controversy in a campaign filled with them was ignited by the emergence of a videotape, made last May, in which Romney told donors at a fundraiser that 47 percent of Americans pay no income taxes. They “believe the government has a responsibility to care for them ... be-

lieve that they are entitled to health care, to food, to housing, to you name it. That that’s an entitlement.”

He said, “I’ll never convince them they should take personal responsibility and care for their lives.”

In a next-day interview on Fox, the network of choice for conservatives, Romney said he didn’t intend to write off any part of a deeply divided electorate, including seniors who are among those who often pay no taxes. Instead, he repeat-

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JEREMY HOECK/P&D

Literally towering over the Cedar County, Neb., countryside, a new 250-foot cell tower two miles northeast of Coleridge, Neb., offers strong coverage to an area previously suffering poor reception because of its terrain. U.S. Cellular installed the tower at a cost of around \$300,000. The tower is located at the corner of 876th Road and 568th Avenue, near Immanuel Cemetery.

Our Towns | Cedar County

New Cell Tower Boosts Coverage For Coleridge

BY RANDY DOCKENDORF
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COLERIDGE, Neb. — It’s not the Jolly Green Giant, but Cedar County’s newest resident stands 250 feet tall and can pick up phone signals from an eight-mile radius.

The newcomer stands quietly in a field, remaining virtually unnoticed — yet loyally on the job 24 hours a day, in all types of weather.

The new arrival? U.S. Cellular’s cell tower, located two miles northeast of Coleridge, Neb. The site went online Aug. 28, one of more than 360 sites U.S. Cellular has built across Nebraska.

“This new site will increase U.S. Cellular’s coverage in Coleridge and the surrounding areas, including Nebraska highways 15 and 57,” said Kyle Wolfe, the U.S. Cellular network operations manager.

This cell site cost around \$300,000, he said. New cell sites take approximately one year to go from the design phase to on-air. Customers provide feedback, suggesting areas that could use improved coverage.

“To select locations for new cell sites, U.S. Cellular has teams of system performance engineers who drive through the company’s network coverage area, sometimes hundreds of miles a day, to test the signal strength and call quality,” Wolfe said.

This is the seventh cell site U.S. Cellular has built in northeast Nebraska since 2010, he said. In addition to Coleridge, U.S. Cellular added a cell site on the west edge of Creighton in late June. Last year, the company constructed new cell sites near Winslow, Plainview and Randolph. In 2010, U.S. Cellular built new cell sites near Osmond and Wakefield.

“As of now, we do not have additional cell sites planned for northeast Nebraska in 2012,” Wolfe said.

The new cell site at Coleridge completes a blanket of coverage in the area, including sites in Hartington, Laurel, Magnet, Randolph, Allen and Osmond, Wolfe said. The highways that connect these communities also are well covered, including highways 20, 81, 57, 15, 84 and 59.

“It’s vital to have a good cell phone network wherever you are, since approximately 70 percent of 911 calls are placed from wireless phones,” Wolfe said.

The Coleridge tower should play a key role in cutting response times, or making responses possible in the first place, said Cedar County emergency manager Kevin Garvin.

“We just completed the E911 testing on Aug. 29,” he said. “I haven’t seen the coverage map, and I haven’t gotten to drive test it myself yet completely. But it does fill in some gaps over on Highway 15 north and east of Coleridge.”

The Coleridge cell tower has already made a difference in one emergency, Garvin said.

“There was a fire over the weekend, about 12 miles east of Hartington and 4 miles south,” he said. “Ordinarily, there is very shaky cell service in that area due to the terrain. A passerby was able to utilize a cell phone to report the fire, which burned about 80 acres of harvested corn field and was just getting to some CRP (Conservation Reserve Program) ground when firefighters contained it.”

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ANDREW ATWAL/P&D

Sacred Heart School students show off their “pope hats” made by Yankton Media’s New Media Director Beth Rye, who spoke to students Tuesday about the importance of newspapers.

Students Get An Education In News

From P&D Staff Reports

Students at Sacred Heart Elementary School learned some new things about the news Tuesday.

Beth Rye, the new media director for Yankton Media, Inc., spoke with Elizabeth Koerner’s second grade class about the *Press & Dakotan*, stressing the importance of newspapers in the children’s lives.

Yankton Media owns the *Press & Dakotan*. The presentation was part of the Newspaper in Education (N.I.E.) program in which the *Press & Dakotan* participates to provide daily newspapers to classrooms to be used as teaching materials. It is a cooperative effort between newspapers and thousands of schools in the United States.

N.I.E. believes newspapers in the classroom encourage children to read critically and reflectively, to be involved in public affairs and to gain an understanding of the world around them.

One way the *Press & Dakotan* attempts to appeal di-

rectly to children is its Wednesday Kid Scoop page.

“We discussed why the newspaper is important, what kind of information is in the newspaper, and other ways one can use newspapers, such as recycling — or even making bishop hats!” Rye said.

The students were shown both the print edition and the electronic edition of the *Press & Dakotan*, and discussed the differences between the two.

“One example was that the newspaper is delivered to their door each morning, whereas the e-edition is sent to an email address,” Rye said. “We discussed other features on the e-edition, such as emailing stories to a friend, searching through archives online, using key word searches to find specific topics and the ability to have the stories read to you via the computer.”

Koerner noted that the class could start using its interactive smartboard to do the word searches on the Kid Scoop page each week instead of making additional paper copies to hand out.

Old-Time Fiddle Contest In Yankton Ready To Celebrate 40th Year

BY DEREK BARTOS
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When Wilbur Foss founded an old-time fiddle contest in Yankton in 1973, his idea wasn’t met with a lot of support.

“When I started it, everybody said it would never go,” Foss said. “They said, ‘There hasn’t been a contest like this in Yank-

ton for 50 years.”

Four decades later, Foss has gotten the last laugh, as the South Dakota Old Time Fiddlers Association (SDOTF) is set to host its 40th annual Open Fiddle Contest and Jamboree this weekend.

“This contest that we started against the advice of some people has lasted 40 years, and I’m

really proud of that,” said Foss, who served as president of the SDOTF for many years and remains on the board of directors. “We’ve had national and state winners attend. We’ve had people come from at least 20 different states and Canada. It just was a dream of mine, and it

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MARKET STOP

A delegation that included 22 Brazilian ranchers and cattlemen were on hand at Stockman’s Live-stock Market in Yankton Tuesday to witness a beef auction. The stop was part of a tour of the Midwest organized for the Famato farm group by Rupiper Travel of Yankton. The delegation made several other stops associated with the ag industry, and is now scheduled to see Washington, D.C., to close out the 11-day tour. (Kelly Hertz/P&D)