



Sunny And Beautiful

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YHS Tastes First Loss, Falls To Roosevelt • 9



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A Blue Harvest Moon



KELLY HERTZ/P&D

The bright glow of the moon gleams through the tassels of a bountiful cornfield in this photo from the summer of 2010. The "Harvest Moon" will shine this weekend, but this year's harvest figures to be a dark one marred by low yields and a number of other challenges due to this year's historic drought. Worse, climatologists say they now see no real relief from the persistent dry conditions for the rest of the year.

Drought, Disease Hack 2012 Harvest To Shreds For Many Farmers

BY RANDY DOCKENDORF
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Despite tonight's harvest moon beaming down upon them, area farmers are finding an ominous darkness as they work their fields. Drought has seared the land, and the parched soil has borne just a fraction of its usual production. In many cases, the bushels per acre can be measured in single digits. Ilene Muller has witnessed it firsthand as grain-handling manager for Farmers Co-op Elevator in Tyndall and Springfield.

"Yields are way down," she said. "Beans are running 5 to 10 bushels an acre, when they should normally be 40 or 50 bushels. The corn could be from 1 to 30 bushels an acre, when normally it would average 100 (bushels) or better."

At the same time, elevators are looking at creative ways to get the needed grain, particularly corn, she said.

"The demand for corn is real high right now," she said. "The availability comes down to the elevators in competition for the corn or grain, because they know the yields aren't out there. Area elevators are offering free storage, doing anything they can to get the grain where it originates."

Farmers Co-op Elevator has joined the list of area facilities offering the free storage, Muller said.

"Our board of directors decided to offer the free storage, which began this week and runs until June 1, 2013," she said. "It will be for any grain brought in for the fall harvest. We are having the promotion at our elevators here in Tyndall and



JAMES D. CIMBUREK/P&D

This farmer near Avon works on harvesting his soybean field Thursday. Drought conditions have withered corn and soybean yields throughout the region.

A Light Of Hope

Domestic Violence Vigil Planned In Yankton On Monday

BY DEREK BARTOS
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Every 9 seconds, a woman is battered in the United States by her husband, boyfriend or live-in partner.

To honor such victims of domestic violence, the Yankton Sexual Assault Response Team/Community Team is hosting its second annual Domestic Violence Candlelight Vigil at 7 p.m. Monday, Oct. 1, at the Yankton County 4-H Grounds.

"The purpose of this evening is to remember all those in our community who have lost their lives to these senseless acts

of violence, to honor those who continue their struggles to find a way out of domestic violence, and to honor those who have defeated all odds and are now living as a survivor," said Desiree Warren-Johnson, executive director of the Yankton Women's and Children's Center.

The hour-long vigil will feature a speaker from South Dakota who will speak about her journey from being a victim of domestic violence to becoming a survivor. The women's and children's center will also share a survival story of a victim from

So What Exactly Is 'Livability'?

Yankton's Honor Draws Attention To What Some Say They Already Knew

BY NATHAN JOHNSON
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Some would argue that a website naming Yankton among the top 10 small communities to live in the United States is confirming what they already knew.

Last week, Livability.com released that list of communities with 25,000 or fewer residents and put Yankton at No. 7.

"What drew our attention to Yankton were three lows every city wants to have — a low crime rate, which is less than half the national average, low unemployment and low cost of living," Livability.com stated. "What kept our attention was the large amount of things to do and the diverse economy."

It goes on to name the wide array of recreational opportunities offered by the



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MONDAY: 'American Pickers' Star To Get Wired In Yankton

YANKTON RECYCLING THIS WEEK:

NORTH
OF 15TH STREET