



Kids Get
Chance To
Wiggle
And Giggle
RIVER CITY

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USA Weekend

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Yankton Gets Boost From Neb. Car Auction

BY DEREK BARTOS

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A northeast Nebraska man's decision to hoard cars for the past several decades will be giving the Yankton area an "unexpected bonus" later this month.

Ray Lambrecht of Pierce, Neb., will be selling roughly 500 vintage automobiles that he collected during the 50 years that he and his wife owned and operated Lambrecht Chevrolet Co. The auction is set for Sept. 28-29 in Pierce, with a preview day Friday, Sept. 27.

With thousands of prospective buyers expected from across the country and only so many accommodations available in the immediate Pierce area, many people have had to look in communities nearby for places to stay.

"It's really started to have an effect not just on northeast Nebraska, but also southeast South Dakota," said Lisa Scheve, director of the Yankton Convention and Visitors Bureau. "It's difficult to find lodging in Yankton that entire weekend."

She said the number of individuals seeking accommodations in the Yankton area began to pick up a few weeks ago when the auction started re-



Scheve

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Area Sportsmen Seek To Save Marina

BH Bass League Raising Funds To Expand Dredging At Springfield

BY RANDY DOCKENDORF

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SPRINGFIELD — For Bon Homme Bass League members, the clock is ticking.

The members, who come from Tyndall, Scotland and Springfield bass clubs, are seeking to raise between \$50,000 and \$100,000 this month. They want the additional money to expand a state Department of Game, Fish and Parks (GF&P) dredging operation under way at the Springfield boat basin and marina.

The dredging work desperately needs to be done, said Springfield Bass Club president Tim Peterson.

"The marina used to be 10 feet deep. Now, there's a foot of water in there, and you can't get a boat in and out," he said. "This is a separate problem than the sedimentation issue (with the Niobrara River). This is coming in from the upper drainage to the Springfield area. This dredging project is addressing part of the issue."

Bon Homme Bass League members are excited to see the GF&P dredging, Peterson said. However, the area sportsmen don't think the state's project will make the basin and marina as functional as needed.

"We are so grateful to get as much done as we are with Game, Fish and Parks. (Regional Park Supervisor) Jeff VanMeeteren has been great to work with," Peterson said. "Now, we are trying to take this one step further."

Even with the GF&P dredging, some of the Springfield boat basin and marina facilities may remain unusable, Peterson said.

"Without the extra dredging (that we seek), it's doubtful that we could use the handicapped boat ramp," he said. "There just isn't enough water."

The GF&P has secured \$159,000 for its dredging project, according to Shane Bertsch, district park supervisor for the Lewis and Clark Lake Area.

"The contractor, Dakota Dredging, plans to start mobilizing equipment this Saturday and will start dredging sometime next week," he said. "They expect the project to take three to four weeks."

Bertsch outlined the extent of the dredging operations.

"The area to be dredged will ex-



COURTESY PHOTO
The effects of sedimentation and other factors on the Springfield area can be seen in this 2007 photo, shot by Pierre photographer Patrick Callahan for the Missouri Sedimentation Action Coalition (MSAC). The situation has worsened, and area sportsmen are raising funds to extend a South Dakota Game, Fish and Parks dredging contract.

tend from the boat ramp inside the Springfield boat basin to outside of the mouth of the river channel," he said. "The dredging area measures 125 feet wide, from the boat ramp through the mouth of Springfield Bay."

Plans have been made for relocating the deposits, Bertsch said.

"The material to be dredged — the spoils — will be pumped to an island southeast of the mouth of the bay," he said. "There will be a barge located outside of the mouth of the bay which will hold the pipe underwater

so boats can pass above the pipe."

Area sportsmen want to take advantage of the Dakota Dredging crew already in place for the GF&P project, Peterson said. The crew has agreed to work with the area sportsmen as much as possible, he said.

"We couldn't afford to get (the dredging crew) back on our own. You would have the cost of set-up and tear down, plus all the permits and red tape," he said.

"We think it would take another

MARINA | PAGE 3A

Trustees Eliminate Red Ink For SDRS

BY BOB MERCER

State Capitol Bureau

PIERRE — Trustees for the South Dakota Retirement System decided Thursday it should be 100 percent funded again.

The board voted unanimously to pay off \$635 million of unfunded long-term obligations. That means the money won't be used instead for benefit improvements in the future.

"Obviously this is an unprecedented action by the board," SDRS administrator Rob Wylie said.

The meeting began with the first visit ever by Gov. Dennis Daugaard. He said the trustees were courageous to take corrective actions in recent years, such as re-scaling benefits and winning a lawsuit, in order to get close to financial balance again after two market crashes and recession.

Daugaard encouraged them to take the big step left of paying off the deficit still left. "It will place us in a very rare circle of plans that have no unfunded accrued liabilities," he said.

Last month the governor visited the State Investment Office in Sioux Falls to recognize the staff's success. The pay-off Thursday was possible because of the 19.5 percent gain for the SDRS portfolio in the 2013 fiscal year that ended June 30.

The portfolio's market value stood at \$9.1 billion as of June 30 and increased 1.4 percent in the two months since. The assumed rate of return is 7.25 percent annually.

"What it really does, is frees up money in the future to build reserves," said trustee Jason Dilges, who is state government's commissioner of finance and management.

There is a remaining cushion of \$313 million that can be applied to future needs.

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A Tour Through Time



KELLY HERTZ/P&D

It was throwback day on some of the Yankton area roadways as members of the Horseless Carriage Club of America toured the region. Club members are meeting this week in Sioux Falls, and about 30 drivers came down to Yankton to see the sights. The club features pre-1916 vehicles, several of which are seen here as they sat in the parking lot at the Gavins Point Fish Hatchery Thursday morning. The car in the foreground is a 1906 Peerless, driven by Alan Krunik of Denver. He said it was one of the more expensive vehicles of its time, selling for \$5,000 new — which would be more than \$131,000 by today's standards. Krunik said the Peerless company fell victim to the Great Depression in 1933, at which point the plant was converted to a brewery (thanks to the repeal of prohibition) and is functioning in that capacity to this day. The members plan to return to Sioux Falls today (Friday).

Unfolding From The Heart

Area Quilter To Share Stories, Inspirations Behind Her Creations

BY ROB NIELSEN

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Quilting enthusiasts will have an opportunity to hear an area woman share her love of quilting this Sunday at the St. James Marketplace at 2 p.m.

Diane Gubbels of Coleridge, Neb., thinks of the event as a chance to share the inspirations behind her quilts rather than present an actual lecture.

"I share the stories that come from my heart that inspired the quilts that I have made," Gubbels said. "These are stories from my life experiences."

Gubbels said she plans on bringing up to 100 quilts to share at the presentation depicting events including Biblical stories, health issues and raising a family. For example, one quilt she plans

on bringing depicts the story of Noah's Arc which is currently being displayed at the Lewis & Clark Welcome Center in South Yankton, Neb. Gubbels currently has a number of other quilts on display at the center.

Another that Gubbels plans to bring helps depict part of her childhood.

"There's one that has chickens, a story from my childhood," she said. "I grew up on a farm and we had 2,000 chickens when I was a child."

"As I unfold these quilts, the stories unfold from my heart," she said.

Gubbels said she got an early start on quilting.

"I learned to sew from my mom at a very young age," she said.

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COURTESY PHOTO

Quilter Diane Gubbels of Coleridge, Neb., will be sharing the inspirations behind her works of art during a presentation at 2 p.m. Sunday at the St. James Marketplace. Gubbels plans on bringing 90 to 100 of her quilts to share at the event.

