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An Economic Shuffle



KELLY HERTZ/P&D

Josh Svatos of the Regional Technical Education Center and Carmen Schramm of the Yankton Chamber of Commerce discuss plans for a local observance of Manufacturing Week, during the quarterly meeting of Yankton Area Progressive Growth Monday.

YAPG Unveils Changes

Economic Development Entities To Be Consolidated

BY NATHAN JOHNSON

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With the search for a new economic development director for Yankton having begun, an announcement was made Monday that changes are under way to consolidate the number of organizations to which that individual will have to answer.

The change in organizational structure of the economic development apparatus for the community was made during the Yankton Area Progressive Growth (YAPG) quarterly meeting held in the Avera Sacred Heart Hospital Professional Office Pavilion.

"It has been decided to integrate the Economic Development Council into the board of directors of YAPG to enhance coordination and communication among

the Yankton economic development partners," Rezac said. "When (former Economic Development Director) Mike Dellinger was here, he recommended working on this, and we've been working on it for the last year to have a more cohesive organization."

YAPG is a non-profit economic development corporation.

The Economic Development Council (EDC) was an unofficial group formed just more than 10 years ago representing YAPG, the City of Yankton and the Yankton Area Chamber of Commerce. Additionally, it included an at-large member who also happens to be on the Yankton County Commission. It had oversight over the economic development director, as well as market-

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City Commission

Water Study Pact Expanded

BY NATHAN JOHNSON

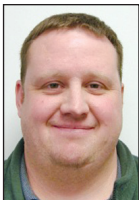
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The Yankton City Commission agreed Monday to expand an agreement with an engineering firm to study the possibility of building a collector well at Paddle Wheel Point.

The amended scope of services is outside of the specifications of the original contract with HDR, Inc., signed in November 2012.

Under the new agreement, HDR will provide engineering and hydrogeological services to construct a 12-inch test well, three additional monitoring wells and conduct a 72-hour aquifer pumping test at Paddle Wheel Point.

The work is aimed at gathering the



Goodmanson

basic design data for a collector well and pump station at Paddle Wheel Point.

The services are not to exceed \$164,620.

"It's a continuation of our Paddle Wheel Point source water investigation," Environmental Services

Director Kyle Goodmanson told the commission. "We'll be contracting with HDR, and HDR will be sub-contracting with Ranney Collector Wells. ... Because of the technology involved with this, it is kind of important that Ranney has a chance to actually look at this and design

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Forum Studies Women's Issues

BY TRAVIS GULBRANDSON

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VERMILLION — True gender equality will never be reached unless people maintain an awareness of the issues it encompasses, several University of South Dakota professors said Monday.

"In the U.S., we've moved into this post-feminist era where people feel, 'Feminism was important, but it did what it was supposed to do, and now we're over it.' They tend to internalize that and they tend to project it, so you see a lot of victim-shaming, a lot of rape-shaming ... and we also project that on the international stage," said Dr. Shane Nurdyke, assistant professor of political science.

Dr. Miglena Sternadori,



DAVID LIAS/VERMILLION PLAIN TALK

From left: Dr. Shane Nurdyke and Dr. Miglena Sternadori listen as Dr. Dai (Lucy) Wenqian discusses the gender pay gap during a forum called "International Women Issues" Monday afternoon at the University of South Dakota.

assistant professor of contemporary media and journalism, said students don't have to be activists to enact change.

Many of them aren't

comfortable being activists, she said.

"But, I think there are various ways to make a dif-

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ROB NIELSEN/P&D

Student Council members Cameron Krejci (left) and Cooper Kuchta (right) present a special Patriot Day flag that will fly at Yankton Middle School through Sept. 11. All Yankton School District schools and offices will be flying similar flags.

**Yankton Schools
Fly The Flag To
Honor 9/11 Victims**

BY ROB NIELSEN

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Yankton Middle School (YMS) students along with the first-responders of Yankton honored those who died in the Sept. 11, 2001, terrorist attacks during a special flag raising ceremony on Monday.

YMS principal Todd Dvoracek said the ceremony was a new addition to the school's observance of 9/11.

"This is the first year that we've put together a special ceremony where we wanted to include the community," Dvoracek said. "We've always done things within the classrooms and within our curriculum where we add some things so we can keep the knowledge going about what's going on on 9/11 and what happened on that day."

The ceremony included nearly 40 representatives of Yankton's police, fire and EMS services observing while a special Patriot Day flag was raised. The flag is an American flag with the names of the 2,977 victims killed on 9/11. As the flag and the flag of South Dakota were raised, the YMS band played the Star Spangled Banner.

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**YSD Board
Approves
Budget**

BY DEREK BARTOS

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The Yankton School Board approved a \$25.5 million 2013-14 budget Monday night, utilizing capital outlay funds and general fund reserves to cover a budget shortfall of more than \$1 million.

The approved general fund budget totals \$15,403,956, with revenue listed at \$14,459,387, leaving a deficit of \$944,569.

Notable changes to this year's budget include a 2.25 percent increase for regular wages and salaries for all Yankton School District (YSD) staff, as well as the budgeting of 12 months of health care premiums compared to the six months expended last year.

State aid also increased 3 percent to \$4,625 per student for 2013-14. However, YSD will only see a net increase of 2.3 percent due to declining enrollment.

In its 2013-14 budget, YSD also shifted \$200,000 in utilities expenses to the capital outlay budget. This helped bridge the gap between general fund revenue and expenses, said YSD business manager Jason Bietz, but is ultimately an example of "bad policy."

"But in terms of what we have for resources to spend, that's the point we're at right now — deficit spending, spending down our general fund reserve and transferring those costs where we can to the capital outlay fund, where there's a lot of statutory limitation ...," he said. "We can do that



Bietz

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