



A Cloudy And Cool Monday

9 a.m.: **59** | 3 p.m.: **67** | DETAILS: PAGE 2

MONDAY ■ September 16, 2013



Yankton Falls To Mitchell In Volleyball Action • 8

YANKTON DAILY PRESS & DAKOTAN



Volume 139
Number 120

The Dakotas' Oldest Newspaper | **12 PAGES** | www.yankton.net

75¢



Backroad Perils

South Dakota's Risky Bridges Lie On Lesser Roads

BY CHET BROKAW
Associated Press

PIERRE — Scattered across South Dakota, mostly on lightly traveled gravel roads, 127 bridges carry dual designations that indicate they have problems.

The bridges are deemed "fracture critical" because they don't have redundant protections and are at risk of collapse if a single vital component fails. They also are designated "struc-

turally deficient," in need of rehabilitation or replacement because at least one major component has problems that have led inspectors to rate their condition as poor or worse.

The Associated Press analyzed data involving 607,380 bridges in the National Bridge Inventory, and found 65,605 structurally deficient bridges and 20,808 fracture critical bridges, according to the most recently available data. Some 7,795 bridges nationwide fall into both categories — a combination of red flags that ex-

perts say is particularly problematic.

The inventory found 126 such bridges in South Dakota, but state transportation officials say the number is actually 127 due to a lag in reporting. The state's list omits two bridges that have been closed but adds three new ones.

None of the problem bridges are on state highways, which carry a high volume of traffic

BRIDGES | PAGE 12



ROB NIELSEN/P&D

John Pooler helps members of the General Federated Women's Club of Yankton with renovation work at the Yankton Area Homeless Shelter on Saturday. The volunteers also re-painted the men's quarters, installed three new beds — complete with new bedding — and hung new curtains, along with other work around the house.

'Lights' Nears The End Of The Tunnel



ROB NIELSEN/P&D

Workers in Avera Sacred Heart Hospital's Northern Lights project in Yankton install insulation while perched above what will be the new reception area. The primary phases of construction are set to wrap up within the next couple of months.

Northern Lights Nears Completion

Avera Expansion Running Ahead Of Schedule

BY ROB NIELSEN
rob.nielsen@yankton.net

Avera Sacred Heart Hospital's Northern Lights project is entering its final phases and is expected to be largely complete by November.

Douglas R. Ekeren, FACHE, vice president of Avera Sacred Heart Hospital/Professional and Regional Services, said services should start moving into the new addition within the next month or two.

"With the project, we're entering the last two months of really intense work in terms of the new building," Ekeren said. "We will take possession of the third floor of the building by the end of September (utilities). Sioux Falls Construction officials are telling us that, probably by the first of November, we

will have the ground floor of the project (lab, new waiting area, registration) will be completed. Then in early November, we should have completion of the second floor (food service, kitchen)."

Along with these additions, the Northern Lights expansion also includes new office space, a new pharmacy, new utility systems, a new sleep-lab space, a more easily accessible registration area, a new parking area and entrance for physicians and additional conference room space.

According to Ekeren, the current progress puts the addition well ahead of schedule.

"Last summer, with the drought, they were able to get the infrastructure and the building enclosed," Ekeren

avera | PAGE 11

Face To Face



ROB NIELSEN/P&D

A worker from the Yankton Family Visitation Center paints a girl's face during Saturday's "Family Fun Day," held at Yankton's Memorial Park. The free event included a lunch, bounce house, carnival games and arts and crafts. The FVC's goal with this event, as well as its overall mission, is to help reconnect or re-establish parent/child relationships.

Group Helps Homeless Shelter Get A New Look

BY ROB NIELSEN
rob.nielsen@yankton.net

The Yankton Area Homeless Shelter got a facelift Friday and Saturday thanks to the efforts of the Yankton chapter of the General Federated Women's Club (GFWC).

Improvements included painting, new furniture in bedrooms and new curtains around the shelter.

Chapter President Pauline Akland said this was part of the group's philanthropic work.

"What we do is volunteering," Akland said. "We try to partner with different groups and do projects. This is our way of partnering with the homeless shelter to do a project for a need they have and help them get that accomplished through donations and labor."

Akland said this was the first time the GFWC has come to the homeless shelter to work on renovations, but the group has donated money to the cause through its fundraising in years past. The group has also collected items such as paper towels and toilet paper for the shelter.

Yankton Homeless Shelter Director Carol Pooler said the GFWC is one of the first groups to come in and help with upkeep since the shelter opened in 1995.

"This is the first time we've had a group like this take interest and come in," Pooler said "When we originally opened, we had several groups that helped paint outside and get the shelter ready."

Akland said a visit by Pooler helped inspire the project.

"Carol came and talked to the group and I went and toured the place afterward because I'd never been here," Akland said. "One of the things she said was that it would be nice if they had uniform bedding, and I said that was something we could do."

Akland added the group received a number of donations from local businesses to help with the project.

"I went to buy the bedding and Walmart donated \$75 towards the bedding," she said. "Sherwin-Williams donated

SHELTER | PAGE 2

Nugent Hits The 'Kamp'

Rock musician Ted Nugent (left) speaks with friends and associates during the annual "Ted Nugent's Kamp For Kids" event held at the NFAA Easton Archery Complex in Yankton Saturday. The camp provides kids a chance to not only learn a respect for hunting safety, but also learn valuable lessons about hunting activities and nature. (Rob Nielsen/P&D)



SD Hunters Aren't Fazed By Low Pheasant Numbers

RAPID CITY (AP) — Hunting enthusiasts attending an annual fundraising banquet in southwestern South Dakota said they are not worried about a sharp drop in pheasant numbers.

The *Rapid City Journal* reports that a brood count survey released by South Dakota Game, Fish and Parks Department two weeks ago estimated a 64 percent drop in the pheasant population. The season begins on Oct. 19 and runs through Jan. 5.

Some speculate those numbers could change plans of thousands of hunters who visit every year and contribute to South Dakota's economy. However, many outdoors enthusiasts at the Black Hills chapter of Pheasants Forever banquet Saturday said the event is more about tradition and fun than numbers.

"People don't come to get X amount of pheasants," said Terry Hulm, Pheasants Forever chapter vice president. "They come to enjoy South Dakota and have fun. Most of these outings are with buddies you only see that time of the year. I look forward to it for that reason more than the birds sometimes."

A state report attributes the decline to weather and a reduction in habitat. But officials said South Dakota will remain one of the top destinations in the country with 1.1 million acres of public land available within the state's main pheasant range.

"I'm still going to get my birds," Jerry Cole of Rapid City said. "You're just going to have to work for it this year. Three years ago, a person could go out and get their limit by 1 p.m. Now it will probably take all day."

Printed on
Recycled
Newsprint



Printed with
SOY INK



REGION 2 | WORLD 3 | OBITUARIES 3 | LIFE 5 | HEALTHLINES 7 | SPORTS 8 | CLASSIFIEDS 10 | MIDWEST 12

TOMORROW: Yankton School District Offering Online Survey

YANKTON RECYCLING THIS WEEK:

NORTH
OF 15TH STREET