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PRESS & DAKOTAN



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Seeking Answers

Navy Yard Gunman Said He Heard Voices

BY ERIC TUCKER, JACK GILLUM AND LOLITA C. BALDOR
Associated Press

WASHINGTON — A month before he went on the rampage that left 13 dead, Washington Navy Yard gunman Aaron Alexis complained to police in Rhode Island that people were talking to him through the walls and ceilings of his hotel rooms and sending microwave vibrations into his body to deprive him of sleep.

The account, contained in an Aug. 7 report from Newport, R.I., police, adds to the picture that has emerged of an agitated and erratic figure whose behavior and mental state had repeatedly come to authorities' attention but didn't seem to affect his security clearance.

also

■ Gun Laws Didn't Block Navy Yard Shooter.
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Alexis, a 34-year-old information technology employee at a defense-related computer company, used a valid pass Monday to get into the Navy Yard and killed 12 people before he was slain by police in a shootout that lasted more than a half-hour.

A day after the assault, the motive was still a mystery. U.S. law enforcement officials told The Associated Press that investigators had found no manifesto or other writings suggesting a political or reli-

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OLIVIER DOULIERY/ABACA PRESS/MCT

A police officer stands guard at the front gate of the Washington Naval Yard Tuesday in Washington, D.C. Aaron Alexis, who had been discharged by the Navy in 2011 after what an official described as a "pattern of misconduct" staged a two-hour rampage Monday at the Washington Navy Yard, killing 12 people before being shot to death by law enforcement officials.

Set For A Bin-Busting Harvest



RANDY DOCKENDORF/P&D

Frank Cutts stands in front of the Farmers Elevator in Mission Hill, where his father, Jay, serves as manager. Jay Cutts, who also farms in the area, believes the current harvest will produce record yields and bin-busting conditions only a year after exceptional drought.

Record Yield Expected Year After Drought

BY RANDY DOCKENDORF
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MISSION HILL — Farmers Elevator manager Jay Cutts has never seen three consecutive harvest seasons take such wild swings.

"How do you compare them?" he asked. "One year, you have flooding on the Missouri (River). The next year, it dries out (with exceptional drought). And this year, you have the best looking crops of anywhere, right here."

Cutts isn't just looking at a bin buster — he's looking at record-setting production for the region.

"The corn looks excellent. It can't get much better than this," he said. "I think some places will push 200 bushels (an acre). Most years, it would be closer to the 150-bushel mark, so this year will be a lot better."

The August heat, followed by timely rains, have spelled the difference, Cutts said.

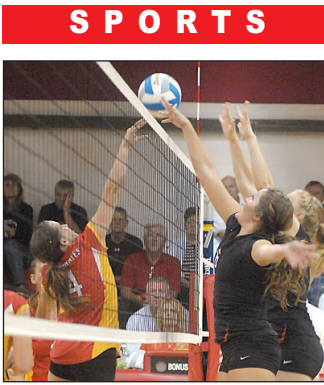
"If we hadn't had the rain that we had in August, it would be a different story," he said. "The August rain helped fill out the ears of corn."

Soybeans are also looking at an excellent year, Cutts said.

"The beans look great. They should be pushing 40 bushels on most yields, just because of the rain in August," he said. "With the



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Wagner Sweeps Avon In VB • 8



Jamestown Sweeps MMC • 8



American Profile

Post Office Sale Deadline Extended

BY NATHAN JOHNSON
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The online bidding process for Yankton's former downtown post office has been extended after no bids were received.

Online bidding for the property opened July 11 through the U.S. General Services Administration (GSA) site RealEstateSales.gov. The auction was to close at 2 p.m. Tuesday.

However, the site has now extended the bidding period to 2 p.m. Oct. 9.

Also, the registration deposit of

\$25,000 has been reduced to \$10,000. The bid increment is \$5,000.

According to Stephanie Kenitzer, a public affairs officer with the GSA, the agency remains confident the property will be sold.

"The GSA has a high success rate at conveying property and will use that expertise to ensure the sale of the Yankton Post Office," she said. "So far in 2013, GSA has sold or transferred 44 facilities across the country, generating \$40 million in sales. And we have an additional 100 properties we are moving into the disposal pipeline. Since 2010, GSA has completed nearly

400 disposal transactions, which have generated \$145 million in proceeds and eliminated more than 12,500 acres of excess land."

The website states that an open house will be scheduled. A previous open house was held in mid-August.

"GSA is moving aggressively to dispose of excess properties like the Yankton Post Office," Kenitzer said.

The downtown Yankton post office was closed in January 2012 and put up for sale. Postal operations were consolidated into the annex at 506 West 25th Street. That facility was built in 2000.

Area Parks Remain Open Amidst Construction



COURTESY PHOTO

Workers place a seal coating on one of the roads at Lewis and Clark Recreation Area. The work is part of a \$1.3 million project taking place this fall to repair and preserve the park's roads. Despite the construction, the area remains open to campers.

BY DEREK BARTOS
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With news spreading of Nebraska's closure of numerous state park areas Monday along with the continued work at local recreation areas, area park officials want residents to know their sites are still open for business.

"We've received a lot of calls," said Jeff Van Meeteren, regional park supervisor for the South Dakota Department of Game, Fish and Parks. "With people hearing several Nebraska parks are closing, they're just assuming that includes our parks (in the Lewis and Clark Lake area) too. We want to assure folks that's not the case."

The Nebraska Game and Parks Commission is temporarily closing all services and

vehicle access to 29 state park areas this fall and winter. The closures are being made to redirect staff and resources to reduce the more than \$30 million backlog of deferred maintenance needs and to meet compliance with the Americans with Disabilities Act and environmental requirements.

State recreation areas (SRA) that closed Monday and will reopen May 1, 2014, are: Blue River, Cheyenne, Conestoga, Cottonwood, Dead Timber, DLD, Keller, Long Lake, Long Pine, North Loup, Olive Creek, Oliver Reservoir, Pelican Point, Riverview Marina, Rock Creek Lake, Sandy Channel, Schramm, Sutherland, Union Pacific, Verdon, Stagecoach, Walgren, and War Axe. Vehicle ac-

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TOMORROW: Fiddler's Jamboree Coming To Yankton Saturday

YANKTON RECYCLING THIS WEEK:
NORTH
OF 15TH STREET