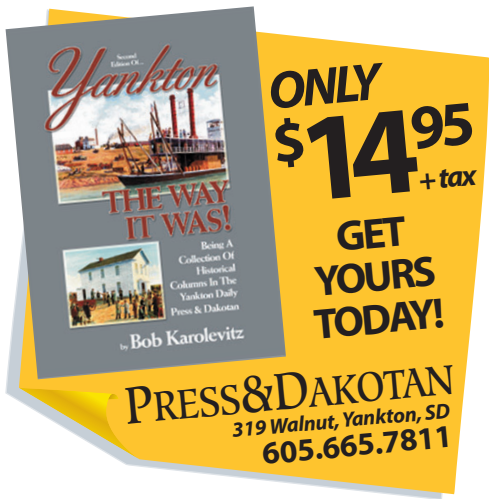




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KELLY HERTZ/P&D
Elva Meyers of Yankton has been inducted this month into both the South Dakota Country Music Hall of Fame and America's Old Time Country Music Hall of Fame. She is shown here performing at the annual South Dakota Old-Time Fiddlers Contest and Jamboree in Yankton Friday night.

Meyers To Be Inducted Into S.D. And Old Time Country Music Halls Of Fame

BY DEREK BARTOS
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After waiting a lifetime to be inducted into her first music hall of fame, it only seems fair for Elva Meyers to be honored twice.

The 80-year-old country musician from Yankton was inducted into the South Dakota Country Music Hall of Fame earlier this month. Just a few days later, she also was inducted into America's Old Time Country Music Hall of Fame.

"I waited 40 years for the first one, so it's really a thrill to get two in five days," Meyers said with a laugh. "I am so happy to be inducted, and I want to thank (long-time Scotland musician) Wilbur Foss for nominating me."

Meyers' career spans several decades, as she first performed in a band, Carrol and his Country Cowhands, in 1967. She also played with the Bill Craven Band, Jimmie and the Country Gals, and the Gullikson brothers band called The Travelers.

But it all started on a farm near Utica.

"When I was 6 years old, my cousin Marie got a guitar and she showed me the chords," Meyers said. "I started playing by ear all the time."

The two youngsters played music often, even incorporating homemade instruments.

"We always wanted a mandolin like Ben and Jesse May Norman, who would play over the radio. So we thought of using a pie tin and a spoon, and that was our mandolin," Meyers said. "We thought we sounded so good!"

Eventually, the two were able to use a real mandolin, and they played at birthday parties and talent shows.

In 1962, Meyers' father gave her a gift —

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Shooting Victims Honored

Obama: Fight For Gun Laws 'Ought To Obsess Us'

BY NEDRA PICKLER
Associated Press

WASHINGTON — President Barack Obama on Sunday memorialized the victims of the Washington Navy Yard shooting by urging Americans not to give up on a transformation in gun laws that he argued are to blame for an epidemic of violence. "There is

nothing inevitable about it — it comes about because of decisions we make or fail to make," Obama said.

Reprising his role of the nation's consoler in chief after yet another mass shooting, Obama issued a call to action on gun control measures that failed to pass earlier this year and show no new mo-



Obama

mentum in the wake of last week's rampage at a military installation just blocks from the Capitol.

"Our tears are not enough," Obama told thousands gathered to mourn at the Marine Barracks. "Our words and our prayers are not enough. If we really want to honor these 12 men and women, if we really want to be a country where we can go to work and go to school and walk our streets free from senseless violence without so many lives being stolen by a bullet from a gun, then we're

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Huskers Race Past SDSU



JAMES CIMBUREK/P&D
Nebraska wide receiver Sam Burch leaps to catch a touchdown pass during the Huskers' 59-20 victory over South Dakota State on Saturday in Lincoln, Neb. Defending for SDSU on the play were Winston Wright, 14, and Jake Gentile, 38.

Prison Inmate On Life Support After Apparent Fall

SIOUX FALLS (AP) — Officials say a South Dakota prison inmate is hospitalized on life support for injuries suffered during an apparent fall at the state penitentiary in Sioux Falls.

Officials say the 45-year-old man was found lying unconscious on the floor of a housing unit in the Johnson Annex just

before 2 p.m. Saturday.

The inmate has head and neck injuries. Witnesses say a medical condition caused the man to fall from the second floor of the unit. No further details were available.

The name of the inmate has not been released.

Project Connect Meeting Set For Tuesday

BY DEREK BARTOS
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Approximately 700 working households in the Yankton area spend more than 35 percent of their income on housing, according to data from Planning and Development District III.

To provide assistance to these and other struggling households, the newly formed Yankton Homeless Coalition will be sponsoring its first Project Connect informational gathering from 5-7 p.m. Tuesday at the United Church of Christ at 210 W Fifth St.

"Our goal is to connect our neighbors in need with resources to help," said Lauren Hanson, executive director of the United Way & Volunteer Services of Greater Yankton, which created the coalition. "There are a lot of working poor in our community. Those are people that after paying their rent, there's still food and electricity and all these other bills. One little bump in the road can really take them off course."

Assistance provided will include information on housing, credit counseling services, family counseling services and social services.

"We're offering any information we can pass on to them to help them get back on their feet," Hanson said.

The Yankton Homeless Coalition began gathering this summer in an effort to address inadequate housing and homelessness issues in the area. Members include representatives from the City of Yankton, Yankton Police Department, Homeless Shelter, Yankton Women's & Children's Center, Yankton Housing, Habitat for Humanity, Department of Social Services, SD Human Services Center, The Contact Center, Planning & Development District III, Family Education and Counseling Center, LSS Consumer Credit Counseling, Head Start and United Way & Volunteer Services.

"It was something we saw as a need in the community with the different organizations we work with," Hanson said. "The coalition's mission is to gather people around the table and foster partnerships and develop creative solutions to prevent

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Unexpected Partners Provide Diplomatic Openings

BY JULIE PACE
AP White House Correspondent

WASHINGTON — President Barack Obama arrives at the United Nations on Monday with diplomatic openings, the result of help from unexpected partners, on three fronts: Iran, Syria, and elusive peace between Israel and the Palestinians.

All three pathways are fraught with potential pitfalls and hinge on cooperation from often unreliable nations. Obama also risks being branded as naive and misguided if the efforts fail, particularly in Syria, where he's used the prospect of diplomacy to put off a military strike in retaliation for a chemical weapons attack.

Still, the recent developments mark a significant shift on a trio of issues that have long proved problematic for Obama at the United Nations. His former Iranian counterpart used the annual U.N. General Assembly meetings, which open Monday, as a venue for fiery, anti-American speeches. Failed Middle East peace talks led the Palestinians to seek statehood recognition at the U.N. despite staunch American objections. And the Obama administration has been stymied on Syria at the U.N. Security Council due to intractable Russian opposition.

But this year, Iran has a new leader who is making friendly overtures toward Obama,

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Threshing For Success

Amos Thomas of Freeman is shown feeding oats into a thresher Sunday during the annual Pioneer Power Show in Menno. The two-day festival attracted large crowds to see old-time farming equipment demonstrations such as with this thresher, as well as partake in tractor parades, vendors, contests and other activities. To see or purchase images from this event, visit spotted.yankton.net. (Kelly Hertz/P&D)