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INSIDE



USA  
Weekend

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## Inmate Found Dead

### Death Row Inmate McVay Found Hanging In S.F. Prison

BY REGINA GARCIA CANO  
Associated Press

SIOUX FALLS — A South Dakota inmate sentenced to death for killing a woman as part of what he said was a plot to assassinate the president committed suicide, the state Department of Corrections said Thursday morning. James McVay, 44, was found hanging in his

cell at 6:50 a.m. in the South Dakota State Penitentiary, corrections officials said. McVay is the second South Dakota inmate in the last 11 years to commit suicide while awaiting capital punishment.

McVay was formally sentenced to death in May after pleading guilty, but mentally ill, to murder in the 2011 stabbing of 75-year-old Maybelle Schein. McVay said he killed Schein and stole her

car as part of his plan to drive to Washington and kill the president. He was later arrested in Madison, Wisconsin.

Corrections Department Secretary Denny Kaemingk said McVay used a sheet to hang himself. Penitentiary staff found McVay during scheduled rounds and attempted CPR, but he was pronounced dead before he could be taken to a hospital.

The Division of Criminal Investigation is investigating McVay's death. Kaemingk said surveillance video of the area will be reviewed as part of the probe. The Minnehaha County Coroner's Office will conduct an autopsy.

McVay was not on suicide watch, but was

INMATE | PAGE 12A

## Vermillion Police Donate Ammo To Yankton Dept.

BY RANDY DOCKENDORF  
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VERMILLION — The Yankton Police Department will receive expired less-than-lethal munitions, thanks to their Vermillion counterparts.

The Vermillion City Council declared the munitions as surplus at Tuesday night's meeting, authorizing the transfer of the items to the Yankton police department.

Vermillion Police Chief Matt Betzen spoke with the council about the need to act on the munitions. He noted the ammo was already part of the inventory before he became chief three years ago.

"(The munitions) have expired and can only be used for training," he said. "The Vermillion Police Department no longer uses these items, and we don't train with them."

Yankton Police Chief Brian Paulsen said he welcomes the Vermillion donation. The ammunition will prove useful for the Yankton department's Special Response Team (SRT), he said.

Yankton's SRT is a local version of a Special Weapons And Tactics (SWAT) squad, Paulsen said. The SRT works with high-risk entries, hostage rescues and barricaded subjects, to name a few scenarios, he explained.

"The (Vermillion) ammunition will be a training aid for our SRT this fall," he said. "VPD (Vermillion Police

AMMO | PAGE 12A

## Traveling Music



KELLY HERTZ/P&D

Girls from the Bon Homme Colony sang gospel songs at the baseball field in Tabor Thursday night as part of the town's program for the South Dakota 125th anniversary wagon train. The train left Yankton Thursday morning and arrived in Tabor later in the afternoon. The colony girls performed to highlight the region's Hutterite heritage. The program also included other music numbers and a performance by members of Tabor's Beseda Dancer. The wagon train heads to Scotland today (Friday). To see or purchase images from this event, visit spotted.yankton.net/.

## Yankton After School Program Moves To Combined Location

BY SHAUNA MARLETTE  
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For the first time in the history of Yankton's after-school program, the students from Yankton's four public elementary schools are all being bused to one location for the Yankton Boy's and Girl's Club Academy (YBGCA).

Centrally located at Stewart Elementary School, parents drop their students off at the school in the mornings. At 8:05 a.m. the students from Stewart then go to the playground and the students from Beadle, Lincoln and Webster get on a bus and are taken to their respective schools. It works the opposite after the school day, with students getting on a bus and being taken to



SHAUNA MARLETTE/P&D

Students from Webster, Lincoln and Beadle Elementary School's stand in line to check in at the Boy's and Girl's Club Academy. For the first time all of Yankton public school students who participate in the program are now located at one site — Stewart Elementary.

Stewart where they are then picked up by their parents. "Basically in the past, we were in five different sites — St. Benedict's, Webster,

Lincoln, Stewart and Beadle," said Boy's and Girl's Club executive director Vanessa

CLUB | PAGE 5B

## 5-School Plan Focuses On Future Area Jobs, Training

BY RANDY DOCKENDORF  
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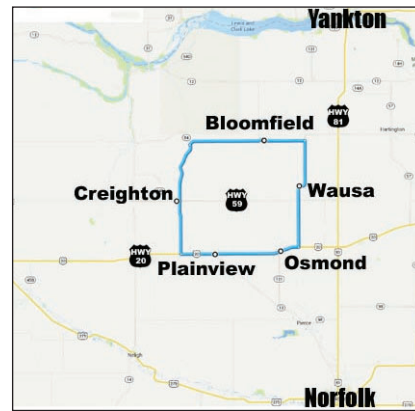
CREIGHTON, Neb. — Five northeast Nebraska school districts considering a merger may hold the key to solving workforce shortages, a state official says.

Nebraska Department of Education (NDE) officials have attended meetings with the Creighton, Bloomfield, Wausa, Osmond and Plainview school districts. The five districts have attracted statewide — even national — attention with their proposed merger.

In the process, the five-school talks are looking at ways for rural communities to survive, said Cory Epler, the NDE deputy director of career education.

The five-school model can provide more electives and career education to fill needs currently unmet, he said.

"For the northeast region, agriculture and food processing are the most jobs projected for 2020. Other strong areas are health care jobs," he said. "But if you have the jobs, and you aren't providing



P&D GRAPHIC

The five Nebraska communities considering combining their schools are represented on this map.

the training program, there's a real disconnect. You're seeing a real 'skills gap.'"

As a result, many workers —

PLAN | PAGE 12A

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TOMORROW: Corps Of Engineers To Provide Missouri River Update

YANKTON RECYCLING THIS WEEK:  
NORTH  
OF 15TH STREET