



Gazelles Top SFL For First Win Of Season • 7

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Pros, Cons Of Levy Proposal Aired



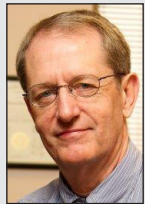
Former Yankton County Commissioner Garry Moore and Yankton County Commission chairman Todd Woods discuss a proposed levy on property taxes to raise money for roads and bridges during a public forum Tuesday. A special election is set for Sept. 29 to decide whether or not to enact the levy in Yankton County.

KELLY HERTZ/P&D

SDSMA Chief: State Group Working Behind The Scenes

BY SHAUNA MARLETTE
shauna.marlette@plaintalk.net

VERMILLION — The South Dakota State Medical Association (SDSMA) held its first district meeting of the year Tuesday night in Vermillion, meeting with the physicians of the area to find out what issues are important to them.



Ridgway

Dr. Tim Ridgway, the 134th president of the association, said the goal of the association is to work behind the scenes to make sure that all of the state's physicians are on the same page in order to provide the best care to patients of South Dakota.

He noted there are 12 districts in the state, from the most rural areas to the more urban medical centers. "Every year, we have district meetings around the state of South Dakota," he said. "Each year, the president makes a trip to each district. It is a way for the membership of the association to get together. Basically what I do is talk about things we think are pressing in the state of South Dakota for the organization. Then we open it up and

SDSMA | PAGE 13

BY ROB NIELSEN
rob.nielsen@yankton.net

Tuesday was an opportunity for opponents and supporters of a proposed levy on property taxes to raise funds for road and bridge repairs to discuss the issue with the public.

The matter is set to go to a public vote on Sept. 29. Former Yankton County Commissioner Garry Moore, speaking on behalf of the opposition, said that while roads are important, taxing goes too far in the area as is.

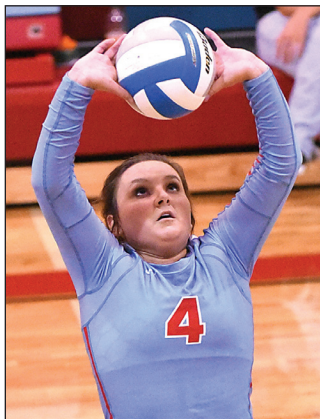
"We don't dispute that roads need to be taken care of in Yankton County and the state of South Dakota," Moore said. "This is a 6-9 percent tax increase, depending on how many other political

subdivisions you're paying a tax within. ... We've heard the comment, 'It's only. It's only. It's only.' Quite frankly, on my house, it's going to take my taxes up to over \$3,000 and it's going to cost me \$250 (extra per month) to live in my own house. A business on Broadway (Ave.), it's going to increase their tax by \$1,400. That would make his total tax bill, on a monthly basis, \$2,678. Pretty damn hard to make a living when you've got a tax bill like that you've got to pay before you even put money in the bank for yourself."

According to the levy, authorized by the passage of Senate Bill 1 during the 2015 legislative session, at the maximum of 90 cents, agricultural land would cost \$1.62 per acre while non-agricultural land would owe \$84.15 per \$100,000 of assessed value.

LEVY | PAGE 13

Inside



Volleyball: Bon Homme Tops Thunder • 7

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County Hears About Road Woes

BY ALISSA WOOCKMAN
alissa.woockman@yankton.net

Yankton County Highway Superintendent Brain Gustad presented quite a few unplanned expenditures to the County Commission Tuesday.

Weather changes and road over-usage have caused several roads to need immediate repair. Several portions have been under construction to address these issues.

"We went through three pretty soft cycles this spring," Gustad said. "That was extremely hard on our roads. There was no road that seemed left unscathed."

More than \$566,373 has been spent on simple patch work between May and June. That is \$600,000 more this year to date than last year's entire expenses involving the same work.

"Ouch!" said Yankton County Commissioner Donna Freng.

Ouch indeed. The excessive amounts of rain over several portions of the county took quite a



Gustad

COUNTY | PAGE 13

Wagner's Labor Day Theme Has Special Meaning

BY REILLY BIEL
reilly.biel@yankton.net

WAGNER — Creating what claims to be the "world's best Labor Day celebration" can be a daunting task.

Fortunately for Wagner, organizers have the will and way to make it happen for this year's 115th Labor Day Celebration Sept. 5-7.

With yearly themes ranging from Western to old-school rock, this year is special for one important reason.

The South Dakota Army National Guard 155th Engineer Company, which is a Rapid City and Wagner-based unit, was recently deployed to Kuwait for one year in support of Operation Enduring Freedom. This is the basis for Wagner's Labor Day theme

of "Honoring Our Heroes."

"This is a good way of not only letting them (the soldiers) know of our support, but also their family and friends," said Taylor Mohr, Wagner's Labor Day chairman. "We have their back. It's a good way to honor them."

This year's celebration includes a new event on Saturday evening, based on the TV game show "Minute To Win It." Contestants will be Wagner locals representing area businesses and playing for a \$1,000 prize that will be given to a local charity.

Other events include Wagner's annual Labor Day Queen Contest, Saddle Club Rodeo and Labor Day Parade.

"I like interacting with people in the

WAGNER | PAGE 13



KELLY HERTZ/P&D

Wagner Labor Day Queen Emily Brunson, shown here in last month's Riverboat Days parade in Yankton, will be greeting visitors at this weekend's annual Wagner Labor Day Celebration. Activities begin Saturday, and the schedule includes the annual parade Monday.



with Event Speaker **Julie Clark**

New Location!

Saturday, Oct. 17th
NFAA Easton Archery Complex

Advance Tickets Only \$20
Tickets available at Yankton Hy-Vee and the Press & Dakotan
Doors Open at 11:00 am
Lunch Served 12:30pm-1:45pm
Speaker 2pm • Booths Open at 11am

