

New Vermillion water tower being built piece by piece

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The pieces of Vermillion's new water tower are set to start arriving in town near the end of this month.

Water department superintendent Randy Isaacson gave the city council a progress report of the project during a special meeting July 1.

The project's deadline completion is Aug. 15, 2014.

"I think with a decent winter, they could actually be out there doing work this winter," Isaacson said.

The water tower pieces are being made by Maguire Iron, Inc., in Sioux Falls, which Isaacson visited last month.

"All the welding that they do at the facility is done by a machine," Isaacson said.

"Submerged arch welding. It's a pretty neat little system. They put the pieces on a roller, and a piece just rolls, and this welder welds as it's rolling. It really makes a beautiful weld. Everything that's going to be welded on-

site is going to be done by hand."

An entry door will be located in the bottom of the tank, leading to three landings going up, separated with a ladder system.

"You can crawl up, go through one landing, close the door behind you and crawl up to the next," Isaacson said. "It's kind of a safety feature. ...

"The ladder system is going to actually go right through the tank itself, and there's going to be a landing up there with a railing system. I think the railing system is going to be six feet tall, five feet," he said. "That's where our lighting will be, and that's where the antennas and things will be."

Isaacson added that he did not know whether Sprint would have a tower on the platform like they do on the current one.

"If it was me, I would prefer just to put city, county (and) emergency services up there," he said.



Vermillion's new water tower is set to be completed by Aug. 15, 2014.
(Photo by David Lias)

Healthcare Careers Camp July 16-21

The University of South Dakota Sanford School of Medicine hosted 40 high school students at the seventh annual Healthcare Careers Summer Camp, July 16-21.

Soon-to-be sophomore, junior and senior high school students from South Dakota, Iowa, Nebraska and Minnesota had an opportunity to learn about health care professions and meet with more than 20 professionals representing a wide range of specialty areas.

In addition to daily sessions that introduced students to the gross anatomy lab, administering EKGs and CPR certification, camp participants were able to speak directly with presenters and ask career-minded questions about the health care industry. Tours of the Sanford Medical Centers in Vermillion and Sioux Falls, Southeast Technical Institute and the Parry Center for Clinical Skills and Simulation were also made available to campers.

Sponsorship of the seventh annual Healthcare Careers Summer Camp was provided by Sanford Vermillion Medical Center, the Dakota Hospital Foundation, Sanford School of Medicine, USD School of Health Sciences, Sanford Health, Delta Dental of South Dakota Philanthropic and the 7th District Medical Society.

The eighth annual Healthcare Careers Summer Camp is tentatively scheduled for June 15-20, 2014. Registration is open to students entering 10th through 12th grades in the fall of 2014. Students are selected to participate based on their academic record, previous volunteer experience and a personal statement provided by the student.

More information about the camp is available at www.usd.edu/medical-school/health-careers-camp.cfm or by calling (605) 677-7288.



Kurt Hackemer, professor of history at USD, and Chuck Staben, USD provost, "hood" a graduate of the American Visiting Institute for Chinese Entrepreneurs during a closing ceremony Wednesday in Farber Hall.

(Photo by David Lias)

CHINA

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Staben and Kurt Hackemer, professor of history at USD.

The institute, which began July 7, marks the second time that a delegation from China has traveled to USD to take part in an entrepreneurial program. The inaugural institute was held in April, 2012.

Earlier during Wednesday's ceremony, Staben talked about the value of the institute, which provided a delegation of 12 business leaders from China with information about investments in the United States. The four-day session included lectures, tours and demonstrations of South Dakota's economic capabilities.

"We've learned some academic items, and we've learned a lot about each other's cultures," Staben said. "We've laughed a lot, because we find there are

things that we all experience as people, whether we are Chinese or American."

Staben noted that the institute wasn't all work. Participants took time to become involved in a variety of activities, from trap shooting to taking tours of the National Music Museum in Vermillion.

Staben noted that Wednesday's graduation ceremony for the participants was "wonderful because it recognizes an important transition in our lives," he said. "In this graduation, I think we are all experiencing a bit of a transition together. Our students have some new knowledge about investment and finance in the United States, but more importantly, all those who participated in the institute have a greater understanding and an enhanced friendship with one another."

"I know you've had some fun experiences, but I hope you've also enjoyed learning about investing in South Dakota," Gov.

Dennis Daugaard told the institute's graduates. "It is good for China and South Dakota to develop business relationships. South Dakota is exporting more than \$100 million in goods to China now."

The governor noted that three years ago, China was South Dakota's fifth largest trading partner.

"Now China is our third largest trading partner. However, it wasn't really until I traveled to China as part of our trade mission that I truly appreciated the opportunities that we have to work together," he said.

Daugaard said he has been part of two trade missions to China since taking office.

"Thanks to Dr. Lu and others in China, I realize

what great opportunities there are in China for partnerships and international trade," he said.

The governor said he hopes graduates of South Dakota's public universities may one day join forces with the graduates with the graduates of this week's institute.

"I hope everyone here today hopes that you will join the South Dakota graduates to invest in South Dakota and work together to make South Dakota an even better place," he said.

"This is the second time that I've led entrepreneurs from China to come to visit America, and, in fact, this tour is even more excited and passionate," Lu

said. "I would like to turn this visiting institute into a long-term partnership."

Lu talked about the strong friendship he has developed with Nygaard, who operates Valiant Vineyards in Vermillion.

"South Dakota, in my heart, is my second home," Lu said, "because Eldon introduced this beautiful and peaceful state to me."

He also thanked Gov. Daugaard for conducting trade missions to China and further developing a strong relationship between his nation and

South Dakota.

Lu noted that the number of participants was less than expected because half of the group's visas were rejected.

"Even though half of our candidates were held up in China because of the rejection of visas, they still have this great hope that one day they will come to South Dakota to learn," he said. "They sincerely hope that they can come to South Dakota to extend their learning."

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