

COMMUNITY/STATE NEWS

Public invited to discuss park funding

The City of Vermillion will host an informational meeting about the proposal to fund Prentis Park improvements at the Edith B. Siegrist Vermillion Public Library on Tuesday, July 22. The presentation will begin at 7 p.m. in the Roger Kozak Community Room.

The city is considering a proposal which uses current and future revenue sources to fund approximately \$5.25 million of improvements identified by the Prentis Park master plan. The city is seeking public comment and input on the proposal before the Vermillion City Council takes any official action.

For more information, contact City Manager John Prescott at 677-7050.

Bank makes capital campaign donation

HURON – The South Dakota State Fair Foundation announced today First National Bank has given a \$50,000 gift to the Capital Campaign for the building of a new exhibit hall on the South Dakota State Fairgrounds.

“Our gift to the State Fair Foundation is part of our culture and represents a continuing effort to serve the Huron community, the State Fair and the great industry of agriculture,” said Jeff Jones, First National Bank president.

“First National Bank is dedicated to the communities it serves,” said Jerome Hertel, SD State Fair director. “This gift to the Nordby Exhibit Hall capital campaign is a great example of this bank putting community and the future of South Dakota 4-H youth first.”

Those interested in supporting the Capital Campaign should contact the State Fair office at (605) 353-7340 or visit www.sdstatefairfoundation.com.

Partners in Policymaking to be offered

The state-of-the-art training course South Dakota Partners in Policymaking will be offered in South Dakota for the 23rd year in November 2014. This course is designed for parents of children with disabilities, self-advocates, and family members. To date more than 500 South Dakotans have successfully completed the training.

Partners learn about current issues and best practices and become familiar with the policymaking and legislative processes at the local, state, and national levels. The overall goal is to achieve a productive partnership between people needing and using services and those in a position to make policy and law.

Partners attend two-day training sessions, six times a year, with each session beginning on Friday morning and concluding mid-afternoon on Saturday. Each session is devoted to specific topics with nationally known presenters.

The world needs Partner graduates who hold social responsibility as a core value; not only to help people interpret the cards they've been dealt, but know what to do with those cards to make the best hand for them and for everyone.

Being a partner means that you are not alone and you are a better person, friend, and member of our ever changing and challenging world. Partners will challenge you to think before you speak, speak before you act, and to act before you ever give up.

To apply for South Dakota Partners in Policymaking, contact Sandy Stocklin Hook at (800) 658-4782 or you can apply online at www.sdadvocacy.com. Applications are due on Sept. 20.

Recovery funds available for households

PIERRE – Gov. Dennis Daugaard has announced the use of discretionary funds from the Housing Opportunity Fund to aid in the recovery of those affected by the recent natural disasters in Wessington Springs and Canton.

Households in need of assistance may apply for a grant of up to \$5,000. Documentation of any FEMA assistance and insurance proceeds will be used to determine actual amount of assistance available per household.

Funds can be used for the following items:

- Clean up (removal of debris, mold remediation, etc.)
- Restoration
- Purchasing of a hot water heater, furnace or appliances lost due to the disaster
- Payment of rental and utility security deposits for displaced households
- Downpayment assistance for purchase of a housing unit

Households at or below 80 percent of the HUD area median income for Lincoln and Jerauld counties are eligible to apply.

Applications for funds can be made starting today. Funds will be available until Dec. 31, 2014, or until the time when no such funds remain.

Persons interested in applying for funds may do so by completing the application form found on the SDHDA website www.sdhda.org. Persons not able to access via the Internet may also request a form sent to them by calling (605) 773-3181 or (800) 540-4241.

The Housing Opportunity Fund (HOF) Program was created through Senate Bill 235 during the 2013 Legislative Session. Annually \$100,000 is set aside for discretionary use that is consistent with the objectives of the HOF. HOF Funds can be used for rental housing, homeownership, land trusts and homelessness prevention activities.

For more information, contact Lorraine Polak at (605) 773-3181 or Lorraine@sdhda.org.

SD State Fair launches new Web site

HURON – The South Dakota State Fair launched a new Web site, www.sdstatefair.com, on Wednesday, July 2.

The new site includes an updated design and improved usability. Visitors can expect a refreshed look and ease of use when looking for information about the State Fair and other events happening on the fairgrounds year round.

“The new site is like a facelift for the State Fair,” said Jerome Hertel, SD State Fair manager. “I think visitors will really enjoy the fresh design and layout.”

The new site includes a countdown to the Fair and a stronger focus on entertainment and events. Usability has been improved, making event schedules and information easier to locate throughout the site.

A year-round events calendar has also been added to emphasize the events taking place throughout the year such as Wheel Jam, the Men's Expo, Women's Expo, stock car races and more.

New websites with updated designs and layouts for Wheel Jam, Men's Expo and the SD BBQ Championships are also being designed and will be launched in the coming months.

The 2014 South Dakota State Fair will run from Thursday, Aug. 28, through Monday, Sept. 1. Channel Seeds preview day will be Wednesday, Aug. 27. This year's theme is “What Does The Fair Say?”

For more information on State Fair events, contact the Fair office at (800) 529-0900, visit www.sdstatefair.com or find them Facebook and Twitter.

Eagle Riders present check to HHS

The Vermillion Eagle Riders presented a check for \$500 to the Heartland Humane Society Friday, June 29, at a benefit dance hosted at the Fraternal Order of Eagles.

The money was raised on their spring charity poker run that stopped at the new Heartland Humane Society location in Yankton.

Eagle Riders, an internal unit of The Fraternal Order of Eagles, is dedicated to uniting the organization's spirit of People Helping People with a love of motorcycles. Across the United States and Canada, thousands of dollars are raised each month by Eagle Riders groups holding poker runs, toy runs, fundraisers and casual rides to help make a difference in their communities.

Open exclusively to members of the F.O.E., Eagle Riders provides a safe and responsible riding experience the whole family can enjoy. With every dollar raised and



Pictured are Farrel Christensen, Mick Breskey, treasurer; Todd Brewer, Reda Brewer, Kent Osborne, Cindy Osborne, president; Suzi Moore, secretary; and receiving the check, Kerry Hacecky, executive director, HHS. The event raised over \$7,500 to help cover veterinary expenses for the animals they serve.

(Submitted photo)

every friend or neighbor helped, the Eagle Riders name becomes increasingly

synonymous with community service and philanthropy.

Deer license cuts will slice revenue

By Bob Mercer
State Capitol Bureau

PIERRE – The Wildlife Division estimates it will lose about \$757,000 of revenue from reductions in deer hunting licenses for the 2014 seasons.

Division director Tony Leif said some decrease was planned.

“But we did not anticipate this level of decline,” he said.

The division is making reductions and adjustments elsewhere in its budget, according to Leif.

“The public will not see any immediate impact,” he said. He added, “But we can't sustain that.”

Leif made his comments in response to questions from Sen. Jean Hunhoff, R-Yankton,

during the Legislature's rules review committee meeting Tuesday morning.

He said a larger decline of about \$2 million was felt two years ago, from fewer purchases of licenses by non-resident pheasant hunters.

According to paperwork filed with the rule proposals for the deer seasons, the fiscal impacts will be declines of \$291,800 from fewer East River licenses and \$418,428 from fewer West River licenses.

There also will be smaller declines of \$2,640 for Black Hills deer; \$1,608 for refuge deer; \$27,000 for archery deer; \$9,000 for muzzleloader deer; \$6,320 for youth deer.

The division's biologists consider each hunting unit and don't set population goals on a

statewide basis or an entire season.

“Deer aren't the easiest critters to get a count on,” Leif explained to Sen. Mike Vehle, R-Mitchell.

“We've heard a little bit on both sides,” Leif said about the public response to the reductions. He summarized the reaction as “prevailing support for the changes but not unanimous.”

The state Game, Fish and Parks Commission sharply decreased licenses in many deer hunting units, especially for antlerless deer such as does and fawns. The goal is to rebuild populations in many areas.

The legislative panel gave its endorsement to the changes 6-0 after the review Tuesday.

More anglers bought licenses in SD so far in 2014

By Bob Mercer
State Capitol Bureau

FORT PIERRE – Anglers found success this spring and early summer in South Dakota. The good fishing brought good sales of fishing licenses too.

A report delivered Tuesday to the state Game, Fish and Parks Commission showed anglers have purchased thousands more of fishing licenses so far this year than at the similar point in 2013.

Non-residents accounted for much of the increase, but every fishing license category was up

through the June 27 closing date of the report.

South Dakota residents purchased:

- 2,588 one-day licenses, up from 2,476;
- 52,808 annual licenses, up from 52,026;
- 10,872 senior licenses, up from 10,498; and
- 2,428 game fish spearing-archery licenses, up from 2,203.

Non-residents purchased:

- 9,271 one-day licenses, up from 8,477;
- 11,930 three-day licenses, up from 10,769;

20,065 annual licenses, up from 16,992;

6,811 family licenses, up from 6,207; and

1,030 youth licenses, up from 793.

South Dakota residents also can buy a combination fishing and small-game hunting license. Those sales varied slightly so far in 2014:

- 37,280 standard combination, down from 38,482;
- 5,538 junior combination, off from 5,610; and
- 5,896 senior combination, up from 5,651.

USD tennis signs Bidarkal

University of South Dakota head tennis coach Malcolm Gilreath is pleased to announce the signing of Australia native Sanjana Bidarkal to a national letter of intent. Bidarkal will compete with the Coyotes this fall.

Bidarkal hails from Canberra, Australia, where she trains with former Davis Cup player Alun Jones. She has achieved a high ranking of 173 AR (Australian Ranking) and has represented her state in numerous national competitions. She was part of the ACT High Performance Team in Canberra and served one year as its captain.

On the academic side, she has earned the Academic High Distinction Award numerous times and plans to gear her studies towards pre-medicine.

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The University of South Dakota has several positions open in the areas of:

- Assistant Director of Operations & Maintenance
- Assistant Director of Planning & Construction
- Buildings Engineer II
- Energy Engineer
- Physical Plant Manager II
- SR Building Maintenance Worker-Locksmith
- Work Order Desk Specialist

For detailed descriptions and to apply, go to <http://yourfuture.sdbor.edu>



UNIVERSITY OF SOUTH DAKOTA

EEO/AA

STIP Public Meetings

S.D. Dept. of Transportation has developed a Tentative 2015-2018 Four-Year Statewide Transportation Improvement Program (STIP). The Tentative STIP includes all the state sponsored transportation projects for this time period.

Prior to final approval of the STIP by the Transportation Commission, public meetings will be held on the following dates and locations to receive public comment on the tentative program.

July 22, 2014.....Ramada Convention Center.....Aberdeen.....7:00 PM
July 23, 2014.....Ramkota Hotel.....Sioux Falls.....7:00 PM
July 24, 2014.....Ramkota Hotel.....Pierre.....7:00 PM
July 29, 2014.....Ramkota Hotel.....Rapid City.....7:00 PM
July 30, 2014.....Webinar.....Contact: Dave.Voeltz@State.SD.US to register.....1:30 PM

Individuals with disabilities or special needs call 605-773-3540 or 1-800-877-1113 (TDD).
For more information please go to www.SDDOT.com

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