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Kronaizl Proposes Amendment To S. Dakota Constitution

BY BOB MERCER
State Capitol Bureau

PIERRE – A potential amendment to the South Dakota constitution would allow voters to refer any law approved by the Legislature including spending measures and emergency acts that currently are off limits.



Kronaizl

Those spending and emergency acts however would still take effect and remain law until voters decided their fate in the next general election. That could be more than a year later.

The proposal from Douglas Kronaizl of Vermillion also would create a new limit on the Legislature's ability to amend or repeal an initiated law already approved by voters.

Legislators would need a two-thirds majority in each chamber to take action to change or erase an initiated law.

Kronaizl said he is responding to two actions by Republican legislators during the 2015 session.

One was an attempt by Sen. Corey Brown, R-Gettysburg, to double the number of signatures necessary for a referral or an initiated measure.

Brown's bill contained an emergency clause, which meant it couldn't be referred to a statewide vote.

Facing criticism of both the idea and the emergency tactic, Brown had the legislation set aside.

The other action by the Legislature that Kronaizl found offensive was approval of a youth minimum wage at \$7.50 per hour for workers younger than age 18.

The youth wage came just months after voters in the November 2014 election increased the minimum wage to \$8.75 per hour with an automatic annual inflation increase.

Kronaizl said he submitted the final paperwork for his proposed amendment to the South Dakota Secretary of State office on Wednesday.

He will need to submit valid signatures of 27,741 registered South Dakota voters no later than Nov. 8 of this year to make the November 2016 general election ballot.

State Attorney General Marty

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Taking Down The Lights



SHAUNA MARLETTE/FOR THE PLAIN TALK

The Vermillion High School renovation project, which began in May is well underway and on track for completion in August. Demolition has been the biggest challenge, as ceiling removal and wiring are ongoing. Due to the construction many events typically held at the high school during the summer have been moved or dates changed.

High School Renovation Project On Track

BY SARAH WETZEL
For the Plain Talk

Mike Hubbard of Johnson Controls appeared before the Vermillion School Board at last Monday's meeting to give an update on the progress of the Vermillion High School renovation project.

According to Hubbard, a large portion of the high school has been blocked off for construction personnel only.

Ceilings have come down and work has begun in the classrooms.

"We started in April in the boiler room and the tunnels," Hubbard said. "Demolition is by far our biggest challenge at this point. When the ceiling came out, 50 years of wiring came down with it. Classrooms were a lot more forgiving. Pretty clean, pretty easy to work with."

Some piping issues came up leading to a modification in the plan where some piping will go outside on the wall next to the gym covered with PVC and insulation according to Hubbard.

Removal of the tile in the men's and women's restrooms has also taken place as part of the demolition process.

The tile in the women's restroom reportedly took about three times as long as the men's according to Hubbard causing a slight delay.

Hubbard also reported the biology lab cleaned out. "All the abatement is out," he said. "Casement work will be here I believe in early July so we'll get that put back together."

The chemistry lab has also been cleaned out with plumbers coming in to work on it. The back wall has also been removed adding about eight feet to the classroom.

Most of the tasks on the

County Officials Prepare For Special Election

BY SHAUNA MARLETTE
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Registration for the upcoming June 30 Vermillion special election ended on Monday, however the preparation for the event is ongoing at City Hall.

"Absentee voting can be done at the City Hall Finance office Monday-Friday from 8 a.m.-5 p.m.," said city finance officer Mike Carlson. "The sample ballot has been approved and is available here at City Hall and are also available at the website. We have the absentee ballot application on our website, so if you are out of town you can download that, fill it out, have it notarized or send in a copy of a S.D. state identification card and we will send you a ballot. They have to be a registered voter within the city of Vermillion."

The sample ballot will run in the Plain Talk on June 26, however the wording is running the next few weeks issues, Carlson said.

"Voting on the 30th will be held at the



National Guard Armory," he said. "Voting will be open from 7 a.m. to 7 p.m. Absentee Voting ends at 5 p.m. on June 29. In encourage everyone to bring a valid form of identification, however if they do not have it they can fill an affidavit out at the voting site."

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South Dakota Shakespeare Festival A Success

BY JAMES COOPER
For the Plain Talk



Michael Straino (Malcolm, 1st Murderer) and Lindsay Tanner (Lady Macduff, Hecate, Donalbain) present the opening banner for the South Dakota Shakespeare Festival and the performance of The Tragedie of Macbeth. Above: A panoramic image of the crowd gathered near the stage at Prentiss Park for a performance of Macbeth at this year's South Dakota Shakespeare Festival.

BY THOMAS HATZENBUHLER/FOR THE PLAIN TALK

Vermillion's Prentiss Park was transported back to the Elizabethan era for the South Dakota Shakespeare Festival (SDSF), held last weekend. "Macbeth", the great Shakespearean tragedy, was presented by a great group of players, showcasing all of their hard work.

The SDSF was not only a four night performance of "Macbeth." Several workshops for community members were held, taught by a "select group" of SDSF members in order to expose the participants to the world of theatre and history throughout the weekend. These workshops were held in the Warren M. Lee Center for Fine Arts at The University of South Dakota, as well as in Prentiss Park.

The workshops provided by the SDSF spanned from general acting, to specific, Renaissance related material. The most popular class was Stage Combat, where participants learned the basics of stage combat and even swordplay.

For those only interested in general acting, Improvisation and Creating Characters allowed peo-

ple to stretch their ability to think quickly and in the moment, as well as explore the possibilities of script writing and creating imaginative worlds.

If Renaissance dance and music were on someone's mind, SDSF offered Elizabethan Dancing, Renaissance Music and Renaissance Instruments workshops. In these workshops, participants were given the opportunity to dance like Elizabethans from local dancer Grace Freeman, learn about the musical styles of Shakespeare's time, visit the National Music Museum's display of preserved Renaissance instruments, and learn to sing a Renaissance song, all with the help of USD Professor of Music, Dr. Bruce Kelley.

For those solely interested in Shakespeare, the SDSF had an Acting Shakespeare workshop where students learned the basics of how to speak and perform the Shakespearean language.

Also held in Prentiss Park was an in-depth Scholars Roundtable discussion with Shakespeare experts Kevin Quarmby, Brett Gamboa, and Darlene Farabee. The trio discussed "Macbeth" through history, as well

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