

Special Elections Set For June 30th

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Two recent actions by the Vermillion City Council will be up for public approval at a special election set for June 30.

Ordinance 1326 which requires registration of private, in-home, daycares with the city was approved by a council vote of 7-2 on April 13 after nearly 90 minutes of discussion, sometimes heated, with members of the public.

The ordinance requires a provider to register with the city. In order to obtain city certification the daycare provider will need to demonstrate safety items such as having a fire extinguisher, smoke detector, two ways out of basement space used for a daycare, safe electrical wiring, closets that prevent a child from being locked inside and other basic safety requirements, such as having a fenced in yard.

The ordinance allowed

that a daycare which registered prior to July 1, would not require an inspection moving the first inspection of the property to 2016.

After the ordinance was adopted, a handout was developed to assist in explaining the details of the ordinance.

It was also noted that when the ordinance is passed there would still be a chance for the public to sign a petition for a referendum, which was completed and turned into the council on May 6.

The second item which will be decided on by voters is the council's decision to impose a charge upon malt beverage purchases for use toward paying back the bond which will be needed to support the Prentis Park Pool Project.

On February 17, the City Council approved a second reading of the ordinance enacting sections 112.24 through 112.31 of the City

Code that imposed a 5 percent charge upon malt beverage purchases pursuant to SDCL 35-4-60.2. The ordinance was published on

tion was received on March 18 that was determined by the City Attorney to not be valid due to the wording on the petition. A second peti-

requirement of voters needed and was determined to be valid.

According to city manager John Prescott the decision of the voters will greatly affect the direction the council will take in regards to the Prentis Park Project.

"The current estimate of the project is that it will cost \$5.25 million," Prescott said. "The council designated \$1 million of reserves from the general fund, \$1 million of the second penny fund reserves and estimated that we would need to seek a bond of \$3 million to finance the project."

The city had hoped to place the bonds this summer with the assumption that the 5 percent malt beverage mark-up would be used to help cover the anticipated average annual debt service of \$222,127.

A malt beverage mark-up is provided for in state statute and allows a city to add up to 5 percent on cost

and freight of malt beverages, which according to the last year of data available of 2007 would have generated \$116,600 per year.

Prescott said that using the costs associated with malt beverages at the golf course, which the City manages, for one brand of beer an 18-pack has a cost of \$12.40 or \$0.69 per can. With the mark-up the cost for that can of beer would be \$0.72, or three cents higher. For the most expensive bottled beer sold at the golf course, it would be equivalent to a six cent increase per bottle, which the providers would be required to capture in their sales costs. Likewise for keg costs, the most expensive keg would incur a six cent per glass increase.

During Monday's meeting it was noted that the public approved the 5 percent mark-up overwhelmingly.

Prescott said should the mark-up now be voted down by voters, it would force the city council to greatly reduce



SHAUNA MARLETTE/FOR THE PLAIN TALK
Prentis Park Pool is ready to open for the summer Saturday at 1 p.m. (weather permitting.) It is then scheduled to close on July 31 in order for demolition to begin for the new swimming pool scheduled to open the summer of 2016. However, the vote scheduled for June 30 could have ramifications on just what will be built during the next year.

Feb. 27 and became effective on March 19. An initial referendum peti-

tion was received on May 11 from Blaine Schoellerman which was determined to be valid and meet the 5 percent

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Stone Named VSD Teacher Of Year

Mrs. Stone is truly an outstanding educator. During her tenure at Vermillion High School Mrs. Stone has been professional, competent, punctual, enthusiastic, organized, personable, caring, passionate, and has an excellent knowledge base in her professional field of study.

Mrs. Stone always challenges her students to perform at their highest level. She incorporates enrichment activities as well as modifications to meet the needs of all her students. Mrs. Stone is a visionary and is not hesitant to incorporate new teaching strategies to enhance her curriculum. Mrs. Stone is very passionate about her students. It is important to Mrs. Stone that her students gain the social skills they need to be successful in the community.

Mrs. Stone takes numerous time outside of her contractual duties to have outings for her students. It is not unusual to see Mrs. Stone and her students eating pizza at Little Italy's on a Friday night. Her integrity and moral character have gained her the respect of her teaching peers and administrators at Vermillion High School.

Thank you Kelly for all you do for Vermillion School District.

Swan Lake Marathon To Be Run

Swan Lake Christian Camp of Viborg, SD is hosting a marathon (26.2 miles,) ½ marathon (13.1 miles), and a 5.3 Mile run on June 14th, 2015. Runners, joggers, walkers and spectators are welcome. Money raised will go towards camper scholarships. Come have a good time and enable more kids to come to camp. For more information check out the website at www.myslcc.com, email marathon@myslcc.com or call the camp at 605-326-5690.

Child Care Directory To Be Published

The Child Care Directory published each year by the Clay County Extension Office is currently being updated.

If you are currently providing home or center child care services and would like to be included in this annual directory, please contact Colleen at the Clay County Extension Office by calling 605-677-7111 or emailing clay.county@sdstate.edu. Listings will be accepted until June 1, 2015. The directory will be available to the public by mid-June.

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Construction To Begin At Sanford

The Emergency Room entrance at Sanford Medical Center Vermillion (17 Walker St.) will be closing due to the start of construction on the east side of the medical center campus. Once new directional signage is placed on Tuesday, May 19, all patients, visitors and vendors will be instructed to enter the medical center through the main entrance at 20 S Plum St.

All community members are asked to pay close attention to new directional signs posted for parking and the temporary entrance location. During this construction period, we ask that everyone observe our hospital visiting hours of 6 a.m. to 8 p.m.

Entry to Sanford Clinic Vermillion and parking has not changed.

During phase one of construction at Sanford Vermillion, new facilities are being added, including new pharmacy and laundry departments and the addition of an ambulance garage at the Emergency Room entrance.

Foster Care Donations Sought

Every day, 1600 kids enter foster care in the United States. When most children enter foster care, they receive two trash bags to store and transport their belongings. They deserve more!

A group of Irene citizens wants to help. We will be working through the "Together We Rise" project to provide duffel bags to all children entering foster care in our area. A simple duffel bag with a few personal items inside. It may not seem like much to some people, however to a young child whose life is going through turmoil and change, this duffel bag is a gift. A gift that shows that someone cares. A gift that they can keep and call their own.

Planning for future fundraising events has begun, and we hope to provide our "Sweet Cases" to the local Department of Social Services offices in Yankton, Clay & Turner counties soon. The DSS office will assist us in delivering the "Sweet Cases" to children entering foster care. Please visit our facebook page for upcoming event details. <http://www.facebook.com/SweetCasesIrene>

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