

Lyle LaCroix of Yankton worked with her and helped her family depart from Iraq under a special immigration program for Iraqi interpreters. LaCroix helped the family settle in Yankton. Aarah is now returning to her homeland of Iraq as a U.S. soldier and returning to be a translator.

#### March 16

A 19-year-old Marion man is in custody after allegedly shooting and killing a Turner County Sheriff Deputy Chad Mechels. Mechels was 33-years old married and the father of two children.

#### March 18

Avon's Kela Cihak received the "Spirit of Su" award at the Class B girls' basketball tournament held last weekend in Aberdeen. The "Spirit of Su" award is given to young athletes who exemplify SuAnne Big Crow's life and achievements.

#### March 19

The Yankton based Charlie Battery will be deploying next month in support of Operation Iraqi Freedom. The South Dakota Army National Guard unit, part of the 1st Battalion, 147th Field Artillery, will hold its activation ceremony at the Yankton Middle School on April 18 at 10:00 A.M. The public is welcome to attend.

Yankton's old Wal-Mart has been turned into a house of worship. The Calvary Baptist Church will be having their dedication ceremony and an open house this weekend. The Rev. Jon Cooke said the facility features spacious accommodations, including the central lobby, a library, numerous classrooms and a youth theater in addition to the sanctuary.

#### March 20

Groundbreaking was held for the new fire station. City and fire officials turned the first shovels of dirt. The new station will be built at 23rd and Douglas. This project has been on the books since the 1980's. Advocates for the new station said there has been a need for a second facility for many years; they have been concerned about depending on one fire station on the south side of the railroad tracks when a large portion of Yankton's population and commercial properties are on the north side of town.

#### March 21

Yankton attorney Jim Goetz is retiring as the City of Yankton attorney. Goetz has been the city attorney for 48 of his 60-year career in the legal profession. A reception will be held next week in his honor in the city gymnasium. David Hosmer has been chosen to take over the position.

#### March 23

Jan Garrity will be the new Executive Director of Yankton College. Garrity is a familiar face to the community of Yankton she and her family owned Garrity's Prairie Gardens and she was previously the Executive Director of the Yankton Area Arts Association.

#### March 25

Tate Bruckner from Menno was one of this year's recipients of the "Spirit of Su" award. He was given the award at the Class B Boys basketball tournament held this past weekend.

March is going out like a lion. The western part of South Dakota and the northern plains had a spring blizzard yesterday that dumped over 30 inches of snow and

wind gust up to 90 mph. The storm closed highways and Interstate 90 from the Wyoming border to Chamberlain, SD.

#### March 26

David Maxwell of Parkston was one of this year's recipients of the "Spirit of Su" award. He was given the award at the Class A Boys basketball tournament held this past weekend in Rapid City.

For months, Rik and Lindsay Zortman had been fighting for their 3-year old son Armstrong's life. He is battling a brain cancer that is normally found in 50 year old men. Lindsay will be testifying next week in Washington, SD before the Food and Drug Administration. The family will also be having a fundraiser at the Dakota Theatre in Yankton on Wednesday April 1st featuring hypnotist-comedian Rick Bultez.

#### March 27

The Yankton Police Department's beloved drug dog Rex Foote passed away as a result of an illness yesterday. Rex had been with the Yankton Police Department for the last 7 years. The Belgian Malinois drug dog sniffed out 239 pieces of drug paraphernalia, 1,500 grams of marijuana and 92 grams of methamphetamines. Rex also helped take \$165,000 in drug money off the street.

#### March 31

The Yankton High School Science Olympiad team won first place at the 25th annual South Dakota Science Olympiad State Tournament held at the University of South Dakota in Vermillion this past weekend.

## April

#### April 1

The Gehl Company announced another round of layoffs at its Yankton plant yesterday. Another 48 employees were let go.

Dr. Allen Sossan, a reconstructive spinal and orthopedic surgeon who usually splits his time between Yankton and Norfolk is traveling to Tehran, Iran. He usually travels there to donate two weeks a year to do charity work there. While there he usually sees 12-14 patients.

#### April 2

Longtime WNAX radio personality Gene "Williams" Fiscus who shared his farming knowledge with area listeners passed away this weekend at his home. He retired from radio in the early 1990's. During his retirement he worked part-time at KYNT and Stockman's Livestock.

#### April 3

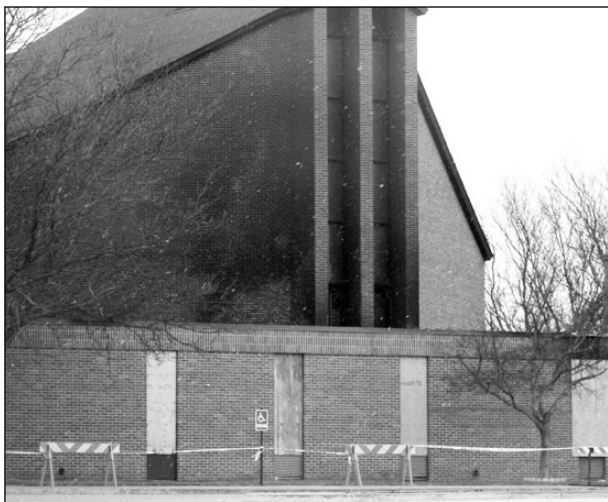
Shane Tweedy gets 37 years in the state penitentiary for killing Yankton resident Patrick Montgomery last May. He received 150 years in the state penitentiary with 100 years suspended provided that he follows various terms upon his release. Because of his history of violent crimes Judge Eng said he would have to serve out 75 percent of his 50-year sentence before being eligible for parole.

#### April 8

The St. John's Lutheran Church fire Saturday morning was no accident. The fire has been ruled as arson. The Yankton Police Department, the Yankton Fire Department, the South Dakota Fire Mar-

shall's Office and the federal Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms and Explosives are conducting a joint investigation. There was more than \$2 million in damages to the church.

#### April 10



The Yankton based Charlie Battery will be headed to Kuwait for their upcoming mission. The deployment affects more than 300 soldiers. Their mission will be to conduct security in Kuwait. The activation ceremony has been set for April 18 at the Yankton Middle School scheduled to begin at 10:00 A.M.

#### April 15

The Yankton City Commission and School Board elections were held yesterday. Three seats were open on the City Commission and two incumbents and one new-

comer were elected. Incumbents David Carda and David Knoff as well as newcomer Pauline Akland, will serve three-year terms. Commissioner Charles Murphy came in fourth place and Jeffrey Swedeen came in fifth place. In the school board election



Kathryn Greenway and Verlin Ailts were re-elected. David Hosmer who was seeking re-election resigned his position recently to become the new City of Yankton attorney.

#### April 16

Hannah Kirchner died of Sudden Infant Death Syndrome (SIDS) two years ago this month. Her family is pushing the awareness of SIDS as the 2009 March of Dimes Ambassador Family. The Kirchner family consist of her parents Susan and Randy, and brothers Jacob and Dylan.

#### April 17

Mount Marty College has

inducted three more people into the schools Athletic Hall of Fame for 2009. This year's class is Chuck Iverson former women's basketball coach and current athletic director who have been with the college since 1991. Jason Even who played for the MMC Men's basketball team from 1993-1997. Marvin Veasey who played for the MMC Men's basketball team from 1982-1986. He set a total of 12 school records and is still in the top 10 in several career categories.

#### April 18

Charlie Battery, 1st Battalion, 147th Field Artillery held their activation ceremony this morning at the Yankton Middle School. Charlie Battery is being deployed to Kuwait.

Governor Mike Rounds, and Senator John Thune as well as representatives from Tim Johnson and Stephanie Herseth Sandlin's offices will be speaking at the ceremony.

#### April 21

Yankton Superintendent Joe Gertsema was elected to a national leadership role for a three-year term on the Executive Committee of the American Association of School Administrators.

Longtime Yankton doctor Dr. Ted Sattler passed away on Sunday at the age of 94. He spent his entire medical career in Yankton. He helped develop an internal residency program at Avera Sacred Heart Hospital and helped

develop the merge leading to the Yankton Medical Clinic. He helped train generations of University of South Dakota medical students. He also helped expand the USD Medical School from a two to four year program.

#### April 24

Five new honorees will be inducted into the Yankton High School Fine Arts Hall of Fame. Todd Christensen, a 1967 graduate, he is an artist and is locations manager for motion pictures. Some movies which he has been involved in include "Pearl Harbor," "I Still Know What You Did Last Summer". Joshua Hoffner is a 1994 graduate. He is news editor of the New York City bureau of The Associated Press in New York City, a position he has held since September 2005. Amy Miner is a 1984 graduate, she previously taught at YHS from 1993-2004. She is currently a teacher in Hawaii. Elizabeth Miner O'Toole is a 1984 graduate of YHS; she is currently an associate professor of social science at the University of Sioux Falls in Sioux Falls. Ron Krikac taught language arts at YHS from 1967-1971. He directed plays, worked with oral interpretation students, and coached debate teams. He directed the first musical at YHS "My Fair Lady" in 1967.

#### April 29

The National Trust for Historic Preservation has listed the Human Services Center

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