

# 2010: Year In Review



## January

### January 2

Jack and Margaret Lyons have been named Yankton's 2009 Citizens of the Year. Jack taught music at Mount Marty College for 33 years. Margaret spent many years teaching music to elementary students in the Yankton Public School system. A reception for the Lyons will be held at a later date.

### January 8

A new warden has been named for the Federal Prison Camp in Yankton. Jordan Hollingsworth is currently an associate warden in Leavenworth, Kansas. He will assume the position at the end of the month.

### January 9

Yankton County's three state legislators Jean Hunhoff, Bernie Hunhoff and Nick Moser said the upcoming legislative session needs to address the long-term budget challenges. Bernie

Hunhoff is the House Minority Leader and said lawmakers need to get the state's fiscal house in order and then realign the budget priorities with the people of South Dakota.

### January 11

Frigid weather has been covering most of the nation. The National Weather Service has issued a hard freeze warning for Southern Florida. The temperature on Saturday reached a low of 35 degrees, breaking a record that has stood since 1970.

### January 13

A major earthquake struck Haiti yesterday, knocking down buildings and power lines and inflicting what its ambassador to the United States called a catastrophe for the Western Hemisphere's poorest nation. Several eyewitnesses reported heavy damage and bodies in the streets of the capital, Port-au-Prince, where concrete-block homes line steep hillsides. There was no estimate of the dead and

wounded but "serious loss of life" is expected.

### January 15

Lewis & Clark Theatre Company is gearing up for their 49th season. There will be five regular season shows, a joint production with the Yankton Children's Theatre Company and several other events planned throughout the year.

### January 16

Officials at Yankton Schools and Yankton businesses have been clearing their rooftops of snow due to the weight of the 20 inches of snow received during the Christmas blizzard.

The Yankton School Lunch Program is seeing an increase in the free and reduced-priced lunch program. The effects of the recession have been seen and felt in many businesses throughout Yankton and the need for assistance has increased.

### January 18

Larry Ness is handing over the COO reins at First Dakota National Bank to Rob Stephenson. Rob will assume the positions of president and chief operating officer. Ness joined the bank as a part-time owner in 1983 and became full-time owner in 1995. Ness will still be the CEO and chairman of the board.

### January 19

Brad Dykes is retiring from Yankton's HyVee after more than 19 years. On Feb. 8, he will retire from his position as store director for the 66,600-square-foot Yankton Hy-Vee. It will end a 37-year relationship with the grocery company and marks the beginning of a new chapter in Dykes' life.

### January 20

The South Dakota Corn Growers Association recently honored Denny Everson of Yankton's First Dakota National Bank with the Most Valuable Player in Agriculture Award.

Everson is a longtime banker who says agriculture "has been my passion for all my life."

A special election was held in Massachusetts to fill the seat of the late Senator Ted Kennedy. Republican Scott Brown and Democrat Martha Coakley lobbied for the position. Republican Brown won the seat.

### January 21

The John Morrell & Co. is closing its pork processing plant in Sioux City, Iowa. The company employees 1,450 people. John Morrell President, Joseph Sebring, cited the age of the plant and the struggling economy for the closure.

Dr. Angela Hejl, who teaches science and math at Yankton High School, was recently notified that she is one of three finalists for the South Dakota Presidential Award for Excellence in Mathematics and Science.

### January 25

Longtime KELO television personality Dave Dedrick, also known as "Captain 11", has died. He was 81; he was the first announcer on a television station in South Dakota and was a weatherman for years. His Captain 11 Program was the longest running children's show in the world.

Avon teacher Paul Kuhlman has been chosen 2008 South Dakota Teacher of the Year and now the school district has received a national honor with their inclusion on U.S. News & World Report's "America's Best High Schools" for 2010. Avon has received a "bronze medal".

### January 27

Incoming Yankton Chamber of Commerce president Steve Huff addresses the crowd during the Chamber's annual meeting and awards program last night. Huff said the area has several positives going for it, including the TransCanada pipeline project and the



**Incoming Yankton Chamber of Commerce president Steve Huff addresses the crowd during the Chamber's annual meeting and awards program.**

Meridian Bridge conversion project. The chamber will also work on infrastructure development this year, as well as a program to be carried out in cooperation with the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers and RTEC that will educate area contractors on how to register for contracts with the federal government.

### January 29

The South Dakota Transportation Commission awarded a \$4.8 million bid yesterday for the conversion of the 85-year-old Meridian Bridge into a pedestrian/bicycling structure. "I was pleased to see the bids came in where they did," Transportation Commission member and Yankton resident Ralph Marquardt said after the meeting. "I think it's a good project for the City of Yankton, and I think it will be complementary to the community and the area."

### January 30

The board of directors from Clay Rural Water System denied the request from Hyperion Energy Center to be one of their water suppliers. All nine board members voted to deny the request. The major issue was how to pay for improvements. Hyperion wanted CRWS to pay

the cost up front and CRWS wanted Hyperion to pay for them. Hyperion said they would pay back CRWS with a long-term supply agreement. Hyperion said they would need 9-12 million gallons of water daily sent to their energy center.

## February

### February 2

A 15-year-old Yankton male has been arrested and charged in connection with the fire last April at St. John Lutheran Church in Yankton. He has been charged with first-degree arson and third degree burglary. Arson is a Class 2 felony, which carries a maximum penalty of 25 years in prison and/or a fine of \$50,000. Third-degree burglary is a Class 4 felony, which carries a maximum penalty of 10 years in prison and/or a \$20,000 fine.

Leah Smith has been chosen as Sacred Heart School's 2010 Hall of Fame Award winner. Leah and her husband Joe moved to Yankton in 1975. Their four children attended Sacred Heart School. She has served two terms on the school board and has also served as a hospice nurse. She is also associated with the Cancer Walk For Life, Cancer and Heart Association fundraisers and Catholic Daughters. She serves Holy Eucharist and also works with Residents Encounter Christ.

### February 3

Yankton resident and Augustana College junior nursing major and Yankton High School graduate Abbie Hunhoff recently returned from a trip to Ecuador. While there she had the opportunity to work in a hospital and orphanage, as well as travel to the middle of the jungle to visit a tribal village.

### February 8

The New Orleans Saints defeated the Indianapolis Colts in Super Bowl XLIV 31-17. This is the Saints first ever trip to the Super Bowl. Saints quarterback



**Brad Dykes announced he was retiring as store director of Yankton's HyVee after 19 years at the store.**