



Athletes shine in 1st Watoma Relays meet since 2022

SPORTS, 1B

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JUNE 2 PRIMARY ELECTION IN SOUTH DAKOTA

Early voting starts in some counties

Makenzie Huber
SOUTH DAKOTA SEARCHLIGHT

Early and absentee voting for the June 2 primary election is beginning in some South Dakota counties after a delayed start, though others remain in lim-

bo awaiting ballots.

Davison County, which includes Mitchell, was one of the first in the state to open early voting. The county started about an hour after receiving ballots on Wednesday morning, said Auditor Kathy Wingert.

“Despite this rough start to the election season, I’m confident in how the election will run. It should be smooth sailing from here,” Wingert said.

Minnehaha, Lincoln and Pennington County auditors said on Wednesday, April 22, that they received ballots. Min-

nehaha planned to open early voting at noon on April 23, while Lincoln and Pennington counties planned to begin early voting as soon as the office opened for the day on April 23.

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South Dakota Gov. Larry Rhoden poses with the Project Prison Reset Task Force on April 22 for the new prison site groundbreaking in Sioux Falls. ANGELA GEORGE/ARGUS LEADER

Public Works building project to begin

Construction company’s bid accepted by council

A.J. Kaufman
Special to the Aberdeen News
USA TODAY NETWORK

A significant project aimed at enhancing Aberdeen’s core infrastructure is now in the works.

At its regular meeting on April 20, the Aberdeen City Council heard bids for the construction of a new city Public Works building. There were seven total bids for the project, including two from Aberdeen firms. Public Works Director Stu Nelson announced the acceptance of a \$20.6 million bid from Quest Construction in Aberdeen to build the new Public Works building.

Quest has been around more than two decades and is located on Aberdeen’s east side.

The bid came with two alternates that included adding 8,000 square feet for additional vehicle storage, 26,000 square feet for additional material storage, more insulation in exterior walls and a reduced number of windows.

“It will be very beneficial to have a local company completing the project, as this will allow for enhanced communication with our city team as the project is constructed,” Aberdeen City Manager Dave McNeil told the Aberdeen News. “Having a new public works facility is an investment in our community. With a new facility, our

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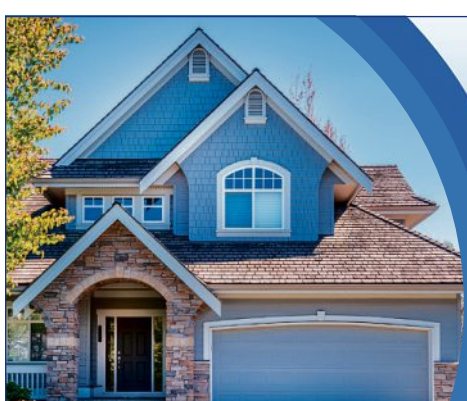
New state prison breaks ground

Angela George Sioux Falls Argus Leader | USA TODAY NETWORK

With a hole already deep in the ground, wind gusts kicking up dust on a spring day in the Midwest, city and state officials met on Wednesday, April 22, to celebrate what will become the new site for the South Dakota State Penitentiary. • Officials focused the groundbreaking ceremony, along Benson Road in northeast Sioux Falls, on improved rehabilitation for inmates. See **PRISON**, Page 2A

“For South Dakota to be strong and free, we need to continue to focus reforming our rehabilitation system with resources that support a new path for (inmates).”

South Dakota Gov. Larry Rhoden



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