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Mostly Cloudy And Mild

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Yankton Man Faces Charges After Carjacking, Stabbing

BY RANDY DOCKENDORF

randy.dockendorf@yankton.net

A Yankton man faces felony charges in connection with a Sioux Falls carjacking, stabbing of the driver and multiple auto thefts in the Yankton area.

The defendant, 28-year-old Conner Byron Hanson, has been charged in both Minnehaha and Yankton counties in connection with a series of Oct. 20 events.

The total of 10 charges range from aggravated assault to burglary, robbery and grand theft to possession of meth and eluding law enforcement.

THE ALLEGED INCIDENT

Court records outline the alleged events that started in the Sioux Falls metro and ended about four hours later in Yankton County.

The driver had been helping Hanson and his girlfriend move out of a Marshall apartment. The driver provided rides that day for Hanson to several communities, including Sioux Falls.

While driving through a Sioux Falls trailer park, Hanson located a small knife in the pickup belonging to the driver's son. Hanson was playing with the knife, which the victim described as a display or show knife that was purple with a dragon in it and a curved blade.

Hanson shouted at the driver, "Get out!" At first, the victim thought it was meant as a joke and laughed at the remark.

Then, Hanson turned toward the driver with the knife in his hand and yelled, "Get the f— out!" and then began stabbing him with the knife, according to court documents.

The victim told authorities he

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A Lasting Legacy



JAY GRAVHOLT/P&D

Tim Paulson and his son Isaac stand next to a log they just removed. The cleared trail and thinned forest can be seen behind the duo.

Environmental Planning Helps Family Homestead

BY JAY GRAVHOLT

jay.gravholt@yankton.net

In 1881, the Paulson family from Denmark homesteaded 88 acres west of Yankton along the Missouri River.

Five generations later, Tim and Krystal Paulson and their family are keeping the tradition alive.

Currently, the Paulsons are taking part in a forestry plan that has them cleaning up cedars and keeping a healthy forest on their property.

Tim Paulson really started working on the property in earnest in 2022. He re-

called his younger days when his parents became involved with the ecosystem of their property.

Tim's parents, Eldean and Delight Paulson, signed up to be part of the American Tree Farm System back in the early 1980s.

"I remember my parents signing up for the program," Paulson said. "My dad was actually South Dakota's Tree Farmer of the Year in 1985 for the work he did down here."

When Paulson says "down here,"

PLANNING | PAGE 13

United Way Executive Director Jesse Bailey (left) participated in Friday's domestic violence simulator. River City Domestic Violence Center's Executive Director Cassie Nagel (center) and Education and Survivor Services Supervisor Anna Meredith (right) also participated. (Cora Van Olson/P&D).



Domestic Violence Simulator Raises Awareness At Yankton Event

BY CORA VAN OLSON

cs.vanoson@gmail.com

A domestic violence simulation program Friday aimed to show participants the realities of leaving an abusive situation.

In an event sponsored by Spark, representatives from River City Domestic Violence Center (RCDVC) staff were on hand at the United Way building for an exercise designed to give participants some insight into the realities of living with domestic abuse.

The simulator, called In Her Shoes, was developed by the Washington State Coalition Against Domestic Violence (WSCADV) in 2000 and functions like a "choose your own adventure" game in which participants are given a character and then make choices that determine the direction of the character's story and its outcome.

The resource was passed on to RCDVC from Domestic Violence Safe Option Services (DVSOS) Vermillion when it closed, said Cassie Nagel, RCDVC executive director.

"They didn't have a shelter, but they had an advocate, and she is no longer operating out of Vermillion because of funding cuts," Nagel said. "Vermillion no longer has a resource in their

VIOLENCE | PAGE 10

Hoop It Up



KELLY HERTZ/P&D

Dallas Chief Eagle (left), a master hoop dancer, completed his week-long artist residency at Sacred Heart Middle School Friday with a public program featuring performances by the students. He worked with students during the week. Here, the sixth graders are shown during their portion of Friday's program.

Yankton Co. Man Sentenced On Drug Possession Charges

BY MARK MAHONEY

mark.mahoney@yankton.net

A Yankton County man was sentenced on Thursday to two decades in state prison after being convicted for possession with intent to distribute controlled substances and possession of unauthorized articles in a jail.

Yankton County State's Attorney Tyler Larsen said 31-year-old Calahan Hale Stark's convictions stem from an investigation during which Stark was found in possession of more than 300 fentanyl pills and more than 107 grams of cocaine.

While incarcerated in the Yankton County Jail, Stark brought more than seven grams of ketamine into the facility. A subsequent search of his Yankton residence uncovered additional controlled substances.

Altogether, the following items were seized during the investigation: 365 fentanyl pills, 30 zolpidem pills, two hydrocodone pills, one tramadol pill, five amphetamine pills, 70 isotonicazene pills, 12 oxycodone pills,

5.14 grams of plant material containing psilocin, 7.74 grams of methamphetamine, 107.81 grams of cocaine and 7.55 grams of ketamine.

"The amount and variety of dangerous drugs seized in this case is alarming," Larsen said in a press release. "Fentanyl and cocaine distribution are devastating our communities, and bringing ketamine into the jail created additional risks for staff and inmates."

In First Judicial Circuit Court, Judge Cheryle Gering ordered the following prison sentence for Stark in the South Dakota State Penitentiary:

- 10 years, with five years suspended, for possession with intent to distribute cocaine;
- 10 years for possession with intent to distribute fentanyl, to run consecutive to the cocaine sentence; and
- 10 years, with five years suspended, for possession of unauthorized articles in a jail (ketamine), to

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