



Bambi moves to town... watch next week's True Dakotan to see what this little fella is up to!

The Wessington Springs

TRUE DAKOTAN

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Chamber easter egg hunt draws a crowd



WITH BASKETS IN HAND, this big crowd of kids was on hand last Saturday for the annual Chamber of Commerce Easter Egg Hunt. They came from near and far to enjoy a little pre-Easter fun in spite of some snow and wet ground

in the city park. And fun they had as the children were divided into four age groups: three years and under, four years through kindergarten, grades one and two, and grades three and four.

Soon their baskets were filled with candy-filled plastic Easter eggs. The gathering had not only kids but many parents, grandparents and friends to watch the delightful kids gather eggs.

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Clinic offers Urgent Care



Terry Groves, PA-C, pictured at left, is giving local resident Don Salmen a check up at the Jerauld County Clinic last week. Groves has staffed a new service, Urgent Care, at Jerauld County Clinic since February. The service runs Monday-Friday from 7:30 a.m. to 9:00 a.m. and is run on a walk-in basis with no appointment necessary. Groves stated that the service is for the convenience of anyone such as a mom whose child wakes up with a cough or sore throat and would like to have him/her checked out to make sure something serious isn't wrong before sending them off to school. The service is also handy for adults who need medical attention before they go to work. Groves said the urgent care clinic has so far been successful and she usually has around three or four patients for the early morning service. The urgent care clinic will not be operating April 15-24 while Groves is out of the office. The Jerauld County Clinic will be open at its regular time of 8:30 a.m. during that time.

TRUE DAKOTAN PHOTO/DUKE

Chamber, WSADC annual awards banquet is Saturday

The annual Wessington Springs Area Chamber of Commerce and Area Development Corporation will host their annual awards banquet at the Springs Inn this Saturday night, April 18.

Heartland Consumers Power District manager/CEO Mike McDowell, Madison, will be the featured speaker. His address will concern South Dakota's wind powered energy prospects. Advance tickets are on sale at American Bank & Trust, City hall, Springs Auto, school business offices, Avera Wescota Memorial Medical Center and Wescota Manor Avera.

Awardsto be given include Business Person of the Year, Community Volunteer of the Year and Employee of the Year. The event is open to the public.

Local group's Gaither music concert to aid park improvement

Foothill Singers will present an Encore Performance of their recent concert of "Gaither Music" selections. The event will be held at the Free Methodist Church, 2:30 p.m., on April 19, 2009.

The concert was originally scheduled for April 5 but was postponed due to weather.

Foothills Singers is composed of a group of musicians and singers from the Wessington Springs churches. Stephanie Finn is the director and Twila Zastrow is the accompanist.

The group has agreed to partner with the Springs Area Community Club and the Jerauld County Thrivent Chapter #30591 to raise funds for the Park improvement team.

A free will offering will be received. A lunch will follow the event.

Plan now to attend and invite a friend.



TRUE DAKOTAN PHOTO/DUKE

WESKOTA MANOR AVERA RESIDENTS ENJOYED watching last week's snow storm form a seven foot tall snow gorilla outside their lobby window. Manor employees added a green hat, pair of eyes, a carrot nose and a --what else?-- banana mouth. Manor employee Tiffany Faatz is shown above re-setting the hat on the head after the wind blew it off. The gorilla drift is little more than a puddle of water as temperatures in the fifties melted most of the area snow. But for a few days the residents at the Manor got a real kick out of Mother Nature's gorilla sculpture.

Community Foundation grants available

Applications are now available for Wessington Springs Area Community Fund grants which will be made by that organization in May. Grants are made to local charitable groups in one of five general areas: human services, education, economic development, health and culture.

Interested parties may obtain application forms and grant guidelines at American Bank & Trust in Wessington Springs, Area Development Corporation/City Hall and the Springs Inn Cafe front entry.

Applications are due April 27 and should be sent to the address indicated on the application form.

Shakespeare Garden Society Annual Meeting

You are invited to the Anne Hathaway Cottage on Sunday, April 26th at 1:30 PM. Election of board members will be held at this meeting. All members and friends are invited to attend and offer ideas and help plan up-coming events. Now is the time to renew annual dues of \$5.00

"To have your say on important issues in this newspaper, or something else that is on your mind, visit <http://truedakotan.com> (or Google truedakotan.com) and let your voice be heard. Or you can email us at truedakotan@sbt.net

OFFICIAL WEATHER WESSINGTON SPRINGS

BY LLOYD KRAFT			
	H	L	P
April 5	34	21	0
April 6	35	18	0
April 7	46	17	0
April 8	49	30	0
April 9	48	28	0
April 10	46	27	0
April 11	59	30	0

Wind-energy proposal could eventually see 100-tower farm constructed in region

Reprinted with permission
Austin Kaus The Daily Republic
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A plan that could bring at least 100 wind turbines to one of two central South Dakota locations has commissioners in several Wind energy area counties considering the possibility of further wind energy development in the region.

Prairie Winds, a subsidiary of Basin Electric Power, wants to develop a large wind farm at one of two Mitchell-area locations. One is north of White Lake, while the other is south of Winner.

Prairie Winds has been in talks with commissioners from counties involved.

"I honestly think that if a wind farm wanted to come here, you could put a wind turbine on every ... property in Tripp County without a problem," said Tripp County Commissioner Tresh Swedlund.

The proposed location near White Lake consists of 37,000 acres located about 15 miles north of White Lake, including land in Brule, Aurora and Jerauld counties. Power would be transmitted through WAPA's electric transmission system at the Wessington Springs Substation in Jerauld County.

The location eight miles south of Winner is on approximately 83,000 acres. If this location becomes the home for the 150-megawatt project, it would interconnect with the Western Area Power Administration's electric transmission system at Winner Substation.

The counties and Basin Electric have been in talks for months about the project, but exact details have yet to be finalized.

Aurora County Commissioner Oscar Thompson said he's heard from landowners in support of bringing the project to the county, although he was surprised to learn that an alternate location was being considered.

Initially concerned about the effect the project might have on the county's infrastructure, Thompson said he's fully in favor of developing the project.

"Whatever it takes, we said we'd be glad to cooperate," Thompson said. "I wish it was a done deal."

The USDA Rural Utilities Service and WAPA will host two public meetings on the project at the end of the month. The first will take place from 4 to 7 p.m. April 28 at the Holiday Inn Express and Suites in Winner. Another will be from 4 to 7 p.m. April 29 at the Commerce Street Grille in Plankinton.

Representatives from USDA Rural Utilities Service, WAPA and PrairieWinds are scheduled to attend the meeting, where

they will distribute more information on the project as well as address any questions or concerns.

A 34-tower wind farm recently went into production south of Wessington Springs and northeast of White Lake.

