

## May 1 deadline for property tax homestead exemptions

Applications for the Property Tax Homestead Exemption Program are now available to eligible property owners who wish to delay payment of their property taxes in South Dakota.

May 1 is the deadline to apply for the program.

Under the state Homestead Exemption, qualified applicants can delay payment of property taxes until their property is sold. Taxes then become a lien on the property and must be paid along with interest before the property can be transferred.

To qualify for the exemption, an applicant must be at least 70 years old or a surviving spouse; have owned a single-family dwelling for at least three years or been a South Dakota resident for at least five years; have resided at least eight months of the past calendar year in a single-family dwelling; and meet the program's income limits.

The maximum amount of income to be eligible is \$16,000 for a single-member household

and \$20,000 for a multiple-member household.

The program defines property as the house, garage, and the lot upon which it sits, or one acre, whichever is less. Applicants should be aware that application and qualification for the Homestead Exemption Program make them ineligible for the Senior and Disabled Citizens Sales and Property Tax Refund Program.

Interested individuals must apply annually to their county treasurers for the Property Tax Homestead Exemption Program. Applications are available at county courthouses, the Department of Revenue's Property and Special Taxes Division, or in downloads from the department's Web site at: <http://www.state.sd.us/drr2/forms/propertytaxforms.htm> (see form PT-38C).

For more information, call the department's toll-free helpline at (800) 829-9188 and ask for the Division of Property and Special Taxes.

## REDI Fund interest rate slashed

The 3-percent interest rate on new loans from South Dakota's Revolving Economic Development & Initiative (REDI) Fund will drop to 2 percent, effective immediately, Gov. Dennis Daugaard announced Monday.

The Board of Economic Development, which oversees the REDI Fund, made the decision.

"With market conditions in today's economy constantly changing, periodically

reviewing the rates and terms of our loan programs is essential to business development and growth," Daugaard said. "I'm pleased by the board's decision, and optimistic that this change in the finance charge will help stimulate South Dakota's economy."

For more information on the REDI Fund program, or any other financing program in the Governor's Office of Economic Development, visit [www.sdreadytowork.com/finance](http://www.sdreadytowork.com/finance).

## U. Discover Research Scholar Program announces 2012 participants

Thirteen students from the University of South Dakota were recently selected to participate in the U. Discover Research Scholar Program this summer.

A project of the Council for Undergraduate Research and Creative Activity, students apply to the program and undergo a competitive selection process. The program is designed to give undergraduate students in any academic field experience in conducting a scholarly research project under the guidance of a faculty mentor.

Selected students participate as a group in bi-weekly lunch hour presentations on various topics related to conducting research activities and learn from their peers about research in different disciplines.

Research scholars are required to maintain a journal about the process of conducting their research.

In addition, scholars will present their project at the South Dakota Biomedical Research Infrastructure Network poster session at the Sanford School of Medicine and IdeaFest 2013.

Summer 2012 undergraduate participants, their faculty sponsors and disciplines include: Adrian Ries of Elk Point and Dr. John Koster (Music Performance—Piano); Christine Rinehart of Tea and Dr. Elizabeth Moore (Biology and Mathematics); Collin Michels of

Yankton and Dr. Brian Hensel (Biology and Spanish); Daniel Davies of Vermillion and Dr. Gina Forster (Biology and History); Hanna McElroy of Sioux City, IA, and Dr. Sandy McKeown (Political Science and Criminal Justice); Jennifer Dumdie of Selby, SD, and Dr. Jose Flores (Biology and Mathematics); Jordana Lamb of Vienna, SD, and Dr. Hugh Britten (Biology and Psychology); Kaitlin Branick of Sioux Falls and Dr. Khosrow Rezvani (Biology and Chemistry); Marcus Tjeerdsma of Tyndall and Dr. J. Scott Pattison (Biology); Nate Buchholz of Monroe, SD, and Dr. Cory Knedler (Studio Art); Stephen Bollinger of Pierre and Dr. Evelyn Schlenker (Chemistry and Psychology); Thomas Bickett of Rapid City and Dr. Victor Huber (Biology); Trevor Watson of Sioux Falls and Dr. Victor Huber (Biology and Spanish).

The Council for Undergraduate Research and Creative Activity (CURCA) is a group of faculty and staff whose goal is to advance research and creative scholarship among undergraduate students at USD.

CURCA oversees the operation of Undergraduate Research Mini-grants, U. Discover Scholars, and IdeaFest, and supports the Pierre Poster Session, Posters on the Hill, and attendance at the National Conference for Undergraduate Research (NCUR).

# May is Mental Health Awareness Month

An estimated 23 percent of American adults suffer from a diagnosable mental disorder each year. These adults are members of our family, our friends, our co-workers, and our neighbors.

Observing Mental Health Awareness Month during May is a good initiative to education families, friends, co-workers, neighbors and those who have mental disorders about illnesses such as depression, anxiety disorder, bi-polar disorder and schizophrenia.

However, it is important that this educational effort not cease at the end of May.

Gov. Dennis Daugaard as declared May as Mental Health Awareness Month in South Dakota.

Stigma and stereotypes associated with

mental illnesses can keep those living with such an illness from seeking treatment that could improve their quality of life and help them manage the illness effectively. Currently, two-thirds of the 44 million Americans who have been diagnosed with a mental illness are not receiving treatment for their illness even though treatment success has increased to 60 to 80 percent in recent years.

Education is essential to encourage individuals to seek treatment, which can be a combination of psychotherapy, medication, and support services. For example, key elements of successful treatment include family, peer and community support, as well as teaching individuals to manage their symptoms.

Treatments also need to be tailored to

the individual and his or her illness, as certain medications and therapies tend to work better for different types of illnesses.

If you have specific concerns about your mental health, contact your primary care physician, who can refer you to a mental health professional.

For many years Mental Health Awareness Month has helped to improve the health and lives of millions of Americans. This year, we want even more people to know that caring for their minds as well as their bodies helps keep them productive, healthy and happy in aspects of life: At work, at home and at school.

This message is brought to you by South Dakota Advocacy Services. Feel free to visit our web page at [www.sdadvocacy.com](http://www.sdadvocacy.com) or call us at (800) 658-4782.

## South Dakota-based geothermal company offers energy solutions

Heat Mining Company LLC (HMC), a Rapid City-based green energy company, has been granted exclusive, worldwide rights to a patent pending technology from the university called CO2 Plume Geothermal™ (CPGTM).

CPGTM will provide renewable energy more economically than existing alternatives while reducing harmful carbon dioxide (CO2) emissions from fossil fuel combustion such as from coal-burning power plants. Heat Mining Company will use sequestered carbon dioxide rather than water to extract heat from deep underground and use this thermal energy to generate electricity.

The use of CO2, rather than water, allows electricity to be provided from many more sites than would be possible with conventional water-based systems and does it more economically.

"CO2 Plume Geothermal™ (CPGTM) technology makes production of power using geothermal heat financially feasible, where water isn't," says Kenneth Carpenter, managing partner of Heat Mining Company. "This technology sits at the convergence of two conflicting demands in our society: The ongoing need to burn fossil fuels for the foreseeable future and the desire to reduce atmospheric carbon dioxide emissions."

CPGTM technology is an

attractive solution for conventional fossil-fueled power plants, as it prevents emitted CO2, an environmental liability in the atmosphere, from being released to the air and uses it instead as the underground working fluid to extract geothermal heat for additional electricity production and/or district heating.

In the process, the CO2 is permanently stored underground, resulting in a geothermal power plant with not only a neutral, but even a negative carbon footprint. The geothermal power facility can produce baseload power or provide peak-load power and thus also serve as a type of high-efficiency back-up "battery" for only intermittently available wind or solar power.

"This technology has the potential to introduce a new era of electrical power production from renewable wind, solar, and geothermal energy as well as from traditional fossil fuels, while significantly reducing emissions of carbon dioxide to the atmosphere," says Martin Saar, co-inventor and earth sciences professor in the University of Minnesota's College of Science and Engineering.

The University submitted the technology for patents in March 2009 and licensed it exclusively, worldwide to Heat Mining Company LLC through the Office for Technology

Commercialization. The approach was invented by Saar, Postdoctoral Fellow Jimmy Randolph, and Mechanical Engineering Professor Thomas Kuehn.

Carbon capture and geologic CO2 sequestration is a fairly new solution for preventing CO2 emissions at fossil-fueled power plants. A typical coal-burning power plant produces between 3.5 and 5 million tons of CO2 per year, and it's possible to retrofit existing plants, and design new plants, that capture the CO2 and sequester it underground.

With a CPGTM system tapping into the underground CO2 and using it as a heat extraction fluid, power produced from earth's underground heat can be used for CO2 injection pumps while revenue from additional geothermal electricity sales can offset the very high costs of capturing the CO2 in the fossil-fueled power plant.

Until now, the latter costs have been a significant hurdle, making so-called carbon capture and storage economically non-feasible for energy providers.

"We have enough storage potential in the United States alone to store 100 percent of the carbon dioxide produced by fossil-fueled power plants for about a thousand years," says Stephen O'Rourke, president of Heat Mining Company.

In addition to producing

renewable energy and preventing emissions, CPG could someday provide large scale storage of solar and wind energy. The technology could also supply power for enhanced oil recovery projects that produce oil from fields that have nearly reached the end of their productive lives.

"The State of South Dakota is very excited to have this new and potentially game-changing technology based in Rapid City, which is located at the center of several types of energy production in the region. The success of HMC could bring many jobs to South Dakota as well as potential development of a CPGTM based geothermal industry in the state," says Hunter Roberts, South Dakota energy policy director.

One area that is of particular interest to HMC is the Kennedy Basin in south-central South Dakota, an area with great geothermal potential due to the anomalous underground heat flows observed in water wells.

The CPG method has been demonstrated in computer simulations and details have been investigated in laboratory experiments. The next step is to build a pilot plant to test it in the field. Negotiations are currently underway for CPG projects in Canada and Texas.

More on CPG technology: [www.heatmining-sd.com](http://www.heatmining-sd.com).

## USD to confer degrees at 125th Spring Commencement on May 5

Rodney R. Parry, M.D., former dean of the University of South Dakota Sanford School of Medicine, will deliver the keynote address at the University of South Dakota confers degrees to more than 1,300 students at the 125th Spring Commencement at 9:30 a.m. on Saturday, May 5, at the DakotaDome.

A native of Canistota, SD, Parry became the 13th dean of the medical school in 2004. He retired as dean of the Sanford School of Medicine last June, however, remained dean on an interim basis until April 1, 2012.

Parry was a member of the

medical school faculty for 35 years and also served as president of the South Dakota State Medical Association in 1998.

In 2008, he was presented with the South Dakota State Medical Association Presidential Award and from 1986 to 2004, Parry served as the director of the USD Cystic Fibrosis Center.

He was also chair, Medical School Section, American Medical Association from 2007-2008.

Parry received an undergraduate degree in pharmacy at South Dakota State University in 1965 and a B.S. in medicine from USD in

1967. He earned his M.D. from the University of Wisconsin in 1969 before completing his internship in mixed medicine and pediatrics at the Good Samaritan Hospital in Phoenix, AZ (1970), and his residency in internal medicine at the Mayo Graduate School of Medicine in Rochester, MN, two years later.

His professional training includes a fellowship in pulmonary disease at the Mayo Graduate School of Medicine (1972-73) and from 1973 to 1975; he served as a major in the Department of Medicine, United States Army. In 1976, he became one of the

state's first pulmonologists when he moved back to South Dakota.

In addition to a keynote address by Parry, USD's 125th Spring Commencement will honor distinguished faculty from the 2011-12 academic year. Faculty to be recognized include recipients of the Belbas-Larson Awards for Excellence in Teaching; the Richard and Sharon Cutler Awards in Liberal Arts; the John Wesley Jackson Memorial Award presented to the outstanding professor of law; and the College of Fine Arts Distinguished Professor Award.

## SESQUICENTENNIAL HIGHLIGHTS

those going up to five miles per hour over the speed limit and warn them. Tickets will be issued to all those going six miles per hour over the speed limit. Fine revenues go into the City General Fund. Tickets are also being issued to drivers who do not stop for pedestrians in the crosswalks.

The Vermillion Chamber of Commerce will give away \$1,500.00 for their Christmas Retail Promotion. The money will be given in five drawings to be held between Thanksgiving and Christmas. The first four

weeks winning names will be announced at 8:15 over KVRP radio. The winners have three minutes to identify themselves to the store manager and the store will call the Chamber Office. If the first name called does not claim the money a second name will be announced. The second name will also have three minutes to claim their prize. If no one claims the prize after 5 names are drawn the prize will be held over for the final drawing on December 23rd.

Snow removal efforts have

been hampered by parked vehicles after the big snow storm. Many cars were stalled in the middle of the streets. When people are told snow is coming, they should get their cars off the street. This would be a great help to the street crew that is trying hard to get the streets cleared.

Residents of Vermillion will see a raise of approximately 8% for their electricity next year.

The raise in electric rates will be necessary to enable Vermillion to pay its share of costs to the Missouri Basin Municipal group of cities.

Snow removal costs attributed to the November 19 and 20th snow storm already total \$5,971.92. Continuing snow and ice removal from the streets are adding to that figure.

END 1975

By Cleo Erickson

Excerpts from the Plain Talk

1975

Kathy Ludeman and Rick Isaacson were crowned Homecoming King and Queen.

Because of an increased number of complaints from all areas of the city, the City Council requested the Police Department to increase the enforcement of traffic violations. After August 21 the Police Depart step up their use of radar to enforce speeding, reckless driving, careless driving, and exhibition driving regulations. During the first

nine months of 1974, 408 traffic citations were issued, this compares to 272 for the first nine months of this year.

The Vermillion Police Department does not operate on a quota system for traffic violations. They are however, running two radar units at all times of the day and night. At any given time one or both of the units are in use. The Police are also using an unmarked car to check for speeding and other traffic violations in school zones. The fine given to those who violate speed limits is set at \$2.00 per mile per hour over the speed limit. The police will stop

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