

2010 Legal and Public Notices

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The University of South Dakota is accepting sealed bids for the "Asphalt Repairs and Restriping - Parking Lot #8" until 2:00 P.M., April 9th, 2015. Sealed bids must be delivered to the University of South Dakota, Purchasing Office, 209 Slagle Hall, 414 East Clark St., Vermillion SD. Copies of the bid solicitation and specifications are available for review from at the offices of Stockwell Engineers, 600 N Main Ave, Suite 100, Sioux Falls, SD, 605-338-6668. The University reserves the right to reject any and all bids.

Published twice at the total approximate cost of \$13.11. Publish: March 27 & April 3, 2015.

The University of South Dakota is accepting sealed bids for the "Residential Life Dorm Facilities Painting Project" until 2:00 P.M., April 15th, 2015. Sealed bids must be delivered to the University of South Dakota, Purchasing Office, 209 Slagle Hall, 414 East Clark St., Vermillion SD. Copies of the bid solicitation and specifications are available for review from USD Purchasing office by contacting Kyra Blatchford at 605-677-5667 or kyra.blatchford@usd.edu. The University reserves the right to reject any and all bids.

Published twice at the total approximate cost of \$12.51. Publish: April 3 & 10, 2015.

The University of South Dakota is accepting sealed bids for the "Law School U/G Chiller Piping Replacement Project" until 2:00 P.M., April 17th, 2015. There will be a MANDATORY pre bid walk through on April 9th, 2015 at 1:00 PM at the Law School. Sealed bids must be delivered to the University of South Dakota, Purchasing Office, 209 Slagle Hall, 414 East Clark St., Vermillion SD. Copies of the bid solicitation and specifications are available for review from USD Purchasing office by contacting Kyra Blatchford at 605-677-5667 or kyra.blatchford@usd.edu. The University reserves the right to reject any and all bids.

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Meet County Treasurer: Catherine Powell

By Sarah Wetzel
For the Plain Talk

Who says you can't meet people if you don't leave the office?

Catherine Powell, Clay County Treasurer, has pretty much seen it all over the years from behind her desk.

"We basically get to know everyone in the county because everyone has a car and we do all the vehicle registration," she said. "Pretty much if you live in Clay County you'll have spent some time in our office. We have some characters, so to speak, but that keeps the job interesting."

As far as her job goes, Powell said she enjoys herself.

"We're usually always busy so time goes by really fast," she said. "We do a lot of different things. It's not the same thing over and over."

The primary things that Powell said the treasurer takes care of are vehicle registration and property taxes.

"Of the two, the vehicle registration is probably the most difficult because there are so many transactions that can happen," Powell said. "Some people say they got their vehicle from their parents. It makes a difference if your parents gave it to you versus you bought it from them. That and the age of the vehicle and other variables go into if you have to pay tax. There's just a lot of different things."

Powell said they also have to deal with things you wouldn't expect.

"It always amazes me how many people buy vehicles who don't get titles to them," she said. "We've got to help them figure out how they're going to get it. That is the ownership document. Without that someone else could legally own the car. We had a young lady in the other day where we requested her title from a bank in Iowa twice and they won't send it."

"Without that title our hands are kind of tied unless she has a South Dakota

driver's license and then we can do a special kind of title."

All the little ins and outs of helping people, Powell said, was learned on the job.

"When I started in the office I don't think there was anyone that had a college degree," she said. "I don't know what type of degree you could have that would really prepare you for working here."

According to Powell, the job can be an education in and of itself.

"When I started here things were simpler so I've been in on a lot of changes over the years that motor vehicles have gone through," Powell said. "We go to workshops, we go to conventions and we meet with different DMV and that's where we get a lot of information."

Powell has had plenty of time to see things change.

"I'm trying for 40 years," she said. "I'll start my 37th year here at the county in May. I've been treasurer for 22 years."

Powell has had the unique experience of seeing technology transform the treasurer's office.

"Before the state put in the computer system, to register your vehicle you would bring in your titles and we got boxes of pre-printed registrations," she said. "They were alphabetized and we had to go through them and find your registration, take them to a typewriter and type in the appropriate registration. Then we got one, you got one and the state got one. Everything we did had to be balanced out every day. Somebody had to manually add all those registrations. That was my job when I was hired; I took the place of the girl who did the daily motor vehicle stuff."

"I think it was in '87 the DMV came in and put in terminals," she said. "All we could do was access motor vehicle stuff with them. When we first went online we still had to handwrite the applications and type it



Clay County Treasurer, Catherine Powell, spends her days meeting and serving the people of the community she has spent her life in.

SARAH WETZEL / FOR THE PLAIN TALK

all into the computer so we were doing double duty."

Things have gotten easier according to Powell.

"Now basically everything's online," she said. "We just type it in and it prints everything out for us. It is nice. We do so much more than we used to."

Some funny stories also come with talking to so many people over the course of the day.

"People must think we're the information booth for the county because we get the strangest calls sometimes," Powell said. "The one I can always remember is one lady called and asked me if I knew where she could get a perm at."

Working for the county was not the first career Powell had her eye on.

Born and raised in Vermillion, she originally had something else in mind upon graduation from Vermillion High School.

"I had this wild idea that I wanted to be an airline stewardess," Powell said. "So I did go to school down in Kansas City for that but they found out my eyesight was too bad because airline attendants couldn't wear glasses."

"They could wear contacts but even then your eyesight had to be a certain level and mine didn't meet that."

So Powell returned to Vermillion and went job

hunting.

She ended up in University of South Dakota food services until an opportunity came up in the county treasurer's office.

"I knew the lady who was the treasurer at the time," Powell said. "Her daughter-in-law was one of my best friends. They had an opening coming up and she knew I was trying to get out of food service because I didn't want to spend my whole life there. That's how I started in the treasurer's office."

Thus began almost four decades of Powell's career serving her county.

Powell and her husband are both as native to Vermillion as one can get.

"My husband and I were both born here at what was Dakota Hospital, now Sanford," she said. "My husband has always lived here and I've never lived more than 25 miles away."

Places Powell has lived include Elk Point and Wakonda.

Powell has two sons who were born in same hospital she and her husband were born in.

The oldest lives in Sioux Falls and is the father of their three grandchildren.

"My youngest son lives with us," Powell said. "He's deaf. He spent from when he was four till he was 19 at the School for the Deaf in Sioux Falls. He works at Austin School as the night

custodian."

Most of Powell's immediate family lives within 25 miles of Vermillion except for one sister in Arizona.

Powell's husband is a county commissioner and retired from Clay-Union Electric.

Powell said she still has some years of work in her before she wants to retire herself.

Powell does have some hobbies she dabbles in during her rare free time.

"I like to read and I like to sew," she said. "I like murder mysteries, police stories, thrillers, and science fiction. I don't like romance novels. I read for entertainment."

Though Powell said she hasn't done much sewing recently, there are lots of princess dresses for her granddaughter in the works.

"She thinks she's a princess," Powell said. "That's a project I'm going to start on. Mostly I just go to work and go home. Our house isn't new by any means so there's always a house project going on."

"We've been working on our kitchen recently. That's about the extent of my hobbies."

Looking back, Powell said she has no idea how she had time for things like boy scouts and junior bowling while her boys were growing up judging by how busy she is now when that they're grown.

Area Announcements

LIBRARY TO HOST SCREENING

The Edith B. Siegrist Vermillion Public Library will host a screening of the documentary "Alive Inside" on Wednesday, April 8, at 6:30 p.m., followed by a facilitated community discussion.

An award-winning film, "Alive Inside" highlights a ground breaking Chicago-based wellness program called "Music & Memory," developed by social worker Dan Cohen. The film documents how Cohen has achieved amazing results in engaging with dementia patients and others through the use of music.

Ariadne Albright, program coordinator for Sanford Arts Vermillion, will facilitate a community discussion with Cohen, via Skype, following the film.

Filmmaker Michael Rossato-Bennett chronicles the astonishing experiences of individuals around the country who have been revitalized through the simple experience of listening to music.

More about the film can be found at <http://www.aliveinside.us/>.

This film screening and facilitated community discussion is supported by the Dakota Hospital Foundation, Sanford Arts Vermillion, and the Edith B. Siegrist Vermillion Public Library Board of Trustees. This event is free and

open to the public. Arrive early for best seating; the film will start promptly at 6:30 p.m.

DENR CITES VERMILLION FOR DRINKING WATER COMPLIANCE

PIERRE - The South Dakota Department of Environment and Natural Resources (DENR) announced today that the City of Vermillion public water system and the system's operation specialists have been awarded a Secretary's Award for Drinking Water Excellence.

The system's operations specialists are Randy Isaacson, Thomas Kruse, Wade Mount, Allen Clark, Curt Haakinson, Dale Husby, Shane Griese and Tyler Zimmerman of the Vermillion Water Department and Fred Balleweg of the Vermillion Waste Water Department.

To qualify for the Secretary's Award for Drinking Water Excellence, public water systems and their system operations specialists had to meet all of the following requirements for ten consecutive years or more:

- Compliance monitoring and reporting,
- Drinking water standards, and
- Certification requirements.

Visit the web site at vermillion.us

SCOUTS FIRE AWAY



Troop 66 of Vermillion completed the Fire Safety Merit Badge on March 17 at the Fire Training Tower with Vermillion's Fire Chief Shannon Draper, Captain Matt Taggart, and Firefighters Ryan Husby and Mathew Wanamaker. Draper organized this activity with the Vermillion Fire Department making it possible for scouts to get firsthand experience on how to put out fires with a fire extinguisher. "We are not talking about a little ordinary campfire. This was an intimidating fire that was over 10 feet tall and put off a lot of heat, especially as the scout got close enough to use the fire extinguisher to battle the flames. But with the help of Fire Chief Shannon Draper, each scout that tried was able to extinguish the raging inferno," said Gene Fuller, Assistant Scoutmaster. This activity is just part of the life skills and values the scouting program provides to our local youth. The scouts learn skills including first aid, swimming, citizenship, personal fitness, and cooking just to name a few. Scouting introduces different careers and opportunities most young men will never experience. In February scouts learned about Engineering at the Washington Pavilion in Sioux Falls. The March campout was held at the Strategic Air & Space Museum to learn about Aviation.

For more information on Boy Scouts and Troop 66 visit the web site at: <http://www.siouxbsa.org/Troop66VermillionSD/Files>
COURTESY OF ROY MORTINSEN, VERMILLION BOY SCOUTS TROOP 66



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