

# Celebrating 60 years of county fairs

*Editor's note: This is the third and final installment of a column compiled by Sharron Jensen that tells the history of the Clay County Fair. The 2013 Clay County Fair opened Thursday in Vermillion, and will conclude Aug. 10.*

In February 1953 the committee met and the proposed articles of incorporation were explained by Mr. Weeks. Wm. Gibson proposed the name of The Clay County Agricultural Fair Association, Inc.

The board of directors was set at no less than three and no more than 15. It was to be a non-profit organization with no capitol stock and memberships were to be sold at \$10 each.

The articles of incorporation were approved at this meeting. The incorporators and temporary board members were O.S. Westburg, Les Zeller, Mrs. Walter Hendricks, J.H. Litzelman, Sidney Abild, Conrad Westlund, Ralph Leer and Mrs. Everett Lewison.

The proposed by-laws set the number of directors at 11, of which three shall be 4-H leaders, and one

from each: Clay County Farm Bureau, Clay County Farmers Union, Corn Belt feeders, Vermillion Chamber of Commerce, Clay County Home Extension Clubs and three members at large.

Also serving as ex-officio members was the Vermillion mayor, one county commissioner, the home agent and the county agent.

In March of 1953 the certificate of corporation was received from the secretary of state. The by-laws were adopted and membership's certificates went on sale.

The first board members were O.S. Westburg, Mrs. Hendricks, Les Zeller (4-H leaders), Conrad Westlund (Farmer Union), Sidney Abild (Farmer Bureau), Mrs. Everett Lewison (Home Extension Clubs), J.H. Litzelman (Corn Belt Feeders), Wm. Gibson (Chamber of Commerce), Eldon Olson, Tom Walker and Mrs. Leo Trudeau (Members at Large).

The first officers were as president O.S. Westburg, Conrad Westlund as vice president, and Mrs. Walter Hendricks serving as

secretary/treasurer.

In April of 1953 a committee was appointed to work out a working agreement with the County commissioners. This committee was composed of R.L. Vernard, J.H. Litselman and Martin Weeks, Jr.

A finance committee was set up to work out fundraising plans. Mr. Bondus and then Mr. Crew was chairman of this group and more than \$8,000 was raised. A building development committee was set up with H.O. Gunderson, Mr. Welch, Mr. Venard and Ralph Leer. The ground development committee was Conrad Westlund, Hans P.M. Hansen and Mrs. Leo Trudeau.

In June of 1953 Mr. Weeks had the working agreement ready to present to the county commissioners. In July the board met with the county commissioners and asked for a definite amount of money be set up to operate the fair grounds and for a building fund. The commissioners asked for more information on what kind of buildings were desired, cost and a

map of were buildings would be placed.

The building committee visited the National Guard Building and the REA building to get an idea of what size of building would be needed on fair grounds. In August this information was given to the commissioners. The board was then advised that the county commissioners had set up a proposed budget of 3/10 mill levy for the fair grounds.

Mr. Gunderson read a letter from the attorney general that stated the county commissioners could not incur any indebtedness for a building. The building plans would be tabled until the money could be raised.

Mr. Crew, representing the Lions Club, told the board that the club would like to build a beef barn on the grounds for 4-H, a building 26 by 100 feet with "no strings attached," with a concrete floor and built to the board's specification. His offer was accepted.

The first annual meeting was held on Nov. 9, 1953. The membership books were ready and

memberships sold for \$10 each, and by December there was a balance of more than \$5,000.

In February 1954 the building committee decided the new building would be 50 feet by 100 feet instead of the smaller size proposed.

In August the first achievement Days were held at the fairgrounds with the girl's exhibits held downtown. The beef barn was presented to the Fair Association and the bill of sale turned over to them.

The working agreement with the commissioners was amended so joint funds could be used for the building fund, and the building committee was authorized to proceed with building plans. The bid of \$21,597 was accepted and the building was started.

In August of 1955 the city put up lights on the grounds and the substation was placed in October. The city requested permission to build a warehouse on the grounds.

In 1956 heat and lights were put in the new building and in 1957 the livestock scales were

purchased and a 4-H livestock sale was held.

In 1958 bids were asked for the kitchen and bathroom edition but were too high so the building was rented out to Darrell Christensen of Yankton for roller-skating. The fee was \$125 a month.

In 1959 a new lease was signed with the county commissioners and the certificates of membership were amended to be transferable. The Chamber of Commerce offered to pay half of the insurance premium carried on achievement days.

March of 1960 bids were re-opened for the kitchen addition to the new building. The bid on \$21,600 was accepted and the work was to be done by July 15, 1960.

In 1962 chairs and caddies were bought. In 1963 the acoustic tile ceiling was installed in the large room and new light fixtures.

To quote Mrs. Hendricks, this is a "hitting the high spots" of the first 11 years of the Clay County Agricultural Fair Association, Inc.

## Pediatrics chair publishes book on 'vaccinophobia'

Archana Chatterjee, M.D., Ph.D., chair of the Department of Pediatrics and senior associate dean for faculty development at the University of South Dakota Sanford School of Medicine, has edited a new book on vaccinophobia—the fear of the adverse effects of vaccines and preventive medicine.

Published by Springer, "Vaccinophobia and Vaccine Controversies of the 21st Century" explores the phenomenon in detail and offers a foundation for the development of solutions to dispel the misinformation and myths that surround vaccines.

"With some parents and other caregivers refusing or delaying vaccines for their children/wards, some vaccine-preventable diseases that were well-controlled have staged a comeback," said Chatterjee. "Outbreaks of these diseases have been reported from countries where they were virtually unknown for many years. This situation is continuing to worsen, despite efforts by public health agencies and others to curb the spread of misinformation about the risks associated with these diseases and vaccine-related adverse events."

The book explains how this state of affairs came into being, why it persists and how health care professionals

can best respond. Perspectives representing pediatricians, family practitioners, nurses, parents, pharmacy professionals, the CDC and the public health community help the reader sort out legitimate from irrational concerns. In-depth analyses discuss the possibility of links with asthma, cancer, Guillain-Barre syndrome, AIDS, and, of course, autism.

Chatterjee arrived at the Sanford School of Medicine earlier this year from Creighton University School of Medicine in Omaha, Neb., where she had served as a professor of pediatrics since 2008 and associate dean for academic and faculty affairs since 2011. She received her doctorate from the University of Nebraska Medical Center in 1993, and her M.B.B.S. (equivalent to M.D.) from Pune University, Maharashtra, India, in 1983. She completed her pediatric residency at Creighton University/University of Nebraska Medical Center in 1995, and her fellowship in Pediatric Infectious Diseases through the same program in 1998.

"Vaccinophobia and Vaccine Controversies of the 21st Century" is available to order on springer.com in eBook and hardcover formats.

### Carol Smith

Carol Lynn Smith, 66, of Sioux City, IA, passed away at Mercy Medical Center in Sioux City on Aug. 5, 2013.

A visitation was held from 6 to 7 p.m., with a prayer service beginning at 7 p.m., on Thursday, Aug. 8, 2013, at the Kober Funeral Home of Vermillion.

A funeral service will be held at 10 a.m. on Friday, Aug. 9, 2013, at Trinity Lutheran Church of Vermillion with Rev. Trisha Boese officiating. Burial will take place immediately following the service at BluffView Cemetery in Vermillion.

Carol was born on Sept. 11, 1946, in Hudson, to Gordon and Opal (Wold) Smith. After graduating from Vermillion High School she went on to Stewart's School of Hairstyling, where she



Smith

learned the skills of a cosmetologist, a profession she loved and stayed with the rest of her working life.

Carol was also active in promoting the National Cosmetology Association of Iowa. She held the offices of director, treasurer, vice president, and president while a member of the association.

In her free time, Carol loved to take cruises, and was an avid collector of various trinkets and collectables. She was also known as an animal lover, especially her dog who "was not spoiled at all".

Carol is survived by her mother, Opal Smith of Vermillion; her siblings, Janet (Dean) Voss of Loretto, MN, Patricia Smith of Yankton, and Ronald Smith of Vermillion; her nephews, Kevin (Heidi) Voss of Delano, MN, and Scott (Amy) Voss of Rockford, MN; her great-nephews, Sam Voss, Jack Voss, and Ben Voss; her great-nieces, Megan Voss, and Allison Voss; and her

### OBITUARIES

goddaughters, Dakota Tomlinson, and Jersey Tomlinson.

She is preceded in death by her father, Gordon Smith.

Memorial donations may be made to the American Diabetes Association.

Services have been entrusted to Kober Funeral Home of Vermillion.

Condolences may be posted online at www.koberfuneralhome.com.

### Normajeon Johnson

Normajeon Johnson, 87, of Vermillion, passed away Aug. 3, 2013, at Sanford USD Medical Center in Sioux Falls.

Normajeon was born May 5, 1926, in Vermillion to Wesley and Vera (Curtis) Hendricks. She grew up in Vermillion and graduated from Vermillion High School. She attended the University of South Dakota where she met and married M.A. "Monk" Johnson of May 25, 1947.

Normajeon and Monk lived in Mitchell, where he was a commercial manager and did play by play for KORN Radio and Television. The couple moved to Vermillion in 1970.

Normajeon was a member of the United Methodist Church in Vermillion.

She was preceded in death by her husband; daughter Sue M. Johnson on Feb. 29, 2008; two brothers, Dale Hendricks and Tommy Hendricks.

Survivors include one son, Thomas A. Johnson of Vermillion; one brother, Vern S. Hendricks of Elk Point; two grandchildren, Brian Johnson of Overland Park, KS and Sarah M. Johnson of Vermillion; also one niece, Jan Garvey of Corsicana, TX.

Funeral services were 7 p.m., Tuesday, Aug. 6, 2013, at the United Methodist Church in Vermillion with Pastor Rick Pittenger officiating.

For obituary and online condolences, visit hansenfuneralhome.com.

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## St. Agnes CATHOLIC SCHOOL

CATHOLIC SCHOOL

### Fall Registration

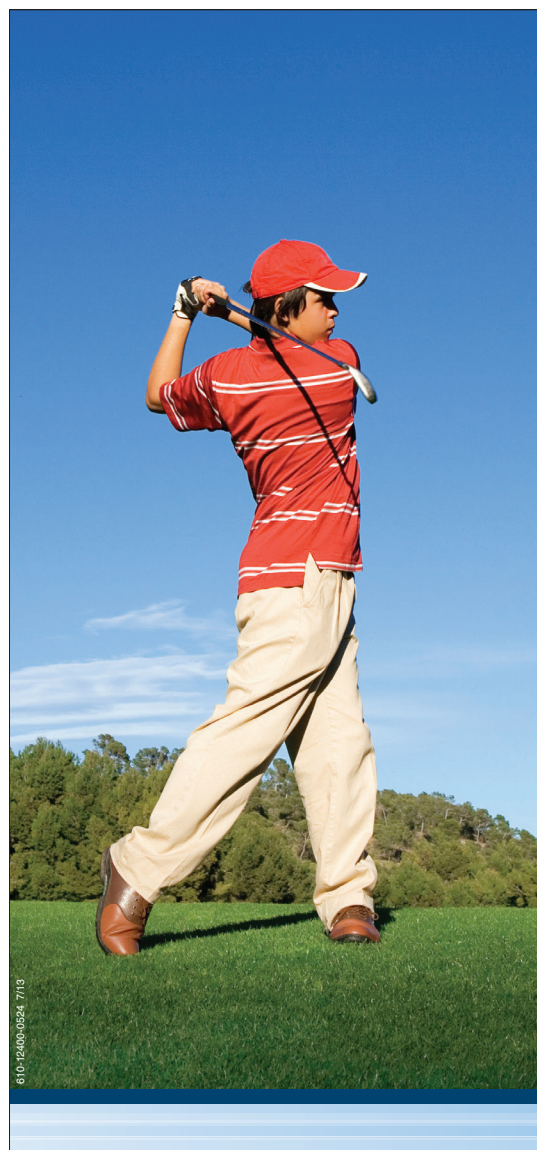
**Preschool through 5th grade is on Wednesday, August 14th 4:30-7:00 p.m.**

**General Assembly at 5:30 p.m. Registration will take place in the auditorium. Please come, even if you are pre-registered. Call if you are unable to attend.**

**Classes begin: August 20, 2013 at 8:20 a.m.**

*There are only a few preschool openings available. Preschool Sessions will run: Mon./Wed./Fri. or Tues./Thurs. or Mon. through Fri. (morning session: 8:30-11:00 a.m.) (afternoon session: 12:45-3:15 p.m.)*

**Contact: St. Agnes School 909 Lewis Street Vermillion, SD 57069 (605)-624-4144**



## Bring out the best in your athlete

Schedule middle school and high school athletic physicals with a Sanford Health Vermillion Clinic provider by calling (605) 624-9111.

Cost (August): \$15 (cash or check only) Payable at the time of the exam. No insurance will be filed.

All proceeds donated to your school's Athletic Booster Club.

Students under the age of 18 must be accompanied by a parent or guardian. Please provide a completed and signed athletic physical form.

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Vermillion