

Creative writers' City council discusses 211 camp at USD Sept. 28

Teachers, school administrators, and other educators are invited to nominate talented high school students for "The Sorcerer's Apprentice: A Creative Writers' Camp," to be held Saturday, Sept. 28, at the University of South Dakota in Vermillion.

The Dakota Writing Project (DWP), a local teachers' organization affiliated with the National Writing Project, and the Vermillion Literary Project (VLP), an award-winning student organization, are hosting the one-day camp.

The camp, which will run from 8 a.m. to 5:30 p.m., includes workshops on fiction, poetry, creative nonfiction, revision, performance, and poetry slams, to be followed by a public reading and mini-poetry slam in Farber Hall.

The early registration fee (postmark on or before Sept. 16) is \$50; the regular registration fee is \$60. Participants enjoy a day of workshops and receive a camp T-shirt, lunch, refreshments during breaks, and a copy of the VLP magazine.

Reduced-fee scholarships based on financial need are available; e-mail dwp@usd.edu for information. Enrollment is limited, so nominated students are encouraged to register as soon as possible.

The registration form, camp schedule and additional information are available online at <http://sites.usd.edu/dwp/camp>.

The Dakota Writing Project is a non-profit teachers' organization that focuses on improving the teaching of writing through an invitational summer institute for teachers and a variety of other activities.

For more information, visit <http://sites.usd.edu/dwp/>.

The Vermillion Literary Project, an award-winning student organization at the University of South Dakota, publishes an annual literary magazine and hosts literary events for the university community and the general public.

For more information, visit <http://sites.usd.edu/projlit/>.

By Travis Gulbrandson
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The Vermillion City Council briefly discussed lending its support to a United Way program during its regular special meeting last week.

The program – 211 – provides a link between individuals and community resources.

"If somebody is uncertain as to who might provide them service or they're trying to figure out who they should call, 2-1-1 is a national number that they can dial if it's activated through their city or county," said City Manager John Prescott. "In this case, the calls would go to Sioux Falls, where they are based."

From the Sioux Falls Helpline Center, interested persons can access information about disaster situations, shelters, donation needs and volunteer needs, among other areas.

According to the official United Way Web site, the 211 program is currently available in 80 percent of the country.

Council member Kelsey Collier-Wise – who also serves as executive director of the United Way in Vermillion – said that while 211 is a

national program, it gets adopted and funded by different areas and organizations.

"The main funder in Sioux Falls is the United Way. Nationally, 2-1-1 is generally considered a project of the United Way," she said.

Reps from the Sioux Falls United Way visited the area in May with an eye toward expanding the program to Clay, Yankton and possibly Bon Homme counties, said Prescott, who was among the local officials with whom they met about potential funding.

Council member John Grayson confirmed the expansion, saying, "I know Helpline Center, a nonprofit organization, is seeking to become a statewide organization, not just a center in the Sioux Empire. They have plans and are soliciting funding in the Rapid City area to grow in that part of the state, as well. They're on a growth trajectory."

Collier-Wise said the United Way of Vermillion also was approached.

"Obviously, the Sioux Empire United Way raise about \$9 million a year, and we raise about \$110,000," she said. "We were not able to give them the amount that they were

looking for, especially since it's not a program that's started yet."

It was difficult without the city and county being on board, she said.

"We did allocate a very small amount of about \$400 ... with the idea that if they did get established we would fund more in the future," Collier-Wise said. "But we just don't have the ability because of our small budget to give very much."

"I would guess that if this would go forward that United Way funding would increase for it, probably," she said.

Collier-Wise said she believes the United Way & Volunteer Services of Greater Yankton made a similar allocation.

Grayson spoke in favor of the city council taking similar action.

"I think it's a good program. It's a valuable program," he said. "I think it's certainly worthy of our consideration to provide some support for it."

No official motions were made regarding the program.

For more information about the 211 program in South Dakota, visit <http://helplinecenter.org/2-1-1-community-resources/>.

Phi Beta Kappa Visiting Scholar is paleoanthropologist

The Phi Beta Kappa Society of the University of South Dakota will sponsor the lecture "What Cells Will Do For Global Climate Change" by Timothy Bromage, Ph.D., professor of biomaterials and biomimetics at the New York University College of Dentistry, at 7:30 p.m. on Thursday, Sept. 5, at the Freedom Forum Conference Room in the Al Neuharth Media Center.

A paleoanthropologist, Bromage is director of the Hard Tissue Research Unit. His research focuses on human evolution and growth and development, with emphasis on the biology of bones and teeth as windows into life history.

He conducts fieldwork principally in Malawi, where he examines both modern and early human dental and skeletal development to draw inferences concerning relationships between human biology and the environment.

He has recently discovered a new biological clock while observing incremental growth lines in

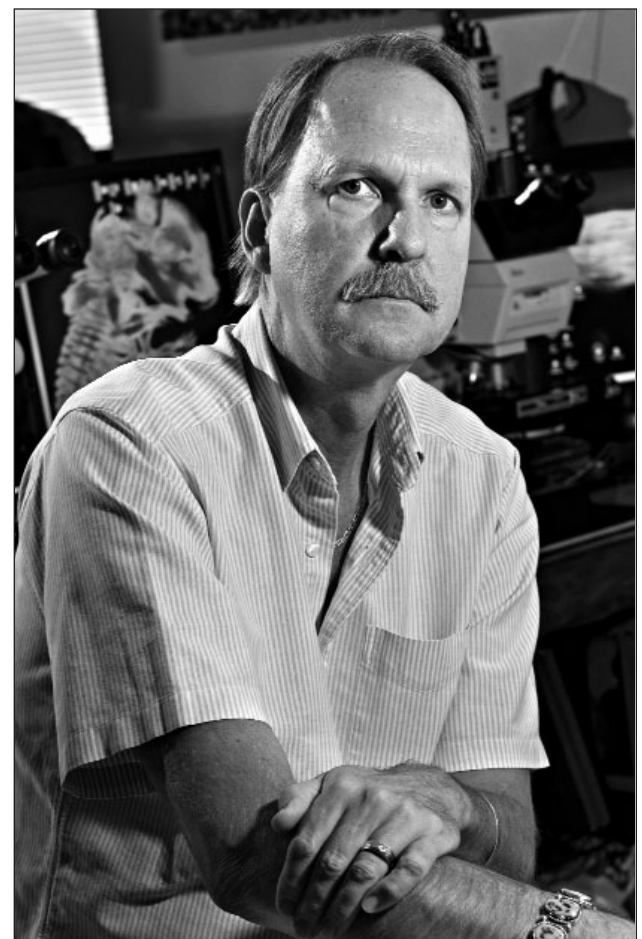
tooth enamel, hypothesized to regulate many metabolic functions.

Bromage is the coeditor of "African Biogeography: Climate Change and Early Hominid Evolution" and has been honored for his research by the National Science Foundation and the National Geographic Society.

In 2010 he was the recipient of the Max Planck Prize in recognition of his achievements in the research on the microanatomical structure of ancestral human teeth and bones.

This Visiting Scholar Lecture is sponsored by the Office of the Dean of the College of Arts and Sciences, Alpha Chapter of South Dakota Phi Beta Kappa, the Department of History, the Department of Anthropology, and the Department of Biology. The lecture is free and open to the public.

The Phi Beta Kappa Society Visiting Scholar Program offers undergraduates the opportunity to associate with some of America's most distinguished scholars and contribute



TIMOTHY BROMAGE

to the intellectual life of the campus by exchanging ideas between

the Visiting Scholars and the resident faculty and students.

Online training for community garden start-up Sept. 9-10

Is your community interested in providing a space for residents to grow food? SDSU Extension is hosting a Community Garden Start-up online training Sept. 9, from noon-1 p.m. and Sept. 10 from 5:30-6:30 p.m.

Community gardens are a place to grow food, reconnect with nature and get physical exercise. Community gardens provide a place to grow food for renters without access to land or for homeowners with yards that are too small or too shady.

If your community wants to learn more about developing a community garden, please join SDSU Extension Community Development Field Specialist Chris Zdorovtsov for an introductory webinar on getting started. Community staff, neighborhood

associations, apartment managers and community members interested in establishing a shared garden space in their town are encouraged to attend.

Zdorovtsov will discuss action steps on starting a Community Garden – various models, site assessment, resources needed and more.

During the webinar, she will also discuss successful community gardens that have started as a result of the SDSU Extension Horizons & Community Development Programs.

To participate in the Sept. 9 or Sept. 10 webinar visit the event posting within <http://igrow.org/events/>. Open the event and click on the participant link.

For more information contact Zdorovtsov at (605) 782-3290 or Christina.Zdorovtsov@sdstate.edu.

USD cross country teams ranked

The University of South Dakota's men's cross country team enters the season ranked 13th in the Midwest while the women will start the season 15th, according to the U.S. Track and Field/Cross Country Coaches Association (USTFCCCA) Preseason Region Rankings.

Both teams dropped one spot from last season's final rankings. The Summit League placed two teams in each of the rankings with USD being the only member to have two ranked teams.

South Dakota State (12th in Midwest) and USD represent the League on the men's side, while North Dakota State (6th in Midwest) and USD represent the League in the women's rankings.

The Oklahoma State men and Minnesota women enter the season as the region's top-ranked teams.

The Coyotes will start the season on Friday in Fargo at the Bison Open, where they will compete against SDSU, NDSU and Omaha.

Turner County resident 1st SD WNV death

The Department of Health reported Aug. 20 that a Turner County resident in the 70 to 79 age group has died of West Nile virus (WNV). To protect patient confidentiality, additional information about the deceased is not being released.

"Our sympathy is with the family. We only hope

their tragic loss will encourage others to take seriously the threat of West Nile and take steps to protect themselves," said Dr. Lon Kightlinger, state epidemiologist for the Department of Health.

Find WNV prevention information on the Web at <http://westnile.sd.gov>.

www.plaintalk.net

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