

# Vermillion PLAIN TALK

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Friday, December 11, 2009

## INSIDE:

### Highlights

Learn about  
Vermillion's past ■ p. 2

### Welcome Table to meet Dec. 14

The next Vermillion Welcome table will be Monday, Dec. 14 from 5:30-7 p.m. at the Medical School on the USD Campus. The Dec. 14 meal will be sponsored and served by the Schools of Medicine and Health Sciences at The University of South Dakota.

Thanks to Habitat for Humanity at USD for sponsoring and serving last Monday's meal.

### BF-LF, Inc. seeks youth

Big Friend-Little Friend, Inc. serves Clay and Union counties and matches youth age 5 to 17-years-old with screened adult volunteers. Right now, the program is seeking two girls age 6-10 to match with a volunteer in Vermillion, and also needs a male volunteer to match with a boy in Elk Point.

The program would also like to spread its service to other parts of Clay and Union counties. Interested youth and adult volunteers are encouraged to go to the Web site [www.bflfmentoring.org](http://www.bflfmentoring.org), and click on the volunteer button to fill out the applications online. Feel free to call John Gille, program director, at 605-356-2571 for more information.

### Strong turnout at Harvest Festival

The South Dakota Cooperative Extension Service Staffs of Clay, Union and Yankton counties offer a sincere thank you to all of the people that attended the Harvest Festival Open House on Monday, Nov. 30. The tremendous turnout made for a very successful and enjoyable evening.

Dr. Latif Lighari, director of the South Dakota Cooperative Extension Service, addressed the audience and spoke of the direction and purpose of the Extension Service. Don Marshall, acting dean of Agriculture and Biological Sciences at South Dakota State University, also delivered a message of the value of Extension.

The festival provided the Extension Service an opportunity to demonstrate and showcase the programs that are available to the people of our communities. We appreciate the support of our legislators, community officials, and the citizens of South Dakota.

### Holiday celebration at arts center Dec. 12

The public is invited to take part in a holiday celebration at the Washington Street Arts Center in Vermillion on Saturday, Dec. 12, from 6 to 9 p.m.

The center's restored gallery will be decorated with the works local artists. Hors d'oeuvres and beverages will be served, and musical entertainment will be provided by C.J. Kocher, Brad Richardson and USD students.

## New method could speed H1N1 vaccine production

By Randy Dockendorf  
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A new production method could cut the time it takes to get more H1N1 flu vaccine on the market, a University of South Dakota assistant professor told medical students Thursday.

The new cell-based vaccine could reach the public faster than the current egg-based method, said Victor Huber of the Sanford School of Medicine.

"After we identified the (H1N1) virus, it took six months to create the vaccine," he said. "With new technology, we could reduce the time down to three months."

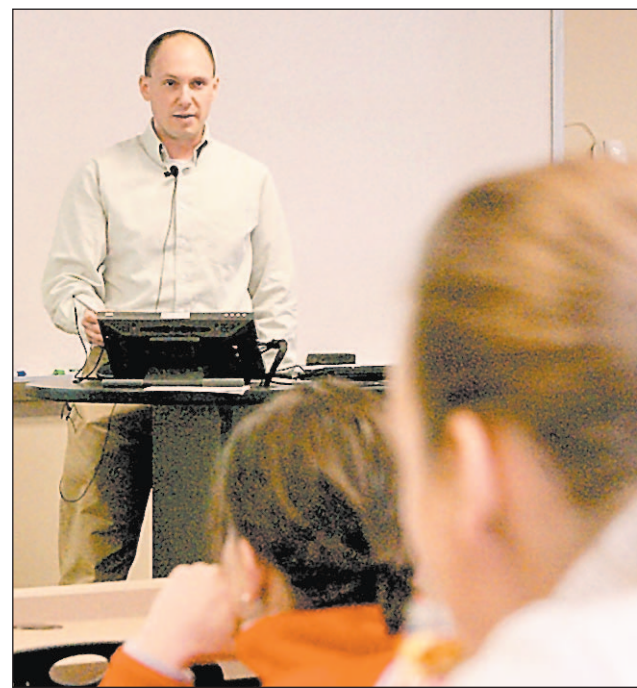
The cell-based method could help fight the next wave of H1N1 and other pandemics, Huber told the Sigma Xi scientific research society.

"We can grow (vaccine) in cells that are maintained in a lab setting. We don't have to wait," he said. "If something occurs and we are at the end of the flu season, the cells are ready to go."

The change to a cell-based vaccine would not only speed up production but also solve many problems with egg-based vaccines, Huber said.

"With the current vaccine, you have problems with allergies and shortages with eggs," he said. "You also have problems with bacterial contamination and the inability to grow (some vaccines) in eggs. And we can

Turn to H1N1 on Page 12



Victor Huber, a University of South Dakota Medical School professor and researcher, provides an update Thursday, Dec. 3, on the H1N1 flu virus. The Sigma Xi scientific research society sponsored the forum at the medical school in Vermillion. (Photo by David Lias)

## H1N1 flu vaccination clinic for Vermillion is rescheduled

The H1N1 flu vaccination clinic scheduled for Wednesday, Dec. 9 at Vermillion High School was postponed due to weather.

It has been rescheduled for Wednesday, Dec. 16 from 3:30 to 7 p.m. at Vermillion High School.

Vaccinations are being offered only to tier 1 and 2 individuals as identified by the Centers for Disease Control (CDC):

- pregnant women.
- children 6 months - 18 years of age.
- young adults 19 - 24 years of age.
- adults 25 - 64 years of age with chronic health conditions.
- caregivers of children less than 6 months of age.
- healthcare and emergency medical services workers (note - employees from these fields must bring their employee ID badge to the event for identification purposes).

\*Note - children under the age of 10 vaccinated with their first H1N1 dose before Nov. 19 are eligible to receive their second H1N1 dose at this event.

Turn to CLINIC on Page 2

## Parade of Lights



Above: Vermillion ushered in the Christmas season with its first annual Parade of Lights, held in the downtown shopping district Friday, Dec. 4. A decorated snowplow with a very special passenger - Santa Claus - lead the procession. The theme of the parade was "Christmas Past & Present," and the event ended with Santa flipping a switch to light up the community Christmas tree located in Vermillion's new downtown pocket park. Following the tree lighting, children enjoyed storytelling and crafts at the Vermillion Public Library. (Photo by David Lias)

### See him glow

Lanny Walker of Dakota PC Warehouse rides a motorized scooter in Vermillion's inaugural Parade of Lights Friday, Dec. 4. He may have been operating the smallest vehicle in the event, but he was easy to spot thanks to his cold weather gear, which glowed with rows of Christmas lights. (Photo by David Lias)

## Sweeping up a bit of Vermillion's history

### Exhibit demonstrates simplicity of local broom factory

By David Lias  
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People attending Sunday's Christmas festival at the W.H. Over Museum also received a glimpse of a unique part of Vermillion's past.

On display in the museum are many of the original trappings of The Vermillion Broom Factory, which goes down in history as one of the longest, continual operating family operations in the community.

"This is the complete contents of this business that functioned here for almost 100 years within one family, said Larry Bradley, president of the board of directors of the W.H. Over Museum and chairman of Anthropology Department at the University of South Dakota.

The exhibit includes labels that one time were affixed to brooms made in the 1800s, and a couple of the actual brooms that were made here.

The display also includes three main pieces of machinery from The Vermillion Broom Factory. "The first piece of equipment actually turned the broom and you would apply the broom corn to it, and it would wrap the wire around it. A second machine here would flatten the broom, and allow you to hand-stitch it," Bradley said.

A third piece of machinery from factory would allow workers to make either a straight or angled cut of the end of the broom.

Bradley said from start to finish, a worker could make a broom

Turn to BROOMS on Page 12

## Home destroyed in Wednesday blaze

MECKLING — No injuries were reported in a rural Meckling fire Wednesday morning that destroyed a residence.

A structure fire located at the Doug Hanson residence one mile west of Meckling was reported to the Clay County Sheriff's Office at 9:03 a.m. Wednesday morning. The Vermillion Fire Department responded to the call and requested mutual aid from the Gayville and Volin fire departments.

The house was fully engulfed in flames when units arrived. The occupants were safely out of the house. Efforts were made to safeguard nearby propane tanks and vehicles.

In addition to their home, the Hanson family lost all their possessions, according to a press



Photo by David Lias

release from the sheriff's office. Some family members fled the residence only partially clothed when the fire was discovered.

The Red Cross was notified, and efforts are being made to provide assistance to the displaced family. Friends are also helping

with clothing and shelter. The temperature was approximately 0 degrees at the time of the call, with wind chills of at least minus-25 degrees. The cause of the fire is under investigation.

## USD students: Hyperion is not sustainable

By David Lias  
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The proposed Hyperion oil refinery proposed to be constructed not far from Vermillion in Union County is not a sustainable project.

That is the conclusion of University of South Dakota students who addressed the Vermillion City Council at its noon meeting Monday.

The University of South Dakota IDEA 410 class: Wall Street & Ethics - Do Social Justice, Community, and Sustainability Cost Too Much, researched various aspects of the Hyperion project. The study addresses issues surrounding oil, energy, water, health, and the environment to determine whether the proposed project is, or is not, sustainable in the long run.

This research was performed in teams, each focusing on and applying a different criterion from Jared Diamond's book Collapse. Diamond believes that societies can be determined to be sustainable, or not, by applying five criteria to specific circumstances. These criteria are: environmental damage, climate change, loss of friendly contacts, rise of hostile contacts, and political, economic, social and cultural setting.

The students told aldermen that only the final criteria - political, economic, social and cultural setting - could be deemed sustainable.

Turn to HYPERION on Page 9



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