

COMMUNITY CALENDAR

FRIDAY, DECEMBER 9

- National Music Museum (NMM) Brown Bag Lunch Program, 12:05 p.m. featuring S.D. Holiday Brass Quintet at the Arne B. Larson Concert Hall at the NMM located on the USD campus, corner of Clark & Yale St. Free and open to the public.
- Music Recital with USD Composer's Forum: USD student and faculty composers share their creations in an evening of music, 7:30 p.m. in Colton Recital Hall at the Warren M. Lee Center for Fine Arts. This event is open to the public at no charge.

SATURDAY, DECEMBER 10

- Overeaters Anonymous, 9 a.m. at Sanford Vermillion Hospital, 20 S. Plum - Administration entrance across from the Vermillion Clinic - take a right to the end of the hall - board room on the left.
- "Sweets & Treats," sponsored by Clay County Historical Society, 10 a.m.-1 p.m. at the Austin Whittemore House. Select Christmas treats from a large selection of homemade desserts.
- The Yankton Area Literacy Council will host children readings by Ms. Santa at the Vermillion Public Library from 1:30-3 p.m. The children will also be receiving free story books compliments of the YACL.
- The 34th Annual Celebration of the St. Lucia Tradition in Dalesburg at 3 p.m. at Dalesburg Lutheran Church.
- Music Recital: USD's Truran Scholars present a recital, 7:30 p.m. in the Colton Recital Hall at the Warren M. Lee Center for Fine Arts. This event is open to the public at no charge.
- USD Theatre Department's End of Term Showcase: A Showcase of student work from performance classes, featuring musical theatre songs, dances and scenes in the format of a delightful variety show, 7:30 p.m. in Slagle Hall Aalfs Auditorium. No admission, but donations will help support student research and participation in a New York Showcase.
- ACT Test, 8 a.m. at Vermillion High School.
- Heartland Humane Society "Meet & Greet" dogs up for adoption. Join HHS from 10 a.m.-noon at the Alcoa 4-H Center and Arena located at 902 Whiting Drive in Yankton. Animals will be available for adoption and the dogs and puppies from foster care will be available to meet as well. In addition, the shelter will be open from 10 a.m.-1 p.m. to view or adopt cats. For more information, contact Heartland Humane Society at 605-664-4244 or email hhs@midconetwork.com. You can check all the animals up for adoption at www.heartlandhumanesociety.net.
- The Vermillion Area Arts Council will be having a Holiday Celebration with Sharing the Dream from 6-9 p.m. at the Arts Center, 202 Washington St. Photos will be displayed by Sioux Falls artist Denny Pearson, photographer for the book, "Stories of Survival," written by Laura Wilson about the Sharing the Dream elders in Guatemala. The evening will also feature Latin jazz and a variety of hors d'oeuvres, desserts and drinks.
- "Ugly Sweater Contest" at Pro's Bar and Grill. Judging starts at 10 p.m. For more information, call 624-2657.

SUNDAY, DECEMBER 11

- Sharing the Dream in Guatemala will host an open house from 1-4 p.m. at the store 10 W. Main St. Guatemalan coffee and sweets will be available and there will be extra sales.
- USD's Dr. Holly Haddad presents her clarinet studio in recital at 4 p.m. in Colton Recital Hall at USD Warren M. Lee Center for Fine Arts. Open to the public at no charge.

MONDAY, DECEMBER 12

- Al-anon meeting, 7:30 p.m. at St. Paul's Episcopal Church, corner of Main & Linden. For more information, call 624-9764.
- Vermillion High School Holiday Concert at 7:30 p.m. at Vermillion High School.

TUESDAY, DECEMBER 13

- Vermillion Rotary Club Meeting, Noon-1 p.m., in the Freedom Forum Conference Room of the Al Neuharth Media Center.
- Sixth Grade Winter Concert at 7 p.m. at Vermillion High School.

WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 14

- Heartland Humane Society "Meet & Greet" dogs up for adoption. Join HHS from 6-7:30 p.m. near the Santa Pictures station at the Yankton Mall. Families will be able to do animal photos with Santa that night from 6-8 p.m., and HHS will be there showcasing some of their animals. Proceeds from the pictures that night will benefit HHS. For more information, contact Heartland Humane Society at 605-664-4244 or email hhs@midconetwork.com. You can check all the animals up for adoption at www.heartlandhumanesociety.net.

PLANNING AHEAD:

- DEC. 15 — First Dakota National Bank hosting a Holiday Open House from 9 a.m.-4 p.m. at 111 Court St., Vermillion. Hot apple cider, coffee and holiday treats will be available. To celebrate the holiday season the bank will be giving away \$100 of Vermillion Bucks! Stop in to register.
- DEC. 15 — Music Recital: Kate Mathews presents her senior double bass recital, 7:30 p.m. in Colton Recital Hall at USD Warren M. Lee Center for Fine Arts. Open to the public at no charge.
- DEC. 16 — The Vermillion Area Dance Organization will hold an open house from 5:30-7:30 p.m. at Studio VADO, 19 S. Plum Street (across from Sanford Vermillion). This event will include dance performances.
- DEC. 16 — National Music Museum (NMM) Brown Bag Lunch at 12:05 p.m. featuring Christmas with The Polka Professor. Audience favorites, Prof. John F. Check, concertina (Vermillion); Prof. John D. Check, tuba (University of Central Missouri, Warrensburg); Prof. Deborah Check Reeves, clarinet (USD); and Prof. Gary L. Reeves, horn (USD), return to center stage to ring in the season with a joyful Christmas polka-fest! Arne B. Larson Concert Hall at the NMM located on USD campus of Clark & Yale St. Free and open to the public. December's Free Friday Sponsor is CorTrust Bank!
- DEC. 16 — Annual Christmas Dinner at Main Street Center, 320 W. Main St., beginning at 5:15 p.m. Volunteers for serving the meal will be Friends & Supporters from Polaris. Advance tickets available by calling the Main Street Center at 605-624-8072.
- DEC. 17 — Overeaters Anonymous, 9 a.m. at Sanford Vermillion Hospital, 20 S. Plum - Administration entrance across from the Vermillion Clinic - take a right to the end of the hall - board room on the left.
- DEC. 17 — Winter Commencement: USD's 36th Winter Commencement, 10 a.m. in the DakotaDome.
- DEC. 21 — Preservation Wednesdays presented by Clay County Historical Preservation Commission & Clay County Historical Society, 7 p.m. at the Vermillion Public Library. John Erikson will present "Picture Framing." Free and open to the public.
- JAN. 4-6 — Dakota Farm Show, USD DakotaDome.
- MARCH 23-24 & 30-31 — Schmeckfest in Freeman. For more information, visit www.schmeckfest.com, e-mail: schmeckfest@gmail.com or call 605-925-4542.
- JULY 16-AUG. 12 — Olympic/Educational Tour. A once in a lifetime trip to Ireland, Great Britain and the Summer 2012 Olympics in London. For more information, contact Lenni Billberg at lenni.billberg@k12.sd.us or 605-670-2717.

Does your business or organization have an event you would like included in the Community Calendar? If you do please call the Vermillion Area Chamber of Commerce and Development Company at 605-624-5571 or e-mail vcdc@vermillionchamber.com or contact the Plain Talk at 605-624-2695 or e-mail david.lias@plaintalk.net.

Wireless World holds charity weekend Dec. 9-11

As a way of saying thank you to the community for their support, Wireless World, local Verizon Premium Wireless Retailer Vermillion will donate 100 percent of their accessory sales from Dec. 9, 10 & 11 to United Way.

"Giving back to the communities that we do business in is an important part of our company's philosophy, and this is a great organization

that works to improve the lives of the citizens in Vermillion," said store manager Shawn Boese.

Vince Lubben, Wireless World partner, said, "This is the first year that we are holding a company wide donation event encompassing all 32 of our locations and we are thrilled with the opportunity to work with local charities."

Subscribe Today! Call 624-4429

HOLIDAY CONCERT



Dr. David Holdhusen conducts the men's and women's chorus during Saturday's Holiday Concert presented by the South Dakota Department of Music in Slagle Hall's Aalfs Auditorium. The concert included several performances by a variety of vocal and instrumental ensembles along with the USD Symphony Orchestra and the USD Concert Choir. See more photos at spotted.plaintalk.net.

(Photo by David Lias)

Teaching teen's ethics:

Vermillion business leaders promote integrity

According to one South Dakota teen, "Ethics are important no matter what profession you are in or where you work. Ethics define your character."

In large numbers, teens today express a troubling contradiction when it comes to ethics. They admittedly express confidence in feeling prepared to make the right choices in the future, but freely admit to unethical behavior today. 80% of teens surveyed say they are ethically prepared, but more than one third of students believe you must break school rules to succeed and nearly half say lying to parents and guardians is acceptable.

These feelings among teens raise concerns to employers. Through Junior Achievement, business executives and

community leaders will take time from their busy schedules to discuss with teens the necessity of ethics in the workplace and personal lives. The Vermillion event is scheduled for Tuesday, December 6, 2011.

Junior Achievement works to provide tools and role models to teens to help them become prepared to make ethical decisions. Through the JA Excelling through Ethics program, these business executives will share basic values and beliefs, as well as engage students in discussions on the role of ethics in their school life and in their own personal and business dealings.

The impact of the program is substantial. Throughout South Dakota, over 350 business executives will impact



Vermillion community members who took part in the JA Excelling through Ethics program include (front) Mary Merrigan, Brenda Fergen, Laura Hollingsworth, Sheila Prosser, Chris Girard, and (back) Andy Howe, Paul Eickhoff, Craig Thompson, Paul Priester, Scott Munger, John Prescott, Mike Carlson and Tom Sorenson.

more than 6,000 high school students through the program. After participating last year, one teen expressed, "The choices you make sets a

reputation for your character." That reputation is being molded through this JA program and these community leaders.

CHAMBER CHAT

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Chamber Business:

Dakota Roots Program: Is your family traveling home to Vermillion for the holidays? Would they like to be in South Dakota year round, if only they could find the right career opportunity?

In an effort to bring more of that great South Dakota talent back home, the South Dakota Department of Labor and Regulation created the Dakota Roots program. Dakota Roots joins citizens, business leaders, and state government in a successful, on-going initiative to grow the South Dakota

workforce.

Dakota Roots is the largest state job search database where both the workers and employers can reach out to one another to fill great jobs right here in South Dakota. Since its inception in 2006, nearly 2,000 people have come back to work in South Dakota through this program, so while you're catching up with your family this holiday season tell them about Dakota Roots.

Visit www.dakotaroots.com for the information you need to list a job, search for a job, refer a family member or friend for a job, and learn about how South Dakota can help in the relocation process back home. In the coming weeks the South Dakota Department of Labor and Regulation with assistance from the Vermillion Area Chamber and Development Company will be hosting informational meetings so businesses and

workers can learn more about the Dakota Roots program.

The Vermillion Area Community Foundation is accepting proposals for projects to improve our community. Forms for submitting proposals by groups or organizations are available at the Chamber of Commerce office. While funds available are limited we can fully fund small one time requests or partially fund larger projects. Your annual donations to our Foundation will provide us with increasing funds each year for worthwhile projects.

Business After Hours: Are you looking for an opportunity to showcase your business and network with your peers? Sign up to host a Business After Hours event! These events generally run from 5:00-7:00 pm on a weeknight and the hosting business provides hors d'oeuvres and refreshments. If interested,

please contact Ann at: annb@vermillionchamber.com or call 624-5571.

Announcement:

- "\$5 Felines Adoption Event" – Want a warm, fuzzy feeling this holiday season that can be yours for years to come? Adopt a cat or kitten from Heartland Humane Society during the special "\$5 Felines," adoption event. For more information visit www.heartlandhumanesociety.net or call 605-664-4244.
- "SANTA PAWS": Nook 'n Cranny animal food help for Heartland Humane Society, Dec. 1-10. Bring in a food or treat gift for Dogs or Cats and receive a free Thank You gift from Nook 'n Cranny, Downtown Vermillion. Our 4-legged friends need our help!

Vermillion Area Holiday 2011 Church Schedules



St. Agnes Parish

416 South Walker, Vermillion

<p>Sunday, Dec. 18</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Adult Penance Service 2 pm (3 priests available to hear confessions) 	<p>Christmas Eve December 24</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Children's Mass 4 pm Christmas Carols 9 pm Mass 9:30 pm 	<p>Christmas Day December 25</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Mass 9:30 am
<p>New Year's Eve December 31</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Mass 5 pm 	<p>New Year's Day January 1</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Mass 8 am Mass 10:30 am 	

Grace Baptist Church

Celebrating Christmas with Jesus

Dec. 11, 10:45 a.m. "The Lamb of God"

Dec. 18, 10:45 a.m. "The King of Kings"

Dec. 18, 6:30 p.m. "The Birthday of a King!"

Dec. 24, 5:30 p.m. "The Light of the World"

Dec. 25, 10:45 a.m. "The Bread of Life"

The Birthday of a King!

A Christmas musical presented by the children of Grace Baptist Church. Sunday, Dec. 18, 2011 6:30 p.m.