

Snow can't stop Tour of Homes

SDARWS is top rural water association

By Travis Gulbrandson
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Despite the slick, snowy roads Saturday afternoon and evening, the annual Clay County Historical Society Christmas Tour of Homes was a success.

"It worked out real well," said historical society president Gloria Barnes. "Even though it was snowy, it was a beautiful night."

The event began in the afternoon, with tour-goers visiting each of the four homes, followed by a reception at the Austin Whittemore House, where the historical society is housed.

Barnes' Forest Avenue home was one of those featured on the tour.

"We had a lot of people come through our house," she said. "Everybody took their shoes off when they came in, so I can't say there was any mess. Everybody thanked us for opening up our home."

The other three tour homes belonged to Linda Kogel, and

Alan and Sarah Wittmuss, both of which are located on south University Road, and the Rev. Robert and Pauline Grossmann, whose home is on Madison Street.

"Everybody had a different type of home, so it was really nice to do," Barnes said.

The event is held each year to raise funds for the historical society, as well as to encourage them to visit the Austin Whittemore House.

Barnes said it provides a good opportunity "to remind people that the historical society is at the Austin Whittemore House, for people to come and visit it. We showcase that."

Historical society members



The theme of this year's Tour of Homes sponsored by the Clay County Historical Society, on Saturday, Dec. 3 was "I'm Dreaming of a White Christmas," and that's just what the planners received when it began snowing heavily just before the tour was to begin. That didn't keep people from participating, however, or from enjoying something to eat at a reception afterwards at the Austin Whittemore House.

(Photo by David Lias)

Judy Sullivan, Luanne Oulette, Cleo Erickson and Ann Severson also worked on the

tour and took part in the reception.

Honoring & Remembering:

Radioman 1st Class Charles Paul Schafer

By Donna Schafer
VFW Auxiliary President
Clay County Post 3061

Radioman 1st Class Charles Paul Schafer was born Dec. 14, 1962 to Jerry and Donna Schafer in Vermillion.

Charles enlisted at Yankton in June of 1981. He was sworn in at Sioux Falls in July of 1981. "My mother wasn't too happy, but my father thought it was good since he had also been in the Navy," said Charles.

On July 20, he flew from Sioux Falls to San Diego, CA for Boot Camp which lasted for eight weeks. From there he went to Radioman A School in San Diego which lasted about 20 weeks.

In January of 1982 his assignment was to Naval Air Station in Le Moore, CA for 18 months. This is located in the middle of the San Joaquin Valley which was desert and orange groves.

"I really wanted to be assigned to a ship, but this proved to be a blessing in disguise for two reasons. One I was able to move up in rank from E1 to E4 and second it was an easier way to adjust to military life," he said. "But the exciting things happened aboard ship. In August 1983, I was assigned to USS Pyro AE-24, which was an ammunition ship. There I made my first West Pac Tours, visiting Japan, Philippines, Korea and Hong Kong. I spent six months overseas.

"I flew over Japan to catch up with the Pyro which was five days out. There were about 25 men being assigned to different jobs while we were waiting. The head man kept calling Boatswain over and over and no one was answering. Finally he said, 'Boatswain 3rd Class Schafer are you here?' I answered and said my name is Schafer but I'm not a Boatswain. I'm a Radioman. The guy in charge said, 'Well, your handwriting is so sh**y that it looks like Boatswain, so you will take your recruits and paint the sea wall. I did such a bad job that first day that they gave me a desk job checking IDs.



CHARLES SCHAFER

"After boarding the Pyro we went out to sea. It took a while to get my sea legs.

My first Port of Call was Subic Bay in the Philippines. After about three months I had a chance to call home. Mom was there because her hair appointment had been changed and I had the best 15 minute telephone call ever.

"We were on our way back to the States and two day out of San Francisco, when during a movie a fire broke out in the #1 ammunition hold. This was very serious because the majority of the 339 men were in General Quarters. For about the next 20 hours we fought that fire in which no one was injured or killed and the ship stayed intact. The ship went into cold iron and I asked for a reassignment.

I had a choice of three ships and I asked for the USS Texas CGN-39, which was a Guided Missile Cruiser. Again, I had an eventful arrival. I flew out of Los Angeles to the Philippines, then to Diego Garcia for five days, then to Kenya for three days. When we

arrived there we were told by the American Embassy that we had to stay in our hotels because AIDS was so prevalent. We also had to pay an airport tax, exchange our money for theirs, but when we left they wouldn't exchange their money for ours

"After that we flew to Rota, Spain. The seaside community was absolutely beautiful and a few days later we flew to Catina, Sicily. Bahrain was our next stop. We were advised to walk in single file, look straight ahead, not to look to the left or right until we arrive at our vehicle. On this 500 ft. path were Bahrainian soldiers every three feet or so on both sides, holding guns which were pointed at our heads. Once we arrived at our hotels the Bahrainian people were extraordinarily nice. Five days later we were helo'd out to the USS Texas where Charles' good friend Ernie King was on board.

"The crew then spent 110 days in the Persian Gulf, supporting the Iraqies against the Iranians. During this time we shot down a few airplanes. We were also the flag ship and so I was the Radioman for the Old Man. Leaving this area we went to Tasmania for a week, a beautiful little country and then on to Brisbane, Australia for about 20 days. The people were very nice and we were invited to march in their Independence Day Parade. It was almost like being home in the States.

"Tanga was our next destination then to America Samoa. Even though we were only there for a couple of days, a young woman asked four of us if we would like to meet her family. After agreeing, she took us up through a beautiful jungle to her village. Her father was the local minister. We met all of the family and friends which amounted to about 60 people. They cooked us a Somalian meal, sang their native songs, and danced their native dances. Afterward they led us back to our ship. It was probably the most interesting and best experience I have ever had.

"California was our next destination and I was able to muster out a month early, June of 1985."

South Dakota Association of Rural Water Systems (SDARWS) Board Treasurer Rick Peterson of Vermillion is proud to announce that the organization has been named the top rural water association in the country by the National Rural Water Association (NRWA).

Accomplishments in the areas of training, technical assistance, public relations, legislative activities and member services enabled SDARWS to earn top honors Oct. 4 during the awards ceremony at the NRWA H20-XPO in Louisville, Kentucky. "South Dakota Association of Rural Water Systems stood out in every category," SDARWS President Dan Carlson said. "The national recognition is well deserved. Our training and technical assistance programs keep city and rural water operators up-to-date on procedures and regulations affecting water systems, and our emergency response efforts during the Missouri River flood showed the government's confidence in our organization's capabilities."

"We see them as the best of the best," said NRWA Awards

Committee Chairman Kent Watson. "This association has continually been at the forefront of service to its membership. They have excelled in obtaining funding at the state and national level to expand systems. They were the first to provide a service to its membership to personalize their quarterly publication (Quality On Tap magazine). This state association has also received national acclaim for its work in responding to a Native American water utility during an extended blizzard where they had extensive problems."

SDARWS Executive Director Dennis N. Davis accepted the award on the association's behalf. "State Association of the Year is the highest honor a state rural water association can receive from NRWA, and we are very proud of this accomplishment."

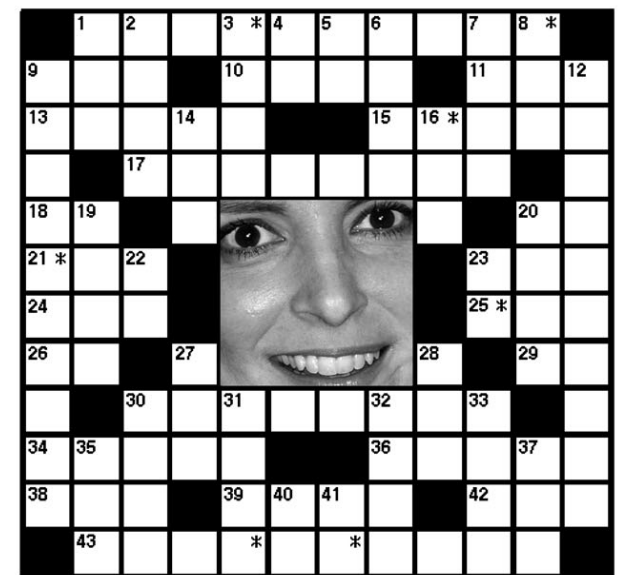
South Dakota Association of Rural Water Systems is a statewide member-based organization with offices in Madison and Spearfish to meet the needs of water and wastewater systems throughout South Dakota.

TREE LIGHTING



Santa flips the switch to light the Community Christmas Tree at Ratingen Platz in downtown Vermillion Friday night, Dec. 2, following the third Annual Parade of Lights. Following the parade, children and parents were invited to the Vermillion Public Library for "Stockings for Soldiers," an opportunity to make an ornament to take home and to decorate a stocking for a soldier serving overseas.

(Photo by David Lias)



The identity of the featured celebrity is found within the answers in the puzzle. In order to take the TV Challenge, unscramble the letters noted with asterisks within the puzzle.

- ACROSS**
1. "Person ___"
 9. Russian space station
 10. 1996 Gwyneth Paltrow film
 11. Brain wave test, for short
 13. Lanai greeting
 15. "___ say more?"
 17. Bob Denver role
 18. "Just Go With ___"; 2011 Adam Sandler movie
 20. Initials for Garr
 21. "The Kids ___ All Right"; Annette Bening film
 23. "___ House" (1986-88)
 24. "Nothing ___ the Truth"; 2008 Matt Dillon movie
 25. "The ___"; 1965-74 crime drama series
 26. Suffix with absent or arrest
 29. "Life ___ We Know It" (2004-05)
 30. "___ Angels"
 34. Praises
 36. 1964 Robert Culp film
 38. Sphere
 39. "El ___"; old John Payne Western movie
 42. Crash into
 43. Actor on "CSI: NY" (2)
 8. Role on "The Mary Tyler Moore Show"
 9. Actress on "Prime Suspect" (2)
 12. Former role on "CSI" (2)
 14. "The ___ List"; 2011 film for Cuba Gooding Jr.
 16. "___ Pray Love"; 2010 Julia Roberts movie
 19. "___ Lies"; 1994 Arnold Schwarzenegger film
 20. Brass instrument
 22. Spielberg's 1982 creature
 23. "Hart ___ Dixie"
 27. Prof.'s degree
 28. Old Testament bk.
 30. Desi Arnaz's birthplace
 31. "To Catch ___"; 1971 film for Kirk Douglas
 32. "___ Man 2"; 2010 movie for Robert Downey Jr.
 33. Elton John and Paul McCartney
 35. Setting for "Evita": abbr.
 37. Glasgow denial
 40. "Life ___ a House"; 2001 Kevin Kline movie
 41. Acapulco affirmative

- DOWN**
1. Jed Clampett's discovery
 2. Kermit, for one
 3. Actor ___ McDonough
 4. Initials for Tom Selleck's TV private eye role
 5. "The Wizard of Oz" role
 6. "You ___?"; Lurch's line on "The Addams Family"
 7. Spotted



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FOR THE RECORD

Cases Disposed 11/25-12/1/2011

Cheryl Kay Necklace, 120 North Cliff Ave. #1, Sioux Falls; Open alcoholic beverage container accessible in vehicle, \$54.00 plus costs
Crystal Arcoren, 206 East 23rd Street, Yankton; Violation stopped vehicle with red/amber/yellow signals/lights, \$54.00 plus costs
Kylan Freidel, 734 N. University #218, Vermillion; No drivers license, \$54.00 plus costs
William Robert Christensen, 507 W. Cedar St., Vermillion; No drivers license, \$54.00 plus costs
Steven Kotalic, 501 McCook St., Gayville; Speed on four-lane in rural areas, \$99.00 plus costs
Cheri L. McGhee, 3511 N. 44th Avenue, Omaha, Neb.; Speeding other roadways, \$19.00 plus costs
Nicole Paige Hovdestad, 1604 E. 19th St., Sioux Falls; Speed on four-lane in rural areas, \$19.00 plus costs
Steven J. Peterson, 31367 University, Vermillion; Renewal registration during assigned

month, \$54.00 plus costs
Julie M. Westover, 611 1st St., #5, Wakonda; No drivers license, \$54.00 plus costs
Chelsea Nicole Campbell, 5501 W. 61st St., Sioux Falls; Seat belt violation, \$25.00
Olivia Dewaard, 26625 383rd Ave., Stickney; Speed on four-lane in rural areas, \$79.00 plus costs
Derek Jay Schuller, 48551 S.D. Highway 46, Hudson, S.D.; Seat belt violation, \$25.00
Ashley Herringer, Mickelson #309, Vermillion; Speeding on state highway, \$19.00 plus costs
Rose Kallappa, 157 3rd Street NE, Huron; Driving with suspended (not revoked) license, \$204.00 plus costs
Allan Scherschlight, 43945 U.S. Highway 18, Freeman; Open container, \$54.00 plus costs
Thomas Jensen, 1001 State Street, Centerville; Seat belt violation, \$25.00
Tanner Tod Pottratz, 1224 6th St., Brookings; Open container, \$54.00 plus costs
Shawn Osborn, 1509 Douglas Ave., Yankton; Fail to obey lawful

order, \$104.00 plus costs
Wade Richard Taylor, 59187 880 Road, Ponca, Neb.; Seat belt violation, \$25.00
Joshua Jay Langley, 1301 E. Austin St., Sioux Falls; Seat belt violation, \$25.00
Kalli Sue Walker, 832 Lincoln St. #2, Vermillion; Seat belt violation, \$25.00
Eland Summers, 611 E. Main St., Vermillion; Renewal registration during assigned month, \$54.00 plus costs
Bridger Scott Miller, 123 Willow St., Vermillion; Failure to make proper stop at stop

intersection, \$54.00 plus costs
April Wilson, 833 E. Duke Street #46, Vermillion; Dog at large, \$50.00 plus costs
Judge Tami Bern presiding 11/25/2011-12/1/2011
Martin W. Linnell, 120232 West 47th, Shawnee, Kan.; Driving under influence-2nd offense, recharged; Open alcoholic beverage container accessible in vehicle, dismissed; Driving under influence-2nd offense, \$500.00 plus costs; Thirty days county jail, 20 days suspended based on the conditions of the court

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SATURDAY, DEC. 17 AT 7 PM

HOLIDAY JAM

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