



Jonathan Schreiner, direct support professional, center, Alice Sealey, assistant director of services, right, and Gerry Tracy, executive director, left.

(Submitted photo)

Schreiner is SESDAC Employee of the Month

Jonathan Schreiner, direct support professional, was selected as the SESDAC, Inc. December 2013 Employee of the Month. Jonathan has been a part of the organization since May 2013.

Jonathan was nominated for the award by his fellow co-workers, based on his dedication to his job and the people he supports.

Co-workers had the following compliments written in their nominations for Jonathan: "Jonathan has always been willing to step up. He shows complete confidence in the job that he does. He is always willing to help and always with a smile."

Jonathan currently resides in Vermillion.

City approves substation improvements

By Travis Gulbrandson

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The city has awarded the bids for its 115kV substation improvements project.

The Vermillion City Council awarded the bids to ABB, Inc., of Mt. Pleasant, PA, at its Dec. 16 meeting.

AAB, Inc. budgeted a total amount of \$138,755.

The project is intended to improve the reliability of the electric system and upgrade existing equipment.

The materials to be furnished with this bid are 115kV breakers and capacitor voltage transformers (CVTs) or potential transformers (PTs). "Two acceptable bids for the CVTs were

received, with one alternate bid received for the use of PTs instead of CVTs," said Jason Anderson, assistant city engineer. "The option to bid the PTs instead of the CVTs provided us with a cost comparison between each instrument."

The substation improvements project has been budgeted for in the 2014 Electric Distribution Fund, Anderson said.

The breakers were expected to cost approximately \$125,000 and the CVTs or PTs were expected to cost approximately \$40,000, he said.

All members of the council voted in favor of awarding the bids to AAB, Inc.

USD political science students to intern at state, federal offices

Students from the University of South Dakota Department of Political Science will spend the spring 2014 semester in part-time and full-time internships at the state and federal government levels.

Five USD students will participate as interns with the South Dakota State Legislature in Pierre while two students will intern for Gov. Dennis Daugaard and two more will spend the semester at

separate offices in the Washington, D.C. area.

Joseph Bliss from Sioux Falls will intern at the headquarters of the National Rifle Association in Fairfax, VA, and Emily Christiansen of Estherville, IA is interning at the Washington, DC office of Sen. Tim Johnson, SD-D.

Additional internships involving USD students this spring include Michelle Corio of Elk Point, Office of the

Governor, State of South Dakota, Pierre; Alexa Moeller of Watertown, Office of the Governor, State of South Dakota, Pierre; Lexy Schuman of Mitchell, South Dakota Legislature in Pierre; Josh Jorgensen of Sioux Falls, South Dakota Legislature in Pierre; Stephen Bollinger of Pierre, South Dakota Legislature in Pierre; Sam Parkinson of Rapid City, South Dakota Legislature in Pierre; and

David Hennessey of Portsmouth, IA, South Dakota Legislature in Pierre.

For more information about these internships or for additional information about the Department of Political Science at USD, contact (605) 677-5242 or email polsci@usd.edu.

You can also visit the department's Web site at www.usd.edu/polsci.

VHS oral interpretation team wraps up winning season

Vermillion High School students with a flair for the dramatic have been showcasing their skills and winning awards as members of the VHS oral interpretation team.

Starting in September, 18 students began selected favorite literary pieces and practicing their oral presentations under the director of head coach Mary Begley and assistant coach Joe Geis.

The team traveled to three competitions in October, four in November and concluded with the Runner-Up and South Dakota High School Activity Association's State Festival in December.

VHS won team trophies in the A division from the State Festival, region tournament, and the Washington Warrior Invitational.

Top scoring members include Katie Zimmerman, who won a superior medal at the State Festival in both the humorous and poetry divisions, and brought home a total of four first place awards in tournaments leading up to State.

The duet team of Savannah Kirsch and Natalie Swanson earned



Members of the 2013 VHS oral interpretation team are (bottom row) Austin Olson, Dustin Fischer, Brian Clift; (middle row) Morgan Fuller, Libby Sykes, Katie Zimmerman, Savannah Kirsch, Natalie Swanson, Kate Struckman-Johnson; (top row) Wyatt Hansen, William Brouillette, Jacob Ford, Owen Mechling, Rob McFall, Erica Moen and Genevieve Carey. Not pictured: Kalista Wells and Paige McManigal.

(Photo by Morgan Fuller)

state superior medals and captured first place in three tournaments during the season.

Kirsch also won awards for her solo dramatic performance, including a State superior and one first place at the Lewis and Clark tournament.

The reader's theatre group comprised of Erika Moen, Dustin Fischer, Rob McFall, Owen Mechling, Genevieve Carey and Wyatt Hansen brought home a State superior and captured first at the Brookings Invitational.

Two members of the reader's theatre ensemble,

Hansen and Fischer, also earned first-place awards in individual events at contests in October and November.

Other VHS team members who captured first place finishes during the season include Jacob Ford, Morgan Fuller and Austin Olson.

OBITUARIES

Tate Hoxeng

Tate Daniel Hoxeng, infant son of Brian and Heather (Hessman) Hoxeng passed away Friday, Dec. 20, 2013, at the Sanford USD Medical Center in Sioux Falls.

Private family services will be held. The Hansen Funeral Home in Vermillion is handling the arrangements.

Jerry Kutilek

Jerry F. Kutilek, 70, of Vermillion, died Friday, Dec. 20, 2013, at Sanford Hospital in Vermillion.

Arrangements are pending with the Hansen Funeral Home in Vermillion.

Ivan Pierce

Ivan "Van" Dale Pierce, 95, of Vermillion, passed away Tuesday, Dec. 17, 2013, at the Sanford Vermillion Care Center.

Ivan was born Aug. 28, 1918, in Volin, to Lewis and Hattie (Johnson) Pierce. He graduated from Vermillion High

School and attended the University of South Dakota. On July 17, 1941, he was one of the first draft groups to leave Vermillion for WWII. He served in the US Army Engineer Corp from 1941-1946 and he was chosen for OCS school and was in the 1285th Engineer BN, which built two floating bridges across the Rhine River.

Van was discharged as a Major and joined the Ohio National Guard and later retired as a Lt. Col.

Van married his high school sweetheart Margaret Lown on May 17, 1941, and they lived in Cleveland, OH and San Gabriel, CA retiring in Morro Bay, CA. He retired from Pacific Life Mutual as Director of Pension Sales, and he and his wife Margaret formed Southwest Money Mgt. Investment Company. Margaret passed away in 1994 after 52 years of marriage.

Several years later Ivan returned to South Dakota and renewed his friendship with Deanie Christopherson and they have been together for the past 12 years.

He was a member of the Masonic Lodge #2 in Vermillion and a Masonic Shriner for over 60 years. He is an Honorary Fireman and was a sponsor of the Ivan D. Pierce Training Tower in Vermillion, and a member of the Vermillion Senior Citizens.

He is survived by his partner, Deanie Christopherson of Vermillion; his two daughters, Linda Lee (Rodney) Yates of Placerville, CA and Joan (Richard) Dunlop of Mission Viejo, CA; a sister, Beverly (Elmer) Mount of Vermillion; two granddaughters, Cheryl (Matt) Cisowski of Laguna Niguel, CA and Stephanie Griffin of Mission Viejo, CA; and two grandsons, Mathew and Michael Yates of Placerville, CA. He is also survived by five great-grandchildren and several nieces and nephews.

Memorial services will be 10 a.m. Jan. 4, 2013, at the Vermillion Fire Station in Vermillion with burial of ashes to follow in the BluffView Cemetery in Vermillion. hansenfuneralhome.com.

Harvey Wiens

Harvey A. Wiens, 90, died Friday, Dec. 20, 2013, at the Tieszen Memorial Home, Marion. A memorial service will be held on Saturday, Dec. 28, at 11 a.m. at Salem Zion Mennonite Church (North), 27844 443rd Ave., Freeman, with burial in the church cemetery.

Harvey was born on Nov. 24, 1923, at Marion, to Abe and Eva (Tieszen) Wiens. He grew up in the Marion area and graduated from Marion High School in 1941. On Nov. 19, 1944, he was united in marriage to Mildred Berg. He farmed, worked a variety of sales jobs, and then became an owner/operator truck driver for Midwest Coast Transport where he was employed until his retirement. He loved the outdoors and enjoyed hunting, fishing and camping. They lived near Freeman most of their life and after retirement enjoyed spending 20 winters in Mission, TX. He was baptized by the Rev. Alfred P. Waltner at the Bethesda

Mennonite Church and was a member of the Salem Zion Mennonite Church. The last four years they have been residents at the Tieszen Memorial Home in Marion.

Grateful for having shared his life are his wife, Mildred; two sons, Orvis Wiens, Phoenix, AZ, and Barton Wiens, Loveland, CO; four daughters, Jenell Porter, Scottsdale, AZ, Glenda (Scott) Schempp, Vermillion, Lynette Anderson, Sioux Falls, and Vera (Jon) Lenderts, Edinburg, TX; grandchildren, Lona (Matt) Christensen, Rapid City, Bryan (Jeni) Wiens, Albany, MN, Joshua (Sanda) Wiens and Shane Wiens, all of Everett, WA, Tracy (Warmser) Knox, Parachute, CO, Nicole (Chris) Solomon, Mitchell, Dustin Schempp, Sioux Falls, Jarrod Koerner, Sioux Falls, Sarah (Jamie)

DeJean, Dilworth, MN, Jim (Kim) Lenderts, Fort Collins, CO, Jackie Loger, Sioux Falls, and Susan (Jeff) Ventimiglia, Chicago, IL; great-grandchildren, Destiny, Lauren, Caiden, Taylor, Lucas, Noah and Aurelia; step-grandchildren, Brandon, Brett, Brice, Justin, Alexandra, Isabella, Jessica, Carolyn, Annelise, Marielle and Madeline; a brother, Dennis (Laida) Wiens, Shevlin, MN; two sisters-in-law, Janice (Peter) Stahl, Flandreau, and Doris Pearson, Colorado Springs, CO.

He was preceded in death by his parents, a daughter-in-law, Janet, a brother Arvel and sister-in-law Marian, and a brother-in-law, Merton Pearson.

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CLAY COUNTY POSITIONS AVAILABLE

PART-TIME DEPUTY TREASURER POSITION
The Clay County Treasurer's Office is seeking a part-time deputy treasurer. Applicants must have excellent oral and written communications skills and be proficient in computer skills including Word, Excel, and internet-based applications.

FULL-TIME DEPUTY AUDITOR POSITION
The Clay County Auditor's Office is seeking a full-time deputy auditor. Applicants must have excellent oral and written communication, accounting, and computer skills. Accounts payable and payroll experience preferred.

Application and/or resume required for both positions. Applications are available at the South Dakota Department of Labor, 1024 W. Cherry St., Vermillion, SD. Application deadline is 5:00 pm on January 3, 2013.
CLAY COUNTY IS AN EQUAL OPPORTUNITY EMPLOYER