

VIEWPOINTS

The Best Way...to be random (again)

By Alan Dale
The Plain Talk

With The Plain Talk being a weekly it is hard to really focus sometimes on just one topic to pen (or type) a column.

Alas, I am all askew trying to determine what sole, issue is at the heart of the American pulse as it pumps proud blood through its arteries called the states.

Those states - like South Dakota - include towns like Vermillion.

So here is my best attempt to talk about three items that have some type of relevance to either our town indirectly or at least it is something we should take note of if for any other reason to be better educated.

On Ferguson...

Oh my, what a tangled web these particular Missourians have woven.

We all know by now that the town of Ferguson, located just about 15 minutes outside of St. Louis, has been set on fire both figuratively and literally by the shooting death of an African-American (oh, how one day I will deal with that and similar terms!) teenager at the hands of a Caucasian police officer.

The uproar was loud after the shooting and grew to Godzilla-like proportions last week when the Grand Jury investigation found the officer would not face criminal charges for essentially saving his own life.

From that point on a number of "protestors" decided to burn a large section of the town down. They went about destroying property of innocent people who had zero to do with anything that happened to the kid.

See here's the issue.

I am an inner city kid. I spent some of my youth from birth into grade school toiling around Chicago. I have seen hate from both sides. Luckily I personally never experienced it from anyone who didn't look like me, but I still played witness.

It's not fun.

Yet, these "protestors" are not people who are fighting for a cause.

No.

You do not promote the end of violence against one of yours by inflicting violence upon those who had nothing to do with your pain.

That doesn't make you into someone "taking a stand" it makes you more into members of Al-Qaeda.

Just like those extremist Muslim terrorists did when they attacked on 9/11/2001, y'all are going after the wrong target of your angst.

If you have a war to wage, if you have something to say to someone that is hurting you, then you take it to THEM.

Go march on a police station or government building. Hey Al-Qaeda, maybe you could have taken your fight to an army base where they are locked and loaded and ready to go. Nah, you chose to attack innocent, unarmed moms and dads, brothers and sisters, wives and husbands instead.

REALLY brave of you.

See Ferguson...if you have a point to prove, go prove it

to the people who you think hurt you. Go after those who you have a beef with, not some innocent shop owner.

Oh and when you actually riot when a gang member accidentally blows away another innocent 12-year-old kid standing in the line of fire during a "turf war" then maybe we could see these riots are something a lot more credible.

But hey, I guess it's OK for anyone to attack a police officer in his car.

It all depends on the color I guess?

Maybe after someone messes with me I'll go home and beat my cat.

Yeah, that's sane...

On You've Got to be Kidding Me?

This comes from the box of "Ah how much more can we destroy future generations' suggestion box."

Back in Montana last week a girls' basketball coach at Loyola-Sacred Heart in Missoula was fired from her post just a short time before the season begins.

Why?

Allegedly, it is because she had the nerve to cut a player who happened to be a daughter of one of the school's top administrators.

Wow.

The comment boards lit up and from a lot (oh dozens) of accounts, the alleged kid is a piece of work. It does sound like the girl should have been cut from the team.

Regardless, this is another example of how pear-shaped our society has become and especially in the world of youth sports.

When a school administrator makes a move like this in order to make sure his or her kid makes a team, this is where we should draw the line.

If they can cut the coach, can't they fire the administrator for an abuse of power?

Here's a question for all parents: How can we look ourselves in the eye and call 18-year-olds "adults" when for 17 years and 364 days we call them "children."

Um, y'all let me know how often we see success stories where the intern becomes president of the company without any steps in between.

On Black Friday more Like Freaky Friday

Dude it's an IPOD!

Get over it.

I seriously think zombies would be easier to deal with (unless they are the fast ones, oh Gawd!) than these looney tunes that trample over each other to get through the doors of a Black Friday sale.

Are we really that ignorant?

Do you not realize how many items are ready for sale at these stores? Do you think there is no possibility that when the items on the shelves are gone that they don't have, oh, a thousand more ready to sell? Sure some items go quick...but that's the exception.

I will never understand why you just can't be patient and considerate.

Instead you show signs of rabies, lunacy, and complete abandonment of all rationale.

You enjoy that...

See ya next week.



Contrasting an ER with a Medical Home

By Richard P. Holm MD

Just this month I had two strikingly different cases. Case one: Mr. A called to say he was losing ground with back pain, weight loss and bowel changes. I set up an appointment after some blood work in the outpatient clinic for that next day. Case two: Mr. B's daughter called to say he was developing confusion after a fall last week and today his speech was garbled. I advised Mr. B's daughter to get him immediately to the Emergency Room (ER) for testing.

In the U.S. there are two distinct places to obtain health care. The outpatient clinic is where your doctor, your PA or your nurse practitioner comes who knows you, your family and your lifetime story. Sometimes called the "patient-centered medical home," outpatient care provides for preventive care, continuity with long-term monitoring and minor-illness treatment. The most

important goal and advantage for the medical home is over repeated visits, you and your provider establish and develop a trusting relationship.

In contrast, the ER is where people with major injuries and severe illnesses are provided care. It is the entrance place to go when you're sick enough that you might need to be hospitalized. It is expensive care partly because they usually don't know you, they anticipate the worst case, understandably they do a lot of testing, and finally, in the ER, they must be ready for any extreme and serious case 24 hours a day, 7 days a week, 365 days a year.

Too often people with minor outpatient type problems go to the ER because they haven't established care in a clinic, haven't the patience to wait for the clinic to open or haven't realized how the ER can result in unnecessary expense. Minor problems are clearly best treated in the

outpatient clinic. To say it again, the ER should be where you go when problems are urgent enough that you might need to go into the hospital.

Of course if you have a serious medical concern, without question go to the ER. But please realize the value of the relationship with a primary care provider found in the patient-centered medical home.

Mr. A's outpatient workup found metastatic prostate cancer, which was all diagnosed and treated successfully with outpatient care. Mr. B had a head CT scan in the ER showing a large blood clot requiring hospitalization and subsequent neurosurgery. He eventually regained consciousness and speech.

The outpatient medical home and the ER are two different places with very different purposes, and it's important to know the difference.

LETTER TO EDITOR POLICY

The Plain Talk encourages its readers to write letters to the editor, and it asks that a few simple guidelines be followed.

Please limit letters to 300 words or less. Letters should deal with a single subject, be of general interest and state a specific point of view. Letters are edited with brevity, clarity and newspaper style in mind.

In the sense of fairness and professionalism, the Plain Talk will accept no letters attacking private individuals or businesses.

Specific individuals or entities addressed in letters may be given the opportunity to read the letter prior to publication and be allowed to answer the letter in the same issue.

Only signed letters with writer's full name, address and daytime phone number for verification will be accepted. Please mail to: Letters to the Editor, 201 W. Cherry St., Vermillion, SD 57069, drop off at 201 W. Cherry in Vermillion, fax to 624-4696 or e-mail to alan.dale@plaintalk.net.

A DOUBLE STANDARD?

Over the past 25 plus years I've been in the Storage Business here in Vermillion I've been fortunate to have been able to donate more than 50 storage units free of charge to local businesses and non-profits.

A few years ago I felt that I would need to build additional storage units if I was going to continue providing these units free of charge and still be able to keep the business as a sound investment. I approached the VCDC and offered to purchase the land to the north of my current storage facility on West Cherry Street. I was told that this land was zoned for "industrial development" and that the VCDC and the City of Vermillion were not interested in selling it for

storage....request denied.

In the October 31, 2014 issue of the Plain Talk I noticed that this same exact piece of property has now been sold to an out-of-state developer to construct... guess what...storage buildings.

Thanks Vermillion and the VCDC for, once again, putting the interests of out-of-state businesses ahead of us local folks who live here, work here, and give back in order to better our community and keep our hard-earned profits here in Vermillionmaybe the new storage developer will offer more than 50 units free to local non-profits...we'll see.

Larry Brady
Vermillion

ADDRESSING EGRESS

Regarding the discussion about egress windows, a common mistake is considering only the size of the opening required for an active person to get out of a building. But the code requires all exits to be sized sufficiently to allow both for egress and for emergency rescue. The mandatory window size is determined by the requirements for

entry by a fully equipped rescue worker. Imagine a firefighter wearing all of his gear, including a respirator and air bottle, trying to enter the window pictured on the cover of the recent Plain Talk, in order to rescue an incapacitated resident. It's a disaster waiting to happen.

Kevin O'Kelley
Vermillion

CHAMBER CHAT

CHAMBER BUSINESS:

A Holiday Gift from the Chamber Members to the Community: The VCDC is conducting a Vermillion Bucks sale. We are offering \$10,000 in Vermillion Bucks available for purchase in \$100 bundles of \$20 denominations at the discounted rate of \$85 per bundle. They can be purchased at the VCDC office at 116 Market Street. Limited to 2 bundles per family.

ANNOUNCEMENTS:

Veteran Holiday Relief Drive: Contribute an American Legion Auxiliary (ALA) "Buddy Basket" (filled with household items), a single household or hygiene item, winter apparel, shopping gift cards, or monetary donation through Jan. 10, 2015. Drop-Off locations: The Broadcaster/Plain Talk 201 W. Cherry St. or Main Street Center 320 West Main St. through Jan. 10, 2015. Monetary Donations can be mailed to ATTN: VETS RELIEF DRIVE: American Legion Auxiliary Unit #1 c/o Marie Anne Ben 16 East Bloomingdale Street Vermillion.

Mentors needed - Nine youth in Vermillion, and one in Elk Point are seeking mentors. A wide range in ages, contact jgillersd6@yahoo.com or call John at 605-421-5050.

The Clay-Union Foundation had a significant drop in donations this year. Now is the time to gain a year end tax deduction. Donations may be mailed to P.O. Box 665, Elk Point, SD 57025

FRIDAY, DEC. 5

State Oral Interp at Huron, Friday & Saturday, Dec. 5-6

2 p.m. - Ladies Hospital Auxiliary meeting, Sanford Vermillion Board room

6:30 p.m. - 6th Annual Parade Of Lights, Downtown Vermillion. Following the parade, Santa and Mrs. Claus will light the community Christmas Tree at Ratingen Platz on the corner of Market and Main Streets. After the tree lighting, children and parents are invited to the Edith B. Stegrist Public Library for Stockings for Soldiers.

4:30-7:30 p.m. - Clay County Historical Society Tour of Homes. Tickets available at Austin-Whittemore House, Nook 'n Cranny & Vermillion Beauty Shop. Reception following at the Austin-Whittemore House, 15 Austin Street. A limited number of rides are available with Vermillion Public Transit. Call 624-8266 to reserve a ride.

Chris Jackson Benefit - Following parade of lights, Pi Beta Phi and Sigma Alpha Epsilon invite you to the Pi Phi house at 118 N. Plum Street for cookies and hot chocolate. Free will donations will be accepted.

7 p.m. - USD Mens Basketball vs Youngstown State, at the DakotaDome

7 p.m. - Dance Inferno Recital at Vermillion High School

7:30 p.m. - USD Symphony Orchestras Concert, Aalfs Auditorium located in Slagle Hall.

SATURDAY, DEC. 6

3 p.m. - Dance Inferno Recital at Vermillion High School.

12:30-2:30 p.m. - Free pictures with Santa at HyVee by Peterman Photography. Call 605-624-5571 for details.

9 a.m. - Overeaters Anonymous, Newman Center-USD Campus, 320 E. Cherry.

10 a.m.-1 p.m. - Vermillion Area Farmers Market Holiday & Winter Market, Clay County Extension/4-H Bldg., 515 High Street. For more information, call 605-659-3399 or e-mail VAFarmersMarket@gmail.com

2 p.m. - USD Women's Basketball vs. Cal State Fullerton, at the DakotaDome

8 p.m. - "A Poker Alice Christmas" Gayville Hall, Gayville. For ticket information, call 605-267-2859.

SUNDAY, DEC. 7

1-4:30 p.m. - W.H. Over Museum Christmas Festival. Contact 677-5228 for information.

3 p.m. - USD Dept. of Music Holiday Concert, Aalfs Auditorium located in Slagle Hall.

MONDAY, DEC. 8

7:30 p.m. - Vermillion HS Holiday Concert

7:30 p.m. - Al-anon meeting at St. Pauls Episcopal Church, call 624-9764 for information.

7:30 p.m. - Ethan Conrad Senior Tuba Recital, Colton Recital Hall, Warren M. Lee Center for Fine Arts

TUESDAY, DEC. 9

12-1 p.m. - Vermillion Rotary Club meeting featuring David Owen: Pre-Legislative Update from SD Chamber, Al Neuharth Media Center conference room. For more information, visit www.vermillionrotaryclub.org

Vermillion

PLAIN TALK

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