



By Katie Clausen
For the Plain Talk

For Lena Tran, it is all about how the past can influence the future. As the recipient of a coveted Gilman Scholarship, she plans on using her personal history, melded with the history of our world, to further her education.

"I'm going to use it to help pay for my expenses to study abroad," Tran said. "I want to know more about the history of French culture."

While Tran isn't French, she has focused on Europe for specific reasons. This trip will be educational and academic, but also very personal.

"I am Vietnamese and the French colonized Vietnam," Tran said. "In some areas of Vietnam they speak French."

Tran will be spending the spring 2015 semester representing USD in Pau, France. Something Tran has always wanted the opportunity to do.

"I am looking forward to using this opportunity as a learning experience," Tran said. "I want to apply world views to what

I do in the future." A Sioux Falls native, Tran has had the advantages living in South Dakota provide, because her parents immigrated to the United States just before Tran was born.

"My biggest reason for applying for it was because my parents came to America 24 years ago and they came with nothing," Tran said. "They didn't know the language, they didn't know anybody, and they worked so hard."

Like many immigrants before them, Tran's parents had the best interest of their family at the heart of their decision to come to the U.S.

"They wanted to provide for their children and they wanted us to grow up and have opportunities," Tran said.

Tran is the youngest of her siblings, all of whom have graduated from college despite the challenges that can come from being first generation Americans.

Currently a senior at USD, Tran plans to graduate with a Bachelors of Science in Communication Studies.

Tran receives Gilman Scholarship, plans to do some traveling



Lena Tran received the Gilman Scholarship and now plans to take some time out traveling.

COURTESY PHOTO FROM LENA TRAN

She also has a double minor in French studies and Economics.

In addition to academics, Tran put effort into extracurricular activities as well.

"I started the Asian American Student Association at USD to help students learn more about Asian culture and help Asian students feel included," Tran said "We had about 20 students last year."

The Gilman Scholarship Tran received is coveted and engineered toward students who want to travel abroad.

"The Gilman Scholarship usually has over 2700 applicants," Tran said. "They pick about 800 of them."

Named after Benjamin



Gilman, a former Representative from New York, the scholarship allows students to utilize travel within their study programs and help them better develop well structured world views.

The panelists of the Gilman Scholarship foundation are comprised of professionals and professors from Universities across the United States. They are careful to select the worthiest of students and look for individuals who are active on campus.

"They look for students who have had positive impact on their university and have a desire to travel abroad," Tran said. "But may not be able to do so because of financial reasons."

Tran is a proponent of students taking the opportunity to travel abroad if they can, and acts as an advocate for hard work.

"It is important for students to apply what they know from being in the classroom to the world," Tran said.

1101 Announcements - Events

ELK POINT UNITED PARISH, 603 S Pearl Street, Elk Point, Pastor David Bambas, EPUP seeks to be and make disciples of Jesus Christ who are fully devoted to loving God and others. Sunday worship at 9:30 AM (nursery available); Adventzone at 10:30 AM for preschool (3 as of Sept.) thru 5th grade. For more information call 605-356-2008 epups@iw.net or epunitedparish.org

FAITH FELLOWSHIP of the Open Bible on Bypass 50 and Highway 19: Sunday Celebration 10:30 a.m. Pastor Tony Armbrust, 624-2921.

Faith Lutheran church 401 Main Street, Makell, NE. Sunday School: 9:00; Worship: 10:00 Communion: 1st and 3rd Sundays (605)658-0240 (home) (402)-692-3323 (church).

FAITH UNITED LUTHERAN CHURCH ELCA, 44874 303rd St/Po Box 168, Volin, SD 57072, (605)267-2277. Sunday Worship: 9:30am with Holy Communion the 1st & 4th Sundays. WOW Wednesday program beginning at 6:30pm for all children 3 yrs old - 7th grade, and confirmation classes for those in grades 8th & 9th.

FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH Elmer "Sandy" Aakre, Pastor 624-6391 home, 624-4658 church. Time: 9:15 Sunday School, 10:30 Worship. Sunday Choir Practice, 11:50 a.m.

FIRST UNITED METHODIST CHURCH Vermillion, is a welcome place reaching out to all God's people. Located at 16 N. Dakota St. Adult Sunday School 9am; Sunday Worship 10:25am; Children's Church after Children's Sermon (PreK-5). Welcome Table-serving free meal Mondays 5:30-7pm. Youth Group with Meal (Gr. 6-8) Wednesdays 5:30-7pm. High School Youth Group 7pm. Adult Choir Rehearsal 7pm. Praise Band rehearsal 8pm. Friday Morning Book Study and Breakfast 6:45am. Call (605)624-2179 for more info. Pastor Rick Pittenger.

GAYVILLE LUTHERAN CHURCH 9:00 am Worship, Sunday School 10:15 am.

GOSPEL CHAPEL CHURCH 708 Jessie St./Highway 12, Newcastle, NE. Sunday School, 9:30 a.m.; Sunday worship 10:30 a.m.; AWANA Wednesday at 7 p.m., 402-355-2305. Pastor Chuck Myers, 402-355-1335.

GRACE BAPTIST CHURCH SBC, Pastor Steve Ford, 1102 E. Main. Phone 624-4949. Adult's and Children's Sunday School 9:30 a.m. Sunday Worship 10:45 a.m. Prayer Meeting Wednesday Night 7 p.m.

IMMANUEL LUTHERAN CHURCH Elk Point, SD: Worship Service 9:00 a.m., Sunday School 10:00 a.m.

1101 Announcements - Events

HILLSIDE COMMUNITY CHURCH 1800 Constance Dr. Worship Sept.-May 10:30a.m. AWANA Small groups; 9-10:15. Worship May-August 10a.m., 605-624-4862. www.hillside-cc.com Like us on Facebook!

KOMSTAD COVENANT CHURCH Rural Beresford and Centerville, SD: Matt Styles, Pastor. 18 miles north on University Road. Phone 563-2402. Sunday School 10 a.m., Worship Service 11 a.m.

ONE HOUR Sunday evening Experience at ONE HOUR is comprised of two primary elements: powerful worship and a life-changing message. Worship at ONE HOUR is led by a talented live band in a style that is consistent with today's culture and a relevant teaching message from LifeChurch.tv's senior pastor, Craig Groeschel, via video broadcast. The worship is intense and the teaching is challenging but the environment will be relaxed and casual. ONE HOUR on the USD Campus at the MUC, 6:30pm Sundays! www.one-hour.org

PLEASANT VALLEY LUTHERAN CHURCH Rural Vermillion: Sunday School 9:45 a.m., Worship Service 10:30 a.m., Holy Communion First Sunday of every month. All welcome.

PROVIDENCE REFORMED CHURCH 830 Madison: Sunday School 9:30 a.m., Sunday Worship 10:30 a.m. "We Welcome You To Historic Protestant Worship And Fellowship."

St Thomas More Newman Center, 320 E Cherry St, Vermillion. Sunday Mass 11am and 9pm. www.usdnewman.org for weekday Mass and Adoration times. 605-624-2697.

ST. AGNES CHURCH 416 Walker St., Fr. John Fischer: St. Agnes Church and Parish Office, tele. 624-4478. St. Agnes Rectory, 505 Catalina, tele. 624-1995. Mass schedule: 5 p.m. Saturday, 8:00 a.m. and 10:30a.m. Sunday, Weekday Masses - consult weekly bulletin; Sacrament of Penance, Saturday 4-4:45p.m.

ST. PAUL LUTHERAN CHURCH 31903 475th Ave, Elk Point, SD 57025, Sunday Service 10:30 am, 9am Sunday School Pastor David Bentz.

ST. PAUL'S EPISCOPAL CHURCH corner of Main and Linden. Sunday: nursery available. 10:00 a.m. Holy Eucharist. 11:00 a.m. coffee hour. Call 624-3379 for more information.

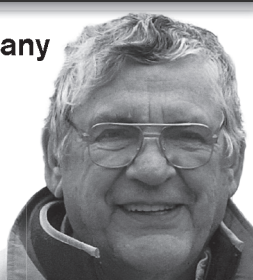
THE LUTHER CENTER AT USD Life at the corner of campus and faith. Located at Cherry & Plum Streets, Vermillion. We worship weekly on Wednesday evenings at 8:30pm and host service and fellowship events throughout the year. Visit us online at www.luthercenter.org or find us on facebook!



Are you becoming eligible for Medicare or looking to compare Medicare plans?

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CLAY COUNTY, SD LAND & ACREAGE AUCTION

160.16 +/- Acres Glenwood Township
Thursday, December 18th, 2014 10:30 AM

We will sell the following land at public auction at the land site located from Beresford SD - 5 miles south on I-29 to the Alcester/Wakonda Exit #42, 1/2 mile west on 302nd St and 1/4 mile south on 470th Ave.

Auctioneers Note: Auctioneers Note: Here is your chance to own prime southeastern South Dakota farm land. The land is available to the new owner for the 2015 crop year. In addition the buyer will have the option to rent the adjacent 77.3 acres for the 2015 and 2016 crop years. The land has been 5 acre grid sampled and P and K was applied in the fall of 2013 for a corn/soybean rotation for the 2014 and 2015 crop years. If you are looking for land as investment or are looking to expand your current operation don't miss this sale!

Abbreviated Legal Description: N 1/2 SE 1/4 & S 1/2 NE 1/4, 36-95-51 Clay County, SD 160.16 +/- acres. According to FSA there is approximately 148.69 acres of cropland with a 100 % corn base with a 117.7 bushel yield. Predominate soils include: Egan-Clarno-Tetonka Complex, 0 to 2 percent slope and Egan-Ethan-Trent Complex 1 to 6 percent slope. County soil rating of .674. According to Surety/AgriData the tract has an overall productivity index of 79.7. Taxes: \$3981.02.

The buyer will have the option to cash rent the 77.3 acres adjacent to the north of the property selling for the 2015 and 2016 crop years. The abbreviated legal description of this land is the N 1/2 NE 1/4 36-95-51 Clay County SD. According to Surety/AgriData the tract has an overall productivity index of 77.4. Contact the auctioneers for terms of the lease.

TERMS: 15% nonrefundable down payment day of sale with the balance due at closing on or before January 30th, 2015. Possession will be at closing. Title insurance costs split 50/50 between buyer and seller. 2014 taxes due in 2015 to be paid by the seller. The acres in this property are based on acres stated in the county tax records with acres to be understood to be "more or less". The sellers do not warranty or guarantee that the existing fences lie on the true and correct boundary and new fencing, if any, will be the responsibility of the purchaser pursuant to SD statutes. The property is sold in as is condition and as a cash sale with no financing contingency. Sold subject to existing easements, restrictions, reservations, or highway of record, if any. Information is deemed to be correct but it is not guaranteed. All prospective buyers are encouraged to inspect the property and verify all data provided. Statements made the day of sale take precedence over all written advertising. Real Estate licensees are agents for the seller. Sold subject to confirmation of owners.

For additional information, maps and pictures visit: www.westraatkins.com

Michael and Janelle O'Connor, Owners
Mike McGill, Closing Attorney



Joel R Westra, Broker, Beresford, SD 605-310-6941
Pete Atkins, Broker Associate, Tea, SD 605-351-9847
Joel A Westra, Broker Associate, Chancellor, SD 605-957-5222
Phil Eggers, Broker Associate, Renner, SD 605-351-5438
Mark Zomer, Vande Vegte Zomer Auctions, Rock Valley, IA 712-470-2526

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