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Vermillion

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VCDC files request for default judgment vs. Eagle Creek

On Wednesday, Jan. 7, an application for a default judgment for the Vermillion Area Chamber of Commerce and Development Company (VDCC) against Eagle Creek Software Services Inc. is scheduled to be heard before the judge Steven R. Jensen.

The hearing, set for 9:30 a.m., was set up after Eagle Creek had not filed an answer to the summons and complaint lodged by the VCDC within 30 days of it being served.

The suit, filed in the First Judicial Court of Clay County on Oct. 29, states that rent owed for the months of June, July, September, and October had not been paid to the VCDC as stipulated in the contract between the two parties that officially began in June.

The claim states that Eagle Creek currently owes \$153,640.45 in past rent and other expenses, excluding August rent for the property located at 1012 Princeton St., which the company did pay according to the county paperwork.

- *The Plain Talk*

Welcoming Jackie Williams to the Plain Talk



Jackie Williams began working as The Plain Talk's new advertising manager and has been a whirlwind ever since. Williams began working at the newspaper since November.

ALAN DALE / THE PLAIN TALK

It took a while for anyone to get Jackie Williams to sit down, and when they did it wasn't for very long.

Williams, who came aboard The Plain Talk on Nov. 3 to become its new advertising sales representative, has been a whirlwind of activity and action.

"Jackie is a great addition to the team," the newspaper's general manager/managing editor Alan Dale said. "She brings a ton of experience to the table and is really connected to Vermillion. She is a go-getter with so much energy and drive, that it just helps keep the intensity and passion up over here."

Williams, who has lived in Vermillion for 31 years, comes over to the PT after many years working in advertising at the Press & Dakotan.

"It is great to be back in the community of Vermillion," Williams said. "It is great to see so many people I have worked with in past years and old acquaintances and being more active in the Vermillion Community."

Not only will she be a member of the city's fabric being a long-time resident, but Williams now is going to be in the community doing what she does best.

That in itself is a change.

■ **JACKIE, Page 2A**



The residents of the Vermillion Assisted Living facility now need to be moved as the facility's owners announced it would be closed by the end of December.

ALAN DALE / THE PLAIN TALK

Where do they go from here?

Residents of Vermillion Assisted Living to be moved, facility to close

By Alan Dale
The Plain Talk

It's never a good time for something bad to happen to anyone especially around the holidays.

Unfortunately for the residents of Vermillion Assisted Living, 809 N. Norbeck Street, and its

owner – Bare Assets LLC, times couldn't be rockier for just under a dozen people now forced to uproot.

Unless a private donation would be made to help with the costs of upgrading the building – the central issue of the close – in less than a month the long-time business will be no more.

On Monday, administrators for Bare Assets LLC came down to Vermillion to tell what

were once 11 residents that the facility would be closed on Jan. 1 and an immediate need for placement in new facilities is now required.

Those particulars are up to debate according to Vermillion Assisted Living employees and residents, but one thing is certain:

There are people who are concerned about where they will be living within the month.

"It's sad here, very sad," Stephanie Baysinger, who just moved into the facility

on Oct. 30, said. "People are crying all the time... there's an attachment to what is their home. We are being forced out. I was just starting to get used to my new room, and starting to like it. I just had my mom down over the weekend and we fixed up my room."

"I am scared, but I believe I will be able to find a place to go. I am just worried if I will be able to do that. If not, I could end up homeless."

Moving itself is not the

issue, but the idea that these residents are not moving on their own terms and being given such a short time to prepare. Changing domiciles is considered one of the most stressful events for anyone, but when someone has very little time and say over a potential new home, that only adds to the turmoil.

"I think they are getting away with something," resident David Hansen said

■ **WHERE, Page 7A**

The Art of Success Series:

PUMP N PACK HAS FOUND A WAY TO DO IT RIGHT



Pump n Pak is located at 629 Stanford St. just off of Cherry Street.

KATIE CLAUSEN / FOR THE PLAIN TALK

By Katie Clausen
For the Plain Talk

The Vermillion-Newcastle Bridge, which joins South Dakota Highway 19 and Nebraska Highway 15, is something residents have gotten used to on the landscape since its dedication in 2001.

However, once a large project designed to connect communities across the

mighty Missouri, and at times controversial, the bridge also influenced and changed commerce in the Vermillion area.

"It started out that we were looking at the bridge from Nebraska coming in," Kevin Annis of Pump 'N Pak said. "We just felt it was kind of a neglected side of town."

Annis, in conjunction with local business owner

Larry Brady, looked at the potential bridge as an opportunity to expand. Now Pump 'N Pak has been a staple in Vermillion for many years.

"It actually started out where I was managing the Freedom station," Annis said. "Larry Brady mentioned to me that he

■ **SUCCESS, Page 6A**

Dr. Mark Froke reported on the Governor's new budget proposal at the school board meeting Monday.

"I'm pleased that the Governor decided to propose .5 percent more than the required raise of 1.5 percent on the per pupil funding level of \$4,780," he commented after the meeting. "The proposed rate increase amounts to an additional \$96 per student."

While Froke said the Governor's proposed rate increase is a good start, it will only cover fixed costs and not meet salary needs.

"Costs such as health insurance, transportation, and utility costs continue to escalate whereby these costs will nearly absorb the proposed funding increase," he said.

"The additional .5 percent proposed funding increase above is identified will be covered by reducing the cost of technology provided to schools through by the state, statewide testing for the new Smarter Balanced assessment, and extra funding for districts that receive sparsity funding," Froke continued.

"The projected savings on these items amounts to about \$2.6 million the first year which will be shifted to the property taxpayers. This will be a small amount relative to the amount allocated for general per pupil funding. It appears schools won't lose any services or funding through this shift in school financing procedures."

In other business, Tim Schwasinger recently attended the ASBSD Delegate Assembly and reported much concern about the governor's proposal of the upcoming

■ **SCHOOL, Page 3A**

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