

CHECK IT OUT

At the Vermillion Public Library
By Anne MarshallUpcoming Events
at the Library

February is Library Lover's Month! What do you love about your library? There are pink information forms located at the circulation desk for you to fill out and share your thoughts. Do you have suggestions that will improve the Vermillion Public Library? Responses will be used for a display to be set up later.

The Online Book Club is asking its readers to write and tell what they enjoy about this special library. E-mails can be sent to Susan@DearReader.com

The Young Adult Book Club will meet on Tuesday, Feb. 16 at 4 p.m. to discuss Burying the Sun, by Gloria Whelan. Books are available for checkout at the circulation desk.

February is also the Winter Olympics month. On Thursday, Feb. 18, come participate in the Library Olympics After-School Program for upper elementary students. Learn about the Winter Olympics in Vancouver, British Columbia, have a snack, make a craft item, and test your skill in the special Library Games.

The Friends of the Vermillion Public Library Used Book Sale is scheduled to start on Thursday, Feb. 25 and runs through Feb. 28. 2009 Summer Reading Program participants who earned Book Bucks may stop by earlier on Wednesday, Feb. 24 after 5 p.m. to use your Book Bucks to purchase a great selection of items.

If you have a special collection you would like to share with the community, the library has a display case located behind the circulation desk just waiting for your treasures. Please stop by or call the library at 677-7060 to inquire about scheduling a date.

DearReader.com
Book Club

The DearReader.com Book Club offers many selections to Internet patrons. Each book runs for five days, Monday through Friday. Some genres offer selections every other week. Check out this service by registering at the library's Web site, <http://vpl.sdn.net> and clicking on the book club icon.

Online patrons can also find the club at www.supportlibrary.com/su.cfm?x=470596. The following selections for the week of Feb. 15 are:

AUDIO BOOK: No selection for this week.

BUSINESS: CATS: The Nine Lives of Innovation, by Stephen C. Lundin.

FICTION: City of Strangers, by Ian MacKenzie.

GOOD NEWS: Rose House, by Tina Ann Forkner.

MYSTERY: Fist Family, by David Baldacci.

NON-FICTION: The Lassa Ward, by Ross I. Donaldson.

PRE-PUB: Please check on-line for this selection.

ROMANCE: The Murderer's Club, by P.D. Martin.

SCIENCE FICTION: No selection for this week.

TEEN: On Beale Street, by Ronald Kidd.

THRILLER: No selection for this week.

New Adult Fiction from
Bestselling Authors

In the Caribbean of 1665, on a remote island colony of the English Crown, Jamaica holds out against the vast supremacy of the Spanish Empire. Port Royal, its capital, is a cutthroat town of taverns, grog shops, and bawdy houses. In this steamy climate there is a living to be made, a living that most likely will end swiftly by disease or by dagger. From one of the best-loved authors of all time comes an irresistible adventure of swashbuckling pirates in the New World. Pirate Latitudes is a classic story of treasure and betrayal.

Bestselling author Barbara Kingsolver brings fans her most accomplished novel ever, *The Lacuna*. This epic journey takes readers from the Mexico City of artists Diego Rivera and Frida Kahlo to the America of Pearl Harbor, FDR, and J. Edgar Hoover.

The action begins six days after a series of explosions devastate Washington, DC, targeting the National Counterterrorism Center and killing 185 people. It was a bizarre act of extreme terrorism that calls for extreme measures on the part of Mitch Rapp and Mike Nash, members of an elite counterterrorism team. Author Vince Flynn returns with his most exhilarating political thriller to date, *Pursuit of Honor*.

By Rep. Jamie Boogarden
District 17

Greetings to everyone, just so everyone does not feel too bad, the weather out here has been pretty bad also. It seems as though the geese are the only things not too affected by the weather out here. I think their population doubled since last year. I was told that there is a large amount of corn in the fields up north of Pierre and after they get their fill, they then come back to Capitol Lake (which is a pond outside the State Capitol), go for a little swim and relax.

State Affairs committee has just been hammered recently with a lot of bills. At first we did not know what we were going to do with all our time, and now we are searching for more. In the last days we have had bills of all sorts drop in on us such as texting bills, state wages, death penalty, constitutional amendments, easements for wind power to name a few.

An interesting bill we heard on Wednesday was related to what is called by some as "traffic pumping." I did not know what it was either! What has happened is that in about five states, South Dakota being one of them, a few local telephone carriers have partnered up with people/businesses that offer conference calling. What they do to promote conference calling is advertise the conference call for FREE. That's right, free!

How this works is the local carriers are permitted to charge back to the major phone carriers a "termination fee." This has traditionally been around 6-8 cents per minute as compared to the long distance carriers charge as a half cent per minute. The larger carriers never complained about this extra charge due to the economies of scale that local carriers have related to higher costs due to fewer customers.

Anyway back to what is happening. The local carrier (not located in our southeast region of the state) has charges of 12-18 cents per minute that they charge back to the large carriers, they then take and split that amount and give that half to the company that provides the equipment for conducting conference calls. Call it a kick back or what ever. That compa-

ny then offers free phone numbers with 605 area codes to have unlimited phone calls for its list of members. It is suspected a huge volume of these calls are sex room chat rooms, etc., that people connect to and stay connected for very long periods of time.

The example given in committee was that one local carrier use to receive revenue of 1,800 dollars per month, prior to traffic pumping, from "one" long distance carrier. This same local exchange is now expected to receive over 970,000 dollars for the month of December from that same long distance carrier. These small carriers that take part in such activity are now expecting up to 36 million and 12 million dollars from two different companies. The problem with this bill is that it is in court and a lot of times you have back door attempts to improve your court case by changing the laws before the judge rules on it. It does provide a very large amount of money to the school district through excise taxes, but is it right? It has to make it past the House floor next week and already today the lobbyists are working the floor hard to affect the outcome.

The other bill that was affected on the House floor last week involved the Game, Fish and Parks bill to increase civil fines for poaching trophy animals. It raised the fine to 10 thousand dollars and is put into the GF&P's budget since it is a civil fine. An amendment was put on to change it to criminal fines which means the fines would go to the courts and school districts instead. Not only did this shift the increase in fines but it also transferred all the other money they received from poaching fines to the schools as well.

Some problems with this amendment is there may be some issues with how much a fine a judge can impose on a poacher. As for myself, I liked the amendment because I believe that agencies should not necessarily be rewarded or get a bonus when they are doing what it is they are suppose to be doing anyway. This goes for any agency in my opinion. Last I heard the bill was going to have trouble over on the Senate side. This is a perfect example of why most agencies or people prefer to work out any concern prior to having to go to the Legislature.

Your bill that seems so simple and straight forward can quickly turn around on you and hurt you more than it ever could have helped you. This was one of those examples.

One of the governor's changes to his budget was related to eliminating refunds on excise taxes that large companies receive when they make a substantial investment in the state. HB 1060 actually eliminates this refund for most all large scale projects in the state that have not "broke ground" yet. This has an effect on power plants, natural gas plant, keystone pipeline, and Hyperion.

The first year it is expected to reduce state expenses by 3.8 million dollars and the second year 17 to 20 million dollars. It is a pretty big part of the state making its budget. If you remember next year we are looking at 36 to 40 million over budget, if this bill does not pass it will increase by 3.8 million. This could mean more cuts elsewhere. Some of the hang up on this bill is due to people feeling we are going back on our word to support these projects and economic development.

What we have to keep in mind is that many of these companies receive lots of other government support from the state as well. Some of the additional support includes REDI fund, new/improved roads put into project areas, low tax base, no corporate income taxes, unemployment benefits for construction workers during off season, no state income tax, and so on. So this is not the only benefit that companies receive and does not include the less restrictive nature of getting permits for building in South Dakota as compared to other states around us.

Thanks to everyone who has submitted suggestions to my e-mail.

If you have any questions or comments please feel free to contact me by e-mail: Rep.Boogarden@state.sd.us or by calling and leaving a message at 773-3851.

As always, do not forget the American troops, the coalition forces and all their families as they perform their duties for our nation.

Representative
Jamie Boogarden
Chancellor

SCHOLASTICS

University of Minn.
announces dean's list

The University of Minnesota, Morris dean's list for the fall 2009 semester has been announced.

Christopher Merrigan of Vermillion, has been named to the dean's list.

To be eligible for the dean's list, a student must earn a GPA of 3.67 or higher for the semester, must complete a minimum of 12 credits for the semester, and must complete all credits for which they were registered with at least two-thirds of those credits on the A-F grading system.

Local students
on dean's list

The following students from Vermillion were named to the dean's list at the South Dakota School of Mines and Technology for the fall 2009 semester:

- Samuel Ford, mechanical engineering.
- Shannon Robinet, interdisciplinary sciences.
- Jacey Wipf, interdisciplinary sciences.

Four hundred and fifty students qualified for the dean's list. To qualify for the dean's list, undergraduate students must earn a grade point average of 3.50 or higher for the semester, carry 12

or more credit hours and not have any "F" or "Incomplete" grades.

Named to merit list

Fielding Russell IV of Statesboro, GA, son of Catherine R. Roach of Vermillion, and Fielding D. Russell of Statesboro, GA, was named to the merit list of Oxford College, the two-year liberal arts division of Emory University located in Oxford, GA, for the 2009 fall semester.

Students must earn a grade point average of 3.0 or higher during the previous semester to be named to the merit list.

Ford named
to dean's list

Lydia Ford, daughter of Steven and Pamela Ford of Vermillion, was named to the dean's honor list at Morningside College for the 2009 fall semester.

Ford is a sophomore at Morningside who is majoring in English teaching.

Each semester the dean's honor list recognizes students who achieve a 3.67 grade point average or better and complete at least 12 credits of course work with no grade below a "C-."

Socialism topic of Feb. 17 forum

"Kill Socialism?" will be the topic of the Feb. 17 Noon International Forum to be held in Farber Hall, sponsored by the Beacom School of Business. Panelists include: Dr. Mike Allgrun (Economics); Dr. John Fremstad (Political Science) and Dr. Joachim Hurth (visiting B-School Professor from Ostfalia University, Wolfsburg, Germany).

Moderator will be Dr. Benno Wymar (Economics).

Earlier last year, during a political event in Sioux Falls, young people were asked to wear t-shirts with the slogan "Kill Socialism!" To do that

would it mean the end of public schools and changing interstate highways 29 and 90 into toll roads? Would the bridges crossing the Missouri in Vermillion and Yankton become toll bridges? Former President George W. Bush had already suggested changing Social Security into a tax credit to be invested into the stock market. Medicare obviously would obviously have to be changed as well. Is the US really ready for such changes?

It should also be noted

that all other industrialized countries maintain more "socialist" institutions, as can be seen from the example of Germany, which regardless of having "socialized" medicine and workers' "Co-Determination" at both the factory and corporate level remained until last year the world's leading exporting nation.

These and other issues will be taken up by the panelists. As for the past 15 years, the event is open to the public and at no charge.

USD psychology professor elected section president of APA division

Elizabeth Boyd, professor of psychology and director of the Psychological Services Center at The University of South Dakota, was recently named president of Section VI (Clinical Psychology of Ethnic Minorities) of Division 12 (Society of Clinical Psychology), one of the largest divisions affiliated with the American Psychological Association (APA).

Boyd will serve a three-year term. She will serve a year as president-elect that begin in January followed by president in 2011 and one year as past-president.

Section VI was established to promote

research on clinical interventions with American racial and ethnic minority populations as well as to foster sensitivity to cultural, racial and ethnic issues in training psychologists. Section VI was also formed to enhance the representation of minority psychologists with Division 12 and APA governance, and to provide a forum for the exchange of ideas on socio-cultural issues.

"It is an honor to be elected to this leadership position," said Boyd, who will work to increase the quality and accessibility of training opportunities for minority clinical psychologists.

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