



Abigail and Thomas Ring

Exchange vows

Abigail Elizabeth Douds, Baltimore, MD, exchanged vows with Thomas Milleret Ring, Oct. 17, 2009, at St. Peter the Apostle Church in Libertytown, MD, with Father Gene Nickol and Deacon John Martin officiating.

Parents of the couple are Dennis and Carmela Douds, Walkersville, MD, and Ray and Mary Ring, Vermillion.

The bride was given in marriage by her father. Matron of honor was Margaret Shaffer, Salisbury, MD. Bridesmaids were Theresa Ring, Vermillion, Emily Pieklo, Walkersville, MD, Amanda Oetken, Mt. Airy, MD, Emily Kennedy, Ashburn, VA, Karen Rice, New Market, MD, and Kelly Kuzma, Walkersville, MD.

Flower girl, city: Grace Oetken, Mt. Airy, MD, served as flower girl, and Luke Pieklo, Walkersville, MD, was ring bearer. Music for the ceremony provided by Pianist Judy Smarsh, and soloist Patricia Douds.

Zeb Lang Ithaca, NY, was best man. Groomsmen were John Ring, Austin, TX, Dan Ring, Boston, MA, Joseph Tonna, San Francisco, CA, Andrew Douds, Walkersville, MD, and Benjamin Douds, Walkersville, MD.

A reception following the ceremony was held at Sullivan Hall, Libertytown, MD. Following a wedding trip to Sorrento, Italy, the couple is home at 614 Rappolla St., Baltimore, MD 21224.

REPORT FROM PIERRE

By Sen. Ben Nesselhuf
District 17

We just finished our second legislative week in Pierre. The main focus is still on the budget and where money can be saved but outside of the appropriations committee, our other work continues. This year I am taking the leadership on two important bills.

The first is a bill that would repeal South Dakota's ban on embryonic stem cell research. Stem cells are the building blocks of the human body. They have the unique ability to turn into any of the types of specialized cells that make up our tissues, bones and organs. Essentially, there are two basic types of stem cells: adult stem cells and early, or embryonic, stem cells.

Adult and embryonic stem cells have very different characteristics and both could yield different treatments and cures for many chronic diseases. A South Dakota law passed in 2000 currently prohibits both embryonic stem cell research (ESCR) and the administration of any treatments derived from ESCR in our state.

Adult stem cells are partially specialized cells that can form a limited number of cells or tissues. Scientists have been conducting adult stem cell research for more than 50 years and, as of 2006, have developed nine treatments using adult stem cells. The most prominent example would be bone marrow transplants used to treat leukemia.

Embryonic stem cells were first isolated in 1998. What sets them apart from adult cells is the ability to turn into and regenerate any of the specialized cells that make up all the tissues, bones, and organs of the body. Because of this ability, the overwhelming majority of medical experts, medical organizations, disease foundations and patient groups agree that embryonic stem cells could provide cures for many diseases that likely cannot be cured with adult stem cells.

Embryonic stem cells come from leftover embryos at fertility clinics that would otherwise be discarded and destroyed. Many couples who successfully conceive through in vitro fertilization choose to donate their remaining

embryos to research because it would be unfortunate to throw away stem cells that could help people suffering from Alzheimer's, diabetes, spinal cord injury, multiple sclerosis, cancer and other diseases.

SB 74 would do two things: one is that it would remove the outright ban on embryonic stem cell research while putting into law guidelines to make certain that all research would meet ethical standards. The second and, I believe, more important section of the bill would eliminate language that does not allow for South Dakotans to receive treatments involving embryonic stem cells. I do not believe the Legislature ever intended for a ban on research to extend to treatments.

The other bill I am working on is a ban on cell phone use for 14- and 15-year-old drivers. I will get into the details of that bill in my next column.

As always, if you have any questions or concerns about the Legislature feel free to contact me at sen.nesselhuf@state.sd.us or call me at home at 605-624-6178.

Relay For Life: Less cancer; more birthdays

The annual Clay County Relay for Life is Sunday from noon to 6 at the Dakota-Dome. Your help is needed. Doors open at noon, so teams can sign in and set up their break areas (campsites). Those who don't have a team are invited to join in, as well. Each walker is asked to donate at least \$10 to the American Cancer Society. The walking begins at 1 p.m. and continues until 6 p.m.

"The reason for the event is simple," said Community Chair Wess Pravecek. "Less cancer, more birthdays. We offer information on prevention and detection, honor cancer survivors and remember those who have died of cancer.

"If we can encourage people to prevent cancer through lifestyle choices, and help people survive through early detection, we've done our job. The result will be less cancer and more birthdays for those who otherwise might have succumbed."

The theme for this year's event is "Make Cancer a Thing of the Past." The Clay County Chapter of the American Cancer Society and the USD Chapter of Colleges Against Cancer sponsor the event to promote awareness, encourage healthy lifestyles, share information and raise funds to fight the many forms of cancer.

Community members, from USD and throughout the county, form teams of up to 15 people to raise money and walk around the track during the event and set up a decorated team "campsite" where team members will rest when they're not walking. Teams pre-register by calling Wess Pravecek at 624-5352. Each team



member donates \$10 to participate and raises more dollars from family, friends, acquaintances and colleagues, as well. Team members get T-shirts and participate by making sure someone from their team is always on the track. Teams and individuals may register at the event, but T-shirts may not be available.

Prizes are awarded for the team and individual who collect the most in donations. The best decorated campsite wins a prize, too. In addition, for every \$50 an individual raises, they get an entry into a drawing for prizes like a 19-inch HDTV, a hotel getaway, a Sony Walkman and more.

At 1 p.m., the Relay begins with some inspiration: a lap around the track by community members who have battled cancer. Each carries a linked paper chain with each link representing a year of sur-

vival. To participate in the survivor activities, call Barb Kronaizl, 624-8929.

After survivors complete the first lap, everyone joins in the Relay. The community has another way to honor those who have battled cancer: The Relay will sell "luminarias" before and during the event. For a \$5 donation, a decorated white bag that bears the name of a cancer survivor or someone who died of cancer will be placed along the track. Participants can read the names as they walk around the track, and the names on all the luminarias will be read during the Relay. Donors can decorate the bags themselves with the name, and drawings and photos if they wish, or have Relay volunteers do the decorations.

Luminarias may be purchased until noon Saturday before the Relay at The Nook 'N Cranny, the Civic Council store and the Vermillion Beauty Shop, all in downtown Vermillion; or the Vermillion Federal Credit Union at Cherry and Dakota. They also will be sold at the Relay.

Major sponsors of this year's event are Wal-Mart and Classic Hits 106.3/Sports Radio 15.70 AM - The Ticket at the \$1,000 level; the Broadcaster/Plain Talk, Vermillion Medical Clinic, Randy Hammer, and Sanford Health in Vermillion at the \$500 level; and the Vermillion Civic Council and Hy-Vee Vermillion at the \$250 level.

The money raised is used by the American Cancer Society for research, public education and help for cancer patients and their families.

USD medical students to display cultural posters

Students at the Sanford School of Medicine of The University of South Dakota will use posters to present what they learned from last fall's cultural colloquium. Enhancing cultural competence among students is one of the medical school's priorities.

Third-year students spent a week in November participating in the Beyond Borders: A Cultural Immersion Experience. On the first day, students heard from speakers who represented diverse cultures. On the second day, they visited the Oak Lane Hutterite Colony near Bridgewater. The rest of the time was spent in self-selected cultural immersion and service experiences throughout the state.

The posters range from celebrations on the Pine Ridge Reservation to health education at the Rosedale Hutterite Colony to the benefits of exercise in the elderly.

The Beyond Borders Poster Session is a chance to share what they learned. The public is invited to view the posters and meet with the students on Monday, Feb. 1, from noon to 1 p.m. in the Yankton Pavilion Atrium, 409 Summit, Yankton.

University Theatre to hold auditions for Boy Gets Girl

The University of South Dakota Department of Theatre is holding open auditions for Boy Gets Girl, Feb. 2 and 3 in the Arena Theatre of the Warren M. Lee Center for the Fine Arts. Auditions are from 6 to 9 p.m. each evening. Those wishing to audition are encouraged to prepare two contrasting monologues totaling three minutes. Callbacks will be held Wednesday, Feb. 3 from 6 to 9 p.m. in the Arena, as well. Interested parties should reserve a specific audition time by signing up on the theatre callboard located in the east hallway of Fine Arts or by contacting the director, Rachel Foulks, at rachel.foulks@usd.edu.

In Rebecca Gilman's drama Boy Gets Girl, we meet Theresa, a young, successful reporter who goes on a blind date with Tony, another soul looking for love. After two awkward yet illuminating dates, Theresa sees no point in continuing the relationship. Tony thinks otherwise and begins to stalk Theresa, threatening her personal safety and ability to maintain her own identity. In Boy Gets Girl Gilman examines the loss of self as experienced by victims of stalking.

Boy Gets Girl performs March 24-27 at 7:30 p.m. and March 28 at 2 p.m. in the Arena Theatre. Ticket information may be found at www.usd.edu/theatre or by contacting the Theatre Department at 677-5400.



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LOST CAT - REWARD

Black neutered 2-year-old male cat, named Sapa. Has white belly and overbite, no collar. Lost 1/17/10, area of Clark and Harvard, Vermillion.



Call or Text

(605) 675-9292

Community Supports Supervisor

Are you looking for a great opportunity to enhance the lives of others as well as your own?

We are looking for a Community Supports Supervisor to support the people we serve in their homes and in the community. SESDAC serves over 70 adults with developmental disabilities in the Vermillion area. You will be responsible for management of a community based group home that supports adults to live and work in the Vermillion area.

Minimum qualifications are as follows: 5 years combination of college education and D/D experience. (3 to 5 years must be college education). BA/BS degree in related field preferred. Salary range will be \$26,143/yr. or more depending on education and experience.

This individual must have excellent verbal and written communication skills, great attitude, computer use capabilities, and be very flexible. Primary duties include providing support to the individuals including: personal finances, community inclusion, direct support, current and long range support plans, medication administration, leadership, supervision of employees; etc. This position will also have some On-Call responsibilities.

This position is generally Monday through Friday and mostly daytime hours. We offer a great benefits package including paid health and dental insurance, matching 401K plan, generous personal and sick leave and great family oriented organization.

Persons who wish to apply for this job will provide a letter of interest and resume to the Human Resources Director at SESDAC, Inc., 1314 E. Cherry St., Vermillion, SD 57069

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