

OUR TOWNS

Gayville
Mission Hill
Volin

■ To get a news item published on this page, contact Travis Gulbrandson at 665-7811 (x121) or e-mail travis.gulbrandson@yankton.net

Gayville-Volin Students Make A Warm Donation

VERMILLION — Members of the Gayville-Volin school district recently donated five handmade tie blankets to Sanford Hospital Vermillion. The donation was part of the district's Teachers As Advisors Program.

The overall purpose of Teachers as Advisors (TAA) is to encourage a connection with a caring educator to help students better understand themselves, their strengths and to plan for their future.

After attending a TAA workshop last year, Tom Rice and Natalie Selchert were motivated to tailor this program for the needs of the students in the Gayville-Volin district. The TAA program at Gayville-Volin is aimed at fostering a sense of connectedness to school, and providing each individual student with a caring adult advisor who they can consult for personal, academic and career concerns.

Students in grades 5-11 were surveyed at the end of the 2008-2009 school year regarding their interests

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MERISSA ZAJIC

and career goals. The survey also asked students to identify up to three staff members with whom they would feel most comfortable and to whom they would go to for advice or help with a problem. Survey results were used to match up students in grades 6-12 with an advisor for the 2009-2010 school year.

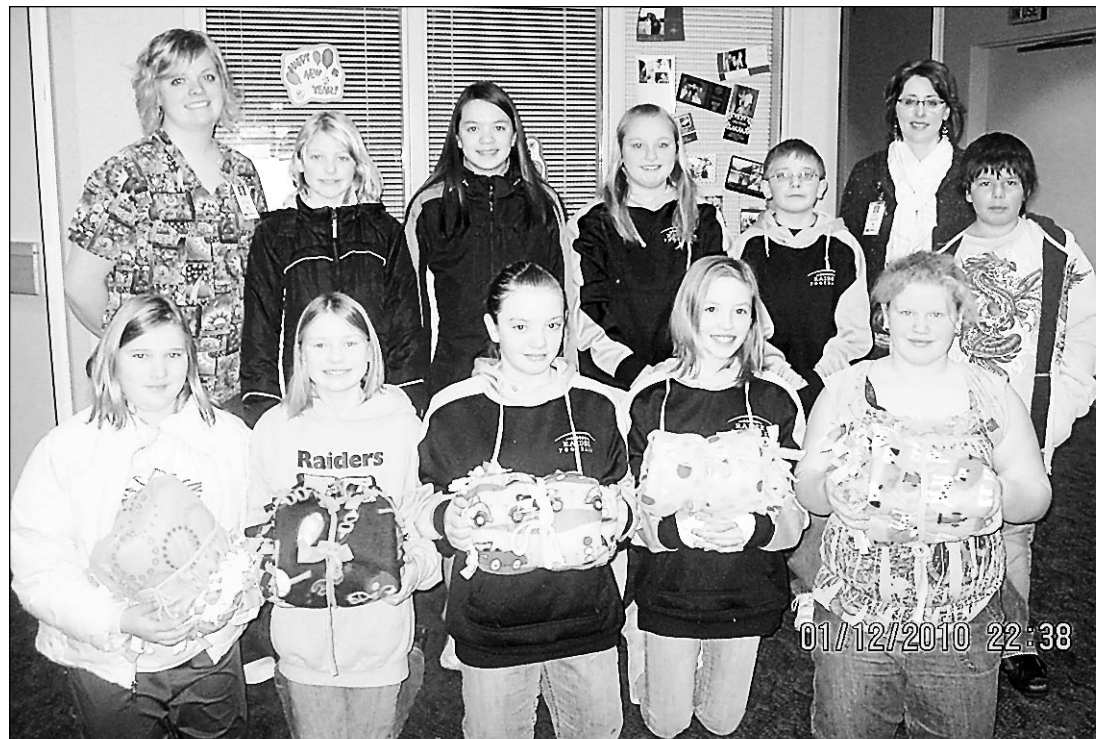
Each advisory group ranges in size from four to eight students. Students and their advisors participate in a variety of activities, including academic progress checks, goal setting, career exploration and planning, and personal development. Some advisors also have taken on special service projects.

"The idea for the tie blankets came to mind during

the Christmas season with the concept that it is better to give than to receive. We wanted the students to be able to share in the whole process of creating something and sharing it with others," said Merissa Zajic, Elementary Special Education, Gayville-Volin School District.

The group decided that it would be nice to make the blankets and donate them to children who are hospitalized for any reason. The students really enjoyed the whole process of making the blankets and delivering them to the hospital.

"It was great to see how proud the students were to be able to share their talents with the community. All of the material used for the project was donated by



COURTESY PHOTO
Pictured are, front from left: Jammie Hoffman, Danielle Dangel, Nicole Guy, Kelia Barta and Morgan Nielson; back row: Ashley Herrity (of Sanford Hospital Vermillion), Hannah Rolfs, Viola Ishmael, DaNeila Jensen, Hunter Schroeder, Heidi Waters (of Sanford Hospital Vermillion) and Steven Kemp.

Wal-Mart. We are thankful for their efforts to make this service project a success," Selchert said.

"We so appreciate the donation of the tie blankets. What a warm and comforting gift for our pediatric

patients at the hospital," commented Mylynn Hanson, Chief Nursing Officer, Sanford Hospital Vermillion. "And, even more special as it comes from the students."

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Cable said the Board of Minerals and Environment also should have required a full environmental study before approving a permit for the refinery.

"If this doesn't require an environmental impact statement, what project ever would?" Cable said.

A spokesman for Hyperion did not return a phone call seeking comment Monday.

The refinery would be located north of Elk Point. It would process 400,000 barrels of Canadian tar sands crude oil each day into low-sulfur gasoline, diesel, jet fuel and liquid petroleum gas.

The project would include a power plant that produces electricity for the refinery. It would use a byproduct of the refinery process, solid petroleum coke, which would be turned into gas and burned to produce electrical power. The company says the gasification would allow the removal of more pollutants.

Hyperion argues the refinery would be a clean, modern plant that would reduce the nation's dependence on oil from overseas.

Opponents contend the refinery would emit too much pollution and hurt the quality of life in the area.

In documents filed in circuit court in Pierre, the opponents argue that the state air permit does not deal with many environmental issues and does not require Hyperion to use the best available technologies to control pollution. Hyperion has not proved that the refinery would comply with federal air quality standards, the lawsuit says.

In addition, the board made a mistake in not requiring an environmental impact statement before granting the permit, the opponents contend.

Furniture donations being accepted for Volin family

The Furniture Bank in Yankton, located at 801 W. 25th St., is accepting furniture for the family in Volin that lost their house to a fire.

Items needed include beds, dressers, living room furniture, toys for kids, dishes, pots n pans, baby crib, baby items and a table. For more information, call 665-6362.

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NOTICE OF ANNUAL MEETING

Farm Mutual Insurance Company of Clay County

The Annual Meeting of the Farm Mutual Insurance Company of Clay County will be held in the Clay County Courthouse meeting room at 1:30 p.m. on **Wednesday, February 10, 2010.** Hearing of reports, director election, changes in the by-laws will be discussed, and any other business that may come properly before the assembly.

By the order of the Board of Directors dated the 21st day of January, 2010.

- Marvin Walz, President
- Ronald Hesla, Secretary

Lunch will be served. Door prizes given.

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THERESA CAMERON
Director of Membership, Americans for the Arts

What's Arts Advocacy and How Can I Play My Part?

Friday, January 29, 2010
7 p.m.
Farber Hall, Old Main

Theresa develops recruitment and retention campaigns for organizational and individual professional membership, and the Arts Action Fund citizen membership programs. She also serves as a board member for several arts and nonprofit organizations, including the Maryland Association of Nonprofits Board, Maryland Citizens for the Arts Board, Grantmakers in the Arts, American Society of Fundraising Professionals, Career Transition Center Board, and the Cultural Alliance of Greater Washington Board.

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