

COMMUNITY CALENDAR

FRIDAY, JANUARY 13

• National Music Museum (NMM) Brown Bag Lunch Program "Aint Superstitious" with T. Wilson King at 12:05 p.m. Vermillion's popular and energetic poet/songwriter, returns to center stage with his acoustic and bottleneck guitars close at hand in the Arne B. Larson Concert Hall at the NMM located on USD campus, corner of Clark & Yale St. Free and open to the public.

• Debate: Lincoln Silver Bowl, 2 p.m. at Sioux Falls Lincoln.

SATURDAY, JANUARY 14

• Overeaters Anonymous, 9 a.m., 20 S. Plum St., administration entrance-board room. Description: Overeaters Anonymous is a 12-step program for people with eating disorders and struggles. The group meets every Saturday.

• All State Band Auditions in Sioux Falls.

• Debate: Lincoln Silver Bowl, 8 a.m. at Sioux Falls Lincoln.

MONDAY, JANUARY 16

• No School - Martin Luther King Day.

• Vermillion Community Blood Drive, from 10 a.m.-1 p.m. and 2:30-6:30 p.m. at the Sanford Vermillion Medical Center. Donors must be at least 17 years old (16 years old with signed parent consent form) and weigh 110 pounds or more. For more information or to make an appointment, call 624-2611. Walk-ins welcome!

• Vermillion Community Martin Luther King Day of Service. USD students will finish over 20 projects for non-profits and individuals with the help of community volunteers. To help provide supplies, offer monetary donations, or to send employees to help with the MLK Day of Service, visit <http://tinyurl.com/USDMLK> to pre-register. At this site, one has the option of taking part in service, a hunger banquet, or both. Event check-in begins at 12 p.m. and participants are asked to bring a non-perishable food item to donate to the Vermillion Food Pantry. Service projects begin at 1 p.m.; Hunger Banquet at 5:30 p.m.

• Al-anon meeting, 7:30 p.m. at St. Paul's Episcopal Church, corner of Main & Linden. For more information, call 624-9764.

TUESDAY, JANUARY 17

• Martin Luther King Day keynote speaker, Bryant Terry, at 7 p.m. in MUC Ballroom.

• Vermillion Rotary Club Meeting, noon-1 p.m. in the Freedom Forum Conference Room of the Al Neuharth Media Center.

• Vermillion Garden Club: Gardening Month by Month in 2012 at 7 p.m. at Vermillion Public Library. Topic: Starting the garden year: seed catalogs, ordering online and garden design. Open to all, snacks and coffee provided. No dues. Call 624-3520 for more information.

WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 18

• International Forum, "Stop Canadian Oil?" at noon in Farber Hall located in Old Main on the USD campus. Should we stop Canadian oil from entering the U.S. via a pipeline? Canada is already our No. 1 source of foreign oil. Would the new pipeline not provide additional jobs and annual revenues (both private and public) for South Dakota and other states? Are pipelines the safest way to transport oil? Is it time to consider a carbon tax on all sources of energy? Panelists: Dr. Howard Coker (Chemistry), Dr. Dennis Johnson (Economics) and Dr. Benno Wymar (Economics. Moderator: Richard Muller (Marketing and former S.D. Public TV on-air host). Hosted by Beacom School of Business.

THURSDAY, JANUARY 19

• Book Blab will be held from 6-8 p.m. in the Community Room of the Vermillion Public Library. This is the fifth year adult readers will share favorite authors and books and discover some new ones with other book lovers.

PLANNING AHEAD:

• JAN. 20 — National Music Museum (NMM) Brown Bag Lunch Program "Hornucopia" with Professor Gary L. Reeves at 12:05 p.m. Professor Reeves will reveal the abundance and variety of horns in the NMM's own "hornucopia," in the Arne B. Larson Concert Hall at the NMM located on the USD campus, corner of Clark & Yale St. Free & open to the public.

• JAN. 21 — Vermillion Area Farmer's Market at Clay County Extension Building, 515 High St. The Winter Market includes fresh and preserved produce, local meats, crafts, woodworking, knife sharpening, breads and other baked goods.

• JAN. 21 — Fun and Games will be held from 1-4 p.m. in the Community Room of the Vermillion Public Library. Adults and youth ages 12 and up will play games and put jigsaw puzzles together. A wide variety of challenging and interesting games and puzzles will be available to provide mental stimulation. Learn or show others how to play Dominos, our newest game that offers a variety of game options. Drinks and snacks will be provided.

• JAN. 21 — Overeaters Anonymous, 9 a.m., 20 S. Plum St., administration entrance-board room. Description: Overeaters Anonymous is a 12-step program for people with eating disorders and struggles. The group meets every Saturday.

• JAN. 24 — First Dakota National Bank to host AgriVisions 2012 featuring Dr. Barry Flinbaugh at 7 p.m. at the Best Western Kelly Inn, 1607 E. Hwy. 50. Farmers, Agri-Business professionals and business owners are invited to attend. Registration from 6:30-7 p.m. Call 605-665-4904 or 800-657-5826 to reserve a seat.

• FEB. 11 — SAVE THE DATE: Community Health & Wellness Fair hosted by Sanford Vermillion in collaboration with USD Health Professions program students at the Sanford School of Medicine. More details to come!

• FEB. 14 — American Legion Wallace Post & Auxiliary meeting at 7 p.m. at the Main Street Center at 320 W. Main St.

• MARCH 23-24 & 30-31 — Schmeckfest in Freeman. For more information, visit www.schmeckfest.com, e-mail: schmeckfest@gmail.com or call 605-925-4542.

• JULY 16-AUG. 12 — Olympic/Educational Tour. A once in a lifetime trip to Ireland, Great Britain and the Summer 2012 Olympics in London. For more information, contact Lenni Billberg at lenni.billberg@k12.sd.us or 605-670-2717.

• JULY 20-23 — Vermillion Community Theatre presents the Broadway musical, "Annie" at 7 p.m. July 20, 21 and 23 and 2 p.m. July 22. All performances will be at the Vermillion High School Performing Arts Center. See vermillioncommunitytheatre.org for additional information.

Does your business or organization have an event you would like included in the Community Calendar? If you do please call the Vermillion Area Chamber of Commerce and Development Company at 605-624-5571 or e-mail vcdd@vermillionchamber.com or contact the Plain Talk at 605-624-2695 or e-mail david.lia@plaintalk.net.

Dakota Farm Show attracts thousands to DakotaDome

By Travis Gulbrandson

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The DakotaDome was crammed shoulder-to-shoulder with people, booths and equipment last week when it was the site of the 29th annual Dakota Farm Show.

From Jan. 4-6 the show played host to approximately 300 vendors from 14 states and Canada, and between 22,000-24,000 visitors for all three days.

"We've had great attendance, and today has started off really well," show manager Penny Swank said Friday. "It's very steady. With this show, we pretty much get people right away in the morning, and they last all through the day, all three days."

Organized by Midwest Shows, Inc., for all 29 years, the show hosted booths and exhibits on the floor of the DakotaDome, in the arena west and in the lobby.

"We've grown a little bit," Swank said. "We've actually run out of space to grow anymore. It's the same size, but we do have a little bit of a turnover. Companies drop out, so we do get newer companies in."

The DakotaDome has never had an issue with finding people to come see what those new companies have to offer.

"A lot of it is, they all want to get up on the new technology that's going on, and (find) better ways to save money with how they're doing things," Swank said.

Isaac Randall, agronomist with Valley Ag Supply of Gayville, added, "They're curious as to what next year will be like, curious if we have any new products to offer. ..."

"It's fun to meet customers and meet other vendors and see what the scuttlebutt is in the ag industry," he said.

Frank Charipar, who farms about 30 miles southeast of Norfolk, NE, said while he doesn't come to look for anything specific, "there are always different things you find that you could use."

One of the big topics of conversation was the high



The 29th annual Dakota Farm Show was visited by 22,000-24,000 people from Jan 4-6 and played host to approximately 300 vendors.

(Photo by Travis Gulbrandson)

market prices for corn and cattle.

"That's just great," Charipar said. "You're always concerned about the livestock people, that the (prices) don't get too wicked for them. It's amazing. I never thought I'd live long enough to see corn go over \$5, and look where we're at."

The weather has played a large role in this area, said Rebecca Wellenstein, insurance specialist with Farm Credit Services of America.

"With the drought in Argentina, that's really made a difference in our market," she said. "But that market's

volatile, so wait until tomorrow and it'll be different."

Although South Dakota winters usually are volatile weather-wise, up to the time of the show it had taken place, this one was reasonably warm – and dry.

"There's a lot of concern on the weather, just the fact that we haven't had any precip," Wellenstein said. "That's a big thing on people's minds."

Steve Welch, a field rep with Yankton Livestock Market, agreed.

"I live over in Iowa, and south of me the other day there

was a guy out disking," he said. "We've got a guy out in Akron who cuts all the ditches – he's still cutting ditches and baling hay."

Charipar said the lack of precipitation is a cause for concern, but he tries to keep it in perspective.

"This actually is a low-cost winter compared to having to move snow all the time," he said. "And now with \$3.50 fuel, every time you fill that tractor fuel tank you really spend some bucks."

For more information, visit <http://www.farmshowsusa.com/Mains/DMain1.htm>.

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CHAMBER CHAT

Vermillion Area Chamber of Commerce & Development Company
116 Market Street, Suite 103
Vermillion, SD 57069
605-624-5571
vcdd@vermillionchamber.com
www.vermillionchamber.com

Chamber Business:

Business After Hours: Are you looking for an opportunity to showcase your business and network with your peers? Sign up to host a Business After Hours event! These events generally run from 5 to 7 p.m. on a weeknight and the hosting business provides hors d'oeuvres and refreshments. If interested, please contact Ann at: annb@vermillionchamber.com or at 624-5571.

Subscribe

Today!

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Happy 90th Birthday
Grandma Pete!

Cards can be sent to: Alice Peterson, Box 310,
Centerville, SD 57014.

No Gifts, Please.



Harriet Randall

will celebrate her

90th

Birthday

January 22nd

with a party at the

Vermillion IOOF Hall,

1224 E. Cherry,

Vermillion

from 1pm-3pm

Come and Celebrate

with her family and friends

ATTENTION: MBE/WBE/DBE CONTRACTORS

We are requesting sub-bids and material quotations for the following project:

Vermillion Public Library Addition and Remodel Project Vermillion, SD

Bid Date: January 19, 2012 • Bid Time: 2:00 pm

Please submit bids to:

Welf Construction Corp.
800 W. 23rd St. • PO Box 60

Yankton, SD, 57078-0060

Phone: 605-665-3258 • Fax: 605-665-9384

Email: welf@welf.com

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ALEXANDER	DRAKE	KINZLEY	PARYS
ALLISON	DYLAN	LOGAN	PATRICK
ANN	EDEN	LUKE	QUINTON
ARMANIA	ELLYANA	MADDOX	SADIE
AVA	EVA	MARIA	SCARLETTE
AXDON	EVAN	MARIAH	SOPHIE
BENJAMIN	FOREVER	MARY	SUTTON
BERKLEY	GEORJA	MARYVIRGINIA	TAYLOR
BRODY	HADLEY	MASON	THADDES
CALEB	HUNTER	MEGAN	
CARTER	JILLIAN	NOAH	
CHLOE	JOSIE	OWEN	