

Recent court activity includes three forgery convictions

By Travis Gulbrandson

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A Dakota Dunes man was convicted of forgery charges relating to a video lottery scam.

Travis Law will serve two months in the South Dakota State Penitentiary relating to the incident, which took place at Coyote Convenience.

"He was going around to businesses that have video lottery machines," Clay County States Attorney Teddi Gertsma explained in an interview last week. "He would get a winning ticket (for a small amount), and then he would alter it to a higher amount, and then go and get the money out of it."

Gertsma said she has no idea of how the forgery was accomplished.

"It was working for him," she said, "because he not only did it in Clay County, he did it in Union, Yankton, Minnehaha, and he tried it in Lincoln, but they caught him in the attempt, and he left."

Law was not charged in the other counties because it was more efficient for one county to take the lead, Gertsma said.

"We asked for restitution for all the counties," she said. "That way, each county

didn't have to do all of the work."

Law was sentenced on Dec. 21, 2012, getting 60 months in the state penitentiary, with 58 months suspended. Along with \$8,330 in restitution, he will have to pay assorted court costs and attorney fees totaling more than \$500.

In addition to the charge of forgery, Law also was cited with possession of a controlled substance, for which he received a four-year suspended sentence to the state pen.

Dec. 21 also was the date of sentencing for a Texas couple facing their own forgery charges.

Juliana Adams and Kenneth Story each were convicted of forgery, while Adams was cited on the additional charges of identity theft and obtaining/attempting to obtain a prescription by fraud, deceit or misrepresentation.

"In September, law enforcement received a report from Wal-Mart regarding what they thought was some suspicious activity regarding prescription drugs," Gertsma said. "The pharmacist noted that the names coming through were for the same pain medication, and the names all went back to a Texas address.

At the time of their citation, the couple gave their address as The Banquet in Sioux Falls.

"What these two were doing was forging names and obtaining prescription drugs," Gertsma said.

Adams also stole a person's wallet and used it in Vermillion, Gertsma added.

For the charge of forgery, Adams was charged with five years in the state penitentiary with one year suspended. She received two years in the pen for identity theft, and an additional year in jail for obtaining/attempting to obtain a prescription by fraud, deceit or misrepresentation.

According to the media court report provided by Clay County, Adams' penitentiary sentence for identity theft will run concurrent to the one for forgery.

She also will be required to pay court costs and attorney's fees.

For his part, Story was sentenced to four years in the state penitentiary, with two years suspended and 32 days credited. Along with court-appointed attorney fees, he will be required to pay \$104 in court costs, \$40.65 in state prosecution costs and restitution to Wal-Mart of \$4.

USD celebrates the legacy of Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. with Day of Service activities

Students, faculty and staff members from the University of South Dakota will honor the legacy of Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. by making a difference in their neighborhoods and community during a Day of Service on Monday, Jan. 21.

All volunteers for a Day of Service are scheduled to meet at noon at the ballroom of the Muenster University Center for orientation (registration information is available online at www.usd.edu/academics/center-for-academic-engagement/service-learning/keeping-the-dream-alive.cfm) followed by an afternoon of community service projects. The Day of Service concludes with reorientation events and a reflection at 4 p.m. at the ballroom.

In addition to community service, Day of Service activities include a keynote address, "Innovation in Higher Education: The Legacy of Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr.," by Alma Clayton-Pedersen, Ph.D. at 7 p.m. on Tuesday, Jan. 22 at the Muenster University Center ballroom. Clayton-Pedersen served as vice president for Education and Institutional Renewal for the Association of American Colleges and Universities (AAC&U). She

currently serves as an AAC&U Senior Scholar, and CEO of Emeritus Consulting Group.

The fifth annual Vermillion Martin Luther King, Jr. Day of Service is sponsored by the USD Office of Diversity, USD Center for Academic Engagement, the USD Provost & Vice-President for Academic Affairs, College of Arts & Sciences, College of Fine Arts, Sanford School of Medicine, School of Law, Office of Student Services, School of Education, School of Health Sciences, Campus Activities Board, Michigan and Wisconsin Campus Compacts, and the Federal Corporation for National & Community Service. The event is also co-sponsored by the Union of African American Students, Latino Student Association, Asian American Student Association, Alternative Week of Off-campus Learning (AWOL), Tiospaye Student Council, We Stand Together Symposium Planning Committee and 10% Society.

For more information, please go to www.usd.edu/academics/center-for-academic-engagement/service-learning/national-days-of-service.cfm or contact the Center for Academic Engagement at (605) 677-6338 or email engage@usd.edu.

University Libraries wants entries for altered book exhibit

University Libraries at the University of South Dakota is seeking entries for "Bound and Unbound II: Altered Book Exhibition," their second altered book art exhibition scheduled for display during the 2013 Fall Semester.

Sponsored by the University Libraries Arts and Exhibits committee, "Bound and Unbound II: Altered Book Exhibition" features an exhibit of altered books, which are a mixed media artwork that changes a book from its original form by altering its state or meaning. Books from any source and media are eligible for this exhibition, and all work must be original and executed within the last three years.

"The University Libraries are pleased to once again host this exhibition which demonstrates the creative realm of altered

books," said Interim Dean of Libraries Daniel L. Daily who noted that University Libraries hosted its inaugural altered book exhibition in 2009. "As an institution committed to lifelong learning, USD and the University Libraries frequently host events and exhibitions, like 'Bound and Unbound II,' that encourage the public to explore artistic possibilities."

"Our first altered book exhibition in 2009 was such a success we knew immediately we wanted to do another," said committee member Sarah A. Hanson, Digitation and Photographs Associate at University Libraries. "As hoped, we are now offering 'Bound and Unbound II,' which we have opened up to include national and international entries and have also added the jury process."

This year's juror is Karen Bondarchuk, an artist whose work – ranging from sculpture and drawing to video and bookmaking – employs a broad range of materials and processes. Her artwork has been exhibited widely in the United States, as well as in Canada, England, India and Italy. Bondarchuk has been the recipient of several fellowships and grants, and is currently the foundation area coordinator and an associate professor in the Frostic School of Art at Western Michigan University. She received her M.F.A. in sculpture from Ohio State University, and her B.F.A. in sculpture and video from the Nova Scotia College of Art and Design.

Entries for "Bound and Unbound II: Altered Book Exhibition" are open to the public and artists can submit up

to three entries by March 5. There is no fee to enter the exhibition and selected books will be on display at USD's University Libraries second floor exhibition cases from Aug. 28 through Dec. 20, 2013 with an exhibition reception slated for Friday, Nov. 1. A full prospectus and entry form for the exhibition can be found at libguides.usd.edu/altered-entry. University Libraries reserves the right to refuse work difficult to exhibit due to excessive size, weight or difficulty in presentation.

For more information, please contact Hanson at Sarah.Hanson@usd.edu or Danielle De Jager-Loftus at Danielle.Loftus@usd.edu, or Abby Moore at Abby.H.Moore@usd.edu.

SDHSAA honors Vermillion teams for academic achievement

Initiated during the 1996-97 school year, the SDHSAA ACADEMIC ACHIEVEMENT TEAM AWARD program is designed to recognize varsity athletic teams and fine arts groups for their academic excellence.

All varsity athletic teams and fine arts groups that achieve a combined grade point average of 3.0 or higher

are eligible to receive the SDHSAA ACADEMIC ACHIEVEMENT TEAM AWARD.

Vermillion High School recipients of this award are: Boys golf team, oral interpretation, girls cross country team, boys cross country team, girls tennis team, All-State Chorus, volleyball team.

Help prevent a blood shortage during winter months Jan. 24

Every two seconds, someone, somewhere needs blood. During the winter months the need for blood is constant, however, poor weather conditions can make it challenging for donors to give blood. In an effort to boost the blood supply during the winter months, January has been designated as National Blood Donor Month to encourage donors to give blood. Just one unit of blood can help save the lives of up to three hospital patients.

You can make a difference by making a life-saving blood donation blood at the next

SESDAC/Vermillion Community Blood Drive. The blood drive will take place on Thursday, Jan. 24, from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. in the Bloodmobile at SESDAC, Inc, 1314 East Cherry Street.

For more information or to schedule an appointment to donate, please contact LifeServe Blood Center at 800.287.4903 or visit www.lifeservebloodcenter.org.

The Blood Center of Iowa joined operations with Siouxland Community Blood Bank in April, 2010 to become LifeServe Blood Center. As one of the 15th largest blood

centers in the country, LifeServe Blood Center provides blood and blood products to more than 90 hospitals located across Iowa, Nebraska and South Dakota.

LifeServe is committed to providing premier service to volunteer blood donors and access to a safe, quality blood supply for hospitals and patients. For more information about blood donation or to schedule an appointment to donate blood, call 800.287.4903 or visit www.lifeservebloodcenter.org.

POOL

From Page 01

facility when you combine it to the fact that some of our surrounding communities don't have a facility like this," Prescott said.

The consultant – Craig Roy of Water's Edge Aquatic Design – said a detailed financial analysis can be prepared for \$3,000-\$5,000.

The number of staff members is another concern. The current pool has a total of eight guards, while the 25-yard pool would require 16 guards on deck and four for rotation.

The 50-meter pool would need 20 on deck and five for rotation.

"It's a concern from that standpoint," Prescott said.

"Right now, sometimes we have some challenges when we get to August to find enough individuals to work at the pool and staff it for the final two weeks of the season. So, regardless of the conceptual designs the council is in favor of, it is one of those concerns that we have because both designs are going to require more staffing."

Prescott said Monday that the size of the completed facility also should be taken into account.

"We have limited space to work with," he said. "The bigger things get, the more space we take away from other non-pool-related functions of the park."

There is no hard timetable for the project as of yet.

"When we had our budget meeting last August, we talked about some possible funding

timeframes for the facility," Prescott said Tuesday. "We only want to design one. We're going to continue to work on identifying funding to construct the facility."

Possible construction would begin in the late summer of 2014 at the earliest, he said.

"We have suggested that from the standpoint of pooling some of the funding together from the 2014 and 2015 budget, as this construction would span over two budget years," Prescott said. "That's if we're funding 100 percent of the project. If there are some grants, donor dollars or items like that would help expedite raising money for it."

There are no plans to do so as of this time.

"It will probably take a couple months in and of itself to design the bid," Prescott said.



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