

the Mayor's Community Service Award.

Mayor Jack Powell presented the award to Roger Kozak at the annual Vermillion Area Chamber of Commerce and Development Company's banquet held March 20, 2012.

Before asking Roger to join him at the banquet podium, however, the mayor read a list of Kozak's many local accomplishments.

"Over the years, he has made many contributions to our community, to the University of South Dakota, to our state and to our nation," Powell said. "Many organizations and individuals have benefited from his talents, dedication and service."

April 2012

Barnhart spreads the 'gospel' of jazz at USD

The capacity audience that sat nearly elbow-to-elbow in the Colton Recital Hall in the Warren M. Lee Center for the Fine Arts didn't mind the cramped conditions Friday night, April 13.

They had arrived to hear Scotty Barnhart, a master jazz musician. He left no one disappointed after playing several numbers with the Colton Jazz Ensemble, under the direction of Dr. Timothy Farrell, and the USD Jazz Ensemble, directed by Dr. C.J. Koher.

Barnhart and his fellow musicians presented their interpretations of everything from "standards," such as "I Can't Get Started," and "I Can't Give You Anything But Love," to unique jazz arrangements, including "Under My Thumb," "Portrait of Louis Armstrong," and "Tutti for Cootie."

Students fired up about welding

"We're going to want to start welding in a circular motion."

After hearing that advice from their instructor, Mark Pier, six members of a welding class in Vermillion got fired up – literally – and made sparks fly.

The class, formally titled "Welding in Industry," is designed to help fill a growing employee demand in the Vermil-

lion area.

Steps had already been taken earlier this year to make the 35-hour adult course a reality, thanks to a joining of forces of the Vermillion School District, the Vermillion Chamber of Commerce and Development Company, and Masaba Mining Equipment of Vermillion.

May 2012

USD students suspected in Vermillion fraud investigation

On April 25, the Vermillion Police Department was notified of a man acting suspiciously at an ATM in downtown Vermillion.

Follow-up investigation revealed the man was using a debit card that had been issued as part of a tax return to withdraw money and appeared to be attempting to conceal his identity from the ATM camera. Further follow-up uncovered a conspiracy to file false tax returns using stolen identities.

The conspirators are able to have thousands of dollars placed on debit cards which were then mailed to them. The money was then drawn out of the debit cards before the IRS is able to determine that a fraud has been perpetrated.

Police detectives contacted and worked closely with U.S. Treasury Special Agents to secure and serve search warrants on the suspects, who were USD students living in the dorms.

Parry to USD grads: 'We need you'

Rodney R. Parry, M.D., the former dean of the University of South Dakota Sanford School of Medicine, told USD graduates that their soon-to-be alma mater is not resting on its laurels as it celebrates its 150th anniversary this year.

"Today, the university, while celebrating 150 years, is actually developing a new long range plan for commitment to education," said Parry, the keynote speaker at USD's 125th annual commencement exer-

cises held Saturday in the DakotaDome. "During a review of the expanded vision statement, President (James) Abbott state, 'USD exists for great students.' With a promise like that to our students, success of this institution going forward is assured."

Jim Abdnor, former US senator from SD, dies at 89

Former U.S. Sen. Jim Abdnor, the South Dakota Republican who ousted George McGovern from the Senate only to lose his seat after one term to another prominent Democrat, has died. He was 89.

Abdnor, who was a farmer, teacher and World War II veteran before jumping into politics, died Wednesday, May 16, 2012, his family said in a statement.

He had been in hospice care recently.

Williams leaving USD for Colorado State

In one grab, Colorado State University appears to have landed not only University of South Dakota head women's basketball coach Ryun Williams but also former coach Chad avin.

The news of Williams' departure was confirmed the weekend of May 20 by an incoming recruit and the news of Lavin's decision to be an assistant was confirmed by Yankton native Maggie Youngberg, a 2-year graduate assistant for Williams.

Williams leaves USD after compiling a 76-47 record in four seasons, all during the Division I transition, including back-to-back 20-win seasons and two straight post-season appearances.

Approach goals 'one bite at a time'

Just before they received their diplomas, the Rev. Steve Miller of the United Church of Christ told the Vermillion High School class of 2012 to approach their goals as if they were eating an elephant.

"One small bite at a time."

Miller said the African proverb usually is offered at the beginning of a big project, rather than the end, as it was Saturday afternoon during the graduation ceremony in the DakotaDome.

"Sometimes the great things we do in life look so big that we're so overwhelmed by them that we don't even know how to start," he said. "But this proverb reminds us that any big project can only be done in tiny little bites."

Dunn: Honor the fallen through service

An audience made up of people of all ages, including veterans, sat under the rows of flagpoles that make up the Clay County Veterans Memorial Monday morning, May 28, 2012.

A strong breeze breeze made the American flag and the banners representing the various branches of the U.S. armed forces snap to attention as Leighann Dunn, an Iraq veteran and SD/ND outreach coordinator of the Student Veterans of America spoke to the audience that gathered to honor the nation's war dead during Memorial Day services sponsored by the Vermillion VFW Clay Post 3061.

"Today is about the lives of the men and women who fought in America's battles, and who have served their country in support of the military," Dunn said.

"They have made a significant sacrifice in fighting for the freedom and liberty that we enjoy today."

June 2012

Jackley, Noem urge teamwork

Two state-level officials had a simple message for the attendees of the 2012 South Dakota Girls State: Work together.

U.S. Rep. Kristi Noem (R) and state attorney general Marty Jackley spoke of the importance of working as a team.

That is not something you see very often in politics, Noem said.

"You see everybody talking about just themselves. They're not talking about the people around them," she said. "We have a bit of a divisive, argumentative environment in politics today, and I'm hoping that we can change that."

More will get accomplished if people just work together, she added.

"I'm really hoping that this week, every challenge that you face, every discussion that you get into, that you'll

approach it from that viewpoint: How can we solve this problem? What can we do to make a decision on this rather than just sit on the fence?" she said.

Jackley agreed, saying that this cooperation can take place across party lines.

Although he is a Republican, Jackley said he has hired "a lot of very good Democrat lawyers."

"When I look at hires, I'm looking for the best lawyers," he said.

Daugaard urges Girls State delegates to 'think big'

Stay persistent and determined, get involved in public service and dream big.

These are the three pieces of advice Gov. Dennis Daugaard offered the attendees of 2012 South Dakota Girls State, whom he addressed Friday morning, June 1, in Aalfs Auditorium.

Daugaard opened with a quote from Calvin Coolidge:

"Nothing can take the place of persistence and determination. Talent will not. Nothing is more common than unsus-



Whitney Egbert (Rosalind), Cody Jamison Strand (Touchstone) and Brianna Wetrosky (Celia) are pictured in this scene of William Shakespeare's "As You Like It." The comedy performed Friday, Saturday and Sunday nights, June 8, 9 and 10, in the outdoor theatre at Prentis Park, was the highlight of the first annual South Dakota Shakespeare Festival held in Vermillion those three days. See more photos of the performance at spotted.plaintalk.net. (Photo by David Lias)



Sparks fly as a student in Vermillion's "Welding in Industry" class masters basic techniques taught by instructor Mark Pier. The second 35-hour session of the welding class began earlier this month. (Photo by David Lias)

15 YEARS IN BUSINESS **MURPH'S APPLIANCE** BIG CITY SELECTION...SMALL TOWN SERVICE SALES * SERVICE * PARTS
Hours: Mon - Fri: 9-5, Sat: 10-1, nights and weekends by appointment
KitchenAid, Maytag, Whirlpool, Amana
5 W Main Street, Vermillion • 605-624-7491

16 YEARS IN BUSINESS **POLARIS**
1997 Polaris Pkwy • Vermillion • (605) 624-4200

18 YEARS IN BUSINESS **Main Street Club** "Take out always available on regular menu"
11 West Main, Vermillion, SD Call 624-7670

19 YEARS IN BUSINESS **FAST AUTO GLASS** Auto Glass Repair & Replacement Commercial & Residential Now Offering Shower Glass
222 West Main • Vermillion, SD (605) 624-8170

21 YEARS IN BUSINESS **DQ** **905 E. Cherry Vermillion, SD 605.624.4191** **Julius**