

Jessica Kennedy said the fogging took place in zones one and two, which are on the north end of town above Clark Street. "The cool temperatures later in the spring helped keep the numbers down, and so just recently is when the numbers started climbing," she said. "We've been treating with larvacide, and that helps keep the numbers down." The fogging went well, Kennedy said.

National Music Museum Celebrates Anniversary

Monday was the official 40th anniversary of the National Music Museum (NMM), and plans are being made to ensure that it will become as national as its title implies. Museum director Dr. Cleveland Johnson laid out some of these plans during a special meeting with the Vermillion City Council Monday afternoon. "My goal at the museum is to make this place pop a lot more than it ever has before," Johnson said.

Burbank Man Wins \$50,000 on "The Winner Is"

Burbank native Doug Roegiers made it to the final round of the premiere episode of the musical talent show "The Winner Is," which aired at 8 p.m. Thursday, July 11 on NBC. Roegiers, one of six singers competing for a \$1 million prize, walked away with \$50,000. His style channels back to the days of the Big Band Swing era and his loyal fans know him as "The Crooner." He also performs with a nine-piece swing band Phat Cat Swinger.

Wakonda Family Featured on "American Farmer"

The entrepreneurial spirit of the Deb and Ron Hesla family of rural Wakonda will be featured in an upcoming broadcast of the television program entitled "American Farmer." The program, featuring a six-minute clip of the Heslas and their invention, Pro Mags, will air twice – at 12:30 p.m. Saturday, July 13, and 7:30 a.m. Tuesday, July 16. Saturday's broadcast of "American Farmer" can be seen on FamilyNet. The program is available via cable and on Channel 232 of the Dish Network.

Tuesday's re-broadcast of the program will appear on RFD TV, which is available on Channel 345 on Direct TV, and Channel 231 on the Dish Network. Midcontinent cable television subscribers in Vermillion who have signed up for a sports and variety package may find RFD-TV on channel 131. The star of the televised segment will be Pro Mags, a new gauge-wheel design that keeps planters debris-free.

Vermillion Community Theatre Presents "Robin Hood: Spirit of the Greene"

A unique musical experience awaits local lovers of the stage when the Vermillion Community Theatre (VCT) begins its four-day run of "Robin Hood: Spirit of the Greene" on Friday, July 19.

The VCT is dusting off a production first crafted 10 years ago by four Vermillion men who learned something in the process. When it comes to writing scripts, music and lyrics, they've found a way to be successful.

August 2013

USD Expands Muenster University Center

Summertime usually is a slow period on the campus of the University of South Dakota. That's not the case this year, however, with crews hard at work on the \$11.6 million expansion of the Muenster University Center (MUC). "It's really taken shape over the summer," said Phil Carter, media relations representative for USD. "The weather has cooperated, with the conditions being dry and favorable. Over the winter and into spring was kind of hinky, but I think by that time construction had started to evolve into interior work."

Eagle Creek Groundbreaking

Vermillion took a step into the future Tuesday morning. That's what multiple city and business officials said during a groundbreaking ceremony for Eagle Creek Software Services, which took place at the southwest corner of Princeton and Bower streets, north of the old Pamida building. "It's a beautiful day here, and it's going to be

a bright future," said Dr. Mel Ustad, director of commercialization at the South Dakota Governor's Office of Economic Development. Eagle Creek's president Ken Behrendt agreed, saying, "We think that this is the way the world's going to go. We think over the next 10 years there's going to be hundreds of thousands of jobs repatriated to the United States from offshore outsourcing, and we think they're going to go to South Dakota. "It's our mission, our goal, that we can bring those jobs to South Dakota," he said.

September 2013

Former USD Coach Dies

Jack Doyle, a man whose pioneering efforts in University of South Dakota athletics are still being felt to this day, has died. Doyle, 80, who served as the athletics director at USD for 15 years, passed away Friday morning at his home in Encinitas, CA, in the presence of his wife, Lois. Jack Doyle "This was a shock to us," said Chris Doyle, of Rapid City, one of Jack and Lois Doyle's sons in a phone conversation with the Vermillion Plain Talk. He called from an airport as he prepared to board a flight to California. "We knew that Dad was ill. He has been suffering from Parkinson's, and complications from Parkinson's," he said, adding that about two-and-a-half years ago, the disease, "really took a turn against him. It was just a slow and long process."

Fundraising Campaign Begins for St. Agnes Elementary School

Education has changed a great deal in the last 50 years. Trying to adapt to those changes with facilities that are half a century old is challenging, to say the least, to everyone associated with St. Agnes Elementary School in Vermillion. That's why the school will receive top priority as St. Agnes prepares to launch its public fundraising campaign on Sept. 11. An effort that in recent years has largely been an internal activity involving people associated with St.



Al Neuharth and Jack Marsh hold an afternoon press conference in the Al Neuharth Media Center in this file photo taken Oct. 8, 2009. That night, Neuharth presented Katie Couric, then anchor of the CBS Evening News, with the Al Neuharth Award for Excellence in the Media before a full house in the USD DakotaDome.

(Photo by David Lias)



The Vermillion Area Dance Organization presented its Mother's Day recital, "The Power of Dance," 2 p.m., Sunday, May 12, in the Vermillion High School Performing Arts Center. The two-hour show included two acts and 45 unique performances by scores of local dancers of all ages. Pictured are (from left) Isabelle Newcombe, Raygen Dean (jumping), Jenna Irwin, Willa Freeman, and Neveah Rusher. Full gallery of photos may be seen and purchased at spotted.plaintalk.net.

(Photo by David Lias)

Agnes Church and School in Vermillion will be introduced to the public on Wednesday, Sept. 11.

Following the celebration of a 5 p.m. Mass that day at St. Agnes Church, community members are invited to take part in an open house that will be held under a large tent on the school playground to mark the formal kickoff of the Campaign for St. Agnes.

The goal of the campaign is to raise \$3 million to make much needed improvements in facilities and programs of the St. Agnes Parish. Four specific areas have been identified: St. Agnes School, Calvary and Fairview cemeteries, the parish house and adult education.

Ribs, Rods and Rock 'n Roll

This year proved to be a good one for Team Spitfire – made up of Tim and Mary Olson, of Fargo, ND – at the annual Ribs, Rods and Rock 'n Roll event held last weekend in Vermillion.

Saturday afternoon, after placing high in several categories of the Kansas City Barbeque Society-sanctioned South Dakota BBQ Championship held Sept. 7 in Vermillion, the couple was presented the grand champion trophy and a check for \$2,000.

The championship attracted 27 teams from across the country to Vermillion last weekend.

Vehicle of Missing Teens Found in Brule Creek

ELK POINT – A lower than usual water level in a Union County creek led to the discovery Monday morning of a missing piece to a mysterious puzzle involving two Vermillion-area teen girls who disappeared in 1971.

Law enforcement authorities are fairly certain that the vehicle driven by Cheryl Miller and Pamela Jackson the night they went missing – a 1960 Studebaker Lark – has been found in Brule Creek in Union County.

"I received a call here from an individual who came across a vehicle that was submerged in Brule Creek that is north of here a few miles off of 310th Street," Sheriff Dan Limoges said at a press conference in the Union County Courthouse Monday afternoon.

Joining Limoges at the press briefing were South Dakota Attorney General Marty Jackley and Union County States Attorney Jerry Miller.

"Upon my arrival, the vehicle was submerged, you could see the undercarriage of a vehicle and four tires sticking out of the water," the sheriff said.

Limoges said he contacted officials with the South Dakota Division of Criminal Investigation (DCI). Officers from that department, as well as personnel from the South Dakota Highway Patrol, the state Department of Transportation, and the Union County and Clay County sheriff's offices and fire departments, have been working at the scene.

Skeletal Remains Found

Attorney General Marty Jackley announced late Tuesday afternoon that skeletal remains have been recovered from the 1960 Studebaker found near a bridge in Brule Creek in northern Union County Monday.

The automobile, and its teenaged occupants, Pam Jackson and Cheryl Miller, both of Vermillion, were last seen on May 29, 1971.

October 2013

Monks create Mandala

The USD School of Medicine has been home to some unique visitors for the past week. Since Monday morning, a group of six monks from Gaden Shartse Monastery have been working to create a sand mandala in the atrium of the Andrew E. Lee Memorial Medicine and Science Building. Mandalas are a two-dimensional painting made from colored sand. The one being made now at USD represented the Buddha of Compassion.

Coach Freidel passes away

Mike Freidel, a former assistant head football coach and defensive coordinator for the University of South Dakota Coyotes, passed away Sunday, Oct. 6. He was 57.

Funeral services are scheduled for 11 a.m. Thursday, Oct. 10, at St. Agnes Catholic Church in Vermillion. Visitation will begin at 5 p.m. Oct. 9 at the church, with a prayer service at 6:30 p.m.

Freidel was severely injured while working on a Wyoming ranch in June 2006. While he was inflating a tire on a water truck, the tire exploded. He was struck by the exploding tire and the wheel rim.

Former USD dean dies

A former dean of USD's College of Fine Arts has died. John A. Day, who served as dean from 1980 to 2004, died this weekend in a Sioux Falls hospital.

"It is very sad," said Dr. Larry Schou, the current dean of the College of Fine Arts. "I know he has been

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