

COMMUNITY CALENDAR

FRIDAY, JULY 6

• Hospital Auxiliary meeting at Sanford Vermillion Board Room, 20 S. Plum, Administrative entrance.

SATURDAY, JULY 7

• Vermillion Area Farmer's Market at 9 a.m.-noon, downtown Vermillion at the Platz, Market and Main streets.
• Overeaters Anonymous at 9 a.m. Location: Sanford Vermillion Medical Center, 20 S. Plum St., administration entrance just south of the hospital entrance in the board room.
• Gayville Hall's "The Hay Country Jamboree" at 8 p.m. in Gayville, 502 Washington St. For ticket information, call 605-267-2859.

SUNDAY, JULY 8

• Benefit for Christopher Olson at Eagles Club, 114 W. Main. Spaghetti dinner at 4 p.m.; auction and entertainment at 5 p.m. All proceeds will assist the Olson family with medical expenses for baby Christopher. Donations also being accepted at Bank of the West - Christopher Olson Account.

MONDAY, JULY 9

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

TUESDAY, JULY 10

• Vermillion Rotary Club meeting from noon-1 p.m. in the Freedom Forum Conference Room of the Al Neuhaarth Media Center.

WEDNESDAY, JULY 11

• Pleasant Valley Lutheran Church is having an ice cream social from 5-7:30 p.m. Free-will donation. Location is 45918 308th Street in rural Vermillion.

THURSDAY, JULY 12

• Vermillion Area Farmers Market from 3-7 p.m. at the Clay County Fairgrounds.
• Cancer support group meeting at 2:30 p.m. in the Sletwold Room at Trinity Lutheran Church, 816 E. Clark St. For additional information, call Marcy at 624-8706.
• Thursdays on the Platz, corner of Market and Main St. from 6-8 p.m. Live music outdoors on Ratingen Platz featuring "The Public Domain Tune Band." The event is sponsored by the Vermillion Area Chamber & Development Co. and the USD Foundation. Food is available at every event, as well as water, pop, wine and beer. It's a great chance to sit outdoors with friends and family, listen to music and enjoy the great outdoors. Bring the family, have some food and enjoy some local entertainment.

PLANNING AHEAD:

• JULY 14 — Vermillion Area Farmers Market from 9 a.m.-noon, downtown Vermillion at the Platz, Market and Main St.
• JULY 14 — Overeaters Anonymous at 9 a.m. Location: Sanford Vermillion Medical Center, 20 S. Plum St., administration entrance just south of the hospital entrance in the board room.
• JULY 16 — Dakota Hospital Foundation 7th annual Sheri Ellis Golf Social. Registration and team photos 11:30 a.m.-12:45 p.m. Shotgun start at 1 p.m. Dinner/program/prizes at 6:30 p.m. Registration due Monday, July 2. Contact Jill Christopherson for more information, call (605) 638-8465 or e-mail jill.christopherson@sanfordhealth.org.
• JULY 16 — Music Recital: Bethany Amundson presents her graduate trumpet recital at 1 p.m. in the Colton Recital Hall, Warren M. Lee Center for Fine Arts on USD campus. Open to the public at no charge.
• JULY 16-AUG. 1 — Olympic/Educational Tour. A once-in-a-lifetime trip to Ireland, Great Britain and the Summer 2012 Olympics in London. For more information on this 17-day trip please contact Lenni Billberg at lenni.billberg@k12.sd.us or (605) 670-2717.
• JULY 17 — Trinity Lutheran Church in Vermillion is hosting its annual Ice Cream Social in the church fellowship hall. Serving will be from 5-7 p.m. The menu consists of taverns, chips, homemade pies and cakes, lemonade, coffee and free ice water. This year we will also be selling beautiful hand-made aprons. All are welcome!
• JULY 18 — Dakota Classic Cruisers car club will bring their 21st annual car show, Tri State Drive-In Cruisers, to downtown Vermillion beginning at 5 p.m. This drive in cruise brings many Iowa, Nebraska and South Dakota visitors to our community and provides an opportunity for Vermillion merchants to showcase their businesses and enjoy additional sales. Come on out to enjoy the classic cars and help us roll out the red carpet to welcome visitors to our community!
• JULY 20-23 — Vermillion Community Theatre presents the Broadway musical, "Annie" on Friday, July 20, Saturday, July 21, and Monday, July 23 at 7 p.m. There will be a matinee on Sunday, July 22 at 2:30 p.m. All performances will be at the Vermillion High School Performing Arts Center. See vermillioncommunitytheatre.org for additional information.
• JULY 21 — Eighth Annual Heritage Music Fest from 11 a.m.-9:30 p.m. at Elk Point, 402 S. Douglas. Live music throughout the day. Roast beef dinner late afternoon. Bring lawn chairs. For more information, call Elaine Peacock, 605-356-2069/www.elainepeacock.com or Don Gray 605-356-2243.
• JULY 21 — Gayville Hall presents "The Poker Alice Band with Brenda George," at 8 p.m. in Gayville, 502 Washington St. For ticket information, call (605) 267-2859.
• JULY 25 — Vermillion Community Blood Drive from 10 a.m.-1 p.m. and 2:30-6 p.m. at Sanford Health Vermillion, 20 S. Plum St. All who donate receive special t-shirt and free lunch.
• AUG. 25-26 — The Great Dakota Wine Fest at Valiant Vineyards, 1500 W. Main St. Cooking with wine demonstrations, live music and more. Visit www.greatdakotawinefest.com.

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 vcdc@vermillionchamber.com or contact the Plain Talk at 605-624-2695 or e-mail david.lias@plaintalk.net.

Extreme fire danger a concern

Due to extreme fire danger, we are urging all visitors to use extra caution while enjoying public lands. Forecasted hot and dry weather and the national fire activity level have led to an increased pressure on available firefighting resources.

While visiting Badlands National Park and Minuteman Missile National Historic Site, please be aware of the following fire-danger related rules and regulations.

- Campfires are not allowed under any circumstances.
- Fireworks are prohibited.
- All vehicles must travel on designated roads and park in designated areas. Driving or parking your vehicle in tall, dry vegetation can ignite a

grass fire.

- Extinguish all smoking material in appropriate, approved containers.

As you visit other public lands, please follow all fire restrictions. The Buffalo Gap National Grasslands are under Stage II Fire Restrictions which restrict camp fires, open flames, and smoking.

For more information, contact the National Grasslands Visitor Center in Wall, SD at (605) 279-2125.

For more park information, see <http://www.nps.gov/badl> or on Twitter @BadlandsEdu, and @Badlands_Ranger.

Ready, Set, Grow! Gardening programs offer bevy of benefits to South Dakota communities

Gardeners will attest that nothing beats a homegrown tomato - or any homegrown produce for that matter. And, that's certainly part of the reason that Master Gardener, community garden and farmers market programs have flourished.

As a testament, several communities across South Dakota are working with SDSU Extension and focusing their efforts on gardening and locally grown produce. But there's more to these programs than just the delectable fruits and vegetables that are harvested.

Marla Reede, who was on the board that formed the Lemmon Area Farmers Market last year and is currently working to establish a community garden for Lemmon residents, explains it this way: "I feel this helps our community by establishing a sense of unity among fellow gardeners and growers while also spreading these healthy, home grown products around."

In Wagner, Amy Boom has worked with SDSU Extension through the Wagner Horizons Project over the past three years. She says, "Community gardens create friendships and build social capital. We have found in Wagner that social capital is the most important asset our community possesses."

Wagner launched its community garden in May and

held its first farmers market June 1, with the market to be held every Friday throughout the summer. Chat nights among gardeners are planned at the garden throughout the summer, and a grant has been applied for to have an EBT (Food Stamp) machine at the farmers market so that all income levels can have access to the fresh, local produce.

Jeff Stewart, who is working alongside Boom to make the Wagner Farmers Market a success, says the reward is in seeing locally produced, healthy food sold back into the community.

Steve Hernandez, works with SDSU Extension as the Beginning Farmer/Rancher program manager on the Pine Ridge Indian Reservation. He shares similar sentiments, saying, "Our garden projects and farmers market are very important to our communities. We are able to provide healthy food to our community members at affordable prices and the convenience of buying local. In addition, we are able to teach sustainable gardening techniques with the intent of having more gardeners participate in our farmers markets as well as being able to provide for their own family needs."

Pine Ridge has offered the gardening program for three years and is in the second year of their

farmers market. Hernandez says feedback has been positive and he is optimistic for the future. He says, "Our goal is to saturate the reservation with vegetables and address our health disparities such as diabetes and heart disease. Currently, we are limited to the availability of fresh and affordable produce."

Recipe For Success
Chris Zdorovtsov, SDSU

Extension community development field specialist, believes the gardening and farmers market effort can be a recipe for success for rural communities because it increases access to fresh fruits and vegetables, and the money for those products is staying in the local community.

"This can help create some sustainability for the economy in rural communities," she states.

To that end, SDSU Extension has been a dedicated partner helping communities across the state achieve their gardening and farmers market goals.

A long-term example of this is the Master Gardener training program that Extension has offered since 1984. To date, more than 1,300 South Dakotans have graduated from the program - participants must complete 60 hours of classwork and volunteer 50 hours before being certified as a Master Gardener.

First WNV detections reported

South Dakota is reporting its first West Nile virus (WNV) detections of the season, a positive mosquito pool in Brookings County and one in Brown County.

"This will be the eleventh year of West Nile transmission in South Dakota and it may be tempting to be complacent," said Dr. Lon Kightlinger, state epidemiologist for the Department of Health. "We need to remember that it can be a serious, even fatal illness, and get in the habit of protecting ourselves by using repellents, limiting exposure, and getting rid of mosquito breeding spots."

To prevent mosquito bites and reduce the risk of WNV, the department recommends the following personal precautions:

- Use mosquito repellents (DEET, picaridin, oil of lemon eucalyptus, or IR3535) and limit exposure by covering up.
- Limit time outdoors from dusk to midnight when Culex mosquitoes are most active.
- Get rid of standing water that gives mosquitoes a place to breed.
- Support local mosquito control efforts.

In South Dakota peak transmission of WNV is July through early September. South Dakota has reported 1,759 cases, including 26 deaths, since its first case in 2002.

Personal precautions are especially important for those at high risk for WNV - people over 50, pregnant women, transplant patients, individuals with diabetes or high blood pressure, and those with a history of alcohol abuse. People with a severe or unusual headache should see their physician.

Find WNV prevention information on the web at <http://westnile.sd.gov>.

CHAMBER CHAT

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

Chamber Business:

Please join the VCDC Ambassadors in welcoming Vermillion's newest business, ProCellular, at 918 E. Cherry St., with a Ribbon Cutting Ceremony on Thursday, July 12, at 4 p.m. The public is welcome! Refreshments will be served.

Business After Hours hosted by Builders Choice (BCI), 1212 North Norbeck Street, is Tuesday, Aug. 7, from 5-7 p.m. Tours of the BCI facility will be given. Please join us to make new contacts, socialize and find out what Builders Choice has to offer! Appetizers and refreshments will be served.

The Vermillion Area Community Foundation is accepting proposals for projects to improve our community. Forms for submitting proposals by groups or organizations are available at the Chamber of Commerce office. While funds available are limited we can fully fund small one time requests or partially fund larger projects. Your annual donations to our foundation will provide us with increasing funds each year for worthwhile projects.

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 5-7 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.



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For Michelle McGregor, RN, BSN, being a good nurse is about finding your passion then applying it. She loves learning and finds reward in sharing that with other nurses. As a cancer survivor she understands the patient perspective and she shares that with the new generation of nurses. It's work that's not for everyone. To make a difference through education. For Michelle and all of our nurse educators, we thank you for sharing your knowledge.

yearofthenurse.sanfordhealth.org

SANFORD HEALTH

Michelle McGregor, RN, BSN

100-1195-4214 6/12

WEDDINGS

Lawson-Rydstrom

Katelyn Lawson, Ireton, IA, and Tony Rydstrom, Vermillion, announce their plans to marry.

They will exchange vows on Saturday, July 7, 2012, at the Big Springs Baptist Church in Alcester. A reception will follow at The Eagles in Vermillion.

The couple's parents are Rick and Gina Lawson and Chuck and Joyce Rydstrom.



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