

ARREST

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didn't cash it out, and had left," the chief said. "The Vermillion Police Department along with some DCI agents staked out the business and about three hours later, the guy came back with a \$50 winning ticket which was clearly forged."

Law was arrested, and Betzen said the DCI is continuing its investigation. "There are a variety of victims throughout southeast South Dakota," he said. "We did serve search warrants, and we found a bunch of stuff that indicates he had been perpetrating this type of scheme a lot, and they (the DCI) are putting together a case against him."

Betzen contacted the Plain Talk Tuesday morning with additional information. "He (Law) has been charged by the DCI for forgery, petty theft second degree, possession of a controlled substance and possession of drug paraphernalia."

Law's bond hearing is

scheduled for today (Friday) at the Clay County Courthouse.

Betzen said Law is apparently from Iowa. "He is not from Vermillion," he said. "Our detectives worked closely with the DCI, and the DCI took over the case."

The man had been in the Clay County Jail in Vermillion as of Friday. Betzen was not certain Tuesday morning if he was still being held in the county jail.

A pair of Yankton businesses reported Monday, June 20, that they had given money to a male suspect and later discovered the "winning" video lottery ticket was, in fact, a fake.

Betzen said it is likely that Law may also be responsible for the Yankton thefts.

"It very well may be the same individual," he said, adding that having the word spread among video lottery machine owners concerning the man's suspicious behavior aided in his capture.

"He met the M.O. (method of operation) and the owner of the business called us," Betzen said.

TENNIS

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Local fundraising efforts must be complete by the end of this month to keep the high school tennis program operating.

"We have to raise \$8,500 by Aug. 1," Ford said with an optimistic tone. "It's not going to be easy, but we were able to do it last year and we've got a good start this year."

Young athletes and their parents are chipping away at that funding with efforts both big and small, ranging from the weekend's tournament to simple word of mouth throughout the community about the need for private donations.

"We also gave an assignment to all of the boys and girls in the program - that their families

would contact family and friends and try to raise \$200 each," Ford said. "With 30 kids in the program, if they all do it, that would raise about \$6,000."

"Between that and the tournament, we're going to be pretty close if that works out," he said. "It's been a good tournament, and we've had cloud cover today (Saturday afternoon) for most of the matches so that worked out well."

People interested in helping with the tennis program fundraising efforts may send donations to the Vermillion Public Schools Foundation (Tennis Fund). All donations will be tax-deductible.

Donations may be addressed to:

Vermillion Public Schools Foundation
PO Box 569
Vermillion, SD, 57069
Attn: Tennis Fund

State Fair Beef Cook-Off entries due Aug. 1

South Dakota is known for its good cooks and great beef—and the 2012 South Dakota State Fair Beef Cook-Off is the opportunity to put a spotlight on the state's accomplished home cooks and great-tasting, nutritious beef in a friendly, fun annual event.

"If you're one of our state's good amateur cooks armed with a great beef recipe, it's time to enter the State Fair Beef Cook-Off," says Karla Pazour, chair of the event. "We'd love anyone who enjoys cooking to participate," says Pazour. "The State Fair is a true South Dakota affair with competition in everything from horticulture to livestock breeds." The Beef Cook-Off is one more friendly competition featuring grills, skillsets and beef.

Entries and recipes are due

Aug. 1 for the State Fair Beef Cook-Off to be held Saturday, Sept. 1 at the South Dakota State Fair in Huron. The contest is open to non-professional South Dakota residents in either the youth division (10-18 years) or adult division (19 and older). Beef recipes submitted must feature a main meal entrée appropriate for entertaining or special occasion meals. Judging is based on taste, appearance, originality, nutrition and ease of preparation. The winner of the youth division will receive a \$250 cash prize, while the adult division winner will take home \$500 in cash. Thanks to the Beef Check-off dollar, there will be \$1,500 in cash prizes awarded.

Pazour said, "Many people have fond memories of their favorite meals on vacation or

at trend-setting restaurants." This year's cooking theme "DESTINATION: DINNER" challenges the cook to replicate recipes that are representative of specific locations—think Bourbon Street Steak, Lone Star Salad, Beef Burgundy, Korean-Style Ribs, explains Pazour. Beef's versatility makes it a natural for various ethnic creations. She says, "Sometimes you can escape from life's ordinary by simply creating an extraordinary beef meal."

Individuals selected to compete will actually prepare their beef entrée in a public area during the Beef Cook-Off, allowing participants to interact with state fair attendees. Judges are kept in a secluded location and recipes are judged completely on the finished product, not on cooking procedures.

Hosted by the South Dakota CattleWomen and funded by the SD Beef Industry Council through the Beef Check-off, the State Fair Beef Cook-Off is an excellent way, says Pazour, to educate consumers on the 29 lean cuts of beef along with beef's versatility, ease of preparation and excellent taste. For more information and to print an entry form for the State Fair Beef Cook-Off, go to www.sdbef.org or www.sdstatefair.com. Entry forms and recipes must be submitted by August 1 on the www.sdbef.org website or to Karla Pazour, SD Beef Cook-Off, 25725 350th Ave., Pukwana, SD 57370. Finalists will be selected and notified by August 17. Any additional questions about the contest can be directed to Pazour at (605) 894-4490.

NEW

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help in a manner where we have a controlled cost scenario for a physician.

"We can take over all of the business administration to help them get paid for their services so that they can focus in on the care of the patients in the communities that they serve," he said.

Employees of Vermillion's Alleviant office will have a variety of duties, including claim coding, sending claims to insurance payers, and posting payments that come back from insurance payers.

"They'll also be working with payers on claims that are denied, and providing the insurance payers the right information to get those claims paid," Boland said. "They'll be educating patients on their billing statements and who owes what from where, and they'll be providing back statistics to the physicians so that the physicians can see how their businesses are running."

The services that will be provided by Alleviant's Vermillion staff will be a "win-win" for both physicians and their patients.

"Our services enable the back office to run efficiently, and that lowers the overall cost of delivery of health care from the administrative side," Boland said. "The nice thing is that it enables the physician to

focus in on the actual clinical care needs of the community, which is a win-win again, too, because you've got physicians who are focused in on their clinical crafts, and you've got patients who are getting the best possible care that they can get in any community where they may live."

Alleviant's Mitchell office currently employs approximately 100 people; 42 people staff its Plankinton site.

"The Alleviant offices right now are solely in South Dakota," he said. "We've had great success in finding and employing folks here in South Dakota that have the skills that make them very necessary and very integral to the success of the physicians' offices."

"It's been a very loyal and stable workforce," Boland said. "It's enabled us to build a business that's very predictable and delivers a lot of value to the physicians that we serve. We find all of that combination to be very, very compelling, and a reason why we want to continue to grow here in South Dakota."

Alleviant serves physicians throughout the United States, from coast to coast.

"We're not limited to just one area; we serve physicians in California and we have physicians on the East coast, from New York to Georgia, and we've got them in-between," Boland said.

Alleviant's U.S.-based processing centers in South Dakota also offer reliability and cost advantage over most

alternatives, providing physician organizations a lower-cost alternative to manage the profitability and growth of their organization over time.

Alleviant is backed by a deep bench of industry thought leaders and consultants within Navigant Healthcare who assist health systems, physician organizations and payers in designing, developing and implementing integrated solutions that create high-performing healthcare organizations.

Alleviant's business model will remain steady, whatever the U.S. Supreme Court may decide concerning the constitutionality of Obamacare. The High Court is expected to announce its ruling today (Thursday).

"No matter where you stand on the political issues, everybody is trying to figure out a way to increase the quality of the care that's being delivered, and decrease the cost of that care that's being delivered," he said. "Regardless of the Supreme Court decision, Alleviant and Navigant, as a company, are positioned well to try to help folks deliver their services at a lower cost, and to be able to overall control the costs of health care and to help drive up that care factor."

"We're less concerned about the politics of it," Boland said, "and are more concerned about helping the whole industry segment become more efficient."

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