## Clay County Farmers Union camp is July 12

For decades, cooperative businesses have had a dramatic impact on the South Dakota economy and the well-being of our rural communities. That's why Farmers Union organizations from across the state host annual day camps for children to learn about cooperative business and the important role they play in South Dakota. This year's theme, "Farmers Union is our name, cooperation is our game," shows the emphasis the family farm organization places on working together toward a common goal.

All children ages 6-13 are invited to attend the Clay County Farmers Union day camp scheduled Friday, July 12, at Prentis Park in Vermillion, to learn about cooperation and other topics like financial literacy, agriculture and leadership.

This year's camp will include a number of activities for young people. The registration fee will be \$5 for non-Farmers Union members and free for members. Registration will begin at 9:30 a.m. with camp from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. There will be swimming and campers are asked to bring suit, towel, \$4 or pool pass, and sturdy shoes for other activities. Campers are also asked to bring a sack lunch.

"Many of our rural communities in South Dakota rely on cooperative business for

fuel, food, electricity, telecommunications and other services," said Bonnie Geyer, state education director. "We hope young people will attend the camp to learn many important lessons and life skills that they can apply to their own lives. They'll learn about teamwork, agriculture, leadership and other skills while having fun in a safe and friendly environment."

Campers will participate in cooperative games and hands-on team building activities including a human board game to teach young people about Farmers Union, cooperatives and financial literacy where they will test their financial knowledge. The young people will also do a craft project where they will decorate their own wooden bank to promote saving money. All campers will receive a free T-shirt and snack. Campers will walk away with wonderful memories and a greater understanding of the importance of cooperation.

Registration forms can be found online at www.sdfu.org. You can also pick them up at your local Farmers Union Insurance office, or your local cooperative.

For more information contact Farmers Union State Education Director Bonnie Geyer at (605) 352-6761 ext. 125 or email her at bgeyer@sdfu.org



## **Asphalt surface** treatments underway in region

The South Dakota Department of Transportation advises motorists that asphalt surface treatments and placement of permanent pavement markings are scheduled to begin on highways in Charles Mix, Clay and Yankton counties this week.

Work will be done at the following locations:

• Highway 50 from the intersection of Highway 46 to five miles south.

• Highway 46 from the intersection of 434th Avenue to the intersection of Highway 81.

•Highway 153 from the intersection of Highway 52 to the intersection of Highway 50.

· Highway 52 from the intersection of Summit Street to the intersection of 439th Avenue.

•Highway 19 from the intersection of Highway 50 to the intersection of Highway 46.

Traffic will be reduced to one lane and guided through the projects by flaggers and a pilot car. Motorists can expect short delays. Traffic will be maintained to businesses and residences while work is ongoing.

The project is scheduled to be completed by July 12 and the prime contractor is The Road Guys of Yankton.

For more information, contact Ronald Peterson, Rodney Gall or Greg Putnam with the Department of Transportation at (605) 668-2929.

For complete road construction information, visit www.safetravelusa.com or dial 511.

## Fire marshal urges Fourth of July fireworks safety

Legal sale of fireworks in South Dakota begins on Thursday, June 27, and Fire Marshal Paul Merriman is urging residents to be safe and sensible as they celebrate Independence Day.

"Fireworks have long been a traditional part of the Fourth of July celebration in South Dakota, but every year we have a few injuries and some unintentional fires," Merriman said. "While much of the state has experienced much-needed moisture in recent months, we still caution anyone using fireworks to cooperate in keeping us all safe and fire-free. Common sense goes a long way."

The 2013 South Dakota Legislature changed state law to allow the discharge of fireworks from June 27 until the Sunday after July 4. This year, that means it's legal to discharge fireworks through Sunday, July 7. Previously, July 5 was the legal end date for use of fireworks in the state.

Individual cities may adopt stricter limits on use of fireworks, and Merriman suggests ordinances and regulations.

GUBBEL

**WANTED:** 

Old Cars

Farm Machinery

Any Type of

Scrap Iron
• Grain Bin

He also said staff with the State Fire Marshal's Office will be out during the legal sales period inspecting retail fireworks stands to make sure the products being offered for sale in South Dakota are legal consumer fireworks.

'We aren't trying to take the fun out of the holiday, but we do want to make sure the fireworks being sold meet legal requirements," Merriman said.

The National Fire **Protection Association** says recent statistics show that nationally in 2010 fireworks caused an estimated 1,100 structure fires, 300 vehicle fires and 14,100 outside and other fires with eight civilian deaths and \$36 million in property damage. The risk of fireworks injury was highest for children age 5-14, the association said.

Merriman offered a few simple safety tips: Follow the instructions on the product, avoid using fireworks in places where a fire could start and keep a source of water handy.

Sparklers are popular with younger children, but they can cause painful burns and should be used Merriman said.

We now offer a towing service

## **SOUTHEAST FARM TOUR IS JULY 9**

SDSU Extension will be hosting a tour of the Southeast Farm near Beresford on July 9, from 1:30-7:30 p.m. The tour will be led by Farm Manager Peter Sexton. The program will have presentations by SDSU Extension and NRCS staff and will include a trade show with equipment from John Deere, International, and Raven Industries. NRCS and SDSU Extension will also have displays. Directions to plot: 29974 University Road, Beresford, which is six miles west of Beresford (I-29 Exit 47) on Highway 46 and three miles south on University Road.

Plot tours and indoor presentations will cover numerous topics including: Building Soil Quality led by Jeff Hemenway, NRCS Soil Quality Specialist; Multi-Hybrid Corn Planter led by Peter Sexton, Associate Professor/Southeast Farm Supervisor and Doug Prairie, Product Manager with Raven Industries; Weed Control led by Darrell Deneke, SDSU Extension IPM Coordinator; Soybean Date of Planting led by Graig

Reicks, SDSU Plant Science Research Associate.; Grazing Annual Forages led by Warren Rusche, SDSU Extension Cow/Calf Field Specialist; Sudden Death Syndrome of Soybeans led by Connie Strunk, SDSU Extension Plant Pathology Field Specialist; Manure Application Effects on Soil led by Ron Gelderman SDSÚ Extension Soils Specialist/Plant Science Professor.; Micronutrients led by Nathan Mueller, SDSU Extension Agronomist/Assistant Professor Assistant Professor.; Flame Weeder led by Ben Arlt SDSU Plant Science Graduate Student.; Drainage and Tiling led by Chris Hay, SDSU Extension Water Management Specialist/Assistant Professor; Crop Pest Management led by Ada Szczepaniec, SDSÚ Extension Entomologist/Assistant Professor.

The research day is open to the public and everyone is welcome to attend. For more information call (605) 563-2989 or e-mail se.farms@sdstate.edu.

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