

Volunteer

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that that person loves doing I would like that person to be challenged to think how can I turn that into something I can do for the care center residents."

According to Rolfes, past performances have included people getting ready for a recital who come and perform for the residents as a dress rehearsal.

"We have a nice piano and we also were donated several years back a new sound system," she said. "So I've got an actual sound board and the capability to use, I think, four microphones. We don't have a big auditorium, everything takes place in our main dining room, but we are fairly set up there for music groups. Some bring their own stuff but as far as someone who just wants to come in and play the piano or sing or bring their guitar and use our sound system, we're pretty well set up that way."

Kids and pets are also welcome according to Rolfes. "Kids and pets are always a win-win situation with the elderly," she said. "You can't go wrong bringing in a pet or a child. They love it from the minute you walk in the door."

Understandably, pet owners and parents need to abide by some rules.

"All they have to do for pets is have a current vet record that shows they're current on all their immunizations and of course they have to be free of fleas and ticks and be clean when you bring them in and have to stay on a leash," Rolfes said. "Cats are not allowed. There have been too many allergies."

With your kids they can't be tearing around and really naughty or bringing them in when they're snotty-nosed and sick but I would definitely encourage volunteers to have that be part of their volunteer services."

According to Rolfes, children visiting do not need to undergo the TB test like volunteering adults.

The best times to visit, especially if you're planning on just a chat or a fireplace guitar performance are usually right before or after meals when the residents begin gathering with little going on.

These times include mornings from about 10:30 to 11:30, after lunch from around 12:30 to 2 and before dinner from 3:30 to about 5:30.

For those wishing to volunteer for activities, most morning activities take place at 10 or 10:30, afternoon activities at 2 or 2:30 and evening activities at 6:30 or 7.

"Weekends are not nearly as scheduled with activities," Rolfes said. "We have more down-time because I don't have as many staff here so we only have one big weekend activity on Saturdays and Sundays and that's typically at 2:30 in the afternoon."

Rolfes has worked for the center for 10 years.

"I truly can say I love my job," she said. "I love old people. To me they're just part of society that are a wealth of information and stories and wisdom. For example we have, I think, 10 or 12 World War II vets here. That's like living history to be able to sit and visit with them. To be able to visit with someone that kids are reading about in their history books is priceless. I think a lot of people just don't take advantage of it."

Volunteering at the center benefits everybody according to Rolfes.

"When there's volunteers that come in, it's a day-brightener for the residents because that person has taken time out of their day," she said. "It's like a little breath of fresh air comes in from the outside. They look forward to those interactions with people. I would tell you most of our volunteers who have been here regularly; they really develop some friendships and bonds here."

For any questions regarding volunteering at the Center, contact Julie Rolfes at 605-638-8427 or by email at julie.rolfes@sanfordhealth.

Results

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purchases pursuant to SCCL 35-4-60.2. was retained by a vote of 761-445.

• Referred Measure: An ordinance amending Title XI, adding Chapter 121, Day Care, creating a requirement for day care businesses to register with the City of Vermillion and provide for certain health and safety requirements was adopted by a vote of 629-537.

Due to the election date, City Council has moved the registration date for daycares to August 1, in order to allow daycare owners to have the chance to register without requiring an inspection for the first year.

The registration form for in-home daycare providers is now available online or at City Hall in the Administration Office. To view and print the registration packet, go to <http://tinyurl.com/DaycarePacket>. Applications can be submitted in person, by mail to 25 Center Street, Vermillion, SD 57069, or by email to jennifer@cityofvermillion.com. If you have any questions please call (605) 677-7050.

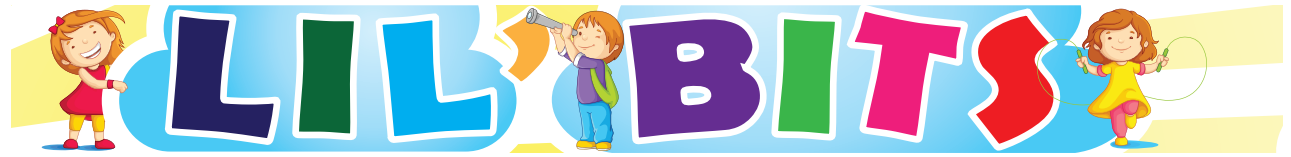
During the noon meeting the council also heard a report from Jose Dominguez regarding a public meeting that was held July 1 on the downtown improvements project.

Dominquez said there were 24 people in attendance and that he felt the overall feeling was people want the project to be completed.

He noted that he is applying for a Department of Transportation TAP grant that has a maximum value of \$400,000, which would be used to cover pedestrian amenities only.

Due to the potential project the City Council agreed to push back the signal project slated for downtown one year in order to avoid having to do duplicate work in the area.

At this point the city is considering doing a survey of business owners in the downtown area, as they feel another hearing would only attract the same people who have attended the first two.



The Magic Of Magnets

BY SARAH WETZEL
For the Plain Talk

Kids at the Vermillion library had a chance to explore and learn about the properties of magnets Monday as part of the Summer Reading Program.

This time, the activities were Magneto-themed as kids learned why stuff sticks.

First the kids were given magnets and asked to observe their properties along with thinking of other places they have seen magnets.

"We have magnets at my house," said Connor, 4.

"They stick to the fridge," observed Henry, 7. "They stick through paper."

The children were given a bag full of objects to experiment with and see what the magnets would stick to.

"This is plastic so it won't stick," said Libby, 8. "Ooh, a coin and Nails."

"I'll test the things that do stick, you test the things that don't," she said handing a pile of objects she hypothesized would not stick to a partner.

In some cases, the kids guessed right. "I'm guessing that this won't stick," said Henry reaching for a fuzzy ball.

"Yup, it doesn't."

In other cases the kids were surprised.

"Most of the stuff doesn't didn't stick," Henry reported. "I was surprised that the penny didn't stick."

Connor found items that stuck even in the pile of items the kids expected not to stick.

"It finally works!" He said holding up his magnet with a pipe cleaner stuck to it. "Let me try out the straw. No, it doesn't stick. I was surprised the button didn't stick."

The discovery continued. "Let's try the other pipe cleaner,"



SARAH WETZEL/FOR THE PLAIN TALK

Kids at the Vermillion Public Library experimented and explored the properties of magnets at Monday's science activity.

Libby said. "I was surprised that the pipe cleaner stuck."

The children learned that though magnets seem attracted to metal, only Iron and Steel actually stick to magnets which is why items like the penny did not stick to their magnets.

Exploring the Kozak room of the library, the kids found other things containing Iron and Steel.

"I'll show you something that does stick," Libby said to Connor, showing him a metal pole. "Mine also stuck to the thing by the door."

Next the kids explored magnetic fields.

"It's the part that makes things connect," Henry explained.

"It's kind of like static electricity," Libby added.

The kids used a paper clip attached to a string to test how strong the magnetic field was on their magnets.

"It doesn't go very far," Henry observed.

Some doughnut-shaped magnets were placed on a stick with similar poles facing one another to show the kids that like-poles repel each other.

"It feels like there's a bubble," Libby observed.

In between learning all about magnets, kids will be kids.

"This would make a good lock pick," Libby said, bending a paper clip.

"I made a sword," announced Henry. "It's tiny but it still hurts. Poke! Poke!"

"My controller broke," Connor lamented but quickly reshaped his makeshift weapon. "It's a super shooter!"

Twin

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Maloney said VDCDC was a critical driver for this effort.

"The VDCDC is Vermillion's leader in developing downtown, the greater Vermillion business community, and relationships between Vermillion and the University of South Dakota," she said. "Having their support for this theater acquisition and renovation effort – and at the level the Board of Directors has invested – shows that the theaters matter as part of a broader business community in Vermillion. We are delighted to have such a strong voice of support from the VDCDC."

The collaborative effort between local investors, First Bank & Trust, the Vermillion Downtown Cultural Association, and the VDCDC was spurred by the belief that not only could the theaters be acquired and maintained, but improved.

"What we found when we began reaching out to partners like the Vermillion Chamber and Development Company (VDCDC) was that everyone realized how important the theaters were for tying together this community," said Ted Muenster, Vermillion Downtown Cultural Association director. "Investing in purchasing the theaters and raising funds for renovation made sense to community leaders and helped us build momentum toward the purchase and – we hope, soon – a complete reimagining of the movie

experience in Vermillion." In the near-term, theatergoers will see small changes that indicate bigger things to come.

"We will be focusing first on caring for the staff and leadership at the theater and providing them a sense of stability during this transition" Maloney said. "Our goal in the next month is to help the staff build new systems to improve the theater experience and invest some operating dollars to do some cleaning and make small repairs that we think will make a big difference. We also will be focusing our attention on media and marketing so that people around the region know about the transition in ownership and approach."

The group has bigger plans for the coming months.

"We are going to spend the next three months planning and then rolling out a fundraising campaign intended to help us completely reimagine the cinema experience in Vermillion," said Anderson. "We are bringing together experts in historical preservation and renovation, movie theater renovation and programming, and theater operations to make sure that the theater experience in Vermillion is great. We also will bring together stakeholders from the University – students, faculty, staff, and leadership – and community members to tell us how the cinema experience should be in Vermillion. In the longer-term, we see movie theaters that are fun to go to, cost-effective

to run and attend, and with programming that captures the community's imagination."

The VDCDC's support will allow investment in critical capital improvements to both the Coyote Twin and Vermillion Theaters. The Coyote Twin Theater will be the first priority.

"The Coyote Twin already is operating as a successful first-run movie theater and we want to keep it that way," said Greg Redlin, Vermillion Downtown Cultural Association secretary/treasurer. "We want to focus our first work on that theater so that we can enhance the experience there. A successful effort at the Coyote Twin will allow investment in the Vermillion Theater, where we will need new projection and sound equipment and some major building repairs in order to re-start operations."

Coyote Twin improvements will likely begin later this summer and continue through the fall.

With the VDCDC as a partner, the group expects big changes in the coming weeks and months.

"We will be asking the community to watch this work unfold. We will need volunteers, donors, and community engagement to help us build the next face of the Coyote Twin and Vermillion Theaters," Anderson said. "More than that, we need people to keep coming to the movies and supporting the day-to-day showings. That, more than anything, will ensure that we can help make the dream of an amazing movie experience a

reality in Vermillion."

The group has been excited but not surprised by the outpouring of enthusiasm for the purchase and improvement plans.

"Even though many of us now enjoy movies from the comfort of our home and on-demand purchases of any movies we want, there's something still magical about the movie experience," said Redlin.

Muenster agreed, "We believe that people want to enjoy a night in downtown Vermillion, have a great meal and a take in a movie. It's a pretty core part of life whether you live in the big city or a smaller college town like Vermillion."

The group wants people to follow along and support the journey.

"We will be asking the community to watch this work unfold," Anderson said. "We will need volunteers, donors, and focus group participants to help us build the next face of the Coyote Twin and Vermillion Theaters. And, more than that, we need people to keep coming to the movies and supporting the day-to-day showings. That, more than anything, will ensure that we can help make the dream of an amazing movie experience a reality in Vermillion."

For more information about the Vermillion Theaters effort, visit their Facebook page at <https://www.facebook.com/vermilliontheaters>, follow them on Twitter @theaters_v or contact them at vermilliontheaters@gmail.com.

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