



HONORING TANAGER SPRING SPORTS  
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## CELEBRATING SUMMER

## Thursdays On The Platz Kicks Off Summer Of Fun

BY JAMES COOPER  
For The Plain Talk

Sun, music, and a giant inflatable bounce castle; throw in bag lunches from Subway and free samples of Caribou Coffee drinks and you have yourself Thursdays on the Platz.

If you happened to miss out on the first performance on the Platz in downtown Vermillion last week, tgear up for this week's upcoming performance.

Walking up to the Platz this past Thursday, you were met with a familiar sound.

It was, in fact, the theme song from the popular Nintendo game, Super Mario Brothers played by the featured group the Mission Essential Brass Band of the South Dakota National Guard.

The Mission Essential Brass Band played favorites spanning genres from video games to *Stars and Stripes Forever*. They featured soloists, wore fun costumes and thoroughly entertained the crowd that gathered.

On the blocked off street, there sprang up a very large bounce castle. Eager children



THOMAS HATZENBUHLER/ FOR THE PLAIN TALK

Thursdays on the Platz kicked off last Thursday with a fun evening for all involved. Pictured Mission Essential Brass Band of the South Dakota National Guard's 147th performs for the crowd.

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## USD Music Camp Hitting The Right Notes

BY JAMES COOPER  
For The Plain Talk

For the past sixty-four years, students from sixth grade to high school seniors have been able to spend the week of July 12 at the University of South Dakota Music Camp learning music theory, participating in ensembles, making friends and having fun.

Each year this camp grows and benefits not just the campers, but also the USD faculty, staff, and students who help run it.

Behind the scenes of the Music Camp, Dr. David Holdhusen, Chair of the Music Department serves as the Camp Director. The Assistant Director, Dr. Jonathan Alvis, is Director of USD Athletic Bands and Assistant Professor of Low Brass. These two, along with a thoughtfully chosen staff organized and set up the camp that they now run day-to-day operations for.



COURTESY PHOTO  
Members of the percussion class work on rhythm.

2015 marks the biggest attendance seen at the USD Music Camp. 185 campers have traveled from South Dakota, Iowa, Nebraska, Minnesota, and even one student all the way from Arkansas, to enjoy all that the camp has to offer.

Holdhusen thinks of this as a special opportunity for young people.

"It's a great chance for these students who are coming from all these high school throughout South Dakota, Minnesota, Iowa, Nebraska, all the places where they can come together and be in an environment with people who love to do what they do, and get that opportunity to make music with other people who like to make music," he said.

Throughout the week, campers will play in thirteen major ensembles, attend twenty different classes, take 124 individual lessons on their instrument and join in many fun activities with energetic and enthusiastic camp staff.

Of the fifty-eight staff members at camp, eleven of them were at one time campers themselves, so for them there is a special connection to the camp that has followed them since

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## Olson Sworn In To School Board As Stammer Retires

BY SARAH WETZEL  
For the Plain Talk

Rachel Olson was sworn in as the Vermillion School District's newest board member as Dave Stammer stepped out after nine years of service.

"Having been elected as a board member of the above school district in Clay County, South Dakota do solemnly swear that I will support the laws and constitution of the United States and the state of South Dakota and to perform the duties of a school board membership," a portion of the oath read.

Olson's actual appointment to the school board will be delayed until the board's next meeting because all board members needed to be present in order to assign them to committees.

Olson and Superintendent Mark Froke will both attend the New Board Member Training on August 5 in Sioux Falls.

Stammer was recognized by the board in a brief presentation where Stammer was presented with a patriotic print.

"Steve Jobs said, 'Work is going to fill a large part of your life and the only way to be truly satisfied is to do what you believe is great work and the only way to do great work is to love what you do,'" Fairholm quoted. "You have done great work for the past nine years and it has been evident that you loved what you did."

"This is wonderful," Stammer said. "I do appreciate the board and working with everybody in administration and teachers. It's been a pleasure. I decided nine years was enough and it was time for someone else to come on board. If you ever need my help with special projects or anything, don't hesitate to give me a call."

The presidency of the board was also reorganized at Monday's meeting with Chris Esping voted in as the board President and Shannon Fairholm as



SARAH WETZEL/FOR THE PLAIN TALK

Dave Stammer stepped down from the School Board after nine years of service and Rachel Olson was sworn in as the newest member at the School Board meeting Monday.

Vice President.

Sheila Beermann was designated as Business Manager and Custodian of all Accounts.

The Superintendent of Schools was appointed as ADA Director, EOE Officer and Authorized School District Representative for all Federal Title Programs not otherwise specified.

The Superintendent was also authorized to dismiss school in case of inclement weather, disease or emergency with the secondary principal authorized to dismiss school in the Superintendent's absence.

The Superintendent and Business Manager were appointed as purchasing agents.

The school board President and Business Manager were authorized as check signers.

Beermann and Cindy Knudsen were authorised for usage of facsimile stamp

and signature plate for the school board President.

Dawn Wirth was appointed as Homeless and Migrant Student Director.

Jason Huska was appointed as Title IX Director.

Len Griffith was appointed as Title III (Limited English Proficiency) Director.

Pat Anderson, Curt Cameron, Sue Galvin and Kim Johnson were appointed as Co-Directors of Section 504 at their respective buildings.

Jim McCulloch was appointed as School Attorney for 2015-16.

Karol Brondersen was appointed as School Nurse, Truant Officer and HIPAA Privacy Rule Designee for 2015-16.

High School Renovation Update: The board received an update on the Vermillion High School Project.

According to the representative, the

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Spend an EXTRA  
\$25 on the 25th  
& Help Boost  
Vermillion's Economy

## Support Vermillion By Shopping Local

BY SHAUNA MARLETTE  
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Vermillion residents will have a chance to support the local economy while getting discounts, as local businesses hold a \$25 on the 25th event, Saturday, July 25.

The idea: businesses offer a special discount only available on the 25th of the month to encourage people to shop local.

Shopping local has a three-fold effect: it supports local businesses, puts money into the local economy through

taxes, and then is returned to the community by the local businesses, who turn around and purchase more in the local community.

By shopping local, you are allowing the businesses in town to hold events like these and give back to the community.

The *Plain Talk* encourages everyone to think about shopping local first as it makes huge impact on the community.

Look for the local businesses that are participating in the \$25 on the 25th in the *Broadcaster* next Tuesday and in the *Plain Talk* next week.