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Flipping For A Good Cause

Annual Pancake Feed To Benefit W.H. Over Museum

BY SARAH WETZEL
For the Plain Talk

Anyone with a hankering for a good breakfast and good company will be well satisfied this week as the Vermillion Lions Club and the W.H. Over Museum put on their annual Pancake Feed fundraiser. The event will take place Thursday through Sunday from 8 a.m. to noon at the

I-29 rest area.

"It's a free will offering," said Maxine Johnson, Lions Club member, Friends of the Museum President, museum administrator, and a member of the Clay County Historical Society. "Some people give a lot some people not so much but it all evens out. The museum pays for the ingredients and the advertising and the Lions do all the work and the profit goes to us so it's a win-win

situation. Plus it's a lot of fun because you get to see a whole lot of different people and accents."

The pancake feed corresponds with the first weekend of the Sturgis Bike Rally and is meant to cater to the bikers passing by on the interstate but is welcome to all.

"We serve anyone who stops, it's not just bikers," Johnson said. "The kids get a little treat and we give out information about Vermillion. We give directions on how to get out to Sturgis faster and safer. Some folks we've had come every year, some didn't know we were there."

Johnson said they expect a bigger crowd since this year is the rally's 75th anniversary.

Mark Tipton, Lions Club member, is chair of the pancake feed this year.

"I've been doing it for seven years I think," he said. "There's just a tremendous amount of bikes go by every day."

According to Tipton, though only a small fraction of the bikers in the rally actually make it to the pancake feed, they still manage to serve between 600-700 individuals over the four-day fundraiser.

The event brings some good memories. Tipton shared his favorite memory of Chuck Roegiers, Lions Club member and friend.

"He always sells sheepskin products to

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Council Considers Adopting 2004 Street Plan

BY SHAUNA MARLETTE
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The Vermillion City Council heard a report from Jose Dominguez regarding potentially adopting a streetscape plan for downtown Vermillion developed in 2004.

Dominquez, who spoke at the noon meeting on Monday said that the council has several steps they need to take in the next few months, beginning with adopting the plan originally developed more than 10 years ago by a committee of Vermillion residents.

"Our steps would include adopting the plan at a meeting in August," Dominquez said. "Then in September we would need to set the rules and parameters for setting a committee."

The next step would be for the committee to decide on aesthetics and design for the project. Then sometime this winter to hire a landscape architect to create official drawings of what downtown would look like. Then following receipt of the drawings using them to develop projects for the downtown Vermillion area. Dominquez said several of the recommendations of the plan have already been started.

While no budget has been set for the project, Dominquez estimated that just for the sidewalk reconstruction the city would need to budget \$1.8 million.

City Manager John Prescott told the council that if they do adopt the plan it needs to be clear it is just a conceptual plan.

"We can concentrate on the goals, not each individual idea," Dominquez said. "We are not married to the plan. This is just the first stepping stone."

It was decided to bring the plan to a vote at the first city council meeting in August.

The city has also announced the final Prentis Park

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A 'CLASSIC' SIGN OF SUMMER



THOMAS HATZENBUHLER/FOR THE PLAIN TALK

The Dakota Classic Cruisers Car Club and SODAC'S Cruise Group hosted the Tri State Drive In Cruisers in Downtown Vermillion, last Wednesday. The "Cruise In" brought in many classic, antique and hot rod cars to Downtown Vermillion.

Local Farm Profiled By National Magazine

BY JAMES COOPER
For The Plain Talk

When it comes to fresh, locally grown, sustainable produce, the name in Vermillion is Heikes. Sam and Heidi Heikes, the dynamic father/daughter duo, run their family farm just past Hwy 50 on the edge of Vermillion. They serve as a beacon for those who want to know what they are getting and how it is grown. They rely on shareholders to continue to provide our community with the best, healthiest food that is also extremely accessible.

In a nation that deals with food deserts resulting in absurdly high prices for healthy foods, GMO's (Genetically Modified Organisms), and high rates of pesticide and herbicide use on produce, the Heikes family is doing a great service to the Vermillion Community. They operate a CSA (Com-

munity Supported Agriculture) which offers shareholders weekly baskets of in-season produce for the price of roughly \$1.22 a day per person. Community Supported Agriculture began in 1985 and allows shareholders to provide the growing capital that the farmer then uses to grow crops that are then returned in part to the shareholders. It encourages locally grown and locally eaten food. As Sam Heikes likes to say, "Savor the local flavor."

In speaking with Sam Heikes, it turns out that the Vermillion community is lucky to have this access because in places that are more densely populated, the demand often outweighs the supply. "Right now in upstate New York, you can't get into a CSA. There's waiting lists...If you get to the top of the list and you want to keep your CSA share, then you've got

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THOMAS HATZENBUHLER/FOR THE PLAIN TALK

The national, monthly publication Acres USA recently profiled Heikes Family Farm, located in Vermillion. Father-and-daughter owners, Sam and Heidi Heikes, are highlighted for the thriving shelterbelt that surrounds their farm and supports local pollinators. It's one of the reasons their farm won the 2014 U.S.A. Pollinator protector Farmer-Rancher Conservation Award.

Dance Team Set For Upcoming Year

BY ELYSE BRIGHTMAN
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Football isn't the only team getting ready to perform Friday nights this fall.

The Vermillion High School dance team just returned from the Just For Kix annual summer camp at Buena Vista University in Storm Lake, Iowa where they brushed up on their skills and learned new routines for the fall season.

"This year, we have five home football games, plus

Booster Bash, so if you do the math, we have to have six routines ready within a two month period," said head dance team coach Joni Freidel.

They spend four days working on technical areas, like turns and leaps, as well as new choreographed routines from coaches at by the camp.

"Since we don't have a huge budget at the high school, it's difficult for us to pay for or buy choreography," Freidel said. "When we go to camp, we get a series of 10-15 different routines

that we can actually use during the season, so it was basically two fold — to enhance the girls skills and also to have some opportunities to have some dances that we can use during the year."

The Vermillion team was part of 150 dancers from four different states to attend the camp and they came away with six awards at the end of the four days. Lauren Bern won the firecracker award and was a semifinalist for best turns.

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COURTESY PHOTO

Members of the Vermillion High School dance team. Front: Lily Foster, Mia Johns, Tasia French, Kylee Retzlaff, Shelby Husby, Tomalyn Peckham. Back: Shana Cerny, Jess Braunstein, Alex Rosdail, Lauren Bern, Carter Williams, Rachel Brady, Peyton Larson, Joni Freidel. Not pictured: Morgan Halverson, Amanda Finnegan, Sowmya Ragothaman.