

# Dickenson in Vermillion as artist-in-residence

Jen Dickenson is in town as an artist in residence with the Children's Theatre Company of South Dakota. The one week residency, sponsored by the Vermillion Community Theatre, will cumulate with performances by 40 local young actors. Jen is a 2001 graduate of Vermillion High School and is currently a graduate student in theatre at the University of Hawaii studying children's theatre.

Dickenson's love of theatre was kindled by similar touring theatre programs and work with the Vermillion Community Theatre so this week is truly "coming home." She will be traveling throughout South Dakota this summer with tour partner Jacinta Sutphin, an Augustana theatre graduate from Wordan, MT.

Performances of the show "On the Road to Bremen Town" will be Friday, June 10 at 7 p.m. and Saturday, June 11 at 2 p.m. at the Vermillion High School Theatre. Adult tickets are \$5, available at the door. Children under 12 accompanied by an adult are no charge. The residency is sponsored, in part, with funds from the State of South Dakota through the Department of Tourism and The National Endowment for the Arts.



Artist in Residence, Jen Dickenson, works with young actors Grace Kjelden and Jon Zuercher on the Children's Theatre Company of South Dakota production "On the Road to Bremen Town." Performances are Friday, June 10 at 7 p.m. and Saturday, June 11 at 2 p.m. at the Vermillion High School Theatre. (Photo courtesy of Sandy Dickenson)

# Varozza will be at RED June 15

RED Steakhouse, Vermillion, has announced that Diane Varozza, owner of Varozza Vineyards located in Napa Valley, CA, will be at RED Steakhouse on Wednesday, June 15 for the Weekly Wine Hour beginning at 6 p.m. The event will feature a sample of two wines from the Varozza portfolio and available on the RED Steakhouse wine list, along with some appropriate culinary pairings prepared by RED Steakhouse Executive Chef Tom Wiley.

The cost for the Weekly Wine Hour \$15 per person. RED hosts a Weekly Wine Hour every Wednesday from 6 to 7 p.m. For questions or information on the restaurant or any of its special events, phone 605.624.0079, or visit the website at www.theredsteakhouse.com.

# BCU director Damon earns top honors

Paula Damon, director of marketing and communications at Briar Cliff University and columnist for the Vermillion Plain Talk, has earned three first place writing awards and one second place award in the 2011 South Dakota Press Women (SDPW) Communications Contest.

Damon received first place recognition for her articles titled "Is That You in Front of Me?" and "From the Office of the Governor" in the Humorous category; "Music Breathes Life Into Those Once Lost" and "Bone to Pick with a Groundhog" in Personal Opinion; "Speechless Places of the Soul" and "Excuse Me, Do You Have the Time?" in the Informational category.

Taking Second Place in the General category were her articles titled "Sunburned Leaf Beds Rise as Incense" and "Striking Gold Where You Least Expect It."

All First Place winners advance to the National Federation of Press Women

(NFPW) 2011 Communications Contest. Winners will be announced at NFPW's Annual Convention, Sept. 9-11, in Council Bluffs, IA.

Previously, Damon's writing has won First Place honors in NFPW, South Dakota and Iowa Press Women contests.

At Briar Cliff University, Damon oversees marketing communications, including media relations. She holds a bachelor's degree in mass communication and a master's degree in English, both from the University of South Dakota, Vermillion.

Briar Cliff University is a Catholic institution with an enrollment of more than 1,150 students from 29 states and 11 countries. Students are educated in the Franciscan tradition of excellence in the liberal arts and career preparation in an environment of care, compassion and service. For more information, please visit briarcliff.edu.

# Huron to host 94th annual P.E.O. state convention

The 94th annual convention of the South Dakota P.E.O. Sisterhood will be held June 9 through June 11 at the Crossroads Hotel and Huron Event Center in Huron. The event is hosted by nine local chapters: D, F, R, S, AK, AN, BE, CH and CM.

The event will host hundreds of South Dakota women philanthropists. P.E.O. is a philanthropic organization through which women celebrate the education and advancement of women worldwide. The group creates and supports scholarships, grants, awards and loans for women of all ages. This is all in addition to its stewardship and support of Cottey College, a two-year independent, residential, liberal arts and sciences college for women located in Nevada, MO.

The 2011 convention co-chairwomen are

Marilyn Hoyt (Chapter F, Huron) and Rosie Harrington (Chapter CM, Huron). State officers for this 4,000-plus women's organization are Lisa Rasmussen (Chapter CT, Sioux Falls), president; Judith Jencks (Chapter AX, Aberdeen), first vice president; Carol Flynn (Chapter CF, Sioux Falls), second vice president; Catherine Stromberg (Chapter CP, Madison), organizer; Tristin Gruenhagen (Chapter R, DeSmet), treasurer; and Lori O'Keefe (Chapter BK, Mitchell), secretary. International Representative Barbara Hoffman of Iowa will attend. Hoffman is chairwoman of the International Peace Scholarship and past provincial president of Ontario, Quebec.

Members of Honor at Convention will be Sue Gates, South Dakota, International

Nominating Committee and past state president; and Barb Legge, South Dakota, International Foundation Board of Trustees and past state president.

The P.E.O. Sisterhood was founded on Jan. 21, 1869, at Iowa Wesleyan College in Mount Pleasant, Iowa. Today it is an international organization that supports 5,959 local chapters in the United States and Canada with 246, 585 members who annually support student loans and educational support projects for women totaling more than \$70 million dollars.

For more information on this year's convention, contact Hoyt by emailing mhoyt@santel.net or calling 605-352-6073 or Harrington at rharring@amfam.com.

# Vermillion native interns for Sen. Johnson

U.S. Senator Tim Johnson (D-SD) welcomed Sean Pederson of Vermillion, to his Washington, DC office. Pederson is the son of Jeff and Andrea Pederson of Paducah, KS and the grandson of Leland Arntsen of Tyndall. Pederson received his degree in political science from the University of Kansas and recently completed his masters of public administration at the University of South Dakota.

"Through internships, students gain valuable insight into the political process in Washington," Johnson said. "I am pleased that Sean has been

able to join us this summer and I know he will make the most of his experience."

"I have always been interested in politics. The opportunity to see how our government works, hands on, is something that I have always wanted to be a part of," said Pederson. "I am excited to have this opportunity."

The Washington, DC internship program matches interns' interests to South Dakota and federal issues while providing a first-hand opportunity to experience a wide-range of office duties. Interns may attend hearings,

research issues for projects, and work with the office administrative staff.

College sophomores, juniors and seniors are encouraged to apply for Johnson's upcoming fall internship program.

College credits or a stipend are available. To apply for a state office internship, please call toll-free at 1-800-537-0025. To apply for a Washington, DC legislative or press internship during the summer term or beyond, interested students should submit a cover letter, resume, references, and a writing sample to:

General Internship

Senator Tim Johnson  
Att. Intern Coordinator  
136 Hart SOB  
Washington, SD 20510  
By Fax to: 202-228-7575  
By Email to:  
Intern\_Coordinator@johnson.senate.gov

Press Internship  
Senator Tim Johnson  
Att. Todd Deutsch, Press  
Intern Coordinator  
136 Hart SOB  
Washington, SD 20510  
By Fax to: 202-228-7575  
By Email to:  
Todd\_Deutsch@johnson.senate.gov

# Creative nonfiction workshop June 13

The Dakota Writing Project and the South Dakota Humanities Council are co-sponsoring a day-long workshop open to the general public, "Tell Your Real Stories: A Creative Nonfiction Workshop," to be held on the University of South Dakota-Vermillion campus on June 13, 2011.

Led by author and editor Brian Bedard, this workshop is ideal for both beginning and advanced writers who want to tell stories about real people and events in a compelling manner, to keep readers interested. This workshop provides guidance in writing creative nonfiction, a genre in which the writer uses literary craft to make facts more interesting and accessible for the reader.

The workshop is scheduled for Monday, June 13, from 9:30 a.m. to 3 p.m. with lunch from 12 to 1 p.m. on your own. The workshop location is East Hall 111, University of South Dakota, Vermillion. A light breakfast of coffee, tea, and muffins is provided. Participants should bring writing tools such as a computer laptop and/or paper and pens.

Participants can save \$5 by registering early; mail a check or money order for \$15, postmarked no later than June 6, 2011, to: Dakota Writing Project, Dakota Hall 212, University of South Dakota, 414 E. Clark Street,

Vermillion, SD 57069-2390.

For regular registration, bring \$20 to the workshop on the day of the event.

Brian Bedard recently retired from his position at the University of South Dakota as a professor of English, where he directed the creative writing program and served as editor of South Dakota Review. His stories have appeared widely in such forums as Quarterly West, North American Review, Alaska Quarterly Review, Cimarron Review, and North Dakota Quarterly.

His first collection of stories, Hour of the Beast and Other Stories, was published by Chariton Review Press. His second collection of stories, Grieving on the Run, won the Serena McDonald Kennedy Fiction Award from Snake Nation Press, and was published by Snake Nation Press in 2007 and nominated by that press for the National Book Award in 2008. The South Dakota Council of Teachers of English honored him as the 2008 South Dakota Author of the Year.

This event is co-sponsored by the Dakota Writing Project, a non-profit teachers' organization, and the South Dakota Humanities Council, an affiliate of the National Endowment for the Humanities.



Pictured are Kay Hoelsing, RN, May Employee of the Month and Jeff Berens, CNO, Sanford Hospital Vermillion.

# Hoelsing is PRIDE Employee of the Month

Kay Hoelsing, RN, Hospital was selected as the Sanford Vermillion May 2011 PRIDE Employee of the Month. She has been employed there since August 2002.

"Kay is always organized and has her patients prepared when their tests need to be done. She stays calm throughout everything and is a stabilizing presence in the ER."

"Kay exemplifies every aspect of a PRIDE employee. She always has her paperwork in order and is ready for all of the departments she works with. Kay's dedication to her job and the respect she has for her fellow employees is top-notch," commented co-workers.

"Kay is an asset to the nursing team and the medical center. She is respected by her peers and serves as a model of the profession of nursing," said Jeff Berens, chief nursing officer.

Hoelsing (Messerschmidt) is a native of Emerson, NE. She resides in Newcastle, NE, with her husband, Rod. She has two children, Kyle, 18, and Lauren, 16, Metzger.

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# City parks department conducts Arbor Day activities

This year for the second annual Arbor Month the City of Vermillion Parks Department had a few fun and educational activities with the area elementary and middle school students.

First was our annual Arbor Day Memorial Tree planting with the Vermillion Jolley elementary school second-graders. They learned how to plant a tree and also got to help plant it. We planted a beautiful Quaking Aspen in memory of Donald Young, a past city of Vermillion Parks Department employee who passed away last year. His family was able to join us for this memorial to him and helped to plant the tree by throwing in the first few shovels of dirt. A special thank you to the Vermillion Garden Club for donating the tree.

Our second activity was "A Day With Trees," where Jessica Kennedy taught the sixth-graders about the anatomy of a tree and how to read the rings of a tree to tell the age and history of a tree. They also learned how to tap a maple tree to collect sap from the tree to make syrup.

The Arbor Month poster contest was held for the third-graders at Jolley and St. Agnes. It was a tough decision, but we finally came to a conclusion of the top three posters. The winners received a leaf identification/collecting kit. First place - Brook Assmus; Second place - Sariah Chavez; and Third place - Caleb Dobney

We had another great Arbor Month this year and looking forward to Arbor Month 2012.

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**GRAPHIC ARTIST**

The Yankton Daily Press & Dakotan is seeking an experienced graphic artist professional.

Qualifications: Experience in graphic design and knowledge of Adobe Acrobat, Photoshop, Quark, Multi-Ad Creator Pro and InDesign. Applicants should also be detailed oriented and able to function well in fast-paced environment.

Full-time Monday-Friday. Medical, dental, and vision insurance available. Paid time off/vacation time available after 90 days of service.

Interested applicants, send a cover letter and resume to:  
Kathy Larson  
Composing Manager  
Yankton Daily Press & Dakotan  
319 Walnut Street  
Yankton SD 57078  
kathy.larson@yankton.net

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