

Goblirsch ready for public input

By Travis Gulbrandson

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Vermillion's Parks & Recreation department has a new director, and he wants area citizens to know he is ready to work.

"We're open to input from the community, and I've tried to express that to the user groups that I've gone to," said Jim Goblirsch. "Don't be afraid to ask for something. You can't get it if you don't ask for it."

Goblirsch, who takes over for longtime parks and rec director David Nelson, comes to Vermillion from Casper, WY, where he was recreation supervisor.

"I mainly dealt with pools and special events, and some sports leagues. So, this is really kind of what I've been gearing myself toward throughout my professional career," he said.

Along with the major projects already in development, such as the soccer complex and aquatic center, Goblirsch said he is looking forward to taking on a variety of smaller projects, as well.

Some of these involve various forms of maintenance – "just revitalizing the existing parks" – he said.

"I think some of those projects were put on hold, per se, and I think Mr. Nelson did that just because he wanted to have the new individual put their footprint on it," Goblirsch said.

"Many of the parks here aren't irrigated, and we'd like to have some form of irrigation in them, as well, so that they have lush, green grass when you go to them, as opposed to the dry, crusty grass that you had last year. It isn't as inviting," he said.

Ultimately, projects like these will attract new users to the parks, Goblirsch said.



Jim Goblirsch started his role as Vermillion's new Parks & Recreation director on Feb. 25.

(Photo by Travis Gulbrandson)

"I've met a lot of people, and I've seen a lot of facilities," he said. "This isn't a major metropolitan area, but there is more than 130 acres of park land that they take care of. They just need a little bit of renovation."

"We want to keep the historic value if we can ... but we also want to update it and get the modern, safe amenities, from making it handicapped-accessible to quality lighting," he said.

Goblirsch first began working in the parks system as a college student in 1989.

"I went to school to become an ag teacher. The time I was in school was kind of when the farm crisis hit pretty hard," he said. "They were cutting ag jobs everywhere, at least in the schools."

another six-year stint as a recreation program coordinator in Sioux Falls.

He then worked as community education director for the Canton School District, and served as recreation supervisor for the City of Caspar since 2007.

Goblirsch was offered his new in January after a lengthy interview process. He began work on Feb. 25.

"I thought (Vermillion) would be a good fit," he said.

Goblirsch comes to Vermillion with his wife Karen, a chart utilization nurse, and their three children, all of whom he said are ready to take part in the recreational activities the community has to offer.

"We're looking forward to that aspect of it, and just becoming a part of the USD culture in that regard," he said.

He said he is most looking forward to implementing new programs from their inception to their completion.

"We want to build quality facilities in quality locations for the people of Vermillion and the surrounding communities," he said.

Goblirsch also wanted to be sure members of the community know they can approach him with their ideas and concerns.

"I'm out in the community," he said. "I'm not just sitting at a desk here. I have three kids – 8, 10 and 13 – and we use the swimming pool. They do play soccer, they do play baseball and softball. It's not just someone who's administrating, we're also users of it."

After he transferred to South Dakota State University, Goblirsch began working for the parks department in Brookings.

"I liked working with kids, I liked organizing things, so I moved into the program up there," he said. "It just kind of blossomed out of necessity."

Upon graduating in 1992, Goblirsch worked for about six years at the Human Services Center as a recreational therapist. This was followed by

USD Theatre presents Korean tale March 20-24

The University of South Dakota Department of Theatre presents the ancient Korean folktale *Mirror Princess Pyung-gang* by Euni Choi, with music and lyrics by Sun-Lak Noh, March 20-24 in the Arena Theatre of the Warren M. Lee Center for the Fine Arts. *Mirror Princess Pyung-gang* is a non-traditional musical in that it is sung a cappella. Actors also use their voices and bodies in imaginative ways that lead to distinctive storytelling.

Yeony (Shannon Billie, Omaha, NE) is a young maid who dreams of becoming the beautiful *Princess Pyung-gang*. In her dream, Yeony steals the *Princess'* mirror and escapes into the forest where she creates a fantasy life. While in the woods she meets a Boy (Zach Hebert, Floyd's Knods, IN) who has lived with the animals in the forest and does not speak.

Upon their meeting, Yeony transforms him into the General Ondal, *Pyung-gang's* husband, and begins to teach him her language.

In time, she falls in love with him only to be confronted by two soldiers who mistake Yeony and the Boy as *Princess Pyung-gang* and Ondal, whom they have orders to capture. In this family-friendly musical, audiences will discover whether Yeony finds freedom and learns what it means to be a *Princess* and whether she

learns the importance of being true to herself.

Anoo (Emily Dorsett, Sioux City, IA), the Storyteller, guides the ensemble of scene changers who speak through song and create sound effects and the environment. The scene changers include Reid Determan (Mitchell), Darius Rahmlow (Lincoln, NE), Brianna Adams (Lincoln, NE), Emily Grode (Mitchell), and Nathaniel Vogel (Phoenix, AZ).

Directed by Jaehoon Kim, a graduate student from Seoul, South Korea, *Mirror Princess Pyung-gang* has musical direction and stage makeup by undergraduate students Brady Allen (Osmond, NE) and Brooke Richmond (Redfield, SD), respectively, while scenic, costume, and lighting designs are by theatre professors Tim Case, Linda Scribner, and Anthony Pellecchia.

Mirror Princess Pyung-Gang performs March 20-23 at 7:30 pm and March 24 at 2 p.m. in the Arena Theatre on the USD campus. Tickets (\$15 Adults, \$12 Senior Citizen (62+), \$10 K-12 & non-USD students with ID, and \$5 USD students with ID) can be purchased weekdays in the afternoons (noon-5 p.m.) by calling the box office at (605) 677-5400 or online at www.usd.edu/theatre.

Humane society meet and greet March 16

Heartland Humane Society will have dogs available for adoption at two upcoming events.

Join the shelter in Vermillion on Saturday March 16 from 10 a.m. to 1 p.m. at Past and Present and celebrate the Animal Themed family arts crawl. Dogs available for adoption will be at the store to welcome the general public. Past and Present is located at 7 West Cherry Street.

Heartland Humane Society will also have dogs available to meet at Tractor Supply Company in Yankton on Saturday, March 23 from 11 a.m. to 2 p.m. TSC is located 2908

Broadway Ave.

"Meet and Greets allow our dogs waiting for adoption to get out into the public and make new friends," said Kerry Schmidt, Executive Director at Heartland Humane Society.

Schmidt encourages anyone interested in adopting an animal to fill out an application prior to the Meet and Greet.

You can pick up an application at the shelter or find it online at www.heartlandhumanesociety.net

For more information, contact Heartland Humane Society (605) 664-4244.

The University of South Dakota Senior Building Maintenance Worker-Painter

The University of South Dakota is seeking a Building Maintenance Worker to prepare surfaces for painting and finishing, apply undercoats and finish coats, maintain a wide variety of interior and exterior surfaces and structures. Successful applicant will have 3 years of experience in the field of painting; knowledge of the equipment, materials and application techniques common to the painting trade. Applicant must have a valid driver's license or be able to obtain one.

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CLAY COUNTY POSITION AVAILABLE County Auditor

Clay County is seeking applications for County Auditor (remaining term) Applicant must have excellent oral and written communication skills and be proficient in accounting and computer skills, (including Word, Excel and internet based applications). Supervisory and administrative experience necessary to manage the auditor's office, oversee the Courthouse maintenance and be assistant to the County Commission. This position is elected and person appointed will need to file petition and run for this office in 2014. Auditors take office in March following election. Position closes 5:00 p.m. Friday April 5, 2013-Application and/or resume are required. Applications available from the South Dakota Department of Labor at 1024 W. Cherry St. Vermillion, SD 57069 –

For inquires on position call Clay County Auditor's Office at (605) 677-7120.

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EOE

Kindergarten Round-Up for Vermillion Public Schools

What: Kindergarten Round-Up
Who: Any child who will have their 5th birthday on or before September 1st, 2013 and their parents
When: Monday, March 18th
Tuesday, March 19th
Wednesday, March 20th
Where: Austin Elementary School, 300 High Street

Parents, if your child is going to be 5 on or before September 1st, 2013, please call Kazy at 677-7010 to register for a round-up session. Parents will have a question and answer time with school personnel while the incoming students will be screened. Please plan to spend the morning or afternoon with us.

PLEASE BRING A CERTIFIED COPY OF YOUR CHILD'S BIRTH CERTIFICATE TO ROUND-UP. IF YOUR CHILD WAS BORN IN SOUTH DAKOTA, YOU MAY PURCHASE A CERTIFIED COPY FROM THE CLAY COUNTY COURT HOUSE FOR \$15.00. HOSPITAL CERTIFICATES OF BIRTH WILL NOT BE ACCEPTED. IF YOUR CHILD'S IMMUNIZATION RECORDS INCLUDE THE KINDERGARTEN SHOTS, PLEASE BRING THE COMPLETED IMMUNIZATION RECORD TO THE ROUND-UP.

Please visit our website at www.vermilion.k12.sd.us for additional information, look under "Kindergarten Screening Scheduled".