

# One in a Vermillion

## Meet Tom Jones

**By David Lias**  
david.lias@plaintalk.net

Tom Jones may not technically be a Vermillion resident, but it's difficult to not feel his presence in the community.

After all, he's lent his name to the recently expanded Jones' Ace Hardware, and before that, Jones' Food Market in Vermillion, which closed in 2012, both operated by his daughter, Nikki, and son-in-law, Gregg Peters.

For nearly four years now, Tom has served the residents of District 17 in the South Dakota Legislature in Pierre. That will change, however, at the end of this legislative session, when he completes his first term in the South Dakota Senate.

Tom, a Democrat, has decided to not seek re-election. There are more important things other than politics that he'd like to devote his attention to in the coming years.

"I have two grandkids playing basketball 20 miles north of us, and we have three grandchildren playing basketball 33 miles south of me, and one will be a senior next year," he said. "I think that all of that is important."

He also admits that it is not easy being one of only seven Democrats in the 35-member, Republican-dominated South Dakota state Senate.

"There has been a certain degree of frustration, I think, in the fact that we (Democrats) are such a minority," he said. "Hopefully, we can replace some of that with more positive election results this fall, and I certainly will help in that area if I can."

"I don't think we need to be a mega-majority," Tom said. "I just think we (Democrats) need to be numbered where things can be approved, or in my case on Appropriations, at least where they have to have some cross-over



District 17 Rep. Tom Jones, at right, waits for a constituent to ask a question during the March 1 legislative Cracker Barrel meeting held in Vermillion City Hall. Seated with him is District 17 Ray Ring and the event's moderator, Betty Smith.

(Photo by David Lias)

votes in order to pass any appropriated amounts."

Tom and his wife, Linda, have lived in Viborg for over 30 years. They have been in the grocery, hardware, and convenience store business in 11 different communities in South Dakota. Prior to coming to Viborg, Tom taught and coached in high schools and universities for 15 years.

Tom was first elected as District 17 representative in 2010 when House District 17

incumbent Democratic Representative Eldon Nygaard ran for South Dakota Senate. Tom ran in the June 8, 2010 Democratic Primary, and was elected, along with Republican Jamie Boomgard in the four-way Nov. 2, 2010 general election.

In 2012, when incumbent Senate District 17 Democratic Senator Eldon Nygaard left the Legislature and left the District 17 Senate seat open, Tom was unopposed for the June 5,

2012 Democratic primary and won the Nov. 6, 2012 general election with 4,754 votes (52.4 percent) against Republican nominee John Chicoine.

"While I dreaded the campaign trail, and had to campaign to win both the House seat and the Senate seat, I met a lot of good people. That was important to me," he said. "I think the people I had on my advisory committees to give important information when different pieces of legislation would come up – our sheriff, our county commissioners, our school administrators, our nursing home administrators – they have been really cooperative with helping to make decisions."

### 1101 Announcements - Events

**FAITH LUTHERAN CHURCH:** 401 Main Street, Makell, NE. Sunday School 9am. Worship: 10am. Communion: 1st and 3rd Sundays. (605)658-0240 (home) (402)-692-3323 (church).

**Faith United Lutheran Church, ELCA,** 44874 303rd St/Po Box 168, Volin, SD 57072, (605)267-2277. Sunday Worship: 9:30am with Holy Communion the 1st & 4th Sundays. WOW Wednesday program beginning at 6:30pm for all children 3 yrs old - 7th grade, and confirmation classes for those in grades 8th & 9th.

**FIRST BAPTIST Church** Elmer "Sandy" Aakre, Pastor 624-6391 home, 624-4658 church. Time: 9:15 Sunday School, 10:30 Worship. Sunday Choir Practice, 11:50 a.m.

**GAYVILLE LUTHERAN Church:** Sunday School 9:15 a.m., Worship 10:30 a.m. Pastor Ralph Egbert.

**GOSPEL CHAPEL Church,** 708 Jessie St./Highway 12, Newcastle, NE. Sunday School, 9:30 a.m.; Sunday worship 10:30 a.m.; AWANA Wednesday at 7 p.m., 402-355-2305. Pastor Chuck Myers, 402-355-1335.

**GRACE BAPTIST Church,** SBC, Pastor Steve Ford, 1102 E. Main. Phone 624-4949. Adult's and Children's Sunday School 9:30 a.m. Sunday Worship 10:45 a.m. Prayer Meeting Wednesday Night 7 p.m.

**HILLSIDE COMMUNITY CHURCH** 1800 Constance Dr. Worship Sept.-May 10:30a.m. AWANA Small groups; 9-10:15 Worship May-August 10a.m., 6 0 5 - 6 2 4 - 4 8 6 2 , www.hillside-cc.com Like us on Facebook!

**IMMANUEL Lutheran Church,** Elk Point, SD: Worship Service 9:00 a.m., Sunday School 10:00 a.m.

**KOMSTAD COVENANT Church,** Rural Beresford and Centerville, SD: Matt Styles, Pastor. 18 miles north on University Road. Phone 563-2402. Sunday School 10 a.m., Worship Service 11 a.m.

**PLEASANT VALLEY Lutheran Church,** Rural Vermillion: Sunday School 9:45 a.m., Worship Service 10:30 a.m., Holy Communion First Sunday of every month. All welcome.

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# UNION COUNTY LAND AUCTION

79 +/- acres located 3 miles south and 4 miles east of Alcester, South Dakota on 304th Street.  
**Wednesday, MARCH 26, 2014 @ 10:00am**  
**Alcester Steak House, Alcester, SD**

The Burnight Family will offer 79 +/- acres of land located 3 miles south and 4 miles east of Alcester, South Dakota, on 304th Street. This land is being sold by legal description only and the county has assessed it at 79 +/- acres. The property will be sold as one piece. The land has not been surveyed for this sale and the owner makes no representations of boundaries or fence lines. The tenant has been notified of the sale and has the right to utilize the ground in the 2014 farm season.

**Legal Description:**  
West Half of the Southwest Quarter (W1/2SW1/4), Section 5, Township 94 North, Range 48 West of Union County, South Dakota  
2013 Real Estate Taxes: \$1464.84 (paid by seller)

**TERMS:**

- A 4% Buyers Premium and sales tax will apply.
- \$50,000 non-refundable down payment from the winning bidder is due the day of the auction.
- New Harvest Land Brokers, LLC are representing and working on behalf of the sellers.
- All announcements made on the day of the sale take precedence over any printed material.
- This auction is open to the public.



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**STAR TOWNSHIP BOARD OF EQUALIZATION MEETING**  
WAKONDA LEGION HALL  
MONDAY, MARCH 17, 2014 • 7:00 P.M.  
To review your tax assessment for 2014 please contact the Township Clerk prior to March 13, 2014 to set up an appointment.  
**RON PETERSON TOWNSHIP CLERK (605)263-3526**

**BIG IRON ONLINE AUCTIONS**  
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Wednesday, March 19, 2014  
First Lots Scheduled to Close at 10:00 AM Central Time  
NO BUYERS PREMIUM FEE & NO RESERVES!!  
452 LOTS SELLING! Tractors (11); Combines (1); Backhoes (1); Balers (10); Drills (1); Excavators (1); Forklifts (4); Grain Carts (4); Loaders (11); Planters (23); Skid Steers (1); Sprayers (5); Telehandlers (1); Trailers (14); Trucks/Pickups (10); Semis (7); Wheel Loaders (1); ATVs Recreational (7); PLUS MUCH MORE!  
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Big Iron is seeking motivated, Independent Sales Representatives and District Managers.  
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**HERRITY & ASSOCIATES INC. REAL ESTATE & BRUCE R. BROCK REAL ESTATE, L.L.C.**  
Auction by: Brock Auction Co. Inc.  
Fairview Twsp., Clay Co., South Dakota  
41.07 Acres of Prime High Quality Farmland & Development Land  
**PUBLIC AUCTION**  
Friday, March 28th, 2014 @ 10:00 a.m.  
Sale Held at the Farm Site  
**LOCATION:** From the intersection of Interstate 29 & Highway 50: 5 3/4 miles West on Highway 50. South on North Crawford Road to first driveway on East side of road. Land Lies adjacent to the Vermillion city limits.  
For More Details & Pictures Visit Us At: **WWW.BROCKAUCTION.COM**

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