

# Mother's Day remains at forefront of Fraternal Order of Eagles

On Feb. 7, 1904, Fraternal Order of Eagles Past Grand Worthy President Frank E. Hering made a public plea for a new national holiday. Hering's hope was to have a day dedicated to honoring mothers everywhere. A decade later, President Woodrow Wilson signed a proclamation making that dream a reality. The second Sunday in May each year was officially declared Mother's Day.

While the F.O.E. continues to celebrate and take pride in the creation of Mother's Day, many citizens are unaware of the organization's work toward making the holiday a reality. The Sunshine Aerie and Auxiliary of the Fraternal Order of Eagles #2421 encourages members of the community to visit our local organization, located at 114 West Main St. in Vermillion to learn more about the F.O.E. and what we do to uphold the spirit of Mother's Day and assist those in need.

One hundred eight years later, the achievement of Hering and the F.O.E. remains one of the most significant milestones in the history of the organization. From preparing brunch to buying cards and flowers, the spirit of the organization lives on through our actions each Mother's Day.

Hering, a faculty member at the University of Notre Dame, found inspiration for the holiday when he stumbled upon a classroom of students preparing

postcards to send home to their mothers. The generous task inspired him to create a day specifically for honoring and recognizing mothers.

Serving as grand worthy president in 1909 and 1911, Hering used his position of influence to spread his idea for Mother's Day. Soon the enthusiasm swelled throughout the organization and Eagles across the country were eager to see their dream become a reality.

Aeries began hosting their own celebrations to honor mothers and finally their hard work paid off as President Wilson designated May 10, 1914, the first Mother's Day. Several organizations have stepped forward in an attempt to take credit for the holiday, but documented evidence shows that Hering – and the Eagles – were the true founders of Mother's Day.

In 1925, the Society of War Mothers introduced Hering as "The Father of Mother's Day" before an audience of Congressmen at the Tomb of the Unknown Soldier cementing his legacy – and that of the Eagles – as the founder of Mother's Day.

As we celebrate another Mother's Day 98 years after Wilson officially recognized the Eagles' work, we ask citizens everywhere to honor the important women in their lives and remember the passion and dedication an organization shared with the world to make it all possible.

# Director named for School of Medicine's Clinical Skills & Simulation Center

Jeremy Hall, M.D., M.A., has been named director of the University of South Dakota Sanford School of Medicine's Rodney R. Parry, M.D., Clinical Skills & Simulation Center Parry Center for Clinical Skills and Simulation. Hall will be responsible for oversight of center operations, curriculum development, staffing and direction of faculty in the center. In the lead-up to the center's anticipated grand opening this summer, Hall will also contribute to design, layout and specification of equipment requirements.



HALL

The \$1.5 million simulation center will be a state-of-the-art facility to teach clinical communication, physical examination and

M.B.A., dean of medical student education at the School of Medicine.

Hall is no stranger to the Sanford School

technical skills for health professionals at all levels of learning.

"Dr. Hall will bring his expertise as an emergency medicine physician and his interest in simulation education to this exciting new position in the Parry Center," said Janet Lindemann, M.D.,

of Medicine. A 2005 graduate of the School, Hall previously served as an assistant professor in the department of family medicine. In addition to his extensive research experience with clinical simulation, Hall said he plans to draw from his time as both a teacher and a learner when it comes to moving forward in his new position.

"I am enthusiastic about the range of possibilities with the development of this dynamic center," said Hall. "The directorship allows me to pursue my passion for teaching in these areas and improve patient safety."

# Gov. Daugaard honors NCRC recipients

Commemorating more than 2,000 South Dakotans who have earned National Career Readiness Certificates™ (NCRC), Gov. Dennis Daugaard has honored John Backhaus of Vermillion and Lonnie Pinkelman of Tyndall for recently obtaining this valuable workplace credential.

NCRC is an assessment-based credential used to verify an individual's core employability skills. It measures three essential areas: Reading for information, applied mathematics and locating information.

"This job-profiling analysis, which was developed by the ACT organization, is a great aid to businesses," Daugaard said. "It identifies the skills and skill levels employees must have to do certain jobs effectively. Individuals then have a clear picture of the skill levels they need in order to qualify for and be successful in the jobs they want."

Backhaus came to the South Dakota Department of Labor and Regulation (DLR) for workforce training assistance in January. He worked with Southeast Job Link in Vermillion to complete the NCRC.

Backhaus also completed a six-week Welding Boot Camp through the Vermillion Chamber and Development Corporation, the Vermillion School District and Masaba Mining, Inc. DLR then arranged on-the-job training

for him at Dakota Trailer in Yankton. Backhaus is now a full-time saw operator at the company.

"I appreciate the help and training the Department of Labor and Regulation gave me so I could get back to work right away," said Backhaus. "The NCRC helped me prove the skills I need at Dakota Trailer. They've been patient and helpful while I've learned their systems, and I enjoy my new job."

Dakota Trailer Human Resources Manager Jaci Benjamin says DLR is a good partner when it comes to employment resources.

"Working with John Backhaus through the workforce training program has been a perfect example of someone who came to us with some experience, plus a willingness to learn and take on new challenges," Benjamin said. "With John's recent skill training and veteran's background, he is a good addition for the growth of our company."

Pinkelman started participating in DLR re-employment services in January 2011. After he earned a National Career Readiness Certificate, the department provided him tuition assistance to attend an equipment maintenance program.

"I was previously a machine operator," Pinkelman said. "I thought learning how to set up, maintain and repair

equipment would be a great opportunity to advance my career."

Pinkelman is now enrolled in the Industrial Maintenance program at Regional Technical Education Center (RTEC) in Yankton. He will graduate this May. A DLR grant funds the program, which is delivered through a partnership between RTEC and Mitchell Technical Institute.

"The funding and resources provided by the Department of Labor and Regulation, including the NCRC, have been a great help," Pinkelman said. "My employer has also been very accommodating by allowing me the flexibility to adjust my work schedule to meet my class schedule."

Pinkelman is currently employed at L&M Radiator in Yankton as a warehouse worker.

"At L&M, we believe in allowing individuals the chance to improve themselves," said Dan Ferden, production coordinator at L&M Radiator. "Lonnie has been part of our second-shift production, and we're glad to be able to work with him."

# May is National Military Appreciation Month

Gov. Dennis Daugaard says May is National Military Appreciation Month, a time for all to honor, remember, recognize and appreciate those who have served in the past and those now serving, as well as their families.

"My recent visits with South Dakota troops in Kuwait and Afghanistan have given me a renewed appreciation for their service to our state and our country," Gov. Daugaard said. "Our soldiers serve proudly when called to duty – both overseas and at home. They are well-trained and determined, and they do a remarkable job. I couldn't be more proud of them."

National Military Appreciation Month includes: Loyalty Day (5/1), Victory in Europe Day (5/8), Military Spouse Appreciation Day (5/11), Armed Forces Day (5/19), and Memorial Day (5/30).

Each of those days provides an opportunity to learn more about military members and the families who have given of themselves to support and defend the principles we hold dear.

For more information, contact: Audrey Ricketts at 605-773-8242 or audry.ricketts@state.sd.us (South Dakota Department of the Military)

# SDPB Radio dominates AP Awards

SDPB Radio's staff earned six first place awards and three second-place awards in the AP's 2012 Great Plains Broadcast Contest. SDPB Radio competed with non-commercial stations in Nebraska, North Dakota and South Dakota. First place was awarded in 11 categories and second place in 10.

"This is a reminder that South Dakota has one of the best Public Radio networks in the country," said Joe Tlustos, Director of SDPB Radio. "It's good to see our hard work rewarded."

The winning news reports can be heard at SDPB.org/pressreleases. Click on "SDPB Radio Dominates AP Awards" to get to the links. Winning reports include: Spot News – First Place: Charles Michael Ray, "Firefighter Gives All." Second Place: Victoria

Wicks, "Bill providing homicide defense for protection of unborn child fails in House."; Sports – First Place: Gary Ellenbolt, "State Tournament Blizzards"; General Reporting – First Place: Jim Kent, "ND monks mirror concerns of SD ranchers"; Enterprise – First Place: Charles Michael Ray, "Gold Mining Pollution Plagues Western South Dakota"; Best Use of Sound – First Place: Charles Michael Ray, "Buffalo Market Booms."; Newscast – First Place: Gary Ellenbolt, SDPB, Vermillion, "Morning Edition Newscast on Dec. 30, 2011."; Writing – Second Place: Victoria Wicks, "Romantic breakups can be hard on the heart"; Continuing Story – Second Place: SDPB News Staff, "2011 Missouri Flood Continuing Coverage."

# THIS WEEK IN S.D. NATIONAL GUARD HISTORY

By CW5 Duke Doering (Ret.)  
SDNG Historian

In recognition of the South Dakota National Guard's 150 years of service to the state and nation from 1862-2012, the SDNG will be publishing significant dates in the history of the organization all year long for the media's use in your publications or broadcasts.

For more information on these events, please contact the SDNG Historian, CW5 Duke Doering at (605) 737-6581, or e-mail duke.doering@us.army.mil.

On this date in SDNG history:

**May 1, 1943**  
A major German stronghold, Hill 609 in Northern Tunisia, was captured in an attack led by the National Guard's 34th Infantry Division and its 109th Engineer Battalion.

"Hill 609 will forever grace the annals of the 34th Division as one of its most glorious achievements," stated the division commander.

During the planning in April, the leadership had decided that tanks could be most helpful in the attack, and the 109th Engineers were detailed to find the best route of approach to the mountain.

Two platoons of Company B, from Hot Springs, cleared mines and made roads to the south of the hill. Under the cover of darkness, Lt. Crichton's platoon of Company C, from Sturgis, prepared a wadi (swamp) crossing for the tanks at the very foot of Hill 609. This was a dangerous job hampered by artillery fire.

Lt. Crichton was especially grateful for the poor quality of the enemy artillery rounds as a dud round landed just a few feet from him. (SD in WW II, page 145, by the WWII History Commission)

**May 2, 1991**  
The 1742nd Transportation Company was in King Khalid Military City (KKMC), Saudi Arabia. They had moved there

on April 27, and continued to haul 20 and 40-foot sea vans to the consolidation point at KKMC.

In late April, Capt. Scott Jensen and 1st Sgt. Leroy Benson had met with Brig. Gen. Robert McFarlin from the 2nd Corps Support Command and were asked to speak about driving safety and received a certificate honoring the unit for its safe driving record. The certificate was for the unit logging over 500,000 miles without any reportable accidents was a remarkable unit accomplishment considering the conditions and local traffic.

By the time their tour was completed, these 1742nd drivers had tallied more than 850,000 accident-free miles. (Capt. Scott Jensen, in Dakota's Desert

Storm)

**May 3, 1959**  
Former President Harry S Truman, who was a National Guard captain commanding Battery D, 129th Field Artillery from Missouri during World War I, is the honored guest at the dedication of the new National Guard Association "Memorial" on Capitol Hill.

Maj. Don Holliday was tasked with coordinating the South Dakota National Guard contingent to attend the dedication. Holliday said, "We took a representative from each Battalion, Group Headquarters and the Air National Guard. We met in Sioux Falls and the South Dakota Air National Guard flew us in on the C-47."

The Association, organized in 1879, is a private organization with membership restricted to National Guard officers (active and retired), and represents Guard political and financial interests to members of Congress on actions prohibited by federal law for the Guard Bureau to pursue.

To share information with its membership in 1947 the Association began publishing The National Guardsman (today National Guard) magazine. Over the years, it has taken upon itself the secondary mission of telling the Guard's history through the "National Guard Memorial Museum" which is open free of charge to the public.

May 4, 1942

The 22 officers and 579 enlisted men of the 109th Engineer Battalion sailed on the ship MEXICO from Halifax, Nova Scotia, to Belfast, Ireland.

The convoy departed this date and traveled in a dense fog in mine infested waters on May 4 and 5, and then had relatively smooth sailing for the rest of the trip. The convoy anchored in Belfast Harbor on May 12.

The troops were moved by train to Camp Killadeas, Ireland, which was a beautiful spot. The 109th Engineers trained there until they entered combat in North Africa, one company on Nov. 8, 1942, and the remainder in January 1943.

After the war, at a reunion of the 109th Engineer Battalion World War II veterans, Corporal Joe Ginsbach, who spent more than 500 days in the combat zone, was asked what scared him the most in the war.

Ginsbach said, "the troops ships had huge, heavy stainless steel tables in the center of the bays where the troops ate and slept. One night, on the MEXICO, the seas became quite stormy, and lots of waves. I was sleeping when that darn stainless steel table tipped over in the middle of the night. That was the most scared I was during World War II."

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