

08 Vermillion Plain Talk

Stanford St. Project To Start Monday

The South Dakota Department of Transportation will be completing two phases of the Stanford Street Reconstruction project this summer beginning May 14, 2012. A brief explanation of the project follows:

1. Project website: www.dgconcrete.com
2. The project will begin May 14, 2012.
3. The project will be completed in two phases:
 - a. Phase 1 will begin May 14, 2012 and is projected to end July 27, 2012.
 - * Phase 1 will include W. Main Street to Midwest Mobile Home Park.
 - b. Phase 2 is projected to begin July 16, 2012 and will end approximately October 5, 2012.
 - * Phase 2 will include Midwest Mobile Home Park to W. Cherry Street.
4. The water line will be replaced from W. Main Street to W. Cherry Street.
5. The Sanitary Sewer will also be replaced from W. Main Street to W. Cherry Street.
6. In addition to the utility work, the road will be reconstructed to a three-lane section with an 8 foot bike trail on the west side of the street and a 5 foot sidewalk on the east side of the street.

For further information please contact Jose Dominguez at 605-677-7050 or Greg Branaugh of D & G Construction at 605-366-7743.

FRAUD

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used to file fraudulent tax returns. This type of tax fraud is widespread and has made national news in the Tampa, FL, area.

USD President James W. Abbott issued the following statement Tuesday on behalf of the University of South Dakota: "It disappoints me to think any of our students could be involved. We will assist the investigation in any way we can. If necessary, our students will be held accountable by not only the judicial system but the university as well."

If you believe someone has filed a fraudulent tax return using your information the IRS provides the following direction:

- Contact the IRS Identity Protection Specialized Unit using the toll-free number (800) 908-4490, or visit the IRS Web site at www.irs.gov.
- You may also contact your local IRS-CI at (651) 312-8088. The IRS-CI duty agent will respond as soon as possible to assist you and evaluate the information obtained.

The process for reporting identity theft does require the taxpayer to work closely with the IRS to verify the crime and resolve and restore the victim's tax return records. Anyone who has information regarding identity thefts or the related receiving of tax return funds in the Vermillion area should contact the Vermillion Police Department or the IRS.

USD

From Page 1

1965 and a B.S. in medicine from USD in 1967. He earned his M.D. from the University of Wisconsin in 1969.

A question remains, Parry said to the graduated in the audience Saturday morning. "What will you contribute back to society?" he asked.

He used an example from the university's department of health affairs to reflect upon that query.

"The school of medicine has a robust body donation program," Parry said. "Individuals, who are in reality our greatest teachers, share their remains so that health affairs students at the university and students enrolled in many other programs across the state can prepare to be better healers, scientists and educators."

Parry said he and another medical school official had an opportunity several years ago to visit with many family members of the medical school's body donors.

"During these visits,

The whirligig of time:

Shakespeare Festival less than a month away

By Travis Gulbrandson
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It now is less than 30 days before the staging of the first annual South Dakota Shakespeare Festival in Prentis Park.

"It's been a very, very long journey, and coming to a quick end," said Anya Point, CEO of event host Coyoteopoly. "We'll be working very hard in the next month."

Point and other festival coordinators met with members of the Vermillion City Council over the noon hour to educate them as to the nuts and bolts of the operation.

The festival will be held June 8-10 in the park, and will feature a performance of "As You Like It" at 7 p.m. each of those dates.

Workshops covering various aspects of theater will take place at the high school each day, as well, along with a scholars' roundtable at 3 to 4:30 p.m. June 9 at Old Main on the USD campus.

Because of its close proximity to one of Vermillion's major streets, the city council last month approved a motion to close east Main Street from Plum Street to Sycamore Street the night of the performances, so the sound of passing vehicles will not interfere with the production.

"We will be fencing off the road between those streets we just mentioned, and then our chief of security will make sure that we have volunteers standing by each one of those barricades just to make

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JOHN PRESCOTT

sure that it does remain closed off," said Lee Smith, vice president of operations for Coyoteopoly.

City Manager John Prescott added that the volunteers at the barricades also will assist in case an ambulance needs to pass through the closed street.

"We can't control the helicopter landing during the middle of production, though," he added. That's part of the fun, I guess, of outdoor theater."

Point said a letter will be sent to residents in the affected areas apprising them of the closure.

The city council approved a permit to exceed permissible sound levels by no more than 50 percent in the band shell area of the park, as well.

Security also will be provided in the park.

"We plan to have teams of two in charge of security, so that way at least one person will have a cell phone in hand in case something does go wrong, and it's always better to have two people than one," Point said.

There will be four entrances to the band shell area, with greeters located at each to make sure people do not enter without a ticket.

"The hedges will also kind of act as a

fence to keep those without tickets out," Smith said.

Festival parking will be in the high school parking lot.

The high school also will serve as the site of production in case of inclement weather, Smith said.

"We're hoping that no rain will come, and that South Dakota weather will be cooperative for the first time," Point said.

Tickets for the production will be distributed by sponsors of the event, a list of which is available on the festival Web site.

"The reason why we're doing tickets is to see where these people are coming from," Point said. "We have put a number on each ticket, so that way we can figure out where the tickets came from, whether it was Vermillion or Sioux Falls or Sioux City."

"That way, for next year, we can figure out where we need to market more," she said.

Tickets also will be available at the festival itself, she added.

The South Dakota Shakespeare Festival has an operating budget of \$50,000, \$41,719 of which already has been raised.

"We still are waiting to collect \$1,218," said Coyoteopoly CFO Jillian Nelson.

"Some of it's from the South Dakota (Department of) Tourism, and they're just matching different marketing things that we're doing."

Other funds are coming from the South Dakota Arts Council, Nelson added.

Although Coyoteopoly students have been promoting the festival since it was first announced, a more fully realized marketing campaign was kicked off this year.

"The very first thing that we did when the semester started is we looked at who is our target market, and where are they coming from," said Stacey Allen, vice president of marketing for Coyoteopoly. "We nailed it down to about a 60- to 100-mile radius around Vermillion."

The students said their attendance goal is 500 people in the audience per night.

"They'll get to have three days away from reality and come into a Shakespearean atmosphere and enjoy a wonderful play, have some drinks and food, and have a wonderful time," Point said.

For more information including schedule of events and workshops, visit www.sdshakespearefestival.org.

Stephanie Lynch Taylor receives Alumni Achievement Award

Stephanie (Lynch) Taylor, daughter of John and Doralee Lynch of Burbank and 1994 graduate of Vermillion High School, received the Alumni Achievement Award in Music from the Hixson-Lied College of Fine and Performing Arts at the University of Nebraska-Lincoln on April 21. She was selected to receive this award by the college's Alumni Board. Stephanie, a classically trained violinist and country/bluegrass fiddle player, earned her bachelor's in music education and law degree from University of Nebraska - Lincoln. She is currently residing in Nashville, TN where she leads the entertainment and music industry law group at Bone McAllester Norton in Nashville, TN.

Prior to joining Bone McAllester Norton, Stephanie owned her own law firm. In addition, Stephanie was a tenured professor of music business at Middle Tennessee State University



TAYLOR

where she directed study abroad programs with Russia and Ireland. Her musical career has included eight years as a contract violinist with the Lincoln

Symphony Orchestra in Lincoln, NE, as well as performing with numerous country musicians including Chris Young, Joey + Rory, and Billy Yates.

Stephanie is an active member of the International Bluegrass Music Association and a member of the Board of Trustees for the International Bluegrass Music Museum. She was recently honored to be inducted into the South Dakota Old Time Fiddlers Hall of Fame.

Poppies to be sold May 24

American Legion Auxiliary volunteers will distribute the familiar red, handcrafted poppies honoring America's war dead on May 24 designated as Poppy Day by Wallace American Legion Auxiliary Unit in Vermillion.

The annual event pays tribute to those veterans who have died in past wars. It also honors the millions of Americans who have willingly served their country.

All proceeds of the distribution are used for the benefit of veterans and their families. The memorial poppy is never sold, but given in exchange for a contribution.

The paper poppies are each handmade by veterans who benefit from the proceeds which augment fixed benefits and help with daily living expenses, contributing to a greater feeling of self-sufficiency. The physical

and mental activity provides many therapeutic benefits for the veteran.

Today, more than 5 million poppies are made each year by disabled veterans, generating nearly \$2 million in contributions.

The American Legion Auxiliary was founded in 1919, and is the world's largest patriotic women's service organization. With a membership of over 850,000 local American Legion Auxiliary units have a strong presence in more than 9,500 communities nationwide. The American Legion Auxiliary mission to serve veterans, their families and their communities is carried out through its hundreds of outreach programs delivered by its members, volunteers, and National Headquarters.

Among its other business at the meeting, the council approved a grant agreement with the Vermillion Basin Water Development District (VBWDD) for the city's ongoing storm drainage study.

On March 5, the council had approved a contract with SHE Engineering to complete the study - which was divided into phases ranging from data-gathering to developing a CIP plan - in portions of the city.

The city originally had budgeted \$70,000 for the drainage study, the cost of which came in at \$51,000.

City Engineer José Dominguez said city staff met with the VHWDD to see if they would fund a portion of the study, which only includes two basins.

"The city is probably going to be divided into seven basins, and each basin will have to be studied so we know what improvements need to be made to that basin to accommodate for future development ... or any major storm events that might impact the area," Dominguez said.

VBWDD offered a "very generous" grant of \$30,000 for any additional basins that might require study, Dominguez said.

"The stipulation is that the money would have to be given to the city in \$10,000 increments over the following three years, including this year," he said.

The proposal was met with unanimous approval.

This also was the case in the awarding of two construction projects.

The first project was to repair the concrete pavement around the bays of the east side of the Service Center on west Duke Street.

"The concrete around that area has been placed in sections, and the first portion was probably built in the mid-'80s by city staff, and the last set in

the early '90s," Dominguez said. "The concrete that is currently there ... is in bad shape, and has failing either due to the large amount of truck traffic that we have and possibly poor drainage in the area."

Quote specifications were sent to seven potential bidders, four of whom replied.

"The proposed concrete will be eight inches thick and will be placed on a six-inch aggregate base," Dominguez said. "In addition, the drainage will also be addressed with the project by replacing the drainage soil that drains from the north by where the fence is to enter the back of the service center. It's going to drain south toward Duke Street."

The project - which was accounted for in the 2011 budget - was awarded to Walker Construction for the amount of \$21,705.32.

The second project the councilors approved was the renovation of the Barstow Skate Park.

"Over the last couple years the city has been collecting funding sources for converting the existing ice rink into a multiuse facility," Dominguez said. "The new skate park will be a skateboard/roller blade park in the summer and an ice-skating rink in the winter."

The proposed skate park will consist of a six-inch concrete slab with curb and gutter. The slab will measure 77 feet by 152 feet, and will drain toward the south into a grassy area, which eventually will drain to Dartmouth Street.

Dominguez said \$80,000 has been budgeted for the project, which will cover the construction as well as some of the amenities that will be installed for summer use.

The bid was awarded to Vermillion Construction Company for the amount of \$46,875.

blossoms in a fourteen-syllable poem or devote 25 pages to the dissection of a small boy's feelings as he lies in bed in the dark waiting for his mother to kiss him good night."

"Graduates of 2012, we need you," he said.

and the weakhearted. It needs those who can devote their lives to studying how many drops of water are secreted by the salivary glands of dogs under which circumstances, and it needs those who can capture the passing impression of cherry

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