

## Dakota Smiles Mobile Dental Program to visit

Does your child need dental care? Has your child never seen a dentist? The Dakota Smiles Mobile Dental Program is visiting Vermillion this week. The "Smile Bus" provides comprehensive dental health care and immunization to children from birth to age 21 who have no "dental home." The Smile Bus, a fully equipped dental office on wheels, is a joint program of Ronald McDonald House Charities, the Delta Dental Philanthropic fund, and the South Dakota Department of Health.

Whether or not your child

is Medicaid eligible or if you don't have dental insurance, find out if your child qualifies for this program. Applications for dental screening and treatment are available at the Vermillion Public Library, the Clay County Public Health Nurse's office, The Welcome Table, and the USD Children's Center. Completed applications should be returned to one of the above locations by Monday, May 21. Parents/guardians of children who may qualify for this program should pick up and return applications as soon as possible.

The Smile bus is able to provide appointments for up to 75 youngsters during its week stay in Vermillion. The bus will be in the Vermillion Middle School parking lot.

The Theta Omega chapter of Epsilon Sigma Alpha International is partnering with Delta Dental and the Ronald McDonald House Charities to bring the mobile dental office to Vermillion. Other local sponsors are the Alpha Lambda Chapter of ESA, The Vermillion Lions Club, and the Vermillion Veterinary clinic. Dr. Matthew Knutson, will be providing the dental care.

### 1101 Announcements - Events

**AI-ANON meets Monday** night at 7:30 p.m. in St. Paul's Church, 10 Linden Ave. Call 605-624-4166 for information.

**BERGEN LUTHERAN Church:** "The little white church on Timber Road." Worship 9:00 a.m. Sunday School 10:15 a.m. Pastor Ralph Egbert

**Blessed Teresa of Calcutta** Catholic Church, 995 N. Sioux Point Road, Dakota Dunes, SD. Weekend Masses: Saturday, 4:30 p.m.; Sunday, 9:30 a.m. and 5:30 p.m.

**BRULE Creek Lutheran Church,** Elk Point, SD: Worship Service 11:00am, Sunday School 9:45am to 10:45am.

### 1101 Announcements - Events

**CHRIST OUR SAVIOR** Wisconsin Evangelical Lutheran Synod: Worship Sunday 6:00 p.m., Bible Study Tuesday, 9:00 p.m., Neuharth Center, 624-5398 or 1-800-998-1234

**CHURCH OF CHRIST,** 102 Prospect: Sunday Worship 10:00 a.m.; Bible Study 9:00 a.m.; Bible Study 12:00 noon; Wednesday Night Classes, 7:00 p.m.

**Concordia Lutheran Church** (LC-MS) 7 South University Street, Vermillion. Divine Service - Sunday, 10:30 a.m.; Sunday School - Sunday, 9:20 a.m. Pastor Samuel Needham.

### 1101 Announcements - Events

**CORNERSTONE CHURCH:** Located at the corner of Crawford & Cherry St. Celebration Service: Sunday - 9:00 & 10:30am; During school year: Impact for Kids (5-11), Wed - 6:15pm-7:30pm; FCA/Impact: College Youth & Adults, Wed - 7:30pm-8:30pm. Check us out at Cornerstonesd.org or (605)624-8809.

**DALESBURG BAPTIST Church** 30503 466th Ave., Beresford, Pastor Darren Regehr. 9:45am, Sunday School; 11:00am, Morning Worship; Mid-week Services Wednesdays, 7:00pm. (605)253-2622.

# AAA predicts a 1.3 percent increase in Memorial Day travel

AAA projects 105,740 South Dakotans will drive 50 miles or more from home over the long Memorial Day holiday weekend, an increase of 1.3 percent - or 943 travelers - from the number of South Dakotans who traveled one year ago. The Memorial Day holiday travel period is defined as Thursday, May 24 to Monday, May 28. Nationally, AAA expects 30.7 million Americans to drive to holiday destinations this year, a 1.2 percent increase over Memorial Day, 2011.

"The overall domestic economic picture continues to improve slightly. However, potential travelers faced a new challenge this year as steadily increasing gas prices throughout the spring significantly squeezed many household budgets," said Marilyn Buskohl, spokeswoman for AAA South Dakota. "South Dakotans will still travel during the Memorial Day holiday weekend but many will compensate for higher travel costs by staying closer to home or cutting entertainment expenses." Air travel projections

down - auto still the dominant transportation choice

AAA is predicting 5,351 South Dakotans will fly on Memorial Day vacations this year, a 5.9 percent drop from the number who flew last year. Nationally, 2.5 million Americans will take to the skies over the holiday, a decline of 5.5 percent from the 2.7 million who booked flights one year ago. Almost nine out of ten holiday travelers (88 percent) will take to the nation's roadways during the Memorial Day weekend, keeping automobile travel in the traditional lead as the dominate mode of holiday travel transportation.

#### IMPACT OF GASOLINE PRICES ON TRAVEL PLANS

A survey of intended travelers found that 53 percent said this spring's increases in gasoline prices would not impact their Memorial Day holiday travel plans. Of the remaining 47 percent of travelers who said gas prices would impact their travel plans, nine percent are planning to take a shorter trip, four percent

will travel by an alternate mode of transportation and 34 percent will economize in other areas. Those who intend to economize in other areas plan to reduce spending on entertainment (65 percent), stay at a lower priced hotel (34 percent), stay with friends and relatives instead of reserving a hotel room (31 percent) or stay in a hotel that includes value-added amenities like free breakfast and internet (27 percent).

National and state gasoline prices may have peaked in April despite seasonal highs in early spring when motorists experienced average price increases for all but four days in February and March. April experienced a full reversal as prices fell for 23 of 30 days during the month, helping to break a streak of 911 days since the national average price was lower than the previous year.

According to AAA FuelGaugeReport.com, the South Dakota statewide average price for regular self-serve gasoline today stands at \$3.66, compared to \$3.92 this time last year. Nationwide, the average today is \$3.72, which is 23 cents below the price last year.

#### INCREASE IN SALES OF INCLUSIVE VACATIONS SETS EMERGING TREND

Many Americans consider summer travel a mainstay and are

committed to traveling despite higher prices in many sectors impacting household budgets. As Americans seek ways to economize travel budgets, like the 65 percent of Memorial Day travelers who say they will cut entertainment costs, a trend has emerged. To trim costs and maximize travel experiences, an increasing number of travelers are choosing cost-inclusive vacation options like cruises and tour travel packages. These valued added travel options provide consumers an effective way to budget, pay vacation costs up front and decrease entertainment costs during their holiday weekend.

The cost of a cruise typically includes cabin accommodation, entertainment, all meals, onboard gratuities, non-alcoholic beverages and taxes. Tour cost inclusions can vary from all-inclusive resort vacations that include all costs up front to multiple-destination tours that include accommodations, airfare, sightseeing and some meals. Some tours and cruises are now including free or discounted airfare.

#### AVERAGE TRAVEL DISTANCE SIGNIFICANTLY LESS THAN LAST YEAR

According to a survey of traveler intentions, the average distance traveled

by Americans during the Memorial Day holiday weekend is expected to be 642 miles, which is 150 miles less than last year's average travel distance of 792 miles. With high gas prices squeezing consumers' spending power this spring, consumers are responding by traveling shorter distances this Memorial Day holiday.

The decline in expected air travel is a factor in the travel distance decrease as fewer flying miles can be contrasted with the slight growth in automobile travel. Miles flown for weekend travel are typically longer than those driven. Last year, the shortest trips, those less than 150 miles, made up 19 percent of total travel compared to 21 percent this year, reinforcing the expectation that shorter trips are especially popular this Memorial Day weekend. Median spending is expected to be \$702, only slightly more than the \$692 median spending last year.

#### AIRFARES AND CAR RENTAL RATES DROP, HOTEL RATES RISE

According to AAA's Leisure Travel Index, Memorial Day holiday airfares are expected to be seven percent lower than last year with an average lowest round-trip rate of \$189 for the top 40 U.S. air routes. Low cost carriers such as Spirit and Frontier contributed to the average cost decline with airfares for five of the

top 40 routes declining by more than 40 percent. Hotel rates for AAA Three Diamond lodgings are expected to increase eight percent from a year ago with travelers spending an average of \$160 per night compared to \$148 last year. Travelers planning to stay at AAA Two Diamond hotels can expect to pay 10 percent more with an average cost of \$120 per night. Weekend daily car rental rates will average \$36, four percent (\$2) less than last year.

AAA's projections are based on economic forecasting and research by IHS Global Insight. The Boston-based economic research and consulting firm teamed with AAA in 2009 to jointly analyze travel trends during the major holidays. AAA has been reporting on holiday travel trends for more than two decades. The complete AAA / IHS Global Insight 2012 Memorial Day Holiday Travel Forecast can be found at NewsRoom.AAA.com.

A not-for-profit organization, AAA South Dakota serves its 92,190 members across South Dakota with emergency help on the road, auto travel assistance and a wide range of personal insurance, travel, financial and automotive services through its 10 branches, and the Internet at AAA.com.

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