

Library expansion nearly complete

By Travis Gulbrandson

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Approximately 10 percent is left to be done in the Vermillion Public Library's expansion project.

After more than a year of construction work, the project is closer than ever to completion.

"Overall, it went well," said library director Jane Larson. "There are always bumps in the road when you're doing construction. I think the design is really good. It's going to be a beautiful building. It's got a nice style, it gives us a lot more room, we'll have a lot more activities and places to do things."

"Once everything gets completed it'll be really nice," she said.

Most of what is yet to be done is on the outside of the building, including the installation of a new bike rack, and work relating to irrigation, façade and landscaping.

New shelves had to be installed, as well, which necessitated the closure of the library for part of this week.

The library closed for two two-week periods as workers moved all the materials from the old building to the new, and then to spread the materials out after the renovation of the old section was completed.

"We doubled in size," Larson said. "We now have a total of 22,890 square feet, and we had 11,000 square feet before."

In addition to the extra floor space, there is a new circulation desk and expanded employee area, a new community room, a computer room, a row of skylights down the center of the building, and several reading areas, including one with a working fireplace.

"(The patrons) are just amazed," Larson said. "They say, 'Oh my gosh, this is beautiful.' They want to know all the new activities we're going to have. Of



The sun offers partial illumination via a row of skylights down the center of the building. Thanks to the expansion project, there is much more room to display the library's holdings. (Travis Gulbrandson/Vermillion Plain Talk)

course, we don't have them all planned, but ... now we have room to do more adult programming and more teen programming. We have a number of people come in every day."

With all of these accoutrements, it can seem at times as if there aren't many patrons.

"When there are 40 people in here you don't realize it," Larson said. "Somebody said to me, 'There's hardly anybody in here,' and then he walked by the fireplace and there was only one empty chair. And that area seats 33."

Work also was done on the basement, which will be used for several purposes.

"The Friends of the Library are setting up a used bookstore down there, so we're getting that put up, and

there's a storeroom, which we've never had. We had to use the Carnegie all these years," Larson said.

Although work officially began on March 5, 2012, much had to be done before that from a financial standpoint to ensure that it could be completed.

Two years ago the Vermillion City Council had appropriated \$1.4 million in second penny money, a Community Development Block Grant that brought in approximately \$192,500 and Edith Seigrist, a longtime University of South Dakota library science professor had donated \$800,000 toward the project before she passed away in July 2011.

Larson said that when everything is finished, there will be advantages for both the

patrons of the library and its employees.

"To the public's perspective, there will be lots more space and more items, and more resources available," she said. "To the working side of it, it'll be much easier for us to work because now staff have their own desks. Before, we had to share. We had to get a lot of things from storage from the basement next door, so there's convenience. ... The staff will now have their own workstations, which will make it easier for them to do their jobs."

An official dedication ceremony for the Vermillion Public Library has been scheduled for June 1, and will feature such guests as library board chairman John Flanagan, Mayor Jack Powell and Sen. Tim Johnson.

NALC food drive May 11

On Saturday, May 11, the largest annual one-day effort to combat hunger will once again take place in Vermillion. That is the day of the 21st annual National Association of Letter Carriers Food Drive.

This food drive is conducted with the help of not only the letter carriers but also the rural carriers, who cover the country side including the Burbank and Meckling areas, as well as all the other postal employees. Volunteers from the Vermillion Food Pantry will also be lending a hand to help collect as many food items as possible.

The concept is simple and donating is as easy as taking a can or two of non-perishable items and placing them by your mailbox on Saturday, May 11. When you get your regular delivery of mail, your donation

will be collected and taken to the Vermillion Food Pantry, which is operated out of Trinity Lutheran Church.

Items that can be donated include canned and boxed non-perishable foods. If you wish to donate a bag full of food items, just place it near your mailbox. If you are not able to participate on May 11, you are encouraged to donate early, simply leave a note with the items so that the postal employees know that this is a food pantry donation.

Please be generous; donate a can or two (or whatever you are able) to the Food Drive on May 11.

The goal of the Vermillion Postal Food Drive is to collect 5,000 pounds of food items and this can only be done with the support of the entire community.

STAMP

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some criticism online.

In other media outlets, Grimm's father, artist Adam Grimm has been quoted as saying graphite transfer is a common technique.

The rulebook for the federal contest goes into some detail on the subject.

On page 17, rule three says, "Do not copy or trace a copyrighted photo. Copied or plagiarized paintings will be disqualified."

Adam Grimm was quoted as saying the photo in question was not copyrighted.

The next rule on page 17 says, "If using a photo as reference, extensively change the 'attitude' of the duck for your creation. For example, if the duck's head is upright, draw it facing down as if it is drinking water, or turn the angle of the duck's head."

The rule also encourages young artists to change the angle of the duck's body, and the color of its surroundings.

"The idea that each student artist is creating his or her own depiction of waterfowl and submitting that original creation as a Junior Duck Stamp Contest entry is an important aspect of this contest," the rulebook says.

All participating students are encouraged to complete a reference worksheet that allows them to list their sources.

However, this is only a requirement for students in groups III and IV, which are those in grades 7-9 and 10-12, respectively.

Students in groups I and II - which are grades K-3 and 4-6 - are only encouraged to complete the form, but are not required to submit it.

Interview requests to Adam Grimm via e-mail and voicemail were not answered as of press time.

OBITUARIES

Anna Dietsch

Anna M. Dietsch, age 100 of Yankton, and formerly of Bow Valley, NE, died on Wednesday, April 24, 2013, at Avera Sister James Care Center in Yankton.



DIETSCH

Mass of Christian Burial was on Monday, April 29, 2013, at 10:30 a.m. at the Holy Family (Sts. Peter & Paul) Catholic Church in Bow Valley with Father David Fulton officiating assisted by Deacon Sylvan Thoene. Burial was in the Sacred Heart Cemetery in Wynot, NE. Visitation will begin at 9 a.m. on Monday at the church. The Wintz Funeral Home in Hartington is assisting with arrangements.

Pallbearers were John Schwartz, Todd Heine, Mark Heine, Tim Heine, Nick Heine, Joel Heine and Andrew Dietsch

Anna was born on Sept. 19, 1912, to Fred W. and Theresia (Arens) Uhing on the family's farm southeast of Bow Valley, NE. She was baptized and confirmed in Sts. Peter & Paul Catholic Church in Bow Valley. Anna graduated from Bunker Hill District 72 School after

completing eight grades. After her mother's death from leukemia in 1927, she kept house for her father and two brothers until she married Anton J. Dietsch on April 21, 1936, in Bow Valley. They farmed east of Fordyce until moving to O'Neill, NE, for one year and then to Wynot. They were blessed with four children. Anton died on Oct. 13, 1948, in a truck accident leaving her a widow for 65 years. Anna moved herself and children back to the family homestead southeast of Bow Valley on an invitation from her bachelor brother, John Uhing. Anna was his caregiver for 33 years and they moved into Bow Valley in 1974. From 1960 to 1983, she worked at Avera Sister James Care Center and was honored as Employee of the Month. After her retirement, Anna worked seasonally for Gurney's and cared for her daughter, Donna, for 18 years. She had been a resident of Majestic Bluffs Assisted Living since 2001 and Avera Sister James Care Center since April 2, 2009. Prayer and belief in God's Providence brought support, peace, and comfort in her life. Anna was a member of the Holy Family (Sts. Peter & Paul) Catholic Church in Bow Valley, Christian Mothers, Ministry of Praise and the Catholic Daughters of America. She loved attending daily Mass, working in her

garden, quilting, crocheting and baking for her family members.

Grateful for having shared her life are her three children, Donna Sudbeck of Omaha; Frederick and Kathleen Dietsch of Fayetteville, PA, Doris and Francis "Bud" Heine of Vermillion; 25 grandchildren; 52 great-grandchildren; and many nieces and nephews.

She was preceded in death by her parents; husband, Anton; a daughter, Shirley Schwartz in 1975; a grandson, Neil Heine in 1974; eight siblings and their spouses, Louis (Rosella) Uhing, Agatha (Pete) Schieffer, Martha (Art) Schrempf, William (Bernadine) Uhing, Amelia (John) Wisner, Marie (Dale) Mallatt, Alfred (Theresa) Uhing and John Uhing.

Melva Wastlund

Melva Wastlund, 87, of Vermillion, SD, went to heaven to be with her Lord and Savior on April 23, 2013.

She was born to the late Henry Peterson and Regna Peterson-Dwyer in Meckling, South Dakota, on February 8, 1925. Melva

attended Meckling School through the 8th grade. She was married to John W. Wastlund for over 50 years and was a long-time member of Cornerstone Church. Melva loved to talk and laugh, and enjoyed all of the 'company' she had over the years. She was handicapped and chair-bound for many years and has long looked forward to the day she would be dancing for Jesus.

She is survived by one daughter, Cindy (John) Fenton of Center Point, Iowa; one grandchild, JT Fenton of St. Paul, MN; a sister, Ruby Martinson of Vermillion; several nieces and nephews and a host of very good friends.

A visitation will be held on Friday, April 26 from 6-7 p.m. at Kober Funeral Home in Vermillion, with a prayer service at 7 p.m. Funeral services will take place on Saturday, April 27 at 10:30 a.m. at Cornerstone Church in Vermillion. A committal ceremony will take place at Bluff View Cemetery in Vermillion immediately following the service.

Services have been entrusted to Kober Funeral Home of Vermillion.

Condolences may be posted online at www.koberfuneralhome.com.



WASTLUND

USD veterans to be recognized

The University of South Dakota is recognizing student veterans during the 126th Spring Commencement on Saturday, May 4 with special commemorative graduation cords. In addition to cap and gown attire, student veterans will wear a braided three color cord representing the United States flag.

Prior to spring commencement, student veterans will receive their cords at a special ceremony at 11 a.m.

on Tuesday, April 30 at the Student Veteran Resource Center on the USD campus. Cords will be awarded by Lt. Col. Ross Nelson, a member of the Soldiers, Veterans & Dependents Committee at USD. For more information about the ceremony or the commemorative cords, please contact Jason Dean, USD Veterans Coordinator, by calling (605) 677-8833 or e-mail veterans@usd.edu.

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