

## SCHAFER HONORED



On behalf of the Clay County Republicans, Tony Post, South Dakota Republican Party executive director, presented Donna Schafer of Vermillion with a special award in appreciation for her many years of service in the South Dakota House of Representatives and dedication as Clay County Republican Chair. Special guests Lt. Gov. Matt Michels and the District 17 Rep. Nancy Rasmussen (R), joined Schafer at the 7 p.m. ceremony at Valiant Vineyards on Friday, May 10.

(Photo by Laurie Fritsch)

## Girard helps students with USD's summer offerings

By Travis Gulbrandson

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Even though the University of South Dakota's spring semester is officially over, that doesn't mean classes have come to a stop.

The 2013 On-Campus Summer School began on May 6, offering students and teachers a number of educational opportunities.

"One of the strategies that students use with summer school would be, if they want to accelerate a degree program and graduate early, or perhaps they'll want to take a course that's intensive and they'll just want to take it by itself in the summer," said USD's director of programming Gary Girard, who manages the summer school program. "It's an opportunity for departments to offer select courses that are unique and ... for students who are in a particular degree program."

Classes of varying lengths are held throughout the summer, he said.

"We have all kinds of start and end dates, so there's a lot of flexibility depending upon the kind of course," he said. "Some of the courses can be offered in an accelerated format, like a four-week course."

Summer school programs are categorized in a variety of ways.

"One, students can take general education courses, and even upper-division courses to accelerated degree," Girard said.

Teachers and school administrators, as well as non-college-aged youth are the focus of other areas, he said.

"We hold camps and workshops for teachers and administrators, and then all kinds of youth camps where K-12 youth come to get a college experience, or focus on a special academic topic," he said.

Among the youth-oriented programs is Kid's University/Early Scholars.

Kid's University is for early learners from ages 8-13, while Early Scholars is geared for high school students to develop their skills and to prepare for college. The goal of the program is to expand postsecondary education opportunities to promote and cultivate a college-going culture.

Summer school also gives USD students a chance to get a start on prerequisite courses or take refresher courses.

"There are a variety of courses that are offered in a hybrid format, where there are

convenient offerings that would be a face to face experience along with an online experience," Girard said.

"The other thing that's nice about summer that's attractive to some students is that they can take ... one course at a time," he said. "Somebody could take one six-week course, and then another six-week course, and they'll only be taking one course at a time. Or, they can mix and match that."

Girard said that although he does not know exactly how many students are utilizing the program this term, those students do have input in what courses are offered.

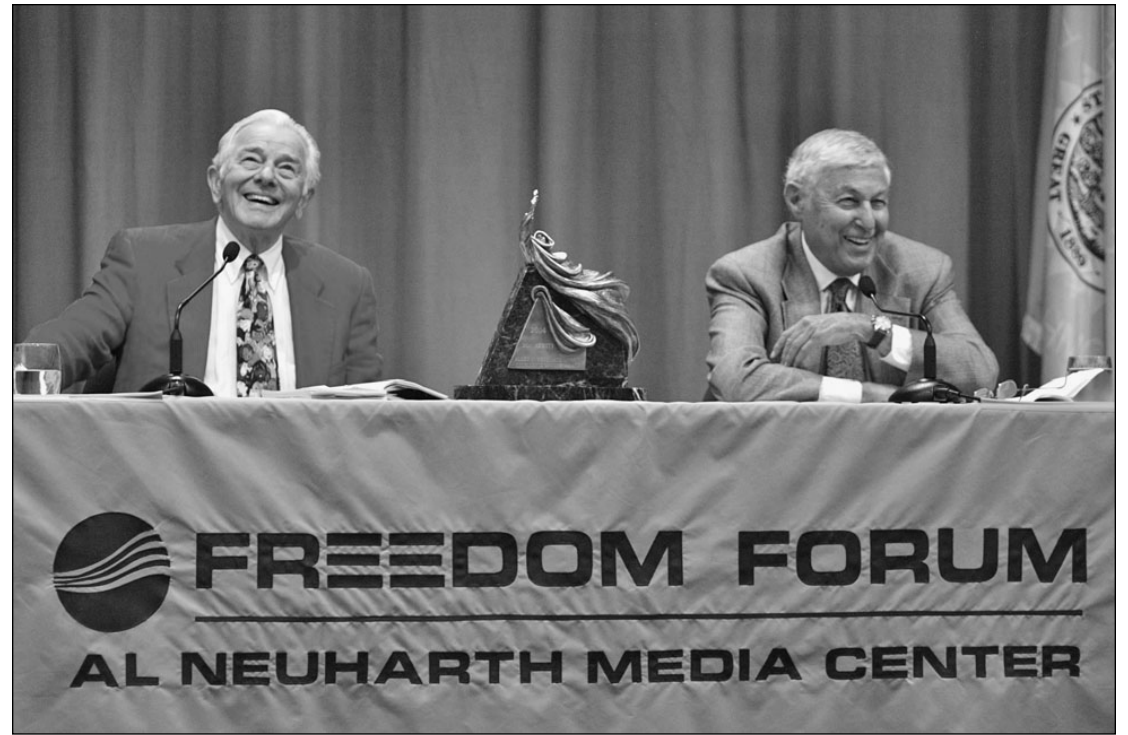
"We do survey the students prior to the start to see what kinds of courses they would look for," he said. "We try to get as much feedback as possible, and then align courses that way. Departments then will offer the courses accordingly."

The program offers benefits both to the school and the students, Girard said.

"It's an opportunity for departments to offer select courses that are unique and ... for students who are in a particular degree program," he said.

For more information, visit <http://www.usd.edu/summer-school/index.cfm>.

## Neuharth tribute set for May 17 at USD



Al Neuharth (left) takes part in a Q&A with Don Hewitt in 2004. A tribute to Neuharth is set for Friday, May 17, at the University of South Dakota.

(File photo)

Prominent officials, journalists, colleagues, friends, and others inspired by his vision and legacy will celebrate the life of South Dakota native Al Neuharth during a public tribute, 10 a.m., Friday, May 17, at the University of South Dakota.

Neuharth, founder of SoDak Sports, USA TODAY, Freedom Forum and the Newseum, died at his Cocoa Beach, FL, home on April 19. He was 89. Neuharth, a 1950 USD alumnus, was a frequent visitor to South Dakota in his later years. Because of his appreciation for the state, its people and their free spirit, he

directed that this "final celebration" take place at USD.

The memorial celebration at Slagle Hall AalFs Auditorium includes remarks from the Neuharth family; U.S. Sen. John Thune, R-S.D.; columnist and USD alumna Marilyn Hagerty, who was Neuharth's first editor in 1948; USD President James W. Abbott; journalist Mary Hudetz, vice president of the Native American Journalists Association; and Chris Jessen, an Al Neuharth Scholar at USD who followed in Neuharth's footsteps as editor of USD's *Volante*. There also will be tributes from Ruth Ziolkowski, CEO of the Crazy Horse

Memorial Foundation, and NBC's Tom Brokaw, a 1964 USD alumnus. Jack Marsh, president of the Al Neuharth Media Center, is master of ceremonies for the event, which will feature the "Freedom Sings" band of Nashville, TN.

Doors to AalFs Auditorium will open at 9 a.m. A live webcast of the memorial celebration will be streamed by South Dakota Public Broadcasting at [www.sdpb.org/live](http://www.sdpb.org/live) beginning 10 a.m. CDT, May 17. SDPB will record the event for a statewide broadcast, 3 p.m., Sunday, May 19.

## Breske honored by American Family Insurance

Mick Breske, an American Family Insurance agent in Vermillion, has been recognized for providing outstanding customer experience under the American Star Excellence in Customer Experience Certification.

Breske joins other American Family agents who have demonstrated the highest level of commitment to outstanding customer service.

Breske has been an agent for American Family since July of 1988. His office is located at 112 W Main St. in Vermillion.

"When choosing an insurance agent, consumers can rely on the American Star Excellence in Customer Experience Certification to help



BRESKE

them identify agents with a proven dedication to meeting customer needs," said Dan Schultz, American Family president and chief operating officer.

"This is an outstanding accomplishment."

Breske has qualified for this award for the past nine years.

The service excellence distinction was determined through an evaluation process

conducted under guidelines established through the American Star Excellence in Customer Experience certification.

The process consists of a customer satisfaction survey which measures customers' overall experience with their current American Family agent.

Only agencies that perform in the top 20 percent of all insurance agencies nationwide, based on customer satisfaction surveys, are eligible to become American Star Excellence in Customer Experience certified.

### VETERAN HEALTH BEHAVIOR RESEARCH

If you are an OIF/OEF veteran between the ages of 18 and 45, and drink alcohol at least once a week, you are being invited to participate in a research project. The purpose of the study is to examine past experiences with stress and current health behaviors.

Participation in this study involves completing a brief interview and questionnaire with a research team member. Your participation in this study is completely voluntary and your responses will be confidential.

You will be given \$25 for completing the initial interview and eligible participants will be invited to participate in an ongoing study in which you may receive up to \$100 / week. You may receive up to \$1075.

The ongoing study consists of 10 weeks of self-monitoring over the course of 1.5 years. The self-monitoring is designed to not interfere with your daily routine. There is a brief appointment before and after each assessment week.

Though you may not experience direct benefits of the research program, you may find the self-monitoring interesting and will be assisting future veterans by participating in research aimed at improving veteran health.

This study is being conducted by Dr. Jerome Buchkoski at the Sioux Falls VA and Drs. Jeffrey Simons and Raluca Gaher at The University of South Dakota.

*If you are interested in this study, please call 605-677-3950 for more information.*

Hope to see you soon!

The Veteran Health Behavior Research Team

### The Vermillion Area Farmers Market

starts its summer season on Thursday May 16 from 3:00-7:00 at the Clay County Fairgrounds (Cherry and High St.) and runs every Thursday through October. We'll have fresh greens, vegetable and flower starts, bread, crafts, herbs and pastries.

June 1-September 30 it will run on Saturdays 9:00-noon downtown at the Public Plaza (Market and Main Sts).

### Vermillion Area Farmer's Market

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