

Vermillion High School Award Winners

The following list of scholarships and awards earned represent a great year at Vermillion High School. However, the year is not complete and other awards will be given in the next few weeks, please let us know at the Plain Talk and we will publish them, as well.

To the seniors of the VHS Class of 2015, congratulations on your graduation!!

GREG SAMMELSON SCHOLARSHIP – Hope Knedler
THOMAS H. 'T.W.' WALKER SCHOLARSHIP – Lofton Covington & Brandon Hertz
TEAM FREIDEL SCHOLARSHIP – Jessica Brady & Hailey Freidel
SANFORD VERMILION CHILD OF EMPLOYEE SCHOLARSHIP – Tim Ellison & Brandon Hertz
SANFORD VERMILION/BECKY & DAVE NELSON HEALTHCARE CAREER SCHOLARSHIP – Abigail Weiss & Marley Hanson
VERMILION PUBLIC SCHOOL FOUNDATION, EDITH SIEGRIST SCHOLARSHIP – Teddi Settles & Adam Winslow
VERMILION PUBLIC SCHOOL FOUNDATION, WALTER & MARGARET KAEBERLEY SCHOLARSHIP – Abby Weiss
RIBS, RODS & ROCK AND ROLL – Josh Westhause, Tyler Madsen
CLAY COUNTY YOUTH TRUST FUND 4-H SCHOLARSHIP – Marley Hanson, Blaine Bottolfson & Erika Fallon
AMERICAN LEGION CITIZENSHIP AWARD – Tim Ellison & Jessica Brady
VERMILION AMERICAN LEGION CLUB, POST #1 SCHOLARSHIP – Britney Sweeney & Jessica Brady
BOYS STATE – Alsen Post – Jeremiah Johnson. Vermillion Post – Kaleb Blue, Blake Gilkyson, Cody Kronaizl, Alec Leber, Tristan Meadows, Jonathan Rosales, Matt Ouellette, Paul Schwasinger; alternates – Sam Craig, Joe Miller
GIRLS STATE – Kate Brockevelt, Elizabeth Butler, Morgan Fuller, Sydney Furry, Anna Hackemer, Katie Kost, Kylee Retzlaff, Kayla Stammer. Alternates – Erika Moen, Sowmya Ragothaman, Natalie Swanson
AMERICAN LEGION RECOGNIZES STUDENTS ENTERING THE ARMED SERVICES – Josh Westhause, Kyle Larson, Jefferson Galvin, Matt Glawe
ROTARY CLUB SCHOLARSHIP – Jessica Brady, Marley Hanson, Audry Mueller
KSFY and TOUCHTONE ENERGY STUDENT OF THE WEEK – Hope Knedler
CLAY UNION /BLASON ELECTRIC SCHOLARSHIP – Hope Knedler
KSFY AND TOUCHTONE ENERGY STUDENT OF THE YEAR – Hope Knedler
CLAY UNION ELECTRIC WASHINGTON, DC YOUTH TOUR – Kaci Madsen
FIRST BANK AND TRUST DIRECTORS SCHOLARSHIP – Marley Hanson, Sean Callahan, Hope Knedler
FIRST BANK AND TRUST STUDENT OF THE MONTH – Jack Brown, Marley Hanson, Jessica Brady, Jacob Ford, Andrew Heine, Teddi Settles, Hailey Freidel, Carter Andre, Tim Ellison, Rachel Finnegan, Hope Knedler, Regan Bye, Sean Callahan, Jenna Girard, Audry Mueller, Jacob Krier
FIRST DAKOTA NATIONAL BANK SCHOLARSHIP – Marley Hanson
COR TRUST BANK/SD BANKERS ASSN. – Marley Hanson
UNITED STATES ARMY RESERVE NATIONAL SCHOLAR ATHLETE AWARD – Rachel Finnegan, Regan Bye
YANKTON MEDICAL CLINIC SCHOLARSHIP – Marley Hanson
PEO INTERNATIONAL STAR SCHOLARSHIP – Marley Hanson
STEVE MERRIGAN MEMORIAL AWARD SCHOLARSHIP – Jon Manning
HOBY – Alesha Moser
LIONS CLUB SCHOLARSHIP – Marley Hanson, Jessica Brady
KVHT-KVTK SPORTSCASTER STUDENT ATHLETIC SCHOLARSHIP – Carter Andre, Rachel Finnegan
USD SCHOLARSHIPS – Carter Andre, Peter Banasiak, Sean Callahan, Maria Callegari, Jamie Cuka, Hailey Freidel, Jefferson Galvin, Marley Hanson, Kristen Johnson, Savannah Kirsch, Hope Knedler, Derrick Olson, Sydney Peters, Kobe Provost, Kourtney Seibel, Caitlin Siegel, Madeline Wagner, Travis Weber, Abigail Weiss, Joshua Westhause, Megan Zimiga
EVELYN LEIGH SCHOLARSHIP – Hope Knedler, Savannah Kirsch



SDSM&T ACADEMIC SCHOLARSHIP – Tim Ellison
EAGLES AERIE SCHOLARSHIP – Sean Callahan
VERMILION CIVIC COUNCIL SALUTE TO VOLUNTEERS SCHOLARSHIP – Marley Hanson
HEAD START YOUTH VOLUNTEER – Tori Gregiore, Kate Brockevelt, Chloe Nielson, Erika Fallon, Allison Mockler, Michaela Olson, Michela Constant, Kelsi Herrera, Sierra Whitman
HUMAN SERVICES AWARD – Danielle Cooper, Erika Fallon, Shelby Kirkie, Allison Mockler, Brooke Moser, Michaela Olson, Tanasha Watson
CTE CONCENTRATOR AWARDS IN ARCHITECTURE & CONSTRUCTION – Brett Bye, Regan Bye, Andrew Callahan, Lofton Covington, Kathie Herrera, Brandon Hertz, Kyle Larson, Tyler Madsen, Jon Manning, Bryce Surrell, Travis Weber
CTE CONCENTRATOR AWARDS IN TRANSPORTATION, DISTRIBUTION & LOGISTICS – Blaine Bottolfson, Lofton Covington, Matt Glawe, Jacob Odens, Matt Pearson, Bryce Surrell, Josh Westhause/OSHA AWARD – Matt Glawe, Gavin Gilbertson, Andrew Callahan, Matt Pearson, James Goeden, Brett Bye, Brandon Hertz, Barry Hulse, Travis Weber, Regan Bye, Andrew Heine, Dylan Miller, Jonah Fee, Bryce Surrell, Cordell Muecke, Kathie Herrera, Robert Stoker
VALVOLINE AWARD – Victoria Gregoire, Regan Bye, Nathan Brady, Melanie LeCates, Kyle Seibel, Katie Low, Jon Manning, Jay Patel, Dylan Sykes, Dillon Hudelson, Bryce Surrell, Blake Anglin, Austin Nikkel, Adam Winslow, Tristan Meadows, Shelby Kirkie, Serena Felicia, Sam Tigert, Myles Lineberry, Kylee Retzlaff, Katie Punt, Joseph Wagner, Jeremiah Johnson, Jefferson Galvin, Jacob Husby, Hunter Christopherson, Danielle Cooper, Cole Anderson, Carter Andre, Brody Surrell, Brett Bye, Brandon Mockler, Austin Olson
FORD/AAA AWARD – Matt Glawe, Josh Westhause, Matt Pearson, Blaine Bottolfson, Tyler Madsen, Bryce Surrell, Jacob Odens Lofton Covington, Jason Retzlaff
 The VHS Auto class scored 1st in state for high written test score on Ford/AAA test.
 Lofton Covington and Jason Retzlaff placed 2nd in state at Ford/AAA hands on competition in Sioux Falls at South East Tech. on the 30th of April. Awards for Jason Retzlaff and Lofton Covington included \$13,500 in scholarships for each student and \$1500 in tools for each student.
DRAMA BOOSTER – Savannah Kirsch
KCAU BEST OF THE CLASS – Carter Andre
ARGUS LEADER ACADEMIC ALL STAR TEAM – Rachel Finnegan
DAUGHTERS OF THE AMERICAN REVOLUTION AWARD – Rachel Finnegan
DENIM FOR DOLLARS – Jenna Girard, Jessica Brady, Teddi Settles
VERMILION SOUTHEAST UNIT OF THE RETIRED TEACHERS – Audry Mueller
KSFY BEST and BRIGHTEST – Jenna Girard, Rachel Finnegan
VEA EDUCATION SCHOLARSHIP – Savannah Kirsch
STUDENT COUNCIL AWARD – Current officers: president Jessica Brady, VP Joe Miller, Secretary Rachel Finnegan, Treas. Andrew Heine, Reporter Shantel French, Sergeant at Arms Hailey Friedel; New 2015-2016 officers: President-Sawmya Ragothaman and Joe Miller, Vice President Morgan Herbster, Secretary Amanda Finnegan, Treasurer Katie Kost, Sergeant at Arms Carter Larson, Reporter Brooklyn Kirsch

GOVERNORS LEADERSHIP LUNCHEON – Abril Telleria, Cooper Williams
ODD FELLOW SCHOLARSHIP – Marley Hanson
ASSOCIATED SCHOOL BOARDS OF SD (ASBSD) LUNCH WITH THE GOVERNOR – Jenna Girard
PEER TUTOR AWARDS – Teddi Settles, Dustin Fischer, Melanie LeCates, Jamie Cuka, Kathie Herrera
REGENTS' DIPLOMA SCHOLARS – Carter Andre, Peter Banasiak, Jack Brown, Brett Bye, Sean Callahan, Maria Callegari, Timothy Ellison, Rachel Finnegan, Jefferson Galvin, Jenna Girard, Marley Hanson, Andrew Heine, Kristen Johnson, Jacob Krier, Hope Knedler, Audry Mueller, Sydney Peters, Teddi Settles, Ryan Styles, Madeline Wagner, Travis Weber, Abigail Weiss, Joshua Westhause, Megan Zimiga
SENIOR HONORS PROGRAM AWARDS – Carter Andre, Jessica Brady, Jack Brown, Regan Bye, Sean Callahan, Maria Callegari, Jamie Cuka, Tim Ellison, Rachel Finnegan, Hailey Freidel, Jefferson Galvin, Jenna Girard, Tori Gregoire, Marley Hanson, Andrew Heine, Hope Knedler, Jacob Krier, Audry Mueller, Dylan Miller, Sydney Peters, Isaac Rosdail, Teddi Settles, Ryan Styles, Madeline Wagner, Travis Weber, Megan Zimiga, Katie Zimmerman
NATIONAL HONORS SOCIETY – Carter Andre, Peter Banasiak, Jessica Brady, Jack Brown, Sean Callahan, Marie Callegari, Jamie Cuka, Tim Ellison, Rachel Finnegan, Jenna Girard, Marley Hanson, Kristen Johnson, Hope Knedler, Jacob Krier, Audry Mueller, Sydney Peters, Isaac Rosdail, Teddi Settles, Ryan Styles, Madeline Wagner, Travis Weber, Megan Zimiga, Katie Zimmerman
2016 NATIONAL MERIT SCHOLARSHIP PROGRAM INVITATION – Katherine Brockevelt, Erika Moen, Robert McFall
WENDY'S HEISMAN WINNER – Jack Brown
SDHSAA VISUAL ARTS COMPETITION – High School Art Team 3rd place: Huy Nguyen, Daniel Fuller, Jesse Voudry, Regina Arthus, Leila Brinkman, Hope Knedler, Kate Struckman-Johnson, Katie Low, Autumn Berseth, Ruth Murphy, Britney Sweeney
MEDAL WINNERS: Huy Nguyen – Printmaking, Silver Daniel Fuller-Graphic Design, Bronze Jesse Voudry – Photography, Bronze Regina Arthus – Traditional Culture Art, Bronze Leila Brinkman – Watercolor Painting, Bronze
PARTICIPANTS: Hope Knedler – Mixed Media; Kate Struckman-Johnson – Colored Drawing; Katie Low – Acrylic Painting; Autumn Berseth – 3D Design; Ruth Murphy – Traditional Drawing; Britney Sweeney – Crafts
SCHOLASTIC GOLD KEY STATE PARTICIPANTS: Sophi Dudley – Gold Key, Comic Book Art; Hope Knedler – Gold Key & Sivler Key, Art; Kate Struckman-Johnson – Honorable Mention, Art; Autumn Berseth – Honorable Mention, Portfolio Art; Libby Sykes – Honorable Mention, Art
NATIONAL SILVER KEY AWARD: Sophi Dudley – Gold Key, Comic Book Art
YEARBOOK EDITOR – Morgan Fuller
YEARBOOK PHOTOGRAPHER: – Kylee Retzlaff, Kinsey James
CTE COMPUTER: BIG IDEA MARKETING DESIGN – 1ST Place Hope Knedler and Kourtney Seibel
CTE COMPUTER: INFOGRAPHIC CONTEST – 1st Place Kate Brockevelt, 2nd Place Emily Bye
WAYNE STATE BUSINESS COMPETITION – 1ST place Vermillion: Matthew Wasley, Adam Winslow (datamanie team), Adam Jensen (computer literacy), William Brouillette (business communications)
 2nd place: Sowmya Ragothaman, Peter Banasick, Ryan Styles, Dylan Miller (college bowl team), Jamie Cuka, Hope Knedler (business plan), William Brouillette (advertising event), Adam Jensen (consumer smarts), Sowmya Ragothaman (keyboarding II);
 3rd place: Alec Leber (computer literacy), Adam Jensen (Digital Citizenship), Ryan Styles (keyboarding II);
 4th place: Michela Constant (business law);
 5th place: Michela Constant (sales presentation), Dylan Miller (business law), William Brouillette (marketing), Allison Odens (accounting), Austin Davoux (business comprehensive knowledge and marketing)
RONALD MCDONALD HOUSE CHARITIES SCHOLARSHIP – Marley Hanson

VHS Driver's Education Program Registrations Being Accepted

By Shauna Marlette
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In South Dakota, earning your driver's license is something most every teenager looks forward to with excitement, while parents have to fight their nerves.

Vermillion High School is hoping to reduce those nerves and put better drivers on the road with its Driver's Education Program running in two sessions this summer, Monday, June 1-Friday, June 5 and Monday, June 8-Friday, June 12. The classes will run from 8:30 a.m. to 3:45 p.m.

"I have been teaching the driver's education program here in Vermillion for about 13-14 years," said instructor Bill Settles. "We usually have about 60 students split between the two sessions."

The class will consist of 30 hours of classroom instruction and six hours of behind-the-wheel driving experience. Students, who drive in pairs, will also be responsible for six hours of observation time while their partners are driving.

"We cover all the basic driving rules and regulations," Settles said. "We give them suggestions on good driving techniques. We talk about the licensing processing."

Once the class is done, if the instructors feel the driver is qualified, they can do portions of the driving with them, as well.

"Those that we believe have a good chance of passing the testing process can test with us and then we give them a signature that they can use downtown to get waivers to get testing downtown," Settles said.

Students who complete the classroom portion with

a grade of 80 percent or better will be exempt from taking the written test at the Department of Motor Vehicles (DMV). At the end of the behind-the-wheel experience, a driving test may be attempted; students who pass this with a grade of 80 percent or better may be exempt from the driving test at the DMV.

Students who meet both of these criteria will have the normally required 180-day instructional period reduced to 90 days, allowing them to receive their restricted permit sooner. Also, many insurance companies offer a discount for students who complete a Driver Education program.

"We have a special vehicle that we use," Settles said. "It has always been provided by Rasmussen Ford in the past, but we hope that Jerry's will follow up and we can rent some cars from them and install the extra brake."

Settles said the driving times are spread throughout the summer, after the completion of the classroom work.

If a student's summer schedule requires them to do the driving during a specific time or on specific dates, their parents should contact Settles prior to the beginning of the first classroom session. This is particularly

important if extended vacations are planned. Students in the second session need to make their needs known to the instructor even before the first session begins so that spots still remain for them to drive.

This summer, unlike in the past, Settles said the classes will be taught at the Vermillion Middle School do to the High School construction.

The total cost for the class is \$235 and registration is required by May 13.

A total of 60 students will be given the opportunity to take Driver Education with priority given to students in higher grades. If the classes end up being full, deposits will be returned to students who do not qualify for a spot. Those students who do qualify will be notified by May 19.

Settles said Vermillion School District student will have priority for class placement, but if spots are available, students from other schools will be accepted.

For questions about the Vermillion Driver's Education program, contact the high school at 677-7035 or email Settles at Bill.Settles@k12.sd.us.

www.plaintalk.net

USD Students Named Fulbright Scholars

Three students at the University of South Dakota have been awarded J. William Fulbright Scholarships, one of the most prestigious academic awards in the world.

"Having three Fulbright winners in a single year is extraordinary," said USD President James W. Abbott. "This level of recognition to our students reflects the dedication of our university and its faculty to academic achievement. I am very proud of the winners, and I congratulate and commend them for their success and accomplishments."

The Fulbright recognizes top students and provides opportunities for advanced study, research and teaching. The program is administered by a board of 12 individuals appointed by the President of the United States.

Breanna Helland of Frederick, S.D., is an undergraduate with a double major in Criminal Justice and Political Science. Helland will use her Fulbright award to travel

to South Korea and study the democratic transformation happening there. Her goal is to become a teacher.

Lucia Carlson of Rio Ricos, Ariz., is completing her master's degree in Political Science. She will travel to Germany to further her knowledge of that country, including building her skills as a German speaker, and as a teacher of English to Germans. Carlson intends to pursue a career in the United States Foreign Service.

Holly Baker of West Lafayette, Ind., is completing her Ph.D. in English at USD. Baker will travel to Romania to expand and enrich her knowledge of that nation's political unrest during the 1990s and the related crisis regarding children and orphans. She plans to write a novel about this historical event.

Beginning in 1951, 36 USD students have been awarded Fulbright scholarships, and this year's three winners marks the most in any single year since 1957.

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