



(From left) Crissy Skogsberg, interim DON, Jacqueline Hunsley, November employee of the month and Jeff Berens, chief nursing officer, Sanford Vermillion.

Hunsley named November 2012 PRIDE Employee of the Month

Jacqueline Hunsley, CNA, Sanford Care Center Vermillion was selected as the Sanford Vermillion November 2012 PRIDE Employee of the Month. She has been employed there since August 2011.

Nominations for Hunsley included the following comments:

Personalized service: Jacqueline is always going out of her way to help the residents and others.

Respect: She respects all of us as employees. She tries to keep positive and she tries to do the best for everyone.

Innovation: She is always thinking of new ways to help or make it better.

Dedication: She is always willing to help out even though her shift might be over.

Excellence: She always has the residents looking good!

Additional Comments: She is just an overall truthful and good person.

“Jacqueline is a pleasure to have at the Care Center. She is so respectful and courteous to the residents we serve. She is a resident advocate for ensuring the Care Center is ‘home’ to them. She takes pride in all areas of care,” said Crissy Skogsberg, Interim DON, Sanford Vermillion Medical Center.

Jacqueline is a native of Faulkton, SD, and currently lives in Gayville. Jacqueline has two children, Lily, 9, and Cole, 16. Jacqueline enjoys being outdoors, fishing, kayaking and taking photos.

Number of homeless in South Dakota decreases

On Sept. 25, 2012, South Dakota Housing for the Homeless Consortium (SDHHC) conducted a one-day survey to identify homeless families and individuals throughout the state of South Dakota.

Over the 24-hour period, 1,166 individuals, including 336 children, were counted, representing a 26 percent decline from the 1,453 individuals identified in 2011.

In 2009, South Dakota received more than \$3.2 million in Homelessness Prevention and Rapid Re-Housing Program (HPRP) funding. The HPRP program, which ended on Sept. 1, 2012, provided funding for rental assistance, security deposit, and utility deposits. In addition to the financial assistance, case management provided necessary services to help HPRP participants maintain housing.

“Though the HPRP grant ended on Sept. 1, the successful results showed in our recent count. The decrease in homelessness is due largely in part to the HPRP program,” said Lisa Bondy, SDHHC coordinator.

Also, SDHHC will take the results from the 2012 count to create goals and objectives for the South Dakota’s Ten-Year Plan to End Homelessness, which is currently being created.

“We know that short-term assistance is not

going to fix long-term barriers. The Ten-Year Plan will create specific objectives for reducing barriers for homeless individuals and families to reduce recidivism back into homelessness,” said Bondy.

The statewide survey was broken down into three geographical areas according to counties: West River, East River and Central South Dakota. The Homeless Advisory Board in Sioux Falls, Black Hills Region Homeless Coalition, and South Dakota Housing Development Authority (SDHDA), were responsible for coordinating the counts.

“SDHHC relies on community volunteers, law enforcement, faith-based organizations, and other agencies to help conduct the count in their areas,” said Bondy. “It is a great opportunity for agencies to come together for one specific cause to help those less fortunate in their community and to find out what barriers exist.”

A few statistics from the 2012 count:

1. Majority of homeless individuals and families were staying in emergency shelters, transitional housing or hotel/motels.
2. The prime reason for homelessness was Lost Job/Unemployment and Substance abuse issues;
3. Majority of the homeless were 26-35

years of age;

4. Of the 1,153, 131 were sleeping outdoors the night of the count (15 of them were children)

5. 15 percent of the homeless population were veterans

6. 94 percent of those surveyed stated their income comes from employment

7. 35 percent of the homeless individuals (with no family) had high school diplomas, while 20% had some college credits

8. Homeless individuals, male and female, stated their need was full time employment to help them get into housing as well as assistance with first month’s rent and deposit.

For more detailed results, visit www.housingforthehomeless.org

Reducing the number of homeless individuals is a national and state priority. By combining the results from this count with a plan of action, SDHHC can assist its members in seeking the appropriate changes needed to address these problems. SDHHC encourages anyone who is interested in participating in this effort to contact Lisa Bondy at South Dakota Housing Development Authority, (605) 773-3445 or lisab@sdhda.org.

Constitution subject of USD professor’s new book

The United States Constitution sets the framework for our entire political/governmental system, frequently producing heated debates about what this document means especially in an election year like 2012.

Rather than arguing further or picking up where political pundits left off, Donald Dahlin, Ph.D., emeritus professor of political science at the University of South Dakota, has chosen to offer a different

approach to the Constitution through his own analysis in his book, “We the People: A Brief Introduction to the Constitution and Its Interpretation.”

Published by Palgrave Macmillan, the book was an idea that Dahlin, developed a couple of years ago when he decided that the Constitution is such an important document that it deserved an objective approach. So rather than focus on selling the reader his own

interpretation, Dahlin wanted to write a book where, in the end, the reader makes his or her own judgments regarding constitutional issues.

While the first three chapters delve into the Constitution’s structure and history, Dahlin devotes more than 80 pages to the “Top Ten Supreme Court Decisions” chapter, outlining a framework of legal decisions dating back more than two centuries interpreting the “supreme law of the land.”

“Anyone who takes classes in government in college or a high school civics course is going to be confronted with the Constitution,” said Dahlin, who has taught at USD since the fall of 1966. “I think it’s more important for someone reading about the Constitution to be able to interpret its importance, its significance in their own way. It gives them a better inventory to use to change their own mind or reaffirm their own opinion.”

‘A Poker Alice Christmas’ at Gayville Saturday

Gayville Hall presents “A Poker Alice Christmas,” starring the Poker Alice Band and country western singer Brenda George, at 8 p.m. on Saturday, Dec. 1, at Gayville.

The veteran band from rural Clay County, founded more than two decades ago, will play seasonal favorites as well as selections from its repertoire of western swing, country, jump blues, and pop, according to Gayville Hall proprietor Doug Sharples.

George, of Avon, sang with Poker Alice in the late 1980s and has reunited with the band several times annually at Gayville Hall since 2003.

Poker Alice co-founder Nick Schwabach sings and plays lead and steel guitars. Owen DeJong, the widely known classical music host on S.D. Public Radio, plays the fiddle. Both are from rural Wakonda.

Public broadcaster Larry Rohrer, of Vermillion, sings and plays bass in the band. Its other members, both of rural Beresford, are Dennis Jensen on guitar and vocals and Al Remund on drums.

Gayville Hall is at 502 Washington Street in Gayville. Reserved seats cost \$15. Call (605) 267-2859. Tickets are \$12.50 at the door.

Deadline for BEEF 20/20 is Dec. 20

SDSU Extension hosts BEEF 20/20 Jan. 7-9 in Brookings at the South Dakota State University Animal Science Complex.

BEEF 20/20 is designed to provide an intensive, hands-on, educational opportunity to enhance the understanding of the production and marketing of high quality, high value beef.

Attendees do not need to be cattle producers to attend the program. Anyone affiliated with the beef industry – producers, allied industry representatives, locker operators, restaurateurs, retailers – is welcome.

The program begins at 2:30 p.m., Jan. 7 and ends noon Jan. 9. Due to the intensive, hands-on, nature of this program, registration is limited to the first 30 who contact Keith Underwood to sign up.

Registration is \$75 and the deadline is Dec. 20.

The following topics will be covered during the three-day meeting:

- Evaluation of Live Market Cattle
- Beef Carcass Grading and Pricing
- Feeding and Management Strategies to Improve Carcass Quality
- Genetic Prediction of Carcass Merit
- Marketing the Calf Crop
- Meat/Food Safety Technology
- Beef Carcass Fabrication
- Factors that Affect Eating Quality
- Product Taste Panel

For more information contact: Keith Underwood (605) 688-5439 or Keith.underwood@sdstate.edu.

Heartland Humane Society to host holiday photo event

Heartland Humane Society will offer its annual Pet Photos this Saturday and Sunday from 10 a.m.-4 p.m. at the shelter on Burleigh Street.

Participants are encouraged to call or e-mail for an appointment. Several time slots are available.

“This is a fun event that will put you in the mood for the holidays,” said Kerry Schmidt, Executive Director at Heartland Humane Society. “Get your family’s picture taken – with or without pets and help support all of our shelter animals this holiday season.”

Cost is \$30 for first pose and \$15 for each additional pose. Brett Smith from Jerry’s Photography will be the visiting photographer.

Participants will receive a CD of their photos. Contact the Heartland Humane Society office at (605) 664-4244 or e-mail hhsdirector@midconetwork.com to make your appointment today.

Heartland Humane Society is a 501(c)3 non-profit organization that serves Yankton and Clay Counties in South Dakota and Cedar County in Nebraska and surrounding communities, protecting and enhancing the lives of companion animals by promoting healthy relationships between pets and people.

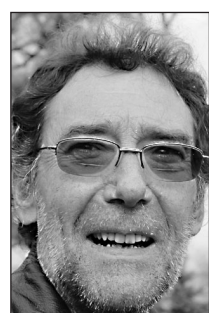
Visit Heartland Humane Society online at www.heartlandhumanesociety.net.

OBITUARIES

Michele ‘Mike’ Marsh

Michele “Mike” Marsh, 60, of Vermillion, SD passed away in his home surrounded by his loving family Tuesday, November 20, 2012 after a short battle with cancer.

Mike was born June 2, 1952 in Watertown, SD to Arthur and Mary (Tolbert) Marsh. He graduated from Watertown High School and married Judy Pietz on April 27, 1974 in Watertown. They moved to Vermillion in 1975 where he worked as a cook for the University of South Dakota. He also enjoyed riding the trike he built, watching the country sunsets, spending time with friends and family, and creating



MARSH

Terah (Scott) Schoenfish of Menno, SD and Jenny (Blake) Dahle of Watertown. He is also survived by two brothers: Bill (Diane) Marsh of Brookings, SD and Dave (Becky) Marsh of Watertown, and three sisters:

Church.

Visitation was held one hour prior to both services at the church.

Clausen Funeral Home, Burke, handled the arrangements.

Ella was born January 23, 1915 and she died November 24, 2012 at the Sanford Vermillion Care Center in Vermillion.

Mary Lou Schindler of Carson City, NV, Bonnie (Jim) Dallas of Jefferson, CO and Colleen (Lee) Grawe of Gallatin, MO, eight grandchildren, several nieces and nephews, and his loving dog Taz.

He was preceded in death by his parents and his brother Randy.

A celebration of life service will be held at 2:00 p.m. Saturday, November 24 at the St. Thomas More Newman Center on the USD Campus in Vermillion. There will be a visitation on Friday, November 23 from 5-7 p.m. at the Hansen Funeral Home in Vermillion. hansenfuneralhome.com.

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