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PLAIN TALK



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‘Thanks for Giving’ event honors Young Moore

By David Lias

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A man who has strived over the years to make Vermillion a better place to live was honored Thursday, Nov. 21, by the Vermillion Area Community Foundation.

In an event entitled, “Thanks for Giving,” members of the foundation’s board of directors were joined by Vermillion citizens in honoring Young Moore III. The evening’s festivities, held at the Valiant Vineyards, included a meal and program.

“Tonight we are here to honor the wonderful Young Moore,” said Michelle Maloney, co-chairman of the Vermillion Area Community Foundation (VACF) Board of Directors. “I don’t know that there would actually be a Vermillion Area Community Foundation if it weren’t for the hard work and financial support and emotional support of Young Moore.”

Maloney explained how, the year 2000, the South Dakota Community Foundation (SDCF) issued a request to try to get something started in Vermillion.

“They said, ‘If you can raise \$100,000 in three years, we’ll give you \$25,000 for your endowment.’ Young was picked to be on the committee and lead the group of community leaders to spearhead the effort,” she said.

Maloney said thanks to Young’s help, the foundation did meet its \$100,000 goal, received the \$25,000 from the SDCE, and therefore began with \$125,000.

Today, she said, thanks to the continued efforts of Young and others, the Vermillion Area Community Foundation has net assets of over \$293,365.

The Vermillion Area Community Foundation was established in 2000 for the sole purpose of creating an endowed fund to build financial resources, that aren’t depleted each year and are forever and perpetual, to assist with capital projects that address community needs and that impact and enhance the quality of community life for residents of all ages.

Over the past 13 years, a variety of community improvements have been

made possible by grants distributed by the local foundation. Those grants have helped the local police purchase new radio equipment, have assisted the Dakota Hospital Foundation with the creation of its Healing Garden, and have made facility enhancements possible at the W.H. Over Museum and the Washington Streets Arts Center operated by the Vermillion Area Arts Council.

This year, grants from the VACF have been awarded to St. Agnes School, the Center for Children and Families, the Vermillion Food Pantry, the Main Street Center and the Vermillion Public Library.

“I’m a firm believer that you can tell a lot about a person’s integrity, and how genuine they are based on the stories and the comments that people have to say about them, and I’ve only met Young tonight for the very first time, but solely based on the comments I’ve heard from other people, I can honestly say that I’m very proud to know him,” said Buddy Seiner, executive director of the South Dakota Community Foundation, who traveled from Pierre to Vermillion to be part of Thursday’s event. “I look forward to getting to know him a lot better ... Young, thank you very much for all that you have done not only for the foundation but also for this great community. It is so much better because of your efforts and your work.”

A program by Deb Christensen following the evening’s meal helped everyone in attendance get to know Young just a bit better.

He was also presented a key to the city of Vermillion by Mayor Jack Powell. Captain Jerry Zevecka of the USD ROTC also presented Young with an American flag that has flown over the U.S. Capitol in Washington, DC. The flag was obtained with the help of U.S. Sen. Tim Johnson.

“Philanthropy is defined as an active effort to promote human welfare,” Young said, at the conclusion of the evening’s program. “As I look around at the people in this room, it occurs to me that all of us are philanthropists in our own right. We share our resources, time, talents, and



Mayor Jack Powell presents Young Moore III with a key to the city at the conclusion of a program held Nov. 21 to honor his contributions to the Vermillion community and the Vermillion Area Community Foundation.

(Photo by David Lias)

■ MOORE, Page 06

‘What Makes It Great?’ Ron Kapilow knows

By Travis Gulbrandson

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Of the things the National Music Museum (NMM) has in common with the works of Ludwig van Beethoven, one stands out for Rob Kapilow – they both have “room for it all.”

The National Public Radio personality brought his show “What Makes It Great?” to the museum on Nov. 21, where with the help of USD’s Rawlins Piano Trio he dissected Beethoven’s Archduke Trio to show the audience what makes it tick.

Beethoven’s work is about becoming, not being, Kapilow said.

“What Beethoven teaches us measure by measure, movement by movement and piece by piece is, what matters in life is not what we have, but what we do with what we have,” he said. “In piece by piece, Beethoven starts with utterly ordinary ideas and creates extraordinary music out of them.

“In a Beethoven piece ... what matters is not where you start or what you start with, but where you end up,” he said.

What starts with the simplest ideas will end with the most complex, Kapilow said.

“Somehow, Beethoven’s world has room for it all,” he said.



The Rawlins Piano Trio joins Rob Kapilow (at right) during the Nov. 21 show “What Makes It Great” performed at the National Music Museum.

(Photo by Anthony Jones, courtesy of the National Music Museum)

That’s a view the NMM shares, Kapilow said.

“It’s an absolutely amazing museum in so many ways,” he said. “Not only is each collection so spectacular ... it’s so wonderfully democratic. You look in this room, and there are brilliant Stradivariuses and

Amatis, and you think, ‘OK, I’m in that kind of museum.’

“Then you walk around the corner, and there’s Elvis Presley’s guitar, and there are harmonicas, and all of them are treated equally,” he said. “There’s a wonderful message here, which to me is, ‘It’s all music.’”

This was Kapilow’s first visit to the NMM. He arrived Monday, Nov. 18, and stayed through the following Saturday.

In a Q&A that followed Thursday’s performance,

■ SHOW, Page 10

Centerville teen dies in crash

A 16-year-old from Centerville died in a three-vehicle crash that occurred Friday, Nov. 22, on Highway 46, three miles west of Beresford.

Peter Auch, 16, from Centerville, was driving a 2001 Pontiac Grand Am eastbound on SD Highway 46 near Beresford. Diane Robertson, 54, from Wagner, was driving a 2012 Buick Enclave westbound on SD Highway 46. A third vehicle, a 2004 Pontiac Grand Prix driven by Dillon Buchanan, 18, of Irene, was traveling westbound behind Robertson’s Enclave. Buchanan’s passenger was Jacob Halldorson, 18, of Madison, MN.

Buchanan attempted to pass Robertson and as he moved into the eastbound lane, Auch’s Grand Am was occupying the lane. Buchanan swerved left and struck a guardrail cable. The passenger side of his vehicle struck the center of the passenger’s side of Auch’s vehicle in a head on type manner.

The result of the collision spun Auch’s vehicle into the path of Robertson’s vehicle, which struck Auch’s driver’s side door.

Auch was airlifted to Avera McKennan hospital in Sioux Falls. He was wearing a seatbelt during the

■ TEEN, Page 10