

# 25th Annual Chili Blues Ready Spice Up A Cool Weekend

BY SHAUNA MARLETTE

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With chili weather on the way this weekend the Vermillion Arts Council has a fun way for you to stay warm with the 25th annual Chili Blues planned for Saturday from 6-9 p.m.

"This is one of two of our largest fundraisers of the year," said Vermillion Arts Council president Jim Wilson. "The other big one is the St. Patrick's Day events. The Chili Blues have been held now for 25 years. We have 12 entrants this year. We also have two types of judging a people's choice winner and anonymous judges."

Wilson said there is a traveling trophy that is awarded, "If they can get it back from last year's winners."

"We will be serving chili for three hours from 6-9 p.m. at the Washington Street Arts Center," he said. "We invite you to come out eat chili and home-



made bread. We did get permission from the city to serve beer and wine and we will also have soft drinks available. In addition to the chili we will have musicians and a children's table for the little ones. It is a family event."

Wilson added that the student art group will be selling chili bowls with proceeds split between the two groups.

"Last year we served more than 200," he said. "We would love to serve more than that this year. We will have

a huge variety of chili; I even think someone is bringing a vegetarian chili. But they are all different; by definition 'chili' is elastic."

Wilson said the Arts Council has been serving Vermillion for more than 30 years with the goal of promoting arts in the community.

"We offer art classes, the biggest is the messy hands summer camp, but we also help provide programming in the schools," Wilson said. "We host school art shows, rent out the facility for special events and theatrical productions and we have nice classrooms in the basement for use. We are here to promote arts in Vermillion."

The fee for Chili Blues is \$12 for non-members, \$10 for members, \$8 for students 12-adult and under 12 free.

"Come and enjoy the event," he added. "You will get a bowl when you come in and you can fill it as many times as you want."

## HHS To Host November Gala

Heartland Humane Society will host its annual Wine & Whiskers gala Nov. 14 from 6-9:30 p.m. at Minerva's/Kelly Inn in Yankton.

The event will include wine tasting, a three-course plated meal, a large silent and live auction, merchandise, and raffles including a chance to win \$750.

Tickets are currently on sale and can be reserved by calling 605-664-4244 or online at [www.heartlandhumanesociety.net](http://www.heartlandhumanesociety.net). Seating is reserved to 300.

"Community support is vital to our success and Wine & Whiskers is one example of Heartland asking donors to come together and celebrate responsible animal care in our communities," said Heartland's

director, Kerry Hacecky.

Returning events for the evening include the hand-made mittens, dessert dash and paw draw. Hacecky said guests will notice new raffles, merchandise, and schedule for the evening events. New items will include a chance to win one live auction package, a formal meal, and a new line of merchandise.

Top auction items at the gala include NASCAR and Walt Disney World tickets, artwork by Oscar Howe and Scott Luken, and several social packages including bourbon tasting and a Chilean meal.

To learn more about Wine and Whiskers, go online at [www.heartlandhumanesociety.net/events](http://www.heartlandhumanesociety.net/events) or search "Wine and Whiskers" on Facebook.

## Medicare Part D Open Enrollment Now On

BROOKINGS - South Dakotans have until Dec. 7, 2015 to review or make changes to their current plan during Medicare Part D annual enrollment period, which opened Oct. 15.

The new plan will take effect on Jan. 1, 2016.

Changes for 2016 include:

- \* The initial deductible will increase by \$40 to \$360
- \* The initial coverage limit will increase from \$2,960 to \$3,310

- \* The out-of-pocket threshold will increase from \$4,700 to \$4,850
- \* Minimum cost-sharing in the Catastrophic Coverage Portion of the benefit will increase to greater of 5 percent or \$2.95 for generic

or preferred drug that is a multi-source drug and the greater of 5 percent or \$7.40 for all other drugs.

- \* Maximum co-payments below the out-of-pocket threshold for certain low income full subsidy eligible enrollees will increase to \$2.95 for generic or preferred drug that is a multi-source drug and \$7.40 for all other drugs.

For assistance with finding the right plan in South Dakota, contact Senior Health Information & Insurance Education (SHIINE), <http://www.shiine.net/>:

- \* Eastern SD: 1-605-333-3314 or 1-800-536-8179
- \* Central SD: 1-605-224-3212 or 1-877-331-4834.

## Teachers

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Mary Finks integrated and individual learning approach is demonstrated by her most recent STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering, and Mathematics) project, which is funded by the Vermillion Area Community Foundation.

The first grade STEM project will focus on how surface materials impact friction, which subsequently will impact speed/velocity. First grade students will be racing cars down ramps of various surface materials, and then testing how far and fast the car rolled. The generous Vermillion Area Community Foundation funds will be used to purchase car-building kits and ramp materials. The car building kits will allow for a variety of cars to be built, so students will be able to experiment and see if the customized cars have different results. Students will experiment with a variety of ramp surface materials such as sandpaper, turf, wood, and felt.

The first grade students will act as the engineers by designing their cars. They will act as mathematicians by collecting data on the speed/distance of each car and comparing the results. They will act as scientists by brainstorming how to implement the experiment. They will act as technology specialists as they use interactive websites to do research and video their experiment.

In regards to implementing STEM projects, Mary states that, "STEM is very unique in that it is completely designed by the teacher. There is no manual to describe how to do the project you've chosen. It is completely our creation, and therefore can be very specific in the areas it targets. I can really focus on what my class needs, and design the project to meet those needs in a creative and interactive manner."

Miss Fink collaborated with Dr. Cathy Ezraillson and Physical Science Students from the University of South Dakota to complete a first trial of the STEM project. The USD students came to first grade classrooms and helped first graders build a car by using recycled items from around the house. In regards to the project success, Mary states that, "I've already seen a huge impact from this portion of the project. The kids were very excited to work with

the university students, and got to really think about how to design their own car. Because of the hands-on nature of this project, the students didn't even realize they were learning, because they were having so much fun. And that is the ultimate goal—for students to love the process of learning so much that it is considered a privilege to learn."

Mary Fink also points out that, "It is well known fact that the number of females entering STEM fields is far below the number of males. This project allows the entire class to get experience and enjoy these subject areas. We are attempting to bring these important subjects to kids of all ages and genders, which will encourage them to try these subjects later in life."

Miss Fink finds enjoyment and fulfillment as an educator. Mary Finks' passion and investment in education are substantial. She shares that, "I love learning new things, and want to nurture that love in others. The best way to go about this is teaching. I want to hook them on the love of learning early, and help develop a confidence toward learning within them."

## Tagney Walters: Teaching with Technology

Tagney Walters has been teaching fourth grade at Jolley Elementary for four years. A Masters Degree in Technology Education and Training from the University of South Dakota has helped her to develop a solid foundation for the importance of using technology in the classroom. Mrs. Walters views technology as one of the most valuable and meaningful educational tools.

In her experience as an educator, Mrs. Walters celebrates the changes that are taking place in education. Tagney states that, "Technology has shaped changes throughout my career as an educator. Although I have only been teaching for four years, technology advances each year and will continue to grow." She also recognizes that, "The biggest change in education, thus far, has been the adoption of the common core standards. The common core has really opened my mind to teaching in a different way. It is requiring that we, as educators, must dig deep into the content that we teach."

As a result of generous



COURTESY PHOTO

Tagney Walters has taught fourth grade at Jolley Elementary for four years.

funding from the Vermillion Area Community Foundation, Mrs. Walters will be integrating a STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering, and Mathematics) project that both uses technology and focuses on the Common Core Standards. The upcoming STEM project will engage fourth grade students in creating Interactive State Map Tours. The funding will be used to purchase National Geographic atlases, road maps, and national parks resources. Funds will also be used to purchase state travel guides and materials to support students in creating an Interactive State Map Tour.

During the STEM project, fourth grade students at Jolley Elementary School will be studying and learning about a U.S. states of their choice. Students will then create an interactive technological map. Each student map will feature the states' animals, plants/agricultural information, and state attractions. Each student will then design an interactive online map by using the gathered informa-

tion. The print resources provide a starting point for students to learn and select state features that they feel are interesting. According to the Mrs. Walters, "The STEM project is going to allow the students to fully understand a portion of the fourth grade curriculum. This hands-on way will allow the students to create a customized map using technology. Students will also present the information for other students to learn from."

According to Tagney, "Students will benefit from the STEM project by gaining knowledge in the content area much more thoroughly than they traditional learning experiences." Science will be used as students explore ecosystems, agriculture, and animals within each state. Students will be exposed to an expert on animals and ecosystems to further student learning on animal habitat variations throughout the U.S. Students will be using technology and engineering in order to create their own interactive map of

## Snow Event Parking And Emergency Route Reminder

With the winter season approaching, the City of Vermillion would like to remind residents to be aware of winter parking regulations. A map of emergency snow routes and parking restricted areas can be viewed at <http://tinyurl.com/VSnowRemoval>

## Sleeping Beauty Ballet To Be Performed In Yankton

The Academy of Dance is pleased to announce The Sleeping Beauty Ballet will be performed in Yankton for the second time this Holiday Season under the choreography and direction of Dorota Dannenbring.

This world renowned ballet will be presented at the Yankton High School Theater on Saturday, November 21st, at 2:00 & 7:30 pm and Sunday, November 22nd at 2:00 pm, with tickets on sale starting Sunday, October 18th at the Academy of Dance.

Dorota Dannenbring, owner and director of the Academy of Dance, is a classically trained European dancer, former touring professional dancer, dance instructor and choreographer. Dorota has been choreographing The Nutcracker Ballet since 1994 and is thrilled to bring The Sleeping Beauty Ballet to the Yankton community and surrounding area.

This enchanting ballet showcases 130 talented cast members including youth from Vermillion, beautiful costumes, sets and backdrops which will surely take your breath away!

## Public Library Prepares For The Giving Season

In keeping with the season of giving, the Edith B. Siegrist Public Library is pleased to share its intention to offer amnesty to patrons owing fines in the month of December, in exchange for donations of personal care items. The "Forgiving for Giving" campaign will officially kick-off during our annual Holiday Open House, on Friday, December 4th, following the Vermillion Chamber and Development Company's Downtown Parade of Lights, at approximately 7 p.m.

The "Forgiving for Giving" campaign will collect donations of full-sized personal care items that will then be distributed by the Vermillion Food Pantry and the Domestic Violence Safe Options Services during the holidays. Patrons who have accumulated overdue fees, with certain restrictions, will be able to have those fines waived in exchange for donations of much-needed items, such as diapers, toothpaste, body wash, shampoo, deodorant, disposable razors, hand soap, dish detergent, toilet paper, etc. A more detailed list, and further details about the amnesty restrictions, is available by stopping by our Circulation Desk or calling the library at 677.7060.

Holiday Open House visitors will be invited to participate in the creation of festive holiday gift bags, which will also be donated to the chosen charities. In addition, our open house features an opportunity to have pictures taken with Mr. & Mrs. Claus, a variety of holiday-themed crafts, and tasty treats and hot cocoa! It's the place to be after the downtown Parade of Lights and Tree-Lighting ceremony.

information that organizes and explains the state they are researching. Finally, students will also be using mathematics skills to determine the distance between each states attraction and by establishing a travel budget.

Mrs. Walters recognizes how meaningful STEM has become for technology and the common core. She shares that, "STEM is very important because it allows kids to dig deeper into the content of the classroom. It is also a hands-on way for kids to learn and really gets them involved more in what they are doing."

Beginning at a young age, Mrs. Walters has always enjoyed teaching and coaching young children. Tagney is appreciative of the VACF funds and states that, "I love seeing kids confidence grow and their abilities to show their imagination and unique ways of learning. I just want to thank The Vermillion Area Community Foundation for providing funds to our younger classrooms in order to enhance our students' learning. The kids will love doing these projects!"

## Phone and Internet Discounts Available to CenturyLink Customers

The South Dakota Public Utilities Commission designated CenturyLink as an Eligible Telecommunications Carrier within its service area for universal service purposes. CenturyLink's basic local service rates for residential voice lines are \$21.25 per month and business services are \$32.00-\$38.40 per month. Specific rates will be provided upon request.

CenturyLink participates in a government benefit program (Lifeline) to make residential telephone service more affordable to eligible low-income individuals and families. Eligible customers are those that meet eligibility standards as defined by the FCC and state commissions. Residents who live on federally recognized Tribal Lands may qualify for additional Tribal benefits if they participate in certain additional federal eligibility programs. The Lifeline discount is available for only one telephone per household, which can be either a wireline or wireless telephone. A household is defined for the purposes of the Lifeline program as any individual or group of individuals who live together at the same address and share income and expenses. Lifeline service is not transferable, and only eligible consumers may enroll in the program. Consumers who willfully make false statements in order to obtain Lifeline telephone service can be punished by fine or imprisonment and can be barred from the program.

Lifeline eligible subscribers may also qualify for reliable home high-speed Internet service up to 1.5Mbps for \$9.95\* per month for the first 12 months of service. Please call 1-866-541-3330 or visit [centurylink.com/internetbasics](http://centurylink.com/internetbasics) for more information.

If you live in a CenturyLink service area, please call 1-888-833-9522 or visit [centurylink.com/lifeline](http://centurylink.com/lifeline) with questions or to request an application for the Lifeline program.

**\*CenturyLink Internet Basics Program** - Residential customers only who qualify based on meeting income level or program participation eligibility requirements, and requires remaining eligible for the entire offer period. First bill will include charges for the first full month of service billed in advance, prorated charges for service from the date of installation to bill date, and one-time charges and fees described above. Qualifying customers may keep this program for a maximum of 60 months after service activation provided customer still qualifies during that time. Listed High-Speed Internet rate of \$9.95/mo. applies for first 12 months of service (after which the rate reverts to \$14.95/mo. for the next 48 months of service), and requires a 12-month term agreement. Customer must either lease a modem/router from CenturyLink for an additional monthly charge or independently purchase a modem/router, and a one-time High-Speed Internet activation fee applies. A one-time professional installation charge (if selected by customer) and a one-time shipping and handling fee applies to customer's modem/router. **General** - Services not available everywhere. Have not have subscribed to CenturyLink Internet service within the last 90 days and are not a current CenturyLink customer. CenturyLink may change or cancel services or substitute similar services at its sole discretion without notice. Offer, plans, and stated rates are subject to change and may vary by service area. Deposit may be required. Additional restrictions apply. **Terms and Conditions** - All products and services listed are governed by tariffs, terms of service, or terms and conditions posted at [centurylink.com](http://centurylink.com). **Taxes, Fees, and Surcharges** - Applicable taxes, fees, and surcharges include a carrier Universal Service charge, carrier cost recovery surcharges, state and local fees that vary by area and certain in-state surcharges. Cost recovery fees are not taxes or government-required charges for use. Taxes, fees, and surcharges apply based on standard monthly, not promotional, rates.

CenturyLink

**Vermillion Area Farmers Market  
Winter Market Season**

**November 14  
10:00am-1:00pm  
4H/Extension Building  
515 High St. Vermillion**

fresh produce, crafts, gifts,  
holiday decorations, knitting,  
sewing, woodworking, herbs