

Clay County Flyers 4-H group sight-in on shooting sports

By Katie Clausen
For the Plain Talk

The Clay County Flyers are a traditional 4-H group, their main concentration helping local youth develop valuable skills.

But in addition to an array of projects and record books typical of 4-H, the Flyers emphasize another popular skill: marksmanship.

"We are a regular 4-H group but our focus is on the shooting sports: archery, BB gun, and shotgun," said leader Liz DeVelder.

There are currently eight active 4-H groups within the Clay County Extension System. Each group has its own twist on the 4-H program.

DeVelder leads the group in addition to working at University of South Dakota speech and hearing clinic.

"We have a lot of families that hunt in our group, so fall is actually somewhat slow for us," DeVelder said. "We do weekly practices on Sundays at the 4-H center."

The Clay County Flyers are looking for new members and plan on hosting an introductory day where kids can come try out the BB gun and learn about other areas of 4-H they might be interested in participating in.

There are currently 33 active members in the Flyers club.

"4-H in general promotes leadership, organization and public speaking skills," DeVelder said. "As far as shooting, they're also learning safety. 4-H teaches amazing life skills."

The 4-H fiscal year started Wednesday.

Any young person in Clay County wishing to join 4-H may do so. Groups often focus on age appropriate activities and skill levels, but working as a whole and pairing up is also encouraged.

"The older kids will often help teach the younger kids which helps with development," DeVelder said. "That also helps us put a big emphasis on safety because the young kids are often paired up with an older individual."

The BB gun and archery state shoot competition is held in April, and the shotgun competition is held in the fall. The Flyer's beginner group recently received first place in the shotgun competition and an additional group of Flyer's placed second.

"Being part of a team is important, we shoot for individual scores but we still compete as a team," DeVelder said. "It's a nice little family."

Wakonda restaurant hopes to put down firm roots

By Sarah Wetzel,
For the Plain Talk

In the center of the tiny town of Wakonda, a little oasis has sprung up known as the Wakonda Cafe.

"I'm too young for this," Margaret Marauta could be heard saying as she rushed to serve a full house last Friday.

The special of the day was pulled-pork sandwiches served with French fries. Hamburgers, soup and salad could also be seen gracing the tables.

Marauta runs the restaurant along with her husband, Arthur Ludke. Ludke does the cooking while Marauta serves as the lone waitress and cashier.

"We're not busy enough for more," Marauta said. "We were especially busy for parade day."

The cafe was unusually busy due to the town's homecoming parade.

The Wakonda Cafe opened just a few weeks ago and will be serving customers Monday through Sunday 7 am - 2 pm. Thursday through Saturday it will also open from 7-8 pm.

"[Arthur] has been a chef in various areas and has always wanted to run [a restaurant] himself," Marauta said. "I'm just the waitress girl. [Customers] are mostly local and

rural right now because I haven't spread the word."

While surrounding communities might not yet have heard about the cafe's opening, they are certainly familiar with Chef Ludke's cooking.

"Arthur is pretty well known around the area for his food," Marauta said. "He's been a chef all his life. He's been around this area for 20-some years."

"Arthur's an exceptional cook," Mike Logue said. Logue visited the cafe with his family following the parade. "The food is really good." Logue is among the fan base that likes to eat where Ludke cooks.

"This is my first time eating here since it switched owners," said Bruce Bailey, a local principal. "It's pretty good so far."

According to Bailey, even though Marauta and Ludke have recently opened it has a rich history. He is not the only one to appreciate it.

"The community is really proud of this cafe," said Audrey Larson. "The town came together donating time, supplies, you name it to build this cafe."

"Hopefully we're going to be there for a duration of time," Marauta said. "This place has been opening and closing for a while now and this is the first time the place has ever had a

chef in the building. Hopefully that will make a difference."

Marauta admitted there is a definite uncertainty about the restaurant's future especially considering possible harsh winters. The overall outlook, however, is positive.

"We're just starting out," Marauta said. "It seems like the locals are so happy. Everybody's really very supportive of us."

The friendly atmosphere that permeated the cafe last Friday is apparently what Marauta and Ludke are going for.

"[We want customers] just being really comfortable, and relaxed," Marauta said. "Families that visit at the table, have a really good conversation with friends, have a really good meal and be full."

Marauta mentioned that the restaurant is available for catering, private parties, fundraisers, homemade soups and brown bag lunches. They also offer daily specials including all-you-can-eat ribs on Thursday nights.

"He makes his own barbecue sauce and it's just excellent," Marauta said.

For more information on the restaurant, please call Wakonda Café at 605-660-7410.

Conference offers how S.D. can benefit from N.D. oil

SIOUX FALLS (AP) — South Dakota's oil and gas production is a fraction of North Dakota's, but the organizer of a conference in Spearfish said the southern neighbor could prosper if companies step up to supply much-needed products and services to the burgeoning oil patch.

Branden Bestgen says the Black Hills Bakken and Investor Conference was first held two years ago as a

general introduction on the potential for South Dakota to play more of a role in North Dakota.

He says this year's gathering on Wednesday and Thursday will include specifics on how business owners can tap the energy markets and expand that segment of South Dakota's economy, which is largely based on agriculture and tourism.

MUSIC

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local acts—bands from Vermillion and the surrounding areas—such as 20 Bold Ideas, The Worried Mothers, Tenenbaums and others. These performances have always been well attended and loudly played.

In fact, the basement of the pub has a long tradition of hosting musical acts.

"It is really fun to revive that, and kind of relive those basement memories," said Varsity co-owner Diane Wirth. "The memories go back so many years for so many people. People come to take sentimental journeys."

While it is true that many of the musicians who now perform at the Varsity Pub are new to the location, there are those who come for the sense of nostalgia.

One such artist is T. Wilson King, who recently performed during one of the regular open mic events.

Nostalgia, however, isn't the only reason for which musicians come to the open mic night events.

"One of the big things for me is that [open mic events] are how I got my start, becoming confident with playing music in front of people," said Zach Baltz, a local musician and member of 20 Bold Idea. "It is one of those things that I feel just has to be there, there has to be that outlet for people to go play.

There are plenty of people, especially in a college town, who need to play music, they want to play music.

"We wanted to make that happen for them and the Varsity seemed to be a good fit."

The existence of the open mic nights at the Varsity Pub was born out of that necessity, as several regular open mic performers returned to Vermillion after the summer to find that the events had been indefinitely suspended at their usual downtown location.

Nathan Glanzer, a regular patron of the Varsity Pub, along with musicians Jesse Mohling and Baltz, are largely responsible for laying the foundations of the weekly event and alternate as MCs.

"We talked to Diane, and she was on board," Baltz said. "It has been great so far. A lot of people have shown up and that has been awesome."

Despite the necessity out of which the open mic nights at the Varsity Pub were formed, there are many other aspects that have contributed to the success of the events.

"Acoustically, it was a really great space to do our show in," said Baltz.

A general sense of café ambiance has also given character to the space, which, at times, becomes alternatively a dance floor and a mosh pit.

"It's what an open mic night should be," said Baltz. "People can come, hang out and play music."

CHURCH SCHEDULES

BERGEN LUTHERAN CHURCH

"The little white church on Timber Road". Worship 10:30 am, Sunday School 9:15 am.

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995 N. Sioux Point Road, Dakota Dunes, SD. Weekend Masses: Saturday, 4:30 p.m.; Sunday, 9:30 a.m. and 5:30 p.m.

BRULE CREEK LUTHERAN CHURCH

Elk Point, SD: Worship Service 11:00am, Sunday School 9:45am to 10:45am.

CHRIST OUR SAVIOR

Wisconsin Evangelical Lutheran Synod: Worship Sunday 6:00 p.m., Bible Study Tuesday, 9:00 p.m., Neuharth Center, 624-5398 or 1-800-998-1234

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102 Prosp: Sunday Worship 10:00 a.m.; Bible Study 9:00 a.m.; Bible Study 12:00 noon; Wednesday Night Classes, 7:00 p.m.

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(LC-MS) 7 South University Street, Vermillion. Divine Service – Sunday, 10:30 a.m.; Sunday School – Sunday, 9:00 a.m. Pastor Samuel Needham. Contact us at (605) 624-3459 or at lcmsvermillion.org

CORNERSTONE CHURCH

A Place To Grow: Located at the corner of Crawford & Cherry St. Celebration Service: Sunday during the School year 9:00am and 10:30am (subject to change during holidays) in the summer Sunday 10 AM. Check us out at cornerstonesd.org or call (624-8809) for further information.

DALESBURG BAPTIST CHURCH

30503 466th Ave., Beresford, Pastor Darren Regehr. 9:45am, Sunday School; 11:00am, Morning Worship; Mid-week Services Wednesdays, 7:00pm. (605)253-2622. www.dalesburgbaptist.org

DALESBURG LUTHERAN CHURCH

12 miles North of Vermillion on University Road. Worship Services 9:15 a.m. Sunday School 10:45 a.m. Website: www.dalesburglutheran.org

ELK POINT BAPTIST CHURCH

Sunday worship at 11:00am, Wednesday evening Bible study at 7:00pm. 101 North Green St., Elk Point, SD 57069. (605)222-1981.

ELK POINT UNITED PARISH

603 S Pearl Street, Elk Point, Pastor David Bambas, EPUP seeks to be and make disciples of Jesus Christ who are fully devoted to loving God and others. Sunday worship at 9:30 AM (nursery available); Adventzone at 10:30 AM for preschool (3 as of Sept.) thru 5th grade. For more information call 605-356-2008, epups@iw.net or epunitedparish.org

FAITH FELLOWSHIP

of the Open Bible on Bypass 50 and Highway 19: Sunday Celebration 10:30 a.m. Pastor Tony Armbrust, 624-2921.

Faith lutheran church

401 Main Street, Makell, NE. Sunday School: 9:00; Worship: 10:00 Communion: 1st and 3rd Sundays (605)658-0240 (home) (402)-692-3323 (church).

GAYVILLE LUTHERAN CHURCH

9:00 am Worship, Sunday School 10:15 am.

FAITH UNITED LUTHERAN CHURCH

ELCA, 44874 303rd St/Bo Box 168, Volin, SD 57072, (605)267-2277. Sunday Worship: 9:30am with Holy Communion the 1st & 4th Sundays. WOW Wednesday program beginning at 6:30pm for all children 3 yrs old - 7th grade, and confirmation classes for those in grades 8th & 9th.

FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH

Elmer "Sandy" Aakre, Pastor 624-6391 home, 624-4658 church. Time: 9:15 Sunday School, 10:30 Worship. Sunday Choir Practice, 11:50 a.m.

FIRST UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

Vermillion, is a welcome place reaching out to all God's people. Located at 16 N. Dakota St. Adult Sunday School 9am; Sunday Worship 10:25am; Children's Church after Children's Sermon (PreK-5). Welcome Table-serving free meal Mondays 5:30-7pm. Youth Group with Meal (Gr. 6-8) Wednesdays 5:30-7pm. High School Youth Group 7pm. Adult Choir Rehearsal 7pm. Praise Band rehearsal 8pm. Friday Morning Book Study and Breakfast 6:45am. Call (605)624-2179 for more info. Pastor Rick Pittenger.

GOSPEL CHAPEL CHURCH

708 Jessie St./Highway 12, Newcastle, NE. Sunday School, 9:30 a.m.; Sunday worship 10:30 a.m.; AWANA Wednesday at 7 p.m., 402-355-2305. Pastor Chuck Myers, 402-355-1335.

GRACE BAPTIST CHURCH

SBC, Pastor Steve Ford, 1102 E. Main. Phone 624-4949. Adult's and Children's Sunday School 9:30 a.m. Sunday Worship 10:45 a.m. Prayer Meeting Wednesday Night 7 p.m.

HILLSIDE COMMUNITY CHURCH

1800 Constance Dr. Worship Sept.-May 10:30a.m. AWANA Small groups; 9-10:15. Worship May-August 10a.m., 605-624-4862. www.hillside-cc.com Like us on Facebook!

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Elk Point, SD: Worship Service 9:00 a.m., Sunday School 10:00 a.m.

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