

Have a coffee with The Plain Talk & Broadcaster on Monday

By Alan Dale
The Plain Talk

It's been an exciting year, three months here at *The Plain Talk & Broadcaster* and I hope to see even greater things come out of my time here.

So far, the support has been overwhelming.

The comments by the number of visitors to our office has been flattering and humbling.

The more you flatter the more we feel we must do to serve you.

Thus, it is time to sit and have some coffee together.

So, on Monday afternoon, from 2-3:30 p.m., I plan to have a "Coffee Chit Chat" at the Café Brule with anyone who wants to come by and sit with me and talk about the state of *The Plain Talk & Broadcaster*.

I know we haven't done enough to be perfect, but we'd love to hear it.

The idea is for you to grab a drink and join me to talk about the state of affairs.

What are we doing right?

What are we doing wrong?

What are we not doing enough of?

What are some cool new ideas you'd love to share?

And...we can get to know one another a little better.

To see the trends we have set in 10 weeks is absolutely incredible.

We have seen an upswing in other regional publications doing some of the same things we are, especially with our online presence, and that only happens because of the incredible support by you, the readers.

We want to set the bar, higher. We want to do more and greater things.

So that's why between 2-3:30 p.m. I would L-O-V-E to meet some of you - and even some of you who think we aren't getting it right. It can be positive or negative, but we want to hear from you.

There is no doubt that since August we have become the official voice for Vermillion and this city's only Vermillion-centric publication.

Now, we want to do even more.

You deserve it, thus we want to deliver on that.

For more information or if you can't make it, give a call at 624-4429 or email alan.dale@plaintalk.net. Maybe we can share a coffee over the phone?

Either way the door is always open.

Just this time, we want to do know you even better.

See you then.

The Plain Talk & Broadcaster looks forward to making your acquaintances.

Vermillion Teacher Recognized for Excellence

By Angela Morrow
The Plain Talk

Governor Dennis Daugaard will recognize Kelly Stone, a Special Education Instructor for the Vermillion School District during the Governor's Awards (WHEN).

She will be honored for excellence in teaching students at the transition level while Stone is also a recipient of the Outstanding Award in Transition Services.

Sheila Beermann, Vermillion School District Business Manager reported on audit review and project financing.

The audit from the fiscal year 2014 was accepted.

"In terms of managing our finances, two things they talk about are total net position which includes assets and we show 17," Doug Peterson, Vermillion School Board said.

"That's mainly because they said we do a good job maintaining our property and continue to add value to the district and we're not over spending our budget."

The school board agreed to donate one board meeting to United Way equaling \$300 to help support the youth of the community.

"It helps, the biggest thing I see that it does is provide financial assistance to organizations that help our youth in our community," Dave Stammer, Vermillion School Board Vice- President said.

Superintendent of Vermillion School District, Dr. Mark Froke reported there was an increase in enrolment from 1209 students to 1225 students.

It was noted that home school numbers were down to 35 students instead of the typical 42-45.

The numbers in Austin increased from 17 to 19 per class. In Jolley some classes from 20 to 28 students.

One concern is the increase in the number of ESL students.

Although the District is able to handle the numbers now, more resources may be needed later if the numbers continue to increase.

Other items include:

- Froke reported that USD is willing to assist with the funding of work-study students. These students will serve as recess supervision, noon supervision, and even some janitorial work.

- Following a request or Qualifications Johnson Control was accepted as the preferred project partner. It was followed by the approval of the project developer permit costing \$11, 600.

- The board retained Meierhenry Sargent LLP to assist with SEC Self Reporting Requirements.

- The board accepted the resignation of M.K. "Kazy" Mollet, the Austin School Secretary that will allow Mollet to retire in Dec.

- The board approves the activity personnel work agreement for Joseph De La Rosa as the Debate Coach.

- The school board discussed their fall retreat but was unable to set a date at this time.

The next school board meeting is Monday, Oct. 27.

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terms on the map meant and how it would be laid out."

The final three open houses are Friday from 6-7 p.m. at the entrance to the Tanager football game at the University of South Dakota Dakota Dome, Friday, Oct. 24, 6-7 p.m. in the Vermillion High School lobby before the Tanager volleyball match, and Monday, Nov. 3, 6-7 p.m., in the City Hall lobby before the City Council meeting.

As part of its study, the city solicited a broad range of opinions from residents of all ages, Prescott said.

"We did a survey and came up with a whole list of features that people would like to have included in the pool," he said. "It would be a very nice pool but not more than we can afford to build and maintain."

As part of the bond issue, other park improvements would include an updated band shell, new basketball courts, new bathroom facilities at the baseball field and additional parking.

The bond measure will require a 60 percent majority for passage, Prescott said. Besides issuing up to \$3.1 million in bonds, the financing plan calls for \$1 million each from the general fund reserves and the second-penny fund reserves.

"The remaining \$250,000 would come from fundraising and grants," the city

manager said.

Making Choices

If the bond measure fails and a new pool isn't built, the city would still face considerable expenses in maintaining the current pool, said Goblirsch.

"Our pool is starting to show its age, not only on the outside but also internally with some of the mechanical items like the pipes," he said. "We can do what we can with the budget allotted, but there are problems that would have to be considered."

In that case, the city would face a decision on whether to continue putting large sums of money into an aging pool, Goblirsch said.

"We've tried to Band-Aid (the current pool) to meet health codes so we can keep it in operation," he said. "But it would be really hard for the council to invest a lot of money into (the current pool) when you know you need a whole new structure."

In addition, the public expects more from municipal pools, Goblirsch said. The proposed Vermillion pool would include not only recreational aspects but also therapeutic features benefiting those with arthritis, diabetes and circulation issues. Studies show 85 percent of people who go to swimming pools remain in five feet of water or shallower, he added.

"The world of pools has changed greatly in the last 20-plus years," he said.

"There is a trend to encom-

pass more aspects of the community."

Goblirsch used the example of his hometown, where the municipal pool contains a lazy river.

"The pool was jam packed from 6 a.m. to 1 p.m. with the senior population," he said. "Some were walking against the current, some were walking with it. If you walked against the current, you could feel the resistance in the water."

The new Prentis Park pool would contain 25-meter laps, Goblirsch said. The pool would contain a diving well to accommodate more swimmers at one time. In addition, the pool would offer a zero-depth area for youngsters rather than a separate wading pool, allowing parents to watch multiple children at one time.

The city decided against building a larger pool that would accommodate swim meets, Goblirsch said. The limited usage for competitive meets didn't justify the necessary additional pool features and expenses, he said.

The Vermillion Swim Team could continue using the DakotaDome pool on the University of South Dakota campus, he added.

Making Plans

The Vermillion City Council passed a resolution last January moving forward with the Prentis Park plans, Prescott said. A municipal swimming pool committee was formed, comprised of community members. The

committee, which includes city alderman Steve Ward as a liaison, has reported to the council.

City officials wanted residents to take the lead on determining the desired features, Goblirsch said.

"The committee members are the voice of the public," he said. "They are driving the ship as far as what is going on."

In moving forward with the plans, Mayor Jack Powell sees the Prentis Park improvements as an important quality-of-life issue for Vermillion.

"I think, as a community, we need to provide amenities for our citizens," he said. "Our youth, as well as our adults, make use of our city programs during the summer."

The city's recreational opportunities can also play an important role in economic development, Powell said.

"When companies consider our community as a place for them to develop their businesses, they look carefully at the amenities available for themselves and their employees," he said. "Our city golf course is a good example, but the pool is also an important recreational opportunity."

The pool could also benefit USD by making Vermillion a more attractive community for recruiting and keeping students and staff, Prescott added.

Vermillion city officials have developed a master

plan for the proposed pool, but final tweaks can be made if the bond issue passes, Goblirsch said. After interviewing different pool builders, the city hired Burbach Aquatics of Platteville, Wisconsin, for the design.

"They (Burbach) do only municipal swimming pools," he said. "We went to other communities that used the company and got references from them. People who have used Burbach said they would use the firm again. Burbach's past pools have been at or under budget, they do a good job, and they are done on time. They came up with a reputable design for us."

The pool isn't excessive in its approach, in terms of construction, maintenance and staffing, Goblirsch said. The design falls within a few feet of the standard square footage for a recommended pool for a community of Vermillion's size, he added.

"It's not Wild Water West or Wisconsin Dells," he said, referring to the large water parks. "But it is a municipal pool, and we are starting to bring some of the features that people want, like the water walk."

Moving Forward

If the bond passes in next month's election, plans call for bidding the pool project in February. The current pool would be demolished, with the new pool constructed at the current site. The old pool would close Aug. 1, 2015, and the new pool would open July 1,

2016.

"That's another feature of Burbach's plan," Goblirsch said. "Rather than close the pool for a full season, we would keep the pool available for two shorter seasons."

The scheduling of the pool project is important for the city, Prescott said.

"This is a single-municipal-pool community," he said. "We don't have multiple locations for people to use. Here, we can shorten two swim seasons and still offer our community something (each year)."

The new pool would incorporate cost-saving measures, Goblirsch said. Using the current site and dirt will virtually eliminate hauling costs. The parks and recreation department isn't adding to its full-time staff because of the pool, and the current staffing of eight lifeguards would be raised to 10 rather than the 13-15 that would be needed with some pool designs.

"In terms of human resources and operations costs, this is much more manageable," he said.

Vermillion residents would benefit from the Prentis Park improvements, but the pool and other features could draw regional visitors, Goblirsch said.

"This (proposed) pool is full of interactivity and different amenities," he said. "This new pool will have two different slides, a diving board and a lazy river. It will be fun to go to the pool again."

- Alan Dale contributed to this report.

CHURCH SCHEDULES

BERGEN LUTHERAN CHURCH

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

BLESSED TERESA OF CALCUTTA CATHOLIC CHURCH

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

CHURCH OF CHRIST

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.

CONCORDIA LUTHERAN CHURCH

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

IMMANUEL LUTHERAN CHURCH

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

FAITH UNITED LUTHERAN CHURCH

ELCA, 44874 303rd St/Po 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.

GAYVILLE LUTHERAN CHURCH

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

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.

ST. PAUL LUTHERAN CHURCH

31903 475th Ave, Elk Point, SD 57025, Sunday Service 10:30 am, Pastor David Bentz.

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!

KOMSTAD COVENANT CHURCH

Rural Beresford and Centerville, SD: Matt Styles, Pastor. 18 miles north on University Road. Phone 563-2402. Sunday School 10 a.m., Worship Service 11 a.m.

ONE HOUR

Sunday evening Experience at ONE HOUR is comprised of two primary elements: powerful worship and a life-changing message. Worship at ONE HOUR is led by a talented live band in a style that is consistent with todays culture and a relevant teaching message from LifeChurch.tv's senior pastor, Craig Groeschel, via video broadcast. The worship is intense and the teaching is challenging but the environment will be relaxed and casual. ONE HOUR on the USD Campus at the MUC, 6:30pm Sundays! www.one-hour.org

PLEASANT VALLEY LUTHERAN CHURCH

Rural Vermillion: Sunday School 9:45 a.m., Worship Service 10:30 a.m., Holy Communion First Sunday of every month. All welcome.

PROVIDENCE REFORMED CHURCH

830 Madison: Sunday School 9:30 a.m., Sunday Worship 10:30 a.m. "We Welcome You To Historic Protestant Worship And Fellowship."

ST. AGNES CHURCH

416 Walker St., Fr. John Fischer: St. Agnes Church and Parish Office, tele. 624-4478. St. Agnes Rectory, 505 Catalina, tele. 624-1995. Mass schedule: 5 p.m. Saturday, 8:00 a.m. and 10:30a.m. Sunday, Weekday Masses - consult weekly bulletin; Sacrament of Penance, Saturday 4-4:45p.m.

ST. PAUL'S EPISCOPAL CHURCH

corner of Main and Linden. Sunday: nursery available. 10:00 a.m. Holy Eucharist. 11:00 a.m. coffee hour. Call 624-3379 for more information.

THE LUTHER CENTER AT USD

Life at the corner of campus and faith. Located at Cherry & Plum Streets, Vermillion. We worship weekly on Wednesday evenings at 8:30pm and host service and fellowship events throughout the year. Visit us online at www.luthercenter.org or find us on facebook!

THE UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST CONGREGATIONAL

Highway 12 Newcastle, NE. Worship: 7:00 p.m. Saturday. Pastor Gary Kimm. Come join us!

TRINITY LUTHERAN CHURCH

816 E Clark Street, Vermillion. Join us for Worship Saturday evening: 5:30PM and Sunday morning: 10:00AM Sunday mornings: 9:00AM --Coffee fellowship, Adult Choir, Sunday School Radio broadcast: Sunday morning at 10AM on KVTK Radio, AM 1570 Holy Communion celebrated each Saturday evening and the 1st and 3rd and 5th Sundays each month. Pastor Robert D Hansen Facebook: Trinity Lutheran - Vermillion, SD www.trinityvermillion.org

UNITARIAN UNIVERSALIST

"The Uncommon Denomination." Services are the first and third Sunday of each month at 7 p.m. in the basement of the United Church of Christ, 226 E. Main. Child care services and refreshments provided. All welcome. For more information www.unitarianvermillion.blogspot.com

UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST CONGREGATIONAL

226 E. Main St., Pastor Steve Miller. 10:30a.m. Worship Service. *No Longer Strangers* www.uccvermillion.org