

New Welcome Signs To Be Put Up

BY SARAH WETZEL
For the Plain Talk

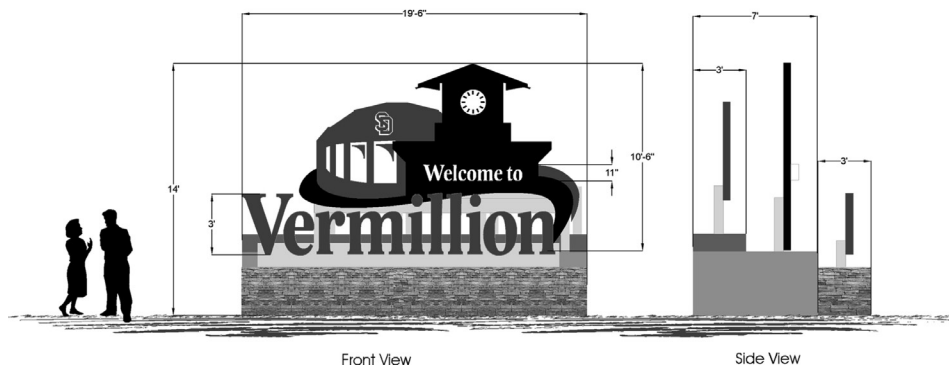
Plans are in place and funds are being gathered to erect one to multiple entry signs welcoming travelers and commuters to the Vermillion community.

"The first sign on the East side, our hope and intention of all the signs we do is to be able to have a consistent feel for Vermillion," said Nate Welch, Vermillion Chamber and Development Company Executive Director. "The logo that the city uses was developed by the VCDC after being able to try and look how can we best describe and communicate our community. These signs will be based off those designs and those logos. We're hoping that the large one on the East side of town which could go on the fork by the I-50 bypass. It would go right in between there and our hope that it would be a rather large basically three dimensional sign that would be visible from a ways away."

While welcome signs would be desirable on the West side of town as well, Welch said it depends on how much funds are able to be raised.

"We have designs," Welch said. "We also have an estimated budget for that. We're currently talking with some organizations and individuals to see if we can't try and gather the funds to be able to make this thing possible. The final budget amounts I don't think are set. It will depend on how many signs we're able to ultimately get. I can tell you it would probably be between \$40-\$60,000."

According to Welch the City of Vermillion and the University of South Dakota have already pledged \$10,000 to the project, a good start.



COURTESY IMAGE: VCDC DIRECTOR NAT WELCH

Both the City and USD are among the organizations sending representatives to plan the signage project in the first place.

All together they form the Integrated Community Action Planning group, or ICAP.

"That was formulated after a study I think back in 2012-13," Welch said. "The purpose of it is to be able to get those groups together and being able to coordinate with each other when there's a large group to represent the population."

They have seem to have done their job representing most facets of the Vermillion population.

"Obviously you have city and county representatives but you also have the University of South Dakota, one of the largest employers of course, the VCDC that can represent the business community not only on the chamber of commerce side but also economic development and tourism," Welch said. "Then the school district which obviously represents the parents and the kids. So it's a great way for us to hopefully have a voice of people in the Vermillion area."

Each of the five groups has two representatives in the ICAP according to Welch.

"We are affiliated with everybody at least one way, if not multiple ways," he said. "That way we can look at projects that have been hoped for and tried and we can focus some of our energies and get those things done. Welcome signs have been constantly talked about around the community. They can really help build up the awareness, the welcomness, the community pride even. It really would be neat to see us get that done."

The designs for the boards have just been released to the public this week and the representatives are in the process of reporting back to their respective boards.

Though there is no firm date for the completion of the new signage, Welch said they do have a loose goal.

"It's not out of this world to say it might be done by USD graduation," he said. "It's an aggressive goal but at the same time it's not out of the world."

A fortuitous time according to Welch so Vermillion is better able to roll out the red carpet for visitors.

"When we have so many people coming in for graduation, what a great way to help remind people all the things that are going on in Vermillion," he said. "It re-

ally shows it."

Though some hurdles have already been cleared, they still have some ahead according to Welch.

"One of the big challenges, where the location was, we had to get DOT approval and that's been done now," he said. "Now the challenge will be can we collect the funds to be able to really create a sign that we all can be proud of and excited for and can really give a good welcome to those coming into Vermillion."

It's not just for those new to the area either.

"It's for visitors coming in but if you think about it the person who lives here, when you're driving back home, there's always a sense when you're driving back into town that you're back home whether it be from a trip or a weekend or just a day of work," Welch said. "It really is a neat sense of community pride when you have something like that and again you're entering back into your hometown. After we put the signs up we can always look at how we can improve the landscaping, projects like that where someone can put their own sense of pride to it. Especially a project like that you're able to create something beautiful that can stand the test of time."

Trick Or Treat At Sanford Care Center Planned

Sanford Care Center of Vermillion invites you to join them for trick or treating on Saturday, Oct. 31 from 4-5:30 p.m. Please use the main care center entrance at 125 Walker Street.

If you have any questions, please call Julie at 638-8427.

New Chair of Internal Medicine Announced At School Of Med.

The University of South Dakota Sanford School of Medicine and Sanford Clinic have named Dr. Russell Wilke chairman of the Department of Internal Medicine at the medical school.



Wilke

Wilke, M.D., Ph.D., F.A.C.P., is a general internist and holds the position of enterprise director of pharmacogenetics at Sanford Imagenetics. He received his medical degree from the Medical College of Wisconsin and his Ph.D. in pharmacology and toxicology from the same institution. Wilke has held faculty positions at the University of Wisconsin, the Medical College of Wisconsin and Vanderbilt University. Most recently, he has practiced general internal medicine at the Sanford Medical Center in Fargo, North Dakota, and has a clinical faculty appointment at the University of North Dakota. Wilke is an accomplished researcher in pharmacogenomics and still publishes.

"Dr. Wilke will continue his groundbreaking leadership with Sanford Imagenetics and Pharmacogenetics," said Dr. Mike Farritor, M.D., senior executive vice president for Sanford Clinic.

"We are very pleased to welcome Dr. Wilke as our new internal medicine chair," added Dr. Mary Nettleman, M.D., M.S., M.A.C.P., dean of the USD Sanford School of Medicine and vice president for health affairs at USD. "He has experience that touches all dimensions of our school with experience in primary care, community practice, education and research."

Wilke replaces the retiring Dr. LuAnn Eidsness, who served as chair for 12 years and is credited with expanding the medical school's internal medicine department by adding fellowships in geriatrics and cardiology to complement an internal medicine residency.

Zooman Returns For Spooky, Special Library Presentation

Tuesday, October 27TH, 3:30 pm in the Kozak Community Room.

The Zoo Man will be bringing his Thrills and Chills Show to the Vermillion Public Library October 27, 2015. Along with his animal friends that will give everyone a thrill and a chill. The Zoo Man will bring a few of his Halloween props to set the Halloween mood! We plan to scare up a few books at the library, as well. Reading scary books and joining the Zoo Man is a great way to ring in Halloween week.

Arrive early for the best seats... most of the Zoo Man's volunteers come from the front row!

This event is free and open to the public.

The Edith B. Siegrist Vermillion Public Library is located at 18 Church Street in Vermillion. For more information call the Library at 605-677-7060.

Forum

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"(Trump) is rusty, but we (as a nation) need leadership and respect for a change," Goldwater said. "I have no problem endorsing him if he wins the nomination. I think he would do good."

As a native Minnesotan, Minge said he's not unfamiliar with maverick candidates.

"We've had unusual political leadership in Minnesota," he said, referencing former Minnesota Gov. Jesse Ventura, a former professional wrestler, who ran and won as a Reform Party candidate. He later became an independent.

"Gov. Ventura had wonderful ideas," Minge said. "He chose a cabinet of people with strong experience who were highly regarded and not political."

Ventura held the Minnesota governor's office from 1998-2002.

"His administration was in office for four years, and the state was well run," Minge said. "They provided entertainment while they ran the affairs of state, but his administration was a success."

"And (Ventura) appointed me as judge," Minge added with a smile.

In many ways, Trump mirrors Ventura's style, Minge said.

"Trump comes from a field other than politics," Minge said. "He's iconic and has his name on buildings."

In addition, Trump's



RANDY DOCKENDORF/P&D

Former congressmen David Minge (right) and Barry Goldwater Jr. discuss the current turbulence in American politics during Monday's Farber Forum at the University of South Dakota in Vermillion.

abrupt style appeals to many people, Minge added.

"(People believe) we need a strong hand like that," Minge said. "He'll tell Congress and other politicians where you get off the boat."

As part of his blunt style, Trump will say things that would mean the death knell for other politicians, Minge said. In particular, Trump has offended women and immigrants with his remarks, he added.

"I don't know if he has the staying power. How long can he make these remarks?" Minge asked. "In some ways, it's disappointing. And in some ways, it's inspiring."

Minge hoped that the other presidential candidates come forward with positive campaigns.

In contrast to those agreements, the rest of Monday's forum reflected the political divide between Goldwater and Minge.

Goldwater said the nation has suffered far too long from economic problems caused by the Obama administration policies. He considers the nation still reeling from the 2008 recession.

"We've had recessions, but never one that has lasted this long," he said. "You can't continue to support a government state. Thirty-five percent of Americans live on some kind of government support."

Welfare programs also drain working Americans, Goldwater added. "Every dollar that goes to the government is one less dollar that I'm free to spend," he said.

In addition, the U.S. government has rarely done

a good job of running programs, Goldwater said.

"The government isn't where the wisdom is," he said. "The wisdom comes from individuals working together."

Goldwater called for less government regulation in business. He questioned why some businesses must spend thousands of dollars and obtain licenses from the government. The free market and interaction between business owner and customer should rule the economy, he said.

Goldwater expressed pessimism about the future of the nation's economy.

"I'm glad I'm not in your shoes. It doesn't look good. I don't know what you're going to do about it," he told the USD students in the audience.

"As millennials, you need to change horses and get someone different in (office)," he added.

Goldwater expressed his pessimism another way.

"We used to have Bob Hope, Johnny Cash and Steve Jobs," he said. "Now, we have no hope, no cash and no jobs."

In contrast, Minge expressed a more optimistic view of government.

The current leadership in Washington and other levels of government seem dysfunctional, he said. However, U.S. democracy has survived for more than two centuries

- including the turbulence of the Vietnam War and civil rights movement in the 1960s - and remains continuously changing.

"Don't expect the perfect or let the perfect be the enemy of the good," Minge said.

Minge emphasized his belief in that it takes a village to raise a child and also to build a nation.

"If we have a winner-take-all mentality, it's going to leave a large part of the country out," he advised.

When it comes to creating change or solving the current dysfunction, Americans may need to look in the mirror, Minge added. Compromise is possible, he said, pointing to Monday's night's civil discussion of political differences between Goldwater and him.

Minge urged the USD students to become involved in the political process. He expressed his confidence in the students and the rest of their generation.

"I believe the success we have with self-governance for 200 years will continue," he said.

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Barta

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food pantry stuff in the hallways around school, so it gave me an idea about it."

She said her friends - Bailey, Roz, Kennadi, Mariah, Rozlynn, Makenzie, Bella, Maya, Callie and James - had fun bringing the items to donate, as well.

"I said it was going to be a really fun sport themed birthday party but please don't bring me a present; just bring a lot of food for the food pantry," Taeli said. "My friends were like that is a really good idea. We got a lot of food. It was a lot."

Taeli said she plans to make this a tradition for her birthday parties.

"Yea I want to do this for all my birthdays. I enjoyed it. To see all the food and then today (Monday) we are going to go deliver it to the food pantry," she said. "I would say it is a lot of fun, it is almost the same thing, but it feels really great to know that we can help a lot of people."

Annual Welcome Fall Celebration
W.H. Over Museum • 1110 University Street

Sunday, October 25th
2:30 p.m.
Pumpkin Carving & Face Painting
(Please bring your own pumpkin) MUST BE ACCOMPANIED BY AN ADULT

5:45 p.m.
Soup & Pie Supper

Speaker: Art Rusch
- Music -

Free Will Donation

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ZOOMAN RETURNS FOR SPOOKY, SPECIAL PRESENTATION AT THE LIBRARY

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in the Kozak Community Room

The ZooMan will be bringing his Thrills and Chills Show to the Vermillion Public Library. We plan to scare up a few books at the library, as well. Reading scary books and joining the ZooMan is a great way to ring in Halloween week.

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This event is free and open to the public.

For more information call the library @ 677.7060

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