

Camp

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was considered family-friendly by Bingen.

"We've had all ages through there from two years to 70," he said. "There's nothing extreme haunted out there, there's a lot of decorating. We do a lot of spiders and skeletons. There's nothing gory or bloody, things like that."

The trail happens to be Bingen's favorite part of the annual festival.

"I've been in charge of it for all these years," he said. "I take three days off of work just to get ready for it. It's only three hours but we see a lot of people, we see a lot of different reactions and we have a lot of good comments on it. People come back for it. A couple of years back we started getting the campers involved. Actually some people that scare on the trail are people that are camping there."

USD became involved through competition according to Bingen.

"My mom is a teacher down at WITCC in Sioux City," he said. "There are different fraternities and sororities out here that have to have a certain number of community service hours. She was telling them down there about everything we're doing up here and I think this is the third or fourth year that I've had a group of WITCC kids come up here to help put this thing together. I talked to the university and said I have WITCC coming up here contacting me about doing the Halloween thing and we don't have USD involved?"

This plus turning the trail into a charity drive persuaded a fraternity and sorority to assist with the trail, making it spookier than ever along with lots of others helping out.

"We have a little skit going on with some sixth graders," Bingen said. "They dress up as zombies and try to kill each other. It's actually pretty cool. Last year one of them came out with one of those bloody knives from WalMart and chased the kids and people were freaking out because we used to have a strobe light there."

Lots of new surprises waited for trail-goers this year.

"This year the trailer will block this part of the trail," Bingen said prior to



SARAH WETZEL/ FOR THE PLAIN TALK

The monster jail was part of the haunted trail and the figure lit up and shrieked when you stepped on a sensor pad when the trail opened at night.

the opening. "I've got an air horn on the bottom of my pickup with a toggle switch that will turn the lights on, hit the air horn and scare them into the trail. There's going to be a projected image here. There's a screen that will be set up here and there will be ghosts going back and forth and a 3-D one that will look like it's coming out at you."

Red lights and step pads to set off animatronic spiders and other effects kept the trail haunted from start to finish.

"It's 10-12 minutes depending on how scared you are," Bingen said of the time it took to go through. "I paced it out myself with my wife. We could walk it in 12. If you're scared you can do it under 10."

There have been plenty of seriously scared travelers through the haunted trail in previous years according to Bingen.

"It was three years ago back before I took this part, about halfway down this side this guy who's huge, could have been a football player, he's walking behind his girlfriend," he remembered. "These two girls were running in pairs with identical makeup as zombies. He saw the one on the left and told her, 'If you scare me I'll punch you.' Didn't see the one coming up on his right. He freaked out, screamed like a girl, wrapped his arms

around his girlfriend and that's where he stayed the whole way. It was funny. My daughter's 10 and she won't come out here. She won't have any part of it."

Though the festival has been hugely successful, Bingen said there are no other campground/community events in the making yet.

"We've talked about doing more," he said. "We just want to try to find something that's not so much work. We've talked about doing a Christmas themed thing or a fourth of July one."

There has already been a lot of work going into the campground itself to make it a better experience for campers.

"There was a campground before but there was no electricity, there was no bathrooms," Irwin said. "It was just somewhere to park your camper really. The Clay County Park Org. came in and remodeled and put a bathroom in. We're getting a new bathroom over there this fall hopefully. We started with 12 sites and now we're at 41. We want to get some more cabins. Once we've got the bathrooms done we'll put them in."

For more information on Clay County Park and campground call (605) 675-9202 or like their Facebook page.

Visit

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ply the skills they learn on their fellowship.

Kunklandone, a communications expert for the Mekong Partnership for the Environment and Huwae, a professor of political science at the University of Papua, said they are excited to see what the fellowship offers.

Already the two have toured media outlets in Sioux Falls, met with the staff of the Missouri National Recreational River and with Vermillion city officials.

On Monday they spoke at the Vermillion City Council's noon meeting.

"For me when I found out I was coming here I googled about it, so I knew it was a smaller city," Kunklandone said. "So, when I got here on Saturday, on the long weekend, the town was very quiet. It is a very lovely town with the charm of a small town and the economic town. I have been to the states before, but this is a real experience to experience what it is like in a community here."

While both have had limited time in Vermillion the next four weeks will be an introduction to government and the relationships with the community.

Already, both have said they have learned things they plan to take home.

"Back home I work in a river project where we are still developing countries," Kunklandone said. "Many times the development project doesn't have much public participation. So, what I learn here is a sense of a strong community engagement. It is very strong. What I learn from that will hopefully be something I will be able to do more of that at home, so people have a sense of belonging to protect their own environment. Many times people don't care about the effects of a problem until they have the problem. So, I think what I would like to do is go back and strengthen the community involvement."

Huwae said he is most interested in the tie between government and educational professionals.

"What I am learning about is the really strong collaboration between the city and the education professional that knows about the river and the community," he said. "At home, there are few relationships between the government and the educational professionals; they do not consider them important in making decisions. They also emphasize community engagement in the city of Vermillion. I believe that when I go home I will try to expose

the message that education and expertise should be tied with the government so they can do better management of resources."

He said he is also learning about the need for a strong network among all members of the community.

"Here I have learned that they have a strong network with the government and they can give information on managing resources," Huwae said. "While back home we have the experts in managing the resources it is not taken into consideration because for the government it is business as usual. I have to give to the next generation that we have to build the strong community so that they can be agents of change. If the experts cannot make the connections then the community should be pushing the government to make those connections."

While both men are just starting their journey, they said already they know that their time in Vermillion will be very valuable when they return home.

"We are so thankful to be here, not just the state department, but also the communities that have arranged so much for us to learn," said Kunklandone. "They have arranged for us to visit different things to take back home. We are looking forward to it."

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Donate

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collects the food and drives the people around and picks them up. The pick-up last year took anywhere from an hour and a half to two and a half hours per group. All you do is knock and if no one answers you just move on. A lot of times people will just end up leaving the bags where you can see them and pick them up," he added.

Gooding also noted that Coyoteopoly will be accepting early donations this Sunday at HyVee.

"Sunday, Oct. 25 we will have a table at HyVee where people can make early donations," he said. "We will be there from 11 a.m. - 2 p.m. If you are not around or don't feel comfortable leaving the donation on your door step you can donate there."

Gooding noted that once the food items are collected they will then be taken to Trinity Lutheran Church, where the pantry is located, to be sorted by the students the following day.

"Last year we collected 5,008 food items with a

value of \$2,024," Gooding said. "Last year the food pantry serviced 5,800 people of which half of the food is going to children. The Coyoteopoly is the largest single donation to the food pantry, so there isn't a better time to donate. It stacks them up for the holiday season."

Gooding said the most requested items for the drive are:

- Personal Care Items
- Monetary donation
- Peanut butter and jelly
- Rice mixes and rice
- Canned soup
- Cold cereal
- Canned fruit
- Noodles

"We will be starting at 4 p.m. on Halloween and hope to be done by 7 p.m.," he said. "Because Halloween does fall on a Saturday a lot of people will already have the day off. We figure too that children go out anywhere from 5 p.m.-7 p.m. so that is going to be the busiest time."

ing that and the cost is not much more, at all. This year we will be delivering the fliers on Friday, Oct. 23 starting at 3 p.m. hoping to be done by 5 p.m."

Gooding said the students will return on Halloween to pick up any donations.

"We are trying to make Halloween the traditional day we do the pick-up no matter what day it falls on so people associate it with Halloween candy, trick-or-treating and the food drive," he said. "We have found more people are home waiting for someone to knock on their door versus any other day of the year."

"We will be knocking on everybody's door. We divide the town up into 13 sectors. In each sector we will have one group leader that drives the vehicle that

VERMILLION POLICE REPORTS

SUNDAY, OCT. 11

- 4:05 a.m. - Officers were called to a dispute in the front yard of a residence. On arrival the parties had separated. There was no information that a crime had occurred.
- 4:25 a.m. - An officer was waived down by a woman who had shortness of breath and chest pains. Officers provided care and called for the ambulance. The ambulance took over care on arrival.
- 8:41 a.m. - Caller reported that unknown person(s) entered his vehicle and took his wallet. There is no suspect information or recoverable evidence.
- 4:49 p.m. - Complainant was concerned that her estranged

- husband may have put a GPS device on her vehicle. Officers could not find anything that was out of place on the vehicle. Officers provided information about court resources to deal with the stalking issue.
- 5:28 p.m. - A local business contacted officers after witnessing a theft on an in store camera. Officers investigated, identified the suspect and referred charged to the State's Attorney.

MONDAY, OCT. 12

- 12:02 a.m. - Officers found a highly intoxicated man on the sidewalk not moving. The ambulance was called and assessed the subject. He was later released to a responsible, sober adult.

- 2:45 a.m. - Caller requested a welfare check on a friend who was depressed. Officers contacted the friend who was having several high-stress events occurring in her life. Officers spoke to the woman at length and determined she was not a danger to herself.
- 11:34 p.m. - A vehicle was stopped for speeding. The driver was intoxicated and marijuana and other drug paraphernalia were found in the vehicle. The driver was arrested for DWI, possession of marijuana, and other related crimes.

TUESDAY, OCT. 13

- 2:07 a.m. - Caller reported a dispute at a local fast food restaurant. Officers arrived and

- found several people arguing loudly. Investigation revealed that a car had passed a group of pedestrians who had yelled at the car to slow down. The driver stopped and confronted the pedestrians. An argument started that resulted in the driver slapping a drink out of the hands of one of the pedestrians. Officers charged the driver with driving on a suspended license and disorderly conduct.
- 2:43 a.m. - Caller requested assistance because a roommate was drunk and violent. Officers responded and found the drunken roommate had punched holes in the wall, destroyed property, and swung at two of the roommates. He was arrested for two counts of Sim-

- ple Assault.
 - 6:25 p.m. - Caller reported several electronic items removed from her vehicle by unknown person(s). No suspect information was available, no recoverable evidence was located.
- ## WEDNESDAY, OCT. 14
- 1:49 p.m. - Officers received information where a subject with a Clay County warrant was located. They went to the residence, located the subject and arrested for the warrant.
- ## FRIDAY, OCT. 16
- 1:29 a.m. - Caller reported hearing noises in her basement. Officers responded and checked the basement but

- were not able to locate the source of the noises.
- 1:31 a.m. - Caller reported a loud party. Officers responded, found the loud party and contacted the renters who agreed to turn down the music and keep the noise down.
- 1:34 a.m. - A Vermillion Officer assisted a Deputy and a University Officer in attempting to determine if a domestic assault had occurred. The involved parties were married. The issues involved a motor vehicle accident, and accusations of infidelity, but in the end officers could not determine if an assault had occurred.

CHAMBER CHAT

CHAMBER BUSINESS ANNOUNCEMENTS

- You can now go to: www.LiveVermillion.com and click on the tab "Things to Do" in the center of the page. It takes you directly to the community calendar of events listing all of the areas posted events. If your event is not listed, this page will allow you to submit an event to be included.
- W. H. Over Museum in Vermillion has established GEOCACHING CENTRAL (a one-stop location to learn all about geocaching...and how to participate in this GPS/cultural phenomena). This new project will provide family friendly entertainment for everyone that wants to experience the fun of geocaching. Education about geocaching, lists of regional coordinate locations, new cache sites added, historical and cultural lists, how-to-guidance and even loaner GPS units are being created now. Future geocaching events are also being planned and considered for inclusion at the Museum.

THIS WEEKS HAPPENINGS

FRIDAY, OCT. 23

- Tech Hour: one-on-one sessions with Vermillion Public Library Tech Assistant to answer tech questions, Fri., Oct. 23, 10:30 am-12 pm. Call 677-7060 to register or stop by Circulation Desk to set up an appointment.
- USD Soccer vs IUPUI, Fri., Oct. 23, 4 p.m. at DakotaDome soccer field

- Volleyball: Dakota Valley, Fri., Oct. 23 @ 5 p.m. (T)
- USD Symphony Orchestra in Concert, Fri., Oct. 23, 7:30 pm, Aalfs Auditorium in Slagle Hall. Open to the public at no charge.
- USD Theatre presents "Venus in Fur" Thurs., Oct. 23-24, 26 @ 7:30 p.m. and Sun., Oct. 25 @ 2 p.m. in the Arena Theatre, Warren M. Lee Center for Fine Arts. Visit www.usd.edu/theatre for reservations & more information.

SATURDAY, OCT. 24

- Cross Country - State Meet @ Sioux Falls (Yankton Trails), Sat., Oct. 24
- Overeaters Anonymous: Sat., Oct. 24 @ 9 am. Location: Newman Center-USD Campus, 320 E. Cherry across from the MUC at the corner of Rose & Cherry St. (West Door-straight through double glass doors on left & first door on left; North Door-down hall to left & first door on left). Description: Overeaters Anonymous is a 12 step program for people with eating disorders & struggles
- NMM at the Movies: "Some Kind of Spark", Sat., Oct. 24, 10 a.m. at Coyote Twin Theatre, 10 E. Main St. See the recent film-festival winner about what happens when music education nourishes music-hungry, under-served kids. Admission: General public, \$5. Admission for USD students and NMM members-with-benefits complimentary of the National Music Museum (NMM). For more information, visit: nmmsd.org. Arrive early for coffee, tea & pastry before show, for \$5.
- Art Storytime (4 yrs. & up)

- at Vermillion Public Library, Sat., Oct. 24, 10:15 am. Registration required; call 677-7060.
- Movement Storytime-birth-3 yrs., Vermillion Public Library, Sat., Oct. 24, 11:15 am. Registration required; call 677-7060
- USD Football vs Missouri State, Sat., Oct. 24, 2 p.m. at DakotaDome
- Vermillion Area Farmers Market Harvest Dinner, Sat., Oct. 24, 5:00pm at the Washington Street Art Center, 202 Washington St.

SUNDAY, OCT. 25

- USD Soccer vs Western Illinois, Sun., Oct. 25 @ 12 pm, DakotaDome Soccer Field
- On Oct. 25 the Friends of the W. H. Over Museum will sponsor their annual pumpkin carving and Welcome Fall event at the Over Museum. Pumpkin carving will begin promptly at 2:30 p.m. and parents are asked to stay and assist their children with the carving. There will be games and treats. At 5:45 the soup/pie supper will begin. Judge Arthur Rusch will be the featured speaker; there will be music, and the meal will be homemade soup and pie as well as other good things to eat. Everyone is invited and welcome - admission is by free will donation.

MONDAY, OCT. 26

- Code Club for teens, Mon., Oct. 26 5:30-7 p.m. at Vermillion Public Library-Library Tech Center. Bring a laptop & headphones if you have them. Contact evieclercx@gmail.com
- Art Storytime (4 yrs. & up) at Vermillion Public Library,

- Mon., Oct. 26, 5:30 pm. Registration required; call 677-7060.
- Welcome Table serves a free meal on Mondays at the First United Methodist Church, 16 N. Dakota St. Public is invited to enjoy fellowship & food prepared & served by volunteer groups. Mon., Oct. 26, 5:30-7 p.m. Groups interested in volunteering to serve at the Welcome Table can contact John Lushbough at 605-670-0958 or email: jlushbough@gmail.com. For more information, visit: www.welcometable.org
- Al-anon meeting at St. Paul's Episcopal Church, Mon., Oct. 26 @ 7:30 pm. For more information, call 624-9764

TUESDAY, OCT. 27

- Movement Storytime for birth-3 yrs. at Vermillion Public Library, Tues., Oct. 27, 10:15 am. Registration required; call 677-7060.
- Technically Speaking Series: Digital Photo Basics at Vermillion Public Library, Tues., Oct. 27, 10:30 am-12 pm. Call 677-7060 for more information
- Code Club, Tues., Oct. 27, 3:30-5 p.m. at Vermillion Public Library. Open to K-5 students. Snacks included.

WEDNESDAY, OCT. 28

- Flu Shot Clinic at USD Wellness Center, Wed., Oct. 28, 4-7 pm. Open to the public. Injection for youth 18 & under free by SD Dept. of Health. Sponsored by Sanford Vermillion.

THURSDAY, OCT. 29

- Halloween Night, Thurs., Oct. 29, 3-7 p.m. at Clay County Fairgrounds. Sponsored by

- Vermillion Area Farmer's Market
- Vermillion Area Farmers Market, Thurs., Oct. 29, 3:00-7 p.m. at Clay County Fairgrounds. Call 605-659-3399 or email VAFarmersMarket@gmail.com for more information.

- Teen Lounge at Vermillion Public Library, Thurs., Oct. 29 @ 6:30 p.m. in the Teen Room. This weekly social hour includes book clubs, films, crafts, snacks, & much more. Grades 6-12.

2015 **Harvest HALLOWEEN**

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