

6 Vermillion Plain Talk

# Annual Witches Walk Set For Saturday

BY SARAH WETZEL  
For the Plain Talk

Members and friends of the Eagles Auxiliary are inviting any Vermillion Women age 21 and over to don a witch costume this Halloween and join them for their annual 'Witches Walk' through downtown Vermillion.

The walk will take place Saturday at the Eagles Club in downtown Vermillion with the witches assembling at 6 p.m. and the walk beginning between 7:30 and 8 p.m.

"It doesn't take very long," said Julia Chaney, one of the walk's organizers. "It takes some people longer because we lose them along the way. They have fun at the bars. It takes probably an hour to an hour and a half."

The walk consists of basically a parade of witches through downtown.

"I'm going down this week to the restaurants and the bars downtown and ask permission if we can walk through," Chaney said. "We don't want to make anybody upset. They're all very gracious about it. We start at the Eagles and we get in a straight line and we go single file through all the bars. We have a chant that we say as we're walking. We go all the way down Main St. The last couple of years we've ended up at the Old Lumber Company and met our husbands there or boy-friends or whatever and have dinner or whatever. It's really fun. It's kind of nuts. You can do all sorts of strange things when you think people don't know who you are."

Chaney got the idea for the event which is now in its third year in Vermillion from a friend.

"I have a very close friend that lives in Minnesota and she's been doing it there and she just told me about it and how much fun it was," Chaney said. "I thought this is a small town and we could do it here. I talked to a friend, Pam Jacobson and between the two



COURTESY PHOTO BY DENNIS NAVRAT

**Vermillion women are encouraged to meet at the Eagle's Club on Halloween to participate in the annual Witches Walk consisting of a parade through downtown businesses spreading Halloween cheer and fun to the public.**

of us we organized it and spread the word."

Any witch is welcome as long as it's a witch according to Chaney.

"You have to have a witch costume otherwise you can't walk," she said. "Any kind of witch costume. Some are very elaborate. Others are just simple. Some wear masks, some wear make-ups. There are two from the first year who I still don't know who they were. It's kind of fun.

I don't know if there's such a thing as a male witch. They're warlocks. We meet our warlocks at the end at the Old Lumber Company."

The only cost for the event is a witch costume and cash should participating witches wish to purchase refreshments at any of the establishments graced by their chants and cackles.

"We get a little lost in some places because we stay too long," Chaney said. "It's a little bit like herding cats. We have it early before all the students come out so it's not so crowded down-

town but we do get a lot of students that come to the Witch Walk and participate so that's fun."

Public response to the Witch's Walk in the past two years it has been running has been overwhelmingly positive according to Chaney.

"The first year we did it we went through Reds and people stood up and clapped," she said. "They didn't know we were coming. The owner and bartenders did but the people eating dinner didn't. That was a fun thing for them on Halloween. The first year we did it we started at the Eagles Club and nobody there knew we were doing it either. The first ones there would wait and see who would come in the door. It was hysterical."

Who says Halloween is just for kids?

"I just think it makes people laugh and we have fun," Chaney said. "There are women that you don't normally see that do this that you are surprised that do it."



Tracy

## Tracy Leads Direction Of SDAHO

Timothy Tracy, CEO of Sanford Vermillion Medical Center, in Vermillion, SD was elected Chairperson at the Annual Business meeting of the South Dakota Association of Healthcare Organizations (SDAHO). Tracy assumed his leadership role at SDAHO's 89th Annual Convention in Sioux Falls, SD. He will provide leadership and direction for health care across South Dakota on a state and federal level along with the 14-member SDAHO Board of Trustees. As SDAHO moves into its 90th year, Tracy will lead the Association as it strengthens its position with advocacy and member services.

Tracy has worked as a health care administrator in South Dakota and North Dakota since 1983, and has been the Chief Executive Officer of Sanford Vermillion Medical Center since April 2004. Tracy will have an exciting year as SDAHO's Chairperson along with leading a \$14 million expansion and renovation project for Sanford Vermillion scheduled for completion in the summer of 2017.

Tracy is an ordained Deacon for the Catholic Diocese of Eastern South Dakota currently serving at St. Agnes Parish and School in Vermillion while assisting with several Diocesan-wide assignments. He has also been active in other community service organizations including: the American Legion and various Economic Development organizations. Tracy has received recognition for his leadership from the Dakota Conference on Rural Health with its Outstanding Rural Health Professional Award in 1997 and was the recipient of the Shirley Ann Munroe Leadership Development Award in 2001 from the American Hospital Association.

Tracy is graduate of the University of South Dakota in Vermillion and received his master's degree in health services administration from Central Michigan University in Mount Pleasant, MI in 2004.

SDAHO represents 53 hospitals, health systems and 33 post-acute care facilities across SD providing a unified voice for its members with state and federal advocacy. Over 700 health care providers attended the convention representing administration, governance and 18 affiliated health care professional membership societies. Numerous health care issues were discussed including quality of care initiatives, patient safety, advocacy, leadership and health care policy and the implications it brings for South Dakota. For more information, please visit www.sdaho.org.

## USD To Hold TedxUSD

The University of South Dakota will host TEDxUSD 2015 on Saturday, Nov. 7, which will feature a diverse lineup of topics and speakers, including a former USD kicker who is now a chemistry fellow at Massachusetts Institute of Technology, a tribal attorney and a USD law professor.

Tickets to the live event in Old Main's Farber Hall already have sold out. But it will be streamed on the Internet and in the Muenster University Center on campus, which will be open to the public.

Designed to showcase the ideas and talents of the USD community in engaging 18-minute presentations, TEDxUSD presenters were chosen from a pool of candidates:

- Tiffany Graham, associate dean of the USD Law School
- Sarah Jennings, South Dakota director of AARP
- Frank Leibfarth, former USD football kicker currently studying at MIT
- Steve Miller, pastor and USD adjunct professor of history
- Seth Permian, tribal attorney for the Flandreau Santee Sioux Tribe
- Michell Williams, director of strategic program management at Citibank in Sioux Falls
- Kelsey Collier-Wise, executive director of United Way of Vermillion and Vermillion City Council member

The final speaker order has yet to be determined. In the spirit of ideas worth spreading, TEDx is an independently organized program of local, self-organized events that bring people together to share a TED-like experience. At a TEDx event, TEDTalks video and live speakers combine to spark deep discussion and connection in a small group. The TED Conference provides general guidance for the TEDx program, but individual TEDx events are self-organized.

TED is a nonprofit organization devoted to Ideas Worth Spreading, usually in the form of short, powerful talks (18 minutes or fewer) delivered by today's leading thinkers and doers. Many of these talks are given at TED's annual conference in Vancouver, British Columbia, and made available, free, on TED.com. TED speakers have included Bill Gates, Jane Goodall, Elizabeth Gilbert, Sir Richard Branson, Nandan Nilekani, Philippe Starck, Ngozi Okonjo-Iweala, Sal Khan and Daniel Kahneman.

# Vermillion Schools Utilize Area Farmers And Growers In School Lunch Program

Area growers have made a solid connection with the Vermillion's lunch programs. The result is a three-way-win, with students getting fresher produce, the local farmers getting access to an important segment of the food service market, and the area economy developing stronger local ties.

Thursday, October 22nd, all students in the Vermillion schools had the opportunity to try, locally grown apples with the purchase of a school lunch. The apples are part of the Farmers Market Selection, a program that Lunchtime Solutions, the Food Service Management Company contracted with the schools, provides. Apples are being supplied this month by Hebda Family Produce.

Hebda Family Produce started in 2002 as a 4H



project when the eldest son, Steven, began growing vegetables the backyard to exhibit at the Bon Homme County fair and for us to eat!

From there, he began doing farm markets in Yankton with the assistance of his family and even established a weekly home delivery service of fresh vegetables. They soon realized that our business should expand because more and more

people want to know where their food comes from and that it is fresh.

Hebda's now includes a 55 acre orchard and berry farm which has strawberries, elderberries, raspberries, plums, over 10 varieties of apples and more. The "Apple Shed" houses the Farm Market, a commercial kitchen, a packing room with an apple-sorting lines, a cold storage room and a cider press room. They utilize these facilities when working with their fruits and vegetables to produce the value-added products that are made weekly in small batches.

One way these foods are served to students is on a self-serve fruit and veggie bar features 8-10 different item offered each day. Students can go back to get more fruits and vegetables

if they want to. The local growers will be identified and highlighted in the serving area, to help students make the connection to the farm that produces the food they are enjoying.

"As growers become aware of the opportunity to get their produce served in schools, typically the number of growers that we work with increases. It is a win-win-win, the school district, the kids, parents, the growers" added Deni Winter, Director of Public Relations for Lunchtime Solutions Inc. "We are currently working with over 40 different farms, growers, producers and ranchers in the five states that we operate. This number has double in the last 3 years and we have partnered with Hebda's now for over 6 years."

## CLAY COUNTY SHERIFF'S REPORT

### SUNDAY, OCT. 18

1:02 a.m. - A deputy assisted The Vermillion Police Department and The University Police Department with a large underage drinking party in Vermillion.

3:27 a.m. - A deputy mediated a civil dispute in Vermillion between a man and his ex-girlfriend, who still live together. The dispute was caused after the woman brought home a guest the male did not approve of.

11:22 a.m. - A deputy responded along with fire units to a corn field fire north of Vermillion. The field had been harvested and crops were not lost.

3:12 p.m. - A deputy responded to assist a Highway Patrol Trooper with the investigation of a crash on 456th Avenue southeast of Wakonda. A semi loaded with corn overturned, spilling the corn and blocking the highway. Injuries were minor. The driver was transported by EMS. Traffic control was provided until the road was clear.

4:30 p.m. - A deputy encountered a vehicle which had run out of gas on Meckling Road near Timber Road. The driver had called for gas to be brought to the car. The deputy provided traffic control until the vehicle could be moved.

6:55 p.m. - A deputy investigated a report of a piece of construction equipment being started and left running at a highway construction site. The equipment was shut down and the contractor was notified.

9:04 p.m. - A deputy responded to a report of people spotlighting deer east of Wakonda. The men were located and found to be GFP employees conducting a wildlife count.

### MONDAY, OCT. 19

10:23 a.m. - Deputies investigated a fire involving a semi on Highway 50. The fire started due to a wheel bearing overheating and igniting a grass fire.

2:52 p.m. - A deputy received a report of a theft of guns from a Wakonda residence. The residence is involved in an ongoing eviction action. The matter is under investigation.

6:08 p.m. - Deputies assisted the Vermillion Police Department with a death investigation at a Vermillion residence. The death was found to be of natural causes.

8:38 p.m. - A deputy responded to a rural residence after a request was made to check the welfare of a woman living there. The woman was found to be safe and there was no cause for concern.

### TUESDAY, OCT. 20

3:07 a.m. - A deputy responded to the jail to assist with an uncooperative inmate in booking. The situation was resolved when the inmate was persuaded to cooperate with the process.

### WEDNESDAY, OCT. 21

5:58 a.m. - A deputy transported a juvenile from the JDC in Sioux Falls to Vermillion for a court appearance.

9:06 a.m. - A juvenile was transported from court in Vermillion to the Human Services Center in Yankton pursuant to a court order.

10:15 a.m. - A rural Vermillion resident reported receiving a phone call from a man impersonating her grandson and asking for money to get out of jail. The woman recognized this

as a scam attempt and did not give the caller any information.

11:32 a.m. - A deputy responded to a medical emergency in Vermillion and assisted EMS with loading the patient into the ambulance.

12:31 p.m. - A deputy responded to a report of a combine on fire in a corn field. The farmer was able to stop the fire from spreading to the rest of the unharvested field. Once the fire department arrived they extinguished the flames coming from under the combine.

5:40 p.m. - A man with a Clay County warrant was transported from the Minnehaha County Jail to the Clay County Jail.

### THURSDAY, OCT. 22

11:50 a.m. - A caller reported a vehicle causing a traffic hazard while parked on Greenfield Road. A deputy checked on the vehicle. It was discovered that the driver had brought some items to her husband, who was working in a nearby field.

2:49 p.m. - An inmate was transported to the hospital for a scheduled appointment.

4:04 p.m. - A deputy investigated a non-injury accident involving a vehicle leaving the road on 302nd St east of Wa-

konda and striking a fence.

4:07 p.m. - A caller reported cattle on University Road north of Vermillion. The owner was contacted and he resolved the issue.

9:57 p.m. - A deputy responded to a car vs deer accident on Hwy 19 north of the Newcastle/Vermillion bridge.

### FRIDAY, OCT. 23

6:13 a.m. - A deputy investigated a non-injury crash involving a vehicle which rear ended a Vermillion city police car in a Vermillion business parking lot.

8:16 a.m. - A deputy responded to a medical emergency in Vermillion and assisted the patient until the arrival of EMS.

2:38 p.m. - A deputy responded along with the SD Highway Patrol to a non-injury accident on Highway 50 near Vermillion.

3:58 p.m. - Deputies located a homeless man who had an involuntary mental health hold placed on him. The man was not properly caring for himself and was transported to the Sheriff's Office where a qualified mental health professional completed an evaluation with him. The man was later transported to inpatient mental health treatment.

8:01 p.m. - A rural Wakonda resident witnessed two vehicles drive down a minimum maintenance road, park, and turn off their headlights. The caller found the behavior strange and contacted the Sheriff's Office. A deputy responded but the vehicles left the area prior to his arrival.

9:36 p.m. - A rural Wakonda woman reported finding signs of a large alcohol party that had occurred on her property. Based on the large amount of rainfall in recent days the area was not accessible. A deputy has made arrangements to meet with the woman at a later time to check out the area.

### SATURDAY, OCT. 24

8:16 a.m. - A deputy investigated a car/deer accident on Greenfield Road.

8:46 a.m. - A deputy responded to a report of a domestic dispute at a Wakonda residence. The deputy found no evidence of assault and learned the dispute was a verbal disagreement.

1:43 p.m. - A man being held for a mental health evaluation was transported to the hospital for a medical evaluation prior

to clearance for inpatient care. The man was then returned to the jail to be held pending transport.

2:04 p.m. - A deputy responded to a rural residence to investigate a report of a theft of items from a shed.

6:34 p.m. - A man reported losing his boat on the Missouri River after it got untied from a dock. The man located the boat the next day and removed it from the river.

6:50 p.m. - Deputies responded to a residence in Wakonda after receiving information that a man was living with his girlfriend after being released from jail for domestic assault. Deputies confirmed the man had been living at the residence, which is a violation of his bond. As well, there was proof that another assault had occurred. The man was located in Yankton County and arrested for domestic assault and violation of a no contact order.

9:47 p.m. - Deputies transported a juvenile to Avera Behavioral Health Center in Sioux Falls and another man to the Veterans Administration Hospital on involuntary mental health holds.

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