

Yankton Great American Cleanup Saturday April 17

BY JULIE PERAKSLIS

Director, Keep Yankton Beautiful

Keep Yankton Beautiful is proud to have Knology and the Outdoor Channel team up with us for the Great American Cleanup on Saturday, April 17th from 8am until Noon! We have dedicated the cleanup this year to Charlie Battery who recently returned from a year-long mission in Kuwait. Let's work together to get Yankton cleaned up for our soldiers and their families who sacrifice so much for us, and also for all of us in the community so we can fully enjoy the long-awaited Spring!

Volunteers will meet at the Memorial Park South Shelter at 8am for a brief safety talk, cleanup explanation, route assignments, bags and gloves. Keep Yankton Beautiful will be raffling off a \$230 value backpack leaf blower donated by TroyBilt. Raffle tickets are FREE to all volunteers of the Great American Cleanup event! Knology and Outdoor Channel, in addition to providing volunteers for cleanup support, will be registering volunteers to win a prize pack from Outdoor Channel consisting of a tote, t-shirt, hat and smaller case for fishing or hunting, as well as a little survival kit. Knology will be offering discounted subscriptions to Field and Stream Magazine and registering people to win a small digital picture frame. We'd also like to thank the following sponsors of the national Great American Cleanup effort who have donated time, money, goods and services to this great effort: TroyBilt, Nestle, Glad, Solo, Wrigley, Dow, Scott's Miracle Grow, WasteManagement, Pepsi and o.b., and our local sponsors Hyvee, MidAmerican Energy, the Yankton City Street Department and the Department of Transportation.

The Yankton Area Football Association, also providing volunteers for the cleanup effort, will be there with a \$5 per plate pancake, sausage, eggs and juice fundraiser to support their efforts to clean-up the old junior high field by the Dakota Territorial Museum and bring amateur football to Yankton! We are very excited about the cleanup event and the opportunity it provides to Yankton's concerned and dedicated community members to come out and enjoy a day of true service to their community.

Understanding that not everyone can make it on Saturday morning, Keep Yankton Beautiful is encouraging community members and businesses to clean up around their neighbor-



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hoods and organization/businesses this upcoming week. Sapa is planning a cleanup around their plant facility during the week of the 12th as is The Yankton Area Chamber of Commerce. We are providing bags and gloves, so please contact us to let us know about your cleanup plans and to get supplies! (605) 838-0665 office, (812) 774-2854 cell or info@keep-yanktonbeautiful.org. We also want to extend a huge "thank you" to Roger and Angie Hejl who collected 8 bags of garbage cleaning up West City Limits Road from 8th Street to just beyond St. Benedict Church! It really makes me so proud to be part of such a dedicated and concerned community! All community members, individuals and organizations who participate in the cleanup, during the week and/or on Saturday the 17th will be entered to win the leaf blower. Please contact us with your name/organization name, number of volunteers, how many hours they worked and how many bags of garbage they collected. If you need help disposing of the bags, just let us know!

Keep Yankton Beautiful would also like to thank our most recent members. We could not achieve our mission, goals and vision without your dedicated support and we really appreciate your commitment to the Yankton community: Partner Member: Keep Yankton Beautiful Board. Legacy Members: Northwestern Energy and Applied Engineering. Growth Members: TruXedo, Jim Means, Dr. Patrick & Mary Ann King, and Edward Jones (Wayne Ibarolle). Sustaining Members: Ruppel Travel, Baldwin Filters, Bank 360, Christopherson Rentals and Lewis & Clark Recreation Center. Family Members: Dan & Paula Hicks and Roger & Angie Hejls. I'd also like to extend my thanks for the incredible support, time and dedication of the Keep Yankton Beautiful board: Tom Nelson, Stan Hoffart, Denise Wubben, Bob Cappel, Allen Sinclair, Marlys Blaalid, Carla Addy, Jennifer Pellatz, Cheryl Sommer, Lori Ibarolle, Marilyn Nyberg, Pam Frick, Sister Elena Hoye, Tim Butler, Jack Lyons, Carmen Schramm, Jolene Pravecek and Lyndall Cornette. Now let's get out and make Yankton beautiful!

Slamming Brakes Doesn't Save Them

BY TOM AND RAY MAGLIOZZI

Dear Tom and Ray:
My wife's grandfather drives like an idiot. Specifically, he never touches the brake pedal until the very last second, at which point he slams on the brake, throwing everyone forward and sending various objects hurtling about the car. Someone finally asked him what he is thinking, and he replied that he is prolonging the life of the brakes. His theory is that if he slams on the brakes, lurching the car to a fast, screeching halt in a second, it means less time for the brake pads to be rubbing and thus wearing down. If he gradually eases the car to a nice, sane stop, it means all the more time for the brakes to be wearing down. Of course, he's crazy, right? Or could he be on to something? — Ian

RAY: Maybe he doesn't like you guys, Ian. Perhaps his real goal is to get you all to stop riding with him. In which case, it's not working yet. Tell him he needs to wait a few seconds longer before slamming on the brakes.

TOM: He's nuts, Ian.
RAY: The amount of wear on the brake



CLICK & CLACK

pads can be calculated by multiplying force times distance.

TOM: So, using more force over less distance (like he's doing) is really the same as using less force over more distance (like the rest of the sane population does).

RAY: In other words, he's making you bang your foreheads on the dashboard for nothing.

TOM: In fact, he even may be shortening the life of his brakes. By repeatedly causing a rapid rise in temperature from all that friction, he could cause warping or cracking of the brake lining material.

RAY: He's also damaging other parts of his car by jamming on the brakes. By making what essentially are "panic stops," he's stretching things like suspension parts and motor mounts to their limits, and shortening their lives.

TOM: Not to mention all the extra money he's going to have to spend on carpet cleaner after he makes you guys carsick.

RAY: Tell him that if he really wants his car to last a long time, the best way to drive it is gently. Start gently, anticipate turns and stops, and slow down gently.

TOM: And tell him this also increases the likelihood that his progeny will come to visit him occasionally when he's in "the home."

Got a question about cars? Write to Click and Clack in care of this newspaper, or e-mail them by visiting the Car Talk Web site at www.cartalk.com.

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IRS Encourages Use Of Free File Options

ST. PAUL — In South Dakota, 70 percent of the state's taxpayers chose to electronically file in 2009 with a third of those e-filers using a software product on their home computer. It was the first year at least seven out of every 10 South Dakotans e-filed, according to the Internal Revenue Service. However, only about 4 percent (10,350) of South Dakota's e-filers took advantage of Free File options available to virtually everyone.

About a third of South Dakotans haven't filed their 2009 tax return yet, and the IRS encourages those taxpayers to check out the Free File options at IRS.gov.

"We've seen strong growth in electronic filing over the years," said Carrie Resch, IRS spokesperson, "and those taxpayers who choose to e-file know the benefits: faster refunds, more accurate returns, and peace of mind that the IRS received and accepted your return. What they might not know is that there is a free option for virtually everyone."

Electronic filing software can put more money in a taxpayer's pocket by ensuring they get tax benefits they might overlook when filing on their own. Free File save taxpayers some money on return preparation as well.

The IRS Free File program is a free federal online tax preparation and electronic filing program for eligible taxpayers developed through a partnership between the IRS and the Free File Alliance LLC, a group of private-sector tax preparation companies. The program enables eligible taxpayers to use commercial tax software for free.

FREE E-FILE OPTIONS

Free File. Taxpayers with

adjusted gross incomes up to \$57,000 — about 70 percent of filers — can use the standard Free File options. Free File is available in both English and Spanish. While some companies offer free state income tax preparation and e-filing services, others may charge a fee for state tax return preparation and e-filing.

Taxpayers either can read over the company offers by clicking "I Will Choose a Company" or get a little help in making the selection by clicking "Help Me Find a Company." With a little information, the tool will display those company offers for which taxpayers may be eligible.

Free File Fillable Forms. For the second year, the IRS and its partners are offering the option of Free File Fillable Forms, which opens up Free File to virtually everyone, with no income limitations. Free File Fillable Forms allow taxpayers to fill out and file their tax forms electronically, just as they would on paper.

This option does not include an "interview" process like the other Free File offerings, but it does allow taxpayers to enter their tax data, perform basic math calculations, sign electronically, print their returns for recordkeeping and e-file their returns. It may be just right for those who are comfortable with the tax law, know what forms to use, and don't need assistance to complete their returns.

Both the Free File Fillable Forms and the traditional Free File options are available only through IRS.gov. New and returning taxpayers must access Free File through IRS.gov. Otherwise, the e-file provider may charge them a fee.

DIRECT DEPOSIT

The IRS reminds any electronic filer than choosing direct deposit

generally speeds a refund to the taxpayer in as little as 10 days. In 2009, about 73 million refunds were directly deposited into taxpayer accounts, up 10 percent from 2008. So far in 2010, the IRS has direct deposited 83 percent of the nearly 58 million refunds it has paid so far.

Overall, the IRS issued 110 million tax refunds in 2009, up 3.6 percent from 106 million refunds the prior year. Refunds averaged \$2,753 during the 2009 filing season, and so far in 2010, refunds are 10 percent higher than last year, now exceeding \$3,000. That increase follows changes enacted in last year's American Recovery and Reinvestment Act, including tax benefits for people who work as well as those making home and vehicle purchases, energy-efficient home improvements or paying education expenses.

OTHER E-FILE FACTS

While the total number of tax returns has increased 10 percent during the past decade, the number filed electronically has increased by 168 percent.

In 2008, 61 percent of South Dakotans e-filed. The number of e-filed returns in South Dakota rose 6 percent from 257,500 in 2008 to 272,400 in 2009. Of 2009 returns filed so far this tax season from South Dakota, 86 have been filed electronically. Across the nation, about 83 percent have been e-filed so far.

In 2009, about 181,300 South Dakota taxpayers e-filed through their tax preparer. About 91,100 do-it-yourselfers used tax software on their home computer.

Last year, more than 3 million Americans used the IRS Free File program. Since its inception, 27 million taxpayers have taken advantage of this free program, accessible only on IRS.gov.

Excellence Award Given To Vermillion Plant

VERMILLION — The South Dakota Department of Environment and Natural Resources (DENR) has announced that the City of Vermillion's Wastewater Treatment Plant is the recipient of the 2009 Operation and Maintenance Excellence Award. The award is for outstanding wastewater system operation and environmental compliance with its state surface water discharge permit for the past year.

This award was presented during the 2010 South Dakota Water and Wastewater Association Wastewater Operators Seminar held March 24-25 in Rapid City.

"The people who maintain and operate the systems that collect and treat our wastewater, 24 hours a day and seven days a week, are on the front lines of protecting public health and the environment, each and every day," said DENR Secretary Steve Pirner. "That is why DENR is proud to recognize with this award those wastewater systems and operators who had outstanding operations, maintenance, and environmental compliance during all of 2009."

Qualifications for the Operation and Maintenance Excellence Award are based on a system's compliance with the state's environmental requirements, discharged water quality, monitoring reports, state inspections, and proper operation and maintenance of the wastewater treatment facility.

LIFE DIGEST

FOOD FOR FINES RETURNS

Participate in the Yankton Community Library's Food for Fines during the week of April 11-18 by bringing in paper products such as kleenex, toilet tissue, paper towels, etc.

Note that the library will take only the specific item, and donations will only be accepted during the designated week. All donations go to the Contact Center.

For further information, call the library at 605-668-5275.

USD RHODES SCHOLAR WILSON TO SPEAK IN VERMILLION

VERMILLION — The W.O. Farber Center for Civic Leadership at The University of South Dakota, in cooperation with the Political Science League at USD, will host author and attorney Stephen L. Wilson, a 1970 USD Rhodes Scholar, for a 4 p.m. program in Farber Hall on Wednesday, April 14.

Wilson, a native of Hot Springs, is scheduled to present "The 91st Division Infantryman in World War II's Italian Campaign" based on his book "Answering the Call: With the 91st Infantry Division in the Italian Campaign During World War II." A book signing will follow the presentation in Farber Hall.

Presently an attorney with Foley & Mansfield in Minneapolis, Minn., where he represents contractors, owners, sureties and design professionals in construction-related matters, Wilson graduated in 1970 from USD with a B.A. in government. He also received a B.A. in politics and economics from the University of Oxford (1973) and a J.D. from the University of Michigan Law School (1977). Wilson is a member of the Minnesota and Oregon State Bars as well as the District of Columbia Bar. He served in the Army on active duty and the Ready Reserve from 1970-78, when he retired as a captain.

TRAINING FOR 4-H JUDGES SET FOR APRIL IN S.F., VERMILLION

BROOKINGS — The South Dakota Cooperative Extension Service will host training for anyone who would like to serve as a

judge for 4-H competitions.

The training sessions are set for April 20 in Sioux Falls and April 22 in Vermillion. Both sessions will take place from 6:30-9:30 p.m. The Sioux Falls session takes place at the Minnehaha County Extension office, 220 W. Sixth St., and the Vermillion training will be at the Clay County Extension office, 315 High St.

Pre-registration is required before April 15. To secure your spot in the training, call Extension 4H/Youth Development Educator Karen Beranek at 605-425-2242 or e-mail her at Karen.Beranek@sdsstate.edu.

Participants need not have 4-H experience to attend training. The sessions will cover the process and criteria used by judges at 4-H Achievement Days and the South Dakota State Fair. The training is helpful for 4-H club leaders, junior leaders, and others. Many counties often seek judges to help with local events.

Training will discuss the judging process of foods and nutrition, child development, home environment, photography, the science, engineering, and technology (SET) program, clothing and fashion review, and wood, wood science, and welding topics. Participants will choose their "top two" choices and receive instruction in those

areas during the three-hour sessions.

You also can ask for more information about these training sessions at your county Extension office.

2010 GOVERNOR'S ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT CONF. SET

PIERRE — With a change in location and expanded breakout sessions, registration is now under way for the 2010 Governor's Economic Development Conference. The conference will be April 20-21 at the Sioux Falls Best Western Ramkota.

"In addition to our great sessions for our economic development partners, we branched out this year and have added a business track designed with South Dakota companies in mind," said Richard Benda, secretary of the Department of Tourism and State

Development. "We are encouraging businesses and students to attend, as well as those involved in economic development."

Keynote speaker is Jill Konrath, author of "Selling to Big Companies," an Amazon top seller for more than three years.

Also on the agenda are: updates on the state's targeted industries, tips on how to prepare a site, the launch of the National Career Readiness Program in South Dakota, a banker's perspective on combining public and private financing programs, information on community development

and encouraging entrepreneurship.

Attendees will also have the opportunity to meet the next generation of entrepreneurs and see their innovations first hand at the Governor's Giant Vision Competition, as well as hear the 2010 gubernatorial candidates' plans for economic development at the candidate forum, both of which will be held in conjunction with the conference. The candidate forum is sponsored by the South Dakota Chamber of Commerce and Industry.

For more information, visit www.sdsreadytowork.com.

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Wedding Dance honoring Don & Fran (Beringer) Pavel
Saturday, April 17, 2010
Meal 6-7pm • Social Hour 7-8pm
8:30pm-12:00am Dance
Lesterville Community Hall
Request No Gifts • Music by The Bumblebees
Everyone is Welcome • No Invites Sent

TAX-FREE INCOME FOR YOUR RETIREMENT

Tax-free income is the best gift you can give yourself at retirement. Converting to a Roth IRA from a traditional IRA allows for tax-free accumulation as well as tax-free withdrawals in retirement — which means you don't have to worry as much about what income tax rates will be in the future.

There are tax considerations and other factors that determine whether converting to a Roth IRA is right for you.

Call today to schedule an appointment to learn more. We'll discuss your retirement goals to help determine if a Roth IRA makes sense for you.

Edward Jones, its employees and financial advisors do not provide tax or legal advice. Please contact a qualified tax or legal professional regarding your particular situation.

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