

Michels To Deliver USD Commencement Address

Degrees To Be Awarded To 1,300-Plus Candidates May 7

VERMILLION — Lt. Gov. Matt Michels will deliver the keynote address as The University of South Dakota awards degrees to more than 1,300 candidates at the 124th Spring Commencement on Saturday, May 7. The ceremony begins at 9:30 a.m. inside the DakotaDome at USD.

Michels, who was born in Pierre but grew up in Vermillion, was elected South Dakota's 38th Lieutenant Governor last November and has a long-standing history as a member in the

South Dakota State Legislature, including Speaker of the House of Representatives. He attended USD after graduating from Vermillion High School and in 1980; Michels earned a nursing degree and continued to work as a nurse while he obtained his B.S. in health services administration. Michels also earned a juris doctor from the USD School of Law in 1985. Following law school, Michels served as an officer in the United States Navy, and married his wife, Karen Lindbloom, a native of

Pierre, while stationed in Mayport, Fla. They have a son, Collin, current president of the USD Student Government Association.

In 1989, Michels moved to Yankton and joined a law practice practicing health care and hospital law along with other aspects of legal services to individuals and nonprofit organizations. Michels was a partner in Michels & Associates, Prof.



Michels

LLC and served as general counsel for Avera Health. He represented District 18 as a member of the state House of Representatives from 1999 to 2006, serving two years as Speaker Pro Tempore and as Speaker of the House for four years — the first person to serve two terms as Speaker since the 1950s.

Additionally, Gabor S. Boritt, of Gettysburg, Pa., will be presented with a Doctor of Humane Letters honorary degree. Boritt, a native of Hungary, graduated in 1963 from USD with a master's degree in history. He is one of the most significant scholars of Abraham Lincoln and the American Civil War. In 1981, he

began teaching at Gettysburg College where he founded the Civil War Institute. In 2008, Boritt received the prestigious National Humanities Medal from President George W. Bush.

Distinguished faculty from the 2010-11 academic year will also be recognized during commencement exercises, including recipients of the Belbas-Larson Awards for Excellence in Teaching; the Richard and Sharon Cutler Awards in Liberal Arts; the John Wesley Jackson Memorial Award presented to the outstanding professor of law; and the College of Fine Arts Distinguished Professor Award.

LIFE DIGEST

Habitat Seeking Homeowners For Project

Habitat for Humanity of Yankton County is seeking homeowners for our Mulberry Street build to begin in June 2011. Applicants must demonstrate a housing need, the ability to pay, a willingness to partner with Habitat and must have lived or worked in Yankton County for one year.

Applications are available at the Habitat office located at 231 Broadway Ste. 8 in Yankton or online at habitatyanktoncounty.com.

Habitat for Humanity is a Christian housing ministry that builds homes for families in need. The affordable home is sold to the Habitat family at a zero percent interest rate for the term of the mortgage.

For more information or for a home tour contact Julie at 260-4224.

Vermillion Poetry Reading, Slam April 28

VERMILLION — The final Vermillion Literary Project (VLP) reading and poetry slam of the spring semester will take place at 7-9 p.m. Thursday, April 28, in the MUC Pit Lounge on the University of South Dakota campus.

This will be the launch & unveiling of the 2011 VLP magazine, "Dreaming Up a Past." The featured readers will be some of the magazine's contributors, as well as some of the 2011 USD English Department Creative Writing undergrad and grad student award-winners.

The readings will be followed by a SLAM open to anyone. Slam poets should bring three original poems — prizes will be awarded.

For more information, contact Marcella Remund, VLP Faculty Advisor, mremund@usd.edu.

Monday Night Bike Rides Begin In May

A season of Monday Night Bike Rides will begin next month in Yankton. These rides will take place at 6 p.m. every Monday night from May through August.

Each Monday evening, biking enthusiasts can gather at the Summit Center for a 90-minute bike ride. Helmets are required. Routes are either on trail to Burleigh and out to Old Highway 50 or to the Marina and back. No fee and no membership required.

For more information, contact Tammy Matuska at 665-4685 or yssc@midconetwork.com, or visit www.yanktonseniorcenter.org.

'Fun On The Farm' Social Event Is May 1

COLERIDGE, Neb. — The Cedar County Veterinary Services in Hartington, Neb., will be sponsoring "It's A Dog Day: Fun on the Farm Social Event" at 11 a.m.-4 p.m. Sunday, May 1, on Haymaker Farm, 87681 569th Ave., Coleridge, Neb.

"It's A Dog Day" promises to be a fun event where you can have some fun with your canine companion and meet others who enjoy doing the same.

Activities will include fun for dogs and owners of all ages. Including: 6K or 1-mile fun run, zip-line dog races, pet contests, service dog demos, horse and pony rides, "kiddie litter" challenge, vendors, vet specials, obedience and agility demos, breed jeopardy and more!

HHS will have adoptable dogs there as well.

If you are interested in volunteering, help is needed several different areas: Zip line races, food, judges for pet contests, and other areas.

For more information, you can go to Cedar Co. Vet website at www.cedarcountyvet.com.

City Parks Advisory Board Meets May 2

The City of Yankton Parks Advisory Board Meeting is at 5:30 p.m. Monday, May 2, at the Technical Education Center, 1200 West 21st St., Yankton. This meeting is open to the public.

■ Get Updates At Yankton Online (www.yankton.net)

Educational Session On Long-Term Care Options Slated For Yankton

PIERRE — The South Dakota Department of Social Services is hosting several educational sessions in the coming months on long-term care and the Long-Term Care Partnership Program.

"Planning for long-term care needs before you need them is helpful for you and your family," said Kim Malsam-Rysdon, Secretary of the South Dakota Department of Social Services. "I strongly encourage families to attend an educational session on the Long-Term Care Partnership Program to learn more about the options available for them. A long-term care insurance plan certified by the Long-Term Care Partnership Program benefits people needing long term care and their families, long term care providers and the state's Medicaid program."

The Long-Term Care Partnership Program is a public-private partnership that offers individuals quality, affordable long-term care insurance without depleting their assets. The South Dakota Department of Social Services began offering free educational sessions on the program in 2007 to raise awareness about long-term care insurance and the benefits for South Dakotans.

The spring 2011 educational session schedule includes stops in several communities from March through May. Sessions will include basic information on long-term care, the costs related to it, how to plan for long-term care needs, what Medicare and Medicaid will cover and how the Long-Term Care Partnership Program can help. The educa-

tional sessions are free and open to the public. Each session is scheduled for one hour.

• Yankton, April 28: Yankton Public Library, 515 Walnut St., at 2:00 p.m. CDT

About the Long-Term Care Partnership Program: The Long-Term Care Partnership Program is a public-private partnership that offers individuals quality, affordable long-term care insurance. Once private insurance benefits are used, special Medicaid eligibility rules are applied if additional coverage is necessary. The Department will continue to offer community educational sessions, educating and informing citizens on the Long-Term Care Partnership Program and the need to plan ahead and prepare for long-term care. To learn more, visit www.ltccpartnership.sd.gov.

Discontinued Brand, Not Discontinued Car

BY TOM AND RAY MAGLIOZZI

Dear Tom and Ray:
I drove a 2010 Mercury Mariner as a rental in Tucson, Ariz., last winter. I'm a snowbird now from the Chicago area and need a car down there. I really liked the car but saw that it is being discontinued. Would it be a mistake to buy a 2010 or slightly older Mariner, in terms of future repairs and parts? I am a petite 58-year-old who drives a 2007 Honda CR-V in the cold, snowy weather. Thanks for your help. — **Denise**

TOM: It's not the Mariner that's being discontinued. It's the entire brand, Mercury!

RAY: But fortunately for you, the Mariner is exactly the same as the Ford Escape, which Ford continues to make and service. So any Ford dealer should be able to service this for you. And parts should be available as long as Escape parts are available.

TOM: I mean, you might have a problem with parts someday if the Mercury logo falls



CLICK & CLACK

off. You might have to replace it with a Dodge logo or something. But other than that, you should have no trouble servicing this car.

RAY: Or, you can just buy a loaded-up

Escape, which is almost identical. Either way, happy wintering, Denise.

What's the best way to warm up your engine in the morning? Find out by ordering Tom and Ray's pamphlet "Ten Ways You May Be Ruining Your Car Without Even Knowing It!" Send \$4.75 (check or money order) to Ruin, P.O. Box 536475, Orlando, FL 32853-6475.

Get more Click and Clack in their new book, "Ask Click and Clack: Answers for Car Talk." 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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Prepare For Severe Weather: It Can Happen At Any Time

PIERRE — If South Dakotans needed proof that severe weather can happen at any time, the flooding, tornadoes and torrential rainstorms of 2010 should have provided convincing evidence.

The state of South Dakota lived up to its motto "The Land of Infinite Variety." Residents from one end of South Dakota to the other battled tornadoes, high winds, heavy rain, rapidly rising rivers and streams and even a world-record hunk of hail. The state received seven presidential disaster declarations during 2010, more than any other state in any single year except Oklahoma.

Recognizing that the season for violent weather systems is approaching again, Gov. Dennis Daugaard has declared April 25-29 as Severe Weather Preparedness Week.

The governor says the state is in a geographic area of the United States that can be significantly affected by devastating weather events. Citizens should use Severe Weather Awareness Week to take steps to protect themselves, their families and their property from the violent weather likely to come

to the state.

The State Office of Emergency Management encourages all South Dakotans to prepare for severe weather by getting an emergency supply kit, putting together an emergency plan, and making it a habit to stay informed about storms as they develop.

"Last year's wide range of severe weather shows the value of planning ahead," said Kristi Turman, Director of the Office of Emergency Management. "A disaster that displaces a family from their home is terribly traumatic. An extended power outage can create many problems. Having a plan in place before trouble strikes eases the stress tremendously."

Emergency supply kits should include:

- Enough food and water for at least three days
- A battery powered radio/NOAA (National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration) Weather Radio
- First aid kit
- Garbage bags
- Flashlight and batteries

- Wrench or pliers
- A manual can opener
- Waterproof matches
- Hardwired phone
- Extra house/car keys
- Important documents

Emergency plans should include:

- How your family will get/stay in contact with each other during a disaster
- An out-of-state contact person your family can check in with
- A meeting place
- Several destinations the family can escape to

• Alternative routes for getting to those destinations

Stay informed by:

- Following weather reports
- Following the weather warning and watch recommendations provided by the National Weather Service
- Talking to your county emergency manager about disasters that could strike your community
- Visiting www.ready.gov and www.bReadySD.com for ways to prepare yourself and your family for disaster.

Library/Southeast Job Link To Sponsor Computer Classes For Adults

The Yankton Community Library, in partnership with Southeast Job Link, is holding four computer classes for adults, with all classes running from 5-7 p.m., at Southeast Job Link, 1200 West 21st Street.

On May 16, Internet Basics will be held. E-mail Basics will be held on May 23. On June 6,

Introduction to Microsoft Word will be taught, and on June 13, Microsoft Excel will be held.

Class size is limited to 16 per session. Payment of the registration fee at the library secures your seat in the class. For more information, call the library at 668-5275.



Mr. and Mrs. Westergaard

Ralph and Sally Westergaard, Vermillion, SD, will be celebrating their 50th wedding anniversary.

There will be an open house celebration 1-4 p.m. on April 30, 2011, at the Wakonda Legion Hall. All are welcome. Your presence is our gift.

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Range open for shooting
Call 660-5402 for more information

Clinic Closed Easter Sunday, April 24th

ConvenientCare will be closed on Easter Sunday, April 24th so that our staff may enjoy the holiday with their families. Regular hours will resume on Monday, April 25th. Regular ConvenientCare hours are Monday-Friday, 5PM to 9PM and Saturday-Sunday, 12PM to 5PM.

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