

Keep Yankton Beautiful

KYB Gears Up For Spring Clean-Ups

BY CHERYL SOMMER
President, KYB

YANKTON

*The dust of Yankton town, say man,
Do you know what that dust is worth?
It's full of the life and soul and sand
Of the Best Little Town on Earth!*

W.C. Lusk
Press and Dakotan, June 6, 1911

They knew it then; we know it now! The recent Liveability survey results, more than a century later, still tell us we are a show-case community with much to be proud of. Yankton is rich in history, always attempting to preserve or rediscover its "Mother City of the Dakota's" heritage. While living in Yankton all my life, I still feel Yankton has ample opportunity to continue to improve and beautify our community. We are rich in the spirit of volunteerism and love of our community which is what Keep Yankton Beautiful strives to promote. Our mission is to improve and enhance our city with community involvement through recycling education and promotion, clean-up efforts and beautification projects. My grandparents and parents were and still are tireless stewards of our land and its environs and I enjoy the outdoors way too much to not feel compelled to continue doing my part to continue that rich family tradition. Most of our KYB Board members have a special interest they bring to the organization. I am partial to the beautification element.

With the recent transformation of the Meridian Bridge into the walking path, I share in the excitement of what will come of that project. The city has great opportunity to develop that area into an attraction that will invite enthusiasm into the downtown area which is truly lacking at this point, not to mention the social and economic impact developing and beautifying that area would create. The bridge committee will be studying and implementing a plan for that area and I share in their vision for some creative ideas to come. I'm hoping this can be looked back upon as "The Little Project That Grew"

someday. Let's give Yankton something to talk about in a positive way that will enhance it for years to come.

Keep Yankton Beautiful inaugurates the spring season each year with our Great American Cleanup event. This year's clean-up is scheduled for Saturday, April 13, from 8 a.m.-noon. All volunteers will meet at the Memorial Park south shelter as in past years. We welcome both individuals and teams to come out and participate. Grab a friend or some coworkers and join in the fun. This is our signature event. Last year's event recorded approximately 140 volunteers who collectively picked up more than 2,500 pounds of trash. If you would like to participate but can't make it the day of the event you may still participate by cleaning up in your neighborhood or around your business. Just be sure to contact us and let us know how many volunteers participated and what you have picked up. Cleanup bags will be available at our office located at 322 Walnut beside the Dakota Theatre. Our results become part of the national non-profit Keep America Beautiful (KYB) tabulations. Events like this inspire generations of environmental stewards and help generate a positive impact on our economy.

It's very rewarding on many levels to engage people to take greater responsibility for improving their community's environment. KAB has been doing this for more than 60 years. KYB has been in existence for 10-plus years now sharing ideas for improvement, implementing beautification projects and building on working relationships with different entities uniting on a common goal of sustaining our already great community's appearance and vibrancy. But it is important to note much of our success comes from our dedicated volunteers and members. We would not be who we are without you! You drive our clean-up events and we recognize and appreciate it very much.

We also invite you to participate in the Missouri River Clean-up event scheduled for Saturday, May 4th. This is a collaborated effort involving different entities who have a vested interest in keeping the river clean of debris and garbage and safe for its' habi-

itants. This event is preceded by a watershed educational event on Friday, May 3rd for students to learn about different aspects of the river and its' environs. It promises to be a true biological learning experience which continues to grow in popularity each year.

KYB functions year round. Although our cleanups happen primarily in the spring we continually work on possibilities for new projects and fundraising to make them happen. The newest project we partner in will be with the city on a fountain spray for the Westside Park pond. We achieved a fundraising goal of \$5000 to enable this project to go through along with assistance from the city. Most all of our projects require upkeep and maintenance and that falls upon the City of Yankton park staff. A big thank you to them for their continued support of our projects and the work they do to keep them looking their best.

I, as well, want to acknowledge the efforts of our executive director, Amanda Johnson. Amanda is fairly new to our organization and has been working very hard to expand our membership and volunteer base. She brings a young and vibrant appeal to KYB and we welcome her aboard. Keep Yankton Beautiful has had a very positive impact on the city of Yankton since its inception. When visitors pass through and comment on the appearance of our community we take it to heart because that is the core of what we stand for.

We may be reached at info@keepyankton-beautiful.org or by phone (605) 689-1600. Our website is www.keepyanktonbeautiful.org where you can join us as a member or learn more about what we do. You can also like us on Facebook and keep up to date on our posts. We rely entirely on our membership support to keep us functioning and we appreciate your commitment to our organization. Please help support us on clean-up days April 13 and May 4.

You can and do make a difference in our community. And that is why my husband Craig and I are proud to call Yankton our home!

MVCA SCIENCE OLYMPIAD



SUBMITTED PHOTO
The Missouri Valley Christian Academy Science Olympiad Team competed at the State Science Olympiad Tournament in Vermillion on March 23rd. Pictured from left to right: Tyler Johnson, Thomas Pietrzak-Schroeder, Emily Novak, Olivia Tennant, Leah Waid, and Mary Nelson. Not pictured: Keith Schenkel. This MVCA team came home with a first place medal in Crime Busters, 3 second place medals in Boomilever, Helicopters, and Rotor Egg Drop and a third place medal in Mission Possible.

THOMPSON KAH PACK



SUBMITTED PHOTO
Family and friends recently gathered at Kids Against Hunger to pack meals for children in memory of Isaac Thompson on his birthday. If you would like to learn more about how you can make a difference in the lives of children, please visit www.kahyankton.org.

Schlingman Earns Award For Sales Production



Schlingman

CENTURY 21 Professional Real Estate Inc. is pleased to announce that Century 21 Real Estate LLC recently recognized Carla Schlingman, Realtor with the office, as one of the System's top-producers nationwide when it honored her with the coveted ruby level CENTURY 21 Masters Award and the Multi-Million Dollar Club Award following her 2012 sales success.

Ruby level status is awarded to an agent who has met a minimum sales production of 28 or more transaction sides within a calendar year. A gold-plated lapel pin with ruby accent is awarded to the agent during the Awards Ceremony, in addition to a trophy and a personal invitation to a CENTURY 21 Top Agent Retreat.

"Carla places her real estate wisdom and passion for life into her everyday business, helping to make clients more comfortable with the real estate transaction as they make what may be the most significant purchase of their lives," said Harvey Youngberg, broker/owner of CENTURY 21 Professional Real Estate Inc..

"Carla is a valued and trusted real estate resource for the Yankton community and a major contributor to the overall success of CENTURY 21 Professional Real Estate Inc. and the CENTURY 21 System as a whole."

"It is truly an honor to receive the Masters Award and be recognized among such talented and dedicated group of real estate sales professionals," said Schlingman.

CENTURY 21 Professional Real Estate Inc. is a full-service brokerage and specializing in Residential, Commercial and Rural properties located in South Dakota and Nebraska. The office is located at 1701 Broadway Avenue, Yankton, SD. 605-665-8970, www.yanktonrealestate.com.

Kolberg-Pioneer Recognized For Safety

Kolberg-Pioneer, Inc. (KPI-JCI) has been recognized for its commendable efforts in safety by parent corporation Astec Industries, Inc.

Kolberg-Pioneer, Inc. (KPI-JCI) is the recipient of the Most Improved Safety Award for its 2012 safety record. The company decreased its recordable incidents by 56 percent over a 12-month period, according to Safety Manager Neil Pedersen.

The reduction in incidents is significant for the company, which places a heavy emphasis on safety in the workplace.

"Safety is an integral part of our day-to-day operations at Kolberg-Pioneer, Inc.," Pedersen said. "We want everyone to be safe and injury-free. This can be difficult to achieve in the manufacturing industry, but every day we make it our goal to have zero recordable incidents."

Earlier this year, Kolberg-Pioneer, Inc.'s sister company and branding partner, Johnson Crushers International (KPI-JCI), won the Bronze Hat Award from Astec Industries based on its excellent safety record over the past three years. In 2009, Kolberg-Pioneer, Inc. (KPI-JCI) also received the Gold Award from Liberty Mutual, which recognizes companies that have less than 0.66 incidents per 200,000 works hours.

For more information about KPI-JCI and Astec Mobile Screens, visit www.kpijci.com.

Thrivent Financial Receives Superior Rating

MINNEAPOLIS — A.M. Best has affirmed Thrivent Financial for Lutherans A++ (Superior) rating as well as its stable outlook. The A++ (Superior) rating is the highest of the ratings agency's 16 ratings categories. A.M. Best cited Thrivent Financial's strong risk-adjusted capitalization, its favorable and increasing earnings trend, rising assets under management, and its strong affinity and name recognition within its Lutheran policyholder base as the primary reasons for its affirmation. It also noted that Thrivent Financial's overall sound liquidity profile and its ability to meet policyholder obligations remains very strong.

"We continue to be one of the strongest and most stable financial services firms in the industry," said Randy Boushek, senior vice president and CFO of Thrivent Financial. "A.M. Best's affirmation of our A++ (Superior) rating reflects that strength and stability as well as our ability to deliver on our promises to our members for years to come."

The ratings reflect Thrivent Financial's overall financial strength and claims-paying ability, but do not apply to the investment performance of investment products.

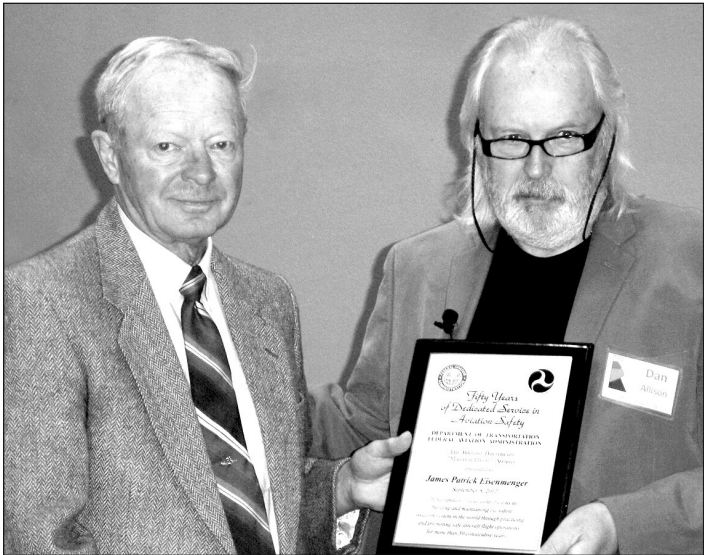
Thrivent Financial is represented in the Yankton area by The Broadway Group which includes WD Metheny, Lyla Sonnenfeld, and Steve Pietila at 420 Broadway Ave, Yankton, SD, (605)665-2341.

New Master Pilot Named In South Dakota

The FAA Wright Brothers Master Pilot Award was presented to Jim Eisenmenger, Yankton, on March 27 during the South Dakota Airports Conference at Cedar Shores Resort, Oa-coma. Dan Allison, Manager of the Rapid City Flight Standards District Office, and Steven Hoogerhyde, FAA Safety Team Program Manager for Operations, Rapid City, presented Jim with a plaque signed by the FAA Administrator, a "Blue Ribbon" record of all his FAA airman records, and a Master Pilot lapel pin. Judy Eisenmenger was presented a spouse lapel pin by the FAA.

The Master Pilot Award recognizes pilots who have contributed and maintained safe flight operation for 50 or more consecutive years of piloting aircraft. The award is named in honor of Wilbur and Orville Wright, two early pioneers of flight. To be eligible for the Wright Brothers Master Pilot Award, candidates must:

1. Have 50 years of U.S. piloting experience with the effective start date for the award being the date of the applicant's first solo flight or military equivalent. (A current flight review or medical certificate is not required at the time of nomination.)
2. Have held a CAA / FAA pilot certificate with 50 years consecutive years or more civil experience, or up to 20 years of which may be U.S. military experience in combination with civil experience to total 50 consecutive years,
3. Have been a U.S. citizen, or



SUBMITTED PHOTO
Jim Eisenmenger (left) received the Master Pilot Award from Dan Allison (right), Manager of the Flight Standards District Office, Rapid City.

permanent resident, during the 50 years of U.S. piloting experience, and

4. Have three letters of recommendation from holders of FAA pilot certificates.

JAMES P. EISENMENGER, YANKTON

Jim started flight training in Fairbanks, AK, and soloed on September 23, 1961, in a Piper Colt after 7.0 hours of flight training. He earned his private pilot certificate at Merced, CA, on December 5, 1964. Jim entered U.S. Air Force pilot training in December 1966 at Moody AFB, GA, and graduated in December 1967. He earned his

commercial pilot certificate with instrument rating after graduating from USAF Pilot Training. During his USAF and Air National Guard careers he flew the T-41, T-37, T-38, T-33, F-102, F-100, A-7, C-131, and C-12 (instructor in F-100, A-7, and C-12). Jim flew 51 combat missions in the F-102 in Southeast Asia in 1969, and flew other missions to Canada, Italy, Germany, Spain, Portugal, Norway, Great Britain, Panama, Thailand, Philippines, and Vietnam. He retired from the South Dakota Air National Guard as a Colonel on March 16, 1992, with total military time at 5,005.4 hours.

Jim flew the Mitsubishi MU-2 for 5 years for Northwestern

Kuchta Receives CFRE Certification



Kuchta

Sheila Kuchta, Director of Development for Children's Care Hospital & School, has achieved CFRE certification. Sheila is currently a member of the Association of Fundraising Professionals South Dakota Chapter. She resides in Yankton and has been involved in the fundraising field for the past ten years. Kuchta is also experienced in marketing and public relations getting.

Member Darcy has given out the blue form for the boys. We will have either 4 or 5 boys going this year.

Children and Youth reported things are going well, always getting calls for sport stuff and reported that he had placed a ad in the paper for cleanup week, also has numerous bikes etc. on hand

Membership reported that we have about 203 members and we are short 22 to make goal.

District 8 meeting was held on April 6th at the Springfield Community Center Post 12 Commander Clayton Studebaker was elected as Yankton Co. Vice Commander and Post 12

Boys State Director John Darcy was elected as Yankton Co. Commander congratulations.

Adjutant Brandt handed out the raffle tickets to those that wanted to sell then for our fun Nite which will be April; 20th at 6:30 p.m. VFW Post home

Don List was presented with a certificate for 60 continuous years of being a member in the American Legion by Commander Studebaker.

Sick Call: Bob List and Harold Hoffman.

The next meeting will be on April 16 at 7:30 p.m. at the V.F.W. Post Home

TOASTMASTER CLUB 1294

Yankton Toastmaster Club 1294 met April 6, 2013, at 7:30 a.m. at the Fry'n Pan Restaurant. The meeting was called to order by Vice President Jeremy Skrenes. The invocation was given by Carol Smith followed by the Pledge of Allegiance to the flag. John Swensen was introduced as the Toastmaster of the meeting. He called on the Grammarian Jeremy Skrenes to give the word of the day. Table Topics were lead by Kevin Buhl. Speeches were given by Doug Fickbohm on "And Now You Know Where That Came From" and Roy Wilcox on "Who Am I ... Bum-

ble Bee." Master Evaluator of the meeting was Janice Kruse, who evaluated the meeting and called on Kathy Hejna to evaluate Doug Fickbohm and Steve Hamilton to evaluate Roy Wilcox. Presentations were also given by Grammarian Jeremy Skrenes, Jokemaster Doug Fickbohm, Ah Counter Jana Lane, timer Carol Smith, and Vote Counter Jana Lane. Table Topic Winner was Jeremy Skrenes, best speaker was Doug Fickbohm, and best evaluator was Steve Hamilton.

Creighton Native Graduates Basic Training



York

Air Force Airman Andrew J. York graduated from basic military training at Lackland Air Force Base, San Antonio, Texas.

The airman completed an intensive, eight-week program that included training in military discipline and studies, Air Force core values, physical fitness, and basic warfare principles and skills.

Airmen who complete basic training earn four credits toward an associate in applied science degree through the Community College of the Air Force.

York is the son of Ronda and Brian York of 879 Road, Creighton. He is a 2012 graduate of Creighton Community High School.

MEETINGS

DELTA KAPPA GAMMA

Members of Xi Chapter of Delta Kappa Gamma, an Honorary Women Educators' Society, met at Minerva's Friday, March 22nd for dinner and initiation of new members. Eta Chapter of Vermillion joined the group. President Colleen Chase presided. Initiated were Heather Barron-Galvan, Dr. Robin Flom and Pam Kallis. The group voted to contribute again financially to Science Olympiad, the Sack Pack program, and World Fellowship of DKG. The state convention will take place in Aberdeen June 14-15.

ROY ANDERSON POST NO. 12

The regular monthly meeting of Roy Anderson Post No. 12 was held on Tuesday, March 19, 2013, at Earnest Boyer Post 791 of the V.F.W., with both the Commander and Adjutant being present. The minutes of the previous meeting were read and approved.

The Finance gave the monthly financial report and was approved as read.

Reports were also received from Membership, Americanism, Children and Youth and Boys State

Americanism reported grocery delivery is way down otherwise good.