

Matuska Joins MWA Financial

Tamela Matuska, Yankton, a Modern Woodmen of America representative, has become a Registered Representative with MWA Financial Services, Inc.

As a Registered Representative, Matuska, is now licensed to sell investment products, available through MWA Financial Services, Inc., a wholly owned subsidiary of Modern Woodmen of America.

Founded in 1883, Modern Woodmen of America touches lives and secures futures. The fraternal financial services organizations offers financial products and fraternal member benefits to individual and families throughout the United States. MWA Financial Services, Inc., a member of FINRA and SIPC, is located at 1701 1st Avenue, Rock Island, IL 61201.

SDHHC Homeless Program Funding Announced

PIERRE — South Dakota Housing for the Homeless Consortium (SDHHC) is seeking applications from non-profit and local government organizations providing housing assistance to homeless populations within the state of South Dakota. Funding through Housing and Urban Development's (HUD) Continuum of Care (CoC) program is for permanent supportive housing, transitional housing or Shelter+Care programs.

The available funding is for new construction, rehabilitation of an existing property, operating expenses or rental assistance. Supportive Services projects are not eligible for consideration.

Agencies interested in applying for the 2013 Continuum of Care funding must complete the pre-application available at

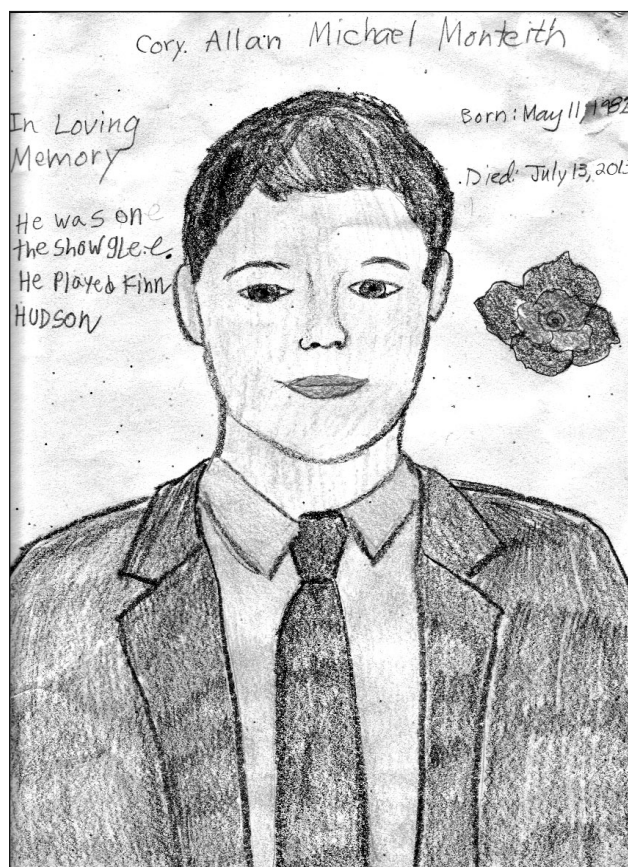
www.sdhda.org or www.housingforthehomeless.org. All pre-applications are due no later than 5 p.m. (CST) on Friday, Dec. 20. Any pre-application received after this date and time will not be considered.

The CoC application is due to HUD by Feb. 3, 2014. The State of South Dakota typically receives \$1.5 million annually through the CoC program.

The pre-application can be sent to SDHDA, attention Lisa Bondy, PO Box 1237, Pierre, S.D. 57501, by fax (605) 773-5154 or by emailing to lisab@sdhda.org.

SDHHC strongly encourages potential applicants to review the CoC program regulations and information prior to submitting a pre-application. Information regarding the CoC program can be found at www.hud.gov.

In Memory



SUBMITTED IMAGE
This drawing of actor Cory Monteith, who died last July, was created and submitted by Ryan Lemon of Yankton.

Reader Submission

Love's Power To Transform Death

EDITOR'S NOTE: Peter Auch, 16, of Centerville was killed in a car accident on Friday, Nov. 22. This submission was written by his aunt.

BY JOY ROSENDALE
Aunt of Peter Auch

On Saturday morning, Nov. 23, the phone rang in my Pittsburgh condo. It was my sister Mary, but immediately I could tell something was wrong.

In a low, muffled voice she confirmed it: "Joy, last night Peter was in a head-on car collision, and he died early this morning."

"What! Peter? That's so horrible! Oh, I'm so sorry, honey! I'll come as soon as I can!"

Then I stuffed my feelings and swung into action getting my business affairs in order to make the trip to Mary's Centerville farm via Sioux Falls. But that night at my church prayer meeting, I broke down in deep sobs. "Oh God, why did you let this happen? It's such a waste! Why Peter? God! What's the point of all this?"

He had been Mary and Duane's "surprise from heaven" 16 years before when they thought they couldn't have any more children. He had brought much joy to our family, and had brought much inspiration and delight to the many school kids who loved him as their friend, mentor and role model.

Every teenager's death brings pain, but Peter, being the outstanding young man he was, triggered unusually sharp shock and grief by his sudden tragedy. A brilliant cross country runner, Peter had recently won a medal for placing 17th in the state competition. His straight-A academic record combined with his generous words of encouragement, offered freely to



Auch

the kids on his team and at school, had penetrated deeply, motivating them to make something noble of their lives. And his fun-loving, prankish nature, full of zest and the joy of living, had endeared him to a great array of friends

"God, where are you? Why did this happen?" I sobbed.

My pastor, his wife and other friends from church gathered around me, praying for me, offering hugs and words of comfort. And it helped. It renewed my determination to trust God's love in a very dark hour.

By the time I arrived in South Dakota Monday evening, an amazing miracle was in process. Mary's church was filled to the brim with Peter's classmates, their parents and concerned family friends who had gathered to share memories of Peter and to support one another with poignant, loving thoughts that came from the depths of their hearts. Instead of the despairing, gut-wrenching grief I could have expected, a powerful network of love was forming. I opened my own heart to it and let it carry me.

A couple hundred condolence cards arrived at Duane and Mary's home. Memories, tender encouragement, words of faith and hope.

And the outpouring of love continued the next day at Peter's funeral. Rightly sensing that the church wouldn't be big enough, the family was given permission to hold the service in the school gym. Including the Monday evening gathering, more than 1,000 people attended Peter's services. Peter's 22-year-old brother Matthew delivered a powerful speech about Peter's goals and his resolve, as ex-

pressed in his notebook, to "not waste his life." Peter's passion had been total commitment to Jesus Christ as his Lord and Savior, and Matt exhorted us all to follow Peter's example, to carry on his legacy. Peter's death could result in new life if it helped us find a close and meaningful relationship to God through Jesus.

In the sacred moments while Matt was speaking, a new understanding broke open in me: how God felt about Peter's death. In earth's tragedies, God's overwhelming emotion is compassion. He feels with we feel. He grieves what we grieve. He draws very close to us, partaking of everything we are going through as vulnerable, pain-filled human beings. That's why Jesus came to earth — to carry our sorrows and heal them, and to die a death far worse than Peter's to forgive our sins and remove everything separating us from God.

God's compassion is filled with hope and determination. God's intention is to bring good out of sorrow, beauty out of what would otherwise be a disaster if God's love were not permeating it with heaven's peace. God's compassion is also filled with yearning, wanting to draw everyone into that place of comfort where we can find new life in His love.

It is love that makes the grand difference. God lives and thrives in the love we people express to one another: the comfort cards, the hugs, the prayers and gentle words, the cooked meals prepared for a bereaved family, all the thoughtful and kind things people do to try to alleviate each other's pain. I believe that suffering and sorrow and tragedy can be the doorway into a deeper and richer experience of love, and God's love transforms even death into something profoundly life-giving.

Nebraska DOH To Host Public Hearings

LINCOLN, Neb. — The Nebraska Department of Health and Human Services is holding hearings on proposed regulations related to the determination of alcohol content in blood or breath, the licensure of crematories and Medicaid payment for durable medical equipment. The hearings will be held Thursday, Dec. 19, in the State Office Building, 301 Centennial Mall South, Lincoln, lower level conference room A.

• Public Hearing at 10 a.m. CT — The Division of Public Health is holding this hearing to accept comments on proposed changes to regulations related to the determination of the alcohol content in blood or breath. The proposed changes will remove the minimum number of hours of training required for a Class B permit;

remove references to specific model numbers of breath-testing devices; clarify the definition of a valid permit; and add a calibration method, among other items.

• Public Hearing at 11 a.m. CT — The Division of Public Health is holding this hearing to accept comments on proposed new regulations related to the licensure of crematories. The proposed regulations will establish general licensing and inspection requirements; set out provisions for discipline, nuisance and abatement penalties and injunction; and provide for reinstatement and fees.

• Public Hearing at 1:30 p.m. CT — The Division of Medicaid and Long-Term Care is holding this hearing to accept public comments on proposed changes to regulations related to Medicaid

payment for durable medical equipment (DME) dispensed to residents of nursing facilities and intermediate care facilities for individuals with developmental disabilities. The proposed changes will:

Specify when costs of DME are to be paid to the residential facility, paid to a DME provider, or are included in the existing rate for nursing facilities and intermediate care facilities for individuals with developmental disabilities;

Remove the requirement for prior authorization of DME for residents of nursing facilities and intermediate care facilities for individuals with developmental disabilities, and

Bring Nebraska Medicaid into compliance with federal regulations.

Anyone may attend and comment at the hearing or

submit comments in writing. Written comments will be given the same consideration as comments made in person. Written comments must be postmarked or received by 5 p.m. CT on the day of the hearing and should be sent to DHHS Legal Services, 301 Centennial Mall South, P.O. Box 95026, Lincoln, NE 68509-5026, fax 402-742-2382, or e-mailed to DHHS.RulesandRegs@nebraska.gov

Draft regulations are available online at <http://www.sos.ne.gov/rules-and-regs/regtrack/index.cgi/>. Draft copies of the regulations are also available at the office of the Secretary of State, 402-471-2385, or call DHHS Legal Services at (402) 471-8223.

AAA To Offer Rides Home During Holidays

SIoux FALLS — Before climbing behind the wheel after drinking at a holiday party, AAA South Dakota hopes you'll think again and call them for a free Topsy Tow ride home for you, your vehicle and one more person.

"Over Christmas and New Year's, up to 40 percent of all traffic crashes involve alcohol," said Marilyn Buskohl, spokeswoman for AAA South Dakota. "But motorists do have options: use a designated driver, serve non-alcoholic mocktails at parties (see 2013 Mocktail

Mix-Off recipes at www.AAA.com/mocktail) or call AAA for a Topsy Tow."

Topsy Tow is being offered free from 6 p.m. this Friday, Dec. 13, until 4 a.m. Thursday, Jan. 2, in Sioux Falls, Rapid City, Mitchell and Yankton.

"Last year, we had 77 calls for Topsy Tows over the year-end holidays," said Buskohl. "We hope even more call us this year. We know South Dakotans will be drinking — we just don't want them driving, too."

The service is free to AAA members

and non-members alike but tows are limited to within a 15-mile radius from point of pickup. Call 1-800-222-4357 (AAA-HELP) and ask for a Topsy Tow home.

A not-for-profit organization, AAA South Dakota serves its 90,000 members across South Dakota with emergency help on the road, auto travel assistance and a wide range of personal insurance, travel, financial and automotive services through branch offices, and the Internet at AAA.com/.

MEETINGS

DELTA KAPPA GAMMA

Xi Chapter of Delta Kappa Gamma, an honorary women educator's society, met at the home of President Colleen Chase. Dominique Boudreau USD medical student, presented a program on her recent mission trip to Africa. After a soup supper organized by Vicki Barron and Heather Barron-Galvan, Ms. Amy Miner was initiated into the group. A business meeting followed. The next meeting will be Jan. 20 and Dr. Wayne Kindle is scheduled to speak; members may bring guests.

GFWC YANKTON WOMAN'S CLUB

The Yankton Chapter of GFWC Woman's Club met Dec. 7, 2013, at 11 a.m. at Hillcrest Golf & Country Club. President Pauline Aklund called the meeting to order. The Pledge of Allegiance, SD Dakota Pledge and Collect For Women were given.

Fran Fox introduced her guest Ruth Ann Dannenbring. Julie Clifton introduced her program Clark Eide and Keith Kube who entertained members with Christmas songs and put us into the holiday mood. Julie then read a story about the Wright family and played a game passing gifts to the right or the left, was much fun.

Joan Neubauer reminded members of the holiday open house at the Cramer

Kenyon home at 509 Pine Street December 13-15 and is free to the public. Marilyn Huntley reported Uncle Al's orders are here today and our profit was \$303.75. Julie Clifton stated that we have enough members for December and January signed up to provide meals for the workers at Habitat For Humanity. We serve 10-12 workers who are hearty eaters so we need generous portions to feed them.

Bingo: JoAnne Weber reported there is no bingo at Majestic Bluffs in December and November helpers were Priscilla Mazourek, Eileen Leshner, Ellen Rodenberg and Donna DeJean. Dot Blaha gave the Treasurer's report, it will be filed pending audit.

President Pauline said she has all the bedding for the downstairs of the Homeless Shelter. Barb Law volunteered to make the curtains and recover the chairs. We will need to paint the cupboards, etc., after the first of the year. We are also encouraged to donate adult and childrens clothing or a monetary gift. Marilyn Huntley said if you need unique homemade items made locally come to the Crimson Door at G.A.R. Hall.

Door prizes were won by Priscilla Mazourek, Vi Ranney, Mary Jo Schneider, Judy Woerner, Mary Petilia, Denise Erickson, Barb Law, Anneliese Dehmer, Marilyn Christensen and JoAnne Weber. Door prizes were provided by Pauline Aklund,

Cindy Filipis, Judi Olson and Agnes Eide.

Leadership: Ellen Rodenberg reported that women in leadership are always in an evolving state as they balance business with home life. They recognize their strength and face challenges head on. They give much of themselves and are a great influence to everyone to succeed.

President Pauline installed Sandy Battin and welcomed her as a new member to GFWC. She was presented a rose from our membership chair Mary Jo Schneider. Joan Neubauer made a motion that we accept the secretary minutes of the Nov. 2 meeting, 2nd by Donna DeJean, motion passed.

Hostesses today were Pauline Aklund and Donna DeJean, no further business the meeting was adjourned.

ROY ANDERSON POST NO. 12

Roy Anderson Post No. 12 held its regular monthly meeting at the VFW post home with members Brandt, Happe, Huisman, F Johnson, D List, and DeBoer being present. All saluted the flag and recited the Pledge of Allegiance.

The minutes and the financial report from the previous meeting were approved as read.

Americanism: Grocery Delivery down

Membership: Membership chairman Don List stated that we have 167 that have paid their dues so far

and that we are 50 short of meeting our goal of 217.

Members please pay dues as soon as you can, thank you.

Boys state: No report Director was absent

Children and Youth: Fran Johnson reported on the trip to the St. Joseph Indian School in Chamberlain and Lake Andes Community Center where sports equipment was delivered.

Old business: Don List stated that Dept is missing some addresses for our 2013-2014 PUFLS. If you have an address change, please let Don L. know

New Business Membership dinner will be held the third Tuesday in January at the VFW post home more information will be coming soon.

Fran J. stated that we got 3 more members from the Veterans Day breakfast with prospects of 3 more.

Commander (pro tem) F. Johnson to get bids for the membership dinner.

Sick Call: Robert DeYoung and Gerald Haas

Next meeting will be Dec. 17, 2013, at 7:30 p.m. at the VFW post home.

Members are always welcome to meetings anytime.

AMERICAN LEGION AUXILIARY

Roy Anderson Unit #12 American Legion Auxiliary met on Nov. 18, 2013, with President Betty Adam presiding. There were 19 members present. Chaplain

Kathleen Ekeren offered the opening prayer, followed by the Pledge to the Flag. Members sang America the Beautiful, recited the Preamble to the Constitution of the American Legion Auxiliary and observed a moment of Silent Prayer.

All officers answered Roll Call of Officers after which the 19 members present introduced themselves. Minutes of the October 2013 meeting were read and finding no additions or corrections were approved. Priscilla Mazourek presented the Treasurers report that was also approved on motion by Natalie Frick second by Audrey Lubbers.

Membership reports that there are currently 94 paid up members. This year's quota has been set at 120 members.

Monies toward the Bakesale Bake Sale have been arriving very slowly. Members were reminded that this is a major fund raiser for the Auxiliary.

Poppies have been ordered.

Dictionaries have arrived and will be distributed to all third grade students in Yankton's School District.

President Adam read the letter from District 8 President Linda Youngbluth.

Membership dinner will be held Tuesday Jan. 21. The coin march netted \$13.85.

Kathleen Ekeren offered a closing prayer and the meeting was adjourned. The next meeting will be held on Jan. 20, 2014.

A lovely fall themed lunch was served by Martha List and Gloria Pibal.



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