

PRESS & DAKOTAN

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Doll Event Remains A Success

This is the 17th year that Hatch Furniture has done our Christmas Dress a Doll event. It started as Dress a Doll and was later changed to Dress a Bear so the little boys could be included in this most special Christmas tradition.

Warren Hatch and a few other Yankton businessmen started Greater Yankton Gifts many years ago in which they would collect donations from local business and go out and buy gifts for children in the community that might not otherwise get a Christmas present. The Contact Center hosted a party at the Senior Center and would pass out the gifts along with cookies and punch during an afternoon of playing games and singing Christmas carols.

In 1996, Jolene Williamson at Hatch Furniture got the idea for a "Dress a Doll" contest. She asked Hatch's to buy about 36 dolls and let the ladies in the community come pick them up and take them home and dress them. There was a Saturday afternoon open house in which judges selected the winners. The first judges were Carol Frick from Beresford, Kay Jameson, Jean Hunhoff and Wynn Speece from Yankton. Organizers found over the years judging was harder and harder as the dolls were all so adorable, so they eliminated the judging after about the fifth year.

The dolls are put on display at Hatch's Furniture up



COURTESY PHOTO

until the last week of Christmas and then took them to the Yankton Middle School where a seventh grade class, assembled in the school cafeteria, beautifully wrapped every doll in individual shoe boxes. Organizers were surprised seventh graders did not know how to do curling ribbon so they were taught how to take a scissors and pull it across curling ribbon to make a fancy package. Then they tied a

candy cane on each pretty masterpiece. Then the beautifully wrapped presents were delivered to the Contact Center for its Christmas party.

It's not known who got the idea but it was mentioned that organizers should do some bears so that little boys could share in this event. So that year, Teddy Bears were ordered and the results have been wonderful. The last two years we even included Ele-

phants, Giraffes and Monkeys. They are just adorable.

The last few years, organizers have found a new home to pass out the bears and that is at the Thursday night Banquet held at the UCC Church. The dolls aren't wrapped anymore; organizers let the children in attendance, after they finish their meal, come over to the table and pick out the bear of their choice. You would not believe the smiles and hugs we get from the little ones as they look over every bear and finally make a decision as to which one they will take home.

The most amazing part of this wonderful tradition is the community involvement. There are at least a handful of wonderful people who have dressed a doll or bear EVERY year for the 17 years. Fran Fox is always the first one to pick up her bear and has for sure done it every year. The Don and Mary Fiedler family have also done it every year. Their children were little when they started doing it and now are in college and still come every year and pick up their bear and return it all dressed in the cutest outfits. This year, a young man dress a bear as a 4-H project.

Thanks to Hatch Furniture for supplying the bears and thanks to everyone else not mentioned here for all the work and creative ideas. Organizers hope to continue this wonderful tradition for many more years.

SAC Pool Closed For Maintenance

The Summit Activities Center's aquatics area is currently closed for preventative chemical maintenance. The pool is tentatively scheduled to reopen at 9 a.m. Sunday, Dec. 22.

There will be no water aerobics class today (Saturday). For further information, call 668-5234 or stop by the Summit Activities Center at 1801 Summit Street, Yankton.

NFAA Releases Holiday Schedule

The National Field Archery Association Easton Yankton Archery Complex announces the following hours for the holidays: Dec. 23 — 9 a.m.-9 p.m.; Dec. 24 — 9 a.m.-2 p.m.; Closed on Christmas Day; Dec. 26 — 9 a.m.-9 p.m.; Dec. 27 — 9 a.m.-9 p.m.; Dec. 28 — 10 a.m.-7 p.m.; Dec. 29 — noon-7 p.m.; Dec. 30 — 9 a.m.-9 p.m.; Dec. 31 — 9 a.m.-5 p.m.; New Years Day — noon-9 p.m.

For more information, call 605-260-9282 or visit www.yanktonarcherycomplex.org/.

Clothing Closet Closed Christmas Eve

The Clothing Closet will be closed on Tuesday, Dec. 24, for the Christmas holiday.

YAPG

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Greater St. Cloud (Minn.) Development Corporation.

"John is a proven deal-maker in attracting new businesses and dealing with existing business growth," said Randy Johnson, who was chairman of the YAPG selection committee. "He has pioneered workforce attraction programs and understands the importance of attracting new employees." Kramer will join YAPG on

Jan. 1.

He and his wife, Vicki, have three grown daughters.

The YAPG search was conducted by Jorgenson Consulting, Inc., a national executive search firm. They have conducted in excess of 200 searches in more than 40 states for non-profit organizations.

YAPG, Inc. is a 501 (c)6 corporation that was formed in 1978 by a group of local business leaders. Its major purpose is to facilitate primary job development/retention, private investment and wealth generation.

SCHOLASTICS

LEWIS & CLARK HOME BUILDERS SCHOLARSHIP

Congratulations to Alex Slagle of Yankton, who is the recipient of the 2013/2014 Lewis and Clark Homebuilder's Association scholarship.

Alex's educational experience and interest in the drafting and construction building field has made his application stand out.

Andrew is attending Mitchell Technical Institute this year with plans to graduate with an Architectural Drafting and Construction Degree.

Jans

From Page 1

crime was committed.

A second evaluation was requested by Luci Youngberg, the court-appointed attorney for Jans. It was completed last month by Dr. David Bean, and found that Jans was not competent to stand trial and was insane at the time the alleged crime was committed.

Deputy State's Attorney Erich Johnke was granted a request for a third evaluation in September. It was conducted by Dr. Ramesh Somepalli.

The two most recent evaluations also found that Jans is currently unable to assist his attorney with the case.

Given the findings of the

two most recent evaluations, Johnke requested that Jans be committed to HSC for treatment and examination until he is deemed competent to face trial.

Defense attorney Luci Youngberg spoke with Jans Friday, and he told her he had no objection to the court ordering that he be sent to HSC. She added that he had few questions about the matter.

Following Youngberg's comments, Eng ordered that Jans be transported to HSC. He stated that Jans will be transported back to the Yankton County Courthouse and Safety Center April 14 for a 9:30 a.m. hearing to re-examine whether he is competent to face the charges.

In September 2012, Yank-

ton police officers responded to an incident at 120 East Third Street near the Sir Charles Apartments, where they found Goodman unresponsive as a result of an apparent assault by Jans.

Goodman received extensive medical treatment, but died Oct. 6 at the Avera Yankton Care Center in Yankton.

Jans is being held on a \$100,000 cash-only bond.

Second-degree murder is a Class B felony punishable by no less than life imprisonment in the state penitentiary. In addition, a \$50,000 fine may be imposed.

You can follow Nathan Johnson on Twitter at twitter.com/AnInlandVoyage. Discuss this story at www.yankton.net/.

OBITUARIES

Ivan 'Van' Pierce

Ivan "Van" Dale Pierce, 95, of Vermillion, SD passed away Tuesday, December 17 at the Sanford Vermillion Care Center.



Pierce

Ivan was born August 28, 1918 in Volin, SD to Lewis and Hattie (Johnson) Pierce. He graduated from Vermillion High School and attended the University of South Dakota. On July 17, 1941 he was one of the first draft groups to leave Vermillion for WWII. He served in the US Army Engineer Corp from 1941-1946 and he was chosen for OCS school and was in the 1285th Engineer BN which built two floating bridges across the Rhine River. Van was discharged as a Major and joined the Ohio National Guard and later retired as a Lt. Col.

Van married his high school sweetheart Margaret Lown on May 17, 1941 and

they lived in Cleveland, OH and San Gabriel, CA retiring in Morro Bay, CA. He retired from Pacific Life Mutual as Director of Pension Sales, and he and his wife Margaret formed Southwest Money Mgt. Investment Company. Margaret passed away in 1994 after 52 years of marriage.

Several years later Ivan returned to South Dakota and renewed his friendship with Deanie Christopherson and they have been together for the past twelve years.

He was a member of the Masonic Lodge #2 in Vermillion and a Masonic Shriner for over 60 years. He is an Honorary Fireman and was a sponsor of the Ivan D. Pierce Training Tower in Vermillion, and a member of the Vermillion Senior Citizens.

He is survived by his partner Deanie Christopherson of Vermillion, his two daughters; Linda Lee (Rodney) Yates of Placerville, CA and Joan (Richard) Dunlop of Mission Viejo, CA a sister Beverly (Elmer) Mount of Vermillion, two granddaugh-

ters; Cheryl (Matt) Cisowski of Laguna Niguel, CA and Stephanie Griffin of Mission Viejo, CA and two grandsons; Mathew and Michael Yates of Placerville, CA. He is also survived by five great grandchildren and several nieces and nephews.

Memorial services will be 10:00 a.m. January 4, 2013 at the Vermillion Fire Station in Vermillion with burial of ashes to follow in the Bluffview Cemetery in Vermillion. hansenfuneralhome.com.

Yankton Press & Dakotan
 December 21, 2013

Melvin Poppe

Memorial services for Melvin H. Poppe, 85, of Niobrara, Neb., will be Jan. 11, 2014, at the Niobrara Evangelical Lutheran Church, Niobrara.

A complete service announcement and obituary will be published at a later date. To sign the guestbook or extend online condolences to the family, please visit www.brockhausfuneral-

home.com/.

Brockhaus Funeral Home of Niobrara is in charge of arrangements.

Melvin died Wednesday, Dec. 18, 2013, at Mercy Medical Center in Sioux City, Iowa.

Francis Pembrook

Francis M. Pembrook, 86, of Hartington, Neb., died on Friday, Dec. 20, 2013, at the Golden Living Center, Hartington.

Memorial Services are at 10:30 a.m. Monday, Dec. 23, at the Wintz Funeral Home, Hartington, with the Rev. Gary Kimm officiating. Burial of her cremated remains will be at a later date at the Wakefield Cemetery.

Friends may visit with the family one hour prior to services on Monday at the Funeral Home.