

YHS Band To Hold Holiday Concert

The Yankton High School bands will present their holiday concert on Monday, Dec. 15, in the theater at Yankton High School.

The evening will begin at 6:30 p.m. with art exhibits and music in the area in front of the theater.

The concert itself will begin at 7 p.m. and feature the Pioneer Jazz Band, the Concert Bands and the Symphonic Band with a variety of holiday music and entertaining as well as challenging band repertoire.

Admission is charged that assists the school district in continuing to fund extra and co-curricular activities.

Vermillion

Former U Prof To Aid Residents Of Assisted-Living Facility

BY ALAN DALE

Vermillion Plain Talk

VERMILLION — As time closes in on the doors of the Vermillion Assisted Living building on 809 N. Norbeck Street shutting for the last time, a familiar face has stepped forward to hopefully cure all the discontent swirling around the issue.

Michael Myers, a professor at the University of South Dakota's School of Law for 26 years before retiring last year, has stepped forward to speak for the residents of the facility.

Myers, 78, a long-time lawyer who used to host "Elder Right Forum" for a few years on WMAX 570 AM, will reactivate his license on Jan. 1 and work as senior advocate.

Until then, he will do what he can to fix the mess that has developed between the Vermillion Assisted Living facility and its owner Bare Assets LLC and member Brad Halver, who was tasked to run the operation.

"I believe seniors need an advocate and I am one," Myers said. "That how I got interested in the Vermillion Assisted Living facility. I believe I can heal whatever negativity that has come up."

The facility caters to mostly people dealing with psychological issues with only a couple being

elderly, but Myers feels that the bad feelings that came from the Dec. 1 announcement that the facility would shut down can be remedied.

A meeting has been set up for 2 p.m. Tuesday to help move the finality of the assisted living building's existence into a semblance of closure.

"It's always hard to deliver bad news," Myers said. "I am going to meet with staff, residents, and I talked to Brad and his lawyer to confirm (the meeting). It would be beneficial if Brad is there along with (Tiffany Hoover, adult services and aging specialist for Vermillion and region's local ombudsman). It would be a more positive spin."

When reached for comment, Hoover referred all "media requests" to the state's department of social services and their communications director Kristin Kellar. No responses had been returned at press time, but The Plain Talk was told some were forthcoming.

Myers said Friday that he spoke with Halver and his attorney and learned that just the costs alone to rehabilitate the building would be at least \$100,000 and other debts — tax liens, a mortgage — add up to an investment for Bare Assets that doesn't add up to being viable.

He also said that rumors of Bare Assets displacing the residents to tear down the building

and build a new retirement facility is untrue.

"Brad assured me that that is not the case," Myers said. "They are just going to shut it down and walk away. Everybody can't get placed where they want to. Take example a place that won't allow smoking and there isn't one right now. Maybe they can let them smoke outdoors or the residents need to make an adjustment as well."

Myers said he has heard of some local interest of a potential move to build a facility of some kind, but nothing specific.

One big problem has been how the news was delivered to the residents.

Nichole Lewison, the facility's registered nurse, told The Plain Talk last week that no letters were sent out to the residents' family members of guardians at that no eviction letter was delivered by site administrator Kate Lynn Lee, despite Halver's protestations that she indeed had done so.

When reminded that Halver said the residents received their eviction letters last week at a meeting, Lewison stated that no workers or those living there received such a letter.

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OBITUARIES

Dwain Jorgensen

Dwain Jorgensen, 85, of Vermillion, SD, passed away Thursday, December 11 at the Sanford Vermillion Care Center.



Jorgensen

Dwain Curtis Jorgensen was born July 19, 1929 to Martin and Edith (Martin) Jorgensen in Winner, SD. In his early years he worked on the farm. His father died when he was six years old. After Edith's sister's husband died, that family came to live with them. Dwain grew up among thirteen children, five of whom were cousins.

Dwain recalls working with horses and picking up cow pies for fuel on the way home from school. He delayed going to high school for two years because he was needed on the farm. He graduated from Winner High School and attended South Dakota State College for one year. Then, because of finances he went to Southern State Teachers College. He taught rural or consolidated schools for eleven years.

Dwain married Delores Steiber on May 21, 1958 in Mitchell, SD. Two daughters, Laura Mary and Miriam Ruth, were born to this union.

In 1962 he graduated from Southern with a degree in secondary education (composite science major). After moving to Vermillion he took additional courses in chemistry at USD.

Dwain began work at the University of South Dakota Medical School (Biochemistry Dept.) in July 1963. In the earlier years he prepared labs for medical students and later assisted medical technicians. After his retirement as an engineering technician in 1996, he continued as a part-time employee until early 1999. Dwain was twice named Career Service employee of the month (1981 and 1992).

Dwain enjoyed hunting deer and pheasants, listening to sports, doing carpentry and gardening work. He was a member of the First Baptist Church in Vermillion, Friends of the W.H. Over Museum, Clay County Historical Society and he worked with Vermillion Beautiful for several years.

He is survived by his wife Delores of Vermillion, two daughters; Laura Prosser (Dr. David) of Sturgis, SD and Miriam Jorgensen (Dr. Tim Smith) of St. Louis, MO, five grandchildren; Kelsey Tieszen (Tom), Bennett Prosser, Lynsey Prosser, Olivia Smith and Katherine Smith; also a brother Chester Jorgensen of Winner, SD and six nieces and 3 nephews.

His parents, four brothers and two sisters preceded him in death.

Funeral services will be

James Wendte Sr.

James L. Wendte Sr., age 71, of Yankton, South Dakota, passed away peacefully at home surrounded by his family on Wednesday, December 10, 2014.

Funeral services are 11:00 a.m., on Monday, December 15, 2014 at Trinity Lutheran Church in Yankton with Reverend David Wildermuth officiating. Burial will be in the Garden of Memories Cemetery in Yankton. Visitation is from 5-8 p.m., on Sunday, December 14, at the Wintz & Ray Funeral Home in Yankton with a prayer service at 7:00 p.m. Visitation will continue one hour prior to the funeral at the church.

Pallbearers are his five grandchildren: Miranda Zavdil, Breanna Jensen, Kristen Wendte, Lacey Gould and Sam Wendte and his close friend, Dennis Sundleaf. Honorary pallbearer is his special angel, grandson Nicholas J. Wendte, in Heaven.

Jim was born June 27, 1943 in Ponca, Nebraska to Oscar and Effie (Flom) Wendte. He grew up on the family farm near Newcastle, Nebraska and graduated from Newcastle High School in 1960. On June 27, 1962, Jim married Janice Harding in



Wendte

Newcastle. Jim attended Northeast Community College in Norfolk, Nebraska where he received his welding certification in 1970. Jim then moved his family to Yankton and starting working at Wilson Trailer as a welder. Jim worked his way up through the company retiring in 2007 as plant manager after over 35 years of service.

Jim was a devoted husband and father and worked hard to provide for Jan and his sons. He loved the outdoors and shared that passion with his sons and grandchildren. Whether it be fishing, boating, hunting, snowmobiling or golfing, he was always happiest when spending time with family and friends. Jim spent many years coaching and volunteering in the youth baseball program in Yankton and followed his son's and grandchildren's sporting events and other activities for 40+ years. Some of his most treasured memories were of the many fishing trips and other adventures he shared with his sons.

Jim is survived by his

wife, Janice Wendte of Yankton; three sons: Jim (Trish) Wendte of Pierre, SD, Jeff (Sue) Wendte of Yankton and Jody (Leanne) Wendte of Crofton, NE; five grandchildren: Miranda (Dillon) Zavdil, Breanna (Michael) Jensen, Kristen Wendte, Lacey (Seth) Gould and Sam Wendte; one great granddaughter, Zoey Zavdil; twin brother, Bob (Sue) Wendte of Newcastle; three sisters: Faye Marron of Newcastle, Shirley Livingston of South Sioux City, NE and Connie (Roger) Voss of Lincoln, NE; and many nieces and nephews.

Jim was preceded in death by his parents; infant grandson, Nicholas J. Wendte; brother, Lyle Wendte; sister, Junelee Voss and an infant sister.

To send an online message to the family, please visit www.wintzrayfuneralhome.com.

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Society, just 14 days shy of his 98th birthday. He attended rural school through eighth grade. On December 22, 1940, he married Anne Jensen. They shared nearly 74 years of marriage. To this union three sons were born: Jerry (Barb), of Bloomfield, Nebraska, Allen (DeLaine), Fairbanks, Alaska, and Gene (Deb), Yankton, South Dakota.

Alfred spent his life farming northwest of Bloomfield. Alfred and Anne loved to go polka dancing, often to King's Ballroom in Norfolk. They enjoyed traveling and visited nearly every state as well as traveled overseas to Germany and Denmark. They frequently traveled to Alaska to visit son Allen and family. He also enjoyed fishing, card playing, gardening and spending time with his grandkids especially his Friday afternoons with Karly.

Survivors include wife, Anne; sons and daughters-in-law, Jerry Jensen, DeLaine

Olga Jorgensen

Olga Marie Jorgensen, 83, of Yankton died Monday, Dec. 8, 2014, at Avera Sacred Heart Hospital in Yankton.

A joint funeral service with her husband, Dallas, will be held at 10:30 a.m. Dec. 20, 2014, at Trinity Lutheran Church in Yankton with the Rev. Kwen Sanderson officiating. Burial will be in the Yankton City Cemetery.

Visitation is from 5-8 p.m. Dec. 19 at the Wintz & Ray Funeral Home in Yankton with a prayer service at 7 p.m.

To post an online sympathy message, visit wintzrayfuneralhome.com.

Dallas Jorgensen

Dallas Jorgensen, 83, of Yankton died Thursday, Dec. 11, 2014, at Avera Yankton Care Center in Yankton.

A joint funeral service with his wife, Olga, will be held at 10:30 a.m. Dec. 20, 2014, at Trinity Lutheran Church in Yankton with the Rev. Kwen Sanderson officiating. Burial will be in the Yankton City Cemetery.

Visitation is from 5-8 p.m. Dec. 19 at the Wintz & Ray Funeral Home in Yankton with a prayer service at 7 p.m.

To post an online sympathy message, visit wintzrayfuneralhome.com.

Emilie Greenwell

Emilie E. Greenwell, age 90, of Clayton, California and formerly of Yankton, South Dakota, died Sunday, November 30, 2014 at her son's home in Clayton.

A graveside service will be 1:30 p.m. on Monday, December 15, 2014, at the Yankton Cemetery with Reverend David Gunderson officiating.

Emilie was born June 3, 1924 in Lithuania to Kostas and Matilda (Bernat) Dikmanis. She grew up in Lithuania and Germany. She married Kurt Naumann and in 1952 came to the United States of America with her son Gerhard and lived in Middletown, Maryland. She moved to Yankton and worked in the X-ray Department at Sacred Heart Hospital. She later moved to Bridgewater and later Cedar Rapids, Iowa where she began working for the Shrine Circus as an acrobat. She married Albert Greenwell and traveled all over the United States with the Circus

until returning to Yankton in 1989. She moved to Clayton, California in 2010, to be closer to her son.

She was a member of St. John's Lutheran Church in Yankton for several years.

Survivors include her son, Gerhard (Shinta) Naumann of Clayton, California and many nieces and nephews.

She was preceded in death by her parents, brother, Kostas Dikmanis and sister, Olga Schultz.

To post an online sympathy message, visit wintzrayfuneralhome.com.

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Online condolences at: www.wintzrayfuneralhome.com

2:00 p.m. Thursday, December 18 at the First Baptist Church in Vermillion with burial to follow in the Bluffview Cemetery in Vermillion.

Visitation will be one hour prior to the service at the church.

Memorials can be directed to the Vermillion United Way, PO Box 216, Vermillion, SD 57069.

Visit HansenFuneralHome.com.

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Celesta Cooke

Celesta Cooke, 87, of Norfolk, Nebraska, died Friday, Dec. 12, 2014, at Heritage of Bel Air Nursing Home in Norfolk.

Arrangements are pending with the Wintz & Ray Funeral Home and Cremation Service in Yankton.

James Oursland

James Oursland, 76, of Irene and formerly of Viborg passed away unexpectedly Friday, Dec. 12, 2014, at the Avera Sacred Heart Hospital Yankton. Funeral services are pending with the Opsahl-Kostel Funeral Home & Crematory, Yankton.

Leon Preszler

Leon Preszler, 69, of Yankton died peacefully at his home Friday, Dec. 12, 2014.

Funeral services are pending with the Opsahl-Kostel Funeral Home & Crematory, Yankton.

ing with the Opsahl-Kostel Funeral Home & Crematory, Yankton.

Alfred Jensen Jr.

Funeral services for Alfred A. Jensen, Jr., age 97 of Bloomfield, Nebraska, will be 10:00 a.m. Saturday, December 13, 2014, at First Trinity Lutheran Church in Bloomfield. Reverend Jacob Bobby will officiate, with burial in the Bloomfield City Cemetery.

Visitation will be one hour prior to services at the church.

Brockhaus Funeral Home of Bloomfield is in charge of arrangements.

Alfred died Tuesday, December 9, 2014, at the Bloomfield Good Samaritan Center.

Alfred Alvin Jensen, son of John and Anna (Schmoltdt) Jensen, was born December 23, 1916 in Bloomfield, Nebraska. Alfred passed away on December 9, 2014, at the Bloomfield Good Samaritan

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IN REMEMBRANCE

Kristin Kay Vavra
10:00 Saturday
Vangen Lutheran Church
Mission Hill

James L. Wendte, Sr.
11:00 AM, Monday
Trinity Lutheran Church
Yankton

Emilie Greenwell

Graveside Service
1:30 PM Monday

Vangen Lutheran Church, Mission Hill

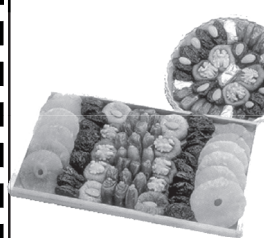
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