

To Our Readers

Because both Christmas Day and New Year's Day fall on Fridays, when the PRESS & DAKOTAN will not be publishing newspapers, "River City" on both weeks will run on Thursday, Dec. 24 and Dec. 31, respectively. If you wish to submit any information for the "River City" editions on those weeks, please have that information to us by 3 p.m. Tuesday, Dec. 22, or 3 p.m. Tuesday, Dec. 29. We appreciate your assistance in this matter.

New At The Library

Here's what's new at the Yankton Community Library this week:

- ADULT BOOKS**
- **Blood Salt Water** by Denise Mina; Fiction
 - **Bloodshed of the Mountain Man** by William W. Johnstone; Fiction
 - **Carrying Albert Home** by Homer Hickam; Fiction
 - **The Edge of Lost** by Kristina McMorris; Fiction
 - **House of the Rising Sun** by James Lee Burke; Fiction
 - **Precious Gifts** by Danielle Steel; Fiction
 - **Run You Down** by Julia Dahl; Fiction
 - **Scrappier** by Matt Bell; Fiction
 - **But Enough About Me** by Burt Reynolds; Nonfiction
 - **Dial Down the Drama** by Colleen O'Grady; Nonfiction
 - **Find Me Unafraid** by Odede & Posner; Nonfiction
 - **Home** by Ellen DeGeneres; Nonfiction
 - **The Last Season** by Stuart Stevens; Nonfiction
 - **Living Mindfully** by Deborah Schoeberlein David, MEd; Nonfiction
 - **Swiped** by Adam Levin; Nonfiction
 - **Troublemaker** by Leah Remini; Nonfiction
 - **The War on Alcohol** by Lisa McGirr; Nonfiction
- ADULT AUDIO BOOKS**
- **The Guilty** by David Baldacci; Fiction
- ADULT DVDS**
- **Before We Go**
 - **Faith of Our Fathers**
 - **Love & Mercy**
 - **Me and Earl and the Dying Girl**
 - **No Escape**
 - **Ricki and the Flash**
 - **Vietnam: America's Conflict**; Nonfiction
- YOUNG ADULT BOOKS**
- **The Storm** by Virginia Bergin; Fiction
- JUNIOR BOOKS**
- **Gardening Lab for Kids** by Renata Fossen Brown; Nonfiction

Did you know that you can reserve an item from home? Staff will then notify you as soon as the item is available.

Santa And Mrs. Claus Set Up Shop

Once again, area residents will have a chance to visit with Santa and Mrs. Claus at 1000 W. 11th St. in Yankton during the holiday season.

The Clauses will be there Dec. 11-13 and Dec. 18-20, from 6-8:30 p.m. each night. Each child receives a goodies bag. Bring a camera and enjoy the memories.

'Holiday On Ice!' Event Is Set For Tonight

Yankton Figure Skating is presenting "Holiday on Ice!" at 6:30 p.m. Friday, Dec. 11, at the Pine Acres 4-H Kiwanis Ice Rink, 901 Whiting Drive, Yankton.

The admission price will be items to be donated to the Food Pantry. Refreshments will be served after the program.

MMC Band Holiday Concert Sunday

The Mount Marty College Concert Band will present its annual holiday concert at 7:30 p.m. Sunday, Dec. 13, at Marian Auditorium on the MMC campus. This is a free event and the public is invited to attend.

The program will feature songs for the Christmas season, plus other selections, including a few marches. A guest trumpet trio will also perform, comprised of former MMC Director of Bands Dean Rettedal, David Bohnert from Wayne State College and Ann Chesley from Augustana.

Millers To Perform Concert For SDPB

VERMILLION — Northeast Nebraska-based roots music duo Ted and Alice Miller will perform live at the SDPB studios in Vermillion on Tuesday, Dec. 15, at 8 p.m. CT. The concert will be taped for SDPB-TV's music performance series "No Cover, No Minimum."

The couple, natives of Hartington, Nebraska, were recently awarded the Rural Roots Music Commission's "Americana CD of the Year" at the annual National Old Time Music Festival in LeMars, Iowa.

Influenced by acts like Uncle Tupelo, Kasey Chambers, John Prine, Bob Mould, Son Volt and Waylon Jennings, the Millers enjoy writing and playing music inspired by their rural roots around the Midwest.

The free show will take place at the SDPB studios in the Al Neuharth Media Center on the campus of the University of South Dakota in Vermillion. Doors open at 7:30 p.m. The show starts at 8 p.m. Seating is limited and first come, first served.

Teen Activities Set For Yankton Library

The Teen Advisory Board (TAB) of the Yankton Community Library met Dec. 7 to finalize plans for the upcoming Christmas party. Other topics of discussion included planning activities for January through April and ideas for the summer reading program.

The library's teen Christmas party is Saturday, Dec. 19, from 2-4 p.m. Join the TAB members for games and activities and a \$5 gift exchange. All "twins and teens in grades 6-12 are welcome.

Events planned for 2016 include a game day, a cake decorating contest, and an after-hours event with Capture the Flag and other activities. The teens also plan to make Valentine bookmarks and Easter favors for patrons.

Applications for new members for the TAB are always available at the circulation desk. If you are in grades 6-12 and would like to have a say in the types of services and programs the library offers for teens, pick up an application and join the TAB. The next TAB meeting is Monday, Jan. 4, at 7 p.m.

Questions about the TAB or teen activities may be directed to Joyce Moore by calling the library at 605-668-5275 or by e-mailing jmoore@cityofyankton.org.

Library To Offer Adult Coloring Sessions

The Yankton Community Library, 515 Walnut Street, invites adults to join the staff Saturday, Dec. 26, and Sunday, Dec. 27, from 2-4 p.m. each day, for the latest trend in stress busting: coloring.

No registration is required and there will be no instruction, no lesson plan and no agenda. Just bring your creative mind and perhaps a friend or two. A quiet space with calming music will relieve all that holiday stress and worry. All supplies are provided, but you are welcome to bring your own.

For more information, call the library at 668-5275.

The Bookworm

'Mistletoe' Hits Holiday Note

"The Mistletoe Inn" by Richard Paul Evans; © 2015, Simon & Schuster; 301 pages

BY TERI SCHLICHENMEYER

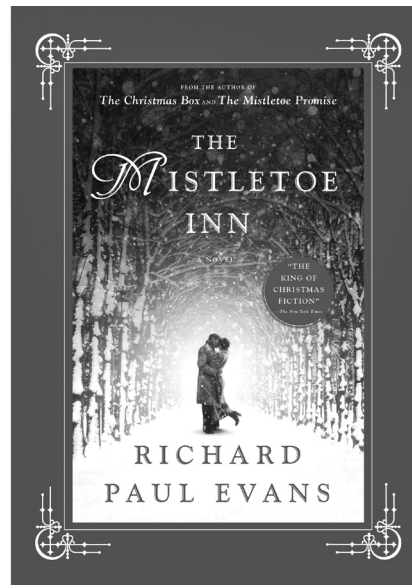
The issue you wrestle with is a thorny one.

It's been literally hanging over your head for days: does mistletoe require you to kiss someone, or is nose-rubbing permissible? Will a firm handshake be sufficient, or does protocol demand something more lipstick-laden? And, as in the new novel "The Mistletoe Inn" by Richard Paul Evans, can the rules be re-written?

Ever since she was 11 years old, Kimberly Rossi hated Christmas. She hated it all: snow, the lights, the carols. They only reminded her of Christmas Day 1995, the day her mother committed suicide.

Despite being abandoned (which is just how she perceived her mother's death), Kimberly had a good childhood. Her father made sure of it; he was her biggest fan and her best friend. He supported her when her first fiancé left her for another woman, and when her second fiancé broke up with her via text, en route to an out-of-state job. Even after she'd left her childhood home in Las Vegas and moved to Denver, her father helped her, long-distance, to get through a messy, scandalous divorce.

He was also the one who knew her deepest dream of becoming a romance writer, which is why he gave Kimberly the



gift of a lifetime: an all-expenses-paid trip to Vermont, and a writer's conference. She hadn't wanted to attend; her father had just given her some bad news and the conference was scheduled right before the dreaded Christmas week but she didn't want to disappoint him. Besides, H.T. Caldwell, her favorite author ever, was scheduled to speak.

And so, with manuscript in hand, Kimberly checked into The Mistletoe Inn, a postcard-perfect hotel. There were workshops to attend, although they

were generally of no help. There were friends to be made, although most of the potential author-attendees were awfully cliquish. There were critiques to collect, although Kimberly learned the hard way that criticism was like a knife to her heart when her "writing buddy," Zeke, a handsome fellow attendee, promised to give her manuscript a truthful assessment.

Too truthful was more like it, and Kimberly was hurt. Her novel-in-the-making deserved better judgment.

And, as it turned out, so did Zeke ...

I was quite amused at "The Mistletoe Inn," but not for the reasons you'd think.

There's a nice, very sweet but juicy romance inside the covers of this book; in that respect, author Richard Paul Evans, who's known for such things, keeps his fans very happy. This story of girl-meets-boy, girl-loses-boy, girl-gets-boy-anyhow with a twist of "dirt," as Evans says, might even jerk a few tears. It's sparkly-warm and "Christmasy," just as you like.

What I found so fascinating, though, was Evans' behind-the-scenes asides about the publishing industry! Romance fans who dream of writing within the genre, in fact, may miss parts of the story because those little extras are so absorbing.

And that's OK. You won't mind a second plunge into this book because it's perfect escapism fun. And if that's what you want, then "The Mistletoe Inn" will give you a very Merry Kiss-mas.

'Holiday Jam' Returns To Yankton

For the third year, "Holiday Jam with the Hegg Brothers" returns to Yankton for a fantastic holiday concert, which is sure to put everyone in the holiday spirit, on Wednesday, Dec. 16.

This musical showcase features the talents of a multi-piece band playing holiday classics as well as contemporary new arrangements in the signature lush and rhythmic horn band sound of Jeremy and Jon Hegg. Filling out the group are the region's finest and most exciting musicians.

As we all hear most of our favorite holiday season songs every year the challenge of finding new ways to present this music can be difficult. "O Holy Night" as a soulful ballad? "What Child Is This" in a Latin style? Such are examples how unique



COURTESY PHOTO

"Holiday Jam with the Hegg Brothers" returns to Yankton Dec. 16 for a performance at the YHS/Summit Activities Center theatre.

arrangements can take age-old music down a fresh new path.

Holiday Jam is a twist on the holiday season audi-

ences will not soon forget. Male and female vocalists, two keyboardists, guitars, percussion, drums, upright bass and horns round out

this festive evening.

This two-hour show will feature stories of the season, messages for the heart and music to lift the spirits.

The concert will be held at 7:30 p.m. at the YHS/Summit Center theater. This concert is sponsored by Historic Downtown Yankton and the Yankton Area Concert Association, and is part of the YACA line up.

If you are not a member of the concert association, a limited number of tickets are available. Tickets can be purchased at Boller Printing, 308 Douglas, Yankton.

This concert promises to entertain, lift your spirits, get your toes tapping and you are sure to leave feeling invigorated and energized.

For more information, call Kathy at 605-665-2263.

Home

From Page 1B

"This year, we're making it simpler," she said. "We're going with an old-fashioned Christmas. We're not going with all the lights and whistles."

The board intends to keep the home looking similar to the holiday feel of its early residents, Trezona said. The era featured a simpler look, but this weekend's visitors will still find a modern-day festive feel.

"We're trying to keep it closer to how the Cramers would have done it when they were in the house, but we've gone way overboard," Trezona admitted with a laugh.

The biggest difference comes in the number of Christmas trees, she said.

"They would have had only one tree (in the early years), and we have four," she said. "We have one in the front parlor, one in the back parlor, one in the dining room and a very small one in the foyer."

When it comes to Christmas ornaments, less is more, Trezona said. The decorators not only went for quality over quantity, but they also used original items from the home as ornaments.

"The trees are pretty much decorated simply, but we did (add more to) the one in the front parlor," she said. "We brought the toys down from the toy room. It's a lot of the toys that children used to play with. And we have a train around the base of the tree."

The trees aren't the only items adorning the house, Trezona said. The main floor will feature traditional decorations, mingled with priceless mementoes from both the Cramer and Kenyon families.

"We also have the whatnot, the little stand that has four or five shelves," she said. "It's the original to the house, made out of walnut. We have many of the dolls from upstairs."

The Cramer-Kenyon home maintains its outside decorum with only a spotlight for nighttime viewing. The front fence features

evergreen and red ribbons, while a wreath greets visitors at the front door.

A UNIQUE LOOK

The Cramer-Kenyon home offers a unique look, particularly for pioneer times, according to the organization's website. The home reflects the tastes of its early occupants.

"In the Victorian homes, the windows were known as the eyes of the house," Trezona said. "These windows don't have stained glass, but they have colored glass with ruby red. They don't make pictures (as found with stained glass), but they make different colors."

The home's magnificence reflected its original owner, Trezona said.

"Mr. (James) Teller had built the house to display the wealth of the occupants," she said. "It has many closets. A house built during that age didn't have closets, but this one did to show off the many possessions. It has a regal feeling."

In 1886, this home was built by James H. Teller, an attorney and Secretary of the Dakota Territory. In 1890, Nelson J. Cramer, an attorney, and his wife, Alice Bulfinch, purchased the home. This is when the interior was decorated in the Victorian manner. Imported wallpaper, elaborately carved furnishing and oil paintings by Alice Cramer adorn the home.

Besides his work as an attorney, Cramer dealt in real estate, Trezona said.

"He was purchasing lots of land around here," she said. "He built homes and barns on (the property) so people could move right in."

The Cramers' great-niece, Esther Kenyon, inherited the

home in 1929. In 1930, Esther and her husband, Herbert, moved to Yankton with their children, Carlton and Jean.

"Mr. Kenyon was a farmer, and (the Cramers) also willed a farm to the family," Trezona said.

After the death of Herbert Kenyon in 1972, the home was purchased from the heirs by Heritage Homes, Inc. This home was opened to the public in 1974 as a United States bicentennial project to commemorate Yankton's historic role as the first capital of Dakota Territory.

As secretary of the territory, Teller moved to Pierre when the capital was relocated from Yankton to Pierre, Trezona said. He had served as Yankton's mayor in 1888 and eventually moved to Colorado where he served on the Supreme Court.

"When the Cramers moved into the home, they decorated and did a lot of things to the house," she said. "They added the picture rails and the chair rails in the living room, all the way to the stairs."

MAINTAINING THE LOOK

The Cramer-Kenyon board has worked to maintain the look and feel of the house, Trezona said.

"We have reproduction wallpaper in the front two parlors," she said. "Bradford and Bradford (company) of California was able to do the reproduction wallpaper. It's the same as when the Cramers lived in it."

The four-floor house consists of the basement, attic and two main floors. The home includes paintings and Mrs. Cramer's needlepoint.

"It's a real attic you can walk through," Trezona said. "The home's furniture is origi-

nal, and there are also a lot of things in the house from the Cramers, like the clothing."

The home contains three main bedrooms along with the toy room and nursery, according to Trezona. The servants' quarters can be found in the back of the house. Mrs. Cramer's personal maid apparently lived in the attic and could easily come down the attic stairs for quick access to the Cramers' rooms.

Trezona has found the Cramer-Kenyon home a fascinating place, learning a great deal with living and working at the residence.

"I learned a lot about it. I did know where the house was, but I had never toured it (before becoming the caretaker)," she said. "It's fascinating to me that just three families have lived in this house from 1886 to 1972, when it was purchased by Heritage Homes."

Trezona grew up in Council Bluffs, Iowa. She lived in a house built in the 1860s, which makes the Cramer-Kenyon home even more appealing to her.

"I had a minor in history from college, and I was always interested in the older homes in the area," she said.

Now, visitors can share that same fascination during this weekend's Cramer-Kenyon open house and tours, she said.

"You get a real feel for the house and its history," she said.

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KYNT
AM 1450
MORNING COFFEE
WEEKDAYS MONDAY-FRIDAY
Friday, December 11
7:40 am SD Magazine (Heidi Marsh)
8:20 am Mount Marty College (Shannon Viereck)