

From Our Readers

Things For Which I'm Thankful

BY LILLIAN HEBERT

I am thankful for the leaves on the trees that change color, the rain that falls and makes it fresh and make things grow.

The friends that come to make us laugh the children that do and say funny things. The flowers that bloom and make life cheery of the family that taught me right from wrong.

The sisters that grew up beside me. The brothers that wrestled, played baseball, football and were so strong. The good times bowling and playing golf and my husband that was so loving, caring and faithful. He did so much

driving, writing and all.

The friends that keep writing.

The crochet hooks, knitting needles, pencils, pens, glues, scissors that help us to learn. The daughter and son that bring to me grandchildren and great-grandchildren. The pastor that helps me and my family as we sing, dance and listen to him.

Thanks to the teachers, policemen, government leaders, the doctors, nurses, all care givers. My health, memory and whatever has had and has to make each day an experience of my life that continues to be God's blessing.

Steichen Named Managing Partner Of Pain Consultants

Dr. Carrie Ann Steichen, daughter of David and Mary Ellen Kline of Yankton, has been named a managing partner at Pain Consultants of West Florida.

Steichen is board certified in anesthesia and pain management by the National Board of Osteopathic Medical Examiners and has been practicing medicine for nearly 11 years. After earning her Doctor of Osteopathic Medicine and Biosciences in 2005, she completed her residency in anesthesia from Michigan State University at McLaren Oakland Hospital in 2009. Steichen went on to complete her fellowship in pain management from the same hospital in 2012. She specializes in using a multidisciplinary approach of considering a patient's health, work and social lifestyle when formulating a



Steichen

care plan. Prior to joining Pain Consultants of West Florida, Steichen served as an interventional pain management physician for PRC Associates in Daytona Beach and as vice chief of anesthesiology at Sheridan Healthcare Corporation at Florida Hospital Flagler in Palm Coast. She is a member of several organizations, such as the Escambia County Medical Society, the American Osteopathic College of Anesthesiologists, the World Institute of Pain, the American Society of Interventional Pain Physicians and the International Spine Intervention Society.

What's Sprouting At The Yankton Seed Library?

What is one more way that the Yankton Community Library can serve the community? The answer... being the physical location of the new Yankton Seed Library!

With the help of local organizers, what started as a sprout of an idea has blossomed into the Yankton Seed Library. The Seed Library, which will be stocked with locally-grown and dried vegetable and flower seeds, will be located in the Yankton Community Library. Packets of seeds will be available for anyone who takes gardening classes sponsored by the Seed Library.

"The Yankton Seed Library is where area residents can get seeds that are properly saved so they can take them home, plant and care for them, and hopefully feed themselves while enjoying the activity of gardening," Library Director Kathy Wibbels said.

HOW DOES THE SEED LIBRARY WORK?

You don't have to have a library card to select free seed packets, according to Wibbels. You attend a class to learn about basic gardening. Then you select seeds that you want to plant from the array of locally grown vegetable and flower seeds in the Yankton Seed Library cabinet.

How-to classes on soil and garden preparation will be offered in February and March in the afternoon and evening at the community library. Later, practical classes will include growing questions, garden care, garden problems, harvest-



COURTESY PHOTO

ing and seed saving.

"Everyone in the classes won't be at the same level of gardening expertise," Wibbels said.

She hopes that experienced gardeners attend along with beginners for participant networking.

Master Gardeners will facilitate the classes. Participants can connect with the mix of area people who attend the classes.

"This is a no pressure environment," Wibbels said. "By the end of the growing season, some may have had plant problems due to soil or water problems, or the harmful bugs that come along."

If participants choose to do so, they can contribute some of their properly saved seeds back to the seed library and seeds will be welcomed. This, however, is not a requirement to take seeds from the library.

Seeds for the Seed Library are harvested from locally grown produce. They are suitable for this climate and soil. This fall,

inmates from the Yankton Community Work Center under the direction of Bruce Fisher, Yankton minimum unit case manager, South Dakota Department of Corrections, harvested produce they grew for saving seeds. He coordinated with Joe Hoffman, horticulturist at the Yankton Federal Prison Camp, where inmates dried and packaged seeds from the produce.

"We have a limited number of packets for each variety and a limited number of types of seeds," Wibbels said.

Hybrid seeds are not available in the Seed Library because saved hybrid seeds don't reliably produce the offspring expected. Laws to prevent distribution also protects hybrid seeds.

Wibbels is hopeful that those who obtain seeds from the Seed Library will be encouraged to plant a garden with additional varieties from area businesses.

"Every person who

comes through the library door is a potential patron," Wibbels said.

That includes this project and others. She sees the Yankton Community Library as a community center with a meeting room for the garden classes, the Seed Library cabinet, and lots of resources for all levels of gardeners such as books, magazines and DVDs.

SEED LIBRARY BECOMES A REALITY

"For years I have driven down Douglas Avenue and seen beautiful plants at the Yankton Federal Prison Camp," Wibbels said.

She read about other libraries that have seed libraries. She thought about the many Yankton agencies and organizations that might have an interest in a seed library. Now she and other organizers are ready to launch the idea.

The Seed Library was awarded a \$1,000 grant from the Yankton Area Foundation of the South Dakota Community Foundation.

Soon Kathy Wibbels and other organizers will contact local organizations to talk about the Yankton Seed Library. A launch party is being planned. Watch for information in the *Press & Dakotan* about the party and garden classes which begin in February.

"How can the library partner together for the greater good? One answer to that question is through the Yankton Seed Library. It is a service for the residents of Yankton and the surrounding area," Wibbels said.

Yankton Residents Join Operation Christmas Child

Nearly 30,000 children will soon experience the joy of Christmas, thanks to Yankton and other communities. Residents packed empty shoeboxes with small items like toys, school supplies and hygiene items for Operation Christmas Child, a project of Samaritan's Purse that sends gifts to children living in difficult situations around the world.

For those who missed National Collection Week, you can still get involved. Through the Samaritan's Purse website, you can virtually "pack" a shoebox, allowing anyone with a computer or mobile device to provide a tangible gift to a child a world away.

At samaritanaspurse.org/buildonline, visitors can select a child's age and gender, shop through an online selection of culturally relevant gifts, and finish by uploading a photo and writing a note of encouragement to the child who will receive it. After the shoeboxes are packed

and sent by the Operation Christmas Child team, participants can discover where in the world their gifts will be delivered. It is a convenient yet meaningful way to join in a project that brings hope to children in need.

The virtual-packing tool also offers participants the option to challenge friends to participate or the opportunity to share the gift of giving through a shoebox gift card.

Operation Christmas Child is a project of Samaritan's Purse, an international Christian relief and evangelism organization headed by Franklin Graham. Since 1993, Operation Christmas Child has delivered gift-filled shoeboxes to more than 124 million children in more than 150 countries and territories. In 2015, Operation Christmas Child hopes to deliver gifts to another 11 million children.

For more information on how to participate in Operation Christmas Child, call 612-359-7025 or visit samaritanaspurse.org/occ.

Funds For Homeless Shelter



Northtown Automotive is proud to present a check to the Yankton Area Homeless Shelter for \$2,900 as a result of their fundraiser in November. Pictured from left to right: Bob Hunhoff, Cory Vrooman, Tanner Krantz, Eric Miller, K.C. Scheer, Chris Dvorak, Carmen Bloch and Norm Putnam. There is no better time of the year to support this excellent organization.

SUBMITTED PHOTO

MEETINGS

GFWC WOMAN'S CLUB

The Yankton Chapter of GFWC Woman's Club met Dec. 5, 2015, at 11 a.m. at the Hillcrest Golf and Country Club. President Pauline Akland called the meeting to order. The Pledge of Allegiance, South Dakota Pledge and the Collect for Women were given.

Guests: Margie Eddie was the guest of Anneliese Dehmer.

Program: Adam Ansel, Youth Pastor for Calvary Baptist Church, Ciara Kuhlavy and Ashley VanMee-teren, seniors from Yankton High School, shared details of their mission trip to Guatemala. One of the events sponsored by their group was a three-day Bible School which served over 80 children.

Minutes: Joan Neubauer moved the minutes be approved as written. Donna DeJean seconded the motion. Motion carried.

Treasurer's Report: President Pauline gave the Treasurer's Report. This report is for information and is filed for audit in June 2016.

New Member: Jean Fitzgerald was welcomed as

a new member and presented with two beautiful red roses.

Fundraising: Marilyn Huntley reported on the results of sales from Terri Lynn, Inc.

New Business: President Pauline reported the date for the Spring Luncheon and Style Show will be Saturday, April 16, 2016. It will be held at the Calvary Baptist Church. Costs of the event were discussed. Sally Welter moved that GFWC should assume the costs of the Spring Luncheon and Style Show to be held at the Calvary Baptist Church on Saturday, April 16, 2016. Second by Anneliese Dehmer. Motion carried. President Pauline gave details of the procedure and cost necessary to replace the GFWC signs displayed on Highway 50. Marilyn Huntley moved to have GFWC cover the expenses to replace the current GFWC signs that are now displayed on Highway 50. Second by Diane Butzlaff. Motion carried.

Announcements: Peggy Schiedel shared the many lovely knit items that had been handmade by Ruth Ann Dannenbring and do-

nated to the Yankton Homeless Shelter. These scarves and caps will be distributed to families and individuals residing at the shelter.

Bingo: Sharon Kreitzinger, Virginia Larson, Barb Law, Donna DeJean and Ellen Rodenberg will be volunteers at Majestic Bluffs for Bingo on Saturday, Jan. 23, 2016.

Leadership: President Pauline read "Twas the Night Before Christmas Story", which is our fifth annual white elephant gift story.

Hostesses: Fran Fox, Diane Butzlaff, and Marlyce Micklos were hostesses.

Door Prizes: To celebrate Christmas, many members were awarded door prizes. Fran Fox, Diane Butzlaff and Sharon Kreitzinger provided the door prizes.

No further business, the meeting was adjourned.

INTERCHANGE

Interchange met on Monday, Dec. 7, 2015, at noon at Minerva's. The meeting was called to order by President Sherri Rodgers-Conti and the Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

Announcements were made regarding the Chamber Holiday Mixer, the need for volunteers to help with Senior Citizen Tax preparation, the Children's Play, the CASA social to support CASA and a reminder that it was 74 years ago that so many lives were lost at Pearl Harbor.

Interchange members enjoyed a special menu in observance of the Christmas season.

Members enjoyed round table discussions. No program was presented.

The next meeting of Interchange will be held on Monday, Jan. 4, 2016. Member Spotlight will be Nancy Willert and Hostess will be Jane Bobzin. The program will be presented (in costume) as a monologue by Nellie Zabel Willhite. She is South Dakota's first woman pilot as well as the first deaf pilot in the United States. She is buried in the Yankton Cemetery. Her accomplishments challenge all women with or without a handicap.

ROY ANDERSON POST NO. 12

Meeting was called to order by Cmdr. Hollenbeck

with members Brandt, Darcy, DeBoer, Edwards, Happe, Huisman, E. Johnson F. Johnson and Don L. being present. All saluted the colors which were in place and recited the Pledge of Allegiance. Chaplain Happe gave the invocation.

Minutes: Previous months minutes were read and approved.

Financial Report: Approved.

Boys State: Director Darcy stated that we now have the certificates done for the boys who went last June and will be awarded at a date to be determined.

Children and Youth: Director Johnson stated that he has already started to collect sports equipment for next year and has been in contact with the Boys and Girls Club about gently used sports equipment.

Membership: 168 with a goal of 238. Just a reminder that there will be a \$5. Dues increase effective Jan. 26. We ask that dues be paid by Jan. 1 to avoid the extra charge for 2016.

POW/MIA: SFC Dean Chaney (A) WW2 PFC James Reilly (USMC) Korea

1st Lt. William Pile (Army Air Force) Korea

Americanism: Don reported that the Color Guard posted the colors for the Sweet Adelines at the Center and it was a good time for all who were there.

Unfinished Business: Commander Hollenbeck talked about the casket flag boxes that are being built by the Federal Prison Camp. Orders are coming in and going better than expected so far.

New Business: Mid-winter conference will be held Feb 12-14 in Huron at the Crossroads Hotel and Convention Center in Huron.

Motion made by DeBoer and second by Darcy to accept the food bid from JoDeans for the membership dinner being held Jan. 19 at the VFW, dinner is free for all paid Post 12 members and Post 12 Auxiliary members 5:30 social and 6:30 dinner.

Sick Call: Earl Stahlecker Post Everlasting: Robert Johanson

Meeting was adjourned at 8:45 p.m. Next meeting is Dec. 15, 2015, at 7:30 p.m. in the VFW Post Home.