

ENTERTAINMENT DIGEST

Play Offered As Boys & Girls Club Benefit

Theater of the Word Incorporated's "Gone with The Passing of the Wind," an inter-active murder mystery, will be held at 7 p.m. Friday, Feb. 5, at the Minerva's Restaurant in Yankton. The event is a fund-raiser for the Boys and Girls Clubs of the Missouri River Area which includes clubs in Wagner, Avon, Marty, and Yankton. Limousine service will also be available with purchase of tickets.

For more information about how to reserve tickets for the dinner theater, call Paula Tacke at the Boys and Girls Club (605) 760-1504 or e-mail at ptacke@bgcmra.org.

Lesterville Winter Ball Slated Feb. 6

LESTERVILLE — The Community Center in Lesterville invites the public to "All That Glitters," the first-ever Lesterville Winter Ball, set for 7 p.m.-11:30 p.m. Feb. 6 at the Lesterville Community Center. All proceeds will go to Community Center repairs.

Pianopalooza! Tickets Now Available

Pianopalooza! — Yankton Verve's Annual Bash — will be held Friday, Feb. 12, at Minerva's Grill and Bar. It will be an evening of fun, entertainment and dueling pianos.

Social begins at 6 p.m., dinner at 7 p.m. and entertainment will take the stage at 8:30 p.m.

For more information, contact the Yankton Chamber and Visitor Center at 803 E. Fourth St., or call (605) 665-3636 or e-mail yankton-serve@gmail.com.

Yankton Social Singles Dance Slated Feb. 13

The Yankton Social Singles are sponsoring a Singles Dance at 8 p.m. Saturday, Feb. 13, at the Yankton VFW, 209 Cedar Street, Yankton.

DJ Randy Hammer will be playing from 8 p.m. to midnight. For this dance, the Yankton Social Singles are also requesting "heart to heart" gifts for the Yankton Food Pantry. Plan to bring a food item for the Yankton Food Pantry.

All area singles and alumni are welcome.

Meyers Slated For Great Plains Writers' Tour

The Great Plains Writers' Tour will present author Kent Meyers at 7 p.m. Wednesday, Feb. 24, at Marian Auditorium on the Mount Marty College campus, Yankton.

Kent Meyers is Writer-in-Residence at Black Hills State University and author of five books, and most recently authored "Twisted Tree" (Houghton Mifflin Harcourt).

Center To Host 'Wine And Dine' Event

The Center, 900 Whiting Drive, Yankton, will host a Wine and Dine benefit on Saturday, Feb. 27. The event runs from 5:30-9 p.m.

The evening will include a dinner and a comedy show. This event is a fund-raiser for The Center.

For more information, contact Tammy Matuska at 605-665-4685, e-mail ysc@midconetwork.com or visit www.yanktonseniorcenter.org.

Applications For Summer Arts Festival Sought

Yankton Area Arts will host the 2010 Summer Arts Festival on Aug. 20-22. This event is one of Yankton's primary celebrations of the arts. The annual event will take place along the Missouri River at Riverside Park in conjunction with Riverboat Days.

The Summer Arts Festival will showcase professional artists and fine craftsmen, from across the states. Applications to become an art vendor are currently available at www.YanktonAreaArts.org or by contacting the office at 605-665-9754. The application deadline is March 1, 2010.

For more information, call 665-9745, e-mail Pam@YanktonAreaArts.org or see www.YanktonAreaArts.org.

■ Get Updates At Yankton Online (www.yankton.net)

AREA MOVIES

Opinions are by Philadelphia Inquirer reviewers and The Associated Press. Ratings by the Motion Picture Association of America are: (G) for general audiences; (PG) parental guidance urged because of material possibly unsuitable for children; (PG-13) parents are strongly cautioned to give guidance for attendance of children younger than 13; (R) restricted, younger than 17 admitted only with parent or adult guardian; (NC-17) no one younger than 17 admitted. RATINGS: 4 stars: Excellent; 3 stars: Good; 2 stars: Fair; 1 star: Poor. NOTE: Y — playing in Yankton; Ve — playing in Vermillion; T — playing in Tripp; Vi — playing in Viborg.

AVATAR (Y-T) ★★1/2. James Cameron's mega-expensive, technological marvel is also a whole lot of fun: A gamer generation's "Dances With Wolves," with a human soldier (and his avatar) falling in love with a blue-skinned alien from the planet Pandora 2 hr. 42 PG-13 violence, aggressive action, alien beasts, adult themes)

THE BOOK OF ELI (Y) ★★ Albert and Allen Hughes' haunting and inspirational allegory is framed like a spaghetti Western. It stars Denzel Washington as a pilgrim of the post-apocalypse fighting cannibals and scavengers in order to carry out a holy mission. With Gary Oldman and Mila Kunis. 1 hr. 58 R (extreme violence, implied cannibalism)

DEAR JOHN (Y-Ve) ★★ Get your hankies out. Nicholas Sparks' novel about a soldier (Channing Tatum) who falls in love with a college student (Amanda Seyfried) while home on leave is brought to the screen by director Lasse Hallstrom ("My Life as a Dog," "The Cider House Rules"). Certainly, if you've seen "Nights in Rodanthe," "A Walk to Remember" or "Message in a Bottle," you know

the drill and you're either on board with the box of tissues or waiting in line to see "Avatar" for the umpteenth time while your date suffers for the both of you. Director Lasse Hallstrom ("Chocolat") and screenwriter Jamie Linden give the whirlwind romance an appealing, straightforward decency, and Tatum and Seyfried click rather effortlessly. They're not Ryan Gosling and Rachel McAdams from "The Notebook," but they'll do. PG-13 for some sensuality and violence. Running time: 102 minutes.

EDGE OF DARKNESS (Y) ★★1/2. Mel Gibson returns in front of the camera, playing a bereaved Boston cop in search of his daughter's killers and turning up a sinister conspiracy in the process. A strange and gloomy mashup of "Mystic River," "Silkwood" and over-the-top James Bond villainy. 1 hr. 57 R (violence, profanity, adult themes)

EXTRAORDINARY MEASURES ★★ (Ve) A father (Brendan Fraser) struggles for a treatment for his terminally-ill children. Though inspired by a gripping, true-life story, as brought to screen by Tom Vaughan (What Happens in Vegas), it's a slack, well-meaning disease-of-the-week drama of the sort one might encounter on the Hallmark Channel. HVe) H1/2. After God figures out that mankind is no longer worthy of Him and decides to start over, the archangel Michael (Paul Bettany) helps a group of mortals (including Dennis Quaid, Charles S. Dutton, Tyrese Gibson and Lucas Black) fend off the Apocalypse. R.

TOOTH FAIRY (Y) ★1/2. Despite his high-beam smile and self-mocking style, Dwayne Johnson (a/k/a The Rock) does not elicit many laughs in this unfunny comedy about a bubble-bursting hockey player who disillusions kids and is sentenced to Tooth Fairy detail. 1 hr. 41 PG (mild language, rude humor)

ART FORMS

YAA Is Already Thinking Summer!

BY PAM MEYLOR
Yankton Area Arts

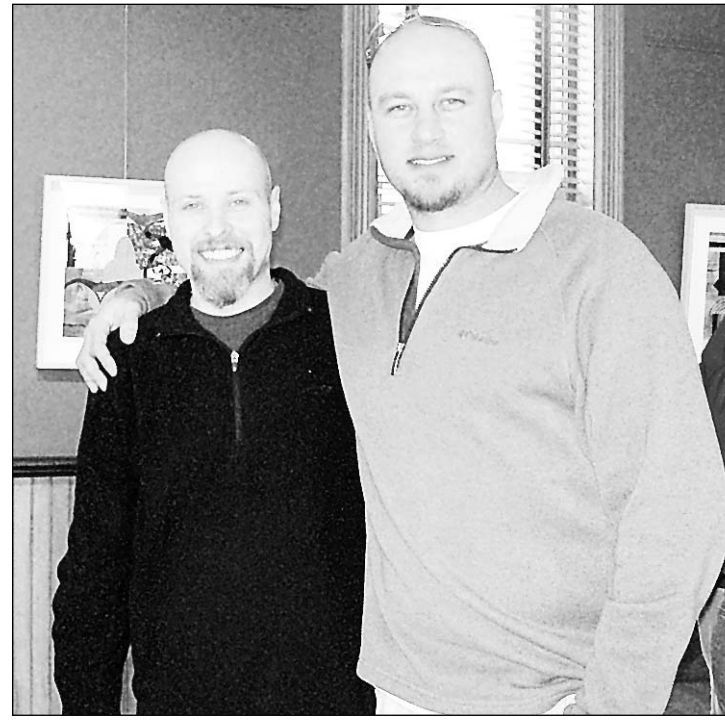
It's hard to believe I've been with Yankton Area Arts for a full year this February. It has truly been a wonderful 12 months and I am looking forward to the challenges and opportunities of my second year.

Perhaps the greatest challenge I face is time; as the first month of 2010 has flown by and the days seem to pass ever more quickly. Of course this realization couldn't have come at a better time of year! Truth be told — if I had access to a time machine, the next few paragraphs would describe how I'm planning to jump a few months ahead while cheering, "Look out, summer, here I come!"

Indeed, with all the snow on the ground — and that mean old groundhog pulling the stunt he did this week — it's hard to believe that summer will be here anytime soon. But here in the Yankton Area Arts office, we remain hopefully optimistic that a magical warm weather time machine will somehow materialize; because with summer comes some of our most anticipated events. In fact, we are actually already hard at work on the 2010 Riverboat Days/Summer Arts Festival.

Although the festival won't arrive until the weekend of Aug. 20-22, art vendor applications have already started coming into our office. I'm enjoying the arrival of each and every one as they remind me of the warm summer fun ahead! If you are interested in being a vendor you can find the application form on our Web site at www.YanktonAreaArts.org or you can get more information by contacting the office at 605-665-9754. The application deadline this year is March 1, 2010.

Despite the recent weather, there have still been lots of great



COURTESY PHOTO

Artists Cory Knedler and Shannon Sargent have their work currently on display at the G.A.R. Hall Gallery in an exhibit entitled "Collaborationism." The exhibit runs through Feb. 16.

things happening down at the G.A.R. Hall Art Gallery in recent weeks. This past weekend we had the pleasure of hosting a reception for artists Cory Knedler and Shannon Sargent. The gallery talk was wonderful and we have had a great response from the community about the reception. A big thank you goes out to Cory and Shannon for spending their Saturday at the gallery. If you have not had the chance to stop in and see their work in our current exhibition "Collaborationism," please stop into the gallery before Feb. 16.

While you are visiting the gallery, please also take a moment and visit the artist showcase.

Yankton Area Arts is working with area artist to provide a venue for them to sell their art. As in prior years, our patrons had a wonderful time perusing the many unique handmade gifts during our recent Crimson Door Holiday Show, and we want to make sure this type of opportunity is available throughout the year. Currently we are featuring work by Cheryl Halsey-Peterson, Art Ciccotti, Dick Cuddihy, Dawne Olson, and Genevieve Echols. If you have a favorite artist you would like to see at the gallery, please contact our office. And remember, Yankton Area Arts members receive 10 percent off all their gallery purchases

— so be sure to stop by when you are looking for that one of a kind gift.

It has been a great first year for me at Yankton Area Arts and I have loved getting to know so many folks in the process. The organization works tirelessly and maintains such a great focus on our community's art needs. It's such a neat opportunity for me to work with such fine people. Of course, that means the only thing I have to complain about is the weather. Which reminds me, if you have your own personal time machine, please let me know right away. Oh, and if you see that groundhog, tell him I'm looking for him!

YAA CALENDAR OF EVENTS:

• through Feb. 16 — "Collaborationism" featuring the work of Cory Knedler and Shannon Sargent at the G.A.R. Hall Art Gallery.

• Feb. 6 — "Spearfish Canyon: First Impressions" featuring the work Janet Jensen Reception: 2-4 p.m. at W.H. Over Museum in Vermillion, 1110 Ratigen Street. The event is free and open to the public.

• Feb. 19-March 16: Annual Youth Art Show featuring the works of Yankton Middle School students at the G.A.R. Hall Art Gallery.

The G.A.R. Hall Gallery and Yankton Area Arts office are located at 508 Douglas Avenue, Yankton. The gallery is open to the public free of charge from 1-5 p.m. weekdays and from 1-3 p.m. Saturdays. For more information, please contact Pam Meylor, executive director, via e-mail at Pam@YanktonAreaArts.org, visit our Web site at www.YanktonAreaArts.org or drop us a line at 665-9745.

THE BOOK SHELF

'Bodies' Unearths Icy, Fascinating Remains

"Bodies From the Ice: Melting Glaciers and the Recovery of the Past" by James M. Dean. Houghton Mifflin Company, 2008. 64 pages.

BY PAT HANSON

Thirty inches of snow for Yankton this winter and counting. Have you ever joked about sending someone out to find you after you get lost and frozen in the snow, especially with some of the white-out weather we've had this year? Take heart. Your body probably wouldn't remain hidden as long as some of the bodies in this book have.

In 1991, two hikers climbed a mountain on the Austria-Italy border. The spotted something in the slushy ice — they thought it might be trash left behind by other hikers. When they got closer, they realized it was a human body. They figured it was a hiker that had died in a climbing accident. Authorities thought it might be a music professor who disappeared while hiking more than 50 years ago. An old wooden ax near the body made others think it might have been from the 1800s. However, radiocarbon testing revealed something exciting: The body was about 5,300 year old.

Careful examination of the body showed the man had an arrowhead lodged in his shoulder. He actually died from a blow to the back of his head.

The most amazing thing is that the body was completely intact. The bodies of most persons who die on a glacier don't remain intact. As glaciers form and melt, they slowly slide down a moun-

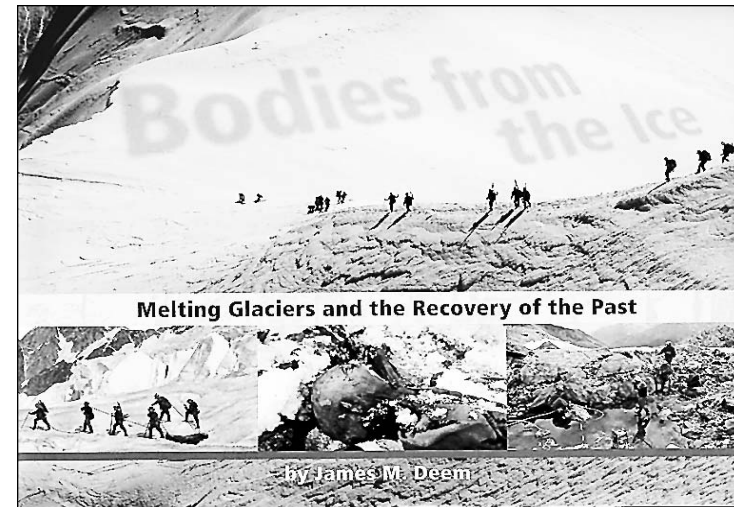
tain, shifting and grinding against the rocks underneath until the ice reaches the "snout," or lower part, where it melts. Any bodies within the glaciers, such as those who have fallen into a deep ice crevasse, are slowly torn apart.

Although one woman's body was recovered at the snout of a glacier 29 years after her death, most bodies take several hundred years to travel from their point of death to the glacier's snout.

Once they reach the snout, they decompose quickly when exposed to the air and sun. Scientists actually fly over the glaciers looking for just such remains. When they can recover a body and other artifacts, scientists can learn much about the culture and lifestyle of the person.

This book covers numerous bodies that have been found preserved by glaciers. Some of the deaths were accidental; some were human sacrifices. The pictures are fascinating.

Overall, this book is very interesting but it's not for the squeamish or young. The book is for ages 11-14 but older teens and adults will appreciate it as well. It does wander into a discussion about the melting of glaciers and climate change, but most of the book



Try our Valentine's Day Special
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