

HOMETOWNNEWS

Appliance Mover Is Deliveryman's Dream

BY BRENDA JOHNSON
P&D Correspondent

Robert McShan called these air skids close to an appliance deliveryman's dream. Technician McShan has worked a decade in delivery and at Karl's TV & Appliance in Yankton for four years. "Hovercraft" concept has been used in industry to move heavy machinery for thirty years, but this handy back-saving adaptation complements the back lift and dolly, saves delivery time and diminishes accidental floor scratches. Larry's TV & Appliance in Yankton also uses an air assist device as needed.

Watching McShan's kitchen stove delivery was a moving experience. With the range in the front hallway, he put two flat rectangular skids under the range, attached hoses to the skids, plugged in the air blower and guided the range to its destination with him and the range upright using one hand.

As he walked toward the kitchen with his hand on the range, the stove moved, appearing to float just off the floor. He turned the range, repositioned the skids, guided the stove into position and lowered the range onto wood laminate floor snugly between two built-in cabinets.

"We've had the air skids over two months and I use them as much as possible," McShan said. "It cuts down on delivery time because dollies take more time to position and move. You're not straining your back or knocking against doorways. Dollies require you move appliances at an angle, and the tires and handles take up space in tight locations. You have to watch in all directions to make sure you're not bumping into something or scratching the floor."

Air skids don't work on stairs or irregular surfaces such as carpet. You have to lay cardboard to move an appliance across carpet.

One of the heavier objects McShan has moved with the air skids is a side-by-side refrigerator that weighs over 350 pounds. He has found other uses for the device.

"We have moved a heavy and awkward entertainment center away from a wall," he said. "We assembled a stacked washer/dryer



Robert McShan connects air blower hoses to two skids beneath the appliance. He adjusts skids so the appliance will be lifted perpendicular to the floor. Skids lay on hard surface covering carpet.

in the middle of the room and moved it upright into a tight space."

Since some floor surfaces are not horizontal, other devices must be used.

"If air skids worked from the truck into the home, that would save even more on delivery time," McShan said.

HOW IT WORKS

"It's a little like an air hockey table," McShan said. "You move the puck and it floats on air."

In the case of air skids, the appliance on skids is lifted off the floor and the skids float on a thin film of air, guided by the delivery person.

McShan attaches hoses from an air blower to two air skids. Each rectangular skid has flexible fabric cover that expands with same amount of air and a platform on which the appliance can rest. On the bottom of the skids are tiny holes that allow some air to escape. Air fills the skid cover and lifts and supports the appliance. Then the force of some air escaping through the tiny holes,

lifts, and keeps the skid with appliance off the floor just a little.

With air between skid and floor, friction is diminished, and McShan uses a hand to guide the vertical appliance precisely where he needs to position it.

WORTH INVESTMENT

Store manager Doug Fickbohm heard about air skids from an insurance and safety officer in the company.

"It saves on damage to floors and saves our guy's backs," Fickbohm said.

Even in these conservative times, he says the device is worth it.

Assistant manager Ray Harris first saw versatile air skids in action when he helped his friend move furniture.

"Dennis Hawk is a local carpet installer," he said. "We moved his large wooden bar and then a filled china cabinet with his air skids."

Harris passed his experience along at work and agrees that air skids are well worth the investment.

TOP VIOLINISTS



SUBMITTED PHOTO

Violinists Sadie Stevens, Yankton High School and Jenny Sun, Vermillion High School were selected to participate in the J. Laiten Weed Honor Orchestra held recently in Rapid City.

Musicians Participate In Honors Concert

Two area students were selected from the top chairs of the South Dakota All-State Orchestra to be a part of the J. Laiten Weed Honor Orchestra, an annual event, is held in Rapid City at the Cedar Canyon Camp on February 4-6.

The top twenty two string students from South Dakota, and their conductor, Tom Zelle, presented their final concert at the First Congregational Church in Rapid City on Saturday, February 6.

Participants from the area were violinist Sadie Stevens,

Yankton High School and violinist Jenny Sun, Vermillion High School.

The J. Laiten Weed Honor Orchestra, an annual event, is funded by an endowment from the estate of J. Laiten and Lucy Weed, and is sponsored by the South Dakota Chapter of the American String Teachers Association, Kim Evander, President.

The final concert featured string orchestra pieces by Mozart, Britten, Elgar and Shostakovich.

CREATURE COMFORTS



SUBMITTED PHOTO

Coral Huber (left) holds Katie (kitten), Samantha Straatmeyer holds Noelle (kitten) with some of the blankets that Huber and Straatmeyer hand-made and donated to Heartland Humane Society.

Blankets For Animals Offer Warmth

The animals of Heartland Humane Society recently received several kennel-sized, hand-made blankets as a donation.

Coral Huber and Samantha Straatmeyer decided to give back to the community with a service project. They got together at Huber's home and hand-made 10 blankets for the kennels at Heartland Humane Society. They spent about four hours making the little tied treasures out of fleece material. Each of the blankets will be used to make the cats feel a little more at home while they wait for permanent homes.

Heartland Humane Society welcomes community service projects like the one Huber and Straatmeyer did. "We love to see people getting involved and doing things for the animals like this," stated Tasha Anderson, executive director of Heartland Humane Society. "The blankets give the animals comfort and warmth while they wait for new homes, and the fleece washes and dries really easily."

If you would like information on doing a community service project for Heartland Humane Society, contact Anderson at 605-664-4244 or e-mail hhs@mid-conetwork.com.

HATS FOR HAITI



SUBMITTED PHOTOS

Kindergarten students pour their donations into the large jar as part of Lincoln School's "Hats for Haiti" collection. Each student and staff member was asked to bring \$1 to school as a ticket to wear a hat Friday, Feb. 5. The donations will eventually be sent to the International Red Cross which will use the funds to assist the nearly 3 million victims of the January earthquake.

Torch Club Collecting Haiti Donations

Builders Torch Club of Yankton, a partnership between the local Kiwanis Club and the Yankton Boys & Girls Club, has initiated a project to help with relief efforts in Haiti.

The Builders Torch Club asks for your help by donating needed items to assist with giving a better quality of life to this unfortunate country.

Below is a list of items we are gathering.

- New or used summer/spring clothing (must be in good condition): Infant's clothing, Children's clothes, Children's shoes, Adult clothes, Adult shoes, New underwear and socks for children and adults
- Food items: Bottled water,

Canned food with pop tops, Peanut butter, Dry rice, Dry beans

- Hygiene products: Antibacterial ointment, Band-aids, Soap, Deodorant, Individual packets of disinfectant wipes, Tooth brushes, Tooth paste
- New or gently used toys (no electronic or battery operated toys please.)
- Bedding (sheets, pillows, etc.)
- Tents (2-4 person capacity)

Drop off locations are located at JC Penney's in the Yankton Mall and at the Boys & Girls Club 1804 Broadway Ave between Feb. 15-March 6. If you have questions, call Tim Young at 668-9710 or (402) 369-2896.

Area Employees Donate To Yankton Sack Pack Program

The employees of Kolberg Pioneer, Inc. have large hearts.

Following a recent holiday raffle held on-site at the Kolberg Pioneer, Inc. factory, the money was added up and over \$1,400 was totaled.

Lisa Carson, Marketing Manager and raffle organizer for KPI/ICI, said, "We wanted this money to go back into our community and help some of those families that have been affected by our slow economy this year. We have felt it in our factory and it's a very close issue to us."

After some discussion it was enthusiastically decided that the newly developed Sack Pack Program would be the beneficiary of the money.

The Sack Pack Program, an independent community project, has been in existence since September of 2009 and started out serving 80 students a week in grades kindergarten through fifth grade at Webster Elementary School.

Currently the expanded program now also serves junior kindergarten and an additional

100 students at Lincoln Elementary School.

With almost 1,000 students in the school district that are eligible for this service — 650 in the elementary schools alone — there is still much to be done.

When asked how this donation will impact the program, Sack Pack Program Spokesperson Reverend Joe Schulte responded,

"This will feed roughly 385 kids in our program for a week-end. The impact is more than just food too; it impacts the kids academically as well. It's a small thing we can provide that makes such a difference. The program wouldn't be possible without donations like this from Kolberg Pioneer, Inc.'s employees and others in our community."

It costs \$135 to feed a child through the Sack Pack Program for the school year.

Program expansion plans include serving all Yankton elementary schools.

If you'd like to donate to the Sack Pack Program contact Reverend Joe Schulte at 605-665-7320.

Hy-Vee Launches Fundraising Effort To Help Haitian Relief

Hy-Vee, Inc. has launched a month-long campaign to raise funds for Haitian earthquake relief by making a \$50,000 donation to the American Red Cross.

Hy-Vee customers throughout the Midwest will be invited to help boost the fundraising total during Hy-Vee's month-long "Help Us Help Haiti" campaign, which begins February 1 at all Hy-Vee stores.

Ken Waller, executive vice president and chief administrative officer of Hy-Vee, said the magnitude of the disaster in Haiti prompted Hy-Vee to contact the Red Cross to offer financial assistance.

"Wherever disaster strikes, the American Red Cross and its global partners are on the scene providing emergency medical care, food, water, shelter and communications services," Waller said. "The need in Haiti is overwhelming, and we're proud to be able to help Red Cross professionals and volunteers with the vital work they are doing there."

In addition, starting February 1, all 228 Hy-Vee stores and

Hy-Vee Drugstores in eight Midwestern states will be accepting donations from customers for the Red Cross's Haitian relief effort. Hy-Vee's "Help Us Help Haiti" campaign allows customers to designate donations of any amount to be added to their grocery totals at checkout. All funds donated will go directly to the Red Cross to assist with disaster relief in Haiti.

"The work of rebuilding Haiti will go on for years to come, but right now there is still a desperate need for the basics of human life - food, water, shelter and medical care," Waller said.

"Along with making a donation on behalf of our 56,000 employee-owners, Hy-Vee is providing customers with a safe, convenient and effective way to help the people of Haiti take the first steps on the road to recovery."

The "Help Us Help Haiti" campaign runs February 1-28 at all Hy-Vee stores in Iowa, Minnesota, South Dakota, Nebraska, Kansas, Missouri, Illinois and Wisconsin.

MEETING NOTES

INTERCHANGE

Interchange met on February 8, 2010. The meeting was called to order by President, Stacy Winterringer.

The Pledge of Allegiance was recited. Guests were introduced. The following announcements were made: Marcy Moser announced that the Board is working on getting candidate forums scheduled. March 29th has been reserved for school board candidates and April 5th has been reserved for city candidates.

Kathy Greenaway, school board member announced there will be a school board meeting tonight at 5:30 p.m. Some topics to be discussed are truancy numbers as well as drug and alcohol reports. Bullying issues and the summer school program will also be discussed.

Stacy Winterringer reported that the United Way "Shoot from the Heart" was a success. Paula Tacke said the Boys and Girls club dinner theater fundraiser was also a success. Nancy Wenande, Pauls Kwick Stop/City Commissioner introduced her speaker. The program was Dave Spencer and he spoke about the Yankton Ice

Association. He highlighted how the association got started as well as recent updates. To find out more you can go to Yanktonice.com

There will be no meeting next week, February 15th due to the Women of Distinction lunch. February 23rd will be the next meeting at noon at the Waterfront.

DOGS R US 4-H CLUB

The Dogs R Us 4-H club met on January 19, 2010 at the extension office with ten members present. Stephanie Anderson called the meeting to order. Kate Katterhagen led the Pledge of Allegiance and Carrie Pospicil led the 4-H pledge. Roll call topic was, "What is your favorite video/computer game?"

The minutes of the previous meeting were read and amended because the December meeting had been cancelled because school had been called off due to the weather. Brady Smith was introduced as a new member.

Mike Gillis, who had started the dog park here, told us that it had finally been paid for. Our leader, Joyce Anderson, reminded us to pick up fruit sale forms at the extension office on January 25.

Tiffany Lemon adjourned the meeting and Grant Kramer seconded it. The meeting ended and everyone had the Gillis's treats. The next meeting will be on February 16, 2010.

LADIES AUXILIARY POST 791.

President Shelley Stoddard opened the Ladies Auxiliary meeting to VFW Post 791.

A Petition for Membership for Jennifer Stibral (daughter of Dale and Twila Stibral) was read and accepted. President Stoddard, then, introduced, Mary O'Connor, a new member.

Eight "Thank You" notes were read and committee reports were read. Lola DeJong reported there was one funeral luncheon for Charles Broz. One cancer grant was sent.

Members are reminded that Campbell Soup labels are still being collected as are Box Tops For Education.

President Stoddard reported a request was received for a donation from Big Friend/Little Friend

for their Bowl-a-Thon. It was moved to allow twenty-five dollars. Stoddard then brought up "Hugs for Heroes". Valentines were to be purchased and mailed. The VFW Auxiliary members will write notes in them.

George Knutson advised the Legislative Conference would be Feb. 7-9 in Pierre.

Slowey brought up the St. Patrick's Day Special Olympics program. This program will be continued. Slowey will take care of notifying those places formerly called on. Prizes will be purchased for the raffle. Auxiliary members are encouraged to donate new gifts also.

The quarterly audit was read by Dorothy Starnage. Evelyn Stibral's name was drawn for the attendance prize. She was absent. The attendance prize next meeting will be six dollars. Mary O'Connor's name was drawn for the door prize. A lovely lunch was served by Pat Keller, Mary Johnson, and their committee.

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