

ENTERTAINMENT DIGEST

Center 'Wine And Dine' Event Tonight

The duo Tina and Lena are the featured entertainment at The Center's Wine and Dine event, set for tonight (Friday, Feb. 26) at the Hillcrest Country Club.

"Tina and Lena" are in the full-time business of making people laugh out loud. Their engaging variety show is a rich blend of clever to cornball comedy, musical harmony and spirited antics ... a celebration of the audience that goes full blast in high gear from start to finish.

Born in 1984, "Tina and Lena's" fame has spread widely across the U.S.A. These lively ladies are perennial favorites at corporate outings, state and national conventions, fairs, festivals and performing arts theatres. They're coming to our town. They're coming to our event! Come join the fun with "Tina and Lena."

Tickets are available by calling 665-4685 or stopping in at 900 Whiting Drive.

Male Beauty Pageant In Wakonda Saturday

WAKONDA — The Wakonda 125th Committee is sponsoring a male beauty pageant at 7 p.m. Saturday, Feb. 27, at the Irene-Wakonda Old Gym in Wakonda.

Twenty men from the Wakonda and Irene areas have volunteered to participate in this event where they will be showing their beauty in casual and formal attire. Intermission entertainment will be provided by the Irene-Wakonda High School Dance Team. Refreshments will be served.

This is a benefit event for the 125th Committee. There will be a free will donation at the door.

For more information, contact Angie Logue at 605-267-3121, e-mail aklouge@yahoo.com or visit <http://www.wakonda.net/organizations/125.html>.

Citizens Of The Year Reception Sunday

The reception honoring Jack and Margaret Lyons as Yankton's 2009 Citizens of the Year will be held Sunday, Feb. 28, at the Yankton Elks Lodge. The reception begins at 1:30 p.m., with a special program set for 2 p.m. The public is invited to attend.

'Hollywood Lights' Featured At Ice Show

The Yankton Area Ice Association is proud to announce a figure skating exhibition to be held at 6 p.m. Sunday, Feb. 28, at the Yankton Kiwanis Ice Arena. The show will feature performances from figure skating and learn-to-skate members.

"Hollywood Lights" will feature figure skating levels from Basic 1 through 8 and free-style skating. Learn-to-skate members will include those learning how to figure skate as well as those learning how to skate for hockey.

The Yankton Kiwanis Ice Arena is located on the Yankton County 4-H grounds on Whiting Drive in Yankton. For more information, contact Barb Hanson at 605-661-2941.

Chorus Festival Concert Slated For Tripp

TRIPP — The 23rd annual Men's Chorus Festival Concert is set for 7:30 p.m. Sunday, Feb. 28, in the High School Gym at Tripp.

Choruses from New Holland, Delmont, Tripp, and Verdigré, Neb., will each sing two songs and then join together as a mass chorus to sing eight songs.

The mass chorus will number about 80 members and will be directed by guest conductor, Dr. Sean Vogt from Mt Marty College in Yankton.

Summer Arts Festival Applications Due

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.

ABS 'Spring Flip' Slated For March 2

Ability Building Services' "Spring Flip" is set for 5-7 p.m. Tuesday, March 2, at Link Auditorium, 504 Capitol.

ABS is offering an evening of entertainment, a Kids Carnival with prizes and a Pancake supper provided by Chris Cakes.

Other items of interest are a raffle and products featured from The Bag Lady. Entertainment is by the ABS with All-Staff Performers and other guest appearances.

Oneten Gallery Offering Miniature Art Show

Oneten Fine Art will be hosting a Miniature Art Show and is inviting area artists of all ages to submit their work.

The entry deadline is Friday, March 5.

Artwork should be delivered to Oneten Fine Art Inc., located at 213 West Third Street in downtown Yankton.

The show opens Saturday, March 6, and will run through Saturday, April 3. Prizes will be awarded for Best of Show, second place and third place. Artwork may be sold by students.

For submission details or more information, contact Jennifer Cull at 505-664-0110.

YCC Set For 'Music Among Friends' Concert

The Yankton Children's Choir will host its annual "Music Among Friends" fund-raising concert at 2 p.m. Sunday, March 7, at the United Church of Christ, Yankton.

This year's guests are the UCC Youth Bell Choir directed by Pam Kettering and a solo performance by Ted Powell, organist. The Children's Choir will perform "I Will Sing My Song," "Ezekial," "Shooting Star," "Firefly" and "Jordan's Angels" among others.

There is no admission charge for the concert, but a free will offering will be taken. Light refreshments will be offered in Pilgrim Hall following the concert.

The choir is directed by Deb Wiebelhaus and accompanied by Dixie Church.

Local Questers Program Slated March 11

Laura Ingalls Wilder Questers invite the public to a free chaqueta on "Life and Times of Gov. Arthur Calvin Mellette" presented by John Timm of Sioux Falls, at Dakota Territorial Museum, 610 Summit Street, Yankton, at 9:30 a.m. March 11.

This event is funded by the South Dakota Humanities Council, an affiliate of the National Endowment for the Humanities.

Bands To Play At Vermillion In April

VERMILLION — The bands Thrive and Manchester Orchestra will perform at the Vermillion Eagles Club on Tuesday, April 27. Doors open at 6 p.m.

For tickets, call (605) 334-8181 or 605-357-7377, or e-mail info@peperentertainment.com or visit www.ticketmaster.com.

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ART FORMS

The Arts Are Vital To Education

In recognition of Youth Art Month, the following column is written and submitted by guest columnist Kathleen West.

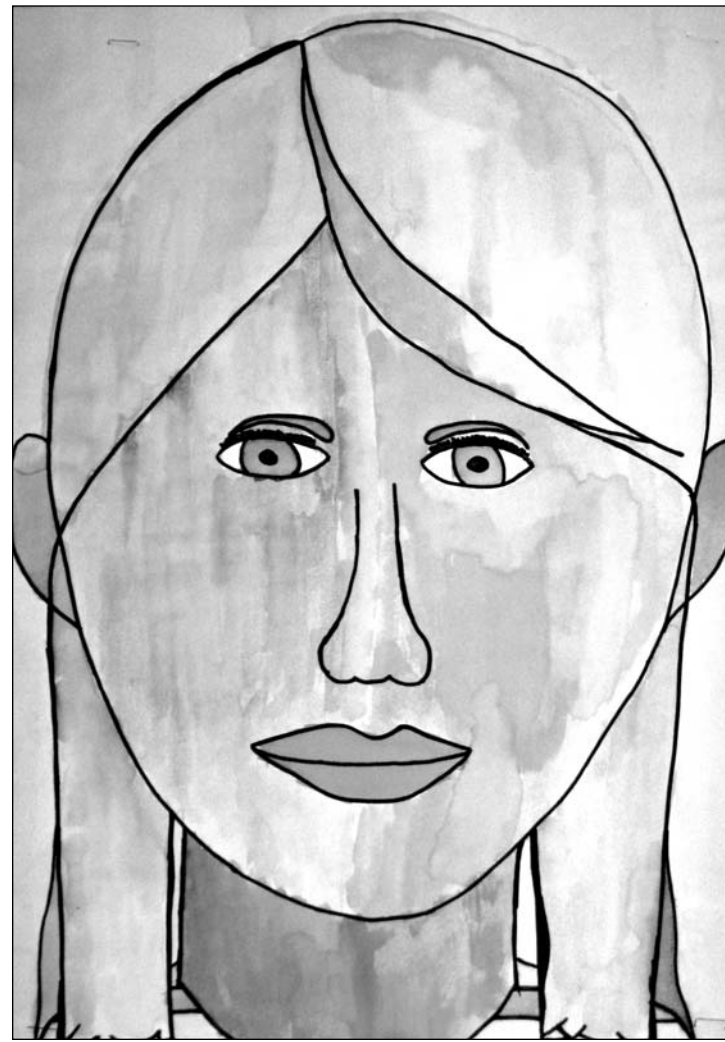
Kathleen is a member of South Dakota for the Arts Board of Directors and is the president-elect for 2010. She has served on the board for Yankton Area Arts and we have had the opportunity to see her passion for arts in our local schools. It is a blessing to Yankton to have such a strong advocate for the arts in our community.

The Importance Of Arts Education

"The arts are for everyone" are words you may have read or heard many times, but they come to life when viewing an exhibit featuring middle school student work such as we have at the GAR Hall Art Gallery right now. Every Yankton seventh- and eighth-grade student receives visual arts and music education by highly qualified teachers — not just a few students, but every student. Many of the students also participate in dance and theater offered by community resources. The importance of arts education in the spectrum of cultural and cognitive development cannot be underestimated.

Many times, arts education is seen as a "frill" and is cut from school curricula. But in reality, research has proven that arts education provides children with the skills they will need as adults in the 21st century workforce. Those skills (plus the three R's) include creativity and innovation, critical thinking and problem solving, and communication and collaboration.

An excellent example of teaching the skills listed is through the Visual Thinking Strategy. VTS builds the capacity to observe, think, listen, and communicate. In a gross simplification of the strategy, students develop habits of looking carefully at a painting, talk about what they see, listen respectfully to others' ideas, and take those observation skills further into other curriculum areas such as



This work by Yankton Sacred Heart School seventh grader Ashley Brooks is one of the pieces featured at the Yankton Youth Art Show, currently being held at the G.A.R. Hall Gallery.

writing, reading, and social studies. The strategy has a strong research base and includes ALL students. Schools implementing VTS are throughout the nation. In South Dakota, a Brookings elementary school is piloting VTS and hopefully many South Dakota schools will get on board.

Arts education is not a "frill," nor is it an extracurricular activity. It is a serious core academic subject. From the National Association for Music Education: "There is a demonstrated direct correlation between improved SAT scores and time spent study-

ing the arts. In 1997, The College Board reported that students with four years of study in the arts outscored students with no arts instruction by a combined total of 101 points on the verbal and mathematics portions of the SAT. As numerous school-based programs have repeatedly reported around the country, study of the arts helps students think and integrate learning across traditional disciplinary lines. In the arts, they learn how to work cooperatively, pose and solve problems, and forge the vital link between individual (or group) effort and quality of result. These

skills and attitudes, not incidentally, are vital for success in the 21st century workplace.

Sequential arts education also contributes to building technological competencies. It imparts academic discipline and teaches such higher level thinking skills as analyzing, synthesizing, and evaluating both personal experience and objective data. Finally, research findings indicate that arts education enhances students' respect for the cultures, belief systems, and values of their fellow learners."

Our children deserve the best education we can give them. It must always include the arts. In closing, a quote from the National Education Association: "On Self-Discipline — Joyous as it may be, the act of creating art demands enormous self-discipline that teaches students to learn how to handle frustration and failure in pursuit of their ideas. It requires setting goals, selecting a strategy, determining how to apply it, and continually making assessments and revisions — in other words, thinking and solving problems. It is the human mind operating at its very best."

YAA CALENDAR OF EVENTS:

• through March 16 — Annual Youth Art Show featuring the works of Yankton Middle School students at the G.A.R. Hall Art Gallery;

• March 1 — Yankton Area Arts Summer Festival Arts application deadline, 1-3 p.m.; open to the public;

• March 19-April 27 — Aerial Imagery featuring the works of David Tunge.

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. on 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 665-9754.

THE BOOKWORM

'Mr. Shivers' Lives Up To Its Creepy Name

"Mr. Shivers" by Robert Jackson Bennett; © 2010, Orbit; \$19.99; 336 pages

BY TERRI SCHLICHENMEYER

You swore you'd never do it. But you did. In your mind, there was a line you'd never cross. Something you wouldn't or couldn't do. An act. A purchase. A relationship, or something you couldn't abide. It wasn't for you and you weren't doing it, so there.

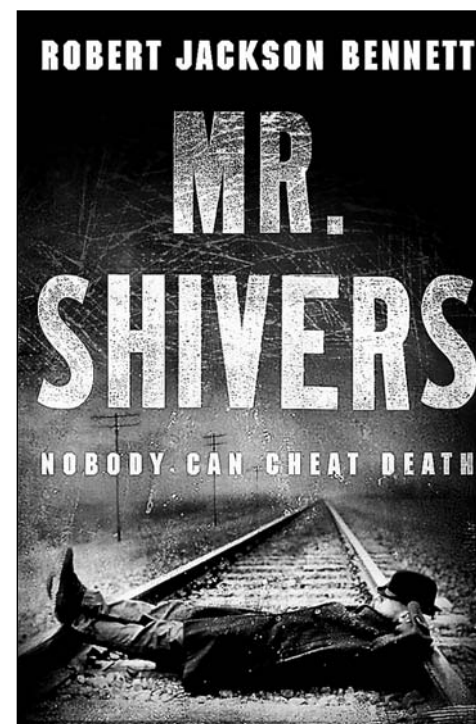
Then you did it, and you ended up eating those famous last words.

What does it take for a person to do something he never imagined himself doing? In the new book "Mr. Shivers" by Robert Jackson Bennett, it took the loss of his child for Marcus Connelly to chase evil.

Word was that nobody was going west, yet jalopies headed that way all the time, filled with people in search of a job or a new start. Walking was slow, jumping a train was dangerous, but it was always possible to hitch a ride with a friendly stranger. It was the Great Depression, and it seemed like everybody was going somewhere.

Marcus Connelly was going after the gray man.

Not long ago, Connelly was a husband, a father, and happy. Then the gray man killed his little girl, his Molly, and Connelly could hardly stand to live. He vowed that the gray man with the tattered coat and the stench, the one they called Shiver-Man, would pay. But it wasn't going to be easy. No matter



them snatched Connelly and his comrades, imprisoned them and hurt them bad. Escaping from a horrifying jail, Connelly realized two things: Shiver-Man was afraid of Connelly.

And Mr. Shivers wasn't going to go down without a fight. The hunter was suddenly the hunted.

As Connelly passed from Oklahoma to New Mexico (or was he in Colorado?), he knew that the Shiver-Man was watching but there was no way Connelly stop his mission. Because the question remained: can someone kill death?

Set in the Dust Bowl years (yet slightly futuristic), "Mr. Shivers" lives up to its name — if, that is, you can keep your focus on the novel and ignore the near-Shakespearean prose that overpopulates its pages.

Author Robert Jackson Bennett makes readers of this thriller uneasy almost from the outset, so squirmy are the situations in which his characters must pass. I liked how Connelly, a decent man before his daughter's death, becomes a monster despite himself and it's hard waiting for the inevitable nastiness to happen to him.

But wait you must, as you slog through monologues that are in stout need of an axe. I truly enjoyed this story but I could have withstood way less verbosity.

Still, for a debut novel, "Mr. Shivers" ain't bad. If you want to read an unsettling (albeit wordy) tale that will have you checking behind doors and avoiding dark rooms, do it with this one.

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