

USD Business Program Earns Praise

VERMILLION — The Beacom School of Business at the University of South Dakota is one of the nation's best when it comes to online graduate business programming, according to rankings released today by *U.S. News and World Report*.

In the publication's "2014 Best Online Graduate Business Programs," USD's online M.B.A. program ranks 27th nationally among 172 institutions listed in the category. USD topped online graduate business programs offered by Lehigh University, the Whitman School of Management at Syracuse University, Florida State University and the Jenkins Graduate School of Management at North Carolina State University.

Criteria for selecting the top online graduate business programs are based on several topics, including student engagement, admissions selectivity, peer reputation, faculty credentials and training, and student services and technology. *U.S. News and World Report* surveyed 239 schools with online programs. Final rankings were determined from statistical information collected from institutional survey responses.

"The Beacom School of Business and our outstanding online graduate programs provide an affordable and convenient delivery method for students," said Michael J. Keller, dean of the Beacom School of Business. "It's easy to see why USD's online M.B.A. is a real value thanks to recognition from *U.S. News and World Report*. It's also a high quality degree that's well regarded by the business and academic communities."

For more information about the "2014 Best Online Graduate Business Programs" or to view the rankings online, visit: www.usnews.com/education/online-education/.

Dept. Of Revenue Unveils New Website

PIERRE — The South Dakota Department of Revenue has announced the launch of its new website.

Department Secretary Andy Gerlach says the new look is designed to be more user-friendly and provide the relevant information from the department.

"Our new website highlights our e-Services and forms that are popular with the taxpayers," said Gerlach. "The new calendar will note dates for filing and paying taxes, education and training opportunities, and other deadlines important to those we serve."

Website visitors can access division information, department statistics, publications and other valuable resources.

To view the website, visit <http://dor.sd.gov>.

Robinson Named December Volunteer Of The Month

Many Yanktonians recognize Pat Robinson's. You may know her as the smiling face and kind voice at Hy-Vee's customer service desk, or from her many years volunteering with Avera Sacred Heart School as well as with area schools.

However, her largest volunteer role is as a modern-day Mrs. Claus to many in need during the Christmas Holiday.

United Way & Volunteer Services recognizes Robinson as December's Volunteer of the Month.

Toys For Kids (TFK) grew out of a toy-giveaway program initiated by Robinson Motors which partnered with Head Start families. In 2004 the program grew to include area children from low-income families, TFK has helped to provide Christmas presents for more than 2,000 children from approximately 900 families.

Pat turns a small space in the Yankton Mall into Santa's workshop each year where she and her "elves" collect, organize, wrap and distribute hundreds of gifts. During the month of December, Robinson is blessed to see first-hand the wonder of the holiday season. Generous givers joyfully donate



SUBMITTED PHOTO
The Yankton Area United Way & Volunteer Services has recognized Pat Robinson as its December's Volunteer of the Month.

toys, books and games of all sorts with a visibly warmed heart, and humble parents tearfully receive presents that they wouldn't have been able to provide on their own.

Thank you to Pat Robinson for her time and talents spent making Toys For Kids successful year after year!

For more information on volunteering, or to nominate a Volunteer of the Month, please contact United Way & Volunteer Services of Greater Yankton at 605-665-6766 or volunteer@iw.net.

Visa Added As Payment Option For Automated Motor Vehicle Registration Renewal

PIERRE — The state Department of Revenue, Division of Motor Vehicles announces that Visa has been added to the payment options for motor vehicle registration renewals completed online or through a self-service terminal.

"I am excited to offer Visa in our payment options," said Hillmer. "This will allow more vehicle owners the option to use our automated registration renewal options that were not able to in the past."

For both the online renewal and the self-service terminals, acceptable forms of payment include electronic check, debit or credit cards (Visa, MasterCard or Discover).

For online motor vehicle registration renewals completed through SDcars.org, the vehicle registration and license renewal tags are mailed to the vehicle owner. Motor vehicle registration renewal self-service terminals dispense the vehicle registration and license renewal tags directly from the machine.

Registration fees and a service fee apply for online and self-service terminal renewal. The service fee is \$1.50 per electronic check or 2.25 percent of the transaction total for payments made by credit or debit card. Customers who renew online

will also be charged mailing fees.

A vehicle owner can renew their vehicle registration through the automated options up to 90 days prior and 30 days after the expiration of their current license tags.

Motor vehicle registration renewal terminals are available in: Kessler's in Aberdeen; the County Fair Food Store in Mitchell; the Public Safety Building on Kansas City Street and the Rushmore Mall in Rapid City; the Department of Revenue Pierre Office at 445 E. Capitol Ave.; the Get-N-Go at 5400 E. Arrowhead Parkway and the Hy-Vee Food Store on 49th and Louise in Sioux Falls; and the Hy-Vee Food Stores in Brookings, Watertown and Yankton. Vehicle owners from any county can use the terminal with the proper identification.

In addition to the online internet renewal and renewal by self-service terminal, the regular option of renewing in person or by mail at the county Treasurer's Office is also available.

For more information on vehicle registration renewals, contact the South Dakota Division of Motor Vehicles at 605-773-3541 or visit the Motor Vehicles section on the department's website at <http://dor.sd.gov> or www.SDcars.org/.

Marijuana

From Page 1

surrounding legalization have led to mixed messages on the drug itself.

The mixed message is reflected in how the state has voted on the issue in the past. The last effort to go to ballot, Measure 13 in 2010, lost with only 37 percent of voters in favor of the proposal. A similar measure in 2006 managed to garner 48 percent support.

In a 2010 interview with KSFY, South Dakota attorney general Marty Jackley said he did not support the measure due to past experience with enforcement.

"I do not support it," Jackley said. "The reason is based upon, I believe, my history of being a drug prosecutor in western South Dakota and then a U.S. attorney, and now serving as the attorney general. I've witnessed some of the concerns that come about by the use of marijuana."

Despite the setback,

Reistroffer has continued advocacy as late as last year's legislative session and said he's seen a shift in momentum with laws and attitudes changing across the country.

"I lobbied in the last session for a medical marijuana bill (titled the Medical Necessity Defense Bill) and we had some pretty good sponsors," Reistroffer said. "I was very pleased because, in the past, we'd find someone who would bring up a bill, it would get some discussion and then be pulled out of committee with just a couple votes."

There weren't a lot of legislators that were really willing to look at this issue outside the context of prohibition. We've come a long ways in that sense because last year, the bill lost by just one vote in the committee."

Reistroffer said a lack of common ground has stymied legalization efforts within the state.

"There really has been a struggle with what type of proposal would work in South Dakota and what we can really find the most common ground on," he said. "We definitely cannot legal-

ize marijuana like Colorado has ... It's a really difficult challenge, but I know the momentum's on our side overall."

Reistroffer said some of the confusion arises from a need for more understanding on the subject of what legalization is and how users are viewed in society.

"There is an issue to be dealt with and that's with the education and responsibility which effects all ends of the spectrum," he said. "Within the movement to legalize marijuana, there's a range of ideas of how to legalize it and what legalization actually means. I think we need to approach it with a fusion model of what we've learned regulating other substances."

Reistroffer cited examples of the tobacco industry and how resources have been allocated into education in order to clear the message on the substance.

"With tobacco, we've prohibited advertising (on television) and put a lot more money in education and the helpline and other preventative measures," he said. "We

could do that with marijuana. There should not be billboards or mass commercialization."

He added the ultimate goal of legalization is to take power out of the black market and free up law enforcement resources to focus on other issues.

"The idea is to end the violence and end the black market that's worth billions of dollars, and take that power away from criminals and empower law enforcement to go after violent crime and make the community safer," he said. "What we've been doing is stigmatizing drug use and teaching our children that we have to punish (users), and that approach has not worked. What we are learning is destigmatizing drug use and telling those people, 'You're not a bad person, but you need help, and we're going to get you all the help you need,' and that approach is actually working."

"The messaging issue comes down to personal responsibility — people who use marijuana need to be responsible and they need to

be smart — and generally speaking, there's far less issues with that than there is with alcohol, where we have serious issues with personal responsibility and addiction."

Reistroffer said the message ultimately ought to be centered around responsibility — but not lose focus of the goal.

"We should stand by our values, and parents should teach their kids to stay sober and stay away from peer pressure and negative influences," he said. "But I don't think parents should lose sight of what the goal really is. If we want to get serious about this, we're going to treat addiction as a disease, we're going to empower our police to use their time more effectively, we're going to improve the way we rehabilitate people and we're going to restructure how we talk about the issue. Everything we've been trying for longer than I've been alive hasn't worked."

Reistroffer said he expects to have a draft for a bill dealing with legalization of industrial hemp submitted

to the Legislature by the end of the month.

You can follow Rob Nielsen on Twitter at twitter.com/RobNielsenPandD/. Discuss this story at www.yankton.net/

Honoring Their Memory

Our Thoughts And Prayers Are With Them

Our care and concern does not end with the funeral service. This week we remember with family and friends the anniversary of the deaths of:

Wanda Miller
who passed away on
January 13, 2013

Joseph Yaggie
who passed away on
January 14, 2013

Ronald Jones
who passed away on
January 18, 2013

Dorothy Metz
who passed away on
January 19, 2013

Maynard Hofer
who passed away on
January 11, 2010

Maren Beck
who passed away on
January 10, 1981

This remembrance is brought to you free of charge. If you have a loved one you would like remembered, contact us at Opsahl-Kostel Funeral Home & Crematory.

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OBITUARIES

Robert Wentzlaff

Bob Wentzlaff, 84, of Yankton died on Jan. 11, 2014, at the Avera Yankton Care Center, his home the last four years. He was surrounded by the love of his family.

Visitation is 5-7 p.m. Tuesday, Jan. 14, at Opsahl-Kostel Funeral Home and Crematory, Yankton, with a rosary at 7 p.m. and a 7:30 p.m. Scripture Service.

Memorial Mass is at 11 a.m. Wednesday, Jan. 15, at Sacred Heart Catholic Church, Yankton, with the Rev. Mark Lichter officiating.

Viewing of the body will be at the visitation and wake service only. Burial of the cremated remains will be in the Sacred Heart Cemetery in Yankton. A time to embrace the family will be one hour prior to the Mass at the church.

LuAnn Jones

LuAnn Jones, 63, of Menominee, Neb., died Saturday, Jan. 11, 2014, at the Avera Sister James Care Center, Yankton.

Mass of Christian Burial is at 10:30 a.m. Thursday, Jan. 16, at St. Boniface Catholic Church, Menominee, with the Rev. David Fulton officiating. Burial will be in the parish cemetery.

Visitations begin at 4 p.m. Wednesday, Jan. 15, at St. Boniface Church, Menominee, with a wake service at 7 p.m. Visitations will resume

one hour prior to the service at the church.

The Opsahl-Kostel Funeral Home & Crematory, Yankton, is assisting with service details.

John 'Murph' Murray

John T. Murray, 56, of Mitchell died on Saturday, Jan. 11, 2014, at the Dougherty Hospice House in Sioux Falls.

Mass of Christian Burial is 11 a.m. Wednesday, Jan. 15, at Holy Trinity Catholic Church, Hartington, Neb., with the Rev. Jeffery Loseke officiating. Burial of his cremated remains will be at the St. Michael's Cemetery at a later date.

The family will receive

friends at church on Wednesday one hour prior to services.

Janet Shuff

Janet H. Shuff, 71, of Yankton died Saturday, Jan. 11, 2014, at Avera Sister James Care Center, Yankton.

Funeral services are at 2:30 p.m. Thursday, Jan. 16, at St. John's Lutheran Church, Yankton, with the Rev. Dave Gunderson officiating. Burial will be in the Mission Hill Cemetery, Mission Hill.

Visitations begin at 5 p.m. Wednesday, Jan. 15, at the Opsahl-Kostel Funeral Home and Crematory, Yankton, with the family present at 6 p.m. Visitations will resume one hour prior to the service at the church.

THOUGHTS For Your Family



Directors: Steve, Jerry, Jim & Paul Wintz

WINTZ & RAY

Funeral Home and Cremation Service, Inc.

WITH THE END IN SIGHT

Approaching death can pose great difficulty for families of terminal patients. Fortunately, hospice provides palliative care for patients with a life expectancy of approximately six months or less. This form of care trains its focus away from treatment toward meeting the daily needs and requirements of the dying and their families. One of the most important elements of hospice care is that it can take place in a patient's home, where the majority of terminal patients say they prefer to spend their remaining days. In this setting, the emotional needs of the dying can be met along with a wide range of services including doctor and nursing care, pain management, grief counseling, and social worker services.

We are extremely fortunate in Yankton to have exceptional people working in our hospice programs. Their genuine compassion and care for the dying and their families is remarkable. When it comes time for funeral arrangements, we feel we are simply an extension of their compassion and care to assist those families in creating meaningful funeral.

For more information, please feel free to call 605-665-3645 or stop by our funeral home located at 2901 Douglas Ave. Visit us at www.wintzrayfuneralhome.com.

"They say that in the second before our death, each of us understands the real reason for our existence, and out of that moment, Heaven or Hell is born."
Paulo Coelho

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