

# **New At The Library**

Here's what's new at the Yankton Community Library this week:

### **ADULT BOOKS**

- Crude Carrier by Rex Burns; Fiction
- Miracle Girls by MB Caschetta; Fiction

- Proof Angels by Mary Curran Hackett; Fiction
  Celtic Calligraphy by Kerry Richardson; Nonfiction
  Cooking Allergy-Free by Jenna Short; Nonfiction
  My Heart Is a Drunken Compass by Domingo Martinez; Nonfiction
  - **Really Happy!** by Jim Reese; Nonfiction
  - YOUNG ADULT BOOKS

  - Everyone Dies in the End by Brian Katcher; Fiction **JUNIOR BOOKS**
  - The Chicken Squad by Doreen Cronin; Fiction

### YCTC Auditions Set For 'Emperor'

The Yankton Children's Theatre Company will hold auditions for its production of "The Emperor's New Clothes' at 7 p.m. today (Friday) and Saturday, Jan. 17, at 407 Walnut, located above Czechers.

This production, which will be directed by Michael Schumacher, will run March 5-8 and 13-15 at the Dakota Theatre in downtown Yankton.

# 'Dolly Disco' Event At Vermillion Library

VERMILLION — Fans of country legend Dolly Parton, advocates of childhood literacy, and folks just looking for a good time will gather at the Vermillion National Guard Armory on Saturday, Jan. 17, from 5-8 p.m. for the first Dolly Disco to benefit United Way's Imagination Library program. The event will include rollerskating, Parton's music, and a costume contest for the best Dolly or Kenny Rogers look-a-like.

"Imagination Library is a program that provides a free book every month to children between birth and age five in the Vermillion area," explained United Way Executive Di-rector Kelsey Collier-Wise. "Since Dolly Parton created the program and her birthday is coming up, we thought it would be a fun way to raise money for the program."

Currently, more than 200 children are enrolled in the Imagination Library program funded through United Way of Vermillion, and nearly 500 have graduated. Studies have shown that participation in the program improves early childhood literacy.

'Putting books in kids' hands, at no cost, is such an extraordinary gift. In this age of technology there is something so special about sitting with a child and reading a book. Pointing to the words as they learn to read and spending quality time together," said event organizer and Spa at Wynie Mae's owner Bekki Engquist-Schroeder. "If you like to laugh and have fun while doing something re-ally amazing then we will see you at the Dolly Disco!"

# It's 'Toy Story' Weekend At Library

Join the staff at the Yankton Community Library, 515 Walnut Street, for a "Toy Story" movie marathon on Saturday and Sunday, Jan. 17-18.

The fun starts on Saturday, Jan. 17, at 10 a.m. with "Toy Story," where moviegoers meet Woody, Buzz Lightyear and a host of toys who come alive while their owner is away. This movie is filled with humor, heart and friendship. At 2 p.m., that same day, "Toy Story 2" introduces us to Jessie and Bullseye and shows us what being a friend is all about.

The trilogy concludes on Sunday, Jan. at 18, 2 p.m. with "Toy Story 3": "As Andy prepares to depart for college, Woody, Buzz, Jessie and the rest of Andy's faithful toys wonder what will become of them. But, when a mix-up lands them at Sunnyside Daycare, they meet a host of new toys and soon discover a wild new adventure is just beginning!

All movies are free of charge. For more information, contact the library at 668-5276.

### YCC To Perform In Yankton Sunday

# The Bookworm ... For Kids Add This Book To Your 'List'

"A List of Things That Didn't Kill Me" by Jason Schmidt; © 2015, Farrar, Straus & Giroux; 432 pages

### **BY TERRI SCHLICHENMEYER**

Your people understand you. That's because you speak the same language, dance to the same music and wear the same uniform. You might not be related by blood or ceremony, but you belong to them and they to you. You're family but, as you'll see in the new book "A List of Things That Didn't Kill Me" by Jason Schmidt, they won't always catch you when you fall.

Killing his father would have been simple.

Jason Schmidt knew he could smother his dad or overdose him and nobody would ever suspect. His father had been sick awhile anyhow and if he died, nobody would look twice, although Schmidt sensed he'd regret it.

He didn't need any more regrets in his life

Born in the early '70s, Schmidt remembers being a self-sufficient child: his earliest memory was leaving his mother's house (at age three) to ride a mile on his tricycle to his father's place.

That was just before his parents battled, his mother left for good, his father "got busted," and Schmidt was sent to Southern California to temporarily live with his grandparents, who shipped him to Oregon when his father got out of jail.



There, Schmidt and his dad lived in a series of "leftover" houses with a variety of "flower children, baby boomers" and hippies who taught Schmidt about sex, drugs and avoiding outsiders.

When he was seven, he and his father relocated to Seattle, where they moved in with his dad's boyfriend — thus, Schmidt learned that his father was gay. Three years later, another boyfriend got sick with a "weird fever" and then Schmidt's father "came down with the same bug."

Schmidt pretended to cry when the diagnosis of AIDS was confirmed.

By the beginning of his senior year, Schmidt — whose school attendance was spotty, at best - had nonetheless caught up with his peers. He had a girlfriend, an understanding of welfare fraud, a high IQ, anger issues and a dying father — but no stability, money, or plan for the future. He was 16, just barely holding things together, and he couldn't even think of what would happen when he graduated.

And then a "nice old man," an angel with cleaning supplies, stepped into his life

The best way I can describe "A List of Things That Didn't Kill Me" is to say that it's a large book.

I'm not just talking page count: beginning with his earliest memory and moving forward to young adulthood, author Jason Schmidt shares a powerful, emotional coming-of-age tale of an unstable childhood, of the beginning of AIDS and of people purposely living on the edge of society with little to nothing, all told in a voice dripping with sarcasm, irony and anger.

That voice. That's what hooked me. I laughed. I got teary. I loved it.

Though this book is meant for teens, I think it's better-suited for readers ages 16 and up, due to adult language and themes. If you can handle that, then "A List of Things that Didn't Kill Me" is one you'll be glad you didn't miss.

# **USD Chamber Singers Score 'Honored Artists' Declaration From American Prize**

VERMILLION - The University of South Dakota Chamber Singers, under the direction of David Holdhusen, Ph.D., director of choral activities at USD and Chamber Singers' conductor, has been selected as Honored Artists in The American Prize in Choral Performance (college/university chorus division). "Honored Artists" are individuals or organizations who have proven themselves to be of 'sustained excellence" over a number of seasons as contest-

The American Prize is a series of new, non-profit, national competitions designed to recognize and reward the very best in the performing arts in the United States. The American Prize was founded in 2009 and has been awarded annually in many areas of the performing arts since in 2010. The American Prize was founded from the belief that a great deal of excellent music being made in this country goes unrecognized and unheralded, not only in major cities



ored Artists' by The American

Prize as one of the outstanding choirs in the country is truly exciting and extremely rewarding, especially for our students who have worked very hard and dedicated much of their time to the Chamber Singers," said Holdhusen, who says this recognition speaks volumes to the musicianship and artistry of the choir. "This

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is a great way to share our musical message with audiences in 2015."

Chambers Singers, the premiere vocal ensemble at the University of South Dakota, is comprised of graduate and undergraduate students selected through audition from the entire university student body. Its repertoire, which is primarily a cappella, includes music from the Renaissance to the present in a wide variety of styles. The ensemble presents formal concerts on campus each semester and has foured throughout the United States and Europe. The Chamber Singers are one of two choruses selected as Honored Artists of The American Prize 2014. The other is "Re-choired Element" Chamber Choir of Linn-Benton Community College (Albany, Ore.).

The American Prize is administered by Hat City Music Theater, Inc., a 501(c)3 nonprofit performing arts organization based in Danbury, Connecticut.

### media. But I think that is se- downright creepy sound-Academy iviovies verely underestimating the

# ants in the competitions.

but all across the country: in schools and churches, in colleges and universities, and by community and professional musicians. Finalists for The American Prize receive professional adjudication and regional, national and

international recognition based on submitted recordings of their performances. 'To be recognized as 'Hon-

track in transporting my mind into this universe cannot be understated. By showing us what it's like to be an alien in a human's clothing, "Under the Skin" shows us what it means to be human on a very functional level. This is not only a movie of the year, it's quite possibly a movie of the decade.

Yankton Children's Choir, Ensemble-In-Residence at Mount Marty College, will present its winter concert, under the direction of Angela Larson, choral director, and Dixie Church, accompanist, on Sunday, Jan. 18, at 2 p.m. at Riverview Reformed Church. The concert is open to the public with refreshments to follow. Donations welcome.

If you have any questions about Yankton Children's Choir and its schedule, you can contact Executive Director Dot Stoll, Yankton Children's Choir, P.O. Box 409, Yankton, SD 57078 or 605-660-1819.

This season, the Children's Choir consists of the following 43 young singers, grades 3-8 with unchanged voices: Dharian Ahrens, Dakota Barnes, Tyler Baue, Leah Bloomquist, Amalee Boese-Rahm, Bradley Clark, Ellie Clark, Rachel Clark, Sarah Clark, Chloe Denney, Jillian Eidsness, Madelyn Eidsness, Elizabeth Elsen, Annika Gordon, Tori Hansen, Kieran Harrell, Corrigan Johnke, Holly Johnson, Joseph Johnson, Gavin Kafka, Lauren Kafka, Ally Klimisch, Paul Koenigs, Tony McGlone, Hailey Oswald. Britta Pietila, Lizzy Riley, Maggie Schaefer, Leila Schumacher, Sydnee Serck, Emily Shuey, Ellyanna Slattery, Abbie Sloan, Daryan Stoebner, Abby Tally, Ryan Trail, Eliana Vondracek, Taleva Walters, Blake Wieseler, Aurora Wilbur, Jaidyn Wishon, Korbin Yaggie and Jennica Young.

# VHS One-Act Play Presented Jan. 23

VERMILLION - Vermillion High School students will present a one-act cutting of Reed Martin & Austin Tichenor's play, "The Complete World of Sports (Abridged)." This fast paced comedy takes a satiric look at people's obsession with sports. It parodies the ESPN-style television coverage while poking fun at individual sports and celebrities.

This 40-minute presentation can be seen for one night only on the Vermillion High School stage: Friday, Jan. 23, at 7:30 p.m. Admission is free.

## Musicians Set To Perform At NMM

VERMILLION - Award-winning violinist Jeri Jorgensen and New York fortepianist Cullan Bryant will perform at a National Music Museum's "NMM Live!" event at 7 p.m. Thursday, Jan. 29, at the museum in Vermillion.

They will also perform at 12:05 p.m. Friday, Jan. 30, at the museum. Attendees are invited to bring a lunch and enjoy the music.

Jorgensen and Bryant will perform works by Beethoven, Mozart and more. Jorgensen plays a 1705 G.B. Rogeri violin.

For the Thursday performance, there is a general admission, but the event is free for University of South Dakota students and NMM members-with-benefits.

The Friday performance is free.

For more information, visit www.nmmusd.org /.

## 'Her Voice' Seeks Freelance Writers

The Press & Dakotan is seeking freelance writers for our women's magazine, "Her Voice."

The position requires you to generate compelling ideas appropriate for "Her Voice" and its audience, conduct interviews and write feature-length stories. This is not a staff position so you must have your own equipment.

If interested, submit 2-3 story ideas, at least two writing samples and contact information to: Micki Schievelbein, 319 Walnut St., Yankton, SD 57078 or e-mail to micki.schievelbein@yankton.net/.

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catcher"; Wes Anderson (screenplay) and story by Wes Anderson and Hugo Guinness, "The Grand Budapest Hotel"; Dan Gilroy, "Nightcrawlei

10. Animated feature film: "Big Hero 6"; "The Boxtrolls"; "How to Train Your Dragon 2"; "Song of the Sea"; "The Tale of the Princess

Kaguya." 11. Production design: "The Grand Budapest Hotel"; "The Imitation Game"; "Interstellar"; "Into the Woods"; "Mr. Turner."

12. Cinematography: "Birdman or (The Unexpected Virtue of Ignorance)"; "The Grand Budapest Hotel"; "Ida"; "Mr. Turner"; "Unbroken.

13. Sound mixing: "American Sniper"; "Birdman or (The Unex-pected Virtue of Ignorance)"; "Inter-stellar"; "Unbroken"; "Whiplash."

14. Sound editing: "American Sniper"; "Birdman or (The Unex-pected Virtue of Ignorance)"; "The Hobbit: The Battle of the Five Armies"; "Interstellar"; "Unbroken."

**15. Original score:** "The Grand Budapest Hotel"; "The Imitation Game"; "Interstellar"; "Mr. Turner"; The Theory of Everything.

16. Original song: "Everything Is Awesome" from "The Lego Movie"; "Glory" from "Selma" "Grateful" from "Beyond the Lights"; "I'm Not Gonna Miss You" from "Glen Campbell ... I'll Be Me""; "Lost Stars" from "Begin Again.'

17. Costume design: "The Grand Budapest Hotel"; "Inherent Vice"; "Into the Woods"; "Maleficent"; "Mr. Turner."

18. Documentary feature: "CitizenFour": "Finding Vivian Maier' "Last Days in Vietnam"; "The Salt of the Earth"; "Virunga."

19. Documentary (short sub-ject): "Crisis Hotline: Veterans Press Úoanna"; "Our Curse"; "The Reaper (La Parka)"; "White Earth."

20. Film editing: "American Sniper"; "Boyhood"; "The Grand Budapest Hotel"; "The Imitation

Game"; "Whiplash." 21. Makeup and hairstyling: "Foxcatcher"; "The Grand Budapest Hotel"; "Guardians of the Galaxy."

22. Animated short film: "The Bigger Picture"; "The Dam Keeper"; "Feast"; "Me and My Moulton"; "A Single Life."

23. Live action short film: "Aya"; "Boogaloo and Graham"; "Butter Lamp (La Lampe Au Beurre De Yak)"; "Parvaneh"; "The Phone Call.

24. Visual effects: "Captain America: The Winter Soldier"; "Dawn of the Planet of the Apes"; "Guardians of the Galaxy"; "Interstellar"; "X-Men: Days of Future Past.

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his career without the use of a mask and costume. The film is a reflection on the creative impulse and the feelings of self-doubt that so often accompany it. Edward Norton is great, too, as an indulgent, unpredictable actor.

### **3. ONLY LOVERS LEFT ALIVE**

Do you sometimes feel like a vampire who has lived for centuries and has become bored with the petty pursuits of humanity? If so, this is the film for you. Jim Jarmusch's 'Only Lovers Left Alive" is the best thing the iconic director has made in a long time, and it is damn cool. I mean, James Dean and Marilyn Monroe in the 1950s cool. Except it has a lot more brains than those now ubiquitous pinup posters. The devotion to art and human creation expressed in the film is exhilarating, as is its expression of frustration and disappointment in where the human race has landed.

### 2. NIGHTCRAWLER

"Nightcrawler" is about an entrepreneurial young man on its surface, and many people are tempted to see it as a critique of a bloodthirsty and craven

palette of this film. To me, 'Nightcrawler" is a condemnation of the inhumanity of capitalism. Look at the United States and its total devotion to the religion of hustling. We live in a society where almost all human interaction and activities have been reduced to a dollar value. Lou Bloom is the coyote who comes in from the hills surrounding Los Angeles to scavenge the city for sustenance. He is America a place where we've almost universally chosen to judge each human being's worth on his or her ability to earn money doing whatever task necessary. The more disregard you show to your fellow human beings in the pure pursuit of the almighty dollar, the bigger hero you can become in the cathedrals of American thought. Oh, I'm sorry. I thought you were reading this for my political rants. On to number one ...

### **1. UNDER THE SKIN**

With shades of such cinematic luminaries as David Cronenberg and Stanley Kubrick, as well as director Jonathan Glazer's utter determination not to hand things down to the audience, I was mesmerized by this film from its opening scene to its last. The role of Mica Levi's hypnotic, alien and

Honorable mentions for 2014 include: "Inherent Vice," "Selma," "Ida," "Happy Christmas," "Stranger by the Lake," "A Trip to Italy," "It Felt Like Love," "Dear White People," "Obvious Child," "Guardians of the Galaxy," "The Babadook," "Locke," "Starred Up," "A Most Wanted Man," "The Drop," "Edge of Tomorrow," "Cal-vary," "Frank," "Wild," "A Field in England," "Top 5," "The Congress" and "Listen Up, Phillip." That's a lot of good film watching.

Best documentaries I saw? "Pulp: A Film About Life, Death & Supermarkets;" "Gore Vidal: The United States of Amnesia;" "The Missing Picture;" "Whitev: The United States of America vs. James J. Bulger;" "Happy Valley" and "20,000 Days on Earth."

Most overrated film I saw in 2014? "American Sniper." It was much too simplistic for my taste.

