

Week Three Of Summer Reading Program

One World, Many Stories is the theme for the summer reading program at the Yankton Community Library, 515 Walnut. Summer readers head to Africa the week of June 20 as we continue to explore the globe through stories, songs, and games.

Learning about the Swahili language and playing African games will fill our time from 1-2 p.m. on Wednesday, June 22. We'll tune into the PBS website to help us learn this language that is new to most of us.

Thursday, June 23, our art project will be making African masks. Join us at 1 p.m. as we look at the interesting items from Africa brought in by Lynn Thieman.

Friday's fun activity will be the first of two Lego Contests we will be host. Bring your Legos to the library from 1-2 p.m. and create a real or imaginary animal. The Lego creations will be on display in the library for one week.

Story time, for children ages 2 and up, meets Mondays at 6:30 p.m. and Tuesdays, Wednesdays and Thursdays at 10:15 a.m. Each story time features different stories and crafts.

Invitational Swim Meet Set For June 24, 25

The Yankton Swim Team will host its Annual Invitational Swim Meet on June 24 and 25, 2011 at the Memorial Park Municipal Pool. Due to the swim meet, the pool will be closed to the public starting at noon on Friday, June 24 and Saturday afternoon, June 25. Memorial Pool will re-open to the public on Saturday, June 25 starting at 5:00 p.m.

To accommodate recreational swimmers, the Summit Activity Center pool will be available for open swim from 1:00-5:00pm and from 6:30-8:30pm on Friday, June 24 and from 1-5 p.m. on Saturday, June 25.

For further information, please call 668-5234 or stop by the Summit Activities Center at 1801 Summit Street, Yankton. Remember to follow the Yankton Parks and Recreation on our Facebook Page.

Karolevitz

From Page 1

ing to church more often."

Sister Ann taught history at Mount Marty College in Yankton. She marveled at Karolevitz's personal touch and his ability to make history come alive for so many people.

Sister Ann was also in awe at the thoroughness of his research, with the assistance of his wife, Phyllis.

"Bob left a tremendous legacy, not only for those interested in history," she said. "He didn't just use a bunch of facts. The people were real in his books."

Karolevitz served on the South Dakota Historical Society board, and Sister Ann received the society's award for her history of the Benedictine Sisters. They appeared together on a radio program discussing his book on Bishop Martin Marty.

Despite his reputation for writing history, Karolevitz didn't see himself in that light.

"Bob always said, 'Sister Ann, I'm not a historian, I'm just a writer,'" the nun said. "I said, 'But Bob, you write about history!' And he said, 'But Sister, I don't use footnotes!'"

"He was an outstanding historian, even if he didn't use footnotes," Sister Ann said with a laugh.

Karolevitz's popularity was evident by the number of readers who sought an autographed copy of his work, Sister Ann said.

"Bob wrote for the popular audience," she said. "He was very interesting, and he wrote extremely well. He was a brilliant man, and this is a great loss."

While known as a writer and historian, Karolevitz also played a cru-

cial role in the state's health care, said Mike Healy, the Avera Sacred Heart Hospital vice president of finance from 1968-2009.

Karolevitz was one of the hospital's first lay board members in the 1970s. During that time, final decisions were made on construction of the current hospital facilities and acute care services.

He played a key role in working with the Legislature in the mid-1970s when the University of South Dakota Medical School expanded from a two-year to a four-year program, Healy said.

Karolevitz also helped develop the regional concept for delivering health care, years before the rest of the nation, Healy said. And Karolevitz helped develop the current ASHH Foundation to fund medical services.

"Bob had the ability not only to generate ideas, but also the written and speaking talents to work with many stakeholders to ensure success," Healy said. "Bob effectively brought consensus in meetings where differences of opinions many times prevailed."

**"A GREAT GUY"**

Karolevitz's talents also inspired generations of journalists, including Brian Hunhoff of Yankton.

Hunhoff was just starting his award-winning journalism career with the *Observer* weekly newspaper when he met Karolevitz.

"Bob Karolevitz was an exceptionally nice man. The first time I met him was in the late 1970s — I had just turned age 19," Hunhoff said. "My plan was to interview Bob out at his farm for an *Observer* feature story on his career. This was going to my FIRST interview as a 'newspaper man,' so I was naturally a bit

City To Look At Paperless Options

BY NATHAN JOHNSON  
nathan.johnson@yankton.net

Yankton City Manager Doug Russell unveiled efforts that he hopes will make municipal government more efficient, transparent and less costly during a 2012 budget workshop Monday night.

Among the measures being considered are making the budget more understandable, digitizing documents to make them more accessible and going paperless in some areas.

Russell pointed out that the City Commission spent approximately \$7,200 on printing out agendas and other documents in 2010.

"We're looking at going with the paperless initiative with our agenda process," he said.

That would require an upfront cost of about \$10,000 for iPads for the commission, software and the accompanying subscriptions, according to Russell. There would also be approximately \$1,500 in annual ongoing costs. However, he said the city would realize about \$9,000 annually in savings because of cuts in labor and printing costs.

Several commissioners provided verbal support for the idea, and none voiced opposition.

"I prefer (going paperless) over a packet," Mayor David Knoff said.

Russell said he and information services manager Duane Johnson would experiment with the process before committing to it fully.

"We wouldn't be the first ones ever to go paperless, but it would be quite a jump," he stated. "We'll start that process rather quickly."

Russell said he also wants to expand upon the traditional line-item budget to include what the city hopes to accomplish with each investment.

"So instead of saying in 2011 we're going to replace light bulbs at Memorial Park, we would have the actual outcome we're intending to get," he stated. Those goals would be improving safety and the functionality of Memorial Park, Russell continued.

"That way, during the budget workshops, you can see what we are getting for the investment," he said.

In other business, Commissioner David Carda asked if the city should continue organizing a music festival similar to the one held for the 150th anniversary celebration.

"There are enough people in the community, I think, who would want to do something like that," he said. "(Memorial Park) is the perfect location for it. I think it would be good to look at doing it again next year."

The city budgeted about \$140,000 in 2011 for getting bands, advertising and other activities planned to mark the historic occasion.

"I don't have anything planned for it, but that's where you guys come in," Russell said. "Do you want to do it again?"

Commissioner Craig Sommer said he heard many people say it would be a good event for the city to hold annually as a kickoff to the summer.

"I think it would be more feasible for the city to do it for one day (rather than two)," he said. "Maybe get five bands for one day. It would cut your costs a lot."

The commission agreed to discuss the issue further during future budget sessions.

nervous and flying by the seat of my pants."

Karolevitz quickly put the new reporter at ease.

"In 30 minutes, I had completely filled up my little notebook with his quotes, but I still had lots of questions left!" Hunhoff said. "So I continued writing down every word Bob was speaking on the backs of envelopes, post-it notes and any other scraps of paper we could find in Phyllis' kitchen."

The interview continued to flow far beyond Hunhoff's expectations.

"When my cache of questions finally ran dry, I gathered up a pile of notes that surely looked like a scribbled mess to Bob, but he did not judge or criticize," Hunhoff said.

"He just kept treating me like I worked for the Washington Post, and (he) later sent us a nice note saying the story turned out well. It also opened up a line of communication with Bob that eventually led to him becoming our star columnist for 30 years."

Hunhoff enjoyed seeing Karolevitz deliver his column each week. "He was always smiling, and he usually had an encouraging word, or an Ole joke or a political comment to share."

Karolevitz will be remembered as more than a gifted writer, Hunhoff said.

"He was a talented author and columnist and humorist, but that is not what I will remember first about Bob Karolevitz," Hunhoff said. "The first words that come to my mind when remembering this classy gentleman are, 'Great guy.'"

"That's how (Yankton native and former NBC News anchor) Tom Brokaw described (Karolevitz) to me on one of his visits to Yankton, and I think that sums it up — 'Great guy.'"

Karolevitz's impact was felt across the region and state, including his colleagues at small-town weekly newspapers.

*Freeman Courier* publisher Tim L. Waltner first met Karolevitz when the columnist came into Pine Hill Printery in Freeman in the late 1970s.

Glenn Gering's book printing company was printing one of Karolevitz's books, and Waltner was editor of the *Courier* that Gering published out of the same building.

"I confess to having been somewhat in awe of Bob initially, given his credentials as a first-rate author and the fact that I was a young, green, small-town weekly newspaper editor ... and he was older than my own father," Waltner said.

"But I quickly learned just how gracious and down-to-earth he was. And as Bob continued to stop in at Pine Hill Printery periodically in the months and years that followed, we began a friendship that would grow and last a lifetime."

Waltner said he was honored when Karolevitz asked him to review some of his copy for *With A Shirt Tail Full Of Type*, his history of South Dakota newspaper published in 1982.

"I overwhelmed when he included my name in his acknowledgments at the end of the book," Waltner said.

After purchasing the *Courier* in 1984, Waltner became more involved with the South Dakota Newspaper Association (SDNA) and developed a strong friendship with Karolevitz. Their families traveled and shared countless experiences in a variety of professional and social settings over the past three decades.

"As a journalist, I have a profound appreciation and deep respect for Bob's ability to tell a story," Walt-

ner said. "I appreciate his wonderful spirit, his consistency, his insights and the humor that made him so accessible to so many people."

"But, ultimately, it is Bob's genuine warmth that is at the heart of a wonderful, affirming and sustaining friendship that I will treasure all my life."

**TELLING THE STORY**

Karolevitz retained a lifelong pride in his journalism degree and his alma mater, South Dakota State University in Brookings.

Karolevitz was one of the first to be designated as a Distinguished Alumnus of the journalism department, said retired SDSU journalism professor Richard Lee. Karolevitz was also a Distinguished Alumnus of SDSU and held an honorary doctorate from the school.

"Bob was a marvelous researcher, historian and writer. And, he was a kind, gracious and fun human being," Lee said.

Keith Jensen and Karolevitz became friends through both SDSU and SDNA. Their association spanned 40 years, first when Jensen served as executive director of the SDSU Alumni Association and Karolevitz was the association's president.

Then, Jensen became SDNA manager while Karolevitz remained an active SDNA friend.

"Many people have mastered one or more skills, but few that I have ever known were as multi-faceted as Bob Karolevitz," Jensen said.

"His great writing skills, his terrific research capabilities, and his interest in, and sense of, history, were the reasons he was chosen by the South Dakota Newspaper Association to write a history of newspapering in South Dakota, *With A Shirt Tail*

*Full of Type*.

"That book helped in his selection by the National Newspaper Association to author *From Quill to Computer*, a history of America's community newspapers."

Karolevitz served as the witty master of ceremonies for the banquet at the annual SDNA convention until stepping down in the late 1990s. His patented "One Clap" remains a humorous tradition at the start of the banquet.

"As each (special guest and board member) was introduced, they got one simultaneous clap from the audience," Jensen said. "It was extremely successful, not only because it took less time, but it also saved on the wear and tear on the hands of the audience."

Much as the "One Clap" started the banquet, Karolevitz ended each banquet with the same humorous story about the proposed purchase of a chandelier for the Mission Hill First Norwegian Lutheran Church (not a misspelling).

"Ole Olson objected to the purchase because 'nobody in the church knows how to play one of the d... things, and what this church really needs is more light!'" Jensen said. "And while Bob may have wearied of telling (the story), the audience always wanted to hear it!"

The entire state has lost a friend with Karolevitz's passing, Jensen said.

"South Dakota was lucky (Karolevitz) chose to return to his home state (after living near Seattle)," Jensen said. "For my wife, Cherie, and I, our roots with Bob and Phyllis run deeper than our professional contact. They are more than friends — they are family. In our remaining lives, Bob will be sorely missed, but eternally remembered."

OBITUARIES

John Schuckman

CROFTON, Neb. — John J. Schuckman, age 84, of Crofton, NE, passed away on Sunday, June 19, 2011 at his residence. Services will be at 10:30 AM, Thursday, June 23, 2011 at Sacred Heart Catholic Church, Yankton, SD with Father Mark officiating. Visitation will be at 5:00 PM, Wednesday, June 22, 2011 at the Opsahl-Kostel Funeral Home and Crematory, Yankton, SD with a 7:00 PM Rosary followed by a 7:30 PM Scripture Service. Visitation will resume again one hour prior to the service at the church in Yankton, SD on Thursday. Burial will be approximately 3:00 PM in the St. Bonaventure Cemetery, Columbus, NE with Military Graveside Rites by the American Legion Hartman Post #84 Honor Guard of Columbus, NE.

John was born on July 16, 1927 to John and Elizabeth "Elise" (Boch) Schuckman, Sr. in Humphrey, NE. He attended grade and high school at St. Francis High School in Humphrey, graduating in 1945 and attended Kansas State College. John entered the U.S. Coast Guard in 1945 and served eighteen months in the Pacific Theatre of Operation, being Honorably Discharged in 1947 at the rank of RDM 3/c. Returning from the Service, he moved to Columbus in 1950 and married Marilyn Bogus on October 14, 1953 in Platte Center, NE. On February 1, 1961 he was employed by the Nebraska Game and Parks Commission as a Conservation Officer and moved to Bloomfield. John moved to Crofton, NE in 1962 and later moved near Gavins Point Dam in 1968 where he resided until the time of his death. John was the Conservation Officer in



Schuckman

the Gavins Point Dam area, including Knox and Cedar Counties, until his retirement from the Game and Parks on December 31, 1989.

He was a lifetime member of the VFW Post #3704, American Legion Post #84, both of Columbus, NE, lifetime member of the Military Order of Cooties, Columbus, NE and the Knights of Columbus, Yankton, SD and Hartington, NE. John was very proud of his military service to his country and 29 years as a Game Warden defending, promoting and conserving the natural resources of Northeast Nebraska. Many area residents and visitors knew him simply as "Big John". He was an avid waterfowl hunter throughout his life and enjoyed his fruit trees, gardening, wine making and traveling.

He is survived by his wife, Marilyn of rural Crofton, NE; three sons, John (Carol) Schuckman, Jr. of Laramie, WY, Jeff (Pattie) Schuckman of Norfolk, NE, Tim (Rhonda) of Broken Bow, NE; brother Alphonse Schuckman of Mt. Pleasant, MI and eight grandchildren. He was preceded in death by his parents and sisters Helen Schuckman and Rita Perkins.

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PSAHL-KOSTEL  
FUNERAL HOME & CREMATORY INC.  
Online condolences at:  
www.opsahl-kostelfuneralhome.com

Michael A. Sabella

NORTH ARLINGTON, N.J. — Michael A. Sabella, 62, of North Arlington, NJ died on Wednesday, June 15, 2011.

Beloved husband of Barbara (nee Soberg) Sabella. Devoted son of Dorothy and the late Michael A. Sabella. Dear brother of Douglas Anthony and his wife Debbie Sabella, Jacquelyn and her husband Dan Agius and the late James Anthony Sabella. Loving uncle of Angie, Mickey, Jimmy, Christine, Dougie, Chelsea, Danny, Jennifer, Tracey, Matt, Chris, Leslie, Allison, Gerry & Becky and all the next generation too! Also survived by many beloved extended family members. Mr. Sabella was a teacher, supervisor, principal and coach in the Lyndhurst school system for many years, retiring in 2004.

Michael graduated from Yankton College in 1971 with his teaching degree. He then taught in Menominee, Nebraska and was a member of the Yankton unit of the South Dakota National Guard.

Funeral services were held Saturday, June 18 at the Ippolito-Stellato Funeral Home, Lyndhurst, N.J.

In lieu of flowers donations may be made to Lyndhurst High School, Michael Sabella Memorial Scholarship, c/o Susan Long, 12 Marina Key, Secaucus, NJ 07094

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A.C. Kenyon Cull

A.C. Kenyon Cull, age 90, of Yankton, South Dakota died Tuesday, June 21, 2011 at Avera Sacred Heart Hospital in Yankton.

Arrangements are pending with the Wintz & Ray Funeral Home and Cremation Service in Yankton.

Robert Cooke

WAGNER — Robert Cooke, 51, of Wagner died Monday, June 20, 2011 at the Good Samaritan Society in Wagner. Funeral services are 2 p.m., Thursday at the YST Community Center in Wagner. Burial is in the Episcopal Cemetery in Greenwood. Wake services began Tuesday at the Community Center. Crosby-Jaeger Funeral Home in Wagner is in charge of arrangements.

Robert Van Why

VERMILLION — Robert "Bob" Everett Van Why, 74, of Vermillion passed away on Tuesday, June 21, 2011 at Sanford Vermillion Care Center.

Arrangements are pending

with Kober Funeral Home, Vermillion.

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