

COMMUNITY CONNECTIONS:

Organizations Share Noteworthy Information At Annual Meeting

BY PAM KETTERING

United Way & Volunteer Services of Greater Yankton

Last week we held the United Way & Volunteer Service of Great Yankton Annual Meeting. Ten of the agencies that receive funding from the United Way shared their past year's accomplishments.

Big Friend Little Friend Director Tina Young related that there are 78 Little Friends with 33 of them seeking a Big Friend. With just four hours of mentoring a month they are positively impacted with the way that they feel about themselves and in the choices that they make.

Boys & Girls Club Associate Executive Director Paula Tacke shared that the membership totals 233 youth grades 5-12 with 40% of them from single-parent households. Just For Kids listed 309 children enrolled in their program in 2009 with increased structure in the before and after school program.

Family Visitation Center Director Amanda Healy reinforced the importance of safe and conflict free exchange of children between estranged parents and



Kettering

the extent of their outreach that includes families from fourteen counties and four states. Every client that receives assistance has financial needs.

Women's/ Children's Center Director Desiree Slaba shared that one in four women are in abusive situations and that children raised in violence are three times more likely to carry abusive behavior into their adulthood and sons are ten times more likely to follow this pattern. They received 264 crises calls in 2009 and had 1071 shelter nights - double the number of the past year.

The Center Director Tammy Matuska related the greatest growth of their membership is from the younger generation that has increased the need for diversity in activities.

Meals On Wheels deliveries have decreased from 100 to 74 deliveries due to clients moving to nursing homes or death. It is also apparent that more of the noon meal participants are affected by decreasing income.

RSVP Director Deb Overseth tallied 210 volunteers in 2009 that contributed 37,073 hours working in 50 different programs. Over 8,000 hours were fulfilled in food programs, 980 hours as school tutors and 800 hours as court monitors.

Red Cross Director Melissa Smith shared that five disaster families/22 individuals were assisted in 2009, over 1,000 learned to swim and over 350 were instructed in CPR and Life Saving. The Yankton office also received over \$8,000 for Haiti relief.

Family Education & Counseling Director Rod Veldhuizen expressed appreciation for the opportunity to serve more people while training and equipping professionals in the mental health field. Special programs that addressed timely needs were the support groups for the unemployed and for youth grief.

Yankton Transit board member Tammy Matuska shared that the program now requires two full time dispatchers working to schedule as many as 385 riders in one day. The buses carry youth to school then provide rides for work, shopping, The Center, medical appointments, plus much more - all within

the city limits.

Literacy Council board member Loretta Sorensen reported that 24 tutors have been trained and 15 individuals are currently being tutored. Volunteers have distributed books and read stories throughout the year. She also shared how one of the clients was able to advance her career due to her improvement in speaking and reading English.

Listening to the reports reinforces the importance of the work of these programs for the betterment of our community. It is also through the dedication of caring individuals who serve on governing boards that keep organizations focused on their mission to address the various needs and to prepare for future issues.

Chuck Aman, Michael Healy, Dr. Malcolm Jameson and Terry Stull have devoted countless hours attending board meetings, serving on committees, supporting the annual campaigns and most importantly sharing their passions and visions for the past six years. Their service to the United Way & Volunteer Services is GREATLY appreciated.

COMMUNITY NOTEBOOK

The Community Notebook appears each Monday and Thursday. Contributions to this list of upcoming events are welcome and should be submitted two weeks before the event. Submissions must be typewritten or legibly printed and include the name and phone number of a contact person. Send items to P&D Calendar, PO Box 56, Yankton, SD 57078, or e-mail to newsroom@yankton.net.

Thursday

Youth Alive, 7:45 a.m., YHS Library.
Table tennis/darts, 8:30 a.m., The Center, 900 Whiting Drive.
Wii bowling, 9 a.m., The Center, 900 Whiting Drive.
Ladies Billiards, 10 a.m., The Center, 900 Whiting Drive.
Sertoma, noon, Waterfront.
Alcoholics Anonymous, noon, 12-24 Club, 1019 West Ninth.
Toastmasters Club No. 6217, noon, Sacred Heart Hospital, (605)668-8326.
Thursday cards, 12:45 p.m., The Center, 900 Whiting Drive.
Dominos, 1 p.m., The Center, 900 Whiting Drive.
Cribbage, 1 p.m., The Center, 900 Whiting Drive.
Senior Bowling, 1:30 p.m., Centennial Lanes, Crofton (402) 388-4640.
Weight Watchers, 5:30 p.m., 23rd St. Suites, 904 W. 23rd. 1-800-651-6000.
TOPS No. SD 45, 5:30-6:30 p.m. weigh-in; 6:30 p.m. meeting, RTEC, Room 134, (605)665-3728 or (605)667-9274.
Yankton Area Banquet, 6 p.m., United Church of Christ, Fifth and Walnut.
Celebrate Recovery, 7 p.m., Calvary Baptist Church, 2407 Broadway, (605)665-5594.
Alcoholics Anonymous ALANON, 8:30 p.m., 12-24 Club, 1019 W. 9th.
Overeaters Anonymous, Thursday Evening, (605)665-0443.

Friday

Exercise & Current Events, 8:30 a.m., Pine Lane Estates, 2905 Douglas Line Dancing, 9:30-11 a.m., The Center, 900 Whiting Drive.
Foster Rehabilitation Support Group, 10-11 a.m., Trinity Lutheran Church, Room 105, (605)260-1980.
Exercise & Current Events, 10:15 a.m., Pine Lane Estates West, 2903 Douglas Ave.
Instructed cardio class, 11-11:45 a.m., The Center, 900 Whiting Drive.
Alcoholics Anonymous, noon, 12-24 Club, 1019 West Ninth.
Contract bridge, 1 p.m., The Center, 900 Whiting Drive.
Parent's Night Out, 5:30 p.m., Calvary Baptist, By Reservation Only (605)665-5594.
Bingo, 7-9 p.m., The Center, 900 Whiting Drive.
Billiards/Snooker, 7-9 p.m., The Center, 900 Whiting Drive.
Porchlight Alcoholics Anonymous, 8 p.m., UCC Church, 210 W. 5th St.
Alcoholics Anonymous Alano Group, 8:30 p.m., 12-24 Club, 1019 W. 9th

Saturday

Speaker's Voice Toastmasters, 7 a.m., Fryn' Pan Restaurant.
Yankton Toastmasters, 7:30, Fryn' Pan Restaurant.
Weight Watchers, 9 a.m. (weigh-ins 30 minutes before meeting time), 904 W. 23rd. 1-800-651-6000.
Alcoholics Anonymous, noon, 12-24 Club, 1019 W. 9th. Non-smoking.
Games of Choice & Socializing, 2 p.m., 2905 and 2903 Douglas Ave.
Alcoholics Anonymous, 6:45 p.m., 12-24 Club, 1019 West Ninth.
FIRST SATURDAY ONLY
Friends of the Yankton Community Library Book Sales, 10 a.m.-1 p.m., Enter by west door off alley.

Sunday

Alcoholics Anonymous, 8 a.m., 12-24 Club, 1019 West Ninth.
Alcoholics Anonymous Alano, 8 a.m. and 8 p.m., 12-24 Club, 1019 W. 9th.
Marian Prayer Group, 1 p.m., Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament, Chapel of St. Joseph, House of Mary Shrine, Lewis and Clark Lake. 665-1119.
Coffee Time and Visiting, 2 p.m., 2905 and 2903 Douglas Ave.
VFW Auxiliary Bingo, 6:30 p.m., VFW Club.
One Hour Experience, 6:30 p.m., MUC building USD. 712-251-8860.

YANKTON LIBRARY

Several Fun Events Planned For The Yankton Library

BY KATHY JACOBS

Yankton Library

Readers Anonymous will discuss Ford County by John Grisham on March 9. This is Grisham's first-ever attempt at a book of short stories and has been a popular read for many. This club, always open to new members, meets the second Tuesday of each month, at 1 p.m.

The evening book club, which meets the third Tuesday of each month, has decided to change their time and meet earlier, at 5:30 p.m. This may be more convenient for people who are heading home from work and want to participate in one last activity before heading home in the evening. The time change begins on March 16. The book for the March meeting is Reading Lolita in Tehran by Azar Nafisi. This is "a memoir about teaching western literature in revolutionary Iran, with profound and fascinating insights into both." Books are available at the library for anyone interested in joining the club.

We collected 108 cans of fruit for the Contact Center during our Food for Fines week in February. Thanks for your generosity! During the week of March 14-20, we will celebrate March Madness with Mac and Cheese as our item. Please do not bring any commodities or outdated foods as we will not accept them. We request that only Mac and Cheese be brought.

We will host two after school movies in March. Planet 51 will be shown on March 11, and The Fantastic Mr. Fox, will be shown on March

25. Both movies are suitable for all ages. Yankton College, the Dakota Territorial Museum, and the library have partnered and will bring you programs two and three of our three-part series. On March 9, get a sense of what one-room schools were like as Dr. Wayne Knutson presents "Legacy of One-Room Schools," anecdotes from his country school experiences. On March 27, the Museum will host a social for one-room school alumni, both teachers and students. The schoolhouse will also be open for tours. The first two programs are sponsored by grants from the South Dakota Humanities Council, an affiliate of the National Endowment for the Humanities. We consider this our first event that will lead us into the 2011 Sesquicentennial celebration of Dakota Territory and Yankton. As we move through 2010, continue to watch for more events that will bring us through our history to the present and lead us into the future.

Our first story time session ends on March 4. Registration for our second session will open immediately with our second eight-week session beginning the week of March 22. We will hold story times on Mondays at 6:30 p.m., and Wednesday and Thursday mornings at 10:15 a.m. All preschool children and their care providers are welcome to attend. Join us for stories, finger plays, songs and crafts that are centered around a weekly theme. Care providers are encouraged to be a part of the story time by joining in all the activities and sharing your love of literature with the children.

Thanks to the Master Gardeners and the

Town and Country Garden Club, we have many wonderful new books, magazines, and DVDs on gardens, flower beds and landscaping. As you begin to think of spring, check out our new materials as you plan new outdoor projects for your homes.

Please let us know if you have topics of interest that would be appropriate for brown bag lunches at the library. We'd like to get these started on a monthly basis as soon as possible but we are looking for more topics. Kindles is one of the topic requests. Do you have others? Just let us know.

Be sure to stop at the desk and fill out our surveys. We are constantly striving to improve our services and programs and want your input. Let us know what you like about the library as well as changes you feel we should make. We welcome all comments.

Friends of the Library will hold their monthly book sale on Saturday, March 6, from 10-11, in the library garage. They continue to accept donations of gently used books to stock their shelves.

You can reach the library at 605-668-5275 or e-mail me at kjacobs@sdln.net. View us online at <http://www.yanktonsd.org/yankton/library/index.php>.

DAVE RAMSEY'S COLUMN WILL RETURN NEXT WEEK WHEN HE ADDRESSES THE RIGHT TIME TO BUY A HOUSE.

Mr. and Mrs. Van Larson of Vermillion, SD, announce the engagement of their daughter, Nicole Ann, to Gerry Ebel, son of Gerald and Carol Ebel of Yankton, SD. Nikki will be graduating from the University of South Dakota in May with her degree in Nursing. Gerry will be graduating from North Dakota State University in May with his degree in Health and Physical Education. The couple will exchange their vows on July 17, 2010, in Vermillion, SD, at Trinity Lutheran Church.

Larson-Ebel

Randy and Nancy Hixon of Springfield, SD, announce the engagement of their daughter, Tiffany Renee Hixon, to Kellen Lynn Weidner, son of Stan and Deb Weidner of Bassett, NE. Tiffany is a 2004 graduate of Bon Homme High School and a 2009 graduate of Dakota Wesleyan University with a bachelor's degree in psychology and human services. She is currently employed at Stepping Stones, Avera Brady Assisted Living and the Ramada Inn, all in Mitchell, SD. Kellen is a 2006 graduate of Rock County High School and is currently a senior at Dakota Wesleyan University pursuing a bachelor's degree in Criminal Justice and a minor in coaching. He is employed at Jack's Campers in Mitchell, SD. The couple is planning a June 12, 2010, wedding in Mitchell, SD.

Hixon-Weidner

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- One dozen long-stemmed roses for only \$20 to be picked up on April 6th at the Benedictine Center - 1000 W. 4th St.
- Variety of colors available - first come/first choice

Roses can be ordered at the following places in Yankton: before Thursday, March 11th, 2010

Benedictine Health Foundation Office, 668-8310
 Avera Sacred Heart Hospice Department, 668-8327
 OR
 Order online at www.averasacredheart.com and click on "Roses...Just Because"

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