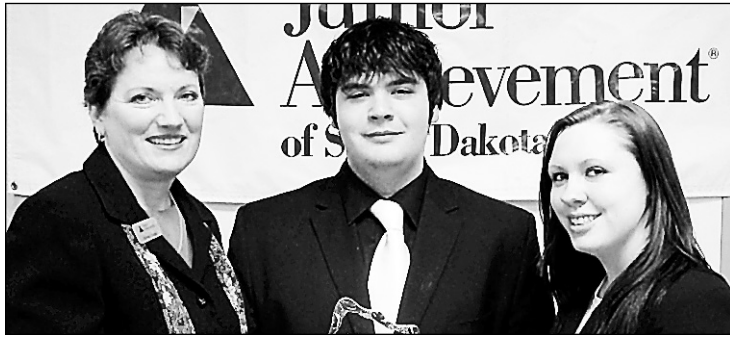


# HOMETOWNNEWS

## NATIONAL HONOR



**Kristie Fiegen (JA President of South Dakota), Joe Palleschi (JA Student), and Olivia Kulhavy (JA Student) with the Peak Performance Team Award**

## Junior Achievement USA Recognizes South Dakota As Top Performer

Junior Achievement USA recognized Junior Achievement of South Dakota for the organization's Peak Performance Team Award. This annual award is given to Junior Achievement offices for outstanding performance in areas such as student growth, total revenue growth, and an increase in the number of classes reached during the past fiscal year. The award was presented to Junior Achievement offices from 12 areas out of 135. This is the eighth year for South Dakota to receive the Peak Performance Team Award.

Junior Achievement of South Dakota will be kicking off its 2010 Annual Fund Drive on Friday, March 5, 2010. JA's goal is to raise over \$500,000 in order to continue and expand programming for South Dakota students. The continued growth and impact on students comes from the many investors, volunteers, board members, educators, and staff who are dedicated to our state's youth.

Kristie Fiegen, President, Junior Achievement of South Dakota, Inc. stated, "Being selected for the Peak Performance Team Award

recognizes South Dakota's continued support from people across the state. The JA local areas across South Dakota help make us one of the best Junior Achievements in the country. We look forward to new and continued partnerships and community support during the fund drive to ensure this essential programming is provided for our students."

Junior Achievement impacted more than 43,000 South Dakota students during this past year. Junior Achievement of South Dakota, Inc. provides hands-on curriculum for students in grades K-12 that center on three pillars: entrepreneurship, work readiness, and financial literacy. Volunteers come from all walks of life and include business people and community leaders.

For more information about Junior Achievement of South Dakota, Inc., call (605) 336-7318 / 1-800-871-7007 or email [jasd@ja.org](mailto:jasd@ja.org). To learn more about the success of the 2009 fiscal year, please visit the Awareness tab on [www.jasd.org](http://www.jasd.org) to view the latest JA Annual Report.

## HSC SOCIAL WORKERS



SUBMITTED PHOTO

**HSC social work staff is pictured. Front row left to right: Andi Marquardt, Brandi Smith, Jessie Foote, Rachel Houston, and HSC Director of Social Services Barb Mechtenberg. Pictured back row left to right: Tracey Lehmkuhl, Brook Thurman, Ramona Harris, Kari Syverson, John Snyder, Deb Cotton, Jeremy Johnson, Sarah Hoxeng, Cindy Jensen, Daniela Stein and Jim Carlson. Not pictured is Cheryl Breske.**

## National Social Work Month Celebrated

The South Dakota Human Services Center (HSC), along with the National Association of Social Workers (NASW), proudly announces that March 2010 is National Social Work Month.

This year's theme is "Social Workers Inspire Community Action". Social workers are among the inspiring leaders that plan for the future. They don't just identify social problems they inspire others and lead the efforts that address the root of the challenges.

Social Work Month provides an opportunity for social workers to highlight the essential role they play in alleviating some of America's most difficult problems. Social Workers help families deal with the stress of placing loved ones in nursing homes, hospitals and other treatment services. Social workers help people when they are most vulnerable to connect them with the services needed. According to Cory D.

Nelson, HSC Administrator/CEO, the HSC social work staff is inspired to help patients. HSC employs 17 social workers who are actively involved in providing treatment and services for persons with mental illness and chemical dependency. The social workers support effective, individualized, professional treatment, which enables patients to achieve their highest level of personal independence in the most therapeutic environment.

There are 600,000 social workers in the United States, who hold the necessary education or licenses to help people of all ages, religions, and nationalities gain access to adequate resources and services. During March: National Social Work Month, and all throughout the year, those in need realize that help starts with social workers who inspire community action.

## PLATTE FIRE DEPARTMENT



SUBMITTED PHOTO

**Front Left to Right: Darrin Erickson, Sec/Treas; Bob Middendorp, EMT/Firefighter; Trace Davids, USDA-RD; Ross VanZee, Firefighter; Jerrod Lang, EMT/Captain; Gus Middendorp, Firefighter; Gary VandenBos, Firefighter; Bruce VandenBos, Firefighter. On the truck holding the check L - R: David Meyerink, Ass't Chief and Sherrie Lewis, USDA-RD. Back row: Rick Gustad, Chief.**

## Platte Receives New Fire Truck

PLATTE — United States Department of Agriculture (USDA) Rural Development South Dakota Representatives Trace Davids and Sherrie Lewis met today with members of the Platte Volunteer Fire Department to celebrate the delivery of their new 2010 Fire Truck manufactured by Smeal.

"USDA Rural Development community facility direct loan program funds of \$225,000 will be leveraged with the Fire Department's funds of approximately \$100,000 for a total project cost of \$325,000," said USDA Rural Development State Director Elsie Meeks. "This project will improve the services being provided to the department's over 400 square mile service area affecting approximately 2,900 full time residents."

The structural engine needing replacement was a 1979 Ford, purchased new by the department. It was well past its useful life expectancy of 15-20 years. There are no longer parts available for the pump. The new truck will meet the current National Fire

Protection Association standards. The engine will have a pump capacity of 1,500 GPM as well as the capability to provide Compressed Air Foam. It will also carry an AC generator, flood lighting, and storage for self-contained breathing apparatus, tools and equipment. The compressed air foam will significantly enhance the effectiveness of the fire stream, thereby reducing the total amount of water needed to suppress a structural fire. This will be a great asset in the rural coverage area where there is no available water supply.

"The purchase of this much needed apparatus simply wouldn't have been possible without the assistance of the USDA Rural Development Loan Program," said Rick Gustad, Fire Chief for the Platte Volunteer Fire Department. "The low interest rate and favorable terms of the loan allowed us to put this apparatus in service now without having a severe impact on the budget. Sherrie and the staff at USDA were very helpful, great to work with and we look forward to working with them again."

## CHARLIE BATTERY UPDATES

### STEVEN DAVIS

Steven Davis of Sioux Falls, SD was recently promoted to the rank of Sergeant. SGT Davis is a member of and is currently deployed for the second time with Charlie Battery, First Battalion, 147th Field Artillery of Yankton in support of Operation Iraqi Freedom. He completed his basic training and his Advanced Individual Training at Fort Sill, OK in 2003. SGT Davis has been a member of the South Dakota Army National Guard for eight years and is trained as an Automated Tactical Data Systems Specialist. His parents are Gary and Betty Davis of Wakonda.



Davis

### ERIC REDCLOUD

Eric RedCloud of Vermillion, SD was recently promoted to the rank of Specialist. SPC RedCloud is a member of and is currently deployed with Charlie Battery, First Battalion, 147th Field Artillery of Yankton in support of Operation Iraqi Freedom. He completed his basic training at Fort Jackson in 2007 and his Advanced Individual Training at Fort Sill in 2007. SPC RedCloud has been a member of the South Dakota Army National Guard for three years and is trained as an Automated Tactical Data Systems Specialist. RedCloud is a 2007 Vermillion High School Graduate. His mother is Andrea RedCloud of Vermillion.



RedCloud

### JOSHUA SMOCK

Joshua Smock of Meckling, SD was recently promoted to the rank of Specialist. SPC Smock is a member of and is currently deployed with Charlie Battery, First Battalion, 147th Field Artillery of Yankton in support of Operation Iraqi Freedom. He completed his basic training and his Advanced Individual Training at Fort Sill, OK in 2007. SPC Smock has been a member of the South Dakota Army National Guard for three years and is trained as a Multiple Launch Rocket System crewmember. His parents are Aaron and Anette Aakie of Cozad, NE. He is married to Bobbi Smock.



Smock

### ADAM YEAGER

Adam Yeager of Vermillion, SD was recently promoted to the rank of Specialist. SPC Yeager is a member of Bravo Battery of Salem but is currently deployed with Charlie Battery, First Battalion, 147th Field Artillery of Yankton in support of Operation Iraqi Freedom. He completed his basic training and his Advanced Individual Training at Fort Sill, OK in 2008. SPC Yeager has been a member of the South Dakota Army National Guard for 2.5 years and is trained as an Automated Tactical Data Systems Specialist. Yeager is a 2002 Vermillion High School Graduate. His parents are Rick and Rose Nelsen of Vermillion.



Yeager

### ADAM ERNESTI

Adam Ernesti of Yankton, SD was recently promoted to the rank of Specialist. SPC Ernesti is a member of and is currently deployed with Charlie Battery, First Battalion, 147th Field Artillery of Yankton in support of Operation Iraqi Freedom. He completed his basic training at Fort Benning, GA in 2007 and his Advanced Individual Training at Fort Lee, VA in 2008. SPC Ernesti has been a member of the South Dakota Army National Guard for three years and is trained as a Unit Armorer. Ernesti is a 2008 Yankton High School Graduate. His parents are Lisa Downie and Randy Ernesti of Yankton.



Ernesti

### MILES RUNYON

Miles Runyon of Vermillion, SD was recently promoted to the rank of Specialist. SPC Runyon is a member of and is currently deployed with Charlie Battery, First Battalion, 147th Field Artillery of Yankton in support of Operation Iraqi Freedom. He completed his basic training at Fort Benning, GA in 2008 and his Advanced Individual Training at Fort Sill, OK in 2008. SPC Runyon has been a member of the South Dakota Army National Guard for 2 years and is trained as a Multiple Launch Rocket System crewmember. Runyon is a 2008 Vermillion High School Graduate. His parents are Mike and Lisa Runyon of Vermillion.



Runyon

### ALEX TOUPL

Alex Toupl of Yankton, SD was recently promoted to the rank of Specialist. SPC Toupl is a member of and is currently deployed with Charlie Battery, First Battalion, 147th Field Artillery of Yankton in support of Operation Iraqi Freedom. He completed his basic training and his Advanced Individual Training at Fort Sill, OK in 2008. SPC Toupl has been a member of the South Dakota Army National Guard for 3 years and is trained as a Multiple Launch Rocket System crewmember. Toupl is a 2008 Yankton High School Graduate. His parents are Shane and Anne Toupl of Yankton.



Toupl

### JAMES ZIMMERMAN

James Zimmerman of Meckling, SD was recently promoted to the rank of Specialist. SPC Zimmerman is a member of and is currently deployed with Charlie Battery, First Battalion, 147th Field Artillery of Yankton in support of Operation Iraqi Freedom. He completed his basic training and his Advanced Individual Training at Fort Sill, OK in 2008. SPC Zimmerman has been a member of the South Dakota Army National Guard for 1.5 years and is trained as a Multiple Launch Rocket System crewmember. Zimmerman is a 2007 Wakonda High School Graduate. His parents are Jim and Holly Zimmerman of Meckling.



Zimmerman

## NEW AMBULANCE



SUBMITTED PHOTO

## Wagner-Lake Andes New Ambulance

United States Department of Agriculture (USDA) Rural Development South Dakota Representatives Trace Davids and Sherrie Lewis met today with members of the Wagner-LA Ambulance District to award them with an Economic Impact Initiative (EII) Grant to purchase two ambulances.

"USDA Rural Development community facility EII grant funds of \$100,000 will be leveraged with the District's funds of approximately \$170,000 for a total project cost of \$270,000," said USDA Rural Development State Director Elsie Meeks. "This is an extremely busy ambulance district with 13 townships and 6 communities affected by their services. The service area encompasses approximately 6300 citizens in Charles Mix County."

This ambulance district has over 100,000 miles on their primary ambulances and one of their back up ambulances has over 240,000 miles on the odometer. The District has purchased a 2010 Emergency Vehicle, Type III ambulance and has also purchased a 2010 chassis which will house an existing Type III module.

"Our crews answer 850+ calls and travel over 50,000 miles per year. In order to continue to provide service to our area, it is imperative that our vehicles are reliable and up to date," said Alvin Archambeau, President of the Wagner-LA Ambulance District. "The District truly appreciates the help from Rural Development in this project. It was impossible to execute a project of this magnitude without their assistance."

## MEETING MINUTES

### DOGS R US 4-H MEETING

The Dogs R Us 4-H club met briefly on February 16, 2010 at the 4-H building with ten members present. Stephanie Anderson, the president called the meeting to order.

The minutes of the previous meeting were not read. The main purpose of this meeting was to tie-dye club t-shirts. Each person tied-dyed four and took them home to finish by rinsing and washing. Mike Gillis gave us tips and techniques to use for patterns and styles for the shirts.

Joyce Anderson reminded everyone about the demonstrations to do at the Lifestyles Show at the mall March 6th and at the Homebuilders Show at the 4-H Building March 27th. She also reminded the club of the dog workshop on April 2-3 to be held in Mitchell. The meeting ended.

### SHANNON TRAIL PROMOTERS

The Shannon Trail Promoters met at the Lindy Country Club on March 2. Attending were Laurie Larsen, Bonnie Ruzicka, Sally Gubbels, Shirley Kehne and Marlin & Sharon Braun. Thanks you were signed to be sent to all those who are contributors to our cause in tourism.

Officers stand as Pres. Laurie Larsen, V. Pres. Sally Gubbels, Sec. Shirley Kehne, and hired treasurer Kayla Fiedler. Board

members are Sally Snowe, Herb Bengston, Mary Rose Pinkelman and Cindy Howey.

Individual membership cards have been printed and will be distributed as business fees of \$10 are collected. The old brochures were gone over, corrections are being made for the new ones that will be printed by Great Plains Communications with much appreciation. Their Logo will appear on the back of T-shirts for the Dancing with Area Stars. 2010 sponsorships thus far are Verdigris, Creighton and Wynot \$200 each, St. Helena \$75 and Wynots \$10 membership.

By the April meeting there's hope for reports on how our geocaches withstood the winter.

### YANKTON WOMAN'S CLUB

GFWC Yankton Woman's Club Yankton Woman's Club met Saturday March 6 at Hillcrest Golf and Country Club. Maysel Goltz presented a program on wind and solar energy.

Discussion centered on the State Convention to be held in Chamberlain April 30, May 1 and 2. The State Service Project for the convention is the Missouri Valley Women's Crisis Center in Chamberlain. They request pajamas for women and children at the center.

Officers for the 2010-2012 term of office were elected: Alta Kussman, treasurer; Kathy Bruce,

Secretary; Julie Clifton, President; Donna DeJean, 1st vice president and Pauline Aklund 2nd vice president. They will be sworn in at the May meeting.

The next meeting will be held the second Saturday of April because of Easter weekend. At that April 10 meeting Representative Nick Moser will be on hand to offer insights to this past Legislative session.

### INTERCHANGE MEETING NOTES

Interchange met on Monday, March 8 at noon at the Waterfront. Gert Thomas, Walnut Village, reminded Interchange members that scholarship applications are available to members and are due in May.

Jan Garrity, Yankton College invited Interchange members to the

program, Legacy of One Room Country Schools, on March 9.

Ronda Berry, Mount Marty, announced that students are on spring break providing assistance in New Orleans, Cedar Rapids and other worthwhile projects.

It was also announced that Interchange will have a school board candidate forum on March 29.

Ronda Barry introduced her guest speaker, Jim Reese, an Assistant Professor of English at Mount Marty College. Reese has been the National Endowment for the Arts' Writer-in-Residence at the Yankton Federal Prison Camp since 2008. He shared his experiences at the Yankton Federal Prison and his visits to San Quentin with the Arts in Corrections program.

The next Interchange meeting will be held Monday, March 15 at noon at the Waterfront.

### LADIES AUXILIARY

President Shelley Stoddard opened the Ladies Auxiliary Meeting. Conductress Marlene Schramm draped the charter for Minnie Peterson, PDP, Fran Booth PNP, Joanne Ott, PNP, Helen Johns, PDP, Leone Leise, D. Jean Silvey, Arlene Larson, Mary Tritschler, and Bev De Lozier. Fifteen thank you notes were read.

The Standing Rules Committee, Shirley Christensen, Joyce Stahlecker, Delores Stange, and Jackie Simonsen, are to meet and update the standing rules.

The St. Patrick's Day Special Olympics Leprechaun program was discussed. Stange and

Stahlecker will purchase the gifts. Stoddard will take care of raffle tickets. Cost of the tickets are: one dollar each or six for five dollars.

The meeting for VFW District #1 is April twenty-fifth at Freeman at two o'clock.

The soup kitchen will be held in the fall only. A pizza party will be held for Boy Scout Troop 102 in appreciation of their helping in placing flags on the Avenue of Flags. The auxiliary will pay half the cost.

An American flag will be presented to Nathan List, grandson of Marlys and Don List, in honor of him becoming an Eagle Scout. Lone Fisher reported her grandson, Jeremy Fisher, has received his package sent to him in Afghanistan; she thanked the Auxiliary.

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