

BUSINESS DIGEST

Industry Encourages To Build For Future

South Dakota's builders and highway workers are encouraging students to build a future in the construction industry. They have invited high school students from around the area to an annual Construction Career Camp to give them an idea of what a career in the vast construction industry is like.

The events are set for Wednesday, April 14, at Southeast Technical Institute Campus in Sioux Falls; Wednesday, April 21, at Mitchell Technical Institute Campus in Mitchell; and Wednesday, April 28, at the Expo Center in Ft. Pierre.

"Construction Career Camp's goal is to show the many career opportunities to students who attend the event and learn about valuable secondary education opportunities. We hope guidance counselors, teachers, technical education coordinators and administrators encourage students to take advantage of this opportunity," says Darby Warne, communications and marketing coordinator with the Associated General Contractors of South Dakota Highway-Heavy-Utilities Chapter.

The event begins at 9 a.m. and runs through the afternoon. The South Dakota Department of Education, Associated General Contractors of South Dakota Highway-Heavy-Utilities Chapter, Associated General Contractors of South Dakota Building Chapter, the South Dakota Home Builders Association, The South Dakota Institute of Architects and The South Dakota Department of Labor are the sponsors of the event.

Member Sought For Neb. Veterinary Board

LINCOLN, Neb. — The Nebraska Board of Health is recruiting a member to serve on the Board of Veterinary Medicine. This professional board is responsible for granting license privileges to veterinarians.

A professional who is a Nebraska resident and who is actively engaged in veterinary practice will be appointed to fill this vacancy.

Persons interested in serving on the board can obtain an application and documents related to the appointment process at http://www.dhhs.ne.gov/crl/Board_Vacancies.htm. To receive an application by mail, contact the Nebraska Department of Health and Human Services, Division of Public Health, Licensure Unit, P.O. Box 95026, Lincoln, NE 68509-5026; by e-mail at monica.gissler@nebraska.gov; or by phone at (402) 471-6515. Completed applications must be received by May 25. The person to fill the position will be appointed on June 21.

■ Get Updates At Yankton Online (www.yankton.net)

Struggling Families Depend More On School Lunches

BY HEATHER HOLLINGSWORTH
Associated Press Writer

KANSAS CITY, Mo. — For a couple tight weeks after taking in her sixth-grade stepson, Lisa Lewis fretted about how to pay for his school lunches.

Unable to find a full-time job, the 37-year-old works part-time at a Kansas City, Kan., daycare, earning minimum wage. On that money alone, she supports herself, her unemployed husband, her stepson and her 11th-grade son.

"I sometimes cry myself to sleep wondering how I am going to keep my family fed and things like that," Lewis said. "I'm making it but barely."

Her worries were eased when she found out she could get government assistance to pay for the younger boy's meals. Her older son already is part of the subsidized lunch program.

In the midst of a blistering recession, more families are flocking to the federal program that gives students free or reduced-price lunches. Schools are watching for who enrolls in the program because it gives teachers insight into life at home and officials consider it a barometer of poverty.

The numbers are telling. During the 2008-2009 school year, about 19 million students received free and reduced lunches, which is \$85,000 more than the previous year — a jump of nearly 5 percent and that greatly outpaced the overall increase in school enrollment, according to the U.S. Department of Agriculture's Food and Nutrition Service. Typically, the increases are about 1 to 2 percent each year.

"We have seen record program growth over the past two years as we go through this difficult period," said Jean Daniel, a spokeswoman for the agency.

Meanwhile, 78 percent of school nutrition directors surveyed in the fall said they had noticed an increased number of students eligible to receive free or reduced-price meals for the 2009-2010 school year, according to the School Nutrition Association, a nonprofit that represents those who prepare school meals.

To qualify for the mostly federally funded school meal program, a family of four can earn no more than \$28,665 for free lunch and \$40,793 for reduced-

KYNT
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MORNING COFFEE
WEEKDAYS
7:40 AM
MONDAY
THRU FRIDAY

Yankton's Home Team!

Vermillion To Host Authors: Wilson, Kratz And Schultz

'Stories Of Survival'
By Laura Wilson

VERMILLION — Vermillion native Laura Wilson will read from her new book, "Stories of Survival," at 1-3 p.m. April 11 at the Sharing the Dream in Guatemala store, 10 W. Main St. in Vermillion. The author will sign copies of her book.

"Stories of Survival" contains excerpts from interviews with Sharing the Dream's elders in Santiago, Guatemala. Sixty-five Mayan elders share their memories and experiences about childhood, shared lives (dating, marriage and parenting), the armed conflict, Hurricane Stan, and Tz'utujil stories and traditions. Photography in the book is by Denny Pearson.

Sharing the Dream in Guatemala is a non-profit organization that promotes fair trade craft products that are handmade by Mayan artisans using many traditional techniques. Purchasing these crafts not only provides work for these artisans, but the profits go to support community development projects in Guatemala such as the Elder Center where the elders receive food, vitamins, and medical care. Besides the Elder Center, Sharing the Dream provides workshops in development for all the artisans, scholarships for more than 30 students, help for the orphanage Casa Guatemala, water tanks for a village in the mountains, and provides support for two different schools with a total of more than 350 students.

For more information, contact Nicole Gruebele at 605-624-6895 or nicole@sharingthedream.org. You may also visit www.sharingthedream.org.

'Big Success In Small Towns'
By Jack Schultz

VERMILLION — The Beacom School of Business at The University of South Dakota presents the 2010 Burke-Bank West Lecture, "Boomtown USA: The 7 1/2 Keys to Big Success in Small Towns," by author and CEO Jack Schultz, at 7 p.m. on Thursday, April 8, at Farber Hall, Old Main.

Schultz is the founder and CEO of Agracel, Inc., an industrial development firm majoring in rural America. Agracel, which began in 1986, has completed projects in 14 states owning seven million square feet of industrial space. The company also owns 15 business parks and a short line railroad. In 2004, he authored "Boomtown USA: The 7 1/2 Keys to Big Success in Small Towns," which took more than three years of intense research to write. Since the book was published six years ago, Schultz has spoken in more than 300 communities in 44 states, covering 250,000 miles.

Schultz was named Ernst & Young's Illinois Entrepreneur of the Year in 2005. In 2006, he was the recipient of the Beta Gamma Sigma Medallion for Entrepreneurship. Schultz received his M.B.A. from Harvard University and he is married and the father of twin sons.

The Burke-Bank West Lecture Series is endowed by Bank West and the family of Charles H. Burke of Pierre to bring noted authorities in the fields of banking, finance and marketing to South Dakota in cooperation with the Beacom School of Business. "Boomtown USA: The 7 1/2 Keys to Big Success in Small Towns" is free and open to the public. At the conclusion of his presentation, Schultz will be available to sign copies of his book.

'The Writing Life: My Way To Stay A Child Forever'
By Marilyn Kratz

VERMILLION — Author Marilyn Kratz will present "The Writing Life: My Way to Stay a Child Forever" at the Literary Luncheon on Wednesday, April 14, at the Vermillion Public Library. Join the Friends of the Library for this special program.

In her 40-plus years as a free-lance writer, Kratz has had two picture books and one pictorial history book published. Her fourth book, a non-fiction picture book published by the South Dakota State Historical Society Press, will be out in 2011. She has had approximately 500 short stories, poems and articles published in more than 80 publications, mostly for children. She taught elementary school for 31 years. She is a member of the Society of Children's Book Writers and Publishers and Delta Kappa Gamma Society International, a women's teachers fraternity.

The luncheon will be held in the Community Room of the Vermillion Public Library. Lunch is served at 11:30 a.m. and the program begins at 12:10 p.m.

Tickets can be purchased before 5 p.m. April 9 at the Vermillion Public Library during regular library hours. No phone reservations will be taken.

For more information, call the library at 677-7060 or e-mail vpj@sdln.net.

POT

From Page 1

other states that have legalized marijuana for medical uses.

The proposal would legalize the limited use of marijuana to treat severe debilitating pain, nausea, seizures and other medical problems. Those eligible would include people suffering from cancer, glaucoma, AIDS, multiple sclerosis and other diseases.

Supporters argue that marijuana also helps ease the pain, muscle spasms and nausea that can accompany chemotherapy treatments for cancer.

The state Health Department would issue registry cards to patients who get doctors to certify that they have medical needs that could be treated with marijuana. Qualified patients and their designated caregivers could not be arrested or prosecuted for having up to one ounce of marijuana.

They also could have up to six marijuana plants, which would have to be kept in a locked place. Reistroffer, who just turned 20, said he became interested in medical marijuana because he knows people who have suffered with pain and other problems because they have cancer and other diseases. His mother has Lupus, a chronic inflammatory disease that can affect various parts of the body such as joints, skin, blood and kidneys. Symptoms include extreme fatigue, headaches and painful or swollen joints.

"When you see their pain, you care about this," Reistroffer said. The effort to legalize marijuana for medical use has nothing to do with legalizing it for recreational use, Reistroffer said.

"We are solely focused on making sure these patients are protected. We are solely focused on protecting the sick and dying people," he said.

Some states that allow marijuana for medical use have reported declines in use among teenagers, Reistroffer said. Once young people understand it is a medicine, the plant no longer has the charm

of a black market drug, he said.

If voters approve the measure, people who do not use marijuana for medical purposes will never notice that the law has been changed, Reistroffer said.

"This will not have any effect on the community other than a tremendous relief for the people who need it the most. They will just keep to themselves and seek the relief they need," Reistroffer said.

But Hughes County Sheriff Mike Leidholdt, who led the effort to defeat the 2006 ballot measure, said he still opposes the medical marijuana measure.

If marijuana can be used for medical purposes, law officers will have a tough time determining whether someone with the drug has a valid prescription, Leidholdt said. Some doctors probably will give prescriptions to nearly everyone who asks, he said.

"It really negates the law by doing that," the sheriff said.

Even if South Dakota legalized medical marijuana, federal law would continue to outlaw the drug. The federal government has relaxed its prosecution for medical marijuana, but officials have said President Barack Obama opposes any efforts to legalize pot.

'Welcome Link' Open House April 27

If you or an employee of an area company are new to Yankton in the last year or are ready for a better connection to Yankton because of a new stage in life, or you've been here and you are ready to meet other women, the Women Community Leaders Committee invites adult females to attend the

"WelcomeLink" Open House at 4:30-6:30 p.m. Tuesday, April 27, at the Missouri National Recreational River Office located at 508 East 2nd St.

Light refreshments are being provided by Southeast South Dakota Chapter of the Society for Human Resource Management (SE SD SHRM).

One of the goals of this committee is to welcome and link newcomers. The intent is to create an avenue for female adults to come together and be introduced to other newcomers, get to know someone to contact, gain information and ask questions about the area so they might feel more at home in

Yankton. We want to help newcomers establish friendships, network and learn about Yankton all at the same time. The message being sent is "You don't have to be brand new in Yankton or the Yankton area." It is open to all women who have newly arrived or are long-time female residents who may be in another stage of life.

During the Open House, people will be able to come and go. Those attending will have a chance to meet other new women, learn more about the Yankton community during ongoing presentation in the background by the Yankton Convention and Visitor Office, and meet women from the community who will assist you in helping make you feel even more welcome as they are there to answer questions, have a conversation and show support that a newcomer may just need.

For more information, contact the Yankton Area Chamber of Commerce at 605-665-3636.

NOTICE OF ANNUAL MEETING & ELECTION OF DIRECTORS OF B-Y WATER DISTRICT

TO BE HELD ON
MARCH 31, 2010

at the Scotland VFW Building, 531 First Street, Scotland, South Dakota, at 1:30 p.m. for the purpose of electing directors to succeed those whose terms are about to expire. Those directors whose terms are about to expire and the division which they represent are: Allen Namminga, Div. No. 4; Gary Frank, Div. No. 5; Hugh Healy, Div. No. 8; and Lee Herrboldt, Div. No. 9.

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