

LIFE DIGEST

Group Offers Flowers, Books In Fundraiser

Beautiful flowers and excellent books are for sale just in time for Mother's Day by the Yankton Catholic Youth as part of a fundraiser. Prepaid orders are being accepted through May 3 for flowers. The sitting flower pots would also be memorable decorations at a loved one's gravesite for Memorial Day.

Books are also available with prepaid orders, including "Amazing Grace for Mothers," "Amazing Grace for Fathers" and "Amazing Grace for Married Couples." These books would make great gifts for Mothers Day and Fathers Day, birthdays, new parents, weddings, and anniversaries.

Orders must be picked up May 8 between 8:30-10 a.m. at Link Auditorium.

Checks payable to & deliver orders by Sacred Heart Parish Office, at the new temporary offices, located at the corner of Sixth and Capital Street, Yankton. For more information, call Paula Hicks at 665-4268.

The flower and book fundraiser benefits the Yankton Catholic Youth as they prepare for a memorable religious experience during their summer trip to Steubenville, Ohio.

After-Prom Party Wrap-Up Meeting Set

The Parents for a Safe Prom Committee will hold a wrap up meeting to review the 2010 After-Prom Party at 7:30 p.m. Monday, May 3, at the Summit Activities Center.

Reports from committees will be presented. Any parents wanting to become involved in the 2011 After Prom Party are invited to attend. This meeting is open to all parents of high school students.

The After Prom Party would like to thank all parents who shared of their time, talent and treasure this past year and hope that you will continue to be involved in next year's planning.

NAMI Event Set For Monday At Library

NAMI Yankton is sponsoring a "Get to Know NAMI" evening with information about mental illnesses including anxiety disorders, attention deficit disorder, bipolar disorder, depression, personality disorders, post traumatic stress disorder, and schizophrenia. This event is set for 7-9 p.m. May 3, at the Yankton Library. All are invited.

Steve Schweitzer, president of NAMI Yankton, says: "This free event is being sponsored to bring awareness that mental illness affects more than 1,000 individuals in Yankton, and that NAMI Yankton offers free support and education for people living with a mental illness and their family members as well as free education and outreach to the general public."

Come and learn about NAMI, mental illness and how you can reach out to your family, friends, neighbors, coworkers, employees, etc. whose lives are affected by mental illness.

United Way Volunteers To Be Honored

The United Way & Volunteer Services of Greater Yankton will announce its 2008 Volunteer(s) of the Year during a program in the Old Chapel at the Human Services Center at 5 p.m. Tuesday, May 4. A light lunch will be served.

The 2009 honoree will be selected from last year's Volunteer of the Month selections: Verlin and Sharon Ailts, Sarah Filholm, Linda Schaa, Rich and Jackie Andre, Clothing Closet volunteers, Mark Nielsen, Ron Galvin Sr., Ethel Goeden, Jake Hoffner, Sylvia Coulson, Veterans of Foreign Wars and American Legion and Auxiliaries, and Marvin and Laurie Lockwood.

For more information or to let organizers know you plan to attend, call 665-6766. This event is sponsored by Yankton Volunteer Leaders and United Way & Volunteer Services.

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

Fiddlers Are Featured In SDPB Show Wednesday

MURFREESBORO, Tenn. — The tales and tunes of the South Dakota Old Time Fiddlers move to television on Wednesday, May 5, when a fellow musician's documentary on the group gets a broadcast premiere on South Dakota Public Broadcasting.

"South Dakota Old Time Fiddlers: Musical Heritage of the Great Plains," was filmed in 2008 by Dr. Stephanie Lynch Taylor, now an assistant professor in the Department of Recording Industry at Middle Tennessee State University in Murfreesboro, Tenn., and three of her students. It had its first public airing last October at the National Music Museum at the University of South Dakota in Vermillion and is set to air beginning at 9:30 p.m. Central/8:30 p.m. Mountain on SDPB TV and SDPB1 (digital channels 2 and 2.1).

Taylor, a Vermillion native and longtime violinist and competitor in the South Dakota Old-Time Fiddle Contest in Yankton, created the 30-minute documentary from hours of interviews and performances to preserve the unique history of the men and women who keep old-time music alive.

"I grew up with all these people as 'grandparents,'" Taylor recalls of talented teachers like Wilbur, Elizabeth and Jarle Foss and Chester Olsen. "I saw that if I didn't capture their history and tell their story, no one would. I initially thought that 'history' meant analyzing their music, but I soon realized that it was all about the people."

"They started just to keep the music alive, and it's become not

so much about the 'contest' they have but going to nursing homes and county fairs and sharing the music with people."

Taylor's project was funded by a grant from MTSU's Faculty Research and Creative Activity Committee and made use of equipment from the university's Department of Electronic Media Communication. For more information, visit the SDPB Web site at www.sdpb.org/schedules/tv_scheduled.aspx and jump to "Wednesday, May 5" on the pull-down menu.

Hole In The Tank? It Won't Break The Bank

BY TOM AND RAY MAGLIOZZI

Dear Tom and Ray:

My company has a '93 Ford Club Wagon equipped for wheelchairs, as our company provides services for people with developmental disabilities. Some jerk punctured a hole in our fuel tank and took the fuel. We tried to repair it with a screw and some epoxy. It lasted for a couple of days, until the epoxy was eaten away. Is there another way to fix this, or do we need a new fuel tank? I hope not, because we have very little money. We need to fix this van, as we had it equipped with a lift and can't afford to replace it. Thank you! — Linda

TOM: You can fix this, Linda. In fact, you can fix it pretty easily and cheaply.

RAY: This van is old enough to have a metal tank. So, go to your nearest auto-parts store and buy yourself a fiberglass gas-tank repair kit.

TOM: The kit you want consists of a piece of fiberglass mesh, along with a little paintbrush and a special epoxy that won't get eaten away by gasoline.

RAY: The first thing you have to do is drain the tank. That may already have been done for you, thanks to the jerk. But if not, you need to



CLICK & CLACK

siphon the remainder into a suitable container (i.e., not a co-worker's travel mug) and give yourself a dry surface to work with.

TOM: Then you need to sand the area around the hole. Get as close as you can to the bare metal, because if you leave any rust, the rust eventually will fall off and take the patch with it.

RAY: Then get a pair of rubber gloves, and

follow the instructions on how to mix the epoxy. Be aware that it gets very hot to the touch once it's mixed.

TOM: You smear a layer of the epoxy around the hole with the paintbrush, then you embed a piece of the fiberglass mesh in that epoxy so the mesh sticks to it and bridges the hole in the tank.

RAY: And then you "paint" the mesh with a solid layer of the epoxy, and once it dries, voila! No more leak.

TOM: It'll work, Linda. We use it every time an irate reader or customer punctures one of our gas tanks. And that happens all the time! Good luck, and keep up the good work.

If you buy a used car, will you just be inheriting the previous owner's problem? Tom and Ray dispel this and other myths about used cars in their pamphlet "How to Buy a Great Used Car: Secrets Only Your Mechanic Knows." Send \$4.75 (check or money order) to Used Car, P.O. Box 536475, Orlando, FL 32853-6475.

Got a question about cars? Write to Click and Clack in care of this newspaper, or e-mail them by visiting the Car Talk Web site at www.cartalk.com.

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USD

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An example of that, Abbott noted, can be found in the staffing of the university's Health, Physical Education and Recreation (HPER) division.

"Last year, we cut two HPER and a chair position," he said. "We knew we were going to have to put them back, and this year, we are putting them back, and those three are part of the three new positions being created."

"As we move along in the course of being the University of South Dakota, things change," he said. "Certain positions have to be added; some have to be reduced depending on the student load, etc. In this process, we also created 11 new positions. Not all of these positions are full-time."

Non-personnel areas of the university's budget were targeted for cuts first, Abbott said. "We cut travel in some places ... we tried to do that if we could, if it was reasonable. We wanted to do that rather than cut people."

Approximately 25 percent of the net cut will be made in the university's operating expenses. Benefits to USD personnel will be reduced 9 percent, Tech Fellows will bear approximately a 10.3 percent cut and the revenue allocated for graduate assistants will be reduced by a bit more than 16 percent.

"It certainly has not been a pleasant process," Abbott told the USD staff. "It's never fun, and

I suspect that next year, it could be worse. But compared to what we were thinking could happen last year, it's not as bad as we thought it would be."

"We'll have a new Legislature, we'll have a new governor," he said, referring to the next time the action will be taken on the state budget, including funding for higher education. "We'll supposedly have a \$100 million deficit, and we don't know how much of that they are going to backfill, so the impact will be uncertain."

Following the forum, Abbott noted that the likelihood that USD administrators will need to follow a similar path next year as it deals with further budget reductions won't make the process easier.

"Every year, it gets worse," he said. "I know it's an old cliché, but you cut the flesh, and pretty soon, you get down to bone. I hope we don't get to that point."

Abbott said it's not the first time USD has faced challenges and overcome them.

"When I came here 13 years ago, I think the problems were much deeper, just not as obvious," he said. "We certainly haven't been able to solve them all, but that time, our physical campus was fairly run down. Old Main had just been refurbished after 20 years of being boarded up in the middle of our campus."

Many of our buildings were very old — the medical school was horrible, the business school was not appropriate, the list goes on and on.

"But even worse than that, I think, was our failure often times to attract what we wanted in terms of new positions," Abbott said. "We would get applicants and not get our first, second or third choices. That's not the way it is now. We've always hired good people, but the percentage of our first choices are significantly higher now, and for that, I'm truly grateful."

He is hoping that USD will be able to continue to be attractive to both excellent students and faculty.

"Last year, we cut around the edges. This year, we had to cut a program. Next year, if we have to take a significant cut, I don't know how that's avoidable," Abbott said. "Maybe we'll have 200 more freshmen than I thought we were going to have. Those kinds of things can cure some ills."

USD will offer new programs

in nursing, and will be jump-starting its HPER program, which has a heavy appeal to many students.

"Next year, we're just going to have to take a look at the very same things we looked at this year — where can we cut and do the least damage, do we have vacant positions that we don't have to fill today, do we have faculty who have left that we can replace with an adjunct at a lower salary for a year or two? I don't like those things, but we have to do what we have to do."

GOT NEWS?
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