

LIFE DIGEST

Exchange Student Program Seeks Families

ASSE International — a non-profit student exchange organization — is currently looking for Yankton families to host a foreign exchange student for one school year beginning in August 2010.

This is an excellent opportunity to build our local community while learning about different cultures, people, and places. ASSE is dedicated to fostering international understanding through education and cross-cultural programs.

For information about how to take advantage of this enriching opportunity, contact your ASSE Yankton Area Representative Eric at (323)841-2944, (605)260-0988, or at ericd1981@hotmail.com. To learn more about ASSE, visit www.asse.com.

SAC Offers Adult Weight And Fitness Class

Beginning in June, come to the Summit Activities Center during any scheduled class hours and receive personalized and professional instruction on how to make your ordinary workout routine extraordinary. The class is free for all members and the price of a daily pass for guests.

To request further information, call (605) 668-5234 or stop by the Summit Activities Center at 1801 Summit Street, Yankton.

Czech Days Parades Getting Organized

TABOR — Darrell and Ann Beran are busy organizing the 62nd annual Czech Days Giant Parade, which will be held on Friday, June 18, beginning at 1 p.m. in Tabor.

The Kortan-Hatwan Post No. 183 of the American Legion is in charge of handling the parade activities. Anyone interested in entering the parade should contact the Berans at P.O. Box 247, Tabor, SD 57063 or call 605-463-2238 as soon as possible to get your assigned number and route of the parade information. You may download an entry form at <http://www.taborczechdays.com>.

Any boy or girl interested in being selected as Czech Days Prince or Princess must be between the ages of 8 years old and not yet 12 years old at the time of selection. The prince and princess will be selected by drawing names at random at the Sokol Park stage following the Kiddie Parade and entrants must be dressed in a Czech costume such as the Beseda Dancers wear.

Participating in the Kiddie Parade is encouraged but not mandatory. The children should be living in the immediate area as there are parades and other events that they will be expected to participate in.

Applications For Smithsonian Exhibit Sought

BROOKINGS — The South Dakota Humanities Council (SDHC) is calling for communities to host a traveling exhibit from the Smithsonian Institution's Museum on Main Street program. The exhibit "New Harmonies" will come to South Dakota in 2012. Six communities will have the exhibit for approximately six weeks. Museums, libraries, historical societies, and other cultural or community organizations are invited to apply for the exhibit.

The Museum on Main Street program was created to provide small, rural towns with cultural projects from the Smithsonian. "New Harmonies" showcases the roots of American music, focusing on genres like blues, country western, folk ballads, and gospel. The exhibit is full of surprises about familiar songs, histories of instruments, the roles of religion and technology, and the continuity of musical roots from "Yankee Doodle Dandy" to the latest hip hop CD.

Besides displaying the exhibit, host organizations will be required to develop a local exhibit as well as related programming and activities for the community. Training and resources are provided by South Dakota Humanities Council and Museum on Main Street, including a local scholar with background in music and folklore. SDHC will have an American Indian Cultures theme in 2011 and 2012, so the presentation of American Indian music is encouraged for host communities.

Applications for the exhibit can be sent to SDHC starting June 1, 2010. To apply, visit the South Dakota Humanities Council website at www.sdhumanities.org or call their office at 605-688-6113. More about the exhibit can be found at www.museumonmainstreet.org.

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

CAR TALK

Tom And Ray Stand By Their Answer

BY TOM AND RAY MAGLIOZZI

Dear Tom and Ray:
In a recent column, you got the wrong answer to the "hummingbird" problem. Fifty years ago, my boss in an Air Force research laboratory used this problem to trick those who wanted to upgrade their "subprofessional" status to "professional." He used a balloon instead of a hummingbird, but the physics is the same. The air conditioner's operation is irrelevant, but the closed windows are key. In the closed environment, when the brakes are applied, the air rushes to the front, forming a pressure gradient that pushes suspended objects to the rear. Make MIT proud and admit a mistake. — Ed

TOM: Gee, Ed. Our alma mater is already busting its buttons from all of our mistakes. But I don't think this is one of them.

RAY: The problem was this: You had a hummingbird flying in the middle of a car that was traveling down the highway with the windows closed. The driver slams on the brakes, and the question was, Does the bird crash into the windshield?

TOM: You're right that a balloon would go



CLICK & CLACK

backward, but the physics ISN'T the same for the hummingbird. The balloon stays aloft only because of the buoyant force of the air pressure in the car.

RAY: The hummingbird stays aloft for a very different reason: Newton's third law — the old "equal and opposite reaction" thingy. The bird is using its wings to force air down, which creates an equal and opposite force of

air pushing up, allowing it to hover in place.

TOM: Unlike the air in the car that's keeping the balloon afloat, the bird's mechanism doesn't change when the car stops short.

RAY: And Newton's first law tells us that objects in motion (the hummingbird is moving at the same speed as the car) stay in motion, unless something gets in their way.

TOM: Like the windshield.
RAY: Don't feel bad, Ed. It's a complicated problem. And if you keep reading, you'll undoubtedly find something else to correct us on soon enough.

You want to buy a used car, but how do you find a good one? Tom and Ray can help! Order "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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TOBIN BARNES

Modern Life Reshapes Devil's Dictionary

BY TOBIN BARNES

"POLITICS, n. A strife of interests masquerading as a contest of principles. The conduct of public affairs for private advantage."

("Whoa, Barnes, are you going to make us read more fractured definitions from The Devil's Dictionary?")

("Uh, yeah. If you want. I really like them.")

("But they're so pessimistic and cynical. Is that what you're like?")

("Not necessarily. I'd like to think I'm a fairly optimistic guy. I'd like to think humanity, with some notably vile exceptions—including the recent past, has been improving. Things, I suspect, are unevenly getting better overall.")

("So why all the cynical definitions? Don't they just drag everybody down?")

("I don't think so. Actually, I think this type of stuff can pull everybody up. Let me explain.")

Ambrose Bierce, the 19th-century American writer of "The Devil's Dictionary" and many anthologized short stories, looked around and found that people's perceptions and prac-



Barnes

And, "RESOLUTE, adj. Obstinate in a course that we approve."

And, "RESPONSIBILITY, n. A detachable burden easily shifted to the shoulders of God, Fate, Fortune, Luck or one's neighbor. In the days of astrology it was customary to unload it upon a star."

Aren't we all identifiable in that definition?

And, "POLITENESS, v. The most acceptable hypocrisy."

"Cynicism" and "skepticism" are words that have been unfairly over-loaded with negative connotations by authority figures who don't want to be questioned. Cynics and skeptics have been branded as disloyal and unfaithful.

On the other hand, "Cynicism" and "Skepticism" are words whose meaning have been

utilized as tools by rebels who suspect our tenets have all-too-often been shot through with lies and manipulation.

Haven't the real enemies of humanity been gullibility, ignorance, and, even worse, miseducation? More harm has been done through the ages by herd mentality than any other disease. Those who can bring themselves to think outside the herd have been mankind's only saving grace, particularly when they are listened to — though sometimes that happens only generations later.

Now, of course, nothing spurs outrage quicker than religion, not even politics. And maybe that's because there's as many variations on religion as there are practitioners, which begs the question: Is everybody right or is everybody wrong? That's because I dare to say, no two people have exactly the same beliefs. Various groups, ever splintering, have similar beliefs, but that's about as far as it goes.

This is where Ambrose Bierce's definitions can be particularly infuriating, but also maybe a tad enlightening if you're willing to go there with

him. It's not always easy, and, even less, agreeable.

For example, "PRAY, v. To ask that the laws of the universe be annulled in behalf of a single petitioner confessedly unworthy."

That'll get some people going. And, "REVELATION, n. A famous book in which St. John the Divine concealed all that he knew. The revealing is done by the commentators, who know nothing."

And, "RICHES, n. A gift from heaven signifying, "This is my beloved son, in whom I am well pleased."

And, "SAINT, n. A dead sinner revised and edited."

And, "SCRIPTURES, n. The sacred books of our holy religion, as distinguished from the false and profane writings on which all other faiths are based."

Uncomfortably, I find myself cringing and smiling and nodding all at the same time.

Tobin Barnes, a high school English teacher, gets his skewed viewpoints of life from staring too much at Crow Peak, which looms above his home a few miles outside Spearfish.

Group Names USD Online M.B.A. As 'Best Value'

VERMILLION — Getting an M.B.A. at the Beacom School of Business at The University of South Dakota isn't just convenient; it's a degree that comes with real "value."

GetEducated.com, a consumer watchdog group that reviews and ranks online universities for cost, quality and credibility has ranked USD as one of the "Best Values Online M.B.A." programs in the United States.

GetEducated.com's recently released 2010 "Top Best Values in Online MBAs — AACSB-Accredited" features USD's M.B.A. program at No. 6, ranking The U with online programs offered by Texas A&M University, Oklahoma State University, University of North Dakota and Southeast Missouri State's Harrison College of Business. The Beacom School of Business remains the only business program in the state of South Dakota — and one of just a few in the region — to be accredited by the Association to Advance College Schools of Business (AACSB) International, the acknowl-

edged leader in business accreditation standards.

According to Michael J. Keller, J.D., dean of the Beacom School of Business at USD, costs for out-of-state students enrolled full-time in USD's online M.B.A. program, is \$3,000 less than non-resident tuition for students enrolled in Southeast Missouri State University's online MBA program, which ranked No. 1 in overall affordability by GetEducated.com. The average cost for an AACSB-accredited online M.B.A., as estimated by GetEducated.com, is around \$33,000. Those cost rankings were based on a comprehensive, independent survey of 69 AACSB-accredited business schools that offer 133 M.B.A. degrees via distance education.

"Not only is USD's online M.B.A. a real value to students because of its affordability, it's also a high quality degree that is well regarded by the business and academic community," explained Keller, who noted that USD's cost of \$11,352 is for both in-state and

out-of-state students who pursue their M.B.A. online. "I am not aware of any AACSB accredited, online M.B.A. that is lower priced for South Dakotans or out-of-state students than USD's Beacom School of Business."

The online M.B.A. program was developed at USD for leaders of business, industry and government, and the program emphasizes decision making, problem solving, understanding the role of business in society and developing leadership ability and social responsibility.

"All M.B.A. courses are taught by the same faculty and consist of the same subject matter regardless of delivery mode, whether it's online, on campus or classes offered at University Center in Sioux Falls," added Angeline Lavin, Ph.D., CFA, director of the M.B.A. and M.P.A. programs at USD. "The Beacom M.B.A. is an integrated business learning experience of the highest caliber."

Transient Vendors: Get The Facts Before You Buy

PIERRE — Transient vendor season is beginning in South Dakota, a time when out-of-state vendors roll into the state to sell their products and services. While many of the vendors are legitimate, the South Dakota Department of Revenue and Regulation advises people to take common-sense steps to ensure vendors are reputable before doing business with them.

If you're considering hiring a person to provide repair or construction services, the department advises you to:

- Ask for a price quote, in advance, in writing.
- Question the contractor about a permanent address and telephone number, and don't assume that if the information they provide is local, they're a local business. Transient vendors often have business cards printed with local mailing services or motel addresses and telephone numbers.
- Ask for a list of local references and check them before making a decision.
- Ask if the contractor has worker's compensation and general liability insurance. If vendors are not properly insured, homeowners may be liable for accidents that occur on their property.
- Be careful about paying for work in advance; before making final payments, make sure transient vendors have paid their local suppliers or you may be held

liable for unpaid materials.

- Make sure you're completely satisfied with the work before paying the bill, and don't pay more for the job than originally quoted unless you've given written approval for the additional work or cost.

Out-of-state vendors often travel to South Dakota to sell items like fruit, seafood, meat packages, paintings, magazine subscriptions, rugs, T-shirts, sunglasses, household cleaners, furniture, stuffed animals, and asphaltting and roofing services. Asking the right questions when approached by those vendors can help you avoid making a purchase you may regret:

- Question the salesperson about the product, warranties, guarantees, etc.
- Get something in writing with

the company's name, address and phone number.

- Ask to see their current South Dakota tax license. State law requires everyone selling products or services to have a current South Dakota sales or contractors' excise tax license. To verify if the license is valid, call the Department's toll-free helpline at 1-800-829-9188.

All sellers must provide you with a contract or receipt at the time of sale showing the date, merchant's name and address, and a statement informing you of your right to cancel the contract within three days. After proper cancellation, the seller has 10 days to refund your money.

If you have doubts about the vendor or think you may have been the victim of a scam, call

your local police department or county sheriff's office immediately. You can also contact the Attorney General's Consumer Protection Office at 1-800-300-1986 or by e-mail at consumerhelp@state.sd.us. Be prepared to give as much information as you can about the vendor, including the name of the company and salesperson; company address and telephone number; and make, model and license number (if possible) of the vehicle the vendor was driving. Without tips from the public, law enforcement officials may not be able to catch illegal vendors before they move on to the next community.

For more information on transient vendors, contact the South Dakota Department of Revenue and Regulation's toll-free helpline at 1-800-829-9188.

KNOWLEDGE IS PREVENTION

Colon Cancer Awareness



Some Important Facts You Should Know About Colorectal Cancer!

- Colorectal cancer is the second leading cancer killer in the United States after lung cancer.
- More than one-third of colorectal cancer deaths could be avoided if people over 50 had regular screening tests.
- Most colorectal cancers begin as polyps. (Polyps are growths on the inner wall of the colon or rectum.)
- People who have polyps or colorectal cancer do not always have symptoms.
- Screening tests are so important because they can find colorectal cancer early, when treatment works best.
- When colorectal cancer is detected in the earliest stage of the disease (Stage 1), the survival rate is greater than 90 percent.
- Colorectal cancer is one of the most preventable cancers. Screening tests can help prevent colorectal cancer by finding pre-cancerous polyps so they can be removed before they turn into cancer.
- Risk increases as we age. The risk of developing colorectal cancer increases with age. In fact, most cases (92%) occur in people 50 and older.
- Both men and women are at risk.

Dr. Lisa Miller will discuss colon cancer screenings and treatment.

Monday, June 7
7:00 p.m.

Lewis & Clark Specialty Hospital



Lisa A Miller, MD

This seminar is free and open to the public.



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