

# Regional, National Professionals Presenting At Conference

## Everyone Invited To Annual Mental Wellness Conference, June 8-9

The thirteenth annual Yankton Area Mental Wellness Conference will be held on Wednesday and Thursday, June 8 - 9, at Mount Marty College. The conference, sponsored by Yankton Area Mental Wellness, Inc (YAMWI), is aimed at increasing knowledge, identifying resources and building a network of contacts.

This conference will uphold YAMWI's mission for "Caring for Self...Caring for Community" through the 2011 theme of "Chemistry for Mental Health: Brain, Personal, Relationships, Life!" Presentations at the conference will address topics of special interest to family members caring for loved ones or professionals serving clients with mental health concerns. The conference will feature various mental health issues while showcasing professional presenters from throughout the state, region, and nation.

### DEAN AUFDERHEIDE

Dean Aufderheide, Ph.D. will present the keynote address on Wednesday, June 8th, titled "Leadership Doesn't Need a Title." He will discuss how things will change when you become a leader. He will also present breakout sessions titled "Minds on the Edge" and "Beyond Good and Evil: Inside the Mind of the Psychopath." Dr. Dean will assist his wife Kerryn with a presentation "Don't Let it Happen to You."

Dr. Dean Aufderheide is a licensed Clinical and Forensic Psychologist in the state of Florida. He holds a Masters degree in Theology, a Ph.D. in Clinical Psychology and is working toward a Masters degree in Public Administration. For the past seven years, "Dr. Dean" has served as the

statewide Director of Mental Health Services for the Florida Department of Corrections, where he is responsible for the leadership and oversight of a \$64 million mental health delivery system for over 100,000 inmates at sixty-three major correctional institutions.

Dr. Dean has over twenty-five years of leadership and management of behavior health care systems in military, government and private care systems. He is the author of numerous professional publications and has conducted over fifty peer-reviewed lectures and keynote presentations at national conferences and international forums. A nationally recognized expert on mental health and suicide prevention in the criminal justice system, he has served as a consultant to state correctional systems and the federal government.

Dr. Dean is the President of the International Association of Correctional & Forensic Psychology and has been recognized by the National Commission on Correctional Health Care as among "...the most highly regarded speakers and influential opinion-leaders in our industry".

### JOHN TIMM

During Wednesday's luncheon, conference participants will be treated to a Living History - Chautauqua presentation by John Timm as Gov. Arthur C. Mellette. The presentation titled "Mental Illness and the Homesteader" is sponsored by the South Dakota Humanities Council; an affiliate of the National Endowment for the Humanities. Mr. Timm will discuss mental illness causes and prairie hardships. He will describe what Gov. Mellette saw and did to address these concerns and relate what

other politicians' reactions were.

John Timm a Social Security Disability Senior Examiner for the state of South Dakota was born in Canton, SD and moved to California at the age of twelve. He received most of his education there. After returning from Vietnam he graduated with honors from Chabot College in Hayward, CA, with a Business Administration degree. He returned to South Dakota and has served as President and Vice President for the Siouxland Heritage Museum Alliance in Sioux Falls, first vice president of the Minnehaha Historical Society, and a committed docent at the Pettigrew Home and Museum. John got his first living history experience portraying Sioux Falls major George Burnside. He has presented papers at the Augustana History conference in Sioux Falls and the West River conference in Rapid City. His studies have been focused on Gov. Mellette since March of 1999. He has just published a book on the governor, entitled "And the Last Shall Be First".

### MATT MICHELS

Lt. Gov. Matt Michels will be the featured speaker on Thursday, June 9th, with his presentation titled "How Professionals Ethically Deal with Clients/Patients."

Matt has always had an intense desire to serve others. He was honored to represent District 18 as a member of the South Dakota House of Representatives for eight years from 1999 to 2006. While in the legislature, Matt served for two years as Speaker Pro Tempore and as Speaker of the House for four years. He was the first person to serve two terms as Speaker since the 1950s.

### BOB SWANHORST

During Thursday's luncheon, conference participants will be treated with a

presentation by Bob Swanhorst representing the South Dakota Humanities Council. Bob's presentation titled

Rise & Fall of Small Towns in South Dakota will feature a discussion about the development of small town institutions: the people, social life, agriculture, and the meaning of Main Street. The presentation will also discuss its impact and contribution to South Dakota and the United States.

### MATTHEW R. FAIRHOLM

Matthew R. Fairholm, Ph.D. will present the closing presentation titled "The Chemistry of Organizational Life: Or How Leadership Matters Too". Dr. Fairholm will introduce concepts of leadership and organizational life. The intent is to suggest the way we act in organizations impacts the health and well-being of all involved.

Matt Fairholm is an Associate Professor at the University of South Dakota with a joint appointment in the Department of Political Science and W.O. Farber Center for Civic Leadership. He was formerly the Director of Leadership Studies and Development for The George Washington University Center for Excellence in Public Leadership.

His academic and professional interests focus on public administration, leadership theory and practice, and organizational behavior. His published articles appear in several public administration and leadership journals and his is most recently the author, with Gil Fairholm, of the book Understanding Leadership Perspectives: Theoretical and Practical Applications (2009 Springer).

Dr. Fairholm's teaching and training experience spans public, private, non-profit, and academic settings, including work with the Fannie Mae Corporation, the USDA Graduate School, the District of Columbia government, and GWU's CED program.

### 36 BREAKOUT SESSIONS

The YAMWI conference will also include 36 breakout sessions featuring the following local, regional and national speakers: Kristy Alten-Osmera & Tara Espland of Keystone Treatment Center in Canton; Phyllis Arens & Stephanie Goldhorn of NAMI South Dakota in Sioux Falls; Kerryn Aufderheide of the Agency for Healthcare Administration in Tallahassee, FL; Heather Berard & Robin Carter-Visscher of Sioux Falls VA Medical Center; Darin Cunningham of SD Division of Criminal Investigation in Yankton; Lawrence Diggs of South Dakota Humanities Council of Brookings; David Dracy, Cathy Flum, Abbey Hunhoff, Stephanie Lund, Liz Rembold of Lewis & Clark Behavioral Health Services in Yankton; Janette Ellis of Consumer Credit Counseling Services of Lutheran Social Services in Sioux Falls; Kay Ermish of Black Hills Special Services in Rapid City; Jarod Giger & Peter Kindle of University of South Dakota in Vermillion; Camille Heyman & Carrie Swyter of the Minnesota Autism Center in Minnetonka, MN; Page Hudson of DakotaLink in Sioux Falls; Jean Hunhoff of Avera Sacred Heart in Yankton; Wallace Jackson & Mark Vande Braak of Avera Behavioral Health Center in Sioux Falls; Robert Kean of SD Advocacy Services in Pierre; Amanda Keating of Sanford School of Medicine in Sioux Falls; Craig Kennedy of Kennedy, Pier, & Knoff, LLP in Yankton, SD; Julia Kleinschmit of University of Iowa School of Social Work; Jeremy Koerselman of Creative Living Center, PC in Rock Valley, IA; Lisa Koerselman of Sioux Center IA; Guy Larson of Yankton; Shanel Kube & Kristi Patton of Ability Building Services in Yankton; Gwen Maag of Avera Education & Staffing Solutions in Yankton; Brian Paulsen of Yankton Police Department; Sherri Rodgers-Conti of Yankton; Doug Simmons of the Sioux Falls Police Department; and Matt Stricherz of Vermillion.



Yankton Mayor David Knoff (pictured third from left) has proclaimed June 8-9, 2011, as "Yankton Mental Wellness, Inc 13th Annual Conference Days." The proclamation promotes support for Yankton Area Mental Wellness, Inc. (YAMWI) in hosting the Thirteenth Annual Conference at Mount Marty College on June 8-9. Pictured left to right are YAMWI representative Shari Hussing of the South Dakota Human Services; Doug Savage, Vice-Chair of YAMWI; Mayor David Knoff; YAMWI representative Lori Lincoln of Mount Marty College, YAMWI representative Sharon Oien of Ability Building Services, Inc.; Craig Sherman, Executive Director of YAMWI.

## Mayor Proclaims Mental Wellness Conference Days

Yankton Mayor David Knoff has proclaimed June 8-9, 2011 as "Yankton Mental Wellness, Inc. 13th Annual Conference Days". Yankton Area Mental Wellness, Inc. (YAMWI) will host the Thirteenth Annual Conference at Mount Marty College on June 8-9.

The Mayor's proclamation and the conference reflect the commitment to training and networking in Yankton, a region that is both extremely concerned about serving those in need and is also rich in both resources and professional expertise to educate others, especially about mental health issues.

"Chemistry for Mental Health: Brain, Personal, Relationships, Life!" is the theme for the 2011 conference emphasizing how chemistry plays such a vital role in many areas of our mental health. Conference sessions will address various topics pertaining to mental wellness that are of special interest to mental health professionals serving family members or clients with mental

health concerns.

The conference has become known throughout the region for providing professional presenters with high quality information about mental health issues. The conference is aimed at identifying resources and building a network of contact.

Everyone interested is welcome to attend. Professional credits are being requested for Nursing Home Administrators, Counselors, Alcohol and Drug Professionals, Social Workers, Licensed Childcare Providers, Emergency Medical Technicians and Dentists. One undergraduate college credit is being offered through Mount Marty College and one graduate college credit is offered through the University of Sioux Falls for this conference for an additional fee.

The conference early registration is due May 20th. Registration information is available by phone at (605) 666-4659 Ext. 218, email at yamwi.org@gmail.com or website at www.yamwi.org.

## High School Students To Attend Mental Health Conference

I have been a part of the Yankton Area Mental Wellness, Incorporated (YAMWI) conference from the beginning. Part of my role has been to "look out for" educators by including topics and sessions that teachers would find beneficial to their classroom experiences. Over the years we have had a very positive response from area educators through their attendance at the conference, and their requests for topics to be included in future conferences.

The 2011 conference is about to take a logical turn. For the first time we will have area high school students in attendance at the conference. YAMWI, in collaboration with Southeast Job Link (SEJL) has put together a class where area students can learn about, and experience mental health opportunities in the Yankton area. Over the course of the Mental Health Care and Careers in Our Community class, students will be introduced to professions in the mental health field, learn about human growth and development, complete a class project, and attend the YAMWI conference. The projects developed by the students will be showcased at the

conference by being put on display.

Through the Mental Health Care and Careers in Our Community class work, and attendance at the conference, students will have a better understanding of mental health, mental illness, typical and atypical human development, and local employment opportunities. With an understanding about the educational requirements that will open mental health profession doors, students will have an advantage with course selection as high school

students, preparing them for post-secondary educational options.

High school students who are interested in becoming a part of this unique experience can visit the SEJL website for more information and registration for the class. The link is: www.southeast-joblink.org.

Charles Barron, EdS, is School Psychologist/Behavior Specialist for the Yankton School District 63-3 and is a member of the Yankton Area Mental Wellness Board of Directors.

## Mental Health Care, Careers In Our Community

Careers in mental health care remain in high demand even during an economic downturn. In fact, demand for mental health care often increases in a recession, due to the additional psychological stress caused by severe financial strain, which can create or exacerbate psychological needs and prompt more patients to seek psychiatric care.

Yankton Area Mental Wellness, Inc. (YAMWI) has partnered with Southeast Job Link, Inc. (SEJL) to raise awareness to Mental Health Care and the careers that are available for Mental Health professionals in our community. Mental Health Care and Careers in Our Community was designed with the goal of outreaching to our youth population to educate them on mental health issues, while exposing them to the wide variety of career opportunities in our community. Through the development of this program, area representatives were

focused on raising awareness of issues that affect individuals in our community from infants and children, to adolescents and school-aged children, to young adults and senior adults.

While researching for the program, it was found that students are not currently being offered any Psychology courses at the High School level. Therefore, Mental Health Care and Careers in Our Community, was designed to give students an opportunity to understand another area of healthcare that is not always situated at the forefront, due to the stigma of mental health issues. This program came together with the help of community professionals in offering their time and expertise to provide classroom instruction, to serve on discussion panels, and to provide tours and personal insight into their experiences in dealing with and working with mental health issues.

Students will not only get to hear about and see professionals

from the community. They will research career opportunities, create journal articles, and will also have the opportunity to attend the Yankton Area Mental Wellness Conference. At this conference, students will present "poster presentations" on what they have learned through the course. They will also have the opportunity present this information to their family, friends and the community at an open house on the final day of class.

For more information on this summer program opportunity, contact Sheri Duke with Southeast Job Link at 605-668-3480 or go to our website at www.southeastjoblink.org and find more information on our News page.

Sherry Duke is the Executive Director of Southeast Job Link, Inc. here in Yankton. She is also a member of the Yankton Area Mental Wellness, Inc. Board of Directors. \*Andrea Santiago, About.com Guide, April 11, 2010

## Mental Wellness Conference Registration

Everyone interested is welcome to attend the Mental Wellness Conference.

Professional credit for mental health professionals is approved, including teacher certificate renewal contact hours. Prompt pre-registration is encouraged with the registration fee of \$95 prior to May 20.

Contact conference organizers to coordinate agency billing arrangements, if required. In addition one undergraduate credit is available through Mount Marty College, Yankton, and one graduate credit is available through the University of Sioux Falls. Registration materials are available online at www.yamwi.org. For more information contact Craig Sherman at yamwi.org@gmail.com or 665-4659, Ext. 218.



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