

## Yankton Co. Farmers Union To Meet Thursday

The Yankton County Farmers Union will meet at 8 p.m. Thursday at the Fry'n Pan Restaurant, Yankton. Coffee, desserts and door prizes will be available. For more information, call 364-7303.

## Citizens Reminded Parks Are Tobacco-Free

The City of Yankton and the Yankton Tobacco Education Coalition reminds all citizens that the Yankton Parks are tobacco-free. In 2006, the Yankton Tobacco Education Coalition asked the City Commission to support a tobacco-free parks policy. The City Commission voted unanimously in favor of this policy. The primary reasons for supporting tobacco-free parks are the health risks related to exposure to secondhand smoke, the peer influence on the community's youth through role modeling, and the environmental impact due to littering. Yankton's city parks and recreational facilities promote health and wellness. The city parks have a tremendous number of young people utilizing them. Yankton citizens need to be positive role models in the parks for the youth and the best way for the community to influence them is by setting good examples.

The environmental impact of leaving cigarette butts on the ground is of concern also. Cigarette butts on the ground are unsightly and take away from the beauty of the community's parks just as any litter does. There are also the potentially deadly effects on children if the butts are ingested.

The public is asked to do its part to keep Yankton's parks tobacco and litter free.

## Openings Available For L&C Day Camps

There are still openings for the Lewis and Clark Day Camps, to be held this summer at the Lewis & Clark Recreation Area.

The first camp is slated for June 19-21. The morning sessions for ages 4-6 are full, but there are still openings for the afternoon sessions, which are for ages 7-10 and run from 1-3 p.m.

The second camp is set for July 17-19. There are openings in both the morning (9-11 a.m.; ages 4-6) and afternoon (1-3 p.m.; ages 7-10) sessions.

Each camp runs with the following session topics: Tuesdays — Creatures of the Night; Wednesdays — Cooking with Kids; Thursdays — Little Nature Explorers Hike. The camps are led by program naturalists from the Lewis & Clark Recreation Area.

For more information, contact the Game, Fish and Parks office at (605) 668-2985 or visit the Lewis & Clark Campground Welcome Center. Space is limited to 20 participants per session.

## S.D. Kayak Challenge Seeks Volunteers

The South Dakota Kayak Challenge is set for May 25-27, and more than 140 racers from 14 states are coming to Yankton to take part in this event.

Staff for the event seek volunteers for a wide range of duties including:

- Welcome and registration from 2-7 p.m. May 25, Riverside Park, Yankton;
- Starting line organization, checkpoints and on-water volunteers from 7 a.m.-midnight May 26, from Yankton to Sioux City on the Missouri River;
- Finish line help from 5-7 p.m. May 26 at Bev's on the River in Sioux City;
- Second-day help from 7 a.m.-1 p.m. between Elk Point and Sioux City, and in Sioux City on May 27.

Any interested volunteer can sign up through the event Web site at <http://sdkayakchallenge.org> or by emailing Jarett Bies at [jbies0341@hotmail.com](mailto:jbies0341@hotmail.com) or Steven Dahlmeier at [steven@sdkayakchallenge.org](mailto:steven@sdkayakchallenge.org).

## L&C Lake Ministry To Begin Services

The Lewis & Clark Lake Ministry will be starting interdenominational church services from Memorial Day to Labor Day.

Services are held at Weigand, Neb., each Sunday at 9 a.m. and at the Pierson Ranch Amphitheater, Lewis & Clark Recreational Area, at 10:30 a.m. Sundays.

## USDA Announces Neb. Designated Place List

LINCOLN, Neb. — The United States Department of Agriculture (USDA) Rural Development has announced its 2012 designated place list for the Rural Rental Housing (RRH) loan program. The program helps build and maintain affordable multi-family housing rental developments in rural areas. Potential applicants include individuals, corporations, associations, partnerships, limited partnerships, state or local public agencies, nonprofit organizations, and Native American tribes.

Only rural rental housing proposals located in the state's designated places will be accepted for review. Designated places were selected based upon certain demographic data that indicated a possible need for additional affordable rental units. Fiscal Year 2012 Nebraska designated places are: Ainsworth, Arlington, Aurora, Bayard, Beatrice, Beemer, Blair, Blue Hill, Broken Bow, Cambridge, Cedar Bluffs, Ceresco, Chappell, Clarkson, Crawford, Crofton, David City, Deshler, Dorchester, Eagle, Emerson, Fairbury, Falls City, Franklin, Friend, Genoa, Gibbon, Grant, Gretna, Hay Springs, Henderson, Hershey, Hickman, Holdrege, Hooper, Howells, Humboldt, Imperial, Indianola, Kenesaw, Kimball, Louisville, Loup City, Lyons, Madison, McCook, Millford, Minatare, Nelson, Newman Grove, Ogalala, O'Neill, Ord, Oxford, Pawnee City, Pender, Plattsmouth, Ravenna, Red Cloud, Rushville, Sargent, Schuyler, Scribner, Shelby, Shelton, Sidney, Springfield, Stanton, Stromsburg, Stuart, Sutherland, Tekamah, Utica, Valentine, Valley, Wakefield, Walthill, Wauneta, Wausa, Wayne, Waverly, Weeping Water, West Point, Wilber, Wood River, Wymore, and Yutan.

Contact the Nebraska USDA Rural Development State Office for loan proposal information at (402) 437-5734.

Visit [http://www.rurdev.usda.gov/NEHousingPrograms\\_RRH.htm](http://www.rurdev.usda.gov/NEHousingPrograms_RRH.htm).



COURTESY PHOTO  
Pictured are, from left: AHA President and CEO Rich Umbdenstock, "2012 Grassroots Champion," Wagner Community Memorial Hospital Avera Administrator/CEO Bryan Slaba and SDAH President & CEO Dave Hewett.

# Wagner's Slaba Recognized As Grassroots Champion

SIoux FALLS — The American Hospital Association (AHA), in partnership with the South Dakota Association of Healthcare Organizations (SDAHO), awarded Bryan Slaba, Chief Executive Officer/Administrator of Wagner Community Memorial Hospital Avera, with the American Hospital Association Grassroots Champion Award.

As a 2012 Grassroots Champion, Slaba was recognized for his exceptional leadership in generating grassroots and community activity in support of a hospital's mission.

The American Hospital Association Grassroots Champion Award was created to recognize those hospital leaders who most effectively educate elected officials on how major issues affect the hospital's vital role in the community, and has done an exemplary job in broadening the base of community support for the hospital, and are tireless advocates for the hospital and its patients.

"We depend upon strong voices like Bryan Slaba's to help tell the story of hospitals as cornerstones of the communities they serve," said Rich Umbdenstock, AHA president and CEO. "This award

is a small token of our appreciation for his hard work and dedication to improving health and health care in America."

According to Dave Hewett, SDAH President and CEO, this award is well-deserved. "Bryan Slaba makes sure his local legislators know what issues are facing health care and the importance solving those issues has on the constituents in his community."

Hewett shared that Slaba is often called to represent health care before state committees and is an excellent resource for information.

Hewett said, "Bryan takes the time to understand public policy issues and the effects on health care in South Dakota as he formulates forward-thinking responses to those issues."

The award is presented annually to one individual from each state with winners being chosen by the state association. The 2012 honorees were recognized at a special Breakfast of Grassroots Champions at the AHA annual Membership Meeting on Tuesday, May 8. Slaba is one of 52 individuals honored this year.

# Saunders

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Halbur said she was surprised to see how much work Saunders does for many organizations.

"She could have spent the hours of volunteer service in so many different ways but she spent it in selfless service for the betterment of our community and that was very inspiring to us," Halbur said.

Saunders involvement with the Court Appointed Special Advocates For Children also inspired Halbur.

Sherri Rodgers-Conti, program director for CASA, said Saunders' involvement has been helpful since the program is new to the Yankton community.

CASA programs are all over the country, with six other programs in South Dakota, Rodgers-Conti said.

"We are new in Yankton County as of last October and now have six months under our belt,"

Rodgers-Conti said. "The core of our organization is to assign volunteer advocates to court cases where there are abused and neglected children."

Saunders' previous work with the CASA program in Sioux Falls was a gift to the organization in Yankton, Rodgers-Conti said.

"It was nice to have somebody with experience take the first case," Rodgers-Conti said. "Saunders' is very thorough about doing everything that's required and getting things done on time. That's been a real help for me."

Saunders said she spent four years with the CASA program in Sioux Falls. Her job is not to take the place of a social worker, but to help the judge make the right decision for the child involved.

"I spend time with the family and the children involved to see if the parents are doing the right thing," Saunders said. "I don't tell them what to do, like a social worker would, but I do write a report for the judge to help him decide what the best decision for the child is."

Having worked with Saunders so much has given Rodgers-Conti

the opportunity to know her well.

"It comes through that (Saunders) cares about making her community a better place to live," Rodgers-Conti said. "She actually gets out there and delivers meals, coaches soccer, helps the disabled and, of course, advocates for the abused and neglected children."

Rodgers-Conti said she admires Saunders because she volunteers in such a way that doesn't make it look like a burden.

"She makes it look effortless and rewarding," Rodgers-Conti said. "She's a shining example of what everyone should aspire to do."

Saunders has been involved with Big Friend-Little Friend and Meals on Wheels, and has worked with local nursing homes as well as soccer and basketball activities.

"It's the little things that matter most," Saunders said. "You have to want to volunteer, and that's just how I was raised. I have always been lucky to have as much as I do. Volunteering is something everyone should do, whether they are adults or kids."

## OBITUARIES

### Melba Kremer

CROFTON, Neb. — Melba M. Kremer, age 76 of Crofton, Nebraska, died on Sunday, May 20, 2012 at the Golden Living Center in Hartington, Nebraska.

Mass of Christian Burial will be on Friday, May 25, 2012 at 10:30 a.m. at St. Joseph's Catholic Church in Constance with the Rev. David Fulton officiating. Burial will be at the St. Rose of Lima Cemetery in Crofton.

Visitation will be on Thursday at the Wintz Funeral Home in Crofton from 5-8:00 p.m. with a Vigil service at 7:00 p.m. Visitation will continue on Friday at church one hour prior to services.

Pallbearers will be William B. Kremer, Kevin Andrew Kremer, Wyatt Kremer, Mike Nohr, Kathy Nohr and Doug Steffen.

Honorary pallbearers are Jeanne Mackie, Jeri Backman, and Jo-



Kremer

1954. Melba earned a teacher's certificate from Wayne Teacher's College and taught at several country schools. Melba married William M. Kremer on November 25, 1957 in Crofton at St. Rose of Lima Catholic Church. Melba continued her career teaching at Fordyce St. John's and Crofton Public Schools. She earned a teaching degree from Yankton College, graduating cum laude in 1972. Melba retired from Crofton Public Schools in 1996.

Survivors include her husband,

Irene Steffen

Melba was born January 24, 1936 to Vern and Helen (Gass) Nohr in Crofton. Melba attended St. Rose Elementary and Mount Marty High School in

William M. Kremer, and their two children, their spouses and grandchildren: Kevin and Jane Kremer, William B. Kremer and Kevin A. Kremer of Houston, Texas and Keith and Ellen Kremer, Wyatt Kremer, Liza Kremer, Josie Kremer and Mathis Kremer of Smithfield, VA. Melba's grandchildren were the light of her life.

She was preceded in death by her parents, Vern and Helen Nohr and her aunt, Sr. Georgetta Gass.

Yankton Press & Dakotan  
May 23, 2012

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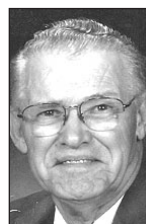
### Russell Johnson

Russell Lee Johnson, 79, of Vermillion died Saturday, May 19, 2012, at Craig General Hospital, Vinita, Okla.

Funeral services are at 10:30 a.m. Friday at Trinity Lutheran Church, Vermillion, with burial to follow at Pleasant Valley Cemetery, rural Vermillion, with military honors conducted by V.F.W. Clay Co. Post No. 3061.

Visitation is 5 to 7 p.m. Thursday at Kober Funeral Home, Vermillion, with a prayer service to begin at 7 p.m.

Kober Funeral Home, Vermillion, is in charge of arrangements. Condolences may be posted online to [www.koberfuneralhome.com](http://www.koberfuneralhome.com).



Johnson

### Lenarda Grimm

BLOOMFIELD, Neb. — Lenarda H. Grimm, 78, of Bloomfield, Neb., died Monday, May 21, 2012, at the Good Samaritan Center, Bloomfield.

Funeral services are at 10:30 a.m. Thursday at St. Andrew's Catholic Church, Bloomfield. The Revs. Michael Schmitz and Paul Ortmeier will serve as Concele-

brants, with burial in the Bloomfield City Cemetery.

Visitation is 5-7 p.m. today (Wednesday) at St. Andrew's Catholic Church, Bloomfield, with a 7 p.m. wake service.

Brockhaus Funeral Home, Bloomfield, is in charge of arrangements. To sign the guestbook, or leave online condolences, visit [www.brockhausfuneralhome.com](http://www.brockhausfuneralhome.com).

## Why Should I Have A Professional Clean After I Have Water Damage?

### Water Restoration – There's Been A Flood – But I Can Handle It Myself

Water damage is a hazardous situation. It is unwise for anyone but a trained professional to attempt any sort of water damage cleanup.

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In order to deal with the situation properly, the padding must be removed and discarded, and the carpet dried separately. In specific situations it is possible to dry the padding and carpet together; however, even when this is possible, professional help is still required.

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## IN REMEMBRANCE

### Melba M. Kremer

10:30 AM, Friday  
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