



Photo: Brenda Willcuts  
HAVE A PHOTO? Submit it to River City for publication in this space: RiverCity@yankton.net.

# NO TEARS FOR PARADISE Fears

## Vermillion Band Embarks On Headlining Tour, Returning Home For June Performance

BY NATHAN JOHNSON  
nathan.johnson@yankton.net

Vermillion-based band Paradise Fears is about to step out of its supporting role and into the spotlight. After four years of playing supporting slots on various tours, the six-member group will be embarking on a nine-date headlining tour that kicks off in Boston May 31 and wraps up in Vermillion June 17 at the Eagles Club. "It was time to step back and determine how much we were worth," said lead vocalist Sam Miller via telephone. "We figured we'd do it all ourselves and see how many people would be excited about coming out to see us. So far, the response has been pretty incredible."

Despite Vermillion being Paradise Fears' home base, it's been about a year since the band has played there. Lead guitarist Jordan Merrigan said via telephone the band is excited to perform in front of a familiar crowd. "Hometown shows are very different from a regular show, but in a good way," he stated. "It's playing for our friends and family. It's playing for people we've known our whole lives. They get to see you in your element. It gives people a different view of what we do."

Miller said about 200 tickets have been sold for the upcoming Vermillion show, which is approaching the total number of people who came to last summer's concert. Those tickets have been sold to fans all across the nation. "It's crazy the number of people who are traveling a long way, not because it's the closest show but because they want to see us in our natural environment," Miller said.

The tour caps off a busy spring for the band, which also includes Cole Andre, Marcus Sand, Michael Walker and Lucas Zimmerman.

In March, Paradise Fears shot a video in Vermillion for a re-worked version of the song "Sanctuary." It was released as a single May 1 as a way to create excitement for the tour.

Miller said the decision to re-record the song with different instrumentation and a spoken-word section was made because of its growing importance among fans.



Paradise Fears formed approximately four years ago and consists of Vermillion High School grads (from left) Lucas Zimmerman, Jordan Merrigan, Sam Miller, Michael Walker, Marcus Sand and Cole Andre. The band will embark on its first headlining tour May 31.



PHOTO: JADE VAN KLEY

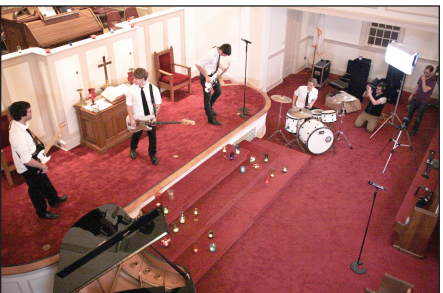


PHOTO: JADE VAN KLEY

LEFT: Lead singer Sam Miller and Lucas Zimmerman on drums, are seen with director of photography Jay Ness at Vermillion's United Church of Christ during the video shoot for "Sanctuary" in late March. ABOVE: (From left) Jordan Merrigan, Marcus Sand, Cole Andre and Lucas Zimmerman perform during the "Sanctuary" video shoot. The video has garnered more than 74,000 views on YouTube.

"We had been playing the song live for a long time, and there was a super long instrumental in the middle of it," he stated. "I got bored on stage, so one day I decided to try a spoken-word section. I took all these lyrics that hadn't made it into the song but I had written for the song. I also added lyrics from songs from my biggest influences. There is a Bob Marley line and a line from The New Radicals."

"Kids started learning it, and it was really exciting," Miller continued. "It became one of the most popular parts of the song and the most quoted we'd ever been."

The band felt it was important to film a video for the song

in Vermillion. Locations include the Vermillion High School and the United Church of Christ where Miller first wrote the song at the piano. His father is the pastor at the church, so Miller spent a lot of time there.

"The song is kind of about the piano featured in the video," he said. "Every time I felt frustrated in high school, I used to go and play that piano and write music. Because of my time spent there, I was playing my frustration into this piano. It be-

### Yankton Library

# Summer Outlook: Dream Big And Read, Read, Read!

BY KATHY JACOBS  
Yankton Community Library

Summer is here and the library is kicking off our summer reading program on Monday, June 4. This is the first day you can pick up your packets, start reading and begin recording your minutes in order to earn "book bucks" that you can spend at our Dream Shoppe. Our store is already filled with great prizes. You may want to pick out a special prize to help you set your reading goal.

Join us for our four weekly story times as they will feature

new stories, activities and crafts each session. Please note that we've added an additional story time on Tuesdays at 3:30 p.m. to accommodate parent requests.

On Tuesday through Friday, we'll have programs and activities that will interest all ages. Back by popular demand are family movie nights. Beginning June 12, you are invited to bring a picnic lunch each Tuesday and enjoy a movie on the big screen.

Our two special activities in June include a visit from author Jean Patrick who will read and talk about her book "The Girl Who Struck Out Babe Ruth." This

program, which takes place on Wednesday, June 3, at 1 p.m., is in partnership with the South Dakota Humanities Council.

On Monday, June 18, join us at the Riverside Park Amphitheatre for a concert by The String Beans, a band that plays songs just for kids! Bring your dancing shoes as it will be hard for you to sit quietly. You'll want to be dancing in the aisles! This program is sponsored by Friends of the Yankton Community Library.

Teens and adults can take

part in their own programs which feature such activities as a night ghost tour, star gazing, a night photography class, Tai Chi, a personal safety class, and Starbucks coffee and cheese pairings.


The two library book clubs will feature guest presenters and everyone is welcome to attend. Readers Anonymous meets June 12 at 1 p.m., and Between the Lines meets June 19, at 5:30 p.m. Because we do so many crafts during the summer months, we

are always looking for donations of materials. This year, we need the following items: tissue boxes, plastic lids that are margarine tub size, plastic peanut butter and mayo jars with lids, oatmeal boxes, and shoe boxes. If you have any of these items, we invite you to drop them off at the front desk.

We'll see you at Riverside Park for the Kids' Art Fest on Tuesday, June 5. Be sure to stop at the library table, make a craft, and pick up a treat.

Lauren Fosheim, Yankton County 4-H Youth Development Program Assistant, will facilitate a Babysitter Training on Thursday, June 7, and Friday June 8, at the library, for 11 to 18 year-olds. Both days, classes will run from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. Topics to be covered are safety, first aid and CPR, child development, nutrition, entertaining children, and the business of babysitting. The

# Memorial Day



## May 28th

Custom flowers for those we remember.


### Do you have a loved one in the Yankton Cemeteries?

*We deliver there for Memorial Day. Call Audrea for details.*

## ried piper flowers

665-7700 • 1-800-447-4910  
15th & Broadway • Yankton, SD  
[www.piedpiperflowers.com](http://www.piedpiperflowers.com)

## Proud To Salute The Men And Women Who Have Served Our Country



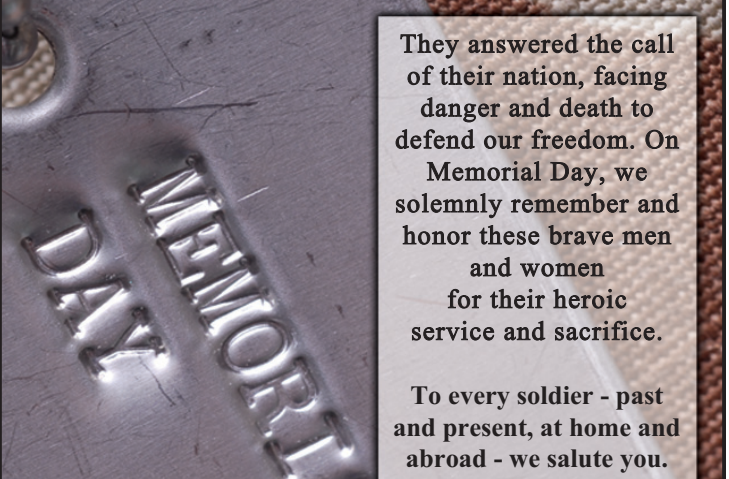
We Are Your

# CorTrust Bank

2405 Broadway | 668-0800  
110 Cedar | 665-6423

[www.cortrustbank.com](http://www.cortrustbank.com)  
Member FDIC | ID 405612

## In Honor of the Brave



They answered the call of their nation, facing danger and death to defend our freedom. On Memorial Day, we solemnly remember and honor these brave men and women for their heroic service and sacrifice.

To every soldier - past and present, at home and abroad - we salute you.

Lewis & Clark

**UROLOGY**td

409 Summit St. Suite 3400  
Yankton, SD 57078  
Phone (605) 260-0182  
Fax (605) 668-0371