

## Weed Patch

## Coping With Cardinal Rule Can Be Real Mess

BY LINDA WUEBBEN  
P&D Correspondent

The anger is mounting at my house. The threats are getting more frequent and louder.

Someone in my house wants those pretty little innocent red birds to go away.

You ask why, and of course, I will tell you. They mark their territory on both our new crossover and the good pickup. I have to admit sometimes the sides of cars look pretty bad. Our cardinal clan likes to sit at the base of the window on the driver and passenger side doors and look at themselves. So if the sight of themselves in the side mirror or window either excites them or angers them, they leave us a gift. I haven't decided which it is.

You know what I mean and you can understand our frustration.

I love the bright red songbirds. Their unique tweet is music to my ears. Most of the spring there was one red male and his companion female on our

Linda  
**WUEBBEN**

droppings off, I turned to look back at the pickup and there were the red birds perched on the hood, looking left and right. Were they eenie-meenie-minnie-mo-ing to decide which door to decorate first? I even tried covering the mirrors on the Chevy to see if that would discourage the cardinals from

deck and yes, they did smack my door a few times. I always wondered if it was the same couple every time. But then I would notice more than one female bird perched in our cherry tree and occasionally two males would fly across my back yard.

Last week, I washed our pickup behind the house. After sprucing it up, I took my wet rag and washed the passenger door on our Chevy parked about 50 feet away. While washing the bird

perching at that spot. I think it got worse! Of course, our two dogs couldn't leave the orange rags on the mirrors and pulled them off. Soon were fighting over them as they ran after Bob on the four-wheeler.

One evening when I came home from a meeting, I parked my crossover on the west side of my house to see if the bird attacks would cease. Not a chance. They had even more privacy there. Sometimes there were four scattered on the crossover. Sometimes they dive bombed each other. They were having a ball.

Then I noticed the birds never bothered the old white pickup on the east side of the house. I convinced Bob to move the white pickup on the west side of the house for the birds to perch on and park the good pickup in its place.

I'm sure you're shaking your heads. It didn't work. Oh, they sit on Bob's old white beater but never leave any gifts. I imagine they feel sorry for the peeling paint job and prefer the shiny new paint on our newer vehicles.

And, yep, they found the good pickup on the

east side and knew exactly where to perch.

Someone is quietly moving around in the basement digging out the gun and looking for bullets.

On quiet mornings, I look out my side door on the west side and watch the birds while they sing and play. Last Monday, I watched four females and one male flitting around the old pickup but they didn't leave any gifts.

Someone told me cardinals like mirrors, so we had an old mirror in the basement and I convinced Bob to hang it on a bird house to see if that attracted the red devils. No such luck, but I have a beautiful finch that sits on the mirror frame and sings while gazing at his or her feathered features. I wonder if it is courting itself.

Now add what happened when our dog Buddy first caught sight of himself in the mirror hanging on the bird house. She froze and stared at her reflection. Then she let out a bark and ran away!

We have a zoo here and I should charge admission for the show! Let me know when you're coming.

## Keep Yankton Beautiful

## How Can You Get Involved With KYB?

BY MARLYS BLAALID  
KYB Board Member

Have you ever wondered how to get on a board? Well let me tell you.

Art and I moved back to Yankton after 28 years. We looked at everything as new residents. When driving on a main street in Yankton there was this lot that was an eyesore. I asked someone why nothing was being done to have it cleaned up. I was told that if I cared enough to ask, I must be interested in changing things.

This is how I was asked to join a fledgling Keep Yankton Beautiful board.

It has been a wonderful experience to see, and be a part of, the progress Keep Yankton Beautiful has made.

Our first project was the Liberty Garden at 4th & Douglas. Keep America Beautiful has asked for these gardens to be installed across the country so that we would not forget the sacrifices and loss of the September 11, 2001 attacks.

The community was behind us and helped donate all things needed. The labor was



Blaalid

provided by the Keep Yankton Beautiful board. Since then we have accomplished many things. All of this has been possible because of the continued support from the Yankton community.

I spent 32 years in the Real Estate field as a Realtor. When showing a property, Realtors know exactly which streets to

drive down on a way to a showing. They make sure the buyer's first drive is a positive one, because that is what stays in the person's mind. This is also true of visitors coming to Yankton, we want them to have a positive attitude.

A few years ago Keep Yankton Beautiful's motto for Riverboat Days was "Company's Coming." We asked everyone (both businesses and homes) to clean up their yards and be sure to even get the grass and weeds off the curb. Such a little thing and it makes a major difference.

We, as a board, can help with the major public improvements, but it takes every

person to keep up on the rest. Look at your property as someone else would, and make needed improvements. All things are possible and I do believe that Yankton is on a roll and we should keep it going!

And if you like the work Keep Yankton Beautiful is doing in beautification projects, education and litter cleanups and campaigns, please support us. We are a membership-based non-profit and receive no operational funding outside of our members. You will find a list of the people and businesses that directly support our investment in the beautification of this proud City on our website as well as forms to volunteer and/or become a member at: [www.KeepYanktonBeautiful.org](http://www.KeepYanktonBeautiful.org).

We work very diligently on a number of fronts in keeping this community clean and beautiful, and could do so much more with increased support.

Our office is located at 322 Walnut, next to the Dakota Theatre, thanks to a generous gift from Kennedy, Pier & Knoff Law Offices. Our phone number is 689-1600 and our Facebook is: Keep Yankton Beautiful.

## ROTARY SCHOLAR WINNERS



COURTESY PHOTO

The Yankton Rotary Club has been focusing on youth and education for several years. The Club recognizes the importance of technical higher education or two-year programs as well as the traditional college education. The selection of the recipients is determined on scholastic achievement as well as extra curricular and community activities. Through their Foundation, they have been awarding scholarships to Yankton High School seniors since 1997. This year there were 4 - \$500 scholarships awarded to Yankton High School seniors. Gary Dybsetter, president of the Yankton Rotary Club, presented the following winners with these scholarships at the 19th Annual Yankton High School Academic Awards Program. Pictured are this year's winners (left to right): Brooke Thury, Leslie Henderson, Emily Andersen and Andrew Adam.

## Students Earn Honors At International Science Competition

MITCHELL – Four regional budding scientists recently attended the world's largest high school science research competition, the Intel International Science and Engineering Fair, and three came home with honors, including one second-place award.

Justin Krell, 15, Plankinton High School, received a second-place award of \$1,500 in the environmental management category for his project, "Cutting Down Crude: An Ingenious Concept." Krell was one of four second-place awards in his category.

This year's Intel International Science and Engineering Fair, held May 18 in Pittsburgh, consisted of 1,500 students selected from 446 affiliate fairs from approximately 70 countries. Student winners are ninth- through 12th-graders who earned the right to compete at the Intel ISEF 2012 by winning a top prize at a local, regional, state or national science fair.

"We knew our projects were good, and we have placed high before, but whenever one of your students takes home an award as high as second at an international fair with 70 countries competing, well that is really something," said Dr. Mike Farney, director of the South Central South Dakota Regional Science and Engineering Fair held annually at Dakota Wesleyan University, where Farney is a math and physics professor.

Avon High School juniors Alyson Roth, 17, and Emily Mudder, 17, were awarded a special award in second place for the Alcoa Foundation for water research with their project, "Using Colorimetry to Monitor Nickel Contamination of Water," which monitored dissolved metal



COURTESY PHOTO

Alyson Roth and Emily Mudder, both of Avon High School, and Justin Krell and Taylor Kinyon, of Plankinton High School, attended the Intel International Science and Engineering Fair in May. Roth, Mudder and Krell all came away with honors – Krell placing second in his category.

contamination in water streams.

"We were very surprised by the warmth, inclusion and acceptance of people from different cultures at the ISEF competition," Mudder said. "We have had the best time of our lives meeting new friends and learning how many others are as excited by science as we are. We really appreciate the support of industrial sponsors to encourage us to pursue our scientific interests."

The students were accompanied by Jody Strand, assistant science fair director at DWU, and Dr. Joan Lubben, DWU assistant math professor.

Farney, who worked closely with Lubben and three area high school science teachers, Julie Olson, Mitchell High School, Paul Kuhlman, Avon High School, and Bob Sprang, Plankinton High

School, said that the work each instructor put in and the support of the parents was undeniably beneficial to the students' success, but it was each student's personal work that brought them their achievements.

"We'll explain the math to them that they need in order to do their own work, we'll look at their grammar," Farney said. "And a bright student will say, 'you're right, I'll go the extra mile, I'll read the extra book, I'll do the extra mathematics, because my project demands it.' The judges can ask them anything and they won't let us down, because it's all theirs. From beginning to end, it's all theirs."

Farney said that he has received emails and phone calls all times of day or night, and will come into the DWU labs after hours to meet with students. The instructors' role is to instruct, to guide, to teach the students what they need in order to find their own solutions, and it has paid off.

## Boehrs Honored As HSC's May Employee Of The Month

Renee Boehrs, PA-C, is being honored as the May Employee of the Month at the South Dakota Human Services Center (HSC), Yankton, South Dakota, announced Pam Van Meeteren, CNP, Interim Administrator.

Boehrs began employment at HSC in October of 2000, as a Physician Assistant and has remained in that position throughout the past 11.5 years. She primarily serves the treatment units of Cedar View 1, Maple View 1, Willow Terrace 1 and Birch Ridge 2.

HSC colleagues recognized Boehrs for modeling all of the Pillars of Character Counts including: Trustworthiness, Respect, Responsibility, Fairness, Caring and Citizenship.

Boehrs was recognized for her professionalism, efficiency,



Boehrs

kindness, and especially for her outstanding care, as well as her genuine concern for patients' dignity. Boehrs earned a Bachelor's of Science Degree in Nursing at Minot State University, in Minot, North Dakota. She then completed her Physician Assistant Degree at the University of North Dakota, Grand Forks. Prior to joining the HSC staff, she worked with Jo Bugbey, MD, Internal Medicine, in Vermilion.

Renee and her husband Bruce Boehrs have two grown daughters, who live in Sioux Falls and Norwalk, Connecticut, and nine grandchildren.

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## OUTSTANDING GRADUATE



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Caitlin Gustafson (right) of Wayne was awarded the State National Bank-Outstanding Business Graduate Award by representative of the bank, Galen Wiser. The State National Bank-Outstanding Business Graduate Award is given annually to a student who, in the judgment of the Business & Economics Department faculty, has demonstrated during his/her undergraduate program those characteristics predictive of success in their chosen field. These characteristics are: outstanding academic achievement in business, career potential, excellent leadership capabilities, and exceptional personal qualities. The recipient of this year's award will have his/her name added to the distinguished list of outstanding men and women selected as the "best" of their class. The recipient will receive an engraved watch sponsored by the State National Bank of Wayne. The recipient this year will graduate in May 2012 with a degree in Business Administration with a concentration in Finance. She has been a Resident Assistant at Wayne State College. At Wayne State College, she is a member of Sigma Beta Delta-business honorary, the Honor Society of Phi Kappa Phi, Pi Gamma Mu and Alpha Lambda Delta Freshman Honor Society. She is a member of the Wayne State College Rotaract Club currently serving as President, a member of Student Senate, is a Certified Peer Educator and in 2009 was a Freshman Orientation Ambassador. This fall she will be attending law school at the University of Nebraska-Lincoln with a full tuition scholarship.

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