

Diabetes Support Group Meets Nov. 30

The Yankton Area Diabetes Support group will have the diabetes month event at 11 a.m.-1 p.m. Wednesday, Nov. 30, in the conference rooms of the Pavilion on the Avera campus.

Dr. Terence Pedersen and Dr. Scott Torness will give a brief presentation at 11 a.m. followed by foot screening clinic, bone density testing and pre-diabetes information.

Also, the Nov. 15 "Diabetes and Health Care Reform" interactive web presentation by Deb Fisher-Clemens has been canceled. The Yankton Area Diabetes Support Group will try to reschedule this in 2012.

Heartland HS To Host Holiday Photo Event

Heartland Humane Society invites the community to get their picture taken Nov. 19-20 and support HHS during the Pawstively Purrfect Christmas Photos. The event will be held at the Heartland Humane Society office at 601 1/2 Burleigh Street in Yankton from 10 a.m.-4 p.m. on Saturday and Sunday. Participants are encouraged to call or email for an appointment. Several time slots are available.

"This is a fun event that will put you in the mood for the holidays," said Kerry Schmidt, executive director at Heartland Humane Society. "Get your family's picture taken — with or without pets and help support all of our shelter animals this holiday season."

Participants will receive a CD of their photos. Contact the Heartland Humane Society office at 605-664-4244 or email hhsdirector@midconetwork.com to learn about pricing or to make your appointment. Walk-ins will be allowed from 10 a.m.-2 p.m. both Saturday and Sunday. Participants are encouraged to book an appointment.

'Sharing The Dream' Enters Grant Competition

VERMILLION — Vermillion's Friends of Sharing the Dream in Guatemala invites friends and supporters to join in their quest to win a grant from the 2011 Chase Community Giving program to help the non-profit organization assist an elder center for poor Guatemalans.

Through Nov. 22, Facebook users can go to the Chase Community Giving Page and search for their favorite non-profit organizations. To vote for Friends of Sharing the Dream in Guatemala, search for "Friends of Sharing the Dream in Guatemala" and click "like" for Chase Community Giving, then press vote and share. After doing so, the Facebook user can suggest to their friends that they should also help this great organization.

The mission of Friends of Sharing the Dream in Guatemala is to help poor Guatemalans — both young and old alike — by selling hand-crafted fair-trade products made by Guatemalan artisans to customers throughout the United States via sales hosted by individuals and organizations, sales from Sharing the Dream's online store, and sales at the organization's physical location in Vermillion.

Through the years, Friends of Sharing the Dream in Guatemala has seen considerable support from Yankton residents in helping those served by the organization.

Any questions can be directed to Diane Nesselhuf via email at diane@sharingthedream.org or by calling (605) 624-6895.

Operation Christmas Child Commences Here Monday

While many Yankton families are busy with holiday activities, a group of local volunteers is focused on filling empty shoe boxes with school supplies, toys, hygiene items and notes of encouragement for needy kids overseas. Yankton families are participating in the world's largest Christmas project of its kind — Operation Christmas Child — an effort that has hand-delivered 86 million gifts to kids worldwide since 1993.

This year-round project of Samaritan's Purse is coming to its peak, as local businesses, churches and schools prepare to collect gift-filled shoe boxes during National Collection Week, Nov. 14-21. Volunteers can drop off their shoe box gifts at one location in the area to help kids in 100 countries know they are loved and not forgotten.

The Yankton collection site is at Calvary Baptist Church, 2407 Broadway Avenue. The collection hours are as follows: Monday (Nov. 14): 9 a.m.-5 p.m.; Tuesday: 9 a.m.-5 p.m.; Wednesday: 9 a.m.-7 p.m.; Thursday: 9 a.m.-5 p.m.; Friday: 9 a.m.-5 p.m.; Saturday: 9 a.m.-noon; Sunday: 9 a.m.-3 p.m. Monday (Nov. 21): Not collecting.

Operation Christmas Child, a project of international Christian relief and evangelism organization Samaritan's Purse, uses whatever means necessary to reach suffering children around the world with these gifts of hope, including sea containers,

trucks, trains, airplanes, boats, camels and dog sleds. Tracking technology also allows donors to "follow" their box to the destination country where it will be hand-delivered to a child in need. To register shoe box gifts and find out the destination country, use the Follow Your Box donation form found at www.samaritanspurse.org/occ.

Here's what you can do to get involved:

- **PREPARE** — Enlist families, churches, scout troops, community groups and businesses to take part in creating shoe box gifts for needy children worldwide.

- **PACK** — Fill shoe boxes with school supplies, toys, necessity items and a letter of encouragement. Step-by-step shoe box packing instructions are available at www.samaritanspurse.org/occ.

- **PROCESS** — Sign up to join Operation Christmas Child volunteers at collection sites in Yankton as part of the effort to prepare millions of shoe box gifts for delivery to underprivileged kids on six continents.

For more information on how to participate in Operation Christmas Child, call (612) 359-7025 or visit www.samaritanspurse.org/occ. National Collection Week for gift-filled shoe boxes is Nov. 14-21; however, shoe box gifts are collected all year at the Samaritan's Purse headquarters in Boone, N.C.

CLICK AND CLACK

When Fuel Pumps Go Bad

BY TOM AND RAY MAGLIOZZI

www.cartalk.com

Dear Tom and Ray:

I live in Houston, and on a typical 104-degree day this past summer, I took my son's car to run some errands and stopped first to fill the tank. I then drove to my first stop, about 15 minutes away, and went in to shop. I was there about an hour. I came out, started the car and it rattled and died. I tried starting it multiple times, but it just didn't seem like it was getting any fuel. I walked over to a nearby auto-repair chain, told them my story and the guy asked me if my tank was empty when I stopped for gas. Well, it is my son's car, so of course it was empty! He immediately said that I had cracked the fuel pump by putting cold gasoline into a hot gas tank. Well, \$650 later, the car is running again, but everyone I have told this to says I was scammed. Was he telling me the truth, or just shining me out? — **Hart**

RAY: Wait a second, Hart. I'm writing down this story. I may be able to make a few boat payments with this "cracked fuel pump" idea.

TOM: We've never heard of a cracked fuel pump, Hart. The housing of the fuel pump is metal. So I find it hard to believe that it would crack if it came into contact with 50-degree gasoline.



CAR TALK

Tom and Ray Magliozzi

RAY: Maybe he meant that the plastic impeller cracked — that's the internal part of the pump that actually pushes the fuel. Even then, I've never seen that happen due to "cold" gasoline. It just happens due to age and use.

TOM: But assuming they tested your fuel pump and it was dead, and that replacing the fuel pump has solved the problem, I'd have to conclude that this guy was right. At least his diagnosis was correct, even though his explanation was nutty.

RAY: I assume that since this is your son's car, and he always has the tank on E, it's not

exactly a brand-new model. On a high-mileage, older car, anything can go wrong at any time. I think the fuel pump just happened to die that day.

TOM: But not because you filled up the tank. If fuel pumps regularly cracked when gas was added on hot days, what would people in Houston do all summer? Push their cars around until things cooled off in the fall?

RAY: Seems unlikely. But fuel pumps do fail. And if you are satisfied that they actually did replace your fuel pump for the \$650, and that fixed it, I think the timing of the fuel pump's demise was just a coincidence. So feel free to get gas next summer.

To buy or not to buy — options, that is. Are options worth what you pay for them, or are you better off just going with the basics? Order Tom and Ray's pamphlet "Should I Buy, Lease, or Steal My Next Car?" to find out. Send \$4.75 (check or money order) to Next Car, P.O. Box 536475, Orlando, FL 32853-6475.

Get more Click and Clack in their new book, "Ask Click and Clack: Answers from Car Talk." Got a question about cars? Write to Click and Clack in care of this newspaper, or email them by visiting the Car Talk website at www.cartalk.com.

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South Dakota DMV Implementing Changes

PIERRE — The Division of Motor Vehicles in the South Dakota Department of Revenue is implementing changes as part of Gov. Dennis Daugaard's Better Government Initiative to cut red tape, make state government more efficient and open, and bolster online e-government.

The division has identified two areas where better use of technology will provide increased efficiency and the potential for significant cost savings.

First, the division is offering an option to vehicle owners to get their motor vehicle registration renewal reminders by email instead of the postcards currently sent by regular mail.

"Mailed notices played a major part in the implementation of the online renewal system, but email notices will save money," said Motor Vehicles Division Director Deb Hillmer. "Vehicle owners can select their reminder preference, either email notification or a mailed postcard, and they can even opt out of the notification process entirely if they want."

Hillmer indicates vehicle owners wanting to change their notification preference can do so online through the "Remind Me" icon at <http://sd-cars.org/> or at their county treasurer's office.

In addition, the division has discontinued the mailing of the lienholder notice of filing when the motor vehicle title is being mailed to the lienholder of record.

Previously, when a title was mailed to the lien-



holder of record, a second mailing of the lienholder notice of filing was also mailed to the lienholder. The result was two separate envelopes being mailed to the same location.

"Early in September, Gov. Daugaard forwarded to me a suggestion received from a constituent," Hillmer said. "The writer logically pointed out the savings to the State in both postage and supplies if the motor vehicle title and the notice are mailed together."

While that solution was reviewed by the divi-

sion in the past, Hillmer points out that it would have required changing an automated process to a manual process. That would have been neither efficient nor cost-effective.

Hillmer took the constituent suggestion one step further and entirely eliminated mailing of the lienholder notice of filing. The lien-release information and form provided on the lienholder notice of filing is available on the division website's forms section at <http://www.state.sd.us/drr2/motorvehicle/forms.htm>.

"The form can be completed online and printed for the necessary signatures and is available 24/7," continued Hillmer. "Anyone who does not have Internet access can either obtain the form from the county treasurer's office or call us and we'll be happy to mail it out."

As both changes are put in place, Hillmer expects a cumulative savings in excess of \$100,000 annually. The actual amount is dependent on the number of motor vehicle owners electing to receive renewal reminders by email, she said.

Division personnel will continue to review daily operations to identify other areas where efficiencies and cost-savings can be introduced, Hillmer said.

For more information, contact the South Dakota Division of Motor Vehicles at 605-773-3541 or visit its website at <http://www.state.sd.us/drr2/revenue.html> or <http://sdcars.org/>.

USD To Offer Master Of Professional Accountancy Degree Online

VERMILLION — The Accounting Program at the University of South Dakota will soon offer its master's degree in professional accountancy online. The South Dakota Board of Regents recently approved the university's request to extend the degree online, allowing students to enroll in the Master of Professional Accountancy (M.P.A.) program beginning January 2012. Accepted students may complete the graduate degree in as little as two years through part-time study and students may begin the program in January, May or August of any year.

Online specialized accounting graduate programs are rare, according to recent market research conducted by the Beacom School of Business at USD. In fact, USD is one of only a handful of AACSB-International accredited schools that offer a specialized accounting master's degree program online. The others include Stetson University, Auburn University and the University of Connecticut. USD's online M.P.A. is designed to provide specialized training in accounting and related fields for students preparing for a career in public accounting or other higher level

careers in industry, government service, or accounting education.

Offered via the Division of Continuing & Distance Education, the M.P.A. joins the Beacom School's popular M.B.A. as an online offering that's not just convenient but highly affordable. All M.P.A. courses are taught by the same credentialed faculty and include the same high quality subject matter regardless of delivery mode, whether online or on campus.

According to federal labor estimates, employment of accountants and auditors is expected to grow by 22 percent over the next decade — faster than the aver-

age for all other occupations. Course requirements to sit for the C.P.A. exam differ by state, so prospective students are encouraged to verify specific requirements with their state licensing board in the state or states in which they anticipate to become licensed.

For more information about USD's online M.P.A., visit the Division of Continuing & Distance Education website at or go to www.usd.edu/business/master-of-professional-accountancy/index.cfm for more about the M.P.A. program at USD.

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