

SHS Vendor Blender Blends Talents

YANKTON — This season of giving brings out the best in people — qualities that the Woerner Family embraces all throughout the year. Jessica Woerner welcomes this season of service as an opportunity to help everyone find their talents that can benefit others.

Woerner invites everyone to join in the blending of fun and food for the whole family with a vast display of great finds for holiday gift giving. The 3rd Annual Sacred Heart School Vendor Blender will be held on Saturday, Nov. 19, 2011, from 9 a.m.-3 p.m., at the Sacred Heart School Elementary Gym, located at 1500 St. Benedict Drive, which is just off West City Limits Road in Yankton.

"I like to give back to the community," said Jessica Woerner, whose generosity extends to many organizations. She shares her time and talents with Sacred Heart School (SHS), St. Benedict's Catholic Parish, volunteering at The Banquet and more. She has held leadership positions as a past officer for Friends of SHS and is currently the Chairperson of the United Way Heart Club and Recording Secretary of her Beta group.

Married for nearly 14 years, Jessica and her husband Brad have volunteered together for many hours of community service. Modest about their contributions, the Woerners have served as co-chairpersons of the Yankton Catholic Community One Heart, One Mind, One Spirit Campaign and the SHS Gala Auction Committee. In addition to his work as a Partner at Eisenbraun & Associates, Brad is a Yankton City Commissioner, serves on the XYZ Committee, works with Ribfest, assists Cub Scouts, supports the Yankton Catholic Community Building Steering Committee, and is a member of SHS School Board.

The Woerners value the opportunity to serve others and appreciate those experiences that reinforce strong values within their family.

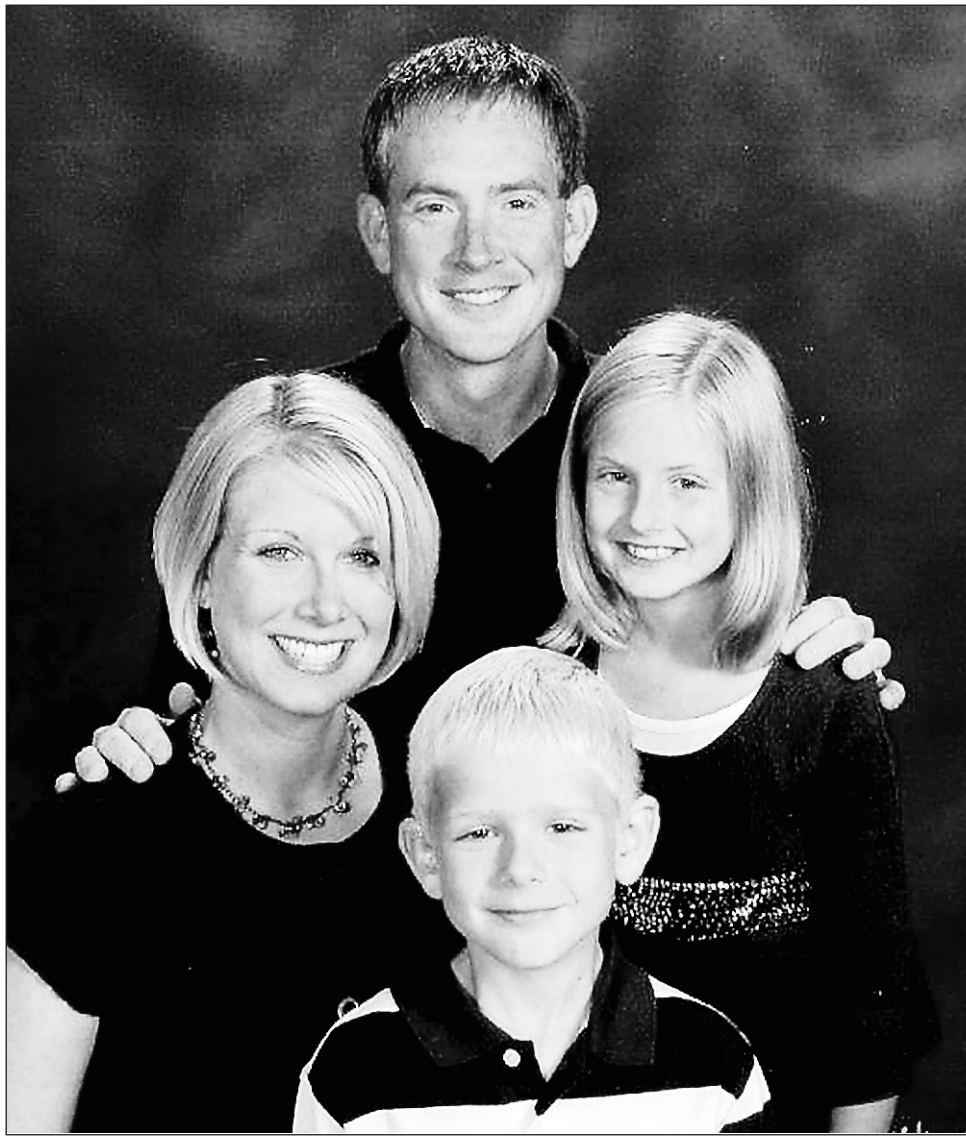
"I like to focus on community activities. Recently, I had an opportunity to help pack lunches for the Sack Pack Program through my Beta group. I took my daughter Natalie along to help, and she developed a love for assisting others," said Woerner.

Woerner is also one of the three Co-Chairpersons for the 3rd Annual Sacred Heart School Vendor Blender. The whole Woerner family — as well as the entire "SHS family" — supports the SHS Vendor Blender.

The Woerner children — Natalie is in fourth grade and Nicholas is in second grade — attend SHS and enjoy helping their mother in volunteering at their school.

"I want people to come and see the sense of unity," said Woerner, who believes that everyone involved with the Vendor Blender benefits.

As a former home-based businesswoman, Woerner has been on both sides of the booth. She has shared her experiences gained from being a vendor, a shopper, a volunteer, and a fundraiser.



The Woerner Family (pictured front: Nicholas; pictured middle: Jessica and Natalie; and back: Brad) invite the community to join them at Sacred Heart School's Vendor Blender.

"I do a lot of Christmas shopping at the SHS Vendor Blender," said Woerner, who appreciates the specialty booths, the handmade items, and the home-based businesses that market their products.

The SHS Vendor Blender makes it convenient to bring the whole family along. Godfather's Pizza will be for sale from 11am to 1pm. Fresh French crepes will also be made on-site, but they will go quickly!

Woerner explained that the proceeds of the Vendor Blender support SHS and supplemental funds are being provided by Catholic United Financial. The vendors pay a display fee, and also donate a percentage of their profits or items from their merchandise which will be offered at the SHS Gala in the spring of 2012.

"Many SHS students are involved with the Vendor Blender," said Woerner, who recalls nearly 100 volunteers supporting last year's

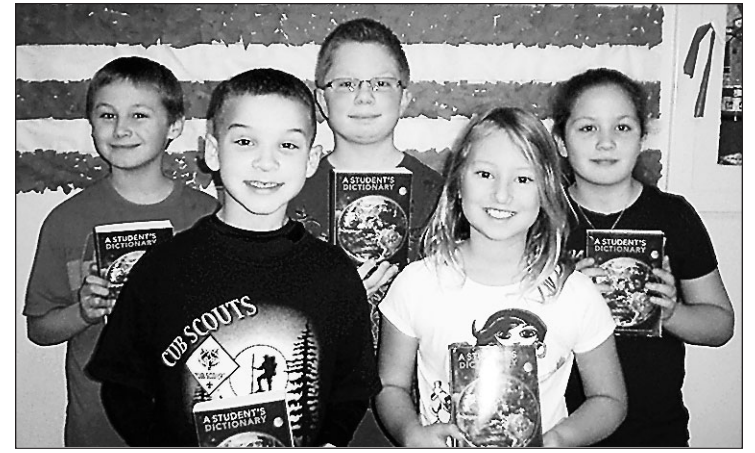
Vendor Blender. "The fourth graders are greeters and serve beverages. The middle school students hold doors and help the vendors carry in their merchandise. They also help the vendors pack up after the event."

She stated that it's a wonderful opportunity for the students to show stewardship towards others, a quality that is focused on at SHS.

"The Vendor Blender also has a bake sale. The parents of SHS preschool and kindergarten students provide homemade treats. That is an easy way for them to share their talents and get involved with the school."

With nearly 35 booths, including 10 new vendors, Woerner welcomes everyone to kick-off this season of service by joining in the SHS Vendor Blender. Everyone is welcome to come to Sacred Heart School Elementary Gym, Yankton, on Saturday, Nov. 19, from 9 a.m.-3 p.m.

THE GIFT OF WORDS



SUBMITTED PHOTO

On Tuesday, Nov. 8, Sue Keopp, representing the American Legion Auxiliary, presented each 3rd grade student at Beadle Elementary with a dictionary. Each book also includes other types of reference material about such topics as the presidents, states, planets, historical documents, and more. The dictionaries will be a useful resource for the children during the school year and beyond. We are grateful to the American Legion Auxiliary for continuing to sponsor this program and for showing their support for education.

DARE TO DREAM



SUBMITTED PHOTO

Beadle Elementary celebrated American Education Week (November 13-19) with an assembly titled, "Dare to Dream." Students also honored the following Friends of Education who volunteer a great deal of time to classrooms throughout the year: Danyal Chance, Tracey Grotenhuis, Trina Gilbertson, Linda Herman, Barb Hirsch, Sandi Isburg, Sondra Jensen, Frani Kampshoff, Tina Koletzky, Cheri Feight, Sara Gilmore, Laurie Hansen-Neisen, Lyndee Leifeste, Chris Moore, Julie Mooney, Jaime Ness, Jenny Opbroek, Shelly Peterson, Tricia Prouty, Pat Robinson, Diana Roth, Annette Roux, Jamie Schaefer, Renee Tereshinski, Randy Tramp, Pam Upton and Taryn Van Gilder-Pierce.

HONOR THE FLAG



SUBMITTED PHOTO

The VFW Auxiliary Ladies visited the Lincoln Elementary kindergarten classrooms this year during the week of Veteran's Day. Shelley Stoddard and Jackie Simonsen teach the children about the etiquette of the American Flag. They are great leaders and the children love them. They taught students to fold an American flag, when to fly flags and the importance of Veteran's Day. The students were thankful for the time they took to help them learn about the Stars and Stripes.

AMERICAN EDUCATION WEEK



SUBMITTED PHOTO

Webster Elementary School honored its volunteers to kick off American Education Week. These volunteers help coordinate library schedules, read to students and prepare the library for continuous use. Volunteers spend time with the students playing educational games and mentoring them by promoting core societal values. Webster School honors and thanks every volunteer. Pictured above: Front: DiAnn Honomichi, Illa Torgerson, Robin Flom and Jon Flom. Back: Darlene Kunde, Marcia Kennedy, Joyce Wentworth and Pauline Rhoades.

HELPING HABITAT



KELLY HERTZ/P&D

Since 2002, the Wells Fargo team has had a strong relationship with the Habitat for Humanity affiliate. Through the volunteerism of team members and financial commitment, Wells Fargo has helped build 14 homes in Yankton County by volunteering 1,750 hours and contributing \$222,500. Larry Young, Community Banking president in Yankton said "Habitat for Humanity is a wonderful cause. We like our team members to be leaders in the company, as well as the community. It's nice to be able to provide financial support but it's also wonderful to be able to roll up our sleeves and get to work. This is great team-building relationship for us. To be able to complete a project for such a worthwhile cause is tremendous."

BRIGHT ARRIVAL



SUBMITTED PHOTO

During American Education Week, Nov. 13-19, the Yankton Education Association and Reading Council honored the first baby born at Avera Sacred Heart Hospital. Little Ahdonise Lasley arrived on a sunny Monday afternoon. He is pictured here with his mother Charissa. He will join his nine siblings at home in Macy, Neb.

GRAND DU OF SOUTH DAKOTA



SUBMITTED PHOTO

Wayne Brandt of Lewis and Clark Voiture 842 has been named Grand du South Dakota 2011 Voyager of the Year. Brandt serves as publicist and public relations rep. His ideas for the club included making flag poles out of plastic conduit (which he did on his own) and having Voyagers sell them as a fundraiser for the Child Welfare Program. Brandt contacted the Naval Base in Pearl Harbor and got a copy of the Memorial Service the Chaplains there use for their Dec. 7 service. With the assistance of another Voyager, he performed this service at L & C Voiture 842's annual "Pearl Harbor Remembrance Day Program." Brandt is active in other community and veteran activities.

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MEETING MINUTES

YANKTON AREA WRITER'S CLUB

The Yankton Area Writer's Club met Monday, November 14, at the Fry'n Pan in Yankton. Janice Kruse, Erika Moen, and Margaret Rahn read original works. Erika Moen is seeking, on the advice of her editor, a publisher for her poem, "Flames of War". Roberta Engstedt provided a writing prompt, and the willing in attendance read their responses.

GFWC YANKTON WOMAN'S CLUB

GFWC Yankton Woman's Club met Nov. 5, 2011. Vice President Donna DeJean called the meeting to order. We said the Pledge of Allegiance, South Dakota Pledge, and Collect for Women.

Dores Allan introduced her guest Lt Colonel David Gunderson, Pastor of St Johns Lutheran Church. He spoke on his assignment as a chaplain with the Army National Guard on a tour of duty with his unit in Afghanistan. They were stationed at Camp Phoenix in Kabul. Chaplains do not carry or shoot guns. The unit was there from June 14, 2010-April 2011. He also showed a video of the camp and the Charlie Battery Unit now called the 196th Maneuver Enhancement Brigade.

Minutes of the October meeting were approved as written. No treasurer's report given.

Agnes Eide introduced her guest Denise Erickson. Mary Jo Schneider presented a rose to our new members Anneliese Dehmer, Barb Law and Connie Schenkel.

Joyce Franklin presented an informative program on our main mission as a

volunteer service. Today volunteers have three personal resources to invest in any club, time-money-talent. The most valuable is personal time. The club environment must make people feel good about themselves and what they do. Joyce also explained the meaning of the GFWC Emblem.

Agnes Eide spoke on the needs of the clothing closet at HSC. A special need is bedding. Marian Christensen who has worked at the clothing closet since its opening also spoke on the many needs for people. Agnes asked club members to bring items to the December meeting and she will deliver them to the clothing closet. We are also collecting items for the Contact Center at the December meeting.

Marilyn Huntley will send in orders after today's meeting for Uncle Al's with delivery in December.

Make a Difference Day was Oct 22nd. Marilyn Huntley shared with members that she volunteered for 2 hours with bingo at Majestic Bluffs. Vi Ranney escorted 25 people from Sons of Norway on a 2 day tour without pay for a total of 40 hours.

The Yankton Childrens Theatre Co will present "The Best Christmas Pageant Ever" November 25-26 at 7:30pm at the Summit Center Theatre.

Vice President Donna wished everyone a Happy Thanksgiving.

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