

Summit Announces Holiday Hours

The Summit Activities Center Pool is available for open swim during the following days and times listed below. A certified lifeguard is present during all open swim times and all children 8 years and under must be supervised by an adult when attending open swim.

- Monday and Wednesday — 6:30-8:30 p.m.
- Friday — 6:30-9:30 p.m.
- Saturday — 1-5 p.m.
- Sunday — 1-5 p.m. and 6:30-8:30 p.m.

A lap lane is available at all times during our normal business hours at the Summit Activities Center.

Here are the hours of the Summit Activities Center over the Thanksgiving holiday break:

- Wednesday, Nov. 23 — 5 a.m.-10 p.m.;
- Thursday, Nov. 24 — Closed
- Friday, Nov. 25 — 8 a.m.-10 p.m.

NOTE: There will be no fitness classes Wednesday evening and all day Friday.

There will be "No School Special" days on Wednesday, Nov. 23, and Friday, Nov. 25, from 1-4 p.m. at the Summit Activities Center.

For further information, call 668-5234 or stop by the Summit Activities Center at 1801 Summit Street. Don't forget to follow the Yankton Department of Parks and Recreation on Facebook.

Yankton Region I Honor Band Festival Monday

Yankton High School Music Department will host the annual Yankton Region I Honor Band on Monday, Nov. 21, at Yankton High School.

The Honor Middle School Band comprised of 66 members will be directed by Brian LeMaster of Parkston South Dakota. Formerly the band director at Brookings High School, LeMaster is in his 14th year of teaching public school. He is presently the director of choirs at Parkston High School.

The High School Honor Band comprised of 64 members will be directed by Dr. Johathan Alvis, director of Athletic Bands and Assistant Professor of Low Brass at the University of South Dakota. At USD Alvis directs "The Sound of USD" as well as other groups as is a well known adjudicator in the midwest.

The bands of the Region Band Festival are selected in October by taped auditions and are the very best musicians in the Southeastern corner of South Dakota. Sixteen high schools and middle schools are represented this year in this festival. The bands will begin rehearsal early Monday morning and practice throughout the day. During the day the bands will attend a short concert by the USD-Low Brass Ensemble directed by Dr. Alvis.

A concert will be held at 7 p.m. in the YHS/Summit Activities Center theatre. This concert is free to the public.

No School At YSD Starting Wednesday

There will be no school in the Yankton School District on Wednesday, Nov. 23, a conferences compensation day, or Thursday and Friday, Nov. 24-25, due to the Thanksgiving holiday.

School will resume on Monday, Nov. 28.

RiverWalk Organizers Seek Christmas Cookies

The Yankton RiverWalk committee is seeking cookie-makers for their annual holiday cookie sale. They hope to raise enough funds to add one sculpture pedestal to downtown Yankton. The sale will be held at 10 a.m.-5 p.m. Friday, Dec. 2, at the Dakota Theatre, 328 Walnut Street.

"We sold some really beautiful and delicious cookies at our sale last year. We loved how the community got involved, and it helped make the sale a success," said RiverWalk committee-member Katie Hunhoff.

Interested bakers should contact Hunhoff at 660-5989 or Michelle Kolda at riverwalk@yanktonsd.com for more information.

RiverWalk currently has 14 sculptures displayed throughout Riverside Park and downtown Yankton. Visit RiverWalk's website at www.YanktonRiverWalk.com to learn more about the public art project.

Yankton Toys For Kids Needs Donations

Community-wide agencies, organizations, and individuals are working to make the holidays brighter this year through the Yankton Toys for Kids (formerly Toys for Tots) program.

Donations of new, unwrapped toys, appropriate for ages 0 to 18, are being collected now through Saturday, Dec. 17, and can be dropped off at Taco Johns, Maurices, or starting Nov. 28, at the Yankton Mall (the former Vanity location).

Robinson Motors and caring neighbors are helping Santa Claus make the holidays special for the children in the Yankton area. Cash donations are accepted to fill in where needs are not met and ensure that every referred child receives a toy.

For more information on the Toys for Kids Program, call the United Way & Volunteer Services' Office at (605) 665-6766.

AAA Projects 42.5 Million Americans Will Travel This Thanksgiving Holiday

SIoux FALLS — AAA forecasts 42.5 million Americans will travel 50 miles or more from home during the Thanksgiving holiday weekend, a four percent increase from the 40.9 million people who traveled one year ago. This is the first significant increase in any holiday travel this year. The Thanksgiving holiday travel period is defined as Wednesday, Nov. 23, to Sunday, Nov. 27.

The auto club also predicts 17.7 percent (144,109) of South Dakotans will travel over the holiday, a 3.6 percent jump from last year and the first time holiday travel has increased among South Dakotans this year.

"Driving AAA's projected increase in the number of Thanksgiving travelers is pent-up demand among South Dakotans and others across the country who may have foregone holiday travel the last three years," said Mark Madeja, spokesman for AAA South Dakota. "As consumers weigh the fear of economic

uncertainty and the desire to create lasting family memories this holiday, more of us are choosing family and friends over frugality."

While primary economic drivers continue to show improvement from one year ago, growth levels are not high enough to support a quick return to pre-recession levels of holiday travel. Instead, a slow climb back is expected from 2008, which was a decade-low year for Thanksgiving travel with only 37.8 million Americans taking a trip. With volumes still below historical averages, pent-up demand will be a contributing factor in increased holiday travel, despite current economic conditions.

Total economic activity, measured as real gross domestic product, is expected to grow by just 1.3 percent for the fourth quarter of 2011 compared to the fourth quarter of last year. The national unemployment rate is expected to be just fourth-tenths of a percent-

age point below last year's level. Personal income, real disposable income and consumer spending are all forecast above last year's levels. However, the growth rates of these indicators are weaker than last year, and Americans are expressing uncertainty about the future by way of weaker consumer sentiment and consumer comfort survey results. In particular, household net worth is expected to be 5.6 percent lower in the fourth quarter of this year compared to last year.

AAA's projections are based on economic forecasting and research by IHS Global Insight. The Boston-based economic research and consulting firm teamed with AAA in 2009 to jointly analyze travel trends during the major holidays. AAA has been reporting on holiday travel trends for more than two decades. The complete AAA/IHS Global Insight 2011 Thanksgiving Holiday Travel Forecast can be found at NewsRoom.AAA.com.

Small-Business Owners Begin Casting Ballots

PIERRE — South Dakota small-business owners are heading to the polls this week to vote on issues the next session of the Legislature will be, or needs to be, grappling with, if the most important component of any economy is to start producing jobs in a big way.

The National Federation of Independent Business, America's leading small-business association since 1943, annually polls its members on state and federal issues impacting the operations of the enterprises. NFIB then centers its lobbying positions on the results, which are considered by policy-makers from coast to coast to be the true voice of small business. NFIB has nearly 2,000 South Dakota members, and their 2012 State Ballot asks five questions:

- Would you support an extra penny sales tax to fund Medicaid and K-12 education?
- Should an employer be criminalized under state law for knowingly hiring an unauthorized worker?
- Should the state repeal certain provisions regarding unemployment insurance benefit eligibility of workers attending approved training?
- Should the interest rate applied to certain judgments be reduced?
- Should the new state health insurance exchange decide which insurers can offer policies within the exchange?

The poll is being mailed, faxed, or emailed based on member preference. Results from the poll will be publicized once a statistically valid sample is reached.

Contact Center Puts Call Out For Donations

Many organizations and churches will begin their annual holiday collection programs this fall. One thing the Yankton Food Pantry always runs short on is paper and toiletry items. Pantry officials ask the public to take into consideration donating items such as bar soap, shampoo and conditioner, toothpaste, brushes, combs, deodorant, toilet paper, size 4, 5 and 6 diapers, shaving cream, razors and powdered laundry detergent.

Whatever you choose to donate, rest assured everything gets used unless the "use by" date has passed.

The Contact Center Food Pantry is in need of some food items as well as the personal items. Any donations would be greatly appreciated and much needed. Some of the items we could use are: Hamburger and Tuna Helpers; Tuna; Macaroni and Cheese; Vegetable and Chicken Noodle soup; Peanut butter and Jelly; Mashed potatoes; Instant Rice; Ketchup, Mayo, and Mustard; Canned fruits such as: Peaches, Pears, Mandarin Oranges; Whole kernel corn; Pork and beans; Cereal or instant oatmeal; Cake mixes, brownies, frostings; Saltine crackers.

The Yankton Food Pantry and Contact Center accepts donations made by the citizens of Yankton and the surrounding communities. If you have any questions, call Kelli at 605-260-4414.

DOT Reminds Motorists To Stay Informed, Slow Down, Stay Safe

PIERRE — Winter weather is quickly approaching, and the South Dakota Department of Transportation (SDDOT) is reminding motorists to stay informed, slow down and drive safely.

Weather in South Dakota is anything but predictable, and a traveler's first action should be to visit www.safetravelusa.com/sd or dial 511 for the most current road condition information. The new and improved website features a bolder display that can be zoomed to show all interstate, South Dakota and U.S. highways. Camera images have been enlarged and many icons added for users to customize the maps for individual needs.

Another new feature uses geographic landmarks instead of highway mileposts as location references on SafeTravelUSA and on South Dakota's phone-based 511 system.

Being informed is the first step to staying safe when driving in inclement weather. State officials also want you to treat driving as your main priority. Slow down, do not use cruise control, refrain from using electronic devices that can be distracting, drive with your headlights on (not daytime running lights — manually turn them on), and pay attention to your surroundings, especially traffic around you.

"Safety is the our No. 1 priority," said state Transportation Secretary Darin Bergquist. "By providing travelers on South Dakota highways with the most up-to-date road and weather information, details on snowplowing activities and hours of operation, travelers can make informed decisions before hitting the road."

Familiar sights during snowstorms are bright yellow snowplows working to clear snow and ice from road surfaces.

State Department of Transportation officials ask travelers to remember the following snowplow safety tips:

- Plows travel slowly — about 25-30 miles per hour or less. Most accidents involving snowplows are rear-end collisions because motorists misjudged distances to the plows and how quickly those gaps are closed.
- Snowplows cause soft snow to swirl. It can become difficult or impossible to see the plow and the roadway, and for the plow driver to see you. Do not pass a plow in a snow cloud, be patient and wait for the plow driver to pull over and allow traffic to pass. If road conditions allow, the plow driver will pull over periodically to allow traffic to pass.
- Never pass a plow on the shoulder. Snowplows are equipped with wing plows — eight- to ten-foot extensions on the right, and sometimes on the left side of the trucks, that are used to clean the shoulders. Plows on divided highways and interstates could have right or left wings.
- Plows aren't just removing snow, they may also be spreading de-icer and salt on the road surface. Maintain a safe distance behind the snowplow to avoid being sprayed by the materials coming out of the back of the truck/sander.
- Plows do not work during the overnight hours. With the exception of urban areas around Rapid City and Sioux Falls, crews will begin work at approximately 5 a.m., weather permitting, and continue until sometime in the early evening.
- "Motorists should use extreme caution in the vicinity of snowplows," said Greg Fuller, SDDOT director of operations. "A combination of poor visibility, slippery road surfaces, and packed, drifted snow make driving enough of a challenge, much less meeting or passing snowplows."

OBITUARIES

Verlin Larsen

Verlin Larsen, age 47 of Yankton passed away Thursday, November 17, 2011 at Sanford Medical Center, Sioux Falls, SD.

Mass of Christian Burial will be at 2:30 p.m. Monday, November 21, 2011 at Sacred Heart Catholic Church, Yankton with Rev. Mark Lichter officiating. Burial will be in the Yankton Cemetery.

Visitations will begin at 3:00 p.m. Sunday, November 20, 2011 at the Opsahl-Kostel Funeral Home and Crematory, Yankton with a 7:00 p.m. Scripture service and video tribute. Visitations will resume one hour prior to the service at the church.

Pallbearers will be Jeff Doering, Junior St. Pierre, Mike Heglin, Timmy Schrempf, Scott



Larsen

Hirsch, and Kim Termansen. Honorary pallbearers will be Verlin's Co-Workers from the Water Plant and City of Yankton.

Verlin was born on December 7, 1963 to Richard and Mary Ann (Pick) Larsen in Norfolk, Nebraska. He grew up in Yankton, SD and attended Yankton Public Schools where he graduated from high school in 1982. He started his collegiate studies in Springfield at the University of South Dakota and obtained his Associates Degree in biology at USD Vermillion. Verlin worked for the City of Yankton as a meter reader and eventually moved to

the Water Treatment Plant, where he worked for 21 years.

Verlin married Patricia Sylliaasen, on January 6, 1990 at Vangen Lutheran Church in Mission Hill, SD. During their time together they had two children, Tyler and Alexa.

Verlin enjoyed the outdoors, especially fishing, boating and camping with his family. He had many close friends with which he shares many memories. He enjoyed riding his motorcycle. He also had a deep passion for stock car racing and spent many years racing at the local dirt tracks. He was an avid NASCAR fan, attending numerous NASCAR venues throughout the years.

Verlin is survived by his wife Patricia and two children, Tyler and Alexa, all from Yankton. His

mother, Mary Ann, three brothers, Steve (Kim) Larsen, Kevin Larsen and Brian Larsen, all of Yankton. Father and Mother in-law Jerome and Dorothy Sylliaasen of Mission Hill, sister and brother-in-law Pam (Ray) Epp of Mission, and many aunts, uncles, nieces, nephews and cousins.

He was preceded in his death by his father Richard Larsen and his maternal and paternal grandparents.

Yankton Press & Dakotan
November 19, 2011

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Thanksgiving Day Deadlines

The Yankton Daily Press & Dakotan will be closed Thursday, November 24, for the Thanksgiving holiday.

The following deadlines will apply:
Friday, November 25 newspaper — Monday, November 21, 5 p.m.
Out On The Town — 12 p.m., Wednesday, November 23
Saturday, November 26 and Monday, November 28 newspapers — 5 p.m., Tuesday, November 22
Tuesday, November 29 newspaper — 3 p.m., Wednesday, November 23

There will be no newspaper on Thursday, November 24, 2011.

YANKTON DAILY PRESS & DAKOTAN

Thanksgiving Day Dinner

Thurs., November 24
11am-2pm

Turkey and Ham with Dressing, Mashed Potatoes & Gravy, Dinner Roll, Salads & Pumpkin Pie
Adults \$9.00 • 12 & under \$4.00 • Everybody Welcome!

Moose Lodge Call 665-3933 for Reservations by Wednesday, Nov. 23rd