

Model Railroad Open House This Weekend

The eighth annual Missouri Valley Model Railroad Club Open House will be held Nov. 25-26 at 221 W. Third St., Yankton. Hours are 10 a.m.-4 p.m. both days.

The layouts will feature HO and N scale setups, featuring mountains, rivers, rail yards, military installations, turntables and old railroads such as Milwaukee Road, Chicago & Northwestern, Santa Fe and others.

For more information, contact Francis Serr at 605-660-4237 or Don Hopf at 661-4123.

‘Cowboy Christmas’ Set For WJ Ranch

SOUTH YANKTON, Neb. — WJ Ranch will presents its annual “Cowboy Christmas” Nov. 26-27.

This holiday event will feature arts and crafts from more than 50 sources displayed in a unique country setting. There will be buggy and pony rides, Trick Roping Shows, Crafts for Kids, Family Activities, Santa Claus, refreshments & more.

For more information, contact WJ Ranch at 605-661-8356 or wjranch@gpcom.net, or visit www.schiferlswjranch.com.

Vermillion Dance Team Holiday Recital Set

VERMILLION — Vermillion High School Dance Team’s holiday recital will be held Dec. 1-2 at the VHS Auditorium, 1001 East Main St. Showtimes are 7:30 p.m. both nights.

This year’s theme is “A Night at the Movies” and features the dance team and guest performers in large and small ensembles.

For more information, contact Kamden Dibley at 605-677-7035 or kamden.dibley@k12.sd.us.

Author Talk, Book Signing Set For Library

The Yankton Community Library, 515 Walnut, will host South Dakota author Steve Riedel at 6:30 p.m. Thursday, Dec. 1. After a presentation on his two Christmas books, “Homestead Holiday” and “Dr. Joe and the Snowman,” Riedel will sell and autograph his books.

Riedel was raised on a farm in eastern South Dakota where his ancestors settled in 1879. There he experienced the best and worst of family farm life while growing up in the 1950’s and 1960’s. He currently resides in Huron.

For further information, contact the library at 668-5275.

Beadle Elementary School Fall Concert Dec. 1

Picture December.

If all you can see in your mind’s eye is the confusion and commotion of holiday preparations, then plan to start the month by allowing Beadle Elementary School’s fourth- and fifth-graders to paint much more enjoyable “Pictures of December” for you.

At 7 p.m. Thursday, Dec. 1, this group of singers, soloists, instrumentalists, dancers, and narrators will present their annual concert in the YHS Summit Center Theatre.

The songs the students will present (adapted from a program by composer Greg Gilpin) will touch on many of the different pictures we see, both with our eyes and in our hearts, in December — snow and winter scenes, Christmas trees, a Hanukkah dance, caroling, bells, and more. This concert is sure to get you in the winter spirit.

And the ever-popular “Staff Inflections” will show you what it’s like in our school when the sniffles hit.

The public is invited to enjoy this free concert under the direction of Lea Ann Schramm, music educator. Julie Amsberry will be piano accompanist, and Mr. Carey Mitzel is the Beadle Elementary principal.

‘A Poker Alice Christmas’ At Gayville Dec. 3

GAYVILLE — Gayville Hall presents “A Poker Alice Christmas,” starring the Poker Alice Band and country western singer Brenda George, at 8 p.m. on Saturday, Dec. 3, at Gayville.

The veteran band from rural Clay County, founded more than two decades ago, will play seasonal favorites as well as selections from its repertoire of western swing, country, jump blues and pop, according to Gayville Hall proprietor Doug Sharples.

George, of Avon, sang with Poker Alice in the late 1980s and has reunited with the band several times annually at Gayville Hall since 2003.

Poker Alice co-founder Nick Schwebach sings and plays lead and steel guitars. Owen DeJong, the widely known classical music host on S.D. Public Radio, plays the fiddle. Both are from rural Wakonda.

Public broadcaster Larry Rohrer, also of rural Wakonda, sings and plays bass in the band. Its other members, both of rural Beresford, are Dennis Jensen on guitar and vocals and Al Remund on drums.

Gayville Hall is at 502 Washington Street in Gayville. Call 605-267-2859 for ticket information.

W.H. Over Museum Holiday Festival Dec. 4

VERMILLION — W.H. Over Museum in Vermillion will host its annual Holiday Festival on Sunday, Dec. 4, running from 1-4:30 p.m.

Vendors will be on hand, and there will be food and a bake sale. Also, Santa is scheduled to make an appearance.

For more information, contact Maxine Johnson at 605-677-5228 or whover@usd.edu.

Yankton Summer Band Christmas Concert Dec. 18

The Yankton Area Summer Band sponsored by the Yankton Department of Parks and Recreation will be hosting its 13th annual free Christmas Concert at 4 p.m. Sunday, Dec. 18, at the Yankton High School/Summit Activities Center theatre.

Many individuals and organizations have volunteered their time and resources to make this special event as festive as possible. There will be cider, coffee and cookies donated by the Service Center Federal Credit Union following the concert in the high school commons area.

The Summer Band consists of volunteer musicians from all around the area. Numbering around 100 musicians, the band will meet and rehearse from 2-3:30 p.m. at the theater in the Yankton High School/Summit Activities Center, then host the concert at 4 p.m. No ticket is required for admission and the public is welcome to attend.

Bring Home Some Holiday Spirit!

Simply Naked

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THE BOOKWORM

Kids Should Try ‘Barn Boot Blues’

“Barn Boot Blues” by Catherine Friend; © 2011, Marshall Cavendish; 144 pages

BY TERRI SCHLICHENMEYER

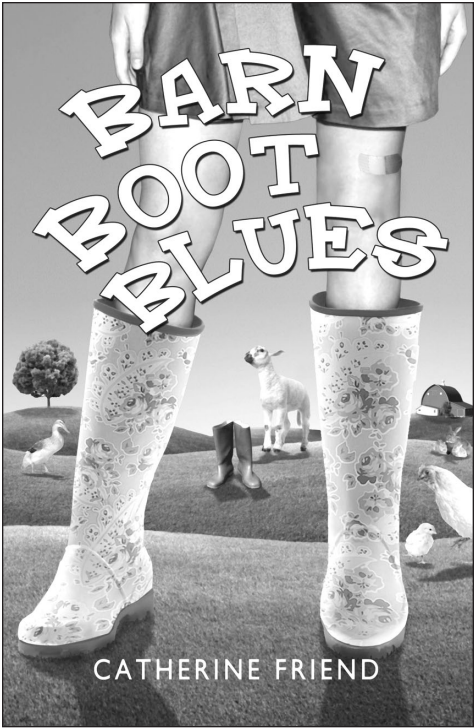
Your flip-flops are all packed away. You loved them so much. Wearing them felt like going barefoot, so they were the first shoes you grabbed whenever you went anywhere. They were your favorite color and they were worn in just the right spots. Putting them on was like donning a favorite old sweater. Oh, how you loved that slap-slap-slap.

And now your flip-flops are packed away and you’re wearing shoes that are warmer and more school-approved — or maybe, like Taylor McNamara, you’ve got boots. But in the new book “Barn Boot Blues” by Catherine Friend, Taylor’s troubles kicked off with an ugly pair of footwear ...

“Discombobulated” is a good word, unless it has to do with yourself.

That’s what Taylor McNamara decided, because that’s what she was: discombobulated. Off-balance. Weird. Not quite right. It started when her parents packed up all their stuff and moved from Minneapolis (population 400,000) to Melberg (population 7,380) and a farm (population 77, including three humans) — a farm that was not exactly where 12-year-old Taylor wished to be.

But, determined to make the best of things, she was eager to start school — that is, until the first day. That was when she forgot that she had on her ugly old barn boots and the bus



came early. Wearing brown rubber boots all day is hot, but not the kind of hot you want to be when you’re in middle school.

Still, Taylor managed to make friends and most of them totally understood why she missed Minneapolis. There was no cable TV on

the farm. The goats were smelly, the chickens pooped everywhere, and animals die on the farm. Taylor was homesick, quick, so her friends devised a plan to help her get back to the city.

If Taylor, who was once a good student, could learn to misbehave, maybe her parents would re-think that stupid farm business. If she could somehow prove that this move was not a good thing, then maybe they’d go back to the city. Operation TEFF (Taylor Escapes From Farm) began, and Taylor became a teacher’s worst nightmare.

And then something horrible happened, followed by something wonderfully magical. Was being booted off the farm really what she wanted?

Looking for something that’s lacking in teenage angst? Then here’s the book you want: high on cute, low on hysterics, and featuring zero profanity, “Barn Boot Blues” is perfect for the middle-schooler who believes theatrics are best left for the stage.

With barely a hint of drama, in fact, author Catherine Friend’s main character, Taylor, tells her own story of change, and the nice surprises you get when you relax and embrace it. Readers will enjoy the supporting cast in this book (even the nasty ones, I think), and parents will appreciate that Friend gives Taylor enough maturity to inspire but enough kid-ness to maintain believability.

While this book can undoubtedly be enjoyed by tween-age boys, I think 10-to-13-year-old girls will better appreciate it (and so will their parents). For them, “Barn Boot Blues” is a real kick.

Local Winners Recognized In SDHCA MasterWorks Show

SIoux FALLS — The 15th annual SDHCA Dakota MasterWorks Creative Art Show and Competition for artists over age 60 was held Nov. 7-8, at the Good Samaritan Society in Sioux Falls.

With nearly 170 entries, professional judges awarded 1st, 2nd, 3rd Place, Honorable Mentions and Best of Show to art pieces in seven different mediums of two age groups. The attendees of the event chose People’s Choice entries. Entrant’s ages this year ranged from 60 to 95 years old!

SDHCA Dakota MasterWorks is hosted by the South Dakota Health Care Association and KELOLAND Television as a way to demonstrate the personal growth that is a part of aging by featuring the creative talents of older South Dakotans. “We wanted to showcase what older adults already know...The second half of life is full of creative growth and fulfillment,” said SDHCA Dakota MasterWorks Coordinator LuAnn Severson. Categories included watercolor painting, oil painting, drawing/pastels, photography, acrylics, sculpture and woodcarving. Age Categories for the competition were age 60-79 and 80 years of age and older. The winners’ art pieces can be viewed on the SDHCA webpage <<http://www.sdhca.org>> under SDHCA Dakota MasterWorks Winners.

The National Mature Media Awards recently recognized the SDHCA Dakota MasterWorks Art Show for its commitment as an outstanding community involvement project awarding the Show a Silver Award.

The generous contributions of Tealwood Care Centers, Inc., Golden LivingCenters, Good Samaritan Society, Clarkson Health Care, Westhills Retirement Community, Bethany, Mission Healthcare, Southridge Healthcare, Jenkins Living Center, Dow Rummel Village, Mahlander’s Appliance and Lighting, Henkin Schultz, Sisson Printing, and Baldwin-DeBates Insurance helped make this event possible.

First, Second, Third, Best of Show and People’s Choice will be on Exhibit at the following locations:

- Ruddell Gallery at Black Hills State University, Spearfish, through early January
- Ramkota Hotel in Pierre during SDHCA Legislative Reception on Jan. 24, 2012.

SDHCA Dakota MasterWorks Winners are as follows (listed by name, city, age category, medium, award and title):

- Virginia P. Johnson, Vermillion, Experienced, Acrylic, 3rd, “Field of Lillies”
- Ruth Hanson, Hudson, Experienced, Drawing/Pastels, 1st, “Beyond The Hollyhocks”
- Nancy J. Clay, Volin, Experienced, Drawing/Pastels, HM, “Locked On”
- Roger Huntley, Yankton, Experienced, Sculpture, 3rd, “Black Buffalo Pipe”
- Ruth Hanson, Hudson, Experienced, Watercolor, HM, “Greener Pasture”

New At The Library

- Here’s what’s new at the Yankton Community Library this week:
- ADULT BOOKS**
- **Cloudburst** by V.C. Andrews; Fiction
 - **Devil’s Gate** by Clive Cussler; Fiction
 - **Divine** by Karen Kingsbury; Fiction
 - **Harold Robbins’ The Curse** by Junius Podrug; Fiction
 - **The Next Always** by Nora Roberts; Fiction
 - **Soul of the Fire** by Terry Goodkind; Fiction
 - **Tell Me Lies** by Jennifer Crusie; Fiction
 - **Blue Knights** by Joan Didion; Nonfiction
 - **Buckley** by Carl T. Bogus; Nonfiction
 - **Diary of a Player** by Brad Paisley; Nonfiction
 - **Easy Ways to Stop Smoking** by Allen Carr; Nonfiction
 - **The Geek Dad** by Ken Denmead; Nonfiction
 - **Help! There’s a Toddler in the House!** by Thomas M. Reimers, Ph.D.; Nonfiction
 - **It’s Your Time** by Joel Osteen; Nonfiction
 - **Jack Kennedy: Elusive Hero** by Chris Matthews; Nonfiction
 - **No Higher Honor** by Condoleezza Rice; Nonfiction
 - **100 Yards of Glory** by Joe Garner & Bob Costas; Nonfiction
 - **Pacific Crucible** by Ian W. Toll; Nonfiction
 - **Spontaneous Happiness** by Andrew Weil, M.D.; Nonfiction
 - **Type 2 Diabetes for Beginners** by Phyllis Barrier, M.S.; Nonfiction

- YOUNG ADULT BOOKS**
- **Bright Young Things** by Anne Godbersen; Fiction
 - **Little Blog on the Prairie** by Cathleen Davitt Bell; Fiction
 - **Twenty Boy Summer** by Sarah Ockler; Fiction
 - **You Have Seven Messages** by Stewart Lewis; Fiction
- EASY BOOKS**
- **The Artist Who Painted a Blue Horse** by Eric Carle; Fiction
 - **Bun Bun Button** by Patricia Polacco; Fiction
 - **A House in the Woods** by Inga Moore; Fiction
 - **How to Be a Good Cat** by Gail Page; Fiction
 - **Utterly Otterly Night** By Mary Casanova; Fiction
 - **Heaven is for Real for Kids** by Colton Burpo; Nonfiction

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N O M I N A T E T H E 2 0 1 1

Yankton Citizen Of The Year

NOMINATION DEADLINE: WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 30

Please Mail Your Nominations To:

Citizen Of The Year, Yankton Press & Dakotan
P.O. Box 56, Yankton, SD 57078

or visit www.yankton.net/coy

My nomination for the 2011 Yankton Citizen of the Year is:

This person should be the Citizen of the Year because:

MY NAME: _____

MY ADDRESS: _____

MY PHONE NUMBER: _____