

Lucky

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short time after showing symptoms, she added. At this point, Jennifer said the family remains grateful Hailee is still alive. "Hailee got meningitis at 4 and 9 months old — five months apart to the day. Getting it twice is pretty rare," the mother said. "Meningitis kills so many people. They show the symptoms, lay down to rest and then it becomes too late (to save them)." Jennifer is sharing her family's story so others know the symptoms and seek immediate treatment. "At first, I didn't know what to look for (with meningitis). I didn't even know it existed," she said. "But I've done a lot of research. People need to know what to look for. I don't want other families to go through this."

Symptoms for infants and toddlers include extreme irritability, a high-pitched cry, a bulging fontanelle (soft spot on the baby's head), floppy limbs, high or low temperature, extreme shivering, and cold hands and feet. Other symptoms may include a dislike of bright lights, stiff or rigid neck; fast, shallow breathing; lethargy and seizures; refusing food and vomiting. Hailee showed another classic symptom — a skin rash where spots didn't fade when a glass tumbler was pressed against it. The Woods family moved to South Dakota about four years ago, Jennifer said. The former family doctor in Idaho didn't recognize the early signs of Hailee's meningitis, and the infant developed a high fever shortly after arriving in South Dakota. "The fever didn't break when we used things like Tylenol or Motrin. Hailee slept a lot and had uncon-

trollable throwing up," Jennifer said. "We didn't know any doctors here, we didn't know anybody. I was a scared lady, but we found a really good pediatrician in Yankton." Hailee became sick five days after Halloween, so Jennifer suspects her daughter contracted the disease while trick-or-treating. However, the exact source wasn't determined. The meningitis affected Hailee's brain to the point where she holds the development of a 9- to 11-month-old child, Jennifer said. In addition, the little girl lost her hearing and was fitted for a cochlear implant when she was 6 months old. Hailee received a cochlear implant for her right side but not her left, where a medical device called a shunt was implanted. The shunt drains fluid from her brain, with a tube taking the fluid to her stomach. At one point, Hailee's

shunt became blocked. A specialist at Sanford Children's Hospital in Sioux Falls replaced the device, Jennifer said. Because both parents are tall, Hailee was fitted with a drainage tube accommodating her eventually growing to 6 feet tall. The Woods family recently completed an eight-week sign language course at the South Dakota School for the Deaf in Sioux Falls. "Hailee is very smart. We have a sign when it's time to take a bath, another sign when it's time to eat," Jennifer said. "She can't tell when she has a headache or is hungry or is hurt. But she has pictures of things. We have signs when she can play outside or color or play dress up. She picks what she wants, so she's in control." When it comes to eating, Hailee uses a tube transporting nutrients to her stomach. "In the process, we're doing food therapy," she said. "Hailee has an oral aversion, a fear of things going into her mouth except for her binky

(pacifier). I have received (Facebook) posts on it, people asking why a 4-year-old has a binky." Hailee's immune system has become stronger. However, the family still sanitizes everything in their home. In addition, a neurologist has noted Hailee's muscle development and other progress in recent months. "At first, Hailee did nothing. She wouldn't cry that she was hungry. She just slept a lot and lay there," Jennifer said. "She slowly began crawling and playing with things. She's crawling and walking differently than six months ago. During the last two weeks, she's been walking along the counters. That's a huge victory." Those victories are measured in the little things, Jennifer said. "After going through feeding therapy with Hailee, I look forward to paying for her school lunches because it means she's eating," she said. "And I look forward to when we have to buy shoes be-

cause she's walking. It's something that other parents take for granted." Hailee attends Irene-Wakonda elementary school where she receives her speech and physical therapy. "It's so important that she be with kids her age," Jennifer said. "It's so important she has friends. The kids love Hailee, and she loves them. It's such a loving school." Jennifer knows the road ahead remains filled with challenges. However, the journey has already brought much hope for the family. "Progress is progress, in my book. Hailee holds a positive outlook, and she is happy," her mother said. "She has such a desire for life and wanting to be independent. Hailee has the ability to continue to make progress, even if it's very slow progress." You can follow Randy Dockendorf on Twitter at twitter.com/RDockendorf. Discuss this story at www.yankton.net.



Out On The Town

WJ Ranch 13th annual
COWBOY CHRISTMAS
Sat.-Sun., Nov. 29 & 30



Watch next week's paper for details!

See www.schiferlswjranch.com
(WJ Ranch is located 7 mi S of Yankton)


304 W. 3rd, Yankton 665-6234



Tail Gating at Rounding 3rd
Featuring the Big 10 Network & NFL Games
• Full Menu Available
• Weekend Food Specials
• Happy Hour
Sundays Noon - 5pm
Nov. 22nd - Go Figure
Nov. 26th - BS Band
Nov. 29th - 20 Bold Ideas

VFW
Post 791 209 Cedar
OPEN TO THE PUBLIC
Wednesday & Sunday

5-7pm Cooks Choice
Thursday
5-7pm - Domestic Beers \$1.50
5-7pm - Hamburger/Pizza Burger & Fries \$5.00
Friday
Swiss Steak
Serving 5:30-8:00
Friday Entertainment
Clay Creek Band 8:30-12:30
Regular Menu 5:30-8:00
Bingo Wed. at 7:00pm
Sunday at 6:30pm
Happy Hour M-F 4:30-7:30
Chislic Served Last Wednesday of Month



Joe's Substation
Rural Lesterville
605-364-7414

Don't Miss Our
All-You-Can-Eat Broasted Chicken & Pollock Buffet
With Salad Bar
Every Wednesday 5 to 9pm

No Chicken Buffet on Wednesday, Nov. 26
Closed Thurs., Nov. 27
Happy Thanksgiving

Joe's Substation
Rural Lesterville
605-364-7414

Purchase \$100 in Gift Cards and Receive a \$10 Gift Card FREE!

Yesterday's Cafe
2216 Broadway, Yankton

28th Annual
SANTA'S SHACK
SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 22ND
10:00AM-3:00PM
Wakonda School Gymnasium
Meals and Refreshments Will Be Served
Sponsored by Wakonda Community Club

YANKTON MALL

Holiday Craft Show
November 21-23
• Over 30 Vendors! Shop now for holiday gifts!
• Book Signing • Cookie Decorating
Register for \$300 Holiday Drawing
Winner will receive \$300 in Yankton Mall Gift Cards

Feather Party
Sunday, Nov. 23rd
1:00-5:00pm
Playing for Turkeys, Hams & Pork Loins
Pitch Players Welcome!
Food available, 5 p.m. - 7 p.m.
Auxiliary Bingo, 6:30 p.m.

VFW Post 791 209 Cedar, Yankton

Everyone Welcome!



BUD LIGHT

Door Prizes!

Volin Fire & Rescue Feather Party!
Friday, Nov. 21st
4:30PM • Volin Town Hall

Play Pitch & Win a Turkey!

Raffle tickets for rifles available from any Volin Fireman or the night of the party. Serving chili, chicken dumpling soup, ham sandwiches, bars and beverages.
For More Info Call 605-760-4523

Let us Do All The Work!

Open Thanksgiving Day
10 am - 2 pm • Nov. 27
Over 40 Years & Going Strong!



JoDean's.com
Yankton • 605-665-9884
OPEN SEVEN DAYS A WEEK

FOOTBALL DEALS

Sunday \$10 Bucket O' Beer
Monday \$5 Cheeseburger & Fries (5-11pm)
Thursday 50c Traditional Wings (5-11pm)

Czeckers Sports Bar & Grill

407 Walnut • Yankton • 605.689.2244

1st Annual Vermillion Armory
Holiday Kick Off Vendor/Craft Show
Saturday, November 22nd
9AM-3PM
Vermillion National Guard Armory
(kitty corner from Hy-Vee)
603 Princeton Ave., Vermillion SD
Over 30 local vendors & crafters to shop from!
• Food Booths • Kids Activities
FREE Admission!
All proceeds from raffle will be donated to the Vermillion ESA to assist with gifts for the Giving Tree.

BERESFORD'S 30TH ANNUAL Christmas Craft Fair
Saturday, Nov. 29, 2014
9am - 3pm
Located at the High School Gym
301 West Maple

Admission: Adults \$1
• Lunch Served
• Door Prizes
• 104 Booths

Sponsored by: The Beresford Lions Club
for Booth Information: 763-8349

Dakota Territorial Museum

Rummage & BAKE SALE

Volunteers hosting

Saturday November 22 2014
9am-4pm
Location: Mead Building
(located North of Walmart)

Fill A Bag & Make an Offer
(unless otherwise marked)
Lots of great items donated by local people.
Lots of Kids items, household items, furniture, and holiday decorations.

Ethnic & Gourmet Desserts & Treats for your holiday enjoyment!

OHIYA MEANS WIN!

CHRISTMAS with the CELTS

DECEMBER 13 3PM & 6PM
ALL AGES WELCOME \$10 ADULTS \$5 CHILDREN 12 AND UNDER

BIG TRUCK GIVEAWAY
WIN A '14 FORD F150 LARIAT SUPER CREW
PLAY TO EARN ENTRIES NOW!
GIVEAWAY DEC. 20TH
MSRP \$48,875

SUNNY SOUTHWEST ADVENTURES
Feb. 21, 13 Days Featuring 4 nights in Phoenix! This winter escape includes Grand Canyon, Santa Fe, White Sands Natl. Park, Tuzigoot Natl. Monument, Garden of the Gods & More!

MORE ESCAPE WINTER TOURS!

HAWAIIAN ISLANDS CRUISE Feb. 26, 11 Days Incl. RT Airfare. Visit Maui, Hilo, Kona, Kauai, Honolulu, Waikiki-Oahu

PANAMA CANAL ADVENTURE Mar. 9, 13 Days Incl. RT Airfare. Enjoy a warm, winter vacation sailing in the Caribbean. Experience shore excursions at Aruba, Colombia, Panama, Costa Rica, & Jamaica!

GULF COAST DISCOVERY Featuring 2 Nights "On The Beach" Accommodations, Mar. 21, 10 Days Experience a shrimping expedition, visit Beauvoir, tour the Bellingrath Gardens and U.S.S. Alabama & more!

WASHINGTON, D.C. CHERRY BLOSSOMS Apr. 8, 5 Days Incl. RT Airfare. See memorials, monuments and historical buildings while enjoying the aroma of 3,000 Yoshino Cherry Trees blooming.

NEW ORLEANS AND THE DEEP SOUTH Two departures, Apr. 9 or Apr. 16, 10 Days Stay 3 nights in the French Quarter, a swamp tour, visit Natchez, Mississippi, see Graceland, & more!

See Our Tours At www.AlliedTT.com or Phone 800-672-1009
Phone for FREE 2015 Tour Catalog!



Avera Sacred Heart Christmas Vendor Show

Avera Professional Office Pavilion
Friday, November 21
8 a.m. - 5 p.m.

- Organizational Items
- Jewelry & Hair Accessories
- Supplies & Body Care
- Nuts, Candy & Savory Treats
- Gourmet Foods
- Jewelry, Purses & Scarves
- Scented Flameless Candles
- Kitchen Items
- Christmas Décor
- Personalized Bags & Totes
- Children's Books
- Handmade Greeting Card & Stationery
- Framed Art & More
- All Natural Personal Care, Home Care, Remedies, Gourmet Extracts & Spices

For more information, call 605-668-8310.



Partial proceeds will benefit the Avera Sacred Heart Foundation's Hospice Endowment.

THANKSGIVING Nov. 27
Buffet \$13.95
STARTING AT 11AM

\$5 Free Play
FIRST 100 GUESTS STARTING AT 11AM

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CASINO • RESORT
SANTÉE SIOUX NATION

Receive \$5 Free Play with an adult ticket purchase
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