

Mental Illness Candlelight Vigil Tonight

The week on Oct. 2-8 is Mental Illness Awareness Week. To commemorate the event, the public is invited to a Candlelight Vigil at 7 p.m. tonight (Monday) at Trinity Lutheran Church, 403 Broadway Ave., hosted by the National Alliance for Mental Illness. Speakers, spiritual reflections, refreshments and testimonials are all a part of the agenda. The public is asked to join in to symbolically shine a light honoring the challenges encountered by those facing mental illness, as well as celebrating the recoveries others have embraced.

Trinity To Host 'A Night In Africa' Oct. 4

Trinity Lutheran Church of Yankton and Jane Pugh present "A Night in Africa" at 7 p.m. Tuesday, Oct. 4. The public is invited to come share Jane's personal and spiritual journey in Kenya and Tanzania. Her stories, photos and passion for Africa will delight and uplift you. African-themed refreshments and fellowship to follow program. Trinity Lutheran Church is located at 403 Broadway. See www.tl-yankton.com for more information.

Price Foundation Chapter Meeting Oct. 5

The Yankton Weston A. Price Foundation Chapter will meet at noon on Wednesday, Oct. 5, at the Avera Benedictine Center Conference Room, located at 1000 W. 4th Street in Yankton. Mary Walkes will be speaking about the Gut and Psychology Syndrome (GAPS), a concept created by Dr. Natasha Campbell-McBride, which promotes gut health and allows our bodies to heal themselves. There will be a "Cod Liver Oil Tasting Extravaganza." Samples of cod liver oil will be available for tasting, using various techniques. Everyone is welcome to share, if you want, the hardest thing for you to purge from your pantry. The Weston A. Price Foundation is a non-profit organization dedicated to providing information about restoring nutrient-dense foods to the American diet. A healthy diet which includes locally grown produce and pastured dairy and meat can improve your overall well being. Bring a sack lunch, come when you can, leave when you must. For additional information, contact Judy Kappel at (605) 665-4549.

Yankton Scrubs Camp Set For Wednesday

The Yankton Scrubs Camp will be held at the Avera Professional Office Pavilion, 501 Summit St., Yankton, on Wednesday, Oct. 5. The camp opens at 8 a.m. Scrubs Camps are free, one-day, hands-on health career camps for high school students. South Dakota students will have the opportunity to experience a wide variety of health careers through hands-on activities and discussions. For more information, contact Bart Hallberg at 605-655-1400 or bart.hallberg@yrahec.org, or visit http://healthcareers.sd.gov/ScrubsCamp_Web_V3/pages/Yankton.html.

Pleasant Valley Soup & Pie Set For Wed.

VERMILLION — Pleasant Valley Lutheran Church, located at 45918 308th St., Vermillion, will hold its annual Soup Supper on Wednesday, Oct. 5, running from 5-7:30 p.m. in the church basement. The menu includes chicken-and-dumpling soup; vegetable beef soup; chili; taverns; ham sandwiches; pie; ice cream and beverages for a free-will donation. There will also be a bake sale. The public is invited to attend.

Shannon Trail Oct. Meeting Set For Oct. 5

LINDY, Neb. — The October meeting of the Shannon Trail will be Wednesday, Oct. 5, at Lindy Country Club, Lindy, Neb. All members are welcome.

Neb. Youth Urged To Walk, Bike To School

LINCOLN, Neb. — More than 1,000 Nebraska schoolchildren are expected to use their feet to get to school on International Walk to School Day Oct. 5. Parents, educators and community leaders are encouraged to organize events at schools and in communities across the state so groups can meet to walk or bike together on that day. Safe Routes Nebraska offers resources for individuals and groups that want to sponsor an International Walk to School Day event. "International Walk to School Day encourages kids to get in the healthy habit of walking and riding bikes to school," said Angela Barry, project coordinator for Safe Routes Nebraska. "Safe Routes resources help make it easier to plan successful events." The Safe Routes Nebraska website — SafeRoutesNE.com — offers an online planning guide with step-by-step instructions, and promotional materials for students and parents. Organizers can also register an event online and see which communities have already registered events. The site includes safety tips and ways that neighbors can work together to develop a plan for children to safely walk or bike to school. "Anyone can get involved in the Safe Routes Nebraska program. The only requirement is a commitment to helping children become more healthy and active by walking or biking to school," Barry said. The 2011 event marks the 14th International Walk to School Day. What started with one school in Chicago has grown to more than 3,500 schools in more than 40 countries. For information about planning walk-to-school events go to SafeRoutesNE.com, or contact Angela Barry, Safe Routes Nebraska program coordinator, at (402) 476-7331 or abarry@sinclairhille.com

Unemployment Assist. Deadline Approaching

PIERRE — The Department of Labor and Regulation reminds workers and self-employed individuals in Yankton County that the deadline to file for Disaster Unemployment Assistance (DUA) is Friday, Oct. 7. To be eligible for benefits, individuals must be unemployed or unable to do business as a direct result of the spring flooding that occurred from March 11-July 22, 2011. To apply for benefits, call the Unemployment Insurance Call Center at 605-626-3179 Monday through Friday from 8 a.m. to 4:20 p.m. Individuals should specify their claim is related to the DUA spring flooding. Individuals will need their Social Security number, copies of their most recent federal income tax forms or check stubs, or documentation to support they were working or self-employed when the disaster occurred. The first possible week of compensation for DUA purposes is the week ending March 19, 2011, and the last possible week of compensation is weekending Nov. 12, 2011. Re-employment assistance is available through the Department of Labor and Regulation local offices. All programs and services are provided at no charge. Detailed information is available at www.sd-jobs.org.

Distinguished Alumni To Be Honored At USD's Dakota Days Alumni Banquet

VERMILLION — Three distinguished alumni from The University of South Dakota will be honored with Alumni Achievement Awards during Dakota Days. Recipients will be presented with their awards during the alumni banquet at 5:30 p.m. on Friday, Oct. 7 at the Muenster University Center.

This year's Alumni Achievement Award recipients were selected for their outstanding professional achievements and their service to the public and country. Honored alumni this year are Marlon Young '77 B.S.Ed., Col. Andrea L. Thompson '88 B.A. and Darcy Kuronen '82 B.M. '86 M.M.

Young, originally of Manila, Philippines, and Salem, is chief executive officer for HSBC Private Bank, Americas. After 27 years at Citigroup, where he was head of private client lending at its Smith Barney division, Young joined HSBC in 2006 as head of the company's U.S. banking operation. He was appointed to his present role in September of the same year. He is a member of the HSBC Bank USA Executive Committee, and the HSBC Global Private Bank Management Committee.

Young also has extensive corporate banking experience covering the commercial real estate, automotive and energy industries. Throughout this career, he has received numerous awards for his dedication and volunteer work, including the U.S. President's Volunteer Service Award. Additionally, he is an active volunteer in Junior Achievement and the Doe Fund. He is frequently invited to speak on diversity and leadership by not-for-profit institutions, including: the Asia Society, the International Leadership Foundation (ILF) and Ascend. He has also served as

Chairman and Trustee of the U.S. Asia Institute since 2003.

Thompson, originally of Sioux Falls, was the highest-ranking military intelligence officer with the 101st Airborne Division in Fort Campbell. During her two tours of Iraq, she served as the military intelligence task force commander in the 25th Infantry Division and as the senior intelligence officer (G2) of the 101st Airborne Division.

Informed by her experiences overseas, in 2008, Thompson co-authored "Achieving Victory in Iraq," a detailed account which examines how the war evolved since it began 2003 and provides an outline for the way forward. The strategy she and her co-author describe relies heavily upon creating an independent Iraqi security force capable of effectively meeting the insurgency, rather than winning over the civilian population or crushing the enemy with military might.

In addition to Iraq, Thompson has served in Germany, Honduras, Nicaragua, Belize and Bosnia. Thompson's awards include the Bronze Star (with oak leaf cluster), Meritorious Service Medal (with five oak leaf clusters), Joint Service Commendation Medal, Army Commendation Medal, Joint Service Achievement Medal (with two oak leaf clusters), Army Achievement Medal (with three oak leaf clusters), the Armed Forces Expeditionary Medal, Iraq Campaign Medal, Afghanistan Campaign Medal, Humanitarian Service Medal, NATO Medal (with one star), Army Staff Badge and Parachutist's Badge.

In 2009, Thompson graduated from the National War College, earning a Master's Degree in National Security and Strategic Studies. She then deployed to Afghanistan,

serving as the ISAF CJ2 Chief of Staff. She proudly took command of the 902nd Military Intelligence Group in 2010.

Since 1986, Kuronen, originally of Sturgis and Rapid City, has worked at Boston's Museum of Fine Arts. As the MFA's Pappalardo Curator of Musical Instruments, he oversees one of the country's oldest and most important collections of historical instruments, with examples from all time periods and regions of the world. In 2000, he organized the critically acclaimed exhibition "Dangerous Curves: Art of the Guitar," celebrating the diversity of guitar design over the past four centuries with 130 rare instruments from private and public collections. He has also written and published numerous articles, particularly about early American pianos, reed organs, violins and guitars.

Kuronen has been interested in music from a young age, playing the piano, trumpet, and double bass in a variety of ensembles and settings throughout his school years. During his time at USD, he worked as a research assistant at the National Music Museum, where he assisted in laying out and refurbishing the galleries, designing and constructing display cases, and creating installation fixtures for many of the instruments on view there today.

He is an active member of the American Musical Instrument Society and the International Committee of Musical Instrument Museums and Collections. He also serves as volunteer curator for the collection of historical instruments owned by Boston Symphony Orchestra. Kuronen continues to enjoy performing music of all sorts, both occasionally and as part of his current job.

Yankton Area 4-H Hosting Ice Cream Social

The Yankton County 4-H Office will host an Ice Cream Social open to people interested in learning more about 4-H on Oct. 6 from 4-7 p.m. at the Yankton County Extension Office (901 Whiting Dr., Yankton).

Youth ages 5 and up are encouraged to attend with their families. 4-H members and families will be on hand to answer questions about 4-H programs and opportunities. Free ice

cream cones will be provided to all.

"4-H is a unique organization in the sense that it engages youth in positive and purposeful programming that it's members can't get through any other organization. We're excited to open our doors to the Yankton County Community and show what 4-H can do for them and their kids," says Lauren Fosheim, Yankton County 4-H/Youth Development

Program Assistant. For more information on this Ice Cream Social or any questions regarding Yankton County 4-H, contact Fosheim at 605-665-3387 or at yankton.pa@sdstate.edu.

4-H is an international youth organization that empowers youth leadership through hands-on learning and research-based programs. It focuses on three core areas of programming—Sci-

ence, Citizenship and Healthy Living—and allows members to choose projects that fit their interests, ranging from leadership development and community service to environmental and animal sciences. Members can also participate in group activities and events such as camps and conferences that provide additional opportunities and learning experiences.

OBITUARIES

Raymond Kocer

TABOR — Raymond C. Kocer, age 85, of Tabor, passed away unexpectedly Saturday, October 1, 2011 at the Tyndall Good Samaritan Center, Tyndall, SD.

Mass of Christian Burial will be 10:30 a.m. Tuesday, October 4, 2011 at St. Wenceslaus Catholic Church, Tabor, with Msgr. Carlton Hermann officiating. Con-celebrants are Rev. Joe Puthenkulathil and Rev. Joe Forcelle. Burial will be in the parish cemetery.

Visitations will be 2 to 5 p.m. Monday, October 3, 2011 at the Opsahl-Kostel Memorial Chapel, Tabor, and then at 6:00 p.m. at the church with a wake service at 7:00 p.m. Visitations will resume one hour prior to the service at the church.

Pallbearers will be Larry Kocer, Robert Kocer, Kathy Hiemstra, Ken Kocer, Karen Ranek, and Kristi Kocer. Honorary pallbearers will be his sons-in-law, daughters-in-law, grandchildren and great grandchildren.

Ray was born on January 14, 1926, to Joseph and Catherine (Plavec) Kocer on a farm north of Tabor, SD. Ray was baptized and confirmed at St. Wenceslaus Catholic Church in Tabor. On June 12, 1945 Ray was united in marriage to Irene Carda at St. Wenceslaus Catholic Church in Tabor. Ray and Irene farmed within the Tabor area for several years before settling on the family farm in 1966, where they continued to farm and raise their family. In 1993 they retired and moved into Tabor, but Ray continued to be involved with the family farm for many more years.

Ray was an active member of St. Wenceslaus Catholic Church and Tabor Chamber of Commerce. While farming was a big part of his life, Ray also enjoyed socializing with friends and relatives, playing

cards and playing softball. He organized the Tabor Jets softball team in 1945 with farmers, neighbors, relatives and friends. Ray remained the team pitcher and manager for over 50 years. He enjoyed spending time with his family and attending his children and grandchildren's activities. Ray was a gentle, quiet, and hard-working man. He touched many people, changed some lives, and left a lasting impression on all of us.

Thankful for having shared his life are his wife Irene of Tabor, SD; son Larry (Carol) of Tabor, SD; son Robert (Kathy) of Cedar Rapids, IA; daughter Kathy (Craig) Hiemstra of Bartlesville, OK; son Ken (Rhonda) of Tabor, SD; daughter Karen (Ken) Ranek of Tyndall, SD; and daughter Kristi of Tabor, SD; grandchildren Kimberly Kocer, Brian (Jorjia) Fejfar, and Steve (Shelly) Fejfar; Julie Hall, Mike Hall, and Samantha (Christoph) Weismayer; Tyler (Stephanie) Hiemstra, Brooke, Jonathan, Nathan, Preston, and Dillon Hiemstra; Mark (Leslie) Ranek, Scott, Kayla, and Lance Ranek; great-grandsons Andrew and Matthew Grassel; one brother George (Agnes) Kocer of Tabor, SD; many nieces, nephews and extended family.

Ray was preceded in death by his parents; sisters Anna, Stella, Mary, Helen, Hattie, and Adeline; brothers Joe and Mike; two nieces, two nephews, and one granddaughter Susan Fejfar.

Memorials are directed to the Alzheimer's Association; South Dakota Office, 1000 N. West Ave #250; Sioux Falls, SD 57104.

Yankton Press & Dakotan
October 3, 2011



Online condolences at:
www.opsahl-kostelfuneralhome.com

Connie Christianson

COLERIDGE, Neb. — Connie Christianson, 72, of Coleridge, Neb., died Sunday, Oct. 2, 2011, at the Park View Haven Nursing Home, Coleridge. Funeral services are pending at Wintz Funeral Home, Coleridge.

Mary Lou Kostel

Mary Lou Kostel, 62, of Yankton died early Sunday, Oct. 2, 2011, at Avera Yankton Care

Center, Yankton. Arrangements are pending under the care of Opsahl-Kostel Memorial Chapel, Tabor.

Leroy Backhaus

VERMILLION — Leroy George Backhaus, 82, of Vermillion died Friday, Sept. 30, 2011, at Sanford Vermillion Care Center.

Funeral arrangements are pending with Kober Funeral Home, Vermillion.

Enter the Journey

Are you struggling with grief or loss or helping someone through dark times? Learn more about the grief process during this 4 session educational program.

Everyone Welcome!

No cost to attend. Presented as a community service by: Wintz & Ray Funeral Home in Yankton, Wintz Funeral Home in Hartington, Coleridge and Crofton, NE.

Sessions will be held at:

4:00-5:30pm	6:30-8:00pm
The Learning Center at the Msgr. Werner Activities Center, Hartington, NE	Wintz & Ray Funeral Home 2901 Douglas Yankton, SD

Session Topics:

- Oct. 11 • Expectations on the Journey
- Oct. 18 • No formal session – we encourage people to attend the grief seminar presented by Alan Wolfelt to be held at the Avera Pavilion.
- Oct. 25 • Exploring the Grief
- Nov. 1 • Embracing the Uniqueness of Your Grief
- Nov. 8 • Experiencing Life Beyond

Presenter: Sheila Kramer, Aftercare Coordinator
Sheila is the aftercare coordinator for the Wintz Funeral Homes. She received her Master's Degree in School Counseling with an emphasis in Community Counseling and has over 21 years of counseling experience.



WINTZ & RAY FUNERAL HOME and Cremation Service, Inc. 605-665-3644
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www.wintzrayfuneralhome.com

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