



Inside Today

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YANKTON DAILY

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Volunteer Group Seeking **More Help**

BY ANDREW ATWAL andrew.atwal@yankton.net

A local volunteering group is in need of additional volunteers in order to keep the program running — and there is a major incentive to volunteer.

SHARE is a non-profit organization that offers people that volunteer doing any number of different things for just two hours a month grocery packages that add up to a savings of about 50 percent.

"Times are tough and people need to be able to rely on each other for a lot of different things," said Sam Mason, site coordinator for SHARE in Yankton. "SHARE is a reward through reducedcost groceries for volunteering and helping other people out in the commu-

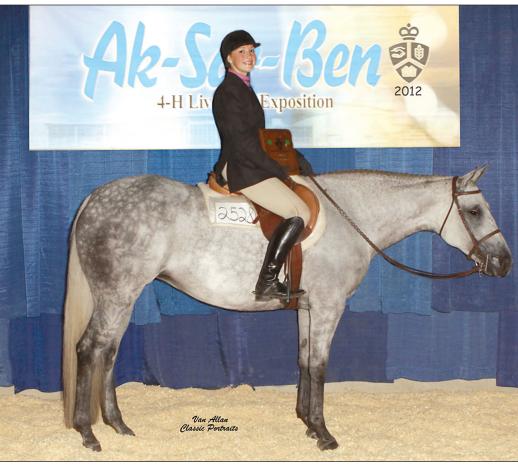
nity. "Right now we don't have very many volunteers so we're hoping to find ways on how we can keep this group going,' she said. "We have about six people vol unteering now, but we've had anywhere between 10-12 active volunteers in the past.

Mason added that most of the current volunteers are based out of the Peace Presbyterian Church in Yankton, but she said SHARE is not a church group

"This is more of a community proj-ect, not a church project, because it benefits the whole community," she said.

es about six people to package the food one Saturday a month for about an hour. It also takes another person to handle the ordering of the grocery package, one person to call in the orders, and drivers are always needed to pick the food up in Sioux City. Mason added that drivers are compensated \$40 for their gas. Right now, there are two drivers that have been rotating. Drivers should have a pickup truck or mini van that can accommodate all of the food orders

HORSE POWER



COURTESY PHOTO

Jade Gaukel, a Yankton High School senior, continues to shine in equestrian events throughout the region. She recently came in first in a number of categories at a regional event in Rapid City and also performed well at an event in Lincoln. After she graduates from YHS, she hopes to continue to ride in an equestrian program in college.

YHS Student Continues **Equestrian Dominance**

MONDAY OCTOBER 29, 2012



Mount Marty Falls To Midland • 12

3 **3 8 8 9 4 0 0 0 0 2 1** 75¢ Moeller **Saga Nears** Its End

Execution Set For Tuesday Night

BY DIRK LAMMERS Associated Press

SIOUX FALLS - Torrential overnight rains had washed away the blood so the searchers at first thought the pale form lying on the earthen berm might be a mannequin.

"I almost didn't believe it," recalled former Lincoln County Sheriff Ken Albers, the first officer to approach the body of 9-year-old Becky O'Connell. "You don't mess up a crime scene, but I had to walk over and touch the body

to convince myself that it was real.' The shocking discovery that night in 1990 began a 22-year legal and emotional saga that is expected to end Tuesday, when Donald Moeller, who was convicted of abducting and murdering the girl, is scheduled to be put to death by lethal



Moeller

After decades of appeals, Moeller, 60, now ac-cepts his fate without protest. But the end leaves behind a community still marked by the crime and its experience with capital punishment.

Moeller's death sentence in 1992 was the first handed down in South Dakota in 45 years. Until this month, when the killer of a prison guard was executed, there had been only one other execution in the state since the 1940s.

The child's mother, Tina Curl, plans to drive the 1,400 miles back to Sioux Falls from her native New York state to watch Moeller take his last breath. She didn't have the money for the trip but did fundraising events to pay her way. "I'm looking forward to it," said Curl, who said she fell into al-

coholism after her daughter's death. "All this is just bringing what I tried to push way in the back, back up front. Some residents said the murder changed how they felt about

their city, where violent crime is rare.

"It's just like society as a whole just kind of tightened up for a

SHARE was started about 20 years ago to benefit community members for volunteering.

"It's just a reward for people to vol-unteer helping others," Mason said. Volunteering can be a lot of different things, including helping a neighbor, babysitting or structured volunteering."

She added that a lot of people may believe SHARE is a food bank when in

SHARE | PAGE 2

BY ANDREW ATWAL

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Jade Gaukel is riding high in the art of horse rid-

ing. The Yankton High School (YHS) senior had a strong finishing at the American Quarter Horse Association (AQHA) regional competition, which was held at the end of September in Rapid City. She was the reserve grand champion in the hunter under saddle event at regionals, which is a competition that involves exhibitors from five other states that all come together for this one show.

"They give different awards at the show, but it's more of a prestige type event," Jade's mother, Heidi, said. "Awards are given on a point system and they give some pretty cool awards. Jade ended up winning a professionals choice hunt seat pad and a horse blanket."

Jade also performed well in the halter horse showing at regionals, which is essentially a "beauty competition" for horses. She also showed in the showmanship class where judges see how well the exhibitor presents the horse with a set pattern,

"Horse riding is not such a team sport, so all the pressure is on you. You get to decide how you want it to go."

JADE GAUKEL

which exhibitors have a limited time to learn and execute before performing it individually in front of five

judges. "She also performed well in hunt seat equitation, which is an English style of riding with an English saddle on the horse," Heidi said. "They have a set course and they put the horse through a number of different paces throughout the pattern, which is difficult, so it was a big deal for her to do well in that category.'

Jade said she and her horse, Rosie, typically excel in the hunter under saddle and hunt seat equitation

GAUKEL | PAGE 2

Prescribed Burn Group Offers Help With CRP

BURN | PAGE 3

BY LINDA WUEBBEN

P&D Correspondent

The Conservation Reserve Program (CRP) of the USDA offers landowners an opportunity to protect land, quality of water, control soil erosion and offer wildlife habitat. But over the years, a new need developed with the program. Landowners saw increased habitat but also a large amount of thrash accumulated on the CRP acres — thrash which was choking some of the native grasses and seeds the landowner was trying to repopulate.

Looking to nature, landowners and grass specialists undertook periodic burns, which if done at the right time of year, would clear the trash and allow native seeds buried in the soil a chance to grow and improve the quality of the habitat. Fire is a useful tool for range management, and part of the regulations for CRP acres is to have regular burns on the acres to keep the property more conducive to grazing and wildlife.

Answering a need for monitoring the burning of CRP acres, the Northeast Nebraska Prescribed Burn Association (NNPBA) was formed in 2011. It represents landowners in Knox, Cedar, Dixon and Wavne counties

The 35-member NNPBA group has attended fire-training sessions and, during its first year, completed six burns.

President Dan Kathol said the group evolved out of conversations at events for Pheasants Forever. The first meeting in March 2011 drew 25 interested CRP participants . They set up a board and



COURTESY PHOTO

The Northeast Nebraska Prescribed Burn Association was formed in 2011 to encourage and safely facilitate the practice of prescribed burns on Conservation Reserve Program acres. There are a dozen such groups in Nebraska, all of which work with Pheasants Forever in promoting the program.

long time," said Jeff Masten, the former Lincoln County state's attorney who prosecuted the case, and who later changed careers because of the strain of criminal law.

LaVonne Martley, a juror, said she knew the execution would bring the case back into the public spotlight — "and I've dreaded it." But she has never questioned the outcome. "He definitely did it," she said.

Curl thought she was escaping the dangers of big-city life when

MOELLER | PAGE 3

Decision 2012 Gross Wants To Help With Concerns **About Education**

EDITOR'S NOTE: This is part of our series of profiles on Yankton County candidates in the November election. Today, we present the first of our profiles on the candidates for the District 18 House race.

NAME: Charlie Gross

FAMILY: I am a widower, having been married to Joan Taylor for more than 39 years. I have two married daughters, Christie (Doward) and Anne (Brian), and three grandchildren: Riley, Chase and Ellie. EDUCATION: BA from Oakland Univer-



sity and an MBA from the University of Iowa OCCUPATION: I retired after a 35-year ca-

Gross

reer in banking, to teach at Mount Marty College. I have been teaching five years full-time, and al-

most 15 years as an adjunct instructor. **POLITICAL EXPERIENCE:** I have 18 years on the Yankton City Commission, including 4.5 as the mayor, plus four years on the Council Bluffs, Iowa, City Council.

1. Why do you want to be a state representative? Having been involved in the legislative process for 22

GROSS | PAGE 3



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at the Riverfront Event Center, on Wednesday, October 31 from 3:15-5:00pm and have your picture taken for **spotted.yankton.net** It may also be the featured photo in Thursday's printed edition.

YANKTON RECYCLING THIS WEEK: REGION 2-3 | OBITUARIES 3 | VIEWS 4 | LIFE 5 | MIDWEST 8 | SPORTS 12-13 | CLASSIFIEDS 14-15 | WORLD 16



