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Yankton High School Students Perform *An Evening of Culture*



BY
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Yankton High School presented a fall play titled *An Evening of Culture*.

This fall play was directed by Pam Kallis, a Spanish teacher at the Yankton High School. The play was featured October 19, 20, and 22 in the High School theatre.

Having been Mrs. Kallis’ first time directing a play, she had many decisions and surprises that come with directing.

After directing her first Yankton High School play, Kallis reflected that she “had just so much fun being in charge of everything,” and the actors did a really good job of helping make her vision come to life.

The first step for Kallis in directing a play was to choose which play she would want to direct.

Kallis had read over 50 scripts this summer and finally decided upon *An Evening of Culture*. She had always loved comedies and Romeo and Juliet, so this play seemed like a perfect fit.

An Evening of Culture took place in present day Mineola’s Middle School gym (somewhere in the south.) In the play, some locals decide to put on the play of “Romeo and Juliet.”

“I loved the play,” said sophomore, Taylor Ruter. “I liked the mom of Juliet’s dress, and I was definitely impressed by the actors!”

Sophomore, Morgyn Jaquith, echoed Ruter’s opinion of the acting witnessed in the play and said, “Romeo was the best actor—so was the mom of Juliet.”

Throughout the play, there were many intentional mishaps that took place. Some of these events included Bubba Bedford, played by Paden Schmidt, forgetting his lines, the stage door getting stuck so that the actors would not be able to get through, and the set falling down countless times.

All of these misfortunes made for a nice comedy and a very intriguing play. “All of the humorous acting was believable,” said sophomore, Aaron Felton, who also felt that the costuming exhibited “very good attention to detail.”

Kallis experienced a few challenges when directing this play. The biggest challenge she came across was scheduling.



PHOTO BY THERESA BARNES

Amber Livingston, Alexa Berg, and Greta Hans are show during a scene from *Evening of Culture*.

Between other events needing the theatre and many of 25 cast members being involved in other activities, scheduling was difficult to do, especially when the entire cast needed to be present for rehearsals.

Also, with all the other events that took place in the theatre, the set had to be put up and taken down each night. This was accomplished thanks to Pat Kortan and her set construction crew. Felton said, “The set was very detailed and well constructed.”

Kortan credits the dedication of a small crew. “The crew was tiny, but effective,” Kortan said. “The brick walls were amazing. They started by painting solid grey, then they outlined the bricks. After that, they had to do shadowing.”

With the overall success of this show, both Kortan and Kallis are looking forward to future productions.

Kallis enjoyed the new challenge of directing this play and plans to continue to participate in the Yankton High School drama department. Kallis began participating in theatre 35 years ago when she herself acted in plays during her high school days. Over the years she was active in many other areas of theatre including seta and prop design and sewing costumes.

Y’s Words on Social Media: Yankton School District Launches Facebook and Twitter Sites



BY
ASHLEY
EILERS

In today’s fast-paced world, social media allows people to communicate using a vast array of internet based tools and platforms.

This new form of media makes it easy to share text, photos, audio, video and information in general with the entire world.

Social media began primarily with individual internet users, but has now become a relevant way for businesses to connect and gain new customers.

Platforms like Twitter, Facebook, and LinkedIn have created online communities where people can share as much or as little personal information as they desire with other members.

It’s amazing how many people have been discovered as the “next big thing” based on a YouTube video, not to mention how you can learn how to do pretty much anything with a click of your mouse or a tap of your finger.

Social media has bridged the gap making information about whatever and whomever readily available to anyone who cares to know.

It no longer feels like we are worlds apart when we can play games with and talk to people on the other side of the earth.

Just like anything else, social media has a positive and negative side to it.

It can help bring people together and build successful relationships, but it can also bring uncertainty & danger to those who fall victim to scams and other online crime.



PHOTO BY TERI MANDEL

Students are now able to connect with Yankton School District on Facebook and Twitter.

Yankton School District has recently joined Twitter and Facebook in order to share educational news about students, staff, programs and activities in our district. The Twitter page can be found @YSD633 and the Facebook page can be found by searching for Yankton School District.

In a poll of 19 Yankton High School sophomores, none of them were following their school district on Facebook or Twitter.

“I might follow them on Facebook now,” said Yankton sophomore, Mary Madsen.

Since many teens are rarely without electronic devices which are able to keep them constantly connected to social media, it was surprising to discover that 6 of the 19 students polled did not have Facebook or Twitter accounts.

The next time you’re online, remember to follow the district on Twitter and become a fan on their Facebook page.

Students Complete National Career Readiness Testing



BY
OLIVIA
CHRISTOPHER

World of Work is a class offered to Yankton High School seniors taught by Ryan Hage.

The class is a two hour block each day for one semester. For the first five weeks students participate in in-class work.

The rest of the semester is spent shadowing the fields of work that interests each student. “(The class) gets students out to see what the real world is like,” said Austin Reining, student in World of Work.

World of Work at YHS partners with many businesses and manufacturing places in Yankton.

Students can experience firsthand, not only occupations but also what job opportunities are offered here in Yankton.

“I would like to see to WOW program grow,” said Dr. Kindle, Yankton High School principal.

“We will continue to promote the program and make changes to accommodate the needs of our students, as well as the job shadowing place,” Kindle said.

The Fall 2012 class just completed the National Career Readiness Certificate (NCRC) testing program. NCRC is a portable credential demonstrates workplace employability skills in Applied Mathematics, Locating Information, and Reading for Information.

The testing program measures “real world” skills that employers feel are essential for job success.

“The test has three parts,” said Yankton senior and World of Work student, Logan Van Winckle. “It measures skills you would use in a job on a daily basis. For instance, one question may deal with how to read a gauge and give exact numbers.”



PHOTO BY RYAN HAGE

Yankton High School senior, Kristian Bilbrey, is shown at a local salon fulfilling her observation hours for the World of Work class.

An individual’s success at a job or training is measured by combining cognitive skills and work-related behavior, or soft skills.

The cognitive skills are the “real world” skills essential for job success. The soft skills are tested in the NCRC Plus and are divided into four categories.

The first category is Work Discipline measured in productivity and dependability.

The second is Teamwork measured in tolerance, communication, and attitude.

The third soft skill is Customer Service Orientation which tests interpersonal skills and perseverance.

The final soft skill category is Managerial Potential which is measured in persuasion, enthusiasm, and problem solving.

“NCRC is significant in the fact that we have some local businesses, particularly in Manufacturing which prefer and

want their employees to have this certification,” said Dr. Kindle.

The NCRC was first launched in 2006 and since then has issued more than one million certificates in over forty states. Also, NCRC helps people find great jobs and allows companies find great workers by efficiently matching talent with work. The program is done at a local level for national certification.

“The NCRC program benefits the student because it gives them and employers a baseline of what skills the employee currently has,” says Ryan Hage, World of Work teacher.

The program is new to World of Work at YHS this year.

Although the World of Work students at YHS are not required to take the NCRC certification program, nineteen seniors in the class were able to gain national NCRC Certification.

South Dakota Loses a Legend: Senator McGovern Dies at 90

BY
NICK
ROBINSON

On Oct. 21 the citizens of South Dakota lost one of their greatest politicians and voices for the state: Senator George McGovern. McGovern was 90 years old at the time of his death.

George McGovern was a strong liberal and arguably the most influential politician from South Dakota. He grew up in Mitchell, South Dakota.

McGovern attended Dakota Wesleyan University in Mitchell, SD in the early 1940’s. After the attacks on Pearl Harbor, he decided to join the army for the fight against the Axis Powers. McGovern flew the B-24 Liberator in World War 2 and dozens of missions over the heartland of Nazi Germany.

McGovern was famously outspoken on the “conflict” (war) in Vietnam. After gaining support, McGovern quickly hurdled through the ranks of the Democratic Party in the early 1970s. After the assassination of Robert Kennedy in Los Angeles in June 1968, the Kennedy camp encouraged McGovern to enter the race as an alternative to Hubert H. Humphrey and Eugene J. McCarthy of Minnesota.

McGovern accepted the challenge, but was unable to catch up to Humphrey. He then had more time to gain power in the Democratic Party and was nominated for President of the Democratic side. McGovern was then defeated by President Richard M. Nixon in 1972.

Afterwards, McGovern moved back to the great state of South Dakota and won the Senate nomination in 1974.

McGovern once again ran for the Democratic presidential nomination in 1984. But, he ended up withdrawing after winning only 23 convention delegates.

This was the last time that McGovern was in politics.

He instead became a teacher, in which he taught and wrote.

In 1994, McGovern suffered the loss of his daughter. Teresa McGovern suffered from alcoholism and mental illness.

“That just about killed me,” he said. “I had always had a very demanding schedule. I didn’t do everything I could as a father.” McGovern then published his own book titled, “Terry: My Daughter’s Life-and-Death Struggle with Alcoholism”.

In 1997 then President Bill Clinton selected McGovern as ambassador to the United Nations’ Food and Agriculture Organization and sent him to Rome, Italy.

McGovern was awarded as the Presidential Medal of Freedom in 2000. That is the highest award a civilian can achieve.

After his time in Rome, he headed back to the ranch in the heart land of South Dakota. He and his wife (Eleanor McGovern) went back to his hometown of Mitchell. The McGovern’s also spent much time at their

home in Florida. In 2007, Eleanor McGovern died at the age of 85. His son, Steven, also died at the age of 60 due to alcoholism.

McGovern was involved in many issues dealing with agriculture, food, nutrition, and hunger. Many of the nutritional regulations that this country has today is due to “The McGovern Report” that issued the concern of hunger.

South Dakota was obsolete when it came to politics in the 1960’s to 1970’s. When Senator McGovern came on the scene, South Dakota got some notice.

McGovern always kept tabs on his home state.

“I always thought of myself as a good old South Dakota boy who grew up here on the prairie,” McGovern once told New York Times. “My dad was a Methodist minister. I went off to war. I have been married to the same woman forever. I’m what a normal, healthy, ideal American should be like.”

Yankton High School sophomore, Tyler Wenande, said “I’m sad to have lost such an inspiration.”

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