

Habitat For Humanity Of Yankton Co. Recognizes Volunteers Of The Year

"Building Homes, Building Hope" was the theme for the 2013 Volunteer Appreciation Night which featured the musical talents of Bill Chase, Andy and Teresa Hedrickson and Pat King, a fabulous meal at JoDean's Steakhouse, recognition of volunteers and a heart-warming video presentation provided by Habi-tot, Alisa Ruzicka who recently participated in a Habitat Learn and Build in Mozambique, Africa.

"This is a special night to recognize the countless hours that past and present volunteers have contributed to Habitat's Christian housing ministry. Since 1996, the volunteers have helped lay a foundation of hope for 37 families in need of a safe, affordable place to call home," says Julie Dykstra, Executive Director of Habitat for Humanity of Yankton County. Past Volunteer of the Year, David Holzwarth, states "The Habitat model is one that really works, Habitat does not rely on government assistance to build its homes. Habitat fundraises and utilizes its revolving mortgage payment fund to continue its mission of building homes and selling them to families in need of a "hand up" so that they have the opportunity to grow into all that God intended."

Dykstra states, "God has blessed me with the opportunity to recognize our community members in addition to church and business partners who are responsible for building this wonderful organization and making dreams come true." Habitat is honored to announce that Scott Kooistra and Carol Becker have been awarded the 2013 Volunteer of the Year award. Scott Kooistra, KYNT Radio, is not a stranger to the work of Habitat for Humanity. Outside his normal work hours, Scott covers Habitat's home dedication ceremonies and other events giving the organization an opportunity to shine in the spotlight. This past July, Scott went above the call of duty by broadcasting live for 36 hours



COURTESY PHOTO
 Carolyn Becker and Scott Kooistra were recently recognized as Habitat for Humanity of Yankton County's volunteers of the year.

straight on the radio. His volunteer time with the Stud-A-Thon helped raise awareness of how the Habitat for Humanity homeownership model works and how Habitat plays a significant role in providing an affordable housing option within Yankton County. The Stud-A-Thon gave current Habitat homeowners the opportunity to share their story and how homeownership has impacted their lives. In addition, the event raised \$10,000 to assist with the costs associated with building home #37 in partnership with partner family, Jack and Taria Bradley.

Carol Becker, a passionate cook, shares her gift to cook by organizing meals for the Habitat volunteers. Tami Ruzicka says, "Carol has been a part of Habitat for a very long time and has such a huge heart. She is always there to help with lining up a meal for our volunteers. She does so much for so many people that she is known as "Grandma Carol." I appreciate having someone that is so accountable and always willing to help us out!

Honoree recognition was given to Dr. Kenneth and Mary Alice Halverson, Founding Persons of the local affiliate. Dr. Halverson said, "Many of you may not know the face of the man who volunteered countless hours of his time building homes in the early years of the organization and we are honored to have him here tonight, Martin Mazourek." Going the Extra Mile Recognition was given to the Habitat 500 Bike Team, Making a Difference Recognition was given to local churches, businesses, groups from USD and Jenna Daley, 2013 summer intern for Habitat for Humanity. Pay It Forward Recognition was given to Habitat homeowners that are actively involved with Habitat.

The evening concluded with a heart-warming presentation from Alisa Ruzicka, a senior at Yankton High School. Ruzicka has been involved with Habitat throughout the majority of her life. In 2000, her mother helped to build and then purchased the Habitat home in which she was raised in. Ruzicka had a strong desire to expand her Habitat volunteer efforts beyond the local area. She applied for a Habitat Learn and Build experience. In April, she was accepted for inclusion with a work team of 14 volunteers who would be responsible for building homes in a small village located in southeastern Africa. Ruzicka shared a video presentation that touched the hearts of all those present. Ruzicka stated, "I was very impressed by the willingness of the local people, especially the children, to help each other out." Dykstra concludes, "Ruzicka is an amazing young woman with a very bright future. Her dedication to helping families in need is driven by the fact that she and her mother were given the opportunity to own a home of their own. The home in which she was raised provided a safe, affordable place for her family to make memories that would have a lasting effect on her life."

Crashing Kick Balls



KELLY HERTZ/P&D

Yankton Middle School science teacher Carol Larrington gives YMS eighth graders the opportunity to smell the chemical odors of an automobile airbag after its been deployed. The demonstration occurred Thursday after the bag was detonated by fellow science teacher Brooks Schild; the explosive deployment launched a kick-ball about 30 feet into the air. It was part of a program done each year with eighth graders to teach them about the perils of distracted driving. South Dakota State Patrol troopers Daniel Thompson and Matthew Niles were also hand to discuss the dangers. The airbag demonstration was made possible with the assistance of Syd's Eastside Auto Salvage of Yankton.

Student Presents At Energy Symposium

VERMILLION — University of South Dakota student Shivatharsiny Rasalingam was honored recently as one of the finalists among 12 graduate students chosen to present a poster at the National Graduate Student Poster Competition at the 2013 Women in Clean Energy Symposium at the Massachusetts Institute of Technology (MIT) campus in Cambridge, Mass.

Rasalingam, a native of Sri Lanka, presented her poster "Carbon dioxide fixation: Using earth abundant, high efficient mixed oxide materials" during the two-day symposium, Sept. 19-20. Other universities represented included Yale, New York University, University of Texas, University of Virginia and MIT.

A 2012 recipient of a Young Scientist Award presented by the Institute of Chemistry Ceylon of Sri Lanka, Rasalingam is a Ph.D. student in the materials chemistry program at USD and is currently pursuing research in a group supervised by Dr. Ranjit Koodali of the USD Department of Chemistry. Additionally, she received an award as Best Teaching Assistant presented by the chemistry department for exemplary teaching assistantship duties during the 2011-12 academic year.

Wayne State To Host 'Just Juniors Day'

WAYNE, Neb. — High school juniors and their families are invited to attend the annual "Just Juniors" Day at Wayne State College on Saturday, Nov. 16, or Saturday, March 22, 2014.

Activities include information on the college search process, financial aid, an optional, free A.C.T. review, lunch, camp tour and more.

"Just Juniors is a great way for students to get started on their college search, while also getting a first-hand look at Wayne State and the programs and services we provide," said Kevin Halle, director of admissions.

The day will begin with check-in at the student center at 8:30 a.m., and will conclude early afternoon.

To register, call the admissions office, toll-free, at 866-972-2287, or 402-375-7234 or online at wsc.edu/visit/.

Rep. Noem Seeks Spring Internships

WASHINGTON — Rep. Kristi Noem is accepting applications for spring internships in her Washington office, as well as in her offices in Sioux Falls, Rapid City and Watertown.

Student interns in Noem's office will assist staff with various constituent service and communications projects, as well as assist with legislative research. Both South Dakota and Washington internships provide students with first-hand knowledge of the legislative process and the countless other functions of a congressional office.

College students who are interested in interning in any of Rep. Noem's offices should submit a resume, cover letter and references to Christiana.Fraze@mail.house.gov by Nov. 8.

For more information, contact Christiana Fraze at 202-225-2801.

Research Council Taking Applications

PIERRE — The South Dakota Legislative Research Council is taking application for high school senior who is interested in being a page for the 2014 Legislative Session.

Besides being a senior in high school, the applicant must be sponsored by a legislator; be in good academic standing; have at least two references from the community and able to serve one of the two-week terms.

Applications can be obtained from the high school guidance office. Additional information may be obtained at <http://legis.state.sd.us/page/index.aspx> or Rep. Mike Stevens at atymmike07@gmail.com. Applications are due Friday, Nov. 8.

RiverWalk Submission Deadline Nov. 30

Artist applications for RiverWalk, Yankton's sculpture walk, are due on Nov. 30. The selection of 15 sculptures for display in downtown Yankton will be announced at the end of December.

Artist submissions must be original concepts and include two color photos of the sculpture or a scale model. Selected artists will receive a \$600 stipend to help defray travel and material costs.

Selected sculptures will be displayed in downtown Yankton and Riverside Park for one year. They will be installed in May 2014. The mission of RiverWalk is to enhance culture and art in the community, and to also offer visitors one more reason to tour Yankton and our historic downtown.

If you are an artist interested in applying, or if you know someone who might be interested, visit the Web site at www.YanktonRiverWalk.org. Artist applications, rules and regulations are all available on the website, or call Michelle Kolda at (605) 665-3636 if you'd like to receive an application through the mail.

Angelic Voices



KELLY HERTZ/P&D

The Yankton Children's Choir performed at Mount Marty College's Marian Auditorium Thursday night as part of the school's Fall Choral Showcase. The children's choir, which is an Ensemble-in-Residence at MMC, performed "J'entends Le Moulin" and "Yonder Come Day." The choir's new conductor is Jaclyn Mathison. To see or purchase images from this event, visit spotted.yankton.net.

App Released For Yankton's RiverWalk

The RiverWalk committee of Yankton is proud to now offer a free smartphone app for the Yankton sculpture walk.

"The app really takes the RiverWalk experience to a whole new level," says board member Katie Hunhoff. "It allows people to access information about the sculptures and artists as they view each piece, and includes a map and the ability to vote for the People's Choice award through the app."

The RiverWalk project is currently in its fourth year, with 14 sculptures on display in Yankton's downtown and riverfront.

The app, developed by committee member Pay Meylor, is titled Yankton RiverWalk. It can be accessed from either a Droid or iPhone.

For more information and for a link to the free app, visit the RiverWalk website at www.Yankton-RiverWalk.org.

Yankton High School Class Of 1948 Celebrates 65th Reunion

On Aug. 24, 2013, the Yankton High School Class of '48 met to celebrate 65 years since graduation. In the afternoon, the group met at the now Walnut Village, which was then the high school (freshman through senior). There was visiting, refreshments and sharing of pictures, annuals and "stories" in the area that was then called "study hall." They met again in the evening for dinner at Minerva's. In the past, the class had met for their 20th, 40th, 50th and 60th reunions. Of the 72 graduating, those present are pictured above:

Remembering the 1947/1948 school year - Homecoming royalty were Darrell Bowyer and Elaine Bruget and the Bucks beat Vermillion 6-0. ALSO - a new 1949 Ford 4-door sedan rolled off the line at \$1236, the Polaroid camera goes on the market and "Peg Of My Heart" was "the" song.



COURTESY PHOTO

Front: Harold Fejfar, Doris (Schwenk) Richards, Leona (Thomsen) Sparks, Marilyn (Hobbs) Poulson - Middle: Phyllis (Brunick) Grossheusch, Virginia (Sr. Angeline) Keating, Geraine (Larsen) Kline, Donna (Dilley) Hacecky-McCarville, Ann Marie (Couron) Martin, Chuck Levinger - Top: Jim Tielke and Francis Lyons.

SDSU Extension: It's Apple-Harvesting Time!

BROOKINGS — Do you know how to tell when an apple is ready to pick? According to Rhoda Burrows, SDSU Extension Horticulture Specialist, sometimes the best way to know when apples are ready to harvest is the good old fashioned taste test.

"Determining when an apple is ready to harvest can be challenging," Burrows said. "Color change can be deceiving, since some apples turn red before they are fully ripe. Apples develop flavor and sweetness over time and sometimes the best test is simply to keep sampling the fruit until it has developed its full flavor."

Another indicator, Burrows said is to slice open a few apples, and check the seed. The seed will turn brown when the apple is ripe. One clue can be that green areas (for example, around the blossom end) on the apple turn yellow, a useful

indicator for those varieties in which the fruit don't all ripen at the same rate.

Over-ripe apples can develop "water-core," which shows up as a water-soaked ring of tissue in the flesh. Apples with water-core will be very sweet, but will not keep long, so they should be used as soon as possible. They are perfectly safe to eat.

"I often hear people say that some apple varieties should not be picked until after a light frost, as this is required for ripening. A light frost, which is around 30 degrees Fahrenheit will hasten ripening by increasing ethylene, the natural ripening compound in the fruit.

However, all apples can ripen fully without a frost, it just may take a few more days," Burrows said.

What about a hard freeze, which is when temperatures fall below 28 degrees

Fahrenheit? Burrows said if one is predicted, and the apples are nearly ripe, it is probably better to go ahead and harvest the apples, and let them finish ripening in storage.

"Just don't store them anywhere where they will be subjected to the same freezing temperature," she said.

If the apples do get frozen on the tree before harvest, Burrows warned not to handle the fruit until they are fully thawed, as they will be

bruised very easily.

"Frozen fruit will have a hard glossy appearance and may have a purplish tinge. If the cold temperature was for only a few hours one night, the fruit is likely to recover. With longer time periods or repeated exposures, the fruit will sustain more damage, and even if it looks OK, it will not keep well and should be used or processed as soon as possible," she said.

To learn more visit, iGrow.org.

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