

Osprey Sighting



PHOTO: BRENDA K. JOHNSON

Many regional volunteers have helped with osprey releases in past years to encourage ospreys to migrate back here to nest again near Lake Yankton. The bird was photographed recently in the area. While this could well be an osprey passing through, one like it was sighted in the same tree eating a fish about a mile from Lake Yankton recently.

Lattea Named Commended Student

Dr. Jennifer Johnke, principal of Yankton High School, has announced that Zachariah Lattea has been named a Commended Student in the 2015 National Merit Scholarship Program.

A Letter of Commendation from the school and National Merit Scholarship Corporation (NMSC), which conducts the program, will be presented by the principal to Lattea.

About 34,000 Commended Students throughout the nation are being recognized for their exceptional academic promise. Although they will not continue in the 2015 competition for National Merit Scholarship awards, Commended Students placed among the top five percent of more than 1.5 million students who entered the 2015 competition by taking the 2013 Preliminary SAT/National Merit Scholarship Qualifying Test (PSAT/NMSQT).

"The young men and women being named Commended Students have demonstrated outstanding potential for academic success," commented a spokesperson for NMSC. "These students represent a valuable national resource; recognizing their accomplishments, as well as the key role their schools play in their academic development, is vital to the advancement of educational excellence in our nation. We hope that this recognition will help broaden their educational opportunities and encourage them as they continue their pursuit of academic success."

G-V Alum Part Of Emmy-Winning Team

NORFOLK, Neb. — Trevor Huber was a member of the crew at KTIV-TV in Sioux City, Iowa, to receive an Upper Midwest Emmy Award for Newscast/Evening for its coverage of the "Argosy Casino vs. The Hard Rock."

Huber, a 2013 graduate of Northeast Community College's broadcasting program, was the audio board operator, one of several people involved in the report, to earn the honor. It was one of two awards the station received.

Bridget Breen, KTIV's station manager and news director, said, "These awards are a true honor." The 2014 National Academy of Television Arts and Sciences Upper Midwest Emmy Awards were presented recently at Target Field in Minneapolis.

Huber, who graduated from Gayville-Volin High School, is presently a production assistant at KCAU-TV in Sioux City.

He is the second Northeast alumnus to win television's highest honor this year. In May, Master Sgt. Loren J. Zimmer was on the team that earned the regional Emmy Award in the Audio category for the program "America's Veterans: A musical Tribute," that aired on Maryland Public Television in 2013. Zimmer, originally from Eagle, Nebraska, graduated from Northeast in 1998 after earning an associate degree in audio recording technology.

Meet HHS Dogs Available For Adoption

Heartland Humane Society welcomes the community to meet its dogs available for adoption on Saturday, Oct. 11, from 10 a.m.-noon at the shelter, located at 3400 East Highway 50 in Yankton.

There will be several different sizes and breeds of dogs available to meet and adopt. Also, since this is the Halloween month, the staff will be giving out treat bags for your canine companions.

Anyone interested in adopting an animal is encouraged to fill out an application prior to the "Meet and Greet." Applications must be reviewed and approved prior to adoption. You can pick up an application at the shelter or find it online at www.heartlandhumane.org.

For more information on the event, contact Heartland Humane Society 605-664-4244 or email hhs@midconetwork.com. You can view all animals up for adoption on the shelter's website or on Petfinder.com.

Remember City's Election Sign Rules

Yankton ordinance states that election signs and other temporary signs may be posted on private property up to 75 days before an event and must be removed within seven days after.

A good general rule is to keep election signs to the inside (house side) of the public sidewalk or about 15 feet from the roadside curb if there is no sidewalk.

For the safety of all drivers and pedestrians signs cannot be posted in boulevards, attached to utility poles, street signs, street trees, light poles, or be placed in parks.

Signs posted in the public right of way will be removed.

For more information on sign placement and permits, visit cityofyankton.org or call (605) 668-5251.

United Way

The True Meaning Of Living United

BY LAUREN HANSON AND DESIREE WARREN JOHNSON

When I think about United Way I think of a huge family of agencies — PARTNERS — working together to bridge gaps within our community. These partner agencies work each and every day addressing emerging needs ... helping people ... helping build a stronger community for all of us.

October is National Domestic Violence Awareness Month and River City Domestic Violence Center is one of many United Way & Volunteer Services of Greater Yankton Partner Agencies. Their mission is to provide a safe haven to victims of domestic violence and sexual assault. River City exists to break the cycle of domestic violence and sexual assault in our community through survivor empowerment, advocacy, education, awareness and social change.

THANKS TO ALL OF YOU, last year this agency was able to provide over 900 shelter nights to families or individuals in our community.

The story below comes from a family sheltered at the River City Domestic Violence Center last year. This is a story of overcoming defeat ... a story of partnership ... a story of hope.

Thank you to Desiree Warren Johnson, Director at River City Domestic Violence Center for writing this piece and allowing us to share it.

"The struggles individuals and families face when they enter the Center are never limited to just domestic violence.

I think of a family we had in our facility recently, a single mom and her children. She came to us initially due to violence in the home. The day we met with her she was consumed with defeat and fear. She knew all the challenges that lie ahead ... and had been told by friends and family what she needed to do next to save her family and recover

her life ... But what do you do next to save your family and recover your life when you have almost nothing?

The mother knew she needed to develop coping skills as well as her shattered self-esteem, a result of the years of abuse, to better the life of her family ... but had no idea where to start.

She was nervous because when leaving the abusive relationship she was left without a vehicle. She was overwhelmed with how she would get her kids to and from school, to their activities, to her appointments. The last thing she wanted was to fail her children.

She was also overcome with the financial burdens of being a single parent and the debt that existed from her past. She was worried that she may not be able to provide for her children.

She expressed concerns of exchanging the children with their father and that she no longer wanted the children to be exposed to the animosity that existed between the two parents.

She also had concerns of where her children would go before and after school so she could maintain a job to provide for her family.

To this woman everything seemed defeating, as if there were no light at the end of the tunnel, not enough time in a day ... nothing that could ever remedy this tremendous amount of weight she now carried.

She was scared.

At this moment... several United Way Partner Agencies weaved together to create a safety net of embrace to catch her before she fell any further.

One concern and fear at a time we went down the list.

We got her in touch with the FAMILY EDUCATION & COUNSELING CENTER who helped address her broken spirit and develop coping skills to deal with the triggers she will face in the future due to the years of abuse.

We connected her to YANKTON TRANSIT to obtain affordable transportation for her and children to school, activities and appointments.

Next we helped her to make an appointment with LSS, Center for Financial Resources who can assist her with financial budgeting and help her face the debt that lingered.

We educated her on the SACK PACK program to make sure her kids had a good meal over the weekends.

We gave her a tour of the FAMILY VISITATION CENTER where she could exchange her children in a safe peaceful environment with their dad.

And lastly we helped her get her children enrolled in BOYS & GIRLS CLUB where they would be surrounded by strong role models and have a safe and affordable place to go before and after school.

This client and her children are now building their futures, one step at a time. They are no longer looking back at the defeat they faced for so many years. Now they are looking forward ... looking forward to a new life, thanks to United Way partnerships ... THANKS TO YOU."

It is amazing to see what can happen when United Way partner agencies work together to bridge the gaps in a family's life. And again, WE couldn't do it without YOU, our loyal donors.

Giving to United Way is the most effective way for you to have an impact in our community. When you support United Way, your gift is combined with the gifts of others and you help improve thousands of lives each year.

To learn more about United Way Partner Agencies or how to give, visit us at www.yanktonunitedway.org or call 605-665-6766

Thank you for LIVING UNITED!

Chapel To Honor Firefighter, EMTs And Pastors

The students and staff of Missouri Valley Christian Academy, located at Christ the King Lutheran Church, 305 W. 25th St. in Yankton invite all local pastors, firefighters and EMT's and their families to a chapel to honor them for their service. It will be held on Friday, Oct. 10, at 10:30 a.m.

The message will be presented by Pastor Rod Veldhuizen of Riverview Reformed Church, who is also a firefighter and chaplain for the Yankton Fire Department. A lunch will also be offered. RSVP at 665-4470 so that the staff can plan accordingly.

Missouri Valley Christian Academy is a non-denominational Christian school for grades K-8th. For more information contact the school at 665-4470.

Irene-Wakonda All-State Chorus



SUBMITTED PHOTO

All-State Chorus selections from Irene-Wakonda are, front from left: Lauren Sokolowski, Nate Eli, Andrea Sokolowski and Mike Sees; back row: Tiffany Devine, Coddie Neerings, Autumn Sees, Dylan Ludke, Marquese Tayborn and Brendan Sokolowski.

SDTA Accepting Applications For Brian Meyer Memorial Scholarships

PIERRE — The South Dakota Telecommunications Association (SDTA) is now accepting applications for the Brian Meyer Memorial Scholarship.

Two scholarships in the amounts of \$1,500 and \$500 will be awarded for the 2015 spring semester.

The scholarship is available to applicants who have completed at least two semesters of course work at an accredited post-secondary school in South Dakota and reside in an SDTA member company service area. The scholarship can be used at any post-secondary educational institution in South Dakota including public and private universities as well as technical schools.

Applicants must complete

an application, write a short outline of their career plans following completion of their post-secondary education and submit a brief essay on the future of small town South Dakota and what can be done to enhance the quality of life in rural areas through the use of technology. Also needed are a copy of the applicant's most recent transcript and at least two letters of recommendation.

The deadline to submit an application for the Brian Meyer Memorial Scholarship is Oct. 31.

For more information on the Brian Meyer Memorial Scholarship, contact any post-secondary institution financial aid office, the South Dakota Telecommunications Association at 605-224-7629 or

admin@sdtaonline.com. The application is also available online at www.sdtaonline.com/resources/scholarships/.

SDTA membership is composed of the state's member-owned cooperatives, privately-owned, municipal and tribal telecommunications companies which collectively serve almost 80 percent of the state. Members of the South Dakota Telecommunications Association are: Alliance Communications (Garretson); Beresford Municipal Telephone; Cheyenne River Sioux Tribe Telephone Authority (Eagle Butte); Faith Municipal Telephone; Fort Randall Telephone (Wagner); Golden West Telecommunications Companies (Wall); Interstate Telecommunications

(Clear Lake); James Valley Telecommunications (Grotton); Kennebec Telephone Company; Long Lines (Jefferson); Midstate Communications (Kimball); RC Communications and Roberts County Telephone Coop (New Effington); Santel Communications (Woonsocket); Swiftel Communications (Brookings Municipal); TrioTel Communications (Salem); Valley Telecommunications (Herreid); Venture Communications (Higmore); West River Cooperative Telephone (Bison); West River Telecom Cooperative (Hazen, ND); Western Telephone (Faulkton).

MEETINGS

INTERCHANGE

Meeting time: Noon at Minervas Monday, Sept. 22, 2014.

Ann Clough was the presiding officer who lead all in the Pledge of Allegiance.

The following guests were introduced: Leila Belfong, retired special eds. teacher by Pam Frech, a retired retail owner and Carla Eng, assistant to the president of Mount Marty College by Celia Miner, retired from Johnson, Heideprem and Miner. Third guest Carolyn Berker was introduced by Cynthia Miller of Riverfront Broadcasting of co-owners of Riverfront Broadcasting.

The following announcements were made: Patty Hojem brought a sample ballot and 2014 ballot questions from the auditors office. The Master Gardens Convelian will be held at the Archery Center this Fri., Sat. and Sun.

Program: Hostess Shannon Vierec from Mount Marty College introduces President Dr. Tom Lorang. Dr. Lorang talked about the goals of Mount Marty College and quality education in bachelor, graduate and associates degree certificate programs. There is a Center

for Active learning that targets adult learners.

The positive atmosphere between MMC and the city of Yankton was emphasized. Mount Marty College is actually searching for a permanent president.

Next meeting is Monday, Sept. 29, 2014, at Minervas at noon with Lyndall Cornette, retired, as hostess. Her program will feature the Enrique S. Camouena Award presented to Pat Nolz and the worth of the Yankton Police Force. Speeches will be by John Cornette, Mike Burgeson and Pat Nolz.

Time: Noon Sept. 28, 2014, at Minervas. Ann Clough lead the club in the Pledge of Allegiance.

Guests: John Cornette — speaker; Mike Burgeson — speaker; Pat Nolz — speaker

Announcement: Crystal Nelson informed members of the Brown Bag noon event at the museum. Topa is the story of the 1881 flood by Robert Colby.

Rita Wintworth reminded members of the upcoming lecture at Mount Marty College Tuesday, Sept. 30, at 7 p.m. in Marian Auditorium by Kathleen Norris presenting the topic "Benedict's Dakota."

Kathie Gerstner read a request from Pam Frick requesting information on "The Teen Canteen" — a youth meeting place in earlier days.

Program: John Cornette, representing the Elk's Lodge, spoke about the Enrique S. Cameria Award presented to Pat Nolz at the Yankton Police Department for his work on Drug/Alcohol awareness. Pat introduces his K-9 day "Grief." Pat's goal is to "present the Drug Dealer" and "get dope off the street." Mike Burgeson, Yankton Police Dept., introduced Pat and spoke of the award.

Next meeting is Oct 6, at noon at Minervas. Jan Garrity is hostess with Pat Garrity speaking on the 52 Corviter.

TOASTMASTERS CLUB 6217

Avera Sacred Heart Toastmasters Club 6217 met Sept. 25 at noon in the Hospital Conference Room 1 with Muriel Stach giving the Invocation and Chelsi Hames as Toastmaster.

General Evaluator Laurie McKee introduced her team. They were Greg Stach Timer; Eric Taylor "Ah/um" counters; and Kary Beltz as Grammarian. The word of the

day was "Fizzle" which means to end or fail in a weak or disappointing way, or a failure.

Speakers Eileen O'Connor and Muriel Stach informed the audience using their Competent Leadership and Competent Communication Manuals, about ways to be better listeners and to open our eyes, ears, and mouths to domestic violence. They were very powerful speeches.

O'Connor was evaluated by Jennifer Suing and Stach by Sandy Spady with praise for catching everyone's attention with great information, and it really made people stop and think about what is going on in the world. The speaker's eye contact, hand gestures and voice volume were very well received also.

Table Topic Master Gale Vogt asked impromptu questions, using general questions. Beltz is motivated at work every morning by the schedules blinking on her computer, she maybe the only person out there motivated by this. Amy Williams (Club 6217's newest member) was eager to jump right in and answer what her vision for the USD basketball program is, championships, rings and cutting down

the nets. Taylor thinks the best rewards system for a company varies depending on the employees, a company needs to get to know their employees and see what motivates them and that can intern help determine their reward, whether it be a candy bar or a day off.

The President Greg Stach's business portion of the meeting informed us all of the October speech theme "vacations" and upcoming guest day will tentatively be in November (more details to come).

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