

# OUR TOWNS

Gayville  
Mission Hill  
Volin

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## VOLIN

# Resource Room To House Food Pantry

Horizons Grant Helps Community Find Permanent Home For Pantry

BY JUSTIN RUST

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VOLIN — The Gayville-Volin food pantry will soon have a new place to call home.

Thanks to a \$1,500 Horizon Grant, a new resource room in Volin is being constructed to hold the food pantry and other equipment.

Chuck Flemming has been working on building the new room for the food pantry, and he said it will be very useful.

"If at any time anyone needs food, there are various people that will have keys to get into the room. So they would just have to contact those people," he said.

The room is located in the city shop in Volin, and it is seven by 12 feet, which is enough room for a refrigerator.

"There will be shelving inside and is big enough for a refrigerator for storage of the food pantry, and whatever else we can fit in there," Flemming said.

Flemming has been working on the room throughout the summer when he has had the time. He said there is just a little bit of trim work left, putting the steel on the outside of the room and also building the shelves for the room.

"I haven't had much time this past month," Flemming said.

"Most of the material is done; it's just waiting for me. When we get a couple people working on it, it definitely helps."

The room will also house a projector and a computer for the community to use.

"There is a laptop for both towns and one LCD projector for both towns," Flemming said. "Any community member can check it out and use it at a house or church, or any meeting in general."

The resource room will be a welcoming home for the food pantry, which is kept in two places — Gayville's church and Barbara Egbert's house.

"When they need the rooms in the church, we have to store it at her place," Flemming said. "I am not sure how many times it has been moved."

The Gayville-Volin food pantry serves about 10 different families in the area during the summer months, according to Chuck Flemming's wife, Marie.

She said the food pantry has started to really fill up during the past few months because of donations.

"When we first opened up, we were pretty bare bones, but have built it up with donations and such," she said.

The addition of the resource room and a permanent home for the food pantry will only help it



Construction on Volin's resource room continues. The room needs some steel on the sides and some trimming. The room will hold Gayville-Volin's food pantry, an LCD projector and a laptop when it's completed.

expand as well.

"We will have storage for more items because of a larger room," Marie said. "We can have a different number of items instead of just basic supplies."

She is hoping to have a refrigerator in the room, but it depends if the food pantry has enough money for one.

"It depends on how the donations stand if we will get a fridge,

and if it will be a new one," she said. "We could have fresh produce if we get a fridge, and if we get a freezer, it would mean fewer trips to Sioux Falls to pick up food from there."

JUSTIN RUST/VERMILLION PLAIN TALK

## S.D. Historical Records Board Announces Re-Grant Opportunity

PIERRE — The South Dakota State Historical Records Advisory Board (SD SHRAB) is offering records caretakers across the state a re-grant opportunity, using grant funds from the National Historical Publications and Records Commission (NHPRC), National Archives and Records Administration.

The deadline for application submission is Nov. 30.

"With the grant money, the board will be able to disseminate \$3,000 in funds to local repositories, organizations, and historical societies to encourage and support identification and preservation of historical records, as well as training for staffers who care for those records," said Chelle Somsen, SD SHRAB chair and state archivist for the South Dakota State Historical Society at the Cultural Heritage Center in Pierre.

The SD SHRAB advocates preservation of historical records, educates the public and records caretakers about the importance of historical records, and leads the historical community in preserving, promoting, and providing access to the state's documentary heritage, Somsen said. The purpose of the re-grant program is to address priorities identified in the SD SHRAB strategic plan.

Priorities identified include:

- Increased access to archival collections;
- Increased opportunities for education, training, and development in archives and collection management;
- Identification of important historical records that are at risk; and
- Increased funding for South Dakota's historical records

For information on the guidelines for the grant and the application, see <http://history.sd.gov/Archives/SHRAB/shrabactivity.aspx> or call the South Dakota State Historical Society-Archives at (605) 773-3804.

## AAA: Motorists Feel Less Safe Because Of Distracted Drivers

SIoux FALLS — Fifty-two percent of drivers said they feel less safe on the roads now than they did five years ago, according to the third-annual 2010 Traffic Safety Culture Index, released today by the AAA Foundation for Traffic Safety. The leading reason cited by American drivers was distracted driving, with 88 percent of those surveyed rating drivers who text and email as a very serious threat to their safety.

"As mobile technology evolves at a breakneck pace, more and more people rightly fear and recognize that distracted driving — texting, e-mails, phone calls and more — is a growing threat on the road. But, unfortunately, this new data confirms the 'do as I say, not as I do' attitude is prevalent throughout much of the driving public," said AAA Foundation President and CEO Peter Kissinger.

The study showed that the majority of drivers (62 percent) feel that talking on a cell phone is a very serious threat to safety,

but they do not always behave accordingly or believe that others share these views. In fact, nearly 70 percent of those surveyed admitted to talking on their phones and 24 percent said they had read or sent text messages or emails while driving in the previous month.

To help change the current culture of complacency, the AAA Foundation and AAA are holding their second annual Heads Up Driving Week, from Sept. 26-Oct. 3, to encourage drivers to drive distraction-free.

"Unlike the social stigma surrounding drinking and driving, driving while texting, e-mailing or talking on the phone aren't perceived as dangerous behaviors despite overwhelming scientific evidence of the serious

crash risk these behaviors pose," said Kissinger. "This year's Traffic Safety Culture Index helps identify crucial disconnects between public perceptions and behaviors, an important step in helping the public understand the true risks of their actions."

Half of survey respondents reported having been involved in a serious crash, having had a friend or relative injured or killed in a crash, or both.

Motorists rated distracted driving behaviors as some of the most serious threats to their safety, yet many admitted to distracted behaviors like talking on the cell phone or texting or e-mailing while driving.

• Nearly 90 percent identified texting or e-mailing while driving

as a very serious threat and 80 percent would support a law banning it.

• Nine out of 10 respondents personally consider texting or e-mailing while driving unacceptable and two thirds indicated that they would lose some respect for a friend who they saw engaging in those activities while driving. However, nearly a quarter of all those surveyed said they had read or sent a text or e-mail while driving in the last month.

• Two-thirds reported they consider talking on a cell phone while driving a very serious threat and nearly half would support a law banning use of any phone while driving. However, nearly 70 percent of all those surveyed admitted talking on a

phone while driving in the past month.

"Motor vehicle crashes suddenly, prematurely and violently end the lives of tens of thousands Americans each year — killing more of our children, teens and young adults than any other single cause," said Kissinger. "Using a phone while driving increases your risk of being in a crash fourfold due to the physical, visual and mental distractions. As a society, we no longer can let distraction kill."

A paid letter to the editor:

## ENERGY OR ASTROLOGY?

Dear voters:

Energy policy affects you and me and every one of our Yankton County neighbors. That's one of the reasons I'm running for the state legislature.

Energy issues truly became a joke in Pierre last session when our own Rep. Moser and nearly all of his caucus voted for an anti-science resolution that encourages our public schools to teach "astrology, thermological and cosmological" dynamics as part of the curriculum on weather and climate change.

You may remember that the State Legislature quickly became a laughing stock for the 36-30 vote. Even this newspaper gave the lawmakers who voted "yes" a big thumbs down.

Now I know that all legislators can't read everything they vote on. But this particular resolution was ridiculed widely before the vote!

No wonder we are doing such a poor job in energy policy:

- Our state fleet of cars should be required to burn ethanol
- We should be encouraging community wind projects
- We shouldn't be subsidizing foreign oil companies' pipelines
- And we shouldn't be teaching astrology as science!

I believe the problem lies in the one-party government that has been running Pierre for more than 30 years. The legislature just goes along with whatever the governor says. We don't have the checks and balances that good governance requires.

The legislature is good for some laughs these days, but we need more than entertainment. We need a 21st century energy policy that works for South Dakotans.

I pledge to be an original thinker who reads the bills, listens to the debates and uses common sense - not astrology or party loyalty - to make my decisions.

JAY WILLIAMS  
Candidate for State House  
of Representatives

*Paid for by Jay Williams, Candidate for SD House*

## 2010 Al Neuharth Award for Excellence in the Media

Thursday, September 30, 2010

THURSDAY  
September 30

6:15 p.m.  
Doors open  
for general seating.

7 p.m. to 8:30 p.m.  
Award presentation  
and remarks by Cathie  
Black and Frank Vega.

Wayne S. Knutson Theatre  
The University  
of South Dakota's  
Warren M. Lee Center  
for the Fine Arts  
Vermillion, South Dakota

.....  
This event is free  
and open to the public.

Presented by

FREEDOM FORUM  
AL NEUHARTH MEDIA CENTER

The University of South Dakota  
Sponsored by SDPB  
Rebroadcast Sunday,  
Oct. 3, at 7 p.m.

Join us for a special evening  
honoring two nationally distinguished leaders  
in the media: Cathie Black and Frank Vega.



Cathie Black heads Hearst Magazines, one of the world's largest publishers of monthly magazines, including *O, The Oprah Magazine*, and *Esquire*. She has served as president and publisher of *USA Today*.



Frank Vega was a key member of the team that launched *USA Today* in 1982. Today, as publisher of the *San Francisco Chronicle*, he leads the largest newspaper in Northern California.

Black and Vega are this year's recipients of the Al Neuharth Award for Excellence in the Media, which honors lifetime achievement in the media. The award is named for *USA Today* and Freedom Forum founder Al Neuharth, a South Dakota native and 1950 graduate of USD.

## Grants Are Available To 4-H Clubs, FFA, FCCLA Chapters

PIERRE — The South Dakota Department of Agriculture has announced that grants are now available through the Building Our South Dakota Rural Communities (BOSDRC) program.

Grants are open to 4-H Clubs, FFA Chapters, and Family Career and Community Leaders of America (FCCLA) Chapters. The grants were developed to demonstrate the importance of rural communities and the value of organizations working together to improve rural life.

Two types of grants are available. The basic grant is used for community improvement projects and is limited to \$750 per project. The safety grant is used for projects that enhance public safety and is limited to \$200 per project.

Any 4-H club, FFA or FCCLA chapter in South Dakota can apply for the grant. Applications are due Oct. 31. Awards will be announced in late November.

All applications must be submitted on the approved forms for Fiscal Year 2011. Grant application forms and more information can be obtained on the department's website at <http://sdda.sd.gov/AgDevelopment/FinancePrograms/default.aspx> or by calling 605-773-5436.