

### Mount Marty Announces European Trip

Mount Marty College announces a Mount Marty College Education First trip to Europe titled "The Holocaust in Europe."  
This trip will take place May 15-May 25, 2012. The destinations include the cities of Berlin, Warsaw, Krakow, and Prague.  
An informational meeting about this trip will be held at 7 p.m. on Wednesday, Sept. 28, in the Roncalli South Dining Room on the campus of Mount Marty College. You are also invited to go to the Facebook page entitled European Travel with Mount Marty College to learn about travel opportunities with MMC. Information about this trip is also available under the tab Professor's Tour on the College's website at www.mtmc.edu.  
Contact Sister Cynthia Binder at (605) 668-1463 or cbinder@mtmc.edu or Dr. Rich Lofthus at (605) 668-1462 or rlofthus@mtmc.edu for more information about the 2012 trip.

### VLP Poetry Slam Set For Thursday

VERMILLION — The Vermillion Literary Project (VLP) will host its first poetry slam of the semester at 7 p.m. Thursday, Sept. 29, in the MUC Pit Lounge on the University of South Dakota campus in Vermillion. The featured reader is Omaha slam poet Pat McEvoy.  
McEvoy draws from years of bartending and a lust for adventure to craft poems both serious and ridiculous. A four-time qualifier and two-time member of Omaha's National Poetry Slam Team, he's performed in cities all over the U.S.  
McEvoy's performance will be followed by a slam open to anyone. Slam poets should bring three original poems — fabulous prizes will be awarded! The event is free and open to the public.  
For more information, email the VLP Faculty Advisor Marcella Remund at mremund@usd.edu.

### Parent Conference This Weekend In S.F.

Registration for the fourth annual South Dakota Parent Conference, scheduled Sept. 30 and Oct. 1 in Sioux Falls, is available online at www.sdpirc.org.  
A project of the South Dakota Department of Education and South Dakota Parent Information and Resource Center, the conference is appropriate for parents of children from pre-school through high school. Sessions are free and will be held at the Ramkota Inn.  
Sessions on Friday evening, Sept. 30, running from 6:30-8:15 p.m., will address bullying and cyberbullying, creating home environments that promote learning, and mass customized learning.  
Saturday's sessions begin at 8 a.m. and continue through the afternoon. Eric Szabo will lead a breakfast session about the value of old fashioned board games. Topics throughout the day will include risky behaviors, common sense parenting, nutrition, increasing a child's independence, homework, math at home, and more.  
The full agenda is posted online at the registration and information site. Information is also available by phoning 605-347-6260.  
Participants are welcome to attend both Friday and Saturday sessions, or just one day if that suits their schedule. Breakfast and lunch will be provided.

### MV Model Railroad Club Hosts Train Show

The Missouri Valley Model Railroad Club of Yankton will host its ninth annual Train Show Oct. 1-2 at the Yankton County 4-H Grounds, 901 Whiting Drive, Yankton.  
The Saturday show will run from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. while the Sunday show is set for 10 a.m. to 3 p.m.  
Numerous model railroad dealers will be on site, as well as a Z-scale doll house train layout, an HO scale modular layout, and a Lionel train layout.  
The admission ticket stub will be used for a train set drawing at the end of the day. (You need not be present to win.) Children under 5 are free with paid adult admission. Lunch is available on-site.  
For more information, contact Francis Serr at 605-660-4237 or Dan Hopf at 605-661-4123.

## USD Awarded 'Military Friendly' School Title

VERMILLION — The University of South Dakota has been honored as a Military Friendly School. G.I. Jobs, the premier magazine for military personnel transitioning into civilian life, designated USD as a 2012 Military Friendly School — a list that honors the top 20 percent of colleges, universities and trade schools that are doing the most to embrace America's military service members and veterans as students.  
"This is a tremendous honor and we certainly take pride in being among the top 20 percent of all colleges, universities and trade schools nationwide awarded this respect," noted James Parker, dean of students at the University of South Dakota. "The campus community will continue to do our best to assist all of our military students,

whether they're presently active or veterans making a transition to college."  
The 1,518 colleges, universities and trade schools on this year's Military Friendly School list prioritize the recruitment of students with military experience. USD makes the grade by providing veteran students with assistance through the USD Veterans Club, the AmeriCorps National grant from the Colorado Campus Compact and the Fides faculty development program as well as offering scholarships and discounts, and other services to those who served.  
In its effort to help student veterans find the right school, G.I. Jobs incorporated a survey of student veterans for the first time. This feedback provides prospective mili-

tary students with insight into the student veteran experience at a particular institution based on peer reviews. Student veteran survey feedback as well as the 2012 list can be viewed at www.militaryfriendlyschools.com. The 2012 list of Military Friendly Schools was compiled through extensive research and a data driven survey of more than 8,000 schools nationwide. Methodology and criteria for the list were developed with the assistance of an Academic Advisory Board consisting of educators from schools across the country. A detailed list of Military Friendly Schools is highlighted in the annual Guide to Military Friendly Schools and on a poster, both of which will be distributed to active and former military personnel next month.

To send an online sympathy card, visit [wintzrayfuneralhome.com](http://wintzrayfuneralhome.com).

### Virginia LeClair

Virginia Florence LeClair, 85, of Yankton died Saturday, Sept. 24, 2011, at the South Dakota Human Services Center, Yankton.  
Funeral Mass is at 10:30 a.m. today (Tuesday) at St. John's Catholic Church, Plankinton. A committal service will follow at Mizpah Catholic Cemetery.  
Visitation will take place at the church one hour prior to services on Tuesday.

# Yankton Church Honored In D.C.

ARLINGTON, Va. — St. John's Lutheran Church of Yankton was honored by the Department of Defense with the 2011 Secretary of Defense Employer Support Freedom Award on Sept. 22 at the Ronald Reagan Building in Washington, D.C.

The highest recognition given by the U.S. government to employers for their outstanding support of employees who serve in the Guard and Reserve, the Freedom Award was presented to St. John's Lutheran Church along with 14 other recipients at a ceremony attended by members of Congress, senior military officials and business and industry leaders.

Prior to the ceremony, John Marquardt, congregational president St. John's Lutheran Church, and the other Freedom Award recipients met with Secretary of Defense Leon Panetta, who thanked him for superior support of our nation's citizen warriors.

President Barack Obama signed a proclamation declaring Sept. 18-24, 2011, as National Employer Support of the Guard and Reserve Week, honoring those who serve in the Guard and Reserve while giving thanks to their employers, whose support is a



PHOTO: JOHNNY BIVERA  
Dr. Clifford Stanley, Undersecretary of Defense for Personnel and Readiness (left), and David McGinnis, Acting Assistant Secretary of Defense for Reserve Affairs (right), present the 2011 Secretary of Defense Employer Support Freedom Award to John Marquardt, congregational president, St. John's Lutheran Church, in Washington, D.C.

critical component of our national defense.

St. John's Lutheran Church is a parish of about 1,300 in Yankton and sits in a strong military community of less than 15,000. When the congregation's senior

pastor, a chaplain in the Army National Guard, was deployed to Afghanistan, the church voted to continue his salary in full. When he declined the pay, St. John's used the money to support his military mission, sending dozens

of hymnals and so many care packages that he was able to stock the Soldier Care Room and send additional packages to personnel in remote areas. According to Pastor Gunderson, "some people send care packages to their soldiers. My church sent me as the care package."  
The Freedom Award was instituted in 1996 under the auspices of ESGR. Employer Support of the Guard and Reserve is a Department of Defense agency established in 1972 to develop and maintain employer support for Guard and Reserve service. ESGR advocates relevant initiatives, recognizes outstanding support, increases awareness of applicable laws, and resolves conflict between service members and employers. Paramount to ESGR's mission is encouraging employment of Guardsmen and Reservists who bring integrity, global perspective and proven leadership to the civilian workforce.

For video of St. John's Lutheran Church receiving the 2011 Freedom Award, visit the ESGR YouTube Channel at <http://www.youtube.com/user/EMPLOYERSUPPORT#p/u/9/8nWMCgV1R5A>.

## Forum

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has not been the case.  
"There is not one case of bombing in the previous eight months in Egypt," she said. "Not one church was attacked. Not one mosque was attacked."  
Media coverage was an ongoing problem in many of these nations before the protests began.  
"Even though you have the illusion of diversity with some media outlets, they just represented the regime," Anees said. "Everyone knew they were just a mouthpiece for the system. We're talking about the print media, the television, the radio, everything."  
"It was very interesting to see

the transformation of some of these people who worked for years in the media, when all of a sudden, (reporters were) like, "The revolution is great!" she said.

Other troubled nations — such as Bahrain — receive biased or lax news coverage out of fear of antagonizing existing monarchies, Anees said.

"Bahrain is a very small country, and I think people are hoping (the problem) will just go away, which is ridiculous," she said. "The people have legitimate demands and deserve to be represented in their government. But the fact that there are problems in Bahrain and Yemen is a complete disaster for Saudi Arabia, because these are bordering countries, and if these countries were to succeed in their revolutions ... it's a big deal for the monarchy in Saudi

Arabia because they're pretty much stuck."

Anis agreed, adding, "Monarchies are really hard for people to talk against because of the emotional involvement they have with their monarchies and how old these monarchies are. So, they have real deep respect for their kings and princes."

"The United States has a role to play in the struggle of these nations, Anees said.

"I think the best role America can have is to continue to be a beacon of democracy — not only just to talk the talk, but to walk the walk," she said. "Because a lot of times, the problem of American foreign policy is it tends to favor its interests."

She cited as examples the decades-long support of regimes Egypt and Syria.

"We haven't seen them push-

ing for change in Saudi Arabia because they just want it to remain stable," she said. "It doesn't matter if women don't get to vote, it doesn't matter that they have all these problems. What matters is to keep the oil flowing and just keep it stable."

The United States represents to the protestors a "democratic ideal" that the protestors are trying to reach, she said.

"Hopefully democracy will prevail in the end, and the people will live to one day be free," Anees said.

Also participating in the forum was Achala Sebit Moi, a native of South Sudan who lived for six years in Syria.

The forum was moderated by Dr. Benno Wymar.

## Proposal

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"Whatever is drawn has to comply with the law," he said. "I suppose if I was on the wrong side of a pencil mark, I wouldn't feel good about it, either — of if my county was split in half. But I don't know how else we'd do it. You have to get the population. That's getting more difficult because of declining population in rural areas."

Putnam said that for decades Douglas was split in half, as well. It became whole again in 1990.

Ben Nesselhuf, chairman of the South Dakota Democratic Party, told the *Press & Dakotan* he be-

lieves the proposed map is unfairly targeting Rep. Frank Kloucek.

"They're trying to pull him into a new district, and really they're sacrificing the entire county," he said. "They couldn't beat him at the ballot box, so they're trying to draw him out."

Nesselhuf said the real victims of the proposed boundaries would be the voters in Bon Homme County.

"They're sacrificing the entire county's representation in order to try and basically draw Rep. Kloucek out of a district," he said. "These are going to be maps we're going to have to deal with for the next 10 years. They need to make sense outside of just the personalities involved. They need to make sense to the voters."

Nesselhuf said a map proposed by Rep. Mitch Fargen (D-Flan-dreau) does a much better job of keeping counties whole, one of the stated goals of the redistricting process.

"Rep. Fargen didn't consult with me or anyone at the party when he came up with this map, but it seems to at least be a map where you look at it and think, 'There's a map that seems reasonable and fair, just based on the county lines,'" he said.

Nesselhuf encouraged individuals concerned about the Rausch/Olson proposal to speak out.

"I think they need to contact the Republicans on the committee, and probably call the Legislative Research Council," he said. "The people in Bon Homme County particularly should be up in arms over this because they're going to be split off into two different districts in a way that doesn't make any sense. It's one thing if they're cutting it in half, but this stairstep that they created — which pulls the eastern half of the county over with some western counties — it's totally illogical."

## OBITUARIES

### Jay Nielson

SPRINGFIELD — Jay Nielson, 50, of Springfield died unexpectedly Sunday, Sept. 25, 2011, at St. Michael's Hospital, Tyndall.  
Funeral services are at 2 p.m. Thursday at Trinity Lutheran Church, Yankton, with the Rev. Dave Wildermuth officiating. Burial will be in the Garden of Memories Cemetery, Yankton.  
Visitations begin at 4 p.m. Wednesday at Opsahl-Kostel Funeral Home & Crematory, Yankton, with a Scripture service at 7 p.m. Visitations will resume one hour prior to the service at the church.

### Warren Mayer

Warren Mayer, 88, of Yankton died Monday, Sept. 26, 2011, at Avera Sacred Heart Hospital, Yankton.  
Funeral services are at 10:30 a.m. Friday at Gayville Lutheran Church, Gayville, with the Rev. Ralph Egbert officiating. Burial will be in the Garden of Memories Cemetery, Yankton.  
Visitation is 5-8 p.m. Thursday at Wintz & Ray Funeral Home, Yankton, with a prayer service at 7 p.m. Visitation will resume one hour prior to the funeral on Friday at the church.

To send an online sympathy card, visit [wintzrayfuneralhome.com](http://wintzrayfuneralhome.com).

### Virginia LeClair

Virginia Florence LeClair, 85, of Yankton died Saturday, Sept. 24, 2011, at the South Dakota Human Services Center, Yankton.  
Funeral Mass is at 10:30 a.m. today (Tuesday) at St. John's Catholic Church, Plankinton. A committal service will follow at Mizpah Catholic Cemetery.  
Visitation will take place at the church one hour prior to services on Tuesday.

Mount Funeral Home, Plankinton, is assisting with arrangements. Expressions of sympathy may be extended to the family through [www.mountfuneralhome.com](http://www.mountfuneralhome.com).

### Clarence Benck

Clarence E. Benck, 89, of Yankton died Monday, Sept. 26, 2011, at Avera Sister James Care Center, Yankton.  
Arrangements are pending under the care of Opsahl-Kostel Funeral Home and Crematory, Yankton.

**IN REMEMBRANCE**

**Vera Nelson**  
10:30 AM, Tuesday  
St. Michael's Catholic Church  
Coleridge

**WINTZ & RAY** FUNERAL HOME and Cremation Service, Inc. 605-665-3644 [www.wintzrayfuneralhome.com](http://www.wintzrayfuneralhome.com)

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**TABOR MEALS on Wheels**

**FUNDRAISER**  
Friday • September 30, 2011

• Serving •  
Pork Roast \$7.00 – Adult  
Corn \$3.50 – Under 12  
Sauerkraut  
Buns  
Dumplings  
Lemonade

Serving: 5 – 7:30 p.m.

Please join us at the Tabor Nutrition Center • Tabor, SD

**High School Students!**  
attend  
**Career Day**  
at Mount Marty College  
Thursday, October 6th  
Registration 9:30 am  
Sessions begin at 10 & conclude at Noon

• Attend mini sessions on a variety of careers  
• Explore your career options & get first-hand information from area professionals on careers you are interested in pursuing

Accounting Nursing  
Banking Pharmacy  
Graphic Design & Media Arts Psychology  
Law Dentistry  
Marketing Theatre  
Medicine AND MUCH MORE!!

To Register contact MMC Admissions Office at 855-686-2789 or 605-668-1545. Online registration at [www.mtmc.edu](http://www.mtmc.edu)  
Check out Admissions Events

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