

Unique Apart, UNITED Together

BY LAUREN HANSON

Yankton Executive Director, United Way & Volunteer Services of Greater Yankton

We all win when a child succeeds, when families are financially stable and when people have good health. That's why for over 55 years the United Way & Volunteer Services of Greater Yankton has held annual campaigns encouraging people to support local agencies and programs that provide critical services addressing basic needs.

We now have over 35 programs that are supported with one annual appeal that reach thousands of our neighbors of all ages. Your gift helps to provide some or all of the financial support for the partner agencies and programs.

Why is United Way the best investment you can make? Your contribution helps your local community. United Way & Volunteer Services of Greater Yankton understands the needs of the greater Yankton area and invests in a network of local programs and initiatives to address those needs. 99 cents of every dollar raised is invested right here in the greater Yankton community.

No single agency or program can do it alone. It takes coordination and an entire network of programs to keep our communities strong - and that's what United Way & Volunteer Services provides. With a deep network of relationships with education, community and business leaders, health and human service experts, volunteers and donors, United Way & Volunteer Services is uniquely positioned to



SUBMITTED PHOTO

2014 Heart Club Committee
Front row (L to R) Amy Gokie, Hilary Eidsness, Angie Schoenfelder
Back row (L to R) Laura Larsen, Stephanie Serck, Jessica Woerner, Beth Pietila

provide the leadership and resources to get things done.

We ALL benefit from United Way. From programs that help our neighbors and even our own families cope in the face of home fires or other unexpected crisis, to programs that help working families overcome life's challenges and remain self-sufficient - each of us has inherited a wealth of community support services that improve our quality of life.

How is the annual campaign goal accomplished? By participation of neighbors! \$1.00 a week from each Yankton County resident would far exceed the campaign goal! Every dollar counts.

Why is United Way's Heart Club important? Why should I join? Caring neighbors that contribute \$250 or more are members of our Leadership Giving group, the Heart Club. In 2013, Heart Club members raised almost 50% of the community's United Way contribution. The United Way is the most effective way to direct your charitable donations to caring and well-run commu-

nity programs. Joining Heart Club is the easiest way to show your company and your community that investing in the United Way is important to you.

Whatever gift amount is possible for you, \$1, \$2, \$5 a week, please consider participating in this year's campaign. Let's continue to celebrate that each of us is Unique Apart but always United Together. That alone we can do incredible things, but together, UNITED as a community, we can do anything.

We would like to thank our 2014 Heart Club Committee; Chair Beth Pietila, Denise Cody, Hilary Eidsness, Amy Gokie, Laura Larsen, Kari Rumsey, Angie Schoenfelder, Stephanie Serck and Jessica Woerner, for their support of United Way! These individuals are a great example of what it means to LIVE UNITED, dedicating their time and talents to making our annual campaign a success.

Thank you for giving, advocating and volunteering!

Local Farmer Supports YCC

This December will mark the fifth year that Donna Madson has donated her time to the Yankton Contact Center.

After retiring from working 34 years in the job service industry and helping others obtain employment, Madson began volunteering at the Yankton Contact Center. The Yankton Contact Center is dedicated to helping people in Yankton with emergency financial needs, and also serves as the only food pantry in Yankton. Madson started volunteering at the center to stay involved in service and keep in touch with those she had worked with and helped for many years.

"I began volunteering at the center by stocking shelves and passing out food to those in need," said Madson. "I really enjoy being a part of such a worthy organization and helping people in my community who need it most."

Madson directed a \$2,500 donation this year to the Yankton Contact Center through America's Farmers Grow Communities, sponsored by the Monsanto Fund.

Madson was born and raised on a farm, and continues to help her husband with their 500 acres of corn and soybeans. Madson was the local winning farmer through the program, and was given the opportunity to donate the money to a local nonprofit of her choice. After being a part of the organization and seeing how much community members benefited from its assistance, Madson knew the Yankton Contact Center would put the funds to good use.

The Yankton Contact Center used the \$2,500 donation to help support community members in various ways. Through its Representative Payee program, the Yankton Contact Center offers money management counseling services, and helps individuals manage their bills and finances. With the donation, the center was able to provide money management assistance to more than 90 people in the community. The donation also helped the organization give 187 struggling families vouchers for school backpacks, and provide those in need with Christmas food

baskets.

"I was born and raised in Yankton, and never knew about the need for emergency assistance to help people afford basics like food, medications and rent," said Jennifer Adamson, director of the Yankton Contact Center. "We all enjoy doing what we do, and when we receive donations, we feel very blessed to pay it forward."

America's Farmers Grow Communities gives winning farmers the opportunity to direct a \$2,500 donation to a nonprofit organization in their county. Farmers have helped fund more than 5,200 organizations in rural America through America's Farmers Grow Communities, sponsored by the Monsanto Fund. The program launched nationally in 2011 and has grown to include 1,289 eligible counties in 39 states. Farmers and rural community members can now visit GrowCommunities.com and register to win or submit an idea in need of funding. This program is part of the Monsanto Fund's overall effort to support rural communities.

SCHOLASTICS

MOUNT MARTY

The list of Mount Marty College graduates from August 2013:

- Brett Springman, Bachelor of Science, Radiologic Technology, Adrian, Minn.
- Alexis Luger, Certificate in Practical Nursing, Bloomfield, Neb.
- Miranda Kuhl, Certificate in Practical Nursing, Omaha, Neb.
- Joseph Hieb, Bachelor

of Arts, Business Administration, Chamberlain

- Ashleigh Koehler, Certificate in Practical Nursing, Groton
- Chantel Spurgin, Certificate in Practical Nursing, Madison
- Jeffrey Veen, Certificate in Practical Nursing, Sioux Falls
- Hillary Perez, Certificate in Practical Nursing, Wagner

- Laura Hays, Certificate in Practical Nursing, Yankton
- Kalib Heeren, Bachelor of Arts Human Service, Yankton
- Garrett Lohff, Certificate in Practical Nursing, Yankton
- Jason Schmidt, Bachelor of Science, Radiologic Technology, Yankton
- Andrea Van Osdel, Certificate in Practical Nursing, Yankton

MEETINGS

TOASTMASTERS CLUB 6217

Gale Vogt called Toastmasters Club 6217 to order Sept. 19 at noon in the KPI Conference Room with a warm welcome and an invocation by Muriel Stach praying for the Pilgrim Almanac "time for joy."

Eileen O'Connor presented the word of the day, "pivotal" and tracked its use by the speakers as well as unusual and interesting phrases, like "round is a shape" and "Christmas promise."

Chelsi Hames's evaluation team included timer Kary Beltz and "ah" counter Fran Kocer.

Speaker Jen Hovland informed the audience using the Advanced Communication Manual. Hovland got us all to stop playing the blame game and take responsibility and that will allow us to make a change in our lives.

Hovland was evaluated by Jane Miller with praise for her use of words and showing statistics to get the point across, and thought it was very personable.

Table Topics Master Tim Bohn asked impromptu questions, using fortune cookies. He has each person open one cookie and to tell us how it relates to our lives. Steve Anderson was hoping for a Powerball business venter to be his fortune, but came up short. Greg Stach fortune was to take a vacation to Japan to visit his son and his family in the near future. Kocer wishes some companies would promise only what they can truly deliver. O'Connor loves giving children the power to read, thus expanding her horizon. Stach had the pleasure of teaching many students and family about fortune cookies and how to make them. Beltz not only has "pinky promises" in her home but the newest being "Christmas Promises." Miller goal to fit into a dress that she purchased couple years ago will happen by this June 2014. Hames going to finish having all her kids, then settle down and enjoy her family.

Vogt awarded trophies to Miller as Best Evaluator, to Hovland for Best Speaker and Anderson for Best Respondent in Table Topics. Vogt then asked President Jen Hovland for announcements, which were upcoming Guest Day to be on Halloween Day. Please come and join the fun, no tricks, only treats!

GFWC YANKTON WOMAN'S CLUB

The Yankton Chapter of GFWC Woman's Club met Sept. 7, 2013, at 11 a.m. at Hillcrest Golf & Country Club. President Pauline Akland called the meeting to order. The Pledge of Allegiance, South Dakota Pledge and Collect For Women were given.

Program: President Akland introduced Desiree Warren-Johnson of the Women and Children's Center, Sandy Gehl RN, Director of the Emergency Department at Avera Sacred Heart Hospital and Daniel Prendale EMT with the County EMT. They are members of S.A.R.T./C.R.T. "Sexual Assault & Domestic Violence Commu-

nity Response Team. They spoke in depth of their personal involvement on the team. A candlelight vigil will be held Oct. 9 at 7 p.m. in honor of victims.

Dot Blaha gave the treasurer's report, it will be filed pending audit. She also presented the 2013-2014 proposed budget and distribution of funds. Doreas Allan made a motion we accept proposed budget 2nd by Donna DeJean, motion passed. Peggy Schiedel made a motion to approve minutes of the May 4 meeting, 2nd by Julie Clifton the motion passed. Secretary Ellen Rodenberg read a thank you from Julie Dykstra of Habitat for Humanity for food provided to workers on site.

Julie Clifton proposed that GFWC members take on the program of providing Habitat workers food on the job site once per month. The Executive Board will review the proposal and bring back a decision to the October meeting. Guests: Fran Fox introduced Sandy Battin and Mary Lou Williams, while Peggy Schiedel's guest was Donna Schaefer.

Leadership: President Akland read a story of "Ling" a boy who's honesty led him to be appointed the next Emperor. The story was from a book of the collection from Nancy Burgess. Very interesting.

Saturday, April 26, 2014 is the date chosen for our annual Luncheon-Style Show at The Center. Our new members Sheryl Dykes and Julie Dykstra were presented flowers and welcomed into GFWC. Julie Clifton reminded members to bring recipes we made for our luncheon-style show to the next meeting. Julie is preparing a recipe book to sell at our luncheon next spring.

Saturday Sept. 27-28 is the Mississippi Valley Regional Conference at Rapid City. The SD Eastern District is Oct. 19 at Brookings while the SD State Convention is April 11-13 in Huron.

Hostesses today were Pauline Akland and Donna DeJean, door prizes were won by Peggy Schiedel Sandy Battin and Sally Welter.

No further business the meeting was adjourned.

TOASTMASTER CLUB 1294

Toastmaster Club 1294 met on Sept. 14, 2013, at 7:30 a.m. at the Fryn' Pan Restaurant. The meeting was opened by the president, Steve Hamilton. He introduced Angela Mann, who gave the prayer and led the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag.

Steve Hamilton then introduced Kathy Hejna, the Toastmaster of the Day. The Master Evaluator, Steve Hamilton introduced his team: Angela Mann, Grammarian, who gave the word of the day, "respite," meaning to take a break; Evaluator Janice Stone; Ah Counter, Teresa Rentsch; Timer, Doug Fickbohm; and Vote Counter, Janice Kruse.

Harry Voelzke gave his speech, which was then evaluated by Janice Stone.

Kathy Hejna led the Table Topics contest about the Toastmasters' personal goals.

Participants in the table topics contest included Janice Stone, John Swensen, and Matt Stone. Matt Stone won first place, and John Swensen received second place in the table topics contest.

Then the Master Evaluator, Steve Hamilton evaluated the meeting. Joke Master, Janice Kruse told the joke of the day. Then Kathy Hejna led a joke contest. Participants in the joke contest included: Janice Kruse, Steve Hamilton, John Swensen, Doug Fickbohm and guest, Rachel Hejna. Rachel Hejna won first place in the joke contest.

Kathy Henja handed out the awards to the following winners: Harry Voelzke for best speech, Janice Stone won for best evaluator, Rachel Hejna for best joke, and Matt Stone won for best table topics.

President, Steve Hamilton closed the meeting by stating that Toastmaster Club 1294 is working toward becoming an international distinguished club by meeting 3 out of 10 goals with Matt Stone becoming a competent leader, Harry Voelzke becoming a competent communicator and Tara Arens receiving her advanced communicator silver award. For more information call Steve at 665-8448. Guests are always welcome.

Yankton Toastmasters Club 1294 met at the Fryn' Pan Restaurant on Saturday, September 21 at 7:30 a.m. The meeting was called to order by Doug Fickbohm. Kevin Buhl gave the invocation and led the members in the Pledge of Allegiance. A short business meeting was held followed by the program of the day. Angela Mann was the Toastmaster who called on Doug Fickbohm Master Evaluator who called on his team. Joy Winther was a general speech evaluator, Kevin Buhl was timer, Harry Voelzke ah counter and Teresa Rentsch was the Grammarian who gave the word of the day "copacetic." Speeches were given by Carol Smith and John Swensen. Table topics was led by Jeremy Skrenes. Joy Winther won for best table topics. Toastmasters meets every Saturday morning at 7:30 at the Fryn' Pan. If you are interested in improving your communication and speaking skills or working on confidence and people skills your invited to attend. If you would like more information please call Doug Fickbohm at 665-7074.

VFW LADIES AUXILIARY

The September meeting of the Ladies Auxiliary to Ernest

Bowyer V.F.W. Post 791 opened by Joyce Stahlecker, followed by roll call. Opening Prayer by Slowey, and patriotic instructions, Pledge to the flag and star spangled banner by Stahlecker.

Applications for membership are Caralee Jorgenson and Kristie Lyngstad. Minute of previous meeting read by Schramm and Treasurer's report by Olson. Reading of the bill by Simonsen and correspondence by Schramm.

Committee Reports were giving, Americanism: Stoddard, on Aug. 23 a flag folding program was held at St. Ben's with the 4th grade. Church: Christensen, cancelled stamps given to Trinity Lutheran Church. Hospital: Slowey, Cancer Aid and Research: Olson, years free Membership drawing with Jean LaPour-Continous and Sharon Roberts-Life. Majestic Bluff: Mellem, Yankton Care Center: Gwinn, Poppies: Blaha, Poppy Days are Oct. 11-12, Volunteer will be needed. Blaha has checked with all businesses to get permission and will be at Wal-Mart, K-Mart, Hy-Vee, Mall and the Post Office. National Home by List, read the bulletin and thanked everyone for the Campbell Labels.

Stahlecker introduced a new member, Cheryl Van Dyke, an employee of our V.F.W. Post.

No unfinished business. New business: the soup kitchen will be on September 17, with Marlene Schramm as Soup Kitchen Chairwoman. Pies will be solicit from group January through June.

Novak thanked all who walked in Riverboat Days Parade. The Homecoming Parade is Sept. 27 at 2 p.m. with Volunteer marching and Stahlecker will deliver the flags.

President Stahlecker asked if anyone was interested in going to Vicksburg, Miss., on Oct. 26-30 on a charter bus with District #1 President Mullinix. President Mullinix will also be making her inspection of the Yankton Auxiliary on Oct. 8. Oct. 27 is the date of District #1 meeting in Canton.

Bingo helpers are needed, anyone wishing to help, please contact the Ladies Auxiliary Stahlecker.

In September Auxiliary 791 Donations were: Yankton Transit Bus, State President's Project, District #1 dues. Drawing for Year's free Dues for Continuous Members and Insurance Payment for Life Members.

Next meeting will be at 7:30 p.m. Oct. 8.

AMERICAN LEGION AUXILIARY

Roy Anderson Unit #12 American Legion Auxiliary met on Sept. 23, 2013, with 1st Vice President Joyce List presiding. There were 21 members present. Chaplain Kathleen Ekern offered the opening prayer, followed by the Pledge to the Flag. The singing of a song was dispensed with. Members recited the Preamble and a moment of Silent Prayer was observed.

At this time five of the 16 students who attended Girls State introduced themselves and presented a brief report on their activities during the time at Girls State. Each related changes in themselves through the experience.

Following Roll Call of Officers members introduced themselves. New Secretary Dorothea Blaha was installed into office. Minutes of the June 2013 meeting were read and finding no additions or corrections were approved. Priscilla Mazourek presented the Treasurers report A motion by Theresa Brandt seconded by Audrey Lubbers to accept the report passed.

A letter from District President Linda Youngbluth was read stating that the District meeting was to be held in Menno on Sept. 29 beginning at 3 p.m. Selection of a first Vice President would be held. Her visitation with the Yankton Unit will be at the October meeting.

Homecoming Parade was discussed. Anyone wishing to march should contact Joyce List prior to the event.

Bills were presented and with motion made by Marlys List seconded by Mary Kuchta was passed.

Gert Boyles was the winner of the Ten Cent Cup which she donated back to the Unit. The Coin March netted \$20.75.

Kathleen Ekern offered a closing prayer and the meeting was adjourned. The next meeting will be held on Oct. 21, 2013.

A lovely fall themed lunch was served by Marlys List and Janice DeJong.

INTERCHANGE

Interchange, Inc. met at 12 p.m. on Monday, Sept. 23, 2013, at Minerva's. The meeting was called to order by President Frani Keiffer and the Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

New members Marie Steckelberg of Steckelberg Consulting, LLC and Susan Kalsow, Mount Marty College Vice

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Jeffrey Johnson, M.D. Brad Adams, PA-C Brandi Pravecek, CNP

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