

SCHOLARSHIPS

P.E.O. STAR SCHOLARSHIPS

P.E.O., an international philanthropic organization that celebrates and supports the advancement of women through scholarships, grants, awards, loans and the stewardship of Cottey College in Nevada, Missouri, is offering P.E.O. STAR Scholarships to exceptional high school senior women who will attend an accredited post-secondary educational institution in the United States or Canada in the 2016-17 academic year.

Almost \$4.5 million has been awarded to 1,774 recipients of the STAR Scholarship since it was begun in 2009.

Four Yankton High School seniors have been awarded the \$2,500 scholarships since 2011.

Candidates for the STAR Scholarship must be recommended by local P.E.O. chapters. Information about eligibility criteria and how to apply for the scholarship is available through local high school counseling offices, or by calling Joyce Maggied at 665-7977. This year's deadline for submission of application packets is Sept. 25. Four candidates can be submitted by the four Yankton P.E.O. Chapters. Interviews will be conducted to select the four candidates.

Two Join USD Foundation Staff

The University of South Dakota Foundation has added two new staff members to its Constituent Engagement team.

Heidi Schemmel who has a BA in marketing from the University of Wisconsin Eau Claire, is associate director of constituent relations. She previously worked in market research and most recently as a donor relations specialist for the Sanford Health Foundation.

Leslie Gerrish is associate director of constituent engagement. She leads the event management initiatives and other donor engagement efforts. Her undergraduate degree was granted by Purdue University; her master's degree in fundraising and nonprofit management by Indiana University. Gerrish

most recently served as an account manager for Wellington, a Kansas City-based event firm, for which she planned and executed events in this country and internationally.

The mission of the University of South Dakota Foundation is to provide private resources

for the University of South Dakota, to increase the excellence of students' educational experience.



Gerrish



Schemmel

United Way

United Way Sets \$525,000 Goal For Community Campaign

Our community has a lot to be proud of, including reaching the record breaking United Way community campaign goal last year. We surpassed our 2015 goal of \$500,000, thanks to YOU, our loyal donors, advocates, and volunteers. Thank you for your support!

As we embark on our 2016 community campaign, United Way & Volunteer Services of Greater Yankton will be increasing our goal by 5%, setting it at \$525,000. The announcement of the 2016 goal was conducted at the Donor Appreciation and Campaign Kickoff Event, held at the Avera Sacred Heart Campus, Pavilion on Tuesday, September 8th.

As our community continues to grow, the work of over 35 programs by United Way partner agencies remains extremely important.

"We're seeing an increase in funding requests from our local agencies and programs," stated United Way Campaign Chair Marc Bies, while unveiling the goal. "As a community, Yankton has seen many positive changes. And as representatives of United Way, we are proud of that work and will strive, alongside our partners, to continue to meet emerging needs."

The success of the United Way community campaign is reliant on the roles of many. A BIG THANKS to nearly 50 volunteers, the 40+ businesses, the 450 plus Heart Club



SUBMITTED PHOTO

leadership donors, and all our supporters. You are all proof that Yankton continues to proudly LIVE UNITED.

During our Campaign Kickoff event, we also gave A BIG THANKS to a loyal donor, an advocate, and a volunteer, who continuously go above and beyond to ensure the success of United Way and our partner agencies and programs.

The first BIG THANKS award recipient was awarded to a local company whose culture for giving to our community is impressive. Avera Sacred Heart Hospital goes

above and beyond each and every year for United Way and other community programs. We are very grateful for their support and want to acknowledge Avera Sacred Heart Hospital and their employees for their commitment to community.

Our next BIG THANKS award was awarded to two advocates whose voices not only promote United Way, but are crucial components to the success of many local programs. When you think of Mike & Gerrie Healy, you think of community...you think of neighbors helping

neighbors...and you are grateful to live in a place with such caring and kind people. Congratulations Mike and Gerrie Healy!

Throughout the Greater Yankton community, groups, individuals and families, volunteer countless hours to a multitude of programs and projects. They mentor our youth, organize food drives, advocate for a cause, deliver nutritious food to our neighbors or serve as Board Members for nonprofit organizations. Volunteers are invaluable!

Our final BIG THANKS award was awarded to a volunteer in the community who gives of her time and talents as a loyal supporter of our mission. Barb Olson serves as a United Way Board Member and Campaign Advisor, sharing her passion for our work and the work of our partner agencies. Thank you Barb for all that you do!

Again, thank you to all our award recipients, Avera Sacred Heart Hospital, Mike & Gerrie Healy and Barb Olson. You continue to make Yankton the best it can be by GIVING, ADVOCATING and VOLUNTEERING.

To learn more about the impact of your generosity on our community, to donate, or to volunteer, visit us at www.yanktonunitedway.org.

Thank you, Yankton, for your continued support. #LIVE UNITED

U.S. News & World Report Ranks USD Among Nation's Best

VERMILLION — U.S. News & World Report again ranked the University of South Dakota among the top national universities in its 2016 guidebook, the 25th consecutive year USD made the list.

USD tied for 180th place, as did the University of North Dakota and University of New Mexico.

The 2016 edition of the U.S. News guidebook includes data on nearly 1,800 colleges and universities, including statistics on borrowing, costs and graduation rates. The rankings weigh the strength of academic programs on up to 16 measures of academic excellence, including average freshman retention rates, SAT/ACT scores, acceptance rates, average alumni giving rates

and high school counselor assessments.

Schools like USD in the National Universities category offer a full range of undergraduate majors as well as master's and doctoral programs. The colleges also are committed to producing groundbreaking research.

"The U.S. News list is among the most respected sources of information for prospective students, so to be ranked among the best in the country for 25 years in a row is a testament to the quality, affordable education USD offers," said James W. Abbott, USD president.

A full list of the rankings is available on newsstands and at www.usnews.com/colleges.

International Read An eBook Day At Yankton Library

The Yankton Community Library is celebrating International Read an eBook Day on Sept. 18. This annual holiday, which is sponsored by the American Library Association, raises awareness for reading on digital devices.

In recent years, the popularity of eBooks has soared and readers are taking advantage of the eBook technology and popular titles available at their local library. Through July 2015, public library customers nationwide have borrowed 94.7 million eBooks and audiobooks, a 24 percent increase over the same period in 2014. Readers can access eBooks on all major computers and devices anytime, anywhere with a

library card.

Read an eBook Day is a celebration of modern storytelling. Readers around the world are encouraged to take part in the largest digital reading event by choosing from millions of free eBooks from their local library. Users are encouraged to share what they are reading and how they are celebrating on social media and join the #eBook-Love conversation. Readers can use the hashtag on Facebook and Twitter to tell their story and share their love of eBooks or comment directly at www.readanebookday.com.

eBooks have proven to be a convenient, beneficial complement to tradi-

tional, physical books. When physical books are not available or practical, eBooks offer a great alternative for instant access to reading.

Read an eBook Day falls in the middle of Library Card Sign-up Month, a time when the Yankton Community Library joins the American Library Association and public libraries nationwide to make sure that every student has the most important school supply of all — a free library card.

To sign up for a library card and begin your journey with eBooks, visit the Yankton Community Library, 515 Walnut Street, in person.

BBB Issues Donor Advisory for Syrian Refugee Assistance

ARLINGTON, Va. — As the Syrian refugee crisis continues to grow, BBB Wise Giving Alliance (BBB WGA) warns donors to be cautious when making donations to assist refugees in need.

"Tragedies generate public sympathy but unfortunately also attract scam fund raising efforts," notes H. Art Taylor, president and CEO of BBB WGA. "We are reminding contributors to be on the lookout for questionable solicitors and recommend that they focus giving efforts on charities that already have a presence in the impacted areas."

When donating to assist in the Syrian refugee crisis, keep the following tips in mind to avoid scams.

- * Be cautious when giving online.
- * Be cautious about online giving, especially in response to spam messages and emails that claim to link to a relief organization. Instead, go directly to the charity's web site.
- * Rely on expert opinion when it comes to evaluating a charity.
- * Be cautious when relying on third-party recommendations from bloggers or other web sites. The public can go to Give.org to verify

if a charity meets the 20 BBB Standards for Charity Accountability.

* Be wary of claims that 100 percent of donations will assist relief victims. Despite what an organization might claim, charities have fund raising and administrative costs.

* Find out if the charity has an on-the-ground presence in the impacted areas. Unless the charity already has staff in the affected areas, it may be difficult to bring in new aid workers to provide assistance quickly.

* Determine if the charity is providing direct aid or raising money for other groups. Some charities

may be raising money to pass along to relief organizations. If so, you may want to consider "avoiding the middleman" and giving directly to those that have a presence in the region.

The following organizations are collecting funds for Syrian refugee relief and meet all of the BBB Charity Standards:

- * CARE USA
- * Catholic Relief Services
- * Church World Service
- * Concern Worldwide US
- * GlobalGiving
- * Helping Hand for Relief and Development

- * International Medical Corps
- * International Rescue Committee
- * Islamic Relief USA
- * Lutheran World Relief
- * Medical Teams International
- * Mennonite Central Committee
- * Mercy Corps
- * Oxfam America
- * Plan International USA
- * Save the Children
- * United States Fund for UNICEF
- * World Food Program USA
- * World Relief
- * World Vision

MEETINGS

YANKTON AREA RETIRED SCHOOL PERSONNEL

The Yankton Area Retired School Personnel began their fall season with a luncheon/meeting on Thursday, Sept. 3, 2015, at Jo-Dean's Restaurant. Formerly the Yankton Area Retired Teachers Association, the organization recently underwent a name change in order to be more inclusive of any retiree from an educational institution. Following lunch, Dave Wright, from the Services Center Federal Credit Union presented the program on Fraud, Credit Card, and Identity Theft. Dave and his wife, Ila, shared pertinent information of which seniors need to be aware in today's world.

President, Joyce Maggied, conducted a short business meeting following the program. Nora Lee read the minutes of the meeting from June 4th, and Gene Bormann gave a treasurer's report. Committee reports included information about the South Dakota Retired School Personnel Scholarships for \$1,000 which are awarded to two South Dakota Teachers who have taught for five years and are working to advance their degrees or national certification. A reminder was given

to members to report all community service hours since April that have benefited adults and children. Lola Waldner reported our upcoming October date for Sack Packs. It was noted that the South Dakota Retirement System is considering a new plan for future State retirees, including teachers.

Under New Business, Nora Lee read proposed changes in our Constitution/By-laws to include our name change and schedule of meetings. The changes will be voted upon at the next meeting. There was no New Business action taken.

Announcements included a reminder to take the Survey on Crane Youngworth Field on the YSD website, the signing of a new book by Marilyn Kratz, and a request by the Yankton Area Literacy Council for much needed volunteer tutors.

The organization welcomes all retired school personnel and meets the first Thursday of September, October and November in the fall, and April, May and June in the Spring. The next luncheon/meeting will be held on Thursday, Oct. 1, at 11:30 a.m. at JoDeans. The program will be presented by Kenny Tomek, Registered Dietician at HyVee, who will speak on "Eat This; Not That."

YANKTON COMMUNITY FORUM

Yankton Community Forum is a non-profit organization which now meets the first three Tuesdays of every month at the Round Table at 601 West 21st. Coffee and rolls are served at 8:30 a.m. and the program begins at 9 a.m.

Membership is limited to persons over fifty years of age. There is a membership fee and second year members are asked to secure one program a year.

If you are new to Yankton, this is an opportunity to meet people and to learn about our community. If you have lived in Yankton for a period of time, you will be surprised to learn about some of the things that are going on in and around our great community. The interesting programs that were presented in August were:

- Aug. 4 — Sam Hurley, Head of the Oral History Dept. at USD, shared the life of Gabor Boritt, Prof. Emeritus at Gettysburg College: How he escaped Hungary, attended Yankton College and founded the Civil War Institute.
- Aug. 11 — Roy Lauck, currently working as a controller at the Oahe Dam-Talked about hydro-electric

plants, the different sources of electricity and our need to update and produce energy for future generations.

• Aug. 18 — Kenny Tomek, Hy-Vee Registered Dietitian-Covered their health food section and discussed sweeteners, reading labels and percentages of ingredients which should be avoided in special diets.

Please contact President Joan Neubauer at 260-9564 or Rose Mather at 665-4615 for more information. We'd love to have you visit us to see what we are about.

YANKTON TOASTMASTERS CLUB 1294

Yankton Toastmasters Club 1294 met Saturday, August 29 at 7:30 a.m. at the Fry'n Pan Restaurant. The meeting was called to order by President Roy Wilcox. The invocation was given by Harry Voeizke followed by Wilcox leading the Pledge of Allegiance to the flag. Angela Mann was introduced as the Toastmaster of the meeting.

Mann called on Grammarian, Steffon Newsome Harris to give the word of the day which was "elucidate" and means "to make something clear". Table topics was led by Distinguished Toastmaster Steve Hamilton. Speeches were given by John

Swenson on "A Fly in the Ointment" from the competent communicator manual and by Jeremy Skrenes on "Abraham Trump's Gettysburg Address" also from the competent communicator manual. Master Evaluator of the meeting was Matt Stone, who evaluated the meeting and called on Jana Lane to evaluate Swenson's speech and Janice Stone to evaluate Skrenes's speech. Presentations were also given by Harris as grammarian and Ah counter, and joke master Wilcox. Table topics winner was Harris, best Evaluator was Janice Stone, and best speaker went to Skrenes.

Guests are welcome. For more information call 605-665-8448 or visit the "Yankton Toastmasters Clubs" Facebook page.

INTERCHANGE

Interchange, Inc. did not meet this week due to the Labor Day holiday. There are some really great programs coming up! Here is your update...

UPCOMING HOSTESSES/PROGRAMS MINERVAS BANQUET ROOM A, NOON

- Sept. 14: Member Spotlight: Lyndall Cornette Hostess: Deb Overseth. Deb will be telling us all about Ruby Ribbon!
- Sept. 21: Member Spotlight: Colleen Craig-Davis Hostess: Linda Stephenson. Linda has arranged a fashion show featuring all the great styles and colors for Fall. If you shop Linda's you are encouraged to wear an item you bought at her store to the meeting!
- Sept. 28: Member Spotlight: TBA Hostess: Susan Schavee. Speaker will be Sherry Rabenberger with Weight Watchers!
- Oct. 5: Member Spotlight: TBA Hostess: Michele Tycz
- Oct. 12: Member Spotlight: Kathie Gerstner Hostess: Joyce Stevens. Speaker will be Elizabeth Koerner the 2015 SD Young Mother of the Year. She will share highlights of her trip to D.C. last April.
- Oct. 19: Member Spotlight: TBA Hostess: Paula Tacke
- Oct. 25: Member Spotlight: TBA Hostess: Gert Thomas

Upcoming Hostesses: Taryn Van Gilder-Pierce, Lois Varvel and Nancy Wenande

If you are not yet a friend on Facebook, please send a request to become one by searching FB for Interchange. Yankton!