



# Vermillionaire

NOVEMBER 2018

VERMILLION.K12.SD.US

VERMILLION HIGH SCHOOL'S STUDENT NEWSPAPER

## GIVING THANKS & GIVING BACK

BY MASON COURNOYER

The Thanksgiving holiday is a time for families to get together around a grand feast, celebrating the good times surrounded by the ones they love. It is a beautiful festivity held across the United States of America, in which we sometimes take for granted. There are families everywhere who cannot join due to their financial situations; Kelly Stone, a teacher at Vermillion High School, aims to fix that within our community. She devised the Tanager Takeout program, which is located inside Vermillion High School in Room 41 and is held every Friday.

"We've been looking to getting more food to the kids in our school and their families," Stone says. The program happily serves around 50 families weekly; combining efforts with the likes of the Welcome Table and The Backpack Program. Together, they ensure our community is not hungry and not alone. As a participant of Tanager Takeout myself, I have nothing but praise for what Mrs. Stone is doing. If you feel the same way and want to help in any way possible, donate food or money to PO Box 219 and your contribution will not be forgotten.

Another program helping serve the community of Vermillion is the Food Pantry, located at Trinity Lutheran Church. Teresa McDowell Johnson is one of the few who help keep the community fed. "I've always worked in Social Services," she said, "I like working with individuals. I know people are hungry and they're invisible to regular citizens. You never know what the person next to you is going through. A good kid wouldn't be able to concentrate if he's hungry and no one can visibly see that. A lot of food in great condition is thrown away when they should be going to families who need it."

As many as 270 families around the Vermillion Community are served every month. The Thanksgiving holiday can see as much as 150,000 pounds of food donated to the Food Pantry program. The Thanksgiving meals offer turkeys, stuffing, cranberry sauce, corn, and pretty much anything else holiday related. The Food Pantry program is only as strong as its volunteers which has over 80 people who donate their time each year. In addition to the great volunteers, the Food Pantry also combines efforts with various other programs surrounding the community including the Welcome Table, Tanager Takeout, Backpack Program, the Salvation Army, Evan's Diaper Bank, and Brian's Closet.

If you are interested in donating to the Food Pantry, you can drop off items at 816 East Clark, at one of the drop boxes located at any of the churches in Vermillion, or at the blue barrel drop sites at Walmart and HyVee.



Kelly Stone (far right) and Tanager Takeout volunteers. Photo submitted by Kelly Stone.

## A DAY TO HONOR

BY MARCUS DIAZ &amp; MADDI KALLSEN

On Nov 12, the Veterans Day assembly welcomed the entire community to come to celebrate the service of veterans within the community and throughout the country. All the schools in the community participated. Austin school and Saint Agnes came and sang about the pride of America. The middle school interviewed staff and students around the school and made a heartfelt video on what veterans day means to them. The high school gladly hosted the event in the gym.

The juniors wrote papers about veterans who are close to them or have impacted their lives. Ashlyn Bickett won the writing contest. Morgan Kirkman re-

ceived second place, while Nick Doty and Madison France tied for third place. While interviewing Ashlyn Bickett, she spoke about the pride she has for her father, who she wrote her essay about, and the pride she has for America. Her father served for over thirty years in the National Guard and became a great leader in and out of the military. She felt surprised and grateful after realizing her paper won. It wasn't difficult for Ashlyn to reflect on the importance of Veterans day or the service of veterans; A day to honor everyone who protects us is a good one.

Ms. Lenni Billberg started the Veterans Day program five years ago. It was originally

held at the W. H. Over Museum, where less than forty people attended. Billberg proposed to the American Legion Committee to have the event at the High School; from there it grew to where it is today. She loves to read the Junior Veterans Day papers. It helps her get to know the community and her students. Ms. Billberg thinks Veterans Day gives us all a chance to honor the veterans' service.

Veterans Day give us all the opportunity to support the troops and share a sense of vital patriotism and pride for our beautiful country.

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## VHS STUDENTS HEAD TO THE POLLS

BY MADDI KALLSEN

Voting is vital to our democracy here in America and gives us all an opportunity to partake in the important decision making that determines who leads us. This November, one of the most important elections occurred, the Primary.

Many seniors at Vermillion High School are now old enough to vote; some have gone out, registered and voted, others chose not to. As adults, many believe it's an important responsibility to vote, while some don't have much of an opinion on politics in general. One student who chose not to vote simply claimed they "really don't care." They added, "I do notice issues and maybe if I had done the research as to who is trying to fix the issues I care about, I

would have voted." The student also went on to say, "My vote matters, just not that much."

Many no doubt relate to the way this student feels, so many in fact it changes the course of elections. The importance of voting can be summed up with ease by Mother Teresa. "We ourselves feel that what we are doing is just a drop in the ocean. But the ocean would be less because of that missing drop."

Many students who chose to vote felt a bit more strongly on the issues and solutions at hand, and the people running to address them. After voting, another student said, "I really wanted to vote and looked forward to it. It's important to be involved and informed." She

went on to say, "I felt like a real part of democracy." Various other students shared these same thoughts. Eagerness among young people around the country to vote is becoming more and more popular, although there is still an ever-pressing issue with people not voting. Voting is vital. Voting, in and of itself, is the basis in which our democracy runs on. Our entire political system is based on what the people believe to be just and true.

Maddi Kallsen is the Student Editor of the Vermillionaire. Student's identities were kept anonymous for this story to encourage thoughtful response without revealing political bias.

**CALENDAR**

November 2018	
30	6:30pm 5th Grade Winter Concert @VHS
7pm Dance Inferno Recital @VHS	
State "Oral Interg. Festival" @ Watertown	
December 2018	
1	11
SAT Test- TBA	6:30pm 5th Grade Winter Concert @VHS
TBA- Dance Inferno Recital @VHS	5pm Wrestling Double Dual (H)
9am Wrestling Invite: SF Roosevelt (T)	5pm BSB: Flandreau Indians (T)
3	13
7pm 7th/8th GBB: Yankton (T)	4:30pm 7th/8th GBB: Lennox (T)
7pm School Board Meeting @ al Neuharth Media Center, USD Campus	14
4	16pm Gymnastics Triangular: SF Roosevelt (T)
7:30 VHS Holiday Concert @VHS	15
4:30 7th/8th GBB: West Central	TBA- GBB @Pentagon
6	9am Wrestling: SF Washington (T)
7pm 6th Grade Winter Concert @ VHS	18
5pm Wrestling Quad: Yankton (T)	4pm BSB/GBB: Tri Valley (T)
4pm 7th/8th GBB: Harrisburg (T)	17
7	7pm VHS Fall Show @VHS
4pm BSB/GBB: Bon Homme (H)	State "X" Volleyball @Sioux Falls
8	20
TBA- ACT Test @VHS	Early Dismissal- All Schools Dismissed @1:30pm
Dakota XII 7th/8th GBB: TBA- 7th @ Lennox TBA- 8th @Canton	21
10am Wrestling: Watertown Invite (T)	NO SCHOOL- Christmas Vacation
12pm Gymnastics: Wagner (T)	22
10	11:30- Winter Wonderland
4:15pm 7th/8th GBB: Yankton (T)	9am Wrestling: SF Lincoln (T)
	24
	NO SCHOOL- Christmas Eve
	25
	NO SCHOOL- Christmas Day
	26
	NO SCHOOL- Christmas Vacation
	27
	NO SCHOOL- Christmas Vacation
	28
	NO SCHOOL- Christmas Vacation
	4pm BSB/GBB: Tea Area (T)
	31
	NO SCHOOL- New Year's Eve



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## November's 114 Diversity

### Native American Heritage Month

BY ZADYA ABBOTT

In Lakota, a Native spoken language, Waséoyuŕe means "Vermillion." The name 'South Dakota' comes from the tribal name of the Dakota Sioux, meaning 'friendly' or 'allied,' (native languages.org). While today, only eight Native tribes are federally recognized in South Dakota, the Standing Rock Sioux tribe has territory on both sides of the North Dakota-South Dakota border. In 1990, then president George H.W. Bush, "Approved a joint resolution designating November 1990 National American Indian Heritage Month." (nativeamericanheritagemonth.gov). That moment made November the specific month to honor Native Heritage.

The campaign for a month dedicated to said heritage began alongside the 20th century. "In 1915, the annual Congress of the American Indian Association meeting in Lawrence, Kansas formally approved a plan concerning American Indian Day. It directed its president, Rev. Sherman Coolidge, an Arapahoe, to call upon the country to observe such a day!" On September 28, 1915,

Coolidge gave a declaration containing the first formal request for American 'Indians' to be recognized as citizens. In that same decree, Coolidge proclaimed the second Saturday of May to be 'American Indian Day.' In 1916, New York became the first state to recognize said day. In 1919, Illinois set aside the fourth Friday in September to honor Native Heritage<sup>1</sup>. Even though in this day and age the U.S. does not have a federally recognized day celebrating Native heritage, many states have replaced Columbus Day with Indigenous Peoples Day.

According to the Smithsonian National Museum of the American Indian, inventions from popcorn to oral contraception can be attributed to Native Americans. That goes to show how we, as a nation and as students of Vermillion High School, need to uplift the voices of Native Peoples. Voices that already have such an effect on our day to day lives.

Having a complete conversation about the heritage of Indigenous peoples in America is impossible without acknowledging Christopher

Columbus and America's colonist past. Christopher Columbus is credited with 'discovering' the new world because the world he 'discovered' it for had a larger platform for global change, and therefore, was considered inherently more important than the world which was already there.

In *The Canary Effect*, a 2006 documentary depicting the relationship between Native peoples and the United States. The thoughts of Columbus upon 'discovering' the Native population, are cited as, "They are well-build people of handsome structure...and show as much love as they were giving their hearts..With fifty men we could subjugate them all and make them do whatever we want." With those words, this continent's history of colonialism began, a history that went on to dabble in the practice of manifest destiny. As a man featured in *The Canary Effect* explained, "It may be the first time I've been to their living room, but I can hardly say I discovered it. I mean after all they lived there. Much less can I extrapolate by virtue of my noble achievement, of knocking on

their door, that somehow or another the newly discovered living room becomes mine." Then, beginning in 1870, the U.S. federal government attempted to eradicate Native culture from roughly two generations of Native children, through the practice of sending youth to off-reservation boarding schools. (npr.org).

The American education system was not originally meant for brown child. As the country continues to go through a process of integration, we, as students, must demand cultural representation in our education. So, to my peers at Vermillion High School, let us go forth to celebrate and lift the voices of fellow Native students and community members.

*Each month Zadya highlights a topic which showcases the immense and wonderful diversity found at Vermillion High School.*

**Submit your story ideas for the Vermillionaire by sending an email to Justin.Brunick@k12.sd.us**

## FALL SPORTS REVIEW

BY LILLY MOCKLER &amp; TYLER MANN

### TENNIS

From October 4th to October 6th, the State Girls Tennis tournament for 2018 was held in Rapid City. Vermillion sent six participants who each performed in singles and doubles matches for their respective flight.

In the singles, Jane Ni Struckman-Johnson ended with an overall record of 2-11 in Flight #1. Katrina Heles finished 2-9 in Flight #2, while in Flight #3 Emma Dahlhoff earned a 8-5 record. Lauren Mandemach competed in Flight #4, ending 2-11. Madi and Hope Schladoer partook in Flight #5 and #6, respectively finishing 2-7 and 1-6.

Meanwhile, the same players also played in the doubles flights. Jane Ni Struckman-Johnson and Katrina Heles finished 1-10 in Flight #1, Emma Dahlhoff and Lauren Mandemach ended 2-7 in Flight #2, and Hope and Madi Schladoer were 0-3 in Flight #3. Overall, the team performed well. They are all looking forward to competing again next year.

### GOLF

The Vermillion High School golf team took three qualifiers to the state tournament including Ryne Whisler, Hunter Lavin, and Willis Robertson. The state tournament was in Dell Rapids.

The boys all placed in the top 20. Ryne Whisler tied for 6th place. Hunter Lavin tied for 13th place. Willis Robertson placed 19th.

### CROSS COUNTRY

This year, Vermillion took the boys varsity team and one girl varsity runner to state Cross Country. The qualifiers for the boys team were Justin Sorensen, Brady Martinez, Nate Bohnsack, Riley Ruhaak, Jakob Dobney and Jack Freeburg. The boys team placed 1st in their region. Taryn Whisler also qualified for state. The state qualifying meet was on October 11th in Lennox. At the state meet on October 20th, Taryn Whisler placed 6th for the varsity girls.

The Boys varsity team placed 2nd overall. Justin Sorensen placed 12th, Jakob Dobney placed 17th, Riley Ruhaak finished 22nd, Brady Martinez placed 29th, Jack Freeburg finished 78th, and Nate Bohnsack placed 106th. The team did very well this year and hopes to do as well in the years to come.

### SOCCER

Both the boys' and girls' soccer teams reached the Class A playoffs this

year, ending the regular season as the #4 seed. On October 2nd, Cotton Park saw host to two home playoff games for the Tanners. The girls played first, and they edged past #5 Garretson in a 1-0 victory. Olivia Regnerus scored the only goal of the game in the dying seconds.

After that, the boys faced Belle Fourche, who were fresh off a long road trip from their hometown. The match remained scoreless at halftime, but the

Tanners ended up with a resounding 3-1 win, with goals from Andreas Lindstad, Trevor Tigert, and Wyatt Loftus. So after a pair of victories, both teams hit the road to play the top ranked Tea Titans.

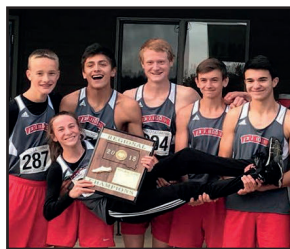
Unfortunately, that is where both teams' seasons ended. The boys played first this time around. The hard fought match was 0-0 at the break, but Tea ended up on top, winning 2-0. The

girls game followed, and similarly, the Tanners struggled to find the back of the net as they succumbed to a 4-0 thumping at the feet of Tea.

Both teams performed great over the course of the season, with the girls finishing with 6 wins, 4 defeats, and 2 draws. The boys ending up with a record 6 wins and 3 losses. Everyone is looking forward to next year's season.

### VOLLEYBALL

The girls volleyball team ended their season with a record of 6-22. The first round region game was held in Beresford. Vermillion and Beresford fought hard for the win. Beresford beat Vermillion in the end. They won three sets and Vermillion won one set. The score of the first set was 25-17 with Beresford winning. Vermillion won the second set 25-18. Beresford won the third set 25-15. The score of the final set was 25-21. All of the team members played a big role in playing hard in this regional game. Each team fought hard till the end. The winner of this game went on to the next round and had the chance to make it to the state tournament.



*Photo by Amy Sorensen*

## YOUNG DEMS

BY MADDI KALLSEN

The Vermillion High School club Young Democrats is dedicated to helping kids stay politically informed. It allows people with the same views to express and discuss their own ideas and views. The act of developing personal views and expressing those views is vital to individuality and growing a well rounded sense of the world. This is true no matter how one views politics. The Young Democrats' purpose is to serve students for further political interests and policies that best advance and reflect the principles of liberty, justice, freedom and equality embodied from the democratic party.

Luci Hudson, the president of the Young Democrats, thinks be-

ing involved in politics, along with voting, is an important part of being a part of the American democracy. Every single one of us has an opportunity to implement change. Luci believes in the importance of voting. She's inspired by various political leaders such as Joe Biden, Michelle Obama and Bernie Sanders. Being in the Young Democrats has helped her become more politically involved in the local community and in the school. Luci feels much more informed with what's going on in the world and in our country.

It is important to stand up for what one believes in, and the Young Democrats of Vermillion High School do just that.

## VHS Hosts O.I. Class A Regions

BY MADDI KALLSEN

Oral Interp class A regions occurred on November 13th on a Tuesday at Vermillion High School. Many different schools participated including Yankton, Elk Point, Beresford, and many other schools around the area. Categories encompass poetry, storytelling, duet, humorous, serious, and readers theatre. Brennan Stone, Nic Harris,

Andrew Kronaizl, Parker Anderberg, Tessa Dooley, & Annika Holdhusen all won first place in Duet and Readers Theatre, qualifying for state, held in Watertown November 31st and December 1st. Oral interp inspires kids to become more involved and connected in a theatrical nature and this way shown at regions.



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## GUESS WHO'S BACK...

BY MYA DEJONG &amp; LILLY MOCKLER

On October 18th, our fellow classmate Dylan Kirkpatrick, came back to school. The students were not only excited to see him again but glad he was doing okay. When Dylan received the news about going back to school he was happy because he was bored sitting at home all day. He missed, "pretty much everything from everyday life when I was in the hospital." He was not nervous about going back to school because he didn't set any expectations. When we asked Dylan how school was going he replied, "pretty gucci." For Dylan, school has

not been different since before the accident. He enjoys high school and he even said school has been easier.

Since Dylan has come back the students have been curious of what it's like to experience something like what he went through.

Dylan was in a coma for 26 days and people wondered what that felt like. Dylan said, "it feels just like sleeping, and when you wake up it's like waking up in the morning." While he was in the coma, he could not hear anything and it felt like only a couple hours had passed, but in reality, it had been

nearly a month. When Dylan was told how long he was in a coma, he was shocked and it was hard to believe.

The community and the school did what they could to support Dylan through everything and he is thankful and thinks it's "pretty cool."

Dylan gave advice to everyone and says to be careful when driving. Dylan enjoys being back at school and everyone is grateful that he is back.



Dylan is happy to be back in the halls of VHS.  
Staff submitted photo.

## THE WALL IS STILL STANDING

BY TYLER MANN

Released on this day in 1979, Pink Floyd's *The Wall* stands out among the crowd in a particularly fantastic year for music. In retrospect, *The Wall* can be seen as one of the last commercially and critically successfully progressive rock albums. The genre's lengthy and complicated compositions gave way to punk rock and new wave movements. Although the funky bass line of "Another Brick in the Wall, Pt. 2" and the legendary "Comfortably Numb" can be enjoyed on their own, they both work better in the narrative running throughout the album's 80 minute runtime.

The album is a story telling of songwriter and bassist Roger Waters' disillusionment with society and his life manifested in a character called Pink. He is introduced in the opening song "In The Flesh?", which features all the bombast and drama to be expected on the other 25 tracks. Of course, it would be ridiculous to cover each of them here, so only the highlights will be covered. "The Thin Ice" sets the tone for the whole album through its lyrics about the necessity of emotional support in the modern world. The classic single "Another Brick in the Wall, Pt. 2" can get anyone singing with its rebellious lyrics and children's choir chants, as

well as a memorable outro ("If you don't eat your meat, you can't have any pudding!"). Immediately following, the acoustic "Mother" features lyrics of an overbearing maternal figure, and "Young Lust" parodies many hard rock songs, with its arena-sized sound and hormone crazed lyrics. Perhaps my favorite on disc one, "One of My Turns," explodes in anger so perfectly. It can be quite startling on the first listen.

The second disc opens with one of the crown jewels of the band's illustrious career, "Hey You." The crushingly real lyrics about loneliness sit atop the gentle and somber instrumental, before a grand guitar solo highlights the best of David Gilmour's vast musical talent. The short, nonetheless, fine duo of "Vera" and "Bring the Boys Back Home" feature war lyrics which would fit comfortably on Pink Floyd's next record, *The Final Cut*. Perhaps, the most well known song from the album, "Comfortably Numb", has the perfect sense of melancholy, best represented by both of its stunning, melodic guitar solos; the second of which is commonly ranked among the best of all time. The reprise "In The Flesh" is just as good as the first, and "The Trial" wraps up the main nar-

rative of the album, where Pink finally breaks out of the wall he created. "Outside the Wall", then, ends on a rather depressing note, as the track loops back into the beginning of the album, implying Pink isn't the only one, and everyone will always continue building their own walls.

We invite you to experience the journey of this album using the QR code. Next month, I will be reviewing Vince Guaraldi's *A Charlie Brown Christmas*, released in 1965.

### Report Card:

Lyrics: A

Music: A-

Performances: A

Production: A+

Overall: A



Scan the QR Code to listen to the album.



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THE TOUCHSTONE ENERGY

## SCHOLAR OF THE WEEK

Congratulations **Justin Sorensen**

Winner for the week of November 25th

Justin has excelled in the classroom and community and we are proud to announce his achievements.

Watch KSFY Monday nights at 6 p.m. to see the winner for the week.

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## WORDSEARCH

BY LAUREN HANSEN

### Thanksgiving Dinner

Find and circle these words. They run up, down, across, and diagonally.

lucky	potatoes	ham	stuffing	apple cider
gravy	oats	cranberries	pie	peas
greenbeans	cranberry	dressing	food	yum

y	u	c	y	u	m	a	a	d	r	n	n	y	g	g
o	q	k	e	t	m	t	h	x	e	r	a	z	c	s
w	q	n	k	w	u	y	i	k	d	i	e	m	n	
i	y	i	r	h	y	s	d	n	i	x	g	o	t	a
c	i	u	o	c	v	g	r	c	m	b	m	q	e	
a	r	x	t	t	m	s	m	o	e	k	t	g	r	b
s	t	a	w	w	g	s	q	c	l	s	z	t	t	n
s	p	k	n	b	g	l	z	l	p	r	s	o	k	e
e	o	f	y	b	z	l	i	t	p	g	t	i	f	e
r	t	z	f	h	e	o	b	z	a	v	u	h	n	r
o	a	u	g	v	a	r	e	z	x	e	f	b	f	g
l	t	p	r	w	g	o	r	o	x	w	f	i	o	f
e	o	w	a	m	n	p	e	y	n	u	i	u	o	d
s	e	f	v	g	f	l	i	h	a	m	n	a	d	d
n	s	j	y	x	o	h	p	g	m	k	g	v	k	t

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## Poetry Corner

**Freedom**  
by Jack Fuller

Freedom,  
A star spangled shroud  
Draped around this nation's shoulders.  
A shroud...  
Which warms and protects  
All it encompasses.

Liberty,  
A torch held high  
Which lights our path,  
And attracts all,  
Who wish,  
To walk with us.

Justice,  
A set of scales  
That weigh the truth,  
And a sword  
To defend those,  
Who can't defend themselves.

Unity,  
A bundle of arrows.  
For to break one arrow  
Is easy,  
But to break Fifty,  
Is impossible.

America,  
A nation built  
On the values of  
Freedom,  
Liberty,  
Justice,  
Unity.

A nation that is  
Symbolized in as many  
ways  
As people.  
A nation where Freedom,  
Unites all in it,  
With liberty,  
And Justice,  
For ALL.

## Dance Team to Perform at VHS

BY MADDI KALLSEN

The dance team is performing Thursday, November 29th and Friday, November 30th at 7pm both nights in the VHS auditorium. Tickets will be sold at the door for 75 per adult and 35 per student. Preschoolers and Kindergarten are free.

The entire team is very excited to be performing.

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**Tango**  
by Maya Shaver-Shane

Bright red and yellow leaves reflect themselves to the sun.  
The colors kiss my eyes with a gentle touch,  
As I stepped forward I heard a crunch.  
It was a dead tan leaf under my shoes,  
I'm so sad, I wanna take a snooze.

Submit your poetry to  
[Justin.Brunick@k12.sd.us](mailto:Justin.Brunick@k12.sd.us)