



Vermillionaire

OCTOBER 2018

VERMILLION.K12.SD.US

VERMILLION HIGH SCHOOL'S STUDENT NEWSPAPER

HOME COMING 2018

BY LILLIAN MOCKLER AND HANNAH TURNER

Homecoming is a special time of the school year. There are a variety of activities the Vermillion High School students participate in the entire week leading up to the big game. This year we played Elk Point-Jefferson. EPJ won the game 43-27. The theme for the student body was "Tanager Spirit".

Homecoming Week begins with Coronation and the Burning of the V, followed by the Peach Fuzz Volleyball Game, crazy dress up days, Noon Olympics and the Pep Rally and then ends with a student tailgate on Friday night before the football game.

The Burning of the V consists of all of the students gathering around a large wooden V which is set ablaze to express great team spirit. The Peach Fuzz Volleyball Game is where many of the Junior and Senior boys meet in the gym to play volleyball; all of the students love to watch this game. The Dress-up Days are a great way to encourage school spirit. On Tuesday, most of the students wore pajamas to school, Wednesday was "Jersey Day," Thursday was "Aloha Day," and Friday was "Spirit Day." The student tailgate on Friday night was brand new this year; it was a huge success. All of the students loved to play games, eat great food, and win prizes.

On Saturday, there was a dance including VHS students and, for the first time, past alumni. The entire community was also invited to attend. The band, Canby Misfits, played and were a big hit with all the students. All of these activities are a good way to make homecoming week fun and encourages students and the community to be part of something bigger.



VHS Students show their Tanager Spirit at Homecoming. Submitted photo.

Oral Interpretation

BY MADDI KALLSEN

Oral Interpretation expresses many kinds of literature presented in a dramatic way. Stories are told, poems are professed, comedies and tragedies are performed and people come together to celebrate the diverse art of literature.

Many students are involved and appreciate being part of such a fun way to express what kind of literature they relate to. It helps those involved be more active and informed and also improves public speaking skills. Mrs. Mary Begley, one of the English teachers at the Vermillion High School, is the director of the Oral Interpretation team. She is very excited for the coming season of competition and has

great faith in all involved.

The most recent competition was October 25; there are more competitions planned for November. Check out our Tanager Calendar for competition dates and locations.

After the Oral Interpretation season wraps up in November, many of the participants will start preparing for the Debate season, which opens in December.

Each month, the Vermillionaire will focus on one of the Clubs and Activities offered at Vermillion High School.



Former VHS Student and Best-Selling author, Sam Miller, speaks to VHS students about his book. Photo by Caroline Horton.

AUTHOR, SAM MILLER, VISITS VERMILLION

BY CAROLINE HORTON

Sam Miller, a current graduate student at the University of Southern California and a former Vermillion High School graduate, is currently on the best-seller list for his novel, "A Lite Too Bright."

Sam Miller was born and raised in Vermillion, South Dakota, and now resides in Los Angeles, California. He coaches Little League Baseball, in addition to writing novels and directing music videos.

Sam began writing his first novel while on tour with the rock band Paradise Fears. He knew growing up he always wanted to write for film and television, but never dreamed he would write a book. He is very proud of Vermillion and wears his hometown heritage as a badge of honor. Sam stated, "I think that everyone at Vermillion High School was incredibly transformative and I carry that with me everywhere I go, and being back here just reminds me of how much I love being a student."

Sam recently visited Vermillion High School and the Edith B. Siegrist Vermillion Public Library and talked about his debut novel; explaining the meaning behind it. The book is about an eighteen year-old kid, who takes a train trip across the southern United States to find the meaning behind the clues his grandfather left him, before passing. The book is considered to be a mystery-adventure novel. I highly recommend reading it if you love a mystery-adventure.

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**THE TOUCHSTONE ENERGY
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**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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CALENDAR

October 2018

26 No School

8am-1pm Parent/Teacher Conferences

1:30pm-3:45pm Teacher In-Service

State "Chorus/Orchestra" @ Rapid City

27 TBA- ACT Test @VHS

Lewis and Clark Festival @Yankton

State "Chorus/Orchestra" Rapid City

30 Austin Picture Retake Day

November 2018

1 VB Regions 4A @Highest Seeds

4 Daylight Savings Time Ends

5 4pm-6pm Local Oral Intep. Showcase/ Region Qualifier @VHS

6 Election Day

VB Sweet 16 @TBA

8 State "Football" @Dakota Dome

9 PLY Day- Early Dismissal: All Schools Dismissed @1:30

State "Football" @Dakota Dome

10 State "Football" @Dakota Days

12 7pm School Board Meeting @Al Neuharth Media Center: USD Campus

13 Class "X" Region Oral Intep. Contest @ VHS

4:30pm 7th/8th GBB: Beresford (H)

Mc. Brunick's 41st Birthday!

14 Middle School Picture Retake Day

High School Picture Retake Day

15 Jolley Picture Retake Day

4:30pm 7th/8th GBB: Canton (I)

16 7pm VHS Fall Show @VHS

17 7pm VHS Fall Show @VHS

State "X" Volleyball @Sioux Falls

20 Yankton Area Honor Band Festival @ Yankton

4:30pm 7th/8th GBB: Dakota Valley (I)

21 NO SCHOOL- Thanksgiving Vacation

22 NO SCHOOL- Thanksgiving Vacation

23 NO SCHOOL- Thanksgiving Vacation

27 6:30pm & 7:30pm 1st/2nd Grade Concert @VHS

4pm Symmetries Triangular (H)

Runners-Up Oral Intep. Festival @ ML Marly College, Yankton

29 4:30pm 7th/8th GBB: EPJ (H)

30 7pm Dance Inferno Recital @VHS

State "Oral Intep. Festival" @ Watertown



Vermillionaire

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October's 114 Diversity

BY ZADYA ABBOTT

Diverse being the base word to 'diversity', is defined, by the Oxford Dictionary of English, as "Showing a great deal of variety." Education is found in new experiences. New experiences are found in surroundings. Surroundings that reflect variety or rather, diversity, promote newer experiences and therefore increase opportunity for further education. A school setting has qualities based in standard education, while home to a collection of students that possess their own (perspectives) understandings and lives. Lives that are undoubtedly different from their peers.

Yet, through their peers, students find friendship, learn, and are able to develop a greater understanding of the world. It is that kind of educational understanding our nation strives to gift its citizens every time a month celebrates History and Culture, like National Hispanic Heritage Month.

National Hispanic Heritage Month is a celebratory take on the contributions of people with ancestors from Spain, the Caribbean, Mexico, and South and Central America. It takes place in September and October. It began as a week long event under the Lyndon-John-

son administration in 1968. Later, under the Reagan administration, it would be elongated to its current 30 day time. August 17 of 1988 was the date that Hispanic Heritage Month was officially recognized by law. Unlike many other heritage months, Hispanic Heritage Month lays claim to two months, September and October. The significance of that time span is found in that September 15th is El Salvador, Honduras, Nicaragua, Costa Rica, and Guatemala's independence anniversary. Following that, Mexico celebrates its independence on September 16th and Chile on September 18th. (hispanicher-

itagemonth.gov)

October is therefore no exception to our nation's drive to support this educational opportunity. "It doesn't really matter, if no one celebrates it," is what a Vermillion High School (VHS) student of Hispanic heritage stated when they were interviewed. The point they made is a direct endorsement of the importance for VHS to provide not only a tolerating environment, but a fruitful, supporting one for the multitudes of different cultures that walk its halls.

2018 HOMECOMING ROYALTY

BY MYA DEJONG

Queen Candidates

Rachel Brady - Rachel is involved in many school activities at Vermillion High School. She is both the president of Student Council and Students Against Destructive Decisions. Rachel is a member of National Honor Society, Fellowship of Christian Athletes, and Random Acts of Kindness Enthusiasts. She is also on the track, volleyball, basketball and dance team. Rachel is the captain of the Volleyball Team and the co-captain for the Dance Team.

Nicole Hauck - Nicole is in Random Acts of Kindness Enthusiasts, and Students Against Destructive Decisions. She is also a member of Rhythm in Red, National Honor Society, Teen Court and the Yearbook Staff.

Shelby Husby - Shelby is part of the Dance Team. She is involved in National Honor Society, which she is a co-vice president for. Shelby is also in a co-president for Health Occupations Students of America.

Keeley Passick - Keeley is a co-president for the Student Organization of Animal Rights. She is also one of the drum majors for the Pride of Vermillion Marching Band. Keeley also participates in the High School Trap Shooting club.

Taylor Tarr - Taylor is in many clubs, including Yearbook, Young Democrats, Oral Interpretation, poetry out loud, teen court, and drama club. She is also the student class president for Student Council, the Historian for National Honor Society and the president of Rhythm in Red. She also participates in the peer mentor program. Taylor also runs the poverty garden project

at the Vermillion Middle School.

Carter Williams - Carter has kept active in Gymnastics by competing at the varsity level in gymnastics since 7th grade, placing at state every year. She is a member of Dance Inferno as a co-captain, and is a National Honor Society member.

King Candidates

Regan Heine - Regan has been involved in a variety of activities while attending Vermillion High School. He is a member of National Honor Society, Show Choir, and Student Council. Regan was chosen as a Boys State Representative his junior year. He is also a member of the football team and plans to participate in track this spring.

Logan Wadley - Logan has participated in many musical ensembles; he is a member of the jazz band, pep band, marching band and show band, but also has been chosen as the Principal Tubist at All State Band and Orchestra numerous times. Logan is the President of the National Honor Society and also participates in musicals both at the high school and at USD.

Gray Peterson - Gray participates in both football and baseball. He is a member of Students Against Destructive Decisions, Health Occupations Students of America, Rhythm in Red, and National Honor Society. Gray is in Student Council as the treasurer, and was chosen as a Boys State Delegate.

Rylan Craig - Rylan is involved in two sports at Vermillion High School: football and baseball. He has also been a member of the National Honor

Society, show choir, and Student Council during his years at VHS. Rylan has been chosen as an All-State Choir participant and also spends time coaching Vermillion T-ball.

Justin Sorenson - Justin has been involved in many sports including, cross country, basketball, and track. During this time he has received numerous awards for track and cross country. He is a member of the National Honor Society, and was chosen as a Boys State Delegate during his time at VHS.

Ben Fairholm - Ben has participated in Student Council, and National Honor Society. He has been a member of a variety of band ensembles, including Concert Band, Marching Band, Show Band, and Jazz Band. He is also Pep Band Captain. Ben is a member of the football team.

Jacob Peterson carried the envelopes and **MaKenna Druceker** carried the new queen's bouquet.

The **King and Queen** of this year's homecoming royalty are **Rachel Brady** and **Logan Wadley**.

Candle Holders

Jane Ni Stuckman-Johnson
Brennan Stone

Peyton Larson
Andrew Kronaizl

Fatima Aleman
Ryne Whisler

Abigail Burbach
Ben Finnegan

Kailee Brinkman
Mason Schroeder

Kaya Lewis
Phillip Hauck



VHS students: Sadie Pederson, Haylee Larson, and Cael Mockler having fun on Tanager Volunteer Day. Photo courtesy of Justin Brunick.

TANAGER VOLUNTEER DAY TURNS 10 YEARS OLD

BY MYA DEJONG

Volunteer Day is a day where Vermillion High School students take a day out of class and volunteer around the Vermillion community. This year, Volunteer Day was moved to October 17 instead of homecoming week due to poor weather. For the past ten years, the students of Vermillion High School have participated in volunteer efforts to help their local community.

All of the students at Vermillion High School participated in various activities throughout the Vermillion area. This included going to churches around Vermillion to assist with the Food Pantry, cleaning up lawns, painting houses, and helping with other various tasks as needed. The students also helped out at Jolley, Austin, St. Agnes, and the Middle School to read to kids or helped with other educational activities. Students also assisted with cleanup duties in and around the High School.

Groups also volunteered at local businesses, like the fire department and the Austin Whittemore House. In addition, they helped out with the elderly and home bound residents of Vermillion and also went to Sanford and participated in activities with the patients and helped cleanup around all of those buildings. They also helped many other local charities.

During the noon hour, students received a free lunch at Prentiss Park sponsored by HyVee.



VHS DRAMA GETS SPOOKY

BY KALIE PUCKETT



The Vermillion High School drama production decided to bring the play "Frankenstein" to life, which is being directed by Mary Begley. After weeks of dedication, and stitching together lines,

interest in "Cinderella," and Buddy Layman in "the Diviners." He has been a part of the drama club since his freshman year, and will leave behind some big shoes to

they were able to put on a thrilling show.

Frankenstein himself, played by Parker Andenberg, has been featured in other shows such as Lefou in "Beauty and the Beast," a step-

sister's love

fill, Abby Burbach, who played Frankenstein's wife, has also been a part of theatre and other drama activities throughout her high school career. She has taken part in oral interp., haunted house and even the plays themselves. Last spring she got to perform as one of the Stepsisters, in "Cinderella." Frankenstein's monster is being played by Andrew Kronaizl. He has played many roles on and off stage. He has played a zombie, an angry brother, and even a chef. Off stage he helps with set, and running the stage as a stage manager. He seems to have a knack for bringing things to life!

With help from our amazing crew and wonderful cast, "Frankenstein" was a hit! Creating the set and costumes for the show was a difficult and long job

and all the work was not done until opening night. A special thanks to director, Mary Begley, for stitching up another great show!

Speaking of spooky, the drama club puts on a haunted house each year. If you were not able to make it last weekend's show, do not worry because it is happening again this Friday and Saturday from 7-10 p.m. If you like the thrill of getting spooked, these high school kids will scare the pants off you. Join us for a creepy good time!

Cast photo courtesy of Russ Stone



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Photo courtesy of Professor Kozak.

PROF. KOZAK WINS AWARD

BY MASON COURNOYER

Professor Carla McMurry-Kozak has been teaching at VHS for “an astonishing 13 years”. She came from a long line of teachers and naturally wanted continue the teaching tradition. Her favorite thing about her job is passing on knowledge to the next generation.

Prof. Kozak was recently awarded the 2018-2019 State of South Dakota English Teacher of the Year Award; this is just one of many awards she has received and yet she remains humble. She was nominated by her peers and is honored to represent our school and state.

I asked what she would do if she wasn't a teacher; she said she would have been a literary reader, getting average people more into books and spreading the wisdom of words. Some hobbies of her's include reading, traveling, and

rooting for her favorite team, the Coyotes. Prof. Kozak also enjoys music and holds a special preference for musicals. Her favorite book is “A Light Too Bright” by Sam Miller, a former student of hers.

For the Vermillionaire “Beyond the Classroom” questions, I asked Prof. Kozak if she had one plane ticket to anywhere, where would she go? She would love to visit Ireland. I also asked if she had \$1,000,000 would she invest, save, or spend? She answered “invest in scholarships”.

Professor Kozak has impacted many students throughout her time at Vermillion High School. We look forward to many more years of literary educational excellence.

A NEW PRIDE OF VERMILLION

BY ISABEL YOUNG

With this year's marching season coming to an end, it is time to reflect on what has happened. This season has been unlike any other seasons in my four years of high school and possibly was one of the most enjoyable too.

At the end of my junior year, our previous director, Mr. Alpers, passed the torch on to his former pupil, Garret Olson. A part of me was cautiously optimistic about getting a new director, but throughout this season, he has proved to be not just fun, youthful, and energetic but also devoted to what he does. Even when interviewing him, he said, “The most rewarding part is getting to be invested in something that I'm passionate about. I also get to see the same passion in younger people, and get to spur that on.”

Before Olson taught at Vermillion, he received his education at the University of South Dakota and taught at Bridgewater Emery School. Olson said the people there were unhappy when the previous teacher retired. It was hard to make everyone adapt to a new personality, but he also said it made him a better teacher. The experience forced him to develop techniques to be someone they wanted to be around and make the class interesting in his own way.

In contrast to his previous teaching experience, he said the leadership, people, and our students' eagerness to jump into new material has made his first year at VHS easier on him. Olson has never had anyone come up to him and complain about how things were, and the positive feedback from the students has been outstanding.

The Pride of Vermillion Marching Band has provided Olson with a quick start to his career in Vermillion. They have been to three parades, winning first place in two and receiving third in the other. On Monday, October 15th, they performed at the annual VHS Apple Polishing Concert. The Apple Polishing Concert is an important fund-raiser where both the band and the choirs perform and pies are donated and bought by music patrons.

The Pride of Vermillion Marching Band will be competing in Quad State on October 20th, the only field show competition of the year and the last marching band performance of the year. Every year lots of hard work goes into producing a show; the entire season builds up to that one day...one final step onto the field. Students always remember this show and everyone cries after it is over, especially the seniors.



Photo by Caroline Horton.

PAPER CLUB

BY MARCUS DIAZ



You always draw it at the last second...

To Be Continued

WORDSEARCH

BY LAUREN HANSEN

Halloween!

Find and circle these words. They can be down, across, and diagonally.

batman superhero candy cello livest princess
scarecrow vampire dummy scoble angel spider
pumpkin decorations costume spooky pirate wookies

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

OKTOBERFEST

BY THE VHS 6TH PERIOD GERMAN 3 CLASS

The world's largest “Volksfest”—people's festival” started in the southern most state in Germany in 1810 as a wedding celebration right outside of the city of Munich. The locals were invited to join in the celebration and had so much fun that they begged the king to continue year after year. Seventy percent of party-goers still continue to be locals, but of the 15% of attendees from abroad, 14% of those are Americans!

Authentic Oktoberfest tradition in Munich has the mayor of the city tapping the keg to officially kick off festivities. There is a parade that begins in downtown Munich and ends at the edge of the Oktoberfest grounds, affectionately called “Die Wies'n,” or “The Meadow,” by the locals. No one is supposed to consume any alcohol before the mayor taps the keg to start the party.

The Vermillion High School German Club, Drama Club, and Art Club joined forces to add an authentic touch to the experience. More than 50 VHS students contributed by baking traditional German treats, sharing information, and emceeing the event. Maizie Ihnen summed it up when she said, “Nic's attire in the Bavarian suit and Brennan's modeling of the dirndl embodied the true spirit of Oktoberfest.”

Poetry Corner

BY MAYA SHAVER-SHANE

Soft Spooks

Orange eyes dart back and forth rapidly,
His pink nose twitches like my leg during a test.
Black fur races beside the soft, autumn wind.
Stretched paws are sleeping on red and yellow leaves.
His tail is slowly swaying back and forth,
I'm glad he knows his worth.

Submit your poetry to
Justin.Brunick@k12.sd.us

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