

'Where there is no vision, the people perish'

Williston Herald



Local

The Purple School offers Norwegian language

In the land of Vikings, here's an idea that actually makes sense.

Youngsters ranging in age from 5 months to 10 years recently took part in what was termed as a Norwegian immersion experience.

Now that got me curious. The session was presented by The Purple School and hosted by Williston State College.

The Purple School is listed as an interactive, immersive, song-and game-based program that works to teach young children other languages.

The Scope has often wondered why Norwegian, or Swedish for that matter, hasn't been offered in the school curriculum in the land of lutefiak and lefse. Over the years, there has been an emphasis on languages such as German and Spanish, but no mention of speaking Norsk.

Yes, the Sons of Norway have stepped up and provided language classes, but that's not the same as ingraining a new language at an early age to let it take root.

Growing up in an all Norwegian home, we found the majority of time when Norwegian was being spoke was when the parents didn't want the younger children to know what they were discussing.

You know, they kind of had an advantage with that.

But, getting back to the class at hand.

SHUI IS FOUNDER

Joyce Nadolny Shui is credited as the founder of The Purple School in Williston.

During the recent Norwegian session, she had two of her own daughters take part in the class.

That led her to say, "I'm thrilled to partner with Williston State College Community Ed for so many of our language offerings."

She was also pleased to have Leah Johnson Ellis, who has spent time living in Norway, teach Norwegian to the Williston youngsters.

On the other hand, the presenter believes in the learning of a new language as the gateway to other cultures and was very excited to share her Norwegian skills with the youth and others of the community.

Hey, perhaps they can tie in a lutefiak tasting or some lefse baking in the future.

Now that would give participants a firm grip on culture.

Then again, the good folks over at First Lutheran Church have the cultural experience covered with the big feast upcoming.

PARENTS PLEASED

While the instructors were happy to present a lesson plan, parents of participants were also pleased.

Mary Stenberg, who admits to being half Norwegian, and the mother of Rose and Eleanor was impressed.

She indicated that she had been wanting to expose them to this part of their heritage.

Stenberg noted her daughters had so much fun while learning songs in Norwegian, hearing and learning to speak a few phrases, along with reading books.

It is the goal of The Purple School to use music and games to make learning a new language fun and memorable for children.

If that is the case, it sure sounds like they accomplished that with this presentation.

Hey, it never hurts to have a little variety and spice things up a little.

With the great reception for Norwegian, officials indicate they hope to offer a regular class in Norwegian for kids in the near future.

Now that is great news. Then again, that purple color is certainly a good fit when one is talking about Vikings.

LEARN MORE

The Purple School language classes for children are a part of the present curriculum at some schools and is being offered as an after- or before-school enrichment program in other locations.

As it stands now, The Purple School has already taught nine different languages.

To learn more, you can find them on Facebook or go to www.thepurpleschool.com.

You can also make contact by email at info@thepurpleschool.com or dial (701) 205-1962.

ENTERTAINMENT INC!

With Mother Nature finally releasing that cold grip she has had on the area, it's time to get out and enjoy some activities.

One that just might work into your schedule is a stage play being offered by Entertainment Inc! over at the Old Armory Theatre.

Now we know there are new people coming to town on a regular basis and this is something they just might be interested in.

The Lion in Winter is what awaits you, with performances being staged beginning at 7:30 p.m. this evening.

Performances are slated to run through Monday evening, with a 2:30 p.m. matinee set for Sunday.

To learn more, call the Box Office at 577-3179 or you can obtain tickets at the door.

By supporting these actors with your attendance and applause only works to bring even more shows to the area.

CONCERT NEAR

While we have your ear, thinking about entertainment, we must remind you of the upcoming concert for the Williston Concert Association.

The next production is set for 7:30 p.m. Feb. 6 at the Williston High School Auditorium.

Next up is Charlie Albright, a highly talented pianist who will dazzle you with his playing style.

You should also mark down Feb. 17, as on that night the famed Sons of the Pioneers will ride into town.

That concert will also provide for an outreach with area students on Feb. 18.

Remember that WCA is membership driven, however you can purchase your membership tickets at the door.

VALENTINE DANCE

Here's an interesting event we want to call to your attention.

Beth Olsen tells us the second annual adult and child Valentine's Dance is set from 6:30 to 8:30 p.m. Feb. 7 in the Fellowship Hall at First Lutheran Church.

Admission has been set at \$5 per couple, with the proceeds earmarked to benefit the FLC Good Sam Fund.

Pairs include a parent/child, father/daughter and mother/son for example.

Admission will include a dance class that will be taught by Renee Rogness, with live music being pro-

vided by Richard Halvorson and Signe Verhassel.

Elegant Valentine's Day refreshments are also being planned.

Now this sounds like a great family event.

If possible, you are being asked to call 572-6363 to RSVP, while there is a sign-up sheet at the receptionist desk at the church.

LIONS PANCAKES

From 8:30 a.m. to 1 p.m. Sunday over at the First Lutheran Church fellowship hall, you will be able to sit down and enjoy hot pancakes and sausage, along with refreshments.

This event is billed as the 20th annual Area Lions Breakfast For Diabetes.

We enjoyed our share of pancakes and sausages for a good many of those years and can vouch for the product.

Proceeds from the breakfast have been earmarked to replace the older reader machines that are provided by the Lions for individual who face a vision challenge.

Your favorite Lion will be mixing the batter, frying the sausage and in the ready position on the service line.

All you have to do is come by and get breakfast out of the way before that special event takes place on super Sunday.

You don't want to miss it. Enjoy!

A SUPER PICK

With Super Bowl XLVIII only a short time away, it's time to make a bold prediction.

Then again, this time everybody has a 50/50 chance to come out on top.

Those are much better odds, compared to the regular season.

The Scope took a thumping for many years with the weekly Beat the Scope feature, which proved to be true.

Just for the fun of it, with the Denver Broncos and the Seattle Seahawks set to clash, this corner sees the Broncos riding to the top under the leadership of the old man at quarterback.

It's nice to see an older gentleman in Peyton Manning at the helm for Denver.

When all is said and done mark down the Broncos winning out over the Seahawks by a score of 35-17.

Hey, we've been wrong before.

Thomas A. Kvamme is a former Williston resident and long-time sports editor and columnist for the Herald. He



Scoping It Out

Thomas A. Kvamme