



10/12/06 - 2006 WOODLAND TF OF THE YEAR
DR. SCHAEFER, DAVE & KAREN PAPKIE



10/11/06
FROM LEFT - DAVE PAPCKE, PAUL SCHIPKE, KAREN PAPCKE, JOHN HINNERS



10/12/06

DAVE & KAREN PAPCKE.

Tourism: Pioneers

om Page E1

ductees into its "Black Hills Tourism Pioneers" hall of fame. The only living member to earn the status is Gary Brown of Rapid City. Those being recognized posthumously include Bill Heckman, John Boland and Warren M. "Doc" Lee.

■ Brown and his wife, Gloria, bought the Best Western Town and Country motel on Mount Rushmore Road in 1973. He became active in a number of industry and civic groups. His community, industry and political involvement started locally but soon turned statewide. He volunteered to serve on numerous committees. For long, he was elected to boards of directors and held offices in many organizations.

■ Heckman was retired from public relations for the Chicago & Eastern Illinois and the Minneapolis & St. Louis railroads when he arrived in the Black Hills.

In 1956, he set about a project to keep the vanishing steam locomotive alive in the fast-changing world of transportation. On Aug. 18, 1957, the Black Hills Central Railroad made its first run as a narrow-gauge steam excursion train. For many years, the 80 Train hauled thousands of passengers from its Hill City depot to Deadwood, Custer, Sisseton and Keystone.

■ Boland, a Rapid City

business and civic leader, led a group in 1927 to raise \$15,000 to begin the carving of Mount Rushmore National Memorial.

Over the course of the campaign, Boland helped raise hundreds of thousands of dollars.

He was appointed by President Calvin Coolidge in 1927 to the executive committee of the Mount Rushmore Memorial Commission. Over the next 10 years, he led the commission through financial ups and downs and bore the brunt of disappointments and scoldings from sculptor Gutzon Borglum. He continued his interest in the memorial until his death in 1958.

■ In 1946, a determined University of South Dakota professor of dramatic arts headed west during summer break. He had packed up his wife, Margaret, infant son, Byron, and a trailer full of scavenged bits of stage scenery. Lee, who had been involved in every facet of theater life during his career, built the Frontier Theater near Legion Lake. He later partnered with the University of South Dakota, and the theater evolved into the Black Hills Playhouse. This summer marked the 61st season at the Playhouse.

The names of the new Tourism Pioneer inductees will be engraved in a hall of fame in the foyer of the Black Hills Visitor Information Center.

SALES CAREER

We have local positions open for a business to business professional. Our Fortune 500 company offers: 1) Fantastic income opportunity! Our top 1,000 salespeople averaged \$234,130 in 2003. 2) National advertising support with 93% name recognition. 3) Comprehensive training at each step of your career. 4) Exciting rewards and incentives. 5) Eventual management opportunities for the right candidate. To find out more send your resume to: salescareer@afi-dakota.com, Fax: 800-765-3325, or contact Diana Theisen, Ph: 866-957-9700.

Pounding keys



A piano player of many years, Black Hills Home Builders executive director Janette McIntyre takes some time Saturday to play a digital piano at one of the Black Hills Home Builders' Show exhibitions

sponsored by the Black Hills Home Builders' Association. The inductees will be honored and make

Custer couple honored for tree work

A Custer County couple recently received the 2006 South Dakota Woodland Tree Farmer of the Year award from The American Tree Farm System.

Dave and Karen Papcke of the Argyle area southwest of Pringle were selected by the South Dakota Tree Farm Committee.

With occasional assistance from children and grandchildren, the Papckes have worked for 30 years on their 260-acre tree farm, according to a news release. The Papckes also received the award in 1981. They are the only South Dakotans to receive the award twice.

They received the award Oct. 12 at the annual fall meeting of the South Dakota Tree Farm Committee in Hill City.

On Oct. 30, 1944, the Martha Graham ballet "Appalachian Spring," with music by Aaron Copland, premiered at the Library of Congress in Washington, D.C., with Graham in a leading role.

Ho in

Here is activities in Whitewood

Spearf

Today: Black Hills House of p.m. to 9 Auditorium Particij though t during th BHSU Pro Theatre So Admiss a can of f Area Food The ha to the pub

Dedicated to helping you!

Dan Martin

Nobody sells more real estate than

DE/MAN



Come See What We Can Do For You!

- Mastectomy* • Walkers • Wheelchairs
- Compression Stockings* • Ostomy Products • Bathroom Safety
- Urological Supplies • Orthopedic Supplies

Kreislers, Inc.

* RN/Certified Fitter on staff

409 West Boulevard • Rapid City • 605 373-1111 • 1 800 342 3730

Custer couple honored for tree work

A Custer County couple recently received the 2006 South Dakota Woodland Tree Farmer of the Year award from The American Tree Farm System.

Dave and Karen Papcke of the Argyle area southwest of Pringle were selected by the South Dakota Tree Farm Committee.

With occasional assistance from children and grandchildren, the Papckes have worked for 30 years on their 260-acre tree farm, according to a news release. The Papckes also received the award in 1981. They are the only South Dakotans to receive the award twice.

They received the award Oct. 12 at the annual fall meeting of the South Dakota Tree Farm Committee in Hill City.

Business World



Viken



Finch



Bechtold



Heinis



Loftus



Grossman



Neiger



Elder



Lude

Sandy Diegel, vice officer of Be-
ment Systems,
ice president of
ountain Council
nity Mental
s at the group's
ng in Missoula,

oid City attorney
Viken has been
2007 edition of
yers in Ameri-
ed by Wood-
Viken was listed
nily law special-
1, Viken recently
egotiation semi-
y the Harvard
Project at
School. ... Rapid
Dennis Finch
ed in the 2007
ie Best Lawyers
in the specialty
mpensation law.
racting law for

Credit Collec-
announced that
n has been pro-
ctions associate,

Jill Gravley have joined the
counseling department; **Tina
Coutu** and **Melinda Jansen**
joined Li'l Pioneers Daycare;
and **Denise Marsh** joined the
quality assurance depart-
ment. ... New Horizons
Computer Learning Centers
announced that **Christopher
DeBlicek** has been named an
account executive for the
Rapid City territory.

Honored: Spearfish resi-
dent **A.L. "Tad" Addy**, profes-
sor emeritus of mechanical
engineering at the University
of Illinois at Urbana-Cham-
paign, will receive honorary
membership in the American
Society of Mechanical
Engineers. He is being recog-
nized for his research in
fluid dynamics, his advocacy
for engineering education
and his two decades of leader-
ship of a nationally recognized
engineering department.

Awarded: The Zonta Club
of the Black Hills honored the
Sexual Assault Respo
Team at Rapid City Regional
Hospital. with Zonta's

ed at the National Disabilities
Employment Awareness
Month celebration. The Com-
fort Inn is now eligible for the
South Dakota Governor's
Award.

Honored: The South Dako-
ta Public Assurance Alliance
and the South Dakota Munic-
pal League Workers Compen-
sation Fund have honored
several area agencies
for workplace safety. The
**Pennington County Highway
Department**, the **Pennington
County Sheriff's Office**,
the **Pennington County
Buildings and Grounds
Department** and **Custer
County employees** received
Gold Level Loss Control/
Safety awards. **Lawrence
County employees** received a
Platinum Level Loss Con-
trol/Safety Award.

Named: The American Tree
Farm System and chainsaw
maker Stihl named **David and
Karen Papcke** of Hot Springs
as South Dakota's outstand-
ing tree farmers.

Recognized: Two national

zine for the way it worked with
other state agencies and local
organizations to get its pro-
gram set up and for sharing
the information.

Certified: Banks, Johnson,
Colbath, Sumner & Kappel-
man law firm in Rapid City
announced that **Brittany
Mertz** recently became a certi-
fied paralegal.

Graduated: Jensen Jewel-
ers announced that **Denise
Ohlfs** of the company's Rush-
more Mall store has completed
an 11-week course and gradu-
ated from the Certified Profes-
sional Jeweler program.

Completed: Dentist **Jeff
Loftus** and his team at Amazing
Smiles completed the first
half of the Comprehensive
Aesthetic Reconstruction Pro-
gram, an advanced education
program at the Las Vegas In-
stitute for Advanced Dental
Studies.

Staff honors: Credit Collec-
tions Bureau announced that
Chris y of its Rapid City
office has been named the
September employee of the

City. She has
been with
Coleman five
years and
works in the
flat cell clean-
ing depart-
ment. ... The
Alex Johnson
Hotel an-
nounced that **Mart
Mindy Comes
Flying** was the S
employee of the
She is part of the
staff.

Top sales:
Financial for Luth
Rapid City announ
**Barry Elder, Don
and Calvin**
have received the Qu
vice Award from the
Association of F
Counselors. Elder an
received the Gold A
production, and
received the Silver A
Stuart Martin was
producer for Septe
The Real Estate C
Rapid City.

**WOODLAND TREE FARMER OF THE YEAR
NOMINATION
FOR THE YEAR 2006**

TREE FARMER: David & Karen Papcke.

TREE FARM NUMBER: 20066

**ADDRESS: (July - February)
RR 1 Box 137A
Hot Springs, SD. 57747**
PHONE: (605)745-5128

**ADDRESS: (March - June)
3601 Monte Carlo Drive
Oxnard, California 93035-1330**
PHONE: (805)382-6918

PREPARED BY: DAVID HETTICK

COMPANY: SD DIV. OF RESOURCE CONSERVATION & FORESTRY

**ADDRESS: DAVID HETTICK
RESOURCE CONSERVATION & FORESTRY
2202 UNIVERSITY AVE.
HOT SPRINGS, SD. 57747-1802**

PHONE: (605) 745-5820

DESCRIPTION OF TREE FARM AND LANDOWNER

- ◆ **TOTAL WOODED ACREAGE: 243**
- ◆ **WOODLAND ACREAGE CERTIFIED AS TREE FARM: 243**
- ◆ **LOCATION OF TREE FARM: Township 6 South, Range 4 East, Section 16 of Custer County and Township 2 North, Range 3 East, Sections 25, 26, 35, and 36 of Pennington County South Dakota.**
- ◆ **TREE FARMER'S OCCUPATION: Dave and Karen have both retired from their careers; Dave as a physicist and Karen as a teacher's aid. Defense systems designed by Dave are still in use on today's modern military aircraft. His innovation and hard work in the field of defense has saved the lives of countless numbers of pilots and airplane crews.**

The Papcke "retirement" is spent working side by side as full time "Tree Farmers" in the Black Hills for six or seven months each year. Their remaining time is spent in California with family, friends, and the other Papcke passion, sailing and the ocean.

- ◆ **LENGTH OF OWNERSHIP: 33 Years**
- ◆ **WRITTEN FOREST MANAGEMENT PLAN SINCE: 1978.**
- ◆ **CERTIFIED TREE FARM SINCE: September 15, 1980.**
- ◆ **TREE FARM SIGN: Correctly displayed at the property entry gate.**

TREE FARM MANAGEMENT AND OBJECTIVES

- ◆ **PRIMARY MANAGEMENT OBJECTIVES:**
 - A). **Forest health.**
 - B). **Forest product production.**

- C). Wildlife habitat.
- D). Wildfire risk reduction.

♦ **MULTIPLE USE CONCEPTS:**

- A). Recreation.
- B). Forest products.
- C). Wildlife.

FOREST MANAGEMENT ACCOMPLISHMENTS DURING THE LAST FIVE YEARS

- ♦ **PERCENT OF TREE FARM WORK DONE BY LANDOWNER:** Dave and Karen do 90% of the work on their tree farm. They do all of the precommercial thinning, firewood cutting/splitting/sales, commercial timber marking, storm damage cleanup, slash piling and burning, and boundary line fencing themselves.
- ♦ **PERCENT OF TREE FARM WORK DONE BY CONSULTANTS AND CONTRACTORS:** Contractors are used for commercial timber harvest, probably about 10% of the tree farm work.
- ♦ **HARVESTING ACCOMPLISHMENTS:**
 - A). **TYPE OF HARVEST:** A combination of selective cutting, sanitation cuts, and shelterwood cuts have been used to manage the Papcke Tree Farm since 1993.
 - B). **SAWTIMBER VOLUME:** During the last five years 136 MBF have been harvested.
 - C). **PRODUCTS HARVESTED:** During the last five years Dave and Karen have cut, split, and sold or used for personal use approximately 100 cords of firewood.
- ♦ **REFORESTATION ACCOMPLISHMENTS:** Natural regeneration is used to restock the stand after harvest operations.
- ♦ **OTHER PRACTICES COMPLETED:**
 - A). **TIMBER STAND IMPROVEMENT:** The Papcke's completed precommercial thinning and piling on 15.9 acres in 2005. In addition they also burned approximately 150 slash piles. They completed precommercial thinning, piling and burning on 7 acres in 2004, 5 acres in 2003, and 19.6 acres in 2002 .
 - B). **WILDLIFE:** Reduced pine encroachment and snag establishment to increase habitat diversity.
 - C). **WILDFIRE FUELS REDUCTION:** Approximately 57 acres of

slash from a timber sale and trees damaged from the April blizzard of 2000 have been hand piled and burned by Dave and Karen since 1998. Over 850 slash piles were burned in 2003, 2004, 2005, and 2006.

D). INSECT & DISEASE: Pruning and/or removing trees infested with Pine Tip Moth and Western Gall Rust.

SPECIAL ACTIVITIES:

Snow damage clean up from the April 2000 blizzard.

TREE FARM PROMOTIONAL ACTIVITIES:

The Papcke's have promoted "Tree Farm" through personal contacts and through newspaper interviews and letter writing. It has been interesting to watch the Papcke devotion to stewardship and forest management spread to the neighboring property ownerships.

FORESTRY ORGANIZATION MEMBERSHIP:

NA

OUTSTANDING TREE FARMER JUSTIFICATION:

The Papcke Tree Farm "saga" started out as a dream many years ago, when Dave was a student at The South Dakota School of Mines and Technology. The dream, to own wooded property in the Black Hills, became a goal. The goal became a reality in the mid 1970's with the purchase of two parcels of land. One is located near Rochford, the other, south of Custer in the Arglye area. A third parcel, in the Moon area, has since been added to the Papcke ownership.

It soon became apparent that the land was overstocked with small diameter trees and needed thinning to improve forest health and vigor. Working with the Division of Forestry, the Papcke's contracted their first precommercial thinning. However after contracting a couple of small thinnings, Dave decided to take on the work himself. Initially I think it would be safe to say that the sheer amount of work associated with precommercial thinning was overwhelming, but the Papcke's persisted. Dave took leave of absences from his job at the Pacific Missile Test Center. "Forestry Camp" summers replaced vacations and became a family affair for Dave and Karen, and their children Mindy and Mark during the 1970's and 80's. "Camping out" and dodging the occasional

rattlesnake and the ever present poison ivy, the Papcke's thinned the overstocked precommercial and roundwood stands. Whenever possible, a product, mainly posts or firewood, was salvaged from the roundwood. The thinning slash was all hand-piled to reduce the fire hazard. Legend has it a local rancher was so impressed with the Papcke children's ambition that he nicknamed them the "brush apes". For the family's dedication, they were inducted into the American Tree Farm System in 1980. In 1981 The South Dakota Tree Farm Committee recognized their outstanding efforts and selected them as The Woodland Tree Farmer of the Year.

Almost twenty five years have passed, but time has not lessened the Papcke's sense of stewardship and "Tree Farm" pride in the least. In fact the opposite is true; it just seems to somehow grow stronger. Every year since becoming "Tree Farmers" the Papcke's have worked the land with sweat and toil to make it better. Paint guns, a drip torch, clinometer, and diameter tapes have been added to the "Tree Farm" arsenal. Three commercial sales have taken place on the ownership since becoming a "Tree Farm." A comfortable mobile home has replaced a tent for shelter. Pounder and Hank, the Papcke's dogs, come in place of the children because busy lives and families prevent them from coming back every year -- but the work goes on. Dave and Karen spend six months, five days a week, six or more hours a day, cutting, piling, burning, marking trees, fencing, splitting or delivering firewood. Kicking back and watching the trees grow just isn't part of the Papcke "Retirement Plan".

The April blizzard of 2000 decimated even the well managed Papcke timber stands in the Argyle area. Pictures I took and sent to them of the damage didn't prepare them for what had actually happened or what lay ahead. Every free minute of the time they have had here in South Dakota for the last two years has been spent cleaning up the destruction and re-thinning remaining trees on the Argyle property. As in the past, everything that was salvageable was turned into a product and used. They hand piled the slash and burned the piles in the winter. Approximately 1000 hand piles and 50 cords of firewood later, twenty acres of the worst damage has been completed and looks exceptionally well. Better than I, or I think, the Papcke's could have hoped for or imagined right after the storm. The stand is more diversified and open, but is still adequately stocked. It is probably looking more now like what "Mother Nature" intended. The neighbors have noticed too. Six landowners adjoining the Papcke property have entered into

thinning contracts with The Division of Forestry, all a direct result of the Papcke "Tree Farm" efforts. There is some light at the end of the cleanup tunnel now, though a season or two of hard work remain.

Over the years I've learned from Dave and Karen that good old boys like me from South Dakota can't stereotype everybody from California! Dave and Karen have been better stewards of the land than all of the previous owners combined, and in all probability, all yet to come. I've seen that "Tree Farm" physical labor can keep you young, because Dave and Karen both look better than most people half their age. They still practice that South Dakota hospitality that was so common and taken for granted when I was a kid growing up in South Dakota. Root beer floats on a hot summer day underneath the shade of a pine, hot coffee and fresh chocolate chip cookies on a cold winter day, walking through the property with Dave and Karen, Pounder and Hank running to greet me when I pull into the yard and "Tree Farmer" meatloaf are all a small part of that hospitality, forever burned into my mind as good memories. Exceptional people like Dave and Karen are a big part of the reason I look forward to going to work (most days anyway!) and why I'm still working at a profession that I wanted to do since I was in high school.

All of those memories came flooding back at once, one day three summers ago, when Karen called and told me that Dave had just undergone emergency heart surgery. Four bypasses, some complications and close calls kept my eyes misty for a while -- and since -- when he talks about the experience. It sinks home that this can happen to anybody, even somebody as active as Dave. You just pray that there will be some more time for new memories to be made. Thankfully those prayers were answered. Shortly thereafter Dave was miraculously back to work on the Tree Farm, chainsaw in hand, doing what he loves. Remarkably he looks as good as he did before the heart surgery. While some of the credit for Dave's recovery can be given to modern medicine and a skilled surgeon, I think an equal portion has to be attributed to will and determination. It is the same will and determination I have watched working on the Tree Farm every year for most of my career.

Most "Tree Farmers" never receive the "Tree Farmer of the Year Award" once, but I am asking you to consider honoring the Papcke's for the second time. I have never known a man and wife,

who as woodland landowners, have labored side by side for over twenty years, exemplifying the "Tree Farm" spirit in every way. To say that they have sacrificed their personal lives to do this would be a gross understatement. I know though they would do it over again in a heartbeat though. I can honestly say I've never known anybody that is more deserving of this award than Dave and Karen Papcke.

David Hettick SD. Division of Resource Conservation & Forestry