



Mercedes and Anastasia Korngut, pictured above are the teens that co-founded Small Bits of Happiness, a game aimed at teens that encourages finding happiness in life's little moments. The pair recently launched, ShopBits, an online popup store that will carry clothing with the similar goal of all ages finding joy and positivity in their lives.

Online store launched featuring a collection of joyful clothing

Small Bits of Happiness, a brand that has successfully spread joy through social media and garnered over one million impressions in its first year, is thrilled to announce the opening of their new online and popup store, ShopBits. This exciting development will enable an even larger audience to discover small bits of happiness through their engaging card game and a delightful collection of clothing.

Mercedes and Anastasia Korngut, the passionate teen co-founders behind Small Bits of Happiness, have dedicated themselves to helping both teens and adults find happiness in life's little moments. Having experienced firsthand the impact of the pandemic and the challenges faced by teenagers and adults worldwide, they recognize the importance of finding joy in the small things.

"Discovering happiness in the small things, on a daily basis, has transformed our lives. We believe that individuals of all ages deserve more happiness," stated Mercedes Korngut, co-founder of Small Bits of Happiness.

With the game Mission: Small Bits of Happiness, players embark on missions and strive to accomplish them by the end of each day, unlocking a small bit of happiness along the way. The game not only encourages players to explore what truly brings them joy but also empowers them to incorporate these elements into their daily routines. By fostering a positive mindset and promoting self-reflection and helping individuals and families connect, Mission: Small Bits of Happiness aims to inspire everyone to embrace the fulfillment found in life's simplest moments.

"We are immensely grateful for the incredible response we received during our first year on social media," expressed Anastasia, co-founder of Small Bits of Happiness. "With the launch of ShopBits, we aim to amplify our impact and empower more people to discover happiness in the small moments, even in the face of life's challenges."

ShopBits, the newly launched online store by Small Bits of Happiness, features a collection of joyful clothing designed to spread positivity and happiness. The collection includes the Smiley Face Tee, The Classic Cute Tee and Small Bits Matter Hoodie, all created with the aim of bringing smiles and comfort to individuals of all ages.

Small Bits of Happiness, founded by Mercedes and Anastasia, re-

mains dedicated to helping people of all ages find happiness in the little things. Through their engaging game, inspiring content and the addition of their joyful clothing collection at ShopBits, Small Bits of Happiness aims to uplift individuals and remind them to embrace the joy and positivity that can be found in life's simplest moments.

Small Bits of Happiness is co-founded by two teenage sisters, Mercedes (15) and Anastasia (13) Korngut. As teenagers, they have experienced and observed firsthand challenges and hardships that occur daily. Teenagers experience hormonal changes, increased responsibility, friendship conflicts and on top of that, teenagers and adults experience further stress and feelings of no control, due to worldly events including climate change, war and pandemic. Mercedes and Anastasia have both discovered that focusing on and finding happiness in the small things that occur daily has transformed their lives and want to share this same happiness with teenagers and adults. The two teens began with posting happy hacks, simple tips for teens to do daily, across social media.

Over the past year, Small Bits of Happiness has received over a million impressions across all social media. Their website, www.smallbitsofhappiness.com features BITS, a blog. BITS includes interviews with olympic athletes, teen celebrities and a body image expert; sharing their advice and what makes them happier. BITS also features happy hacks, and the science behind happiness broken down in a teen-friendly way. Recently, Mercedes and Anastasia expanded Small Bits of Happiness into retail; selling products designed by teens for individuals of all ages. Their retail shop, ShopBits features products designed to help individuals of all ages learn what makes them happy and connect parents with their teens. ShopBits features clothing to remind one to look for happiness daily. Additionally, ShopBits has Mission: Small Bits of Happiness, a game featuring 100 unique activities for individuals to learn what makes them happy and implement new happiness habits into their daily routine. Mercedes and Anastasia both feel deeply passionate about helping others find happiness in the small things that happen daily, as these small habits have helped them both significantly and are an important part of their daily life.

Do you have any ideas or changes in mind to make education/learning better in the district?

Malory McIntire - A district wide strategic plan would help us in this area. With it, we would collaborate with the board, the administration and the staff members to find ways to better our district. We need to communicate, work together and all be on the same page to make sure we are providing the best for our kids.

Travis Peterson - The Clark School District has a hardworking staff that does an amazing job with our students, but there can always be improvements when it comes to keeping open lines of communication with parents and the community. Ensuring all voices are heard and solutions are made creates an environment for our teachers and students to thrive in, knowing they are supported.

Lacey Ortberg - I have no personal agenda other than to understand and contribute to our school district and community. I respect educators and the role they have in our children's lives. I want our educators to feel supported and valued. I want the best possible education for not only my children but all children that attend our school. Everyone deserves an education and a safe place to receive that education. Over the next three years, I hope to hear and address concerns of parents, students and staff. I will work with fellow board members and administrators to resolve problems to the best of my ability.

James Waldner - Not right now. What are the biggest concerns facing the district in the next five years?

Malory McIntire - The biggest

concerns we are facing in the next 5 years are the depletion of the money we get from the wind towers and technology advancements. The funds we get from the wind towers have helped our district immensely in the last few years and when it runs out it will leave us needing to find ways to make up for the vacancy of the payments. There are many different things we can do to adjust for this but figuring out the best route to take for our kids, the district and community will be something that we'll be facing. Along with this is technology advancements. It will be our jobs to know when to go with what we have and when to upgrade. There are a lot of tech solutions for a lot of different things that can positively affect our district but knowing when to spend the money and when to wait will be crucial. Every day we hear of something new and exciting in the technology world, we need to be practical and strategic in our decisions.

Travis Peterson - The biggest concerns facing the district in the next five years is acquiring and retaining excellent teachers and support staff. I have seen first-hand the difference a teacher, aide or administrator can make in a student's life and any student will work harder for a teacher that is well liked and respected. The staff is one of the most important parts of a good education. Also, making sure our district is continually prepared to handle situations that may arise, such as that in 2020.

Lacey Ortberg - A concern of mine over the next five years is keeping our top-notch staff. It is becoming harder and harder to draw in teachers to a small town and then keep them here.

James Waldner - Not familiar with the topic.

Father's Day (continued from front page)

Matt and his father Larry owned the Willow Lake Sale Barn until Larry's sudden passing in 2003 at the age of 54.

Kadinger is the oldest of four siblings: Russell, who passed away at age five, Kimberly and Kenneth. They spent their time growing up on their family farm five miles west of Willow Lake. The siblings participated in horse riding and breaking, as well as other farm chores.

Kadinger met his wife Jen on the Crocker Trail Ride, which was something that both of them attended every year. The two became fast friends before dating in 2008. The couple married in 2010 in De Smet.

Jen works as a cosmetologist at her business, the Mane Attraction in Willow Lake and has been a cosmetologist for the past 28 years. Matt works for the Clark County Highway Department going on 18 years and has also been employed with Nuttbrock Fisheries for 10

years. Every Father's Day, the family spends the day together and is sure to have a nice meal. They also enjoy activities together like camping, fishing, taking trips to the Black Hills and relaxing at home together watching movies.

In addition to family activities, Kadinger enjoys hunting and working on small engines in his garage.

"I love to go hunting, fishing and to play catch with my dad," says Kadinger's middle child, Maddie. "And, I love to cuddle, play and help in the garage," adds his youngest daughter Baylee.

Kadinger shows up to every game and every activity to cheer on his girls. He is always offering a helping hand, and it is likely he has not ever met a stranger.

Matt's wife and children are thankful they have such a wonderful man in their lives to celebrate this Father's Day.

52 units of blood donated at Clark Blood Drive

The LifeServe Blood Center blood drive held in Clark on Tuesday, June 6, had a wonderful turnout. There were 48 registered donors and 52 units of life saving blood were donated. The units do-

noted at the blood drive can help save up to 156 lives. Desi Lamb and Tami Sundvold from the Clark Lions Club coordinated the blood drive that was hosted at the Clark Golf Course Clubhouse.

Foundation Forward: Founding fathers and other influencing citizens. How they served our country:

John Laurens

David Streater, Ph.D.
Burke County, N.C.

John Laurens grew up having an impetuous personality becoming an extraordinary patriot and soldier. John was born on October 28, 1754 in Charleston, South Carolina to Henry and Eleanor. Henry was a wealthy farmer and businessman involved in the slave trade, which John detested.

John was home-schooled until his mother died in 1770. Henry then sent John and his brothers to Switzerland to receive a world-class education. Next, while studying law in England, John read Paine's Common Sense, igniting his interest in the cause for independence. Finally, disappointing his father, John quit law school and returned home to enter the American revolution.

Upon joining the Continental Army, Henry ensured that John was assigned to a safe duty station. Ranked as a lieutenant colonel, John was chosen for Washington's inner circle as an aide-de-camp. Nonetheless, John soon volunteered to serve by fighting the British. He desired to command troops to make a difference in battles and liberate enslaved people in return for their military service.

As a field commander, Laurens proved himself time and again. During battles such as Germantown, Monmouth, Brandywine, etc., John placed himself in peril for the sake of others and kept the British at bay. As a result of taking tremendous risks, Laurens got wounded several times. These behaviors earned him a reputation as a hero

and propelled his interest in manumission campaigns against slavery and discrimination. Even though John's efforts failed, he tried to "arm slaves and grant them freedom in return for their [military] service" throughout the War.

Near the end of the Revolutionary War, John was shot and killed during a minor skirmish on August 27, 1782 at the Combahee River, Chehaw Neck, South Carolina. This tragedy occurred while Colonel Laurens was sick with malaria and patrolling with his troops.

John Laurens is known for many valiant acts: A dual with General Charles Lee, gallantry in battles, survival as a POW and obtaining foreign financial war support. Yet, his most significant and noblest goal was to end slavery and injustice. As a pure American patriot, Laurens' legacy continues in Laurens County, South Carolina and other cantons—named in his honor.

Please visit your Charters of Freedom setting at 248 - First Avenue E., Clark, S.D. Teachers are welcome and encouraged to contact Dr. Streater (david.streater@my-mail.barry.edu) for information and complementary student education materials to enhance experiential field trips to the setting. A Charters of Freedom setting consists of the Declaration of Independence, the United States Constitution and the Bill of Rights. They are on permanent display analogous to the Charters of Freedom in the National Archives, Washington, D.C. Please visit our website (FoundationForward.com) to learn more about our existing settings. Vance and Mary Jo Patterson are the benefactors of Foundation Forward, a 501(c)3 non-profit educational organization.

NOTICE TO BIDDERS BID ON SURPLUS EQUIPMENT

The Clark County Highway Department has declared the following equipment as surplus property.

(1) 2016 John Deere 772G Blade - Item # ML9387

(1) 2002 International 4700 Flat-bed Truck - Item # ML9386

These items are up for auction on Purple Wave with the auction on June 27, 2023.

Interested bidders can view the specs on this equipment, by searching Clark County Highway Department at www.purplewave.com or calling 1-866-608-9283. All bidders must log onto the Purple Wave website to set up a bidding number prior to bidding. For further information you may contact Purple Wave at 1-866-608-9283. Interested bidders can also view the equipment at the Clark County Highway Department to set up a viewing appointment call the Highway Superintendent at 605-532-3667.

Published twice a t the approximate cost of \$21.42 and can be viewed free of charge at www.sdpublicnotices.com 6-14-23

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GARDEN CITY TOWN BOARD MAY MEETING MINUTES

The town board of Garden City met in regular session on June 5, 2023 at 7:00 p.m. at the Garden City Opera House. President Hansen brought the meeting to order with the following people present: Joyce Hansen, Marilyn Foster, Jake Leibke, Water/Sewer/Maintenance Technician Alan Luckhurst, Finance Officer Andrea Helkenn, Aaron Bjerke and Carda Payton from First District.

AGENDA Motion by Hansen to adopt agenda and a second by Foster, all voting aye, motion carried.

PUBLIC COMMENTS: Aaron Bjerke spoke of water concerns when lines are flushed. He would like to be notified when this is going to be done, so he can be prepared at the hunting lodge.

EXECUTIVE SESSION Pursuant to SDCL 1-25-2: Motion by Hansen and a second by Leibke to enter into executive session at 7:08 p.m. Motion by Hansen and a second by Foster to go back into regular meeting at 7:14 p.m.

Alan Luckhurst presented the board the drinking water report and explained what test results were found. The pump at fire house was discussed. The lagoon needs to have work done. Grass in necessary areas will be reseeded in the fall. The banks need to be fixed and clay put in. Luckhurst will contact contractors to give

quotes on getting this done and will report back to the board.

Carda Payton with First District went through the 2019 predisaster mitigation plan with board and necessary changes, and updates were noted. She will present the new 2024 plan end of the year.

MINUTES of the May regular board meeting were read. Motion from Hansen and a second by Leibke to approve the minutes. All voting aye. Motion carried

FINANCIAL REPORTS were reviewed and approved on a motion by Hansen and a second by Leibke. All voting aye. Motion carried.

OLD BUSINESS: Revisions to the letter regarding a dumpster for residents use was completed. Dates will be checked out and letter sent end of the week.

Damaged street signs were discussed. No action will be taken with the contractor.

NEW BUSINESS: Leibke and Luckhurst discussed water and sewer line locations for the new fire hall. Luckhurst will check maps and make arrangements to meet with Leibke.

Discussion on property owners and town property cleanliness ordinance. Board will review and discuss at next meeting.

Hansen will contact blade operator

RAYMOND TOWN BOARD JUNE 5, 2023

The Raymond Town Board met in a regular meeting June 5, 2023 at 7:00 p.m. with all members present including Larry Brannan, Gale Filipek and Scott Drexler. Also present Water/Sewer Maintenance Darrin Leetch and Finance Officer Carrie Reis.

The minutes and financial reports were read and approved with a motion by Filipek and seconded by Drexler to pay the following claims: NW Energy 641.11; CRW 579.00; Cook's Waste 410.88; Darrin Leetch 464.84; Carrie Reis 464.84; Clark County Courier 18.75; S.D. Public Health Lab 15.00; DANR, 30.00, annual drinking water fee; Postmaster, 63.00, stamps; Larry Brannan, 406.34, four meetings; Gale Filipek, 406.34, four meetings; Scott Drexler, 304.76, three meetings; Ted Mehlberg, 500.00, mowing; Kadie Mehlberg, 31.35, cleaning; Dakota Portable Toilets 125.00; ITC, 36.01, utilities; Ace Hardware,

89.16, supplies; Elan Financial Services, 244.28, supplies/lagoon; Carrie Reis, 83.50, glider; SDARWS, 250.00, annual dues; Westside Implement, 782.04, supplies/lagoon; Dave Moller, 830.72, lagoon water samples.

Discussion was held on the lagoon and updates given, letters and/or contact will be made with those people who have overgrown lawns and delinquent accounts were reported.

Due to the Fourth of July holiday, the next regular meeting will be Wednesday, July 5 at 7:00 p.m.

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned.

Carrie Reis
Finance Officer
Published once at the approximate cost of \$17.74 and can be viewed free of charge at www.sdpublicnotices.com 6-14-23