The Right Stuff in Richfield

Sophi Bromenshenkel is an eight year-old shark conservationist spreading awareness about shark finning through 'Saving Sharks with Sophi.'

Shark finning is an industry that kills 100 million sharks a year by slicing off their fins and throwing back the rest of the fish. This is different from shark fishing, where the fish is taken back to process as a whole. The fins are then used to make shark fin soup, which is a common staple in Asian countries.

As a typical child, Sophi raises money for her cause by selling hot cocoa or lemonade through local stands. Where she is not so typical is she raises money through her blog, 'Saving Sharks with Sophi' on the University of Miami RJD research website. She also sells wristbands to end shark finning.

Sophi has raised almost $4,000. For all of Sophi's efforts, worldwide shark photographer, diver and conservationist James Abernethy has nominated her for the "Youth Ambassador of the Planet" award.

A Tiger shark and a shark diving and research area in the Bahamas have been named after her.

Sophi is a second-grader attending Sheridan Hills Elementary in Richfield. Her peers know her as the 'shark girl.'

Info: www.rjd.miami.edu.

The Right Stuff is a new feature in the Richfield Sun-Current by Community Editor Billie Jo Rassat. Send your nominations to brassat@acenpapers.com.

BUSINESS

New bank opens

With a ribbon cutting ceremony on March 8, U.S. Bank opened a new office at One Meridian Crossings in Richfield. The new office offers full-service amenities and features a 24-hour ATM, which provides cash, phone minutes, "forever" postage stamps and other convenient transactions. U.S. Bank's hours at Meridian Crossings are 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. Monday through Friday. The branch manager is Andy Remerfeldt. All U.S. Bank customers can access their accounts, 24 hours a day by telephone, the Internet or the on-site ATM.

In Memory Of...

Soderstrom, Helen J.

Soderstrom, Helen J.
Age 89 of Mora; formerly of Richfield, passed away March 11, 2011. Preceded in death by husband, Eddie; parents, Glenn and Josephine Hogle. Survived by children, Mary (Janis) Pelekas and Tom (Mary); grandchildren, John (Nicole), Vija, Jana, Stacy (Kevin), Angela (Nick), John (Ashley); great grandchildren, Logan, Briana, Nicole, Makayla, Katelyn, Wyatt; brother, John (June) Hogle; sister, Clara Belle Mitchell. Memorial Service Saturday, March 26th, 11:00 A.M., at Mora United Methodist Church, 500 Clark St., Mora MN. Visitation one hour before service. Private interment Ft. Snelling. Memorials preferred to donor's choice.
Cremation Society of MN
612-825-2435