

Insight



Interview with Elly Heckel

*Get to know a member of
Volunteers of America
Social Media team.*

Mac Book accessories

*Check out the best
Accessories to help
you utilize the best
of your Mac-Book.*

Includes

Meeting the Editor 03

Editors letter – get to know Will Roths and learn more about his creative drive.

04 Computer Accommodations

Learn what accessories can best help you use your Mac Book to its full potential.

Giving help to those in need 08

Exclusive interview with Elly Heckel member of the Volunteers of America media team.

12 Creating your own path

Interview with Robert Graves owner and operator of Dragons Den Gaming.

Union Gospel Mission

Donation Guidelines

Our Clothing Assistance Program offers free clothing and household items to everyone who expresses a need.

Donation Drop off

Monday-Friday from 9am to 4:30 pm.
701 E 8th St, Sioux Falls, SD

We can not accept

- Any item that is damaged or dirty
- Furniture
- Entertainments Centers
- Cabinets, Couches & Tables
- Empty Food Product Containers
- Large Electrical Appliances
- Magazines & Newspapers
- Stoves, Refrigerators & Freezers
- Recycling Items
- Mattresses & Bed Frames
- Aluminum, Plastic & Paper
- Miscellaneous Clean Up Items
- Audio Cassette Tapes & CDs

Donation Questions

Call 605-334-6732

Visit ugmsiouxfalls.com

Donation Quality

New or gently used items that are clean and functional.

Refer all furniture donations to:

Furniture Mission,

209 N. Nesmith, Sioux Falls

605-977-6800,

www.furnituremission.org/contact



Meet the Editor



I have always loved to create anything from drawing, creative writing, or building with Legos. I enjoy making my things. My love of being creative started the way it does with most kids through books or TV; specifically for me, it was the Spider man movies from the early 2000s.

It is what inspired me to create my own designs and characters. Since then, I have always loved to create anything that is different or stands out. Then, during my last semester of high school, I decided I wanted to have a career in media.

I enjoyed creating graphics, editing videos, and working with the computer. That class also set me on the path to my goal of a career in graphic design. To help me with that goal, one of my teachers suggested I take a CTE class to learn more about the industry and technology used. After that class, I decided to go to Southeast Tech to get my degree in Media Design technology.

I have learned and grown both in my skills as a designer and person.

Some advice I would give is first never to give up and to keep creating, take criticism with an open mind and use it to help you improve, and finally, what is most important is to find a mentor. I found my mentor while working at an internship for SDSU through an extension site called Women in Science. I worked on updating the media on their website and YouTube channel.

Clear communication helped us perform well; we understood what was needed for the projects we worked on and what needed to be done. My mentor gave me sound advice and suggestions, allowing me the freedom to work independently on projects, which showed an incredible amount of trust. Finding a mentor is a great way to grow your skills and connections with those in your field.

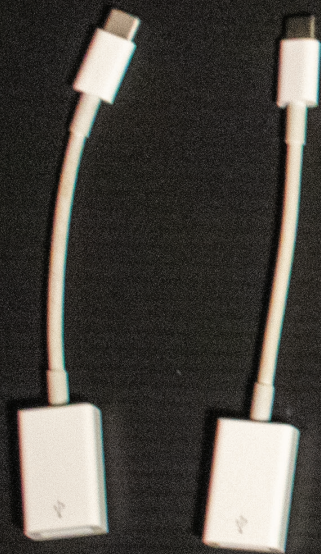
My last advice is never to let anyone tell you that you are not good; everyone has something they are good at; you just need to find it.

Will Roths

Mac-Book Accessories

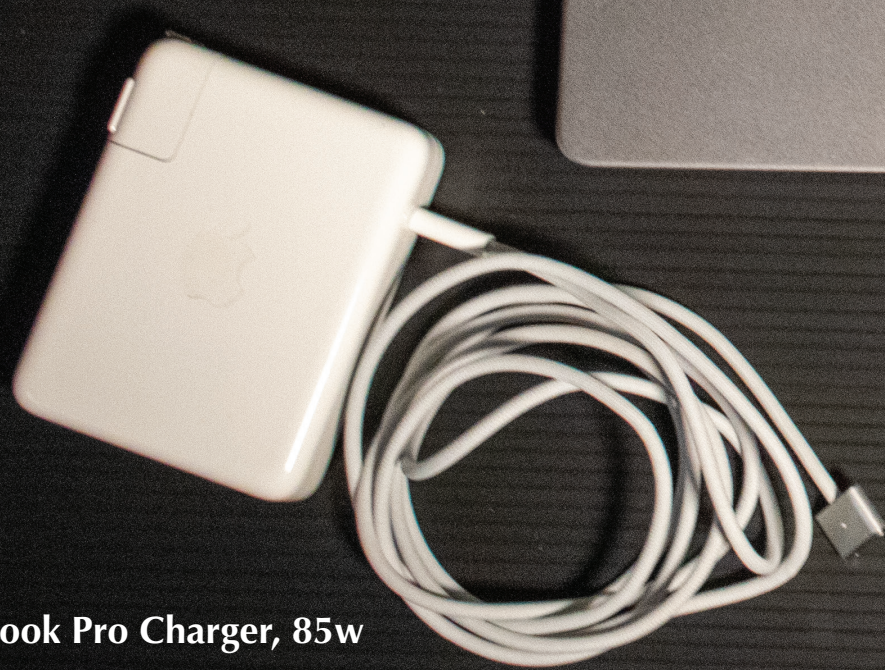
USB-C to USB Adapter \$19.99

Make transferring your files to and from your computer easier with a USB-C to USB adapter 100% Mac-Book friendly and a very effective tool for any Mac-Book user.



Mac-Book Pro Charger, 85w \$19.99

Designed to work with your Mac-Book, this charger has an 85-watt power output and a magnetic tip, making plugging in your computer as simple as clicking a button.



Mac-Book Pro \$300-\$1000

Get things started with a Mac-Book Pro, complete with several accessibility features and tools to customize to your liking and make setting up your computer simple and easy.

Microsoft Wireless Mouse \$24.99

This mouse is wireless and comes equipped with Bluetooth, which makes for a simple and easy setup; this mouse is a reasonable size and fits well in the user's hand.

Ergonomic Mouse Pad with Wrist Support \$6.99-\$9.99

This pad has a reusable sticky bottom that can stick to any flat surface and is easy to clean. This pad also comes with a gel mold at the base to rest your wrist and prevent cramps and aches that you wouldn't get from a typical mouse pad.



Samsung Portable Data Storage \$99.99

For those extra files you want to save, use a Samsung portable data storage with a 4 terabyte storage size; this is the perfect item to pair with your mac-book.





Giving Help to Those in Need

PHOTOS AND ARTICAL BY WILL ROTH

As someone who grew up in Seattle, where the city is busy and fast-paced, Elly Heckel grew up with a love of being creative, whether art or music. She was always interested in being creative. Then, when she was 12, she moved to Mitchell, South Dakota. She said, "It was a massive change of pace and culture compared to the city." Her family moved there to help start the Four square Church. She began understanding how to help those in need, even at a young age. She was exposed to serving at food pantries, local missions, and other nonprofits offering shelter, clothing, and meal service.

"I knew I wanted to continue doing this throughout my life."

**IF YOU WANT TO SEE AN
INCREASE IN THE SPIRITUAL
GIFTINGS IN YOUR LIFE,
BUILD COMMUNITY AND
CARE FOR PEOPLE.**



Early Life and Education

Throughout her educational career, she always had teachers who supported her in being creative. She said,

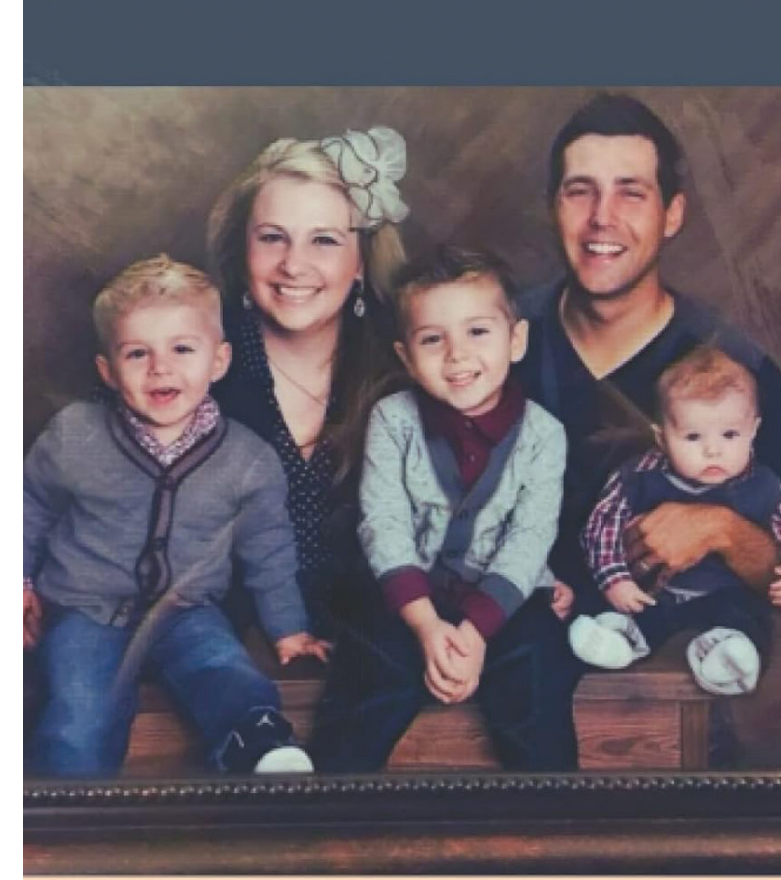
I was also blessed with educators throughout my life in Elementary, Middle, and High School who saw my skill set and helped me grow as a designer and creative."

She entered several competitions, and by her Senior year of high school, she knew she wanted to attend a college where she could get a degree in design. She started at SDSU as a Graphic Design and Double Music Major. She enjoyed attending classes for over the three years she was there before transferring to the University of Nebraska Omaha. She found more learning opportunities in Omaha, Nebraska, and spent the last 13 years in various design jobs and associations to continue building her design strengths and growing her portfolio. Then, what started as a "Graphic Design" degree became so much more when she began to explore the other fascists of design and combined that with her passion for helping those less fortunate than herself.

Present day

Now today, she is married to her husband Justin and has three boys. She works for the Volunteers of America Dakotas branch, working out of their main office and the Greater Goods warehouse, where they store all their food donations to give to those who need food for their families. Her day consists of several tasks, including checking emails, scheduling events or meetings, identifying and meeting deadlines and prioritizing tasks, meeting with donors & partners and Greater Goods members, and creating materials to accommodate membership needs. Then, there is also creating fliers and social media posts for events and programs, sending out thank you videos to those who donated, and reviewing membership surveys and other media-related materials.

One of the essential facts to know about her position is that she works with a team of 10 other people, which was different for her because she was used to working by herself; now she works with them to identify needs and then strategize and creating goals to accomplish there tasks and duties throughout the day so that the designs they make are ready to be shared and inform there target audiences about upcoming events or donations to help those in need.



The Heckel family
Justin, Zalen, Leam, Judia
Our Family Portrait book cover

Elly Heckel
VOA Greater Goods Wear house
This building operates as an office space
and storage area for all donations.





VOA Donations
These are just some of the donations that
the VOA revives to help those in need.

She also volunteers for other organizations to help her community. She has volunteered with the Boys & Girls Clubs of America, Adult & Teen Challenge, Children's Miracle Network, Campus Crusade for Christ, Young Life, and Habitat for Humanity Omaha. One of her roles was developing educational and internship programs that prepare young people and at-risk youth for a successful transition to adulthood.

This passion for working with non-profits and ministries encouraged her to compete in the Miss South Dakota America pageant, where she attained a platform geared to shift this next generation's perspective of the growing drug and alcohol addiction pandemic across the South Dakota region. She traveled to various schools, churches, and businesses to

promote abstinence and serve locally with government and state organizations for awareness of the campaigns.

Elly has always served the community by volunteering and partnering with local churches, ministries, and businesses to help those in need for all ages and demographics, men, women, and children. Many of our youth and adults these days, unfortunately, are choosing the wrong role models in their lives, not just drugs and alcohol, although they are big factors, but also the influx in mental health and its toll on our bodies, minds, and emotions. Overall, in the next five years, I hope to be a leader and advocate to empower, encourage, and equip the local church, nonprofits, and other businesses in our community to go beyond the city limits to mentor youth, young adults, and elderly individuals who are struggling to find their own identity and surround them with the support to guide them through life's challenges.

Final thoughts

Finally, I asked her three important questions. First, was there anything she would have done differently in school or her career path? She said that if she could return, she would have tried a different school and only focused on her media major instead of having a double major. She would be more involved in college, trying associations that fit in with her field. I also asked her what she would do if she hadn't chosen to go into media; she said,

"I would have focused more on music; I even competed on American Idol 9 years ago and made it to the 3rd round. I know that singing and music will always play an important role in my life."

The last asked her what advice she would have for another media student. She said,

" Learn your strengths and weaknesses and find a way to learn from them and keep your skills sharp by practicing in the software or attending an Online seminar to learn new skills. I always look for ways to utilize my strengths both inside and outside of the workplace environment to help myself and others in need."

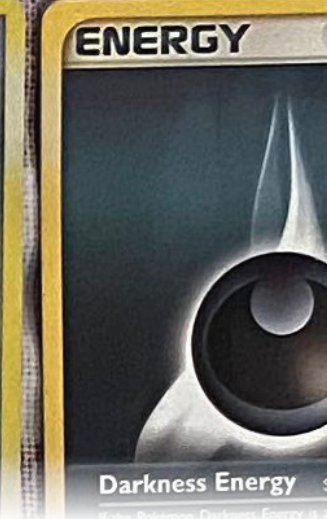
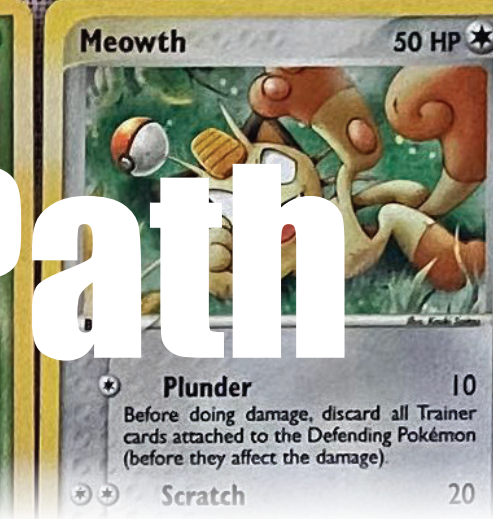
About The Author

What you should know about Will Roths is that he is a caring person. Along with going to school, he also volunteers for the Union Gospel Mission, helping their marketing team and preparing food boxes at Feeding South Dakota, which has helped him become a better person by helping others in need.



Elly Heckel photo

Creating your Own Path



If you asked someone what they wanted to do for a job, you would get different answers, but Robert Graves wanted to open his own business. For the past 20 years, Robert has loved to play card games. He saw that playing games is a way to bring people together through competing and collecting. Then, in 2001, he worked for Larry Kohlman at his store Dragons Den Gaming, and in 2011, he bought the business from Larry when he retired and has been working there ever since.

The good and the bad

Now, some people might think that owning your own business means you don't have to do much work; however, that is not the case. For Robert, his day goes just like most other people: wake up, get ready, and head to work. Then, all the extra details that come with owning your own business. I asked him what were some of the most complex parts of owning your own business, and he told me,

“The hardest things I had to deal with are managing employees, hiring and firing, and making sure that everyone stays on task, even myself.”

There are also lots of good things that come with owning your own business. For Robert, it is having the freedom to run the business how he wants and having a place where the community can get together.” Our community has always been supportive and understanding of changes we have had to make for the business over the years, and we can't thank them enough for that.”

Inside the Dragons Den

Inspiration and advice

Finally, I asked him what He would have done if he hadn't bought the store. He said that he would have gone into a career in bookkeeping which he had studied in college. Then, I asked him where he gets his inspiration from. “My primary motivation is for everyone to have a place to buy and play their games. Along with supporting my family's future.” Lastly, what is some advice that you would give to someone who wants to open their own business?

“It does take a while to build a brand and secure your customer base. Be prepared to not be profitable for a full year. Then, something that I have grown to appreciate about my business as time goes on is that we are based around our community. Some players have been here since day one, and they remember our older and much smaller locations. We have known some of our players since they were kids, and they've brought their children with them to learn to play games. Finally, every day comes with its own challenges, and I have made my share of mistakes. Most recently, the store's future was uncertain because of COVID-19. As a business that revolves around gathering and community, we had to navigate being able to sell those products without hosting tournaments. Playing that waiting game was nerve-wracking, at the time but we made it!”

Dragons Den Gaming



Robert Graves owner of Dragons Den Gaming





NOEM CONSULTING LLC
Call (605) 941-7346 or email klwalrawth@yahoo.com

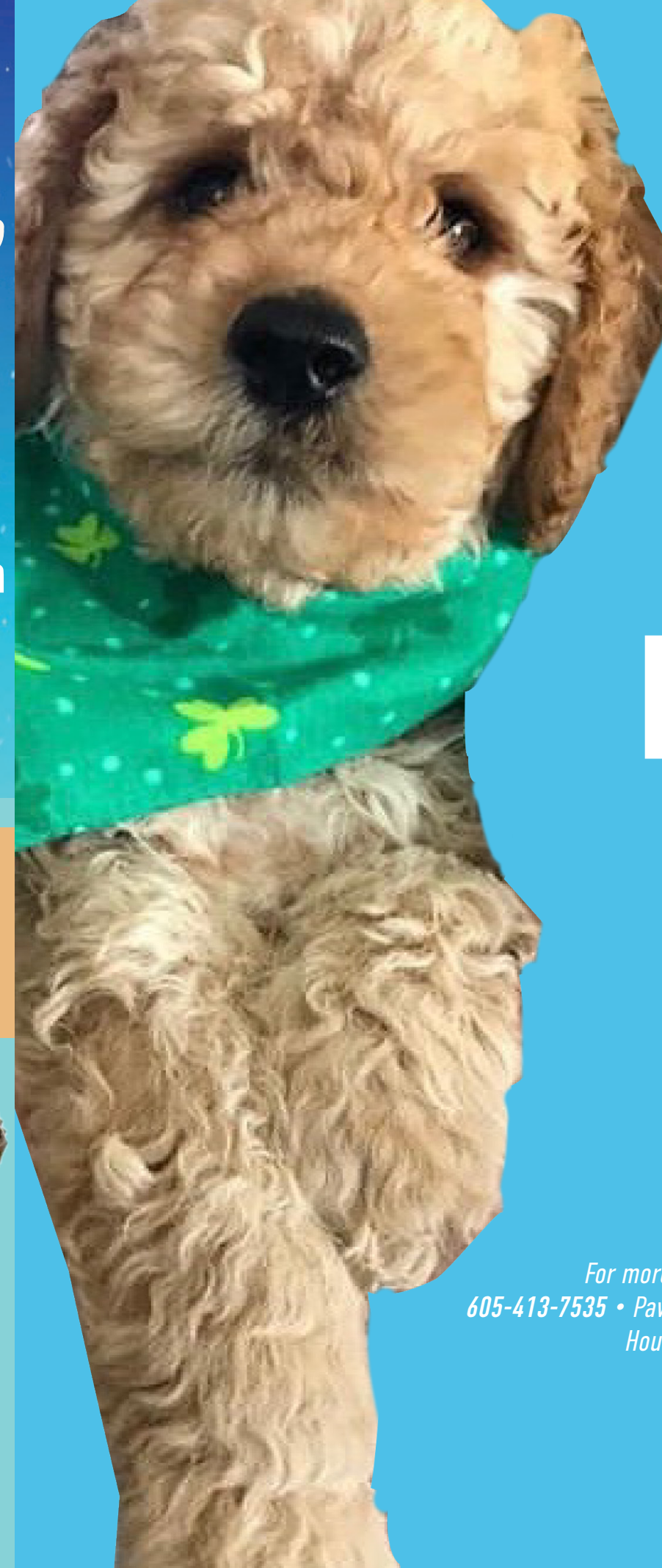
POLAR PLUNGE

Be Bold, Get cold



All pro-seats go to South Dakota Special Olympics

To pledge or donate visit sosd.org or call 605-331-4117



Half Priced Haircuts

In honor of National Pet Month Paws in Spaws is having half priced haircuts from April 10th-14th treat your friend to a new look for summer

Paws & Spaws

For more information or to schedule an appointment:
605-413-7535 • PawsinSpaws.com • trisha@pawsinspaws.com
Hours: 9-5 Monday-Friday • Closed on weekends

Try Our New Fall Flavors

- Caramel Macchiato
- Cookie Cutter
- My Sweet Pumpkin
- Old School
- Party Animal
- Salted Caramel Pretzel
- S'mores
- Sweet Pumpkin Cheesecake



To place an order or schedule an event
Go to ohmycupcakes.com
or call (605) 310-6742



FUEL YOUR
GREATNESS



For more information go to WWW.Gatorade.com