



# Belle Fourche Beacon

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VOL. 8 ISSUE 10

Belle Fourche, SD Wednesday • March 5, 2025

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## CBH CO-OP New Building is Finished

Robbi Longbrake

news@bellefourchebeacon.com

BELLE FOURCHE—Less than a year ago, building began on a new CBH CO-OP location to consolidate the Belle Fourche operations and administration under one roof. On January 31, 2025 Todd Reif, CEO was handed the keys to the new finished location.

CBH CO-OP has several businesses spread throughout Belle Fourche. The South Station was the first business that introduced the brand to the area, followed by the expansion into the Agricultural business with the 10 year lease of the Finkbinder location.

Next came the CBH Travel Plaza in 2013 and 2016 the fertilizer site was opened. Since the early 90s, CBH CO-OP has been a part of the community.

The new building will provide a centralized location for all of the various businesses offered by the CBH CO-OP. Reif explained, "We're consolidating all of the admin into the building and we will be bringing the feed and agronomy into this facility,



Todd Reif, CEO, inside the new **CBH CO-OP** building. Longbrake photo



Members, friends, and guests of the Belle Fourche Chamber of Commerce gather at the Community Hall

## Business Community Gathers for Chamber of Commerce Annual Banquet

Robbi Longbrake

news@bellefourchebeacon.com

BELLE FOURCHE—The Belle Fourche business community gathered together to honor outstanding members of the community and celebrate each other at the Belle Fourche Chamber of Commerce Annual Banquet held February 28 at the Community Hall.

The theme for the evening was Dr. Seuss and the tables were decorated with items that highlighted popular Dr. Seuss books like Cat in the Hat centerpieces.

The event was sold out as area businesses bought tables of 8 for \$300 or \$40 each spot. Social hour began at 5:00 p.m. with the Outlaw Bar providing a cash bar stocked with a variety of drinks.

Cheyenne Crossing, 2025 South Dakota Retailers Association's Restaurant of the Year, provided food for the evening. Prior to food service, Mike Reade gave the blessing.

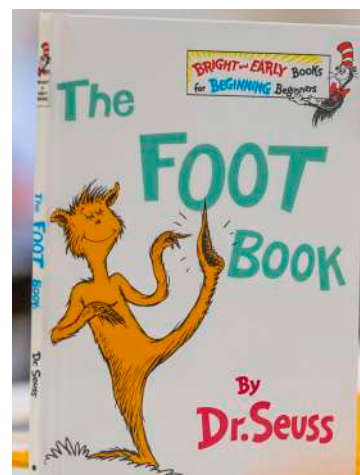
After guests finished eating, Cassie Pannone, Chairman of the Board welcomed everyone with

a Dr. Seuss inspired greeting.

"Good evening everyone, as we gather tonight under this roof, we celebrate growth... in this room full of thinkers, dreamers and doers, you are the movers, the shakers, the local influencers. You come here together to build it to grow, you are our Belle Fourche community, steady as we go," she said.

Chamber of Commerce Executive Director, Michaela Horn,

Chamber Contd C7



Dr. **Suess** was the banquet theme. (Below) Councilman Clark Sowers visits with **Pete's Clothing and Hodge Bootery** owners Lee and Sheila Hodge. Hunter Anderson Photos



## Finishing Touches for the Outside of Domino's Underway

Robbi Longbrake

news@bellefourchebeacon.com

BELLE FOURCHE—Domino's Pizza location is still undergoing transformation. The eatery opened for business at the end of 2024, after constructing the new business from part of the old bowling alley, South Park Lanes.

Currently the outside is marked with a banner proclaiming the name of the business so it is easy

to find. But plans are in place to add a few finishing touches. "Right now we are in the process of getting hard, lighted signage," said co-owner Jessica Work. "The date keeps getting pushed off with the weather, but I'm hoping it is done by next month."

Making the drive up window more convenient for customers is a priority. "We are in the

Dominos contd A3



The current sign marking the location of the new **Domino's Pizza** store is a banner. Putting in permanent signage is a current work in process. Longbrake photo

## Willard Named Acting President of WDTC

The Western Dakota Technical College (WDTC) Board of Trustees has named Steve Willard, Ed.D., Acting President, effective Monday, Feb. 24.

Dr. Willard, who has served as Chair of the WDTC Board of Trustees since Fall Semester 2024 and has been a board member since 2020, brings extensive experience to the interim role. Previously, he served as Superintendent of Schools for the Belle Fourche School District and has worked as a Principal and Career and Technical Education educator.

Lynn Kendall, WDTC Board of Trustees Vice Chair and Regional Public Affairs Manager for Black Hills Energy, will assume the role of Interim WDTC Board Chair during Dr. Willard's

tenure as Acting President.

Christine Goldsmith, who has served as Acting WDTC

Willard contd. A8



Dr. **Steve Willard** former Belle Fourche School District Superintendent recently named acting president at **Western Dakota Technical College** (WDTC) in Rapid City. (Courtesy Photo)

## A New Home for Black Hills Title

Robbi Longbrake

news@bellefourchebeacon.com

BELLE FOURCHE—Last week Black Hills Title got the keys to their brand new home, located at 1903 5th Avenue, Belle Fourche, SD.

The old location was on 6th Street, right behind the old Wells Fargo building. The new location is in the old Radio Shack building. "We enjoyed being downtown, we just kind of outgrew it—we remodeled that building as much as we could for our needs, but it was time," said Travis Martin, Title Operations Manager. "We were looking for quite awhile and waiting for the right thing to come up."

The Radio Shack location provided the ability to create everything the business needed. "This was just one big open room," explained Martin. "Now we've got three offices and a conference room, and then a lobby area and a break room in the back and good storage. We also have an employee bathroom and a customer bathroom, which we never had before!"

The move from downtown allowed for way more space inside the building, as well as, outside.

"We just ran out of space downtown, so this worked out great for us, to be able to move out here on this main drag," explained Martin. "It's wonderful! We have good parking now that is just for our office, so it works out good—easy in and out for people."

While they have only had access to the new building for a week, they have already put the

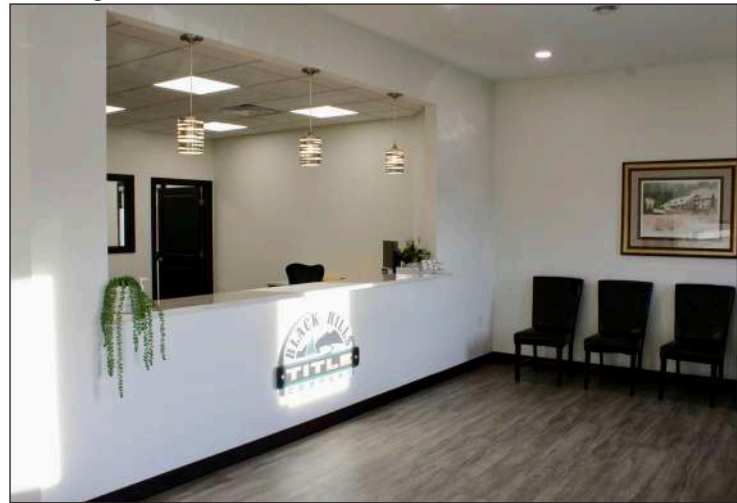
conference room to work. "We have had a few closings so far, people are really seeming to enjoy the space too," said Martin.

After all of the finishing touches are done, look for Black Hills Title to have an

open house and invite the public to see the new space. According to Martin, "we're still kind of in the process of piecing together some things—some cabinets that are still coming in, and the sign isn't our final sign that's up now."



(Above) Outside of **Black Hills Title Company's** new location. It was the old Radio Shack location. (Below) The welcoming reception space inside of the new **Black Hills Title Company** building.



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**Donald Elmer Kurtti Jr**

On February 19th 2025, Donald Elmer Kurtti Jr, was welcomed by former loved ones after a gripping battle with pancreatic cancer.

Don began life on this world February 24th 1961. From the beginning he proved himself the stable protector, being the eldest of 4. He not only proved himself with family but he excelled academically earning him a successful career in the US Navy, and was a nuclear operator at a nuclear power plant in Nebraska. For over 20 years he was a firefighter and EMT, putting the wellbeing and care of others above himself. Don had a beautiful 37 years and 364 days with the love of his life, Taunia. They raised two successful, compassionate children, and now have two granddaughters. Don retired to his beloved Black Hills and spent his summer days driving through the canyons on his motorcycle exploring and enjoying all the hills had to offer.



Don was known in the community for his willingness to help anyone in need, a genuine compassionate soul who touched all he met.

Donald is survived by his loving wife, Taunia of Belle Fourche; son, Paul Urho Kurtti of Rapid City; daughter, Nicole Elaine Kurtti of Belle

Fourche; granddaughters, Loxley Pearl Kurtti and Margo Fey Rempfer; father, Donald Kurtti Sr. of San Antonio TX; and siblings, Mark Kurtti of San Antonio TX, Nadine Kurtti of Sequine TX, Stacia Fitzsimon of San Antonio TX. He was preceded in death by his mother, Sharon Kurtti.

Funeral arrangements are with Leverington Funeral Home of the Northern Hills in Belle Fourche. Friends may leave written condolences online at: [www.LeveringtonFH.com](http://www.LeveringtonFH.com)



**Tiera Lynne Hurlbert**

Tiera Lynne Hurlbert was born in Salt Lake City, Utah on November 15, 1960. She was the daughter of Harold and Joan (Fulwider) Hurlbert. Tiera attended elementary school in Idaho Falls, ID, middle school in Salt Lake City UT, and graduated from high school in Winner SD in 1978. Later she would graduate from Black Hills State University with a Bachelor's degree in Journalism.

For several years, Tiera lived in Winner, where she worked at the Winner Advocate. She also worked at the Ramada Inn from 1994 to 1997. Tiera lived in Sioux Falls for a short time afterwards, where she worked for Gateway Computers for one year. In 1998, Tiera received the life changing news that she had Adult-Onset Epilepsy. Shortly after, she moved to the Colome SD area where she lived with relatives on a family farmstead. In 2019 she moved to Spearfish where she lived at the Hickory House for several years. Since January of 2024, Tiera has resided at the Rolling Hills Healthcare Center in Belle Fourche.

Tiera will be remembered for being an "Old Soul." Most of her friends were older than her. She

dearly loved her friends at the Hickory House. She loved music dearly and she enjoyed teaching her niece, Jaimie, the things she knew. Tiera was intelligent and she enjoyed reading. She believed that the human body is finite and the soul infinite. And she strongly believed in the value of holistic ways of health. She was kind, caring, and generous.

Tiera is survived by her sister, Tami Turner of Spearfish; brother, Monte (Ellen) Hurlbert of Bozeman MT; nieces and nephews, Forest, Brook, August, Paris, Matteo, Jeremy, and Jaimie. She is also survived by her longtime companion "Pepper", her cat. She was preceded in death by her parents and grandparents, and brother-in-law, Scott Turner.

Memorial services will be held at a later date.

Arrangements are with Leverington Funeral Home of the Northern Hills in Belle Fourche. Friends may leave written condolences for the family online at: [www.LeveringtonFH.com](http://www.LeveringtonFH.com)



**Timothy Moore 68**

Timothy Moore, age 68 of Belle Fourche, died Sunday, February 23, 2025 at the Fort Meade VA Medical Center in Sturgis.

Services will be held 1:30pm Friday, March 7, 2025 at Black Hills National Cemetery. Military Honors will be provided by the Belle Fourche Veterans Honor Guard.

Arrangements are with Leverington Funeral Home of the Northern Hills in Belle Fourche. Friends may leave written condolences online at: [www.LeveringtonFH.com](http://www.LeveringtonFH.com)

Timothy James Moore was born November 1, 1956 in Dayton, Ohio at the St. Elizabeth's Hospital. He was the son of Cedric and Nancy (Brauner) Moore. Tim was one of five children. He had two brothers, Shaun and Tony, and 2 sisters, Connie, and Terri. As a child, Tim and his siblings were always outside playing; they would be gone for hours exploring the area they called "The Big Woods". They would go fishing, swimming in the creeks and ponds, while trying to catch frogs and snakes if possible, for fun. Building makeshift tree houses from whatever they could find in the big woods, as he got older, he took a strong interest in engines and horsepower. He was soon known in the Dayton area as the "go to guy" if you wanted an engine built up for any hot rod. Tim was also very knowledgeable with motorcycles, always repairing something for someone. Being he was self-taught, he had a passion for engine work, knowing he could easily make a hot rod or a motorcycle go faster. It was rewarding for him when the work was completed and he carried this skill with him throughout his life.

Tim attended the Vandalia Butler High School in Ohio until he was 17 years old and entered the U.S. Navy. He served for a short time before being honorably discharged, and returned home to Vandalia in 1974. Tim was united in marriage to Christine Goldick and they had three daughters: April, Amy, and Alicia. Unfortunately, they separated after 10 years of marriage and Tim moved to Denver CO for a new beginning. He worked as a lineman for a cable company for a short time before moving to the Black Hills in 1984. He continued the same kind of work as a lineman, but for a different cable company in Spearfish. In late 1984, while Tim was living in Spearfish, he met the woman he would spend the



rest of his life with, Janice Schopp. They dated for awhile and it wasn't long before they would be expecting their first child together. In May of 1986, Tim and Janice welcomed their son JaCoebi into this world and he was very excited. In 1987, Tim, Janice, and JaCoebi moved to Dayton OH for a few years, to be with Tim's family. In 1991 they returned to Belle Fourche for JaCoebi to begin pre-school. Janice began her great career at Pizza Hut, and Tim started a gun smith repair and tattoo shop from their home. Tim did this for over 2 decades, all the while he was still building or repairing engines in cars and motorcycles for friends and himself. Some of Tim's favorite past times were fishing, hunting, riding motorcycles that he had built, especially his Shovelhead Harley, drinking beer with his friends, while listening to some good old 70's rock music. Tim loved the biker life. Everybody knew him as "DOG". He made countless trips on his Harley to places like the Menoken Grove Bike Rally, the Sturgis Bike Rally, the Redwood Forests of California, and he also enjoyed the winding roads of the Black Hills. In the Fall, Tim was an avid hunter, scouting areas in the northern Black Hills that you would only see a Mountain Goat climbing, or he would walk the river and thick woodlands along the Belle Fourche River near Vale SD, hunting for deer and pheasant. Being outdoors in the wilderness was something he loved his entire life.

In early 2024, Tim was diagnosed with stage 4 prostate cancer. He attempted treatments for a few months, but the side effects were to painful to tolerate. In the fall of 2024, he admitted himself into the Fort Meade VA Medical Center to seek full pain treatment instead of cancer treatment. During his stay, he was well taken care of and very comfortable.

Tim is survived by his children, JaCoebi (Merrissa) Moore of Belle Fourche, April Moore of Dayton OH, Alicia (Christopher) Eldridge of Beaver Creek OH; and siblings, Shaun (Marilyn) Moore of Tipp City OH, Connie (Stan) Arms of Troy OH, and Terri (Jim) Moore of Springboro OH. He was preceded in death by his parents; wife, Janice Schopp; daughter, Amy Anderson; and brother, Tony Moore.



**Marva Joy (Willuweit) Ryther 77**

On Saturday February 22nd, 2025, Marva Joy (Willuweit) Ryther passed away in her home at the age of 77. Marva was born October 11th, 1947, in Gregory, SD. She was the 13th of 16 children born to Julius and Leah (Stroh) Willuweit.

Marva married Robert Ryther June 9th, 1973, to which three daughters completed the family. She worked in various places throughout the Black Hills area. Marva was devoted to her family and always kept busy. Whenever there was a need, her home was opened up for many family members. Loving people—Marva never knew a stranger—opening her home and her heart and even becoming affectionally called "mither" by one of her nephews. She stepped up to hold many of the family together. She will be greatly missed.

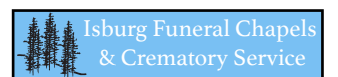
She is preceded in death by her parents, 12 brothers and sisters, and several nieces and nephews. She is survived by her husband of 51 years, Robert



Ryther of Belle Fourche, Ronda and Keith Hendrickson of Alzada Montana, Mandie Ryther of Belle Fourche, Megan Siebenaler of Belle Fourche, eight grandchildren, five great-grandchildren, her brother Harley and Delia Willuweit of Des Moines Iowa, Verdeen Davis of Rapid City, Barbara Stott of Deadwood, South Dakota, and over 188 nieces and nephews, and great nieces and nephews as of the last count.

A service will be held at 11:00AM on Thursday March 6, 2025, at the Belle Fourche Yoked Parish UCC. Burial will follow the service at St. Onge Cemetery.

Cremation arrangements were under the care of Fidler-Isburg Funeral Chapels and Isburg Crematory of Spearfish. Online condolences may be written at [www.fidler-isburgfuneralchapels.com](http://www.fidler-isburgfuneralchapels.com)



*1 John 4:7*  
Dear friends, let us love one another, for love comes from God.  
Everyone who loves has been born of God and knows God.

## Lunch & Learn: Moral Injury

Ryder Heitz

news@bellefourchebeacon.com

BELLE FOURCHE—A small crowd braved the negative temperatures on Wednesday, February 19 to hear Michael Dover speak about Moral Injury at this month's Lunch & Learn seminar, hosted by Grap's Burgers & Brews and the Belle Fourche Chamber of Commerce.

Dover, a veteran and moral injury specialist with the Volunteers of America, Northern Rockies, spent the lunch hour explaining the concept of moral injury and how this phenomenon can affect not only veterans, but first responders and more.

Moral injury, according to Dover, is closely related to PTSD; however, while PTSD is a fear-based response, moral injury has to do with a person's emotional or spiritual response to trauma they have experienced. It results from perpetrating, failing to act, or witnessing an act that goes against one's deeply held values—for example, a soldier participating in combat that results in taking another person's life. 40% of combat veterans have experienced moral injury; left unaddressed, it can result in isolation, grief, guilt, shame, flashbacks, drug or alcohol abuse, emotional distress, and suicidal ideation.

"So what do we do about it?" said Dover. "We'll take a group of veterans that's never met before, sit them down with other veterans, and we talk. We guide the conversation, but the therapy is the talking. It's being heard." Through the peer support groups and weekend retreats offered by the VOA, veterans can learn to acknowledge their moral injury trauma and eventually move forward. Since 2023, 244 individuals participated in either weekly

**Michael Dover was he speaker at this month's Lunch & Learn seminar. Dover discussed Moral Injury. Longbrake Photo**



small groups or a weekend retreat experience. Of these participants, 61.7% demonstrated a significant reduction in depression, 95.4% self-reported feeling that their mental health improved, 55% reported a lower moral distress, and 96.2% were very or extremely satisfied with the services provided.

Dover explained that there are VOA moral injury support groups in the Northern Hills area, but none in Belle Fourche specifically as of right now. However, he would be happy to start a local group if enough people are interested. At least four veterans and two volunteer facilitators are required to start a weekly group. If you are interested in joining or being a facilitator, you can contact Michael Dover by email at michael.dover@voanr.org or call 605-341-8336. Additionally, free veteran moral injury retreats will be held June 6-8 in Rapid City, SD, Burgess Junction, WY, Cody, WY, and Whitefish, MT. For more information on these retreats and to apply, you can visit voanr.org/services/mi-retreats or email moralinjury@voanr.org.

### From A1 Dominos

process of basically finishing the outside building footage," explained Work. "We are going to make the drive thru so it's not so low when customers come up. We will lift it up with gravel so when people come through the drive thru, it's not so low."

The Happy People Pizza Group is from Wyoming and started with one Domino's Piz-

za restaurant 26 years ago. The Belle Fourche store is the 29th store the group has opened, with Domino's locations in Wyoming, North Dakota, South Dakota, and in Montana.

Domino's Pizza is open every day of the week at 10:30 a.m. and stays open late on Friday and Saturday nights. The store honors all of the national specials and can be found at 508 National Street.

## Gov. Rhoden: Spending on state-issued credit cards 'won't be an issue'

**Governor publicly addresses revelation that Noem administration amassed more than \$600k in charges on state credit cards**

Joe Sneve

www.thedakotascout.com

Don't expect the governor of South Dakota's use of state-issued credit cards to mirror that of his predecessor.

"It won't be an issue with me," Gov. Larry Rhoden said this week, addressing revelations that more than \$600,000 in charges were amassed on state-issued credit cards used by now U.S. Homeland Security Secretary Kristi Noem during her six-year tenure in the Governor's Mansion.

Noem resigned as governor in January to join President Donald Trump's Cabinet, a week before spending records associated with two credit card accounts available to Noem and her staff in the governor's office were turned over to The Dakota Scout.

Made public following a settlement agreement between the newspaper and State Auditor Rich Sattgast, who previously denied an open records request for the records, more than 3,000 pages of receipts, invoices and credit card statements show tens of thousands of dollars in charges at high-end hotels, ve-

hicle rentals and meals — with frequent stops at restaurants in the capital city and beyond.

In contrast, spending on state-issued credit cards during former Gov. Dennis Daugaard's final year in office — the only year of invoices available from his two terms in office — indicate far fewer and less frequent charges on the state card.

A spokeswoman for Rhoden's office had previously defended Noem's usage of the taxpayer-funded credit cards, contending that others in her administration had access to the credit cards. However, Rhoden opted not to comment as to whether he thinks the level of spending on charge cards by Noem was appropriate when he personally addressed the credit card spending for the first time. "There's times when I'm out with a group and a lot of times I forget that I even have one. I don't know how many times I've paid for stuff with my own credit because I don't even remember I have it," Rhoden said during his weekly legislative press conference on Thursday at the Capitol.

"I'm not looking back and I don't know what has happened in the past. I just know where I am at, and it's not a problem," he added.

Records associated with spending on state-issued credit cards under Rhoden have not been obtained by The Scout..



## Belle Fourche Beacon 'Happenings' and News Bytes Calendar

The Beacon Happenings Calendar is public service listing of meetings, events, and things to do in and around Belle Fourche. Happenings announcements may be sent to: news@bellefourchebeacon.com Deadline is Friday before 5pm.

### Tri-State Museum and Visitor Center's March First Saturday Brunch is "A Hitch in the CCC"

The Tri-State Museum and Visitor Center will hold a First Saturday Brunch on Saturday, March 1 with a presentation by historian and author Jim McKeown entitled "A Hitch in the CCC."

The Civilian Conservation Corps was a hallmark program of the FDR administration and offered young men a chance to get into the outdoors, learn new skills and help create campgrounds, parks, roads, trails, and forests. The CCC not only benefited the country but shaped the lives of those who participated in it.

Brunch at 10 a.m. is \$5 per person or free with membership. The presentation at 10:30 is free to all. Reservations are required, whether for brunch or to watch the presentation. Call 605-723-1200.

The Tri-State Museum and Visitor Center is located at 415 Fifth Avenue in Belle Fourche.

### "Raber, Reading and Writing"

event to be held at the Tri-State.

Come to a special literary event entitled "Raber, reading and writing," which will feature writers, readings and conversation about the importance of writing. It will take place Saturday, March 15 from noon to 2 p.m.

David Raber will lead-off with readings from his new book "Life and Laughter in Belle Fourche." He will also sign books for sale in the museum gift shop.

The Belle Fourche Writers will read their works, dis-

cuss their organization and explain how people can join their group. In 2024, the Belle Fourche Writers published their second anthology, Life's Landscapes which will be available for sale at the event.

The need to encourage writing — including of journals and diaries — will be discussed by museum staff, as materials like this are needed for research archives to be used in decades to come.

Those interested in hearing readings and those interested in writing are encouraged to attend, no matter what your age or experience!

See the museum's "The Library" exhibit while you are here. Refreshments will be served.

### Rodeo Queen Clinic

Are you interested in being a rodeo queen? The Black Hills Roundup Rodeo Queen Clinic will be held March 15th, 2025 from 9am-2pm at the Christian Life Center in Belle Fourche.

Open to all ages and experience levels. Contact: queens@blackhillsroundup.com

to get registered or with any questions.

The Human Library Project will launch its first presentation on of March 21, 2025 from 2 - 4 at the Silver Linings Senior Center in Belle Fourche.

Presenters currently scheduled include, Belle Fourche storyteller, Bill Hennessy; Newell artist and Shepard, Barb Uhrig; Elementary teacher Margie LaDue; and Colleen Brunner, rancher and journalist.

Following the presentation of the "human" books, as an additional and integral part of the Human Library Event, Belle Fourche Public Library staff will be available to provide in-

**COWBOYS TOO!**

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**BUTTE COUNTY SCHOOL LAND LEASE AUCTION**

A school land lease auction will be held at the Butte County Courthouse (commissioners room), Belle Fourche, SD on March 28, 2025 at 10:00AM (MT).

A list of tracts available for lease may be obtained at the Butte County Auditor's Office or by contacting the Office of School & Public Lands, 500 E Capitol Avenue, Pierre, SD, 57501-5070 at (605) 773-3303. You may also visit the SPL website www.sdpubliclands.sd.gov. Phone bidding will be allowed on a recorded conference line at 1-848-777-1212 with access code of 18892020# Disabled individuals needing assistance should contact the Office of School and Public Lands at least 48 hours in advance of the auction to make any necessary arrangements.

**PUBLIC NOTICE**

On the 11th day of March 2025 at 5:00 pm, the Butte County Planning Commission will hold a public hearing in the Butte County Commissioner's Room, located on the main level of the Butte County Courthouse, 839 5th Avenue, Belle Fourche, South Dakota. The Butte County Planning Commission will accept public comment on the following:

OWNER: PATTY ESZLINGER NIESENT & RICHARD NIESENT LOTS 2A AND 5 OF ESZLINGER SUBDIVISION FORMERLY LOT 2 OF ESZLINGER SUBDIVISION AND A PORTION OF THE SW4SE4SE4 OF SECTION 8, T8N, R2E, B.H.M., BUTTE COUNTY, SOUTH DAKOTA

You have a right to appear personally or by attorney, or to submit written comments to the Butte County Planning Commission. A copy of the Preliminary Plan is available for your review in the Butte County Equalization & Planning Office located at 117 5th Avenue, Belle Fourche, South Dakota.

Respectfully Submitted:  
Cristina Wilson  
Director of Equalization  
Planning Administrator

**THE BELLE FOURCHE BEACON**

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**Upcoming events, for more information call: 605-892-2676**

**March 7 - 7:30AM Caramel Rolls & Coffee @ Belle Silver Lining, 9:30AM Breakfast Club Ribbon Cutting**

**March 8 - 1:30PM Cracker Barrel @ Venue 519**

**March 9 - DAYLIGHT SAVINGS TIME**

**March 12 - 12PM Lunch and Learn @ Branding Iron**

Jenn Frank presenting on conflict resolution and respectful workplace

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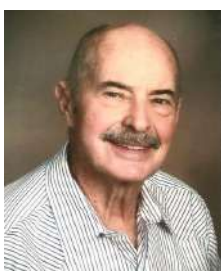
## Gary Lyle Stinton 86

Gary Lyle Stinton, 86, of Belle Fourche passed away February 24, 2025 at Rolling Hills Healthcare, Belle Fourche.

Gary was born March 21, 1938 in Winner, SD to Lyle and June Stinton who were living in Burke, SD. Gary spent his youth in Burke, graduating in 1956. He continued his education graduating from Brookings in 1960 with an animal husbandry degree.

Gary married Jan Schlaht in 1960. They started their life together in Brookings and then lived in several states and different towns. Gary worked as a State Sales Manager for Moorman Feeds for many years. They had 3 children, Kim, Karrie and Shawn. In 1978 they bought the Gregory, SD Sale Barn, and operated it for 11 years. Most of their life they lived in Iowa for 25 years and in 2001 moved to Belle Fourche.

Gary was a very special guy and loved his horses and goats. He spent a lot of time with them. He also worked as a building manager at the Rec Center for 17 years. He was a lifetime member of the United Church of Christ and held several offices during the years.



He leaves to mourn his wife of 64 years, Jan Stinton; children, Kim David, Karrie (Dave) Vinyard and Shawn Stinton all of Belle Fourche; grandchildren, Amanda Alexander and Emily (Ashton) Rone; great grandchildren, Cedar Rone, Willow Alexander and River Alexander; brothers-in-law, Terry and Larry Schlaht of Omaha, NE; nieces, nephews and cousins.

He was preceded in death by his parents; sister, Penny Kalso and his mother and father-in-law.

Per Gary's wishes there will be no funeral but there will be a family memorial in Gregory late this Summer.

The family suggests memorials be directed to the Western Humane Society, 324 Industrial Dr. Spearfish, SD 57783.

Arrangements are under the care of Kline Funeral Chapel of Belle Fourche. An online guest book and video tribute will be available at [klinefuneralchapel.com](http://klinefuneralchapel.com)



## Jerrold Eugene Crockford 85

Jerrold Eugene Crockford - 85 yrs. - was born to Joseph James Crockford and Mildred Marie (Plambeck) Crockford on October 3, 1939, in Meade Co., SD. He was second oldest in a family of six and resided on the family farm south of Vale, SD. He graduated High School at Vale and in the fall of 1957 joined the US Navy and spent his service time in Bermuda. He was discharged from the Navy in 1960, then worked for the phone co. for a few months until he was hired by Homestake Mining Co., Lumber and Timber Dept. for fifteen years. He held several positions ending with Log Cutter Foreman.

In January of 1962 Jerry met Julie C. Seidel. They were married June 16, 1962, and began a journey of more than 62 years together. They lived in Spearfish, SD and had their first child, Jane Marie (Crockford) Jordan in May 1963, followed by Jodi Lynn Crockford in March 1966. Spring of 1966 they moved out of Spearfish to Maitland Canyon where they started from the ground up to build a home. They moved a mobile home in for their house and Jerry kept busy constructing a garage, barn and fences along with planting a garden and yard.

In the Fall of 1976 Jerry accepted a position of Realty Specialist with the Bureau of Land Management located in Buffalo, WY. Daily he traveled the NE corner of Wyoming to help oil and gas companies obtain permits to drill wells and install pipelines on US Govt. property. In the beginning of 1980, he spent five months at the US Govt Lands School in Phoenix, AZ. Fall of 1983 saw the family moving to Dickinson, ND until



June 1988 when they transferred to Farmington, NM where they lived for 33 years. While in Farmington, NM Jerry and Julie attended the Emmanuel Baptist Church with Jerry serving as a deacon for 33 yrs. They also helped conduct services at the local DWI Center each Sunday.

In addition to permits for oil and gas and pipelines, he also worked to permit wind and solar farms. He taught at the Phoenix Land School for 22 years. He retired from BLM in 2009. He then started a personal business helping companies obtain federal permits for installations. He retired in 2021.

Jerry loved his family including his wife, two daughters, two grandchildren and 2 great granddaughters. The family moved back to SD to be near his sisters and Julie's family in Nov. 2021. He always considered SD to be 'home' and always planned to come back for that reason.

Jerry is survived by the immediate family, two sisters and their families, and a brother and family plus several in laws. Also included are numerous nieces and nephews.

Funerals services will be held Saturday, March 8, 2025, 10:00 a.m. at Kinkade Funeral Chapel, Sturgis, SD. Interment will follow at the Vale Cemetery.

Condolences may be left for the family at [www.kinkadefunerals.com](http://www.kinkadefunerals.com).



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### Senior Boys and Girls Recognized On February 20th



Pictured left to right: Harvey Walding, Isaac Voyles, Jet Jensen, Wyatt Lesmeister, Lily Nore, Kailey Nowowiejski, Viktoria Prosnanska, Cierra Erhart, Adela Grusing and Kaydence Gallagher. Photo Courtesy Jamie Hockenbary



Harvey Walding sends one up. Photo Courtesy Jamie Hockenbary



Shout out to some of the refs who work hard to keep the game going. Photo Courtesy Jamie Hockenbary



Cheerleaders keep the momentum going. Photo Courtesy Jamie Hockenbary



Nowowiejeski catches air and attempts to add to the lead on 1-21-25 against Hill City. Photo Courtesy Jamie Hockenbary



Hatling puts in strong effort for 2 on 1-23-25 against Winner. Photo Courtesy Jamie Hockenbary

## BFHS RODEO TEAM BANQUET & FUNDRAISER AUCTION

Saturday March 8, 2025  
Branding Iron Steakhouse & Social Club

Live and Silent Auction

Steak Dinner

Tickets - \$25

Doors Open @ 4:30 - Dinner @ 5:00 -

Auction to Follow

Tickets May Be Purchased From Any Belle Fourche High School Rodeo Member



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# Show Up

by Belle LaVenue



As you fill your brand new 2025 calendar, be sure to add the FINE ARTS events in our community and our schools.

The Belle Fourche Middle School Theater Cast & Crew of, *Magic*, their spring show, is hard at work in practices and at set-building with only three more weeks until their show: a comedy full of mystery, humor, and unique characters who are more than just an illusion. Under the direction of Reva Potter & Rachel Munce, over 60 thespians from the 6th, 7th, and 8th grades are preparing for an entrancing night of magical entertainment. *Photos on C5*

The Belle Fourche Area Community Theater has cast their show, *Atomic Lobsters*, getting ready to join other area theater groups in the Getting Our Acts Together, Night of One Acts. The show cast includes Nathan Mahler, Echo Limpert, Kelsey Gronlund, Heather Pittman, Wes Barnhouse, Mike Meemken, Raya Meemken, and Emma Raber. Getting Our Acts Together consists of four one-acts: one by the *Historic Homestake Opera House* from Lead; one by the *Matthews Opera House* in Spearfish; one by the *Sturgis Community Theater*; one by Belle Fourche Area Community Theater. Each night will be held in a different location, so each theater group gets a chance to perform in a new space and give that community a chance to see a show by other local theater groups. You won't want to miss this one-of-a-kind show!

*It's time for Grease!* The Belle Fourche HS Theater is excited to announce its cast for this popular musical: Danny- Logan Willert; Sandy- Trinity Hostetter, Kenickie-Timothy Thompson, Doody- Kale Williams, Roger- Derek Scott, Sonny- John Hale, Rizzo- Kate Blair, Frenchy- Sonja Cropper, Marty- Alexa Stone, Jan- Iva Hale, Patty- Aoloni Stone. Eugene- Trevor Welles, Cha-Cha- Kaeli Thompson, Miss Lynch- Kaydance Gallagher, Vince Fontaine- Dillon Streeter, Johnny Casino- Derek Scott, Teen Angel- Kale Williams, Female Radio Voice- Abby Schmidt, and in the Ensemble: Madisyn Carson, Mercedes Madison, Tace Hartman, Avery Mastin, Trey Shannon, Chelsea Zinke, Mollie Collins; Tech Crew: Wyatt Lesmeister, Hunter Brown, Madison Dalton, Mark Mullins

The Community Variety Show will be on May 4th, a Sunday afternoon, at the Belle Fourche Community Hall. This FUNraiser showcases local talent & the arts. If you have an act or art to share, contact the BF FAB at bhfsfab@gmail.com.

Your presence at all the upcoming events is much appreciated, so don't forget to add all these upcoming fine arts events to your calendars!

- Mar. 14, Friday, MS Play, *MAGIC*, @ the Rec Center Theater, 7:00 pm
- Mar. 15, Saturday, MS Play, *MAGIC*, @ the Rec Center Theater, 7:00 pm
- Mar. 17, Monday, BFHS Band / Chorus Concert @ the Rec Center Theater, 7:00 pm
- Mar. 18, Tuesday, BFMS 6th, 7th, & 8th Spring Choir Concert, @ the Rec Center Theater, 6:30 pm
- Mar. 29, *Atomic Lobsters*, Getting Our Acts Together, Belle Fourche Community Theater, @ the Rec Center Theater
- April 7, Monday, BFMS/BFHS Jazz Concert @ the Rec Center Theater, 7:00 pm

Maybe YOU know what SHOW is UP next? Share your fine arts tidbits and upcoming events at bellelavenue@gmail.com. I especially love the juicy backstage dish and green room gossip! Mark your calendars, friends, so you don't forget to Show Up!

Check the website... [www.southdakota4hleaders.com](http://www.southdakota4hleaders.com)

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**Community Calendar**

**Belle Silver Lining Lunch Program**  
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 Belle Silver Lining is open so come and enjoy a different lunch menu Monday thru Friday.  
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 Check with the staff if you have items to donate.

**AA Meetings**  
 Meetings are held on  
 Tuesday, Thursday, and Saturdays  
 at 8pm at 806 6th Ave, Belle Fourche.

**Writer's Group**  
 Regular Meeting:  
 Meeting will be Saturday, at 10 AM.  
 BF Public Library, 3rd Sat. as always.  
 Any and all writers are invited to attend.

**Meals On Wheels Program Ongoing**  
 11:30am-12:30pm Monday through Friday  
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 Please call Bonnie at 892-5472 in the mornings

**World Day of Prayer Service**  
 is scheduled for Friday, March 7, in Belle Fourche. Global Methodist Church will host to the event with music by The Pickers beginning at 12:30 , program at 1 p.m. Christian women in the Cook Islands have written the script this year. Prayer, Bible readings, hymns are featured. A lunch will follow. The public is invited. This marks year 98 of services that are held globally on the first Friday of March in 170 countries. Each year a different country prepares the program. Local churches rotate as the host. Planning meetings are being held every Friday at the church. Readers, ushers and hosts are needed. Women interested in being a part of the program are invited to come to the planning sessions.

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**Penance Services:**  
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March 12th & 26th  
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**Friday Stations  
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Each Friday during Lent  
we will pray the Stations  
of the Cross followed by a  
Lenten meal and a short  
talk on faith practices.



## Belle Fourche School Board

Ryder Heitz

news@bellefourchebeacon.com

**BELLE FOURCHE**—The Belle Fourche School Board held a meeting on Monday, February 10. Associated School Boards of South Dakota honored the Belle Fourche School District for South Dakota School Board Recognition Week, February 17-21, “in recognition of dedicated leadership in public education and for improving achievement for all public school students.”

The Belle Fourche High School FFA gave a presentation on parliamentary procedure. Curriculum Director Angela Reder also provided a data corner that covered the “What-Why-How” of district assessment practices with four different types of assessments introduced. Student Council Liaison Ellie Schreder reported on the activities of the Council and student body.

December 2024 and January 2025 Students of the Month were recognized. For December, those honored were: Fifth Grade—Rylee Kukla and Tymber Patterson; Sixth Grade—Harry Bruce and Claire Fickbohm; Seventh Grade—Adeleine Humbracht and Brennan Williamson; Eighth Grade—Alexis Allart and Isaiah Slama. For January, those honored were: Fifth Grade—Aubyn Hartman and Logan Dennis; Sixth Grade—Adilynn Burke and Austin Ramirez; Seventh Grade—Charlie Merjil and Oaklee Atkins; Eighth Grade—Oaklee Curtis and Rylan Gross.

Susan Proefrock reported that the Board of Directors of the Black Hills Educational Benefits Cooperative held its quarterly meeting on November 21, 2024. The BHEBC provides health benefit services to employees of the Belle Fourche School District. Regular business was conducted, and a report of activities was presented. Knapp reported on the School Imp

rovement Committee meeting held January 9 and shared those meeting minutes with the Board. Superintendent Thompson also provided a legislative update for the Board.

Administrative reports were then given. Mathew Raba, High School Principal, reported current enrollment numbers: total 9-12th grade enrollment is 362. Parent-teacher conferences will be held March 13 from 1:30-7:30 p.m. High schoolers will be taking the SD Assessments for English, Math, and Science during the week of April 7-10. National FCCLA week is February 10-14 and National FFA week is February 17-21. Both groups have activities planned to promote their programs and show service to the school and community.

High school counselor Kyle Webb is organizing the 12th annual Career Fair to be held February 20. The fair will be held in the BFACC gym and over 60 tables are scheduled.

Middle School enrollment is 418. On January 21, the Black Hills Raptor Center gave fifth graders a

presentation during their science classes. Middle school students participated in Humanity Launch activities on January 28, and on January 29, teachers took 50 eighth grade students snow skiing and snowboarding at Terry Peak. Civil War buffs Nick Jason and Kellen Willert presented authentic relics to social studies students on January 30.

February activities include the winter band concert at the Rec Center on February 10, spring pictures on February 13, and the Science Fair open house on February 13. Parent-teacher conferences are scheduled for March 13 from 1:30-7:30 p.m. Public performances of Magic, the middle school play written by Reva Potter, will take place at the Rec Center on March 14 and 15 at 7 p.m. 49 students will be acting in the play with 12 students helping with technical production aspects.

Elementary Principal Julie Hatling reported that K-4 total enrollment in North and South Park schools is 444. A variety of activities are planned for this month at both schools.

On February 14, Valentine’s Day and the 100th Day of School will both be celebrated. Since February is American Heart Month, everyone is encouraged to wear red on February 7.

Staff continues to meet twice a month to advance their literacy initiative. Upcoming activities include Read Across America Week from March 3-6; Professional Development on March 7;

Parent-Teacher Conferences on March 13; and Kindergarten Screening for SY 2025-2026 on April 4.

Special Education Director Caleb Case reported that the current child count is 252. The State Special Education Conference will occur next month in Rapid City, and the state testing window is fast-approaching.

Activities Department director Adam Nowowiejski reported that it was another great year for the 2-day boys and girls wrestling tournament. He stated that the number of girls wrestlers continues to increase and recommended that the district consider hiring a girls’ wrestling coach next year. The girls’ and boys’ basketball seasons are coming to a close and the 2nd annual Boys Basketball Classic will be February 15. Dairy Queen



Shepherd of the Hills Church  
825 W Main Street in Lead

### Good Shepherd Clinic

**Next Clinic: Thursday, March 13<sup>th</sup>  
& Thursday, March 27<sup>th</sup>**  
Registration will be from 6:00-7:00pm.

Good Shepherd Clinic is a free medical clinic for adults, ages 19-64, who do not have or qualify for insurance or have insurance and meet our other eligibility requirements. Medical services will be available on the 2nd and 4th Thursdays of the month at Shepherd of the Hills Lutheran Church in Lead. Enter the church through the Julius Street parking lot (below 825 W. Main Street).

**The Spearfish clinic will continue to provide medical, emergency dental, counseling, and resource services on Monday nights at Our Savior’s Lutheran Church, located at 1020 State Street.**

**For more information contact:**  
Phone: 605-717-2080  
Email: [director@goodshepherdclinicspearfish.com](mailto:director@goodshepherdclinicspearfish.com)  
Website: [www.goodshepherdclinicspearfish.com](http://www.goodshepherdclinicspearfish.com)



**BFMS January Students of the Month** were honored at the February school board meeting. **Aubyn Hartman and Logan Dennis, 5th graders, Adilynn Burke and Austin Ramirez, sixth graders, Charlie Merjil and Oaklee Atkins, seventh graders and Oaklee Curtis and Alexis Allart, eighth graders.** Courtesy Photo

and Subway sponsored the event and will gift each member on the teams a commemorative T-shirt.

Facilities and Transportation Director Coyle reported that the fire marshal was recently in the district to do inspections. Coyle is waiting for a quote for new stair treads at the high school. A new discus cage system has been ordered and should arrive this month.

The Belle Fourche School District strategic plan was presented, with goal statements of building a quality educational program that is efficient, effective, and excellent; improving and developing a cooperative and positive image for the school system; providing financial resources to adequately fund the educational programs; and conducting school district business in a professional, effective, efficient, and responsible manner.

Discussion was held about the proposed school voucher program for the 2025 legislative session. A resolution in opposition to the school voucher proposal carried. The board entered Executive Session at 7:04 p.m. for the purpose of discussing the superintendent’s evaluation.

The Board came out of executive session at 8:25 p.m. and the meeting was adjourned.

The next school board meeting will be March 10, 2025.

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\*3.5 GPA must be on a 4.0 grading system. Membership Required. Certain restrictions apply. Only students age 13 - 19 qualify to earn rewards. Account must be in good standing. By participating in this program, parents or guardians of winners agree to have their child’s name, photo/likeness used in any advertising material related to the marketing of the SMART MONEY program without additional financial or other compensation. \$10 payouts will be deposited into the student’s Teen Account with Highmark and may be subject to IRS reporting. Winner is responsible for all tax liability. Report card or copy of report card must be dated within 30 days of the end of a semester to be considered.

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**March 7<sup>th</sup>  
& March 8<sup>th</sup>**  
at  
**7:00 PM**  
&  
**March 9<sup>th</sup>**  
at  
**2:00 PM**



**TICKETS ARE  
\$10.00**

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From A1 CBH

are being set up, boardrooms furnished, televisions hung on the wall, all of the small things that go into setting up a new business location. "Boy it is a busy beehive, we had the IT people in getting all the networking done, the phone people are coming a week from today to get that installed, the pallet racking people were here, and the cameras and security systems are installed," said Reif. "We had the manufacturer in and trained a bunch of our people about the fire suppression system.

Then we will have a fire department night and we're going to have a walk through so if something ever happens, they're familiar with the building and will know exactly where to come and what to do."

The new building doubles the amount of storage space available. "The other building over there was 20,000 square feet of storage, this is 16,000 square feet but at the other one, we were only able to stack a couple pallets high.

Here we get 16,000 square feet, but now we can stack four high. So we are basically doubling the holding capacity," explained Reif.

The new facility has a warming room and cold storage. The warming room is 40 feet by 80 feet. Reif said, "Some agriculture chemicals shouldn't freeze, and then oil too, with our refined products, you know, in the winter it gets cold and thick. It just makes for better product." Reif says he is excited to have the building open and everyone together. "I can't wait. Everybody's worked so hard for a lot of years, and over time ended up being a lot of separate spots in town.

It's going to be so good to be working together. There's some nervousness about it, but we'll quickly get over that. And you know, everybody will find their way and groove." When all is said and done, the most important part to any successful business is the consumer. That fact is not lost on CBH CO-OP. "The part I'm going to enjoy the most is with the patrons and being able to just give them really good service.

They deserve it. They've supported CBH, we'll give them better results than what I think they, generally speaking, they've gotten good results from CBH, and I am just convinced that we'll be able to do better than that, so I'm excited

for it," said Reif.

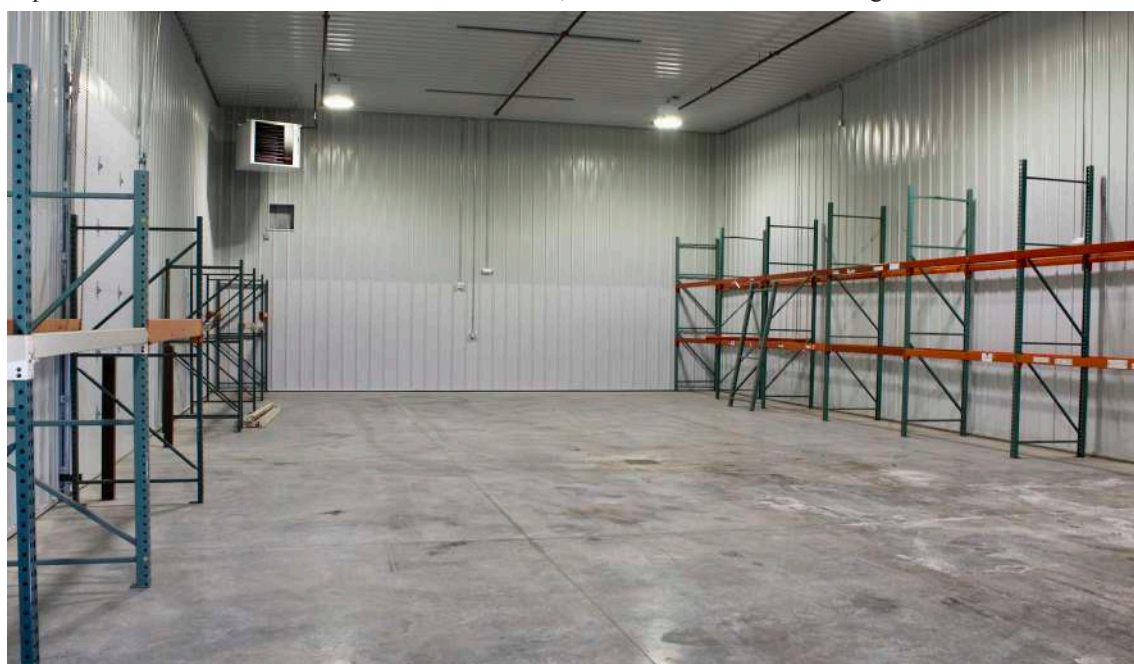
Without the help from the City of Belle Fourche and other key resources the new location and building could have been a struggle. "We are very grateful to everybody in Belle that helped get it together. We had quite a few meetings at the city council meetings, and Holly's area (Belle Fourche Economic Development) had a lot of resources.

There is pretty good building and activity in town, so everybody's pretty familiar with the ins and outs in Butte County. Everybody was very, very helpful, and helped guide us along and didn't let us get stopped anywhere and gave us a lot of forewarnings," explained Reif.

One of the ways that CBH CO-OP is different from a normal entrepreneurial business is that it is owned by the customer.

All you have to do is sign up and use the CO-OP businesses and the earnings are distributed back to the patrons.

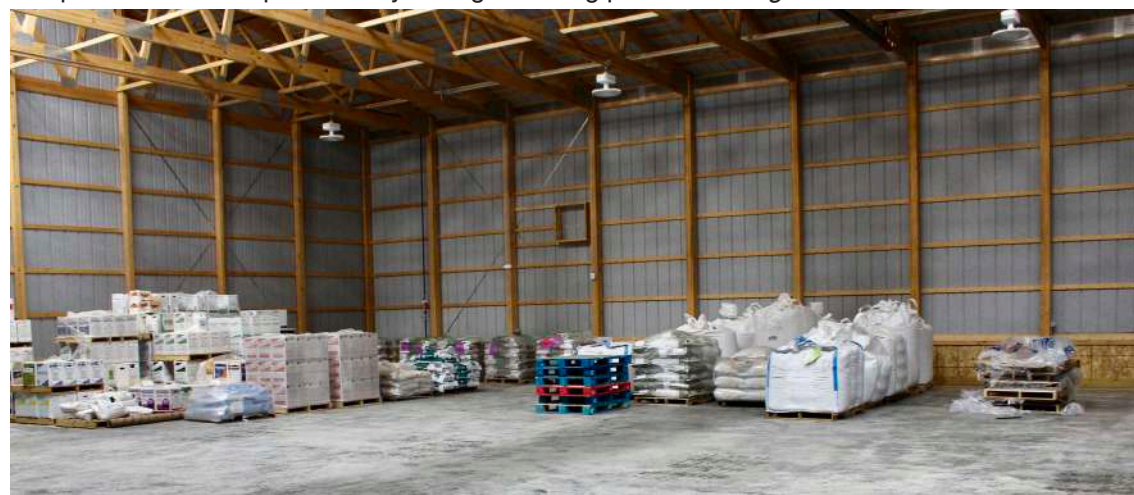
The goal is to have the building up and running and all moved into by March 15, with current plans to have an open house for the public to come see the new building at the end of March.



New warming room will be used to keep chemicals and oil products from freezing in the winters.



The pallet racks are up and ready to begin holding products. Longbrake Photos



Part of the storage area in the new building at the CBH CO-OP.



(L) Another look at the pallet racks and storage area in the new CBH CO-OP building. (C) The upstairs in the new CBH CO-OP building will house administration offices. (R) The kitchen area for the employees at the CBH CO-OP.

Edward Jones



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Willard From A1

resident following the passing of President Ann Bolman, Ed.D., in September 2024, will continue in her role as Vice President for Finance and Operations through March 2025, after which she will pursue a new career opportunity outside of Rapid City.

"On behalf of the WDTC Board of Trustees, we sincerely appreciate Christine's leadership and dedication during this transition," Dr. Willard said. "She stepped into a challenging role with professionalism and commitment, and we are grateful for her contributions. We wish her all the best in her next endeavor."

The WDTC Board of Trustees

is currently conducting a comprehensive search for the next college president, with the goal of announcing a successor before the start of the Fall 2025 Semester. This process aims to identify a leader who aligns closely with WDTC's vision and values.

"Despite the challenges of the past several months, Western Dakota Technical College continues to thrive," Dr. Steve Willard said. "Our dedicated faculty and staff remain fully committed to student success, and their hard work is evident every day. We are preparing for a large graduating class this spring, and I have no doubt our graduates will build successful careers and positively impact their communities."

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has been a part of our community since 1898 we are sad to see it go. Please reach out to the Hulet post office with any questions. Mail delivery on all routes will continue as usual.



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ST. ONGE LIVESTOCK Now Broadcasts our Sales live on the internet at WWW.CATTLEUSA.COM

Cattle Report - Friday, February 28, 2025

Right at 2000 hd today
Bred cows sold dollars higher
Feeder cattle & replacement hfrs also sold dollars higher

Next Sale - March 6 - Bred Cow Special
Thank you for marketing with St Onge Livestock! - 9 AM

Bred Cows - Sold by the head

Table with columns for seller, breed, sex, and price. Includes entries like Meccage Ranch Llc, Baker MT, Duprel Ranch, Sturgis, SD, etc.

Feeder Cattle

Table with columns for seller, breed, sex, and price. Includes entries like Banks, Melvin Ryan, Forsyth MT, Duprel Ranch, Sturgis, SD, etc.

Weigh Up Cows

Table with columns for seller, breed, sex, and price. Includes entries like Anderson Rev Trust, Dwayne, Gillette WY, C & W Feeders, etc.

Table with columns for seller, breed, sex, and price. Includes entries like Pzinski, Matt & Chris, Newcastle WY, Ryan Trust, Michael, Gillette WY, etc.

Weigh Up Bulls

Table with columns for seller, breed, sex, and price. Includes entries like Baker, Mike J, St Onge, SD, Baker, Mike J, St Onge, SD, etc.

Friday, March 7, 2025

Bred Cow & Heifer Special

9 AM - Weigh Up Cows, 12 Noon - Feeder Cattle followed by Bred Cows
BT-Branding Time Shots PC-PreCondition Shots DF-Drug Free BV-Bangs Vaccinated NI- No Implants

Bred Cows & Hfrs

Smith Cattle Co - 15 Blk F-1 Hfrs - Bred Blk - 4/5 For 30 Days
- 16 Blk 3 To 5 Yr Old Cows - Bred Blk - 6/1 For 30 Days
- 20 Blk Short Term Cows - Bred Blk - 4/1 For 60 Days
Arledge Ranch - 20 Blk Hfrs - Bred Lbw Blk Angus Bulls - 3/25 For 45 Days
- 20 Blk Short Solid & Short Term Cows - Bred Blk - 3/25
Redding Ranch - 22 Red Short Term Cows - Bred Red Angus - 3/1
- 12 Red Mixed Age Cows - Bred Red Angus - 5/1
Steve Sulzbach - 7 Blk Mixed Age Cows - Bred Blk - 3/30
Marin Geier - 165 Weigh Up Cows

Plus more by sale time!

2025 CATTLE SALES

March 14th - Feeder Cattle & Replacement Hfr Special - Selling All Classes Of Cattle
March 21st - Bred Heifer & Cow Special - Selling All Classes Of Cattle
March 28th - Feeder Cattle & Replacement Hfr Special - Selling All Classes Of Cattle
April 4th - Bred Heifer & Cow Special - Selling All Classes Of Cattle
April 11th - Feeder Cattle & Replacement Hfr Special - Selling All Classes Of Cattle
April 18th - Pair & Bred Cow Special - Selling All Classes Of Cattle
April 25th - Feeder Cattle & Replacement Hfr Special - Selling All Classes Of Cattle

2025 SPRING BULL SALES

March 28th - Mills Cattle Co Angus Bull Sale
April 4th - Ck Bar Ranch Sim-Angus Bull Sale
April 11th - Cactus Cattle Company Angus Bull Sale
April 18th - Baker Lemar Angus Bull Sale
April 25th - Jordan Cattle Co Sim Angus & Angus Bull Sale
May 16th - Turn-Out Bull Sale

St Onge Livestock has a receiving station for the Gillette Area every Thursday. It is on Northern Drive in Gillette. Call Doug Miller at 307-660-0960 to let him know what is coming. You can unload all day every Thursday until 3 pm. You pay receiving station fee of \$3 per head & \$2.50/cwt for trucking.
THE BROADUS RECEIVING STATION IS TAKING CATTLE EVERY THURSDAY FOR OUR SALES ON FRIDAY. You can drop your cattle off every Thursday by 3pm. You pay receiving station fee of \$3 per head & \$2.50/cwt for trucking. For more information, call Tyler or Brandy Escott at 406-421-5579 or 406-951-1666 or Justin Tupper at 605-680-0259.

17TH ANNUAL ST ONGE LIVESTOCK CONSIGNMENT MACHINERY AUCTION Sunday, April 27, 2025

St Onge Livestock parking lot, St Onge, SD 57779
Starting at 10:00 am - Tractors will sell at 1:00 pm
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FAX: 605-456-2436
Barney Barnes Sheep Yards Mgr. - 605-641-2333
Auctioneer: Cody Tupper 605-569-3589
Fieldman: Gilbert Wood 605-456-2400 605-641-7100
Fieldman: Dustin Vining 605-354-9966

Sheep Report - Thursday, February 27, 2025

Lamb market was sure higher
Bred ewes sold on an active market
Slaughter ewes sold \$\$ higher
Bred ewes sold steady

Next Sale - March 6 - Regular Sale - Selling all classes of sheep & goats
Animals should be here by 10 AM so they can be weighed before the sale
Thank you for your business!

Feeder Lambs

Table with columns for seller, breed, sex, and price. Includes entries like Cjr Christenson Ranch Llc, Gillette WY, Darling Creek Ranch Llc, Meadow SD, etc.

Bred Ewes - Sold By The Head

Table with columns for seller, breed, sex, and price. Includes entries like Feldman, Darrell, Beach ND, Feldman, Darrell, Beach ND, etc.

Slaughter Ewes

Table with columns for seller, breed, sex, and price. Includes entries like Cjr Christenson Ranch Llc, Gillette WY, Cjr Christenson Ranch Llc, Gillette WY, etc.

Slaughter Bucks

Table with columns for seller, breed, sex, and price. Includes entries like Darling Creek Ranch Llc, Meadow SD, Geis, Byron Or Bridgette A, Buffalo WY, etc.

NEWELL SHEEP YARDS

Thursday, March 6, 2025
Regular Sale 1:00 PM

Please have animals in by 10:00 AM
So they can all be weighed before the sale!

2025 SHEEP SALES

March 13th - Bred Ewe Special - Selling All Classes Of Sheep & Goats
March 20th - Regular Sale - Selling All Classes Of Sheep & Goats
March 27th - Regular Sale - Selling All Classes Of Sheep & Goats
April 3rd - Bred Ewe Special - Selling All Classes Of Sheep & Goats
April 10th - Regular Sale - Selling All Classes Of Sheep & Goats
April 17th - Regular Sale - Selling All Classes Of Sheep & Goats
April 24th - Bred Ewe Special - Selling All Classes Of Sheep & Goats
May 1st - Regular Sale - Selling All Classes Of Sheep & Goats
May 8th - Regular Sale - Selling All Classes Of Sheep & Goats
May 15th - New Crop Lamb Special - Selling All Classes Of Sheep & Goats
May 22nd - Regular Sale - Selling All Classes Of Sheep & Goats
May 29th - New Crop Lamb Special - Selling All Classes Of Sheep & Goats

Attention to all sheep & goat producers: It is required that every male & female animal over the age of 12 months have a scrapies tag in place to sell. These tags can be obtained by the producer for FREE by calling 1-866-873-2824. If they come to the sale barn without being tagged, you will be charged \$4hd for our vet to do them. Please call us if you have any questions.

St. Onge Livestock We are reps for SUPERIOR LIVESTOCK AUCTION Video Auction Time is Coming up very, quickly - If you are considering filming your Calves or Yearlings for Fall Delivery Contact Us For Your Video Marketing Needs

2ND ANNUAL SPRING COIN, GUN & WESTERN MEMORABILIA AUCTION May 10 & 11, 2025 Moose Lodge, Belle Fourche, SD MAY 10th Currency Auction - MAY 11th Gun & Western Memorabilia NOW TAKING CONSIGNMENTS Don't miss the auction live or online at http://BlackHillsAuction.hibid.com/auctions/current Auction Conducted by Black Hills Auction Co Justin Tupper ~ 605-680-0259 Doug Dietterle ~ 605-788-2963 Cody Tupper ~ 605-569-3589

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## Looking Back in Belle

These articles come from newspaper microfilm from the Belle Fourche Public library, using a new microfilm reader and printer. The photographs are from the Tri-State Museum. The library has a card-file of all the obituaries found in their newspaper collection.

124 years ago  
**THE TIMES**  
March 1, 1900

**SUFFOCATED IN A TUNNEL** Lead, S. D., Feb. 24 – Yesterday morning at 7, while engaged in cutting a tunnel in lime rock, at Englewood, near Lead, Henry Waldschmid and Walter Morezie were suffocated by smoke from black powder. The tunnel was being driven and a heavy blast was fired, after which two men entered the tunnel. Now returning the contractor, Ed Hanschke, went after them, and was also overcome by gas. When found Waldschmid and Morezie were dead and Hanschke was uncscious. Hanschke may die. He is a limestone constructor for the Gold Reward Smelting company and is well known, having lived in the Hills for twenty years.

**TALK OF THE TOWN Wool Warehouse Company** A meeting of the business men interested in the erection of the wool warehouse met at the bak Monday evening and organized by election the following officers: T. H. Gay, president; A. Giles, vice-president; F. E. Bennett, secretary; and treasurer. The directors are the president and secretary, W. R. Glassie, A. H. Marble and F. R. Cock. The company will be known as the Belle Fourche Wool Warehouse company and will incorporate under the laws of the state with a capital stock of \$10,000. It was decided to build a warehouse 30X80, which will store 250,000 pounds. F. E. Bennett is to have supervision of the erection of the same, and as soon as the material arrives work will be duly pushed. It will be build of seasoned ship-lap and painted. It is expected to have the building completed with 60 days. The business men of our city have shown commendable zeal in this matter and will use all honorable means to bering the entire clip of the territory adjacent to the Elkhorn road to this point for shipment. We have been informed that when the building is completed, a genuine "house warming" will be given.

100 years  
**The Belle Fourche Bee**  
March 5, 1925  
**COUCHED IN SIMPLE LANGUAGE** President's Inaugural Address So Worded That Every Citizen Knew What He Meant Washington, Mar. 4 – President Coolidge's inaugural address was a typical Calvin Coolidge message to the people of the United States. It was clear, concise, and so worded that every citizen of our land knew just exactly what the president meant. In his address, President Coolidge voiced the heartfelt wish that the United States might continue to prosper, that the lot of each man, woman and child might be a happy one. The president did not waste any words in flowery rhetoric. His speech was from his heart. It contained the utterances of a man who genuinely loves his country. The president voiced his desire that labor in all its branches should receive full and adequate return for its efforts. He did not believe that any line of human activities should receive something for nothing, but he is emphatic in his belief that labor should be paid a just wage. He believes that the working woman, as well as the working man, should have at all time equable treatment, contend-

ing that prosperity, good wages, amply supplied households, make for a contented citizenry.

**Castle Rock News** Miss Schultz of Vale has been visiting her sister, Mrs. Charles Van Kirk. Chas Van Kirk went to Lead last week, returning with a Ford roadster. Mrs. Wilhelmina Lindell died at her home on Monday evening at 6 o'clock, February 23, after a short illness. Funeral was held at Newell Saturday. She leaves to mourn her loss one daughter, Mrs. Henry Harbeck, of Lead, and two sons, Alfred, of Castle Rock, and Carl, of Sioux Falls.

75 years ago  
**The Belle Fourche Bee**  
March 2, 1950  
**FORMER BUTTE MAN PERFECTS IRON LUNG** Wilfred Herrett, childhood resident of the Arpan community and graduate of Belle Fourche high school, class of '35, has invented and made an iron lung which he has donated to the town, of Filer, Idaho, for use in all of Magic Valley. The body of the tube was made by welding together two 50-gallon oil drums which are set on a frame made of angle irons in the Acme Machine Shop that Herritt operates. The lung "breathes" through the use of an air pump and rotary valve. An electric light inside the body tube provides both a light for the attendant and heat for the patient. Through a window in the top the attendant can see inside as he changes dressings. The breathing cycle can be adjusted to the comfort of the patient by the valve cycle. A fly wheel on the valve makes changes take place gradually. There is an adjustable headrest and a mirror, and rubber fittings make the machine's operation air tight. Mr. Herrett describes the lung as "improvised", the Times-News of Twin Falls, Idaho, states, but there is not a single feature missing. Steven Herrett of Twin Falls, painter-brother of the inventor, provided a cost of glistening white paint, making the lung's appearance good enough to display in any medical center. Mr. Herrett is a nephew of Mrs. George Schafer of Belle Fourche.

**400 WITNESS AIR MAIL, PASSENGER FLIGHT RESUMPTION** Northern Black Hills communities turned out nearly 400 people in the chilling cold first-of-March weather Wednesday to witness the arrival of the first passenger and mail plane at the airport near Spearfish on the reactivated Western Air Lines flights. Recalling recent curtailment of other transportation services to the northern Black Hills, General Manager Guy N. Bjorge of the Homestake Mining Co. said the resumption of air service to the Spearfish airport would bring many ad-



by Mary Buchholz

vantages to residents of this area. He recounted the history of air service to the Black Hills airport and efforts to have the service reactivated after its discontinuance during the war. Mallary, in a short talk, preceding the showing of a film on Yellowstone and the Grand Tetons, said the company was exceedingly happy to be able to return flights to the Spearfish airport, which he pointed out was only slightly less than 20 miles from Belle Fourche.

50 years ago  
**The Belle Fourche Bee**  
March 7, 1975  
**Herbert Retires From Radio Work** After nearly 30 years in radio, the last 16 as news director and program director for KBFS in Belle Fourche, Alan Herbert has announced his retirement. The scheduled date had been set for March 14, but a severe gastric attack that hospitalized him for five days forced the premature end of his radio career on Feb. 24. Herbert's immediate plans include an extended trip to Europe, where he and his wife will be working as a team visiting the various mints, coin shows and coin auctions, taking pictures and writing feature articles for Krause Publications, who have been using his columns and articles since 1968. The couple will be leaving on March 21 via Chicago, and will make their headquarters in Aschaffenburg, Germany, not far from Frankfurt.

**Two Break-Ins Friday at Newell** Two break-ins were reported at newell Friday night, according to Butte County Sheriff Joe Smith. Intruders who broke into the Highway Café at Newell Friday were obviously after food, but stumbled into a cash bonanza. The sheriff said the intruders carried off five cartons of cigarettes, two or three cases of pop, some hamburger, butter, bread, sausage, eggs, a six or eight pound roast and some canned goods. While picking up some bread the intruders apparently stumbled upon a money bag which had been tossed behind the bread loaves on the assumption that no one would look there. The bag contained \$80 and it went the way of the eggs and hamburger. Smith said that same night someone broke the window in the front door of Prezzler's Standard Station, took \$10 from the cash register and \$30 in quarters from the cigarette machine. The sheriff said the intruder apparently had a key to the cigarette machine. The break-ins are being investigated by the Newell police and the sheriff's office.

## CANDLES AND MIRRORS #23

By DeAnn (Wolkow) Kruempel  
Fasteners to the Past

They clanked like rocks against the insides of the can as I swished my fingers through them. "I need a button for my spinner," I explained to Mom as I stared into the red and yellow Folger's coffee can



in our button box?" "When I married your dad and left home, my mother gave me a whole can of buttons. We cut them off of old clothes, like you help me do now, and saved them. So, some of these are from when I grew up."

with the ship on the front. At last, I found a large, flat black button with four holes in the center. I threaded my string through and tied a knot to form a circle. Soon the disk was whirling wildly in front of me as I stretched the string between my hands, alternately tightening and loosening as the button spun, making a lovely-to-a-kid twanging sound.

The old button container provided colorful, fun and useful materials for many projects. I stitched them on doll clothes. Mom used some to replace lost buttons on shirts and pajamas. The smaller circles were markers on Bingo cards. In my mind the can was simply the supplier of fun, useful objects.

That all changed one winter night as I sat on the floor at the foot of my mother's chair. She lifted a needle into the air, tugged slightly on the thread, then poked it back into the fabric. She was hemming a shirt for Dad. "DeAnn, go get the button can."

I fetched it. Mom quickly spotted a dark blue button. She asked me to find four more just like it. I stirred them around, examining the different disks from the top of the container. Not having any luck, I grabbed Dad's Argus Leader, spread it out in front of me and dumped out the buttons. The various objects shimmied softly into a tiny mountain.

At the very top teetered a small white duck. Bright red threads connected the two holes in the center. "Oh, how cute!"

Mom smiled. "I sewed those on a dress I made for Deloris when she was little. Darlene and Dorothy wore it, too." I dug through the mountain and spotted a lace-covered sphere with a wire shank on the back. "That might have been on Lilly's confirmation dress," Mom spoke softly, her needle paused for a moment.

I gazed at the lacy treasure and frowned. "Why would we have buttons from Aunt Lilly's clothes

"Did Grandma get buttons from her mom, too?" My imagination suddenly became undone. Were some of these buttons attached to dresses that my great-grandmother wore on the ship from Sweden to America? Two pearly white circles gleamed together in the lamp light. Did Grandma Selma's mother lovingly fasten those very buttons on her baby's dress as the child lay in a makeshift crib in their sod shanty? The tiny buttons warmed my hand.

Strangely, a tarnished brass ball rolled over like a whisper. "Oh, Mom! What might this have fastened?"

She thought for a moment. "Maybe an old boot? My mother spoke of wearing them when she was young." Mom went on to tell how the boots laced with loops and round buttons. Button hooks were required to pull the clasp over each button.

As I pictured Grandma painstakingly hooking clasps over 20 round buttons every morning, a rough, metal circle, like one from a uniform, mysteriously sparkled from the pile. Did an uncle fight for his country, that button worn proudly upon his chest?

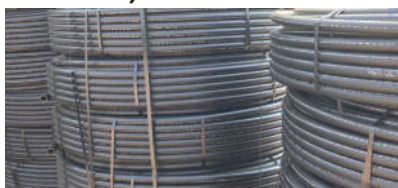
At last, five blue buttons waited on the arm of Mother's chair. I scooped up the rest and dropped them back in the can. Their sound was different somehow. No more harsh clunks. From that day forward, the buttons jingled like magical jewels whispering their songs, fastening me to those who made me what I am today.

**It's Your Lucky Day!**  
You can read more great stories! All of Kruempel's previous columns have been published into books to keep you smiling. Those four books, along with her historical fiction series, "Promises to Amazon," are available on *Kindle*. Contact the author at [deannkruempelauthor@gmail.com](mailto:deannkruempelauthor@gmail.com).

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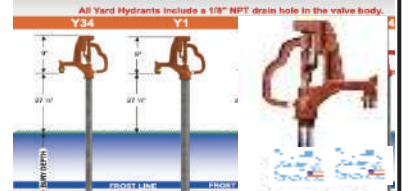


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The **Dakota Scout**, a journal of South Dakota politics, government and culture that features journalism from veteran reporters Jonathan Ellis and Joe Sneve. Newsletters can be sent directly to your inbox and you can receive the state's top political podcast - *The Scouting Report*. Look it up today.

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Jonathan Ellis & Joe Sneve

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March 27, 2025.....REGULAR SALE - ALL CLASSES @ 10 AM MT  
April 3, 2025.....FEEDER CATTLE & WEIGH UP SPECIAL - WEIGH  
.....UPS @ 10 AM MT, FEEDERS @ 12 MT  
April 10, 2025.....BRED CATTLE & PAIR SPECIAL - WEIGH UPS @  
.....10 AM MT, BREDS & PAIRS @ 12 MT  
April 17, 2025.....FEEDER CATTLE & WEIGH UP SPECIAL - WEIGH  
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April 24, 2025.....REGULAR SALE - ALL CLASSES @ 10 AM MT  
May 1, 2025.....FEEDER CATTLE & WEIGH UP SPECIAL - WEIGH  
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May 8, 2025.....REGULAR SALE - ALL CLASSES @ 10 AM MT  
May 15, 2025.....REGULAR SALE - ALL CLASSES @ 10 AM MT  
May 22, 2025.....REGULAR SALE - ALL CLASSES @ 10 AM MT  
May 29, 2025.....REGULAR SALE - ALL CLASSES @ 10 AM MT

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Mike Greenough | 307-620-2597

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**-WY**

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**JOHN NYQUIST-MT**

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# Area Church Schedules

## BLACK HILLS GOSPEL ASSEMBLY

1/2 Mile east on Hwy 34  
210-1374  
Kenny Riley, pastor  
Sunday: 1 p.m.  
Friday: 7:30 p.m.

## CHRISTIAN LIFE CENTER

2020 Vista St  
892-4767  
Dan Carlson, Pastor  
Paul Howard, Pastor  
Sunday Schedule:  
Long Term Care Service 8:45 a.m.  
Sunday School: All ages 9:30 a.m.  
Fellowship Hour: 9:30 a.m.  
Morning Worship Service: 10:30 a.m.

## CHURCH OF JESUS CHRIST OF LATTER DAY SAINTS

1105 Todd St.  
John Allred, Bishop  
Sunday: 10 a.m. Sacrament Meeting  
Sunday School:  
1st & 3rd Sundays, 11 a.m.  
Priesthood Meeting, Relief Society, Young Men and Young Women: 11 a.m. 2nd & 4th Sundays

## CONNECTION CHURCH (SBC)

613 Sixth ave., Belle Fourche  
(605)-210-2150  
Pastor Stephen Carson  
Worship Pastor Ashton Rone  
Associate Pastor Chad Logan  
Sunday Worship: 8:30 or 10:15 am

## EMMANUEL BAPTIST

Meet at Americinn Conference room  
Andy Anderson, Pastor  
9am Sunday School 10am church  
Men's Bible Study 10am at the Senior Center  
Women's Bible Study Tuesday 9am.  
Call for location.  
website: ebcbf.org

## FIRST BAPTIST

807 8th Ave. 892-4178  
Pastor Tim Smith  
Sunday: Sunday School - 9:15am  
Morning Worship - 10:30am  
Wednesday: Salt and Light Youth - Kindergarten - 12th grade  
5:00pm Soup & Sandwich  
5:30pm - Salt and Light

## FIRST CONGREGATIONAL UCC

892-3402  
www.bfsoucc.org  
717 Jackson St. Sunday:  
9:35 a.m. Sunday School  
10 a.m. Worship

## FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

901 Laurel St. Whitewood  
(605)-920-1959  
Reverend Jill Jennewein  
Sunday: 9 a.m. Worship  
10:30 a.m. Adult & Teen Bible Study  
10:30 a.m. Children's Sunday School

## GLOBAL METHODIST CHURCH

Pastor Sheri Fadley  
1804 7th Ave. Belle Fourche  
605-892-2405  
Worship: Sunday 10:30 am - FB Live  
Sunday School 9:30 am  
Small Groups & Studies  
schedule online at  
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642-1122  
Luke Bluhm, Pastor  
Sunday: 10 a.m. Worship Service

## NEWELL CHRISTIAN FELLOWSHIP CHURCH

308 4th Street, Newell SD, 57760  
605-456-2544  
Sunday Worship Service: 10:00am

## NISLAND INDEPENDENT COMMUNITY CHURCH

On Hwy 212 in Nisland  
(605) 257-2356  
Sunday School: 9:30 a.m.  
Worship: 10:45 a.m.

## NORTHERN HILLS CHURCH OF CHRIST

5 miles South of Belle Fourche  
on Hwy 85  
i42-7167  
Calvin Chapman - Int. Minister  
Sunday: 9:30 a.m. Bible Class  
10:30 a.m. Praise & Worship  
Wednesday: 6:30 p.m. Bible Class

## NORTH POINT CHRISTIAN CHURCH

10959 Kellem Lane, Spearfish  
Sunday Services: 9AM and 10:30AM

## PRAIRIE HOME CHURCH

1701 Hwy 212, Newell  
Sunday School: 10 a.m.  
Worship: 11 a.m.

## RANGELAND MINISTRIES CHURCH

Alzada, MT  
Sunday: Worship: 10:00am  
Mark Leverington, Lay Pastor

## RED WATER CHURCH OF CHRIST

Belle Fourche Rec Center  
Sun: 9:30-12:30.  
Contact: Nathan Thompson  
605 569-3057  
Sermons: fightintheshade

## SALVATION ARMY OF THE NORTHERN HILLS

120 Ryan Rd., Spearfish  
605-642-0924  
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Sunday: 9:45 a.m.  
Sunday School: 11 a.m.  
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Wednesday: 6:30 p.m.,  
Learning and Discovery Study

## SPEARFISH ADVENTIST® CHURCH

290 W Highway 14  
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Pastor Marveen Gentillon  
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Sabbath School: 9:30am  
Worship Service: 10:45am  
Bible Study-Tuesday: 6:00pm

## SPEARFISH UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST (CONGREGATIONAL)

920 N Main Street, Spearfish  
Sunday Service 10 a.m. in person  
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605-642-8253

## ST. JAMES EPISCOPAL

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The Rev. Sandy Williams, Priests Deacon  
Rev. Mike Weaver  
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www.sjcbellefourche.org  
Wednesday at 5:55 PM during  
the school year.  
Watch our Sunday service  
live on Facebook.

## ST. ONGE UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST

Sunday School and Worship  
at 8:30 a.m.  
www.bfsoucc.org

## ST. PAUL CATHOLIC CHURCH

855 5th Ave.  
Father Kevin Achbach, Pastor  
Father Francis Nsubuga, Assoc. Pastor  
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## SUMMIT OPEN BIBLE FELLOWSHIP

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892-4630 or 892-4389  
Pastor Rick and Diane Brennan  
Sunday: 10 a.m. Worship  
Kidz Church Immediately Following  
Wednesday: September - May  
6:30 p.m. Adult Bible Study  
Kidz Alive (Kindergarten - 6th Grade)

## VALE COMMUNITY COUNTRY CHURCH

Pastor Darla Dunn  
402 Rosander St. Vale SD 57788  
Service Sunday: 10 a.m.  
605-210-0512



Capitol News  
**February 29, 2025**  
Things have been quiet around Capitol and Tie Creek this week. Most days

brought snow, and wind to drift that snow. Travel to the east was a little easier, but Tie Creek Road was drifted in places. Ronda Cordell took advantage of the two best days to go to appointments. Monday began with three cancellations, due to the weather and road conditions. Ronda got to Spearfish for her eye appointment on Wednesday. The extreme wind had swept the roads clear. When she returned, she hit blizzard conditions north of Alzada, but the road was visible, and she had no problem getting home. She went to Gene and Kim Secrest's to pick up Clint and Denise Zolnoski's two dogs, that had stayed there while the Zolnoski's were gone to Dickinson the previous weekend. They were two happy pups, when she opened the door for them at Zolnoski's house. On Thursday morning, Ronda drove to Buffalo for her Medicare Wellness check-up. She enjoyed having lunch at Blossoms 'N' Brew before heading home. On Saturday evening, a belated birthday supper was held at Clint and Denise's for Ronda, Darby, and Waverlee Elmore. Laurie, Waverlee and Havalen Elmore had come out in the afternoon for some sledding with the Zolnoski girls. Linda Hannah also joined the group for supper. On Sunday, Ronda watched the Super Bowl at home. Erma Albert had scheduled an appointment in the Hills on Monday, but the weather was not good, so she called to reschedule it. It is scheduled for this Monday, and the weather for that day may not be any better. We will see. Erma has had a bout with cold and flu again this week. On Friday, she and Dick went to the Senior Citizen dinner in Buffalo. On Sunday they went to the Catholic Church for mass and then to Saloon Number Three for lunch with the Erk and Helms

families. Ernie, Rachel, and Tommy Melum went to church at the Baptist Church in Baker on Sunday. Rachel taught children's church. The weather was cold, but it was clear and not windy. It was a good day for them to celebrate their wedding anniversary. On Tuesday, Bryce, Dawn and Dorothy Padden went to Buffalo to watch the girls basketball games against Timber Lake. The games were very good. On Saturday, Brandon Padden took the boys' wrestling team to Hot Springs, where the boys did very well and Brenton placed fourth. Ashley Padden took the girls' wrestling team to Newcastle, where Kanyan Padden placed first. Kanyan's wins are building, but the most interesting thing was that she did not earn a ribbon. She earned a sash and tiara for her first place win, which Karen Odell thinks is a perfect way to honor the winning girls. Karen Odell stayed home this week. Chancey Odell came over early in the week to plow her road for her. It kept snowing, and Karen didn't even get to the mail box. Chancey's Bobcat had a belt problem, so when he finally got a new belt, he came again on Saturday to plow again. He got a few Welsh cakes for all his work. Sam Cordell stopped by one day, and said Karen's road was not good, so Karen stayed at home. Karen visited with her cousin, Ralph Anderson, in Florida. He said it was the first time they had good swimming weather. It would be eighty-five degrees there, while Karen's weather was barely above zero here. Kyia Smith was playing basketball in Minnesota. Carson Odell was wrestling in Mitchell, and Murphy Hinds had a birthday cake decorated with a tapir, because the tapir at the Point Defiance Zoo, nearby, had a cute, little, new, spotted baby tapir. It's better to listen to excess bragging; than it is to listen to even a little gossip.

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BELLE FOURCHE REC CENTER

**ATOMIC LOBSTERS**  
FROM THE CENTER OF THE EARTH  
MARCH 29  
BELLE FOURCHE REC CENTER

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**2025 HOLIDAY SHOW**  
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North Dakota Office:  
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lifestyle preferences. Through strategic marketing efforts, rural communities can ensure their voice is heard and their opportunities are recognized throughout their regions and beyond. **John Newby** is a nationally recognized Columnist, Speaker, & Publisher. He consults

with Chambers, Communities, Business & Media. This column appears in 60+ newspapers and media outlets. As founder of Truly-Local, he assists chambers, communities, media, and businesses in creating synergies that build vibrant communities. He can be reached at: John@Truly-Local.org.

"Building Main Street, not Wall Street"

## Rural Communities Can Thrive Through Strategic Regional Marketing

As urban areas continue to grapple with rising costs of living and increased population density, rural communities have an unprecedented opportunity to attract new residents, businesses, and visitors. However, many small towns struggle to effectively market their unique advantages. Through careful analysis of successful rural revitalization efforts, several key strategies emerge for rural communities seeking to enhance their regional presence.



rural counties pooled resources to create a unified marketing campaign. Their joint effort secured \$12 million in new business investments within two years, far exceeding what individual communities could achieve alone.

Recent studies highlight a significant shift in perception toward rural living. According to the U.S. Department of Agriculture, rural counties adjacent to metropolitan areas saw a 4.1% population growth from 2020 to 2023, the fastest rate in over two decades. This trend reflects growing interest in smaller communities that offer both tranquility and proximity to urban amenities.

Rural communities must emphasize their distinctive advantages. Average housing costs in rural areas remain 35% lower than urban counterparts, while crime rates are typically 30-40% lower. These statistics, combined with narratives about community connection and natural amenities, create compelling arguments for relocation. Their marketing efforts must align with real community assets. Successful rural communities invest in high-speed internet infrastructure (essential for remote workers), public spaces and recreational facilities, cultural venues and events, healthcare access points, and educational opportunities. A great example is the town of Harrisburg, South Dakota (population 6,800) saw a 12% population increase after investing in a fiber-optic network and developing a community center with modern amenities.

In today's interconnected world, a strong digital presence is non-negotiable. Successful rural communities have leveraged social media and dedicated websites to showcase their unique character. The town of Lindsburg, Kansas (population 3,500) saw a 15% increase in tourism after launching a comprehensive digital campaign highlighting its Swedish heritage and arts scene. Their strategy included regular content updates, virtual tours, and user-generated content from local events.

How do small rural communities effectively market themselves? This requires identifying and targeting specific demographics such as: remote workers seeking affordable housing and high quality of life, young families prioritizing safety and strong school systems, retirees looking for peaceful settings with accessible healthcare, entrepreneurs seeking lower operating costs and supportive business environments. Research shows that rural communities successful in attraction

efforts typically focus on two or three primary demographic segments rather than attempting to appeal to all.

Small communities benefit from positioning themselves within their broader regional context. The Shenandoah Valley Regional Marketing Initiative demonstrates this approach, where 12 communities collaborate to promote the region while maintaining individual identity. Their coordinated efforts led to a 23% increase in tourism revenue across participating communities.

Successful marketing requires concrete metrics and willingness to adapt. Key performance indicators should include: website traffic and engagement rates, inquiry response rates for housing and business opportunities, event attendance and tourism statistics, population growth and demographic shifts, business startup rates and job creation. Communities should conduct annual reviews of these metrics and adjust strategies accordingly.

While marketing is essential, communities must ensure they can support growth without losing their character. The most successful rural revitalization efforts maintain a balance between progress and preservation. This includes careful zoning, infrastructure planning, and community engagement in development decisions.

Rural communities possess unique advantages in an increasingly digital and mobile world. By implementing comprehensive marketing strategies that emphasize authenticity, leverage regional partnerships, and target specific demographics, small towns can position themselves for sustainable growth. Success requires patience, consistent effort, and community-wide commitment to both promotion and development.

The future of rural America lies not in competing with urban centers, but in offering distinct alternatives that appeal to changing workforce and

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Regular Meeting Minutes  
Butte County Courthouse  
Commission Meeting Room  
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Belle Fourche, SD 57717  
Phone: 605-892-4485

Tuesday, February 18, 2025

THE BOARD OF BUTTE COUNTY COMMISSIONERS CONVENED AT 9:30 A.M. on Tuesday, February 18, 2025. Commissioners present were Ager, Erik, Walton, Bateman, and Brunner.

Chair Ager called the meeting to order and led the group in the Pledge of Allegiance. Shei Fadley led with a moment of prayer.

Motion by Walton, Second by Erik to approve the meeting agenda moving #6 to 8.5. Vote Unanimous. Motion Carried.

Motion by Brunner Second by Erik, to approve the Consent Agenda Items with no changes. Vote Unanimous. Motion Carried.

Consent Agenda - The following items were placed on the consent agenda for final action to be taken on all items by a single vote. Any item may be removed from the consent agenda by any member of the Commission for separate consideration.

- Approval of regular meeting minutes - 04Feb2025
- County Lien Report

LIEN REPORT  
BUTTE COUNTY

	EXPENSES JAN 2025	EXPENSES YTD	RECOVERED JAN 2025	RECOVERED YTD
CAAPUBLIC DEFENDER	\$ 31,499.74	\$ 31,499.74	\$ 3,436.93	\$ 3,436.93
JAIL	\$ 75,160.48	\$ 75,160.48	\$ 4,195.00	\$ 4,195.00
POOR LIEN	\$ 0.00	\$ 0.00	\$ 0.00	\$ 0.00
REG JUV DETENTION	\$ 0.00	\$ 0.00	\$ 855.00	\$ 855.00

- Bills per Printout
- Apportioning and Other payments
- Register of Deeds Report
- Planning: FINAL: Owner: Patricia Haback; Haback Tract 1 Revised, Formerly Haback Tract 1 and a Portion of the SW1/4 of Section 30, Located in the SW1/4 of SECTION 30, T.6N., R.2E., B.H.M., Butte County, South Dakota

Joel Porch of GMR Controls/O'Connor Company provided updates on the HVAC upgrade - 98% complete, start-up on cooling systems dependent on weather conditions. Mr. Porch will provide a proposal to add platforms with safety railings.

Beginning at 9:47 AM opportunity for public comments was opened with Sue Broadhurst providing comments regarding agenda, flowers, supplies, water coolers, invoices, tax increases and spending.

Director of Equalization Cristina Wilson provided a report on Property Assessments - to be sent out by March 1st, 2025, changes made including reappraisals, land values, ag land audit, obsolescence, and value trends. Additional discussion revolved around ag land calculations, equalization process requirements, and market price.

Sheriff Lamphere provided a monthly activity report - discussion was held regarding livestock calls. The Contract for Housing of Prisoners and Detainees in the Meade County Jail and the Western SD Juvenile Services Rebate were shared with commissioners.

Motion by Bateman, Second by Erik to authorize Sheriff Lamphere to sign the Contract for Housing of Prisoners and Detainees in the Meade County Jail. Vote Unanimous. Motion Carried.

Sheriff Lamphere discussed the need for a transfer Switch - a grant request has been submitted. During the next regular meeting on 04Mar2025 Chief Deputy Marsh will present information on drone program.

Auditor Capp provided an activity report focused on annual report progress and building activities.

Auditor Capp presented multiple options for purchase of Commission Room Chairs from local and outside companies, discussion with City of Belle Fourche and Butte County will be held next week. Follow-up on chairs will be included on the 04Mar2025 agenda with additional options from local sources.

Motion by Erik, Second by Walton to approve for Letter of Support for the SDDOT PROTECT Grant Application. Vote Unanimous. Motion Carried.

Motion by Bateman, Second by Erik to approve Indigent Burial Request in the amount of \$2,000.00. Vote Unanimous. Motion Carried.

Discussion with possible action on courtroom flip and security. Grant is still available with funding provided upfront by the county and a 75% reimbursement from the Courtroom Security Grant. Courtroom Security Project will move forward, beginning with a request for quotes. 04Mar2025 provide original plans, bids, and financing options.

Belle Fourche Chamber Director Mikayla Horn gave an activity report including upcoming lunch and learn 19 Feb 2025, annual banquet 29Feb2025, publications, networking with surrounding chambers, monthly mixers, recent Cracker Barrel, and a potential 2nd cracker barrel.

A 5-minute Recess was called at 10:41AM.

States Attorney Tim Barnaud provided a report on the number of residents in jail. Immigration cases and processes were discussed.

Motion by Erik, Second by Brunner, to enter into Executive Session: Legal Counsel 1-25-2(3) at 10:53 AM. Vote Unanimous. Motion Carried. Exited Executive Session at 12:21 PM. No action was taken as a result of Executive Session.

- Committee Reports were given:
- Brunner - planning meeting held
  - Bateman - EDC Orientation

- Informational -
- American Engineering was contacted to provide testing of water at the Admin Building and then send to MidContinent Testing to test.
  - Status of lab tests for commissioner use, water coolers, purchase of flowers, and recent requests to pull Property Cards was discussed

Motion by Erik, Second by Bateman to adjourn the meeting at 12:46 P.M. Vote Unanimous. Motion Carried.

PAYMENTS

**SALARY**  
ASSESSORS OFFICE PLANNING \$8,925.37, AUDITOR'S OFFICE \$17,085.81, BILL DING-50, COMMISSIONERS \$4,158.92, DISPATCH \$14,837.66, ELECTION-30, EMS#11 \$889.72, EXTENSION \$1,936.80, HIGHWAY DEPT/PAVED CONTROL \$26,864.57, JUDICIAL \$0, NURSE/NAIC OFFICE \$1,213.92, REGISTER OF DEEDS OFFICE \$4,794.19, SHERIFF/JAIL DEPT \$26,171.88, STATES ATTORNEY OFFICE \$13,290.65, TREASURER'S OFFICE \$10,519.00, VETERAN SERVICE OFFICE \$878.85

**COUNTY SHARE FICA**  
BUTTE COUNTY SHARE \$9,790.34

**SICRS RETIREMENT**  
BUTTE COUNTY SHARE \$7,493.47

**GROUP INSURANCE**  
BUTTE COUNTY SHARE \$29,699.47

**PROFESSIONAL SERVICES**  
A HILL \$421.54, A-Z SHRD \$45.56, BMS \$400.00, BRSZ ENG \$1,457.50, BC AMBUL \$465.70, CRNT CNSTRN \$1,157.46, EST RVR PSYC \$2,500.00, K THMS CNSTRN \$7,931.90, KNY LAW \$19,652.28, LAS RSTRN \$599.00, MAPS \$1,030.25, MEAD CO AUD \$39,045.00, MCRFPM IMG \$380.00, MNMINT HLTH \$630.29, PENN CO JAIL \$120.92, PSY PALC \$50.00, R BCHMN \$60.00, RYL SPRY \$3,363.75, SD DVLMTL CNTR \$60.00, SD HLTH LAB \$40.00, SD SCTRY OF STE \$35.00, SRVL \$844.94, WCKRL LAW \$2,652.50, Z PRDCTNS \$549.00

**PUBLICATIONS**  
BF BCN \$816.00, BH PIONR \$815.26

**RENT/LEASE**  
BH PURE \$21.00, CNTRY BSNS \$394.66, CULGN OF BH \$161.50, THMSN RTRS WST \$215.25

**REPAIRS/MAINTENANCE**  
JOE DIRT \$613.72, NWL SRVC CNTR \$18.83, WHTS ELTC \$1,043.75

**SUPPLIES**  
AUTO VALU BF \$889.78, BKLS TRUK \$ 35.86, ETLR MCHN \$3,262.75, MG OIL \$6,439.46, OFCE EMP \$149.67, PRAR AUTO \$341.80, RNDY DISC TRS \$971.00, RINGS \$6,499.81, STRGS RSPR SPLY \$199.93, TYLR TECH \$1,019.72, VFW \$40.00, WRNG BF \$700.50, WRNG TRLR BF \$19.92

**TRAVEL/CONFERENCE**  
RMKTA \$112.00

**UTILITIES**  
AT&T \$1,084.50, BH ENGRY \$3,251.17, BLUPK \$87.42, BUTTE ELTC \$788.94, BUTTE MEAD WTR \$55.00, CNTRYLNK (1) \$1,060.96, CNTRYLNK (2) \$131.10, GLDN WST \$23.80, MCGS PRPN \$2,798.10, TWN NSLND \$80.26

APPROVED BY THE COMMISSION:  
James Ager, Chairperson

ATTEST: Annie Capp, Butte County Auditor

# VIEWPOINT | Trump's actions will damage South Dakota's economy

Guest column by Nikki Gronli, Biden Administration State Director, USDA Rural

As I look across the snowy fields surrounding my rural home, I can't help but reflect on how an unelected billionaire with no understanding of rural life is poised to harm our state.

The recent actions by the Trump administration — cutting key federal programs, firing public servants and destabilizing government agencies — are a direct threat to rural America, especially states like South Dakota. The decisions made by Elon Musk and his team at DOGE put South Dakota's farms, emergency services, hospitals and local economies at risk.

The Trump-Musk "revenge tour" has nothing to do with improving the federal government. If there were a strategic plan, they wouldn't have fired 300 critical staffers from the National Nuclear Security Administration, only to realize too late that these experts oversee our nation's nuclear stockpile. Now, they don't even know how to reinstate them to correct their catastrophic mistake.

Let's examine a few of the ways Trump, Musk and DOGE will harm South Dakota.

### Federal public servants in the field

There is a misconception that federal career civil servants are primarily based in Washington, D.C. In reality, over 80% of federal employees work outside of D.C., serving the public in local field offices. In South Dakota, over 8,000 people work for the federal government. From our national parks to the EROS Data Center, post offices, federal law enforcement, USDA and numerous other departments, these employees are our friends, neighbors and family. They follow the regulations set by Congress, often wishing they had more flexibility or better technology.

With massive staff reductions, the quality of service available

to South Dakotans will suffer. These cuts also contribute to rising unemployment, with over 200,000 federal employees fired nationwide, to date.

### The role of federal support in farming

For the past 25 years, farm subsidies have been a cornerstone of American agriculture, particularly in the Midwest. South Dakota alone received over \$9 billion in subsidies between 1995 and 2023, ranking eighth among states receiving federal agricultural assistance. These subsidies primarily support commodity crops like corn, soybeans and wheat. The suspension of federal grants and loans threatens farmers who rely on this aid to sustain their operations and implement conservation practices.

Let's not forget that South Dakota farmers still haven't fully recovered from Trump's tariffs during his first term. Those tariffs helped Brazil become China's top trading partner and forced the U.S. to spend billions to bail out American farmers. Now, input costs will rise again thanks to Trump tariffs, and the situation is only getting worse.

Additionally, the administration is now reneging on contracts with agricultural producers who have already invested in projects. Typically, the government ensures accountability by requiring producers to secure bridge loans, complete their projects, undergo compliance checks and then receive reimbursement. When the federal government fails to uphold its commitments, producers are left financially stranded.

But what does it matter to a few billionaires if rural South Dakotans lose their farms?

### Federal support for rural communities

Under the Biden administration, South Dakota received \$700 million in ARPA funds to improve our water infrastructure. Between aging systems, contaminated wells and increasing demand, South Dakota depends on federal funding to ensure clean, safe drinking water.

The same goes for rural electricity. To modernize our electric

grid with secure, cutting-edge technology, the Biden administration invested nearly \$700 million in South Dakota's electric infrastructure and cooperatives.

South Dakota's fire departments, hospitals and other vital community services have also benefited from federal investment. If your community recently acquired a new ambulance, chances are you can thank the federal government and President Biden.

Additionally, 43% of South Dakota's annual budget comes from federal funding. I am deeply concerned about how many of these funds will be slashed to finance permanent tax cuts for millionaires and billionaires.

South Dakotans are proud, hard-working people, but we have always relied on federal investment to ensure access to the same utilities and infrastructure that metropolitan areas take for granted. That is simply a fact.

### The bigger picture: South Dakota can't afford cuts

These budget cuts and funding freezes are not based on financial audits, despite Musk's claims. Why would anyone trust the actions of a billionaire who has benefitted from \$18 billion in federal contracts over the last decade and stands to benefit further while rural communities bear the consequences?

The Trump administration's decision to freeze vital funding and cut essential programs jeopardizes the economic stability of rural America. South Dakota cannot afford these losses. If these actions persist, the very foundation of America's agricultural and rural economy could be permanently damaged.

Our members of Congress need to hear from South Dakotans daily. Our way of life — one that ultra-wealthy tech moguls cannot understand — is under threat.

Nikki Gronli was the State Director for USDA Rural Development in South Dakota under the Biden Administration.

## Central Meade County News

By Sandy Rhoden February 23, 2025



The cold snap finally broke this past weekend with temperatures in the low 60s. It was a great relief after many days of extreme cold and sub zero temperatures. Some ranchers had to battle with frozen water which always adds more stress to the concern for the cattle and animals. Kyle Barry was able to thaw waters at the Rhoden ranch for his bulls, as well as frozen water to the house that Sandy came home to on Sunday after being away for several days. While temperatures were welcomed warmly for the weekend, we didn't escape some winds on Monday.

The Legislative Session is in the last half of its entirety for this 100th legislative session. One of the bigger issues is the possibility of the new prison. The other hot topic is the plan for easing property tax. Hopefully, at upcoming cracker barrels the legislators will have

a better understanding of the process and relay it to their constituents.

This year's flu season has been named the worst flu season in many years. There are tests available over the counter for flu bugs or Covid but they say there are chances that they will give false readings. To prevent spreading the virus they suggest drinking fluids, eat well, wash your hands, eat a healthy diet, get plenty of rest and wear a mask. If a fever persists the Sandord Health Hospital suggests seeing your doctor.

The annual Polar Plunge held by law enforcement raised \$192,000 for the Special Olympics. They were fortunate to be able to do it in Rapid City after the very frigid temperatures were gone.

Larry and Sandy Rhoden were able to attend their first Governor's Conference in Washington DC over the weekend. They each attended sessions on different

topics throughout the full days. They were able to spend some time with Kristi and Bryon Noem and others they were able to meet for the first time. The highlight of the trip was the state dinner at the White House where they enjoyed the army symphonies and choir. They were amazing. They also saw or met many familiar faces one sees on TV in different capacities. The dinner included Governor's and spouses as well as the newly appointed Secretaries, President Trump and his wife Melania. The icing on the cake was the tour provided personally by President Trump to some very special places in the White House. It was a bit surreal having conversations like you might have with a friend or neighbor, but this one was with a world leader. It was a valuable and educational conference for all who attended.

The question this time of year is always, "Will March come in like a lion or a lamb?" We always hope for the latter.

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## February 18<sup>th</sup> City Council Meeting

Ryder Heitz

news@bellefourchebeacon.com  
**BELLE FOURCHE**—The Belle Fourche City Council met on Tuesday, February 18. During the Mayor's Report, Randy Schmidt read the FFA Week Proclamation. Toi Lyn Flick and Nathan Schreier gave a presentation regarding the Belle Fourche Community Theatre, and provided a survey aimed at gathering feedback to support the ongoing improvement of the theatre.

The Chamber of Commerce reported that the Chamber has had a productive month, representing the community at the Governor's Tourism Conference and

confirming the Veterans Ride on August 3. New partnerships with BHSU and the development of a young professionals' group are underway, while sponsorships for upcoming events like the Annual Banquet and Casino Night are being secured. Marketing efforts continue to grow, with new members joining and an online shop in development for local tourism.

CoNBA provided a recap regarding how the Center of the Nation Business Association allocated the funds granted by the city in 2024. The association secured additional spon-

sorships for the fireworks and adopted a more conservative approach towards the end of the year in anticipation of a smaller allocation for the current year. The association also voted to sponsor the Center of the Nation All Car Rally pending confirmation of available dates with the city, and plans to discuss how to organize the Easter egg hunt giving the ongoing work at the baseball diamonds.

The Library committee raised a concern regarding the impact of federal funding to the state and how it may affect small communities like Belle Fourche. Citizens are encour-

aged to reach out to their state representatives to express their concerns.

The Museum & Visitor Center reported that in January, the complex hosted 245 visitors from 8 states and 2 Canadian provinces. The "Marvelous Maps" Family Fun Day attracted 28 people, and the annual tea had 70 participants, with the 2025 tea scheduled for September 27. Ongoing construction issues include a crack in

the addition wall, restroom door repairs, and kitchen cabinetry being fabricated. A plumber will fix the broken garbage disposal, and Haggerty's Music Works provided sound system training for staff.

The Oath of Office was administered to the two newest patrol officers of the Belle Fourche Police Department: Dusty Merchen and Ryan Duprel.

The next City Council meeting will be March 3 at 6 p.m.

### Roots Grow Deep and Strong # 36 "The Price of Groceries"



Meg English

Shopping for groceries or eating in restaurants in unfamiliar places can be an engaging adventure, and entertaining too. While visiting foreign countries, shopping for groceries is one of my favorite activities.

In southern France, for example there is no shortage of market vendors, or supermarkets. Most towns have a market day, where people can walk to the local town square and buy just about anything one might need.

There are booths with brilliant, colorful displays of fresh organic vegetables, fruits and flowers. Each market, even the smaller ones offer stunning varieties of vegetables.

At a market customers can shop for inexpensive clothing, household items, fresh seafood,

mussels, prawns, farm fresh honey, eggs, various varieties of smelly cheese, some that are strong and fragrant, or cheese that is mild yet flavorful. There are meat vendors with chickens fully roasted, or uncooked and various cuts of meat, as well as local sausages and preserved meats. The Catalan region is famous for charcuterie and shoppers will find many types of cured sausages.

Market or supermarket shoppers can always find the usual assortment of 'awful' offal. Tripe, for example is sheep stomach lining, supposedly very tasty in a crepe with an over easy egg topped off with an egg cooked over-easy with a runny yolk. Tripe is available in most meat market stores. It's white in appearance and I'm told that it must be "whitened" to make it more appealing or maybe safer.

Incidentally, eggs are free range, the shells are much thicker than eggs in stores in

the US and in my experience always fresh, delicious, easy to cook and safe.

Additionally, there's fresh liver, kidneys, pig's feed and head cheese. It's not uncommon to buy slices of meat that are cut from a hoofed animal hind end while the customer waits.

The French like to eat baby squid, and octopus. We sat next to a group of diners one day who were enjoying a fully tentacled octopus for lunch. Of course, I wanted to take a photograph but didn't.

There are usually quite a few artisans and crafters who offer art for sale too, as well as street musicians who play for donations.

Although it seems strange, what's really fun is handing over money to pay for one's purchases. (minus the offal). The food is locally grown, fresh, delicious, healthy, and maybe best of all, surprisingly affordable.



The Oath of Office is administered to the two newest patrol officers of the BFPD: **Dusty Merchen** and **Ryan Duprel**. Courtesy photo

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People at the Ceret Market on a cold winter day in January shopping for the best bargains and high quality.



(L) Poor baby squid as they appear packaged in the freezer section of the supermarket in Ceret, a small city in southern France. (R) It's not octopus, but this colorful salad has a lot of fresh fishy bits. Some of which (or whom) appear to have eyes on the diner.



(L) Accordion musician playing for donations at the market. (R) Food in southern France is often grown locally and is available at outdoor markets from farm vendors and at supermarkets.

**2 Shows in 2025**

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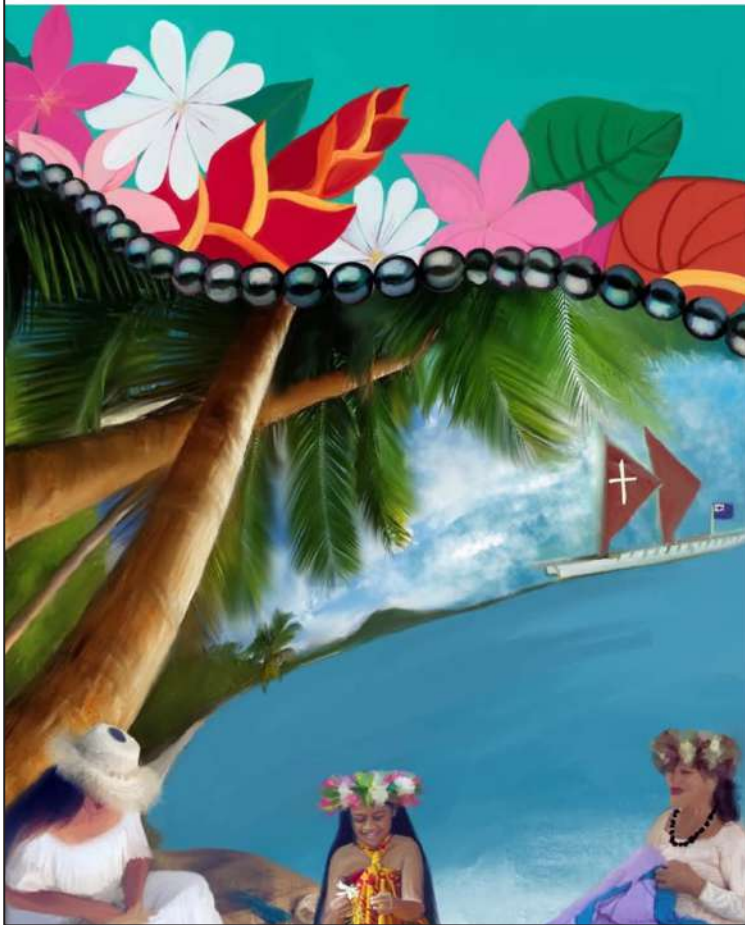
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Graphic Design by Paige Litz @ Spizziri Press



We will celebrate the 2025 World Day of Prayer at Methodist church Friday March 7, 1 pm



GARDEN TO TABLE EDUCATION EVENT FREE TO THE PUBLIC March 29 | 1-5 PM | Snappers Club, Spearfish

BHSU Dean's List



Jacie Baxendale was named to the Black Hills State University College of Liberal Arts Dean's List for the Fall semester of 2024.

Golden Owl Ag Educator of the Year

FFA; Had the honor of surprising Mr. Austin Bishop as he was recognized as the District 5 winner of the Golden Owl Ag Educator of the Year Award for South Dakota!!!



New Nail Spa Offers Unique Services to the Area

Robbi Longbrake news@bellefourchebeacon.com BELLE FOURCHE—After being a nurse for 23 years, an injury changed the trajectory of Marybeth Runnels's life.

This gave her the opportunity to follow a life-long dream. "I've always kind of had an entrepreneurial spirit and I've always wanted to own my own business."

After taking time to think about if she would really like that big of a life change, she decided to go for it! Runnels explained, "It took me about a year of thinking to decide if I really needed to back off of nursing that much, I just kind of let it marinate, and then I decided, yeah, why not?"

Runnels spent 7 months learning the ins and outs of nail art and design at the Salon Professional Academy in Rapid City. Shortly thereafter, her business Digits Nail Spa PLLC was born.

Being an RN along with a Nail Tech, she is able to bring special skills to her profession. Runnels combines both of her careers to offer unique services to the Belle Fourche area.

Digits Nail Spa PLLC offers all of the traditional manicure and pedicure services including acrylic nail extensions and fills, poly gel, hard gel and dip.

cannot provide that I can as a nurse," said Runnels. "I have opened my business using my nursing license and I am able to provide services—the beauty part of it with the manicures, pedicures, nail extensions, what you get at most other nail places—but I can also use my RN license to provide services for people with chronic conditions."

Providing services to people with medical needs allows customers to get help without having to pay for a doctors office visit. "People with diabetes, they're not supposed to get their nails clipped at a nail salon. Well, I can do that here! I can also debulk thick toenails. I can debulk calluses and things that a lot of people need, but you can't get in a

salon, you have to go to a doctor's office," Runnels explained. "But if you come here, you're gonna get a spa treatment with it. So you're not just gonna get your toes taken care of, I'm also gonna give you a leg massage and I'm gonna give you a bit of a spa treatment!"

Another thing that makes her business stand out from others is her ability to see possible medical problems and refer clients to medical professionals. "I can collaborate with the podiatrists. Just this morning I was working on a client and I'm like, okay, wait a minute, I'm seeing some things here that make me think there's something more going on under the surface that we can't see," said Runnels. "If

Nail Spa contd. A8



Combining her medical background with her nail salon allows Marybeth Runnels the ability to provide services to the community at her newly opened business, Digits Nail Spa PLLC.

but she refers to it as Get Out of Your Hed-y Pedi. The theme changes each month.

"Next month, we're calling it Pot of Gold, all of the products go along with the theme—all the products I use have gold glimmer in it," said Runnels. "You come in, you get noise canceling headphones, an eye mask, you get to recline in the chair, and you get a complimentary drink that goes along with the theme as well. You can sit back, kick your feet up, put a mask on and get an extended massage to really help you relax

and get out of your hed-y!"

Digits Nail Spa PLLC opened its doors December 2, 2024. You can find the Nail Spa at 520 5th Avenue inside the Belle Boutique and Salon. Follow the business on Facebook to see the current specials. "I have hours set Tuesday through Saturday. Tuesday nights, I'm open later so people can come in after work and then I'm just closed on Sundays and Mondays," explained Runnels. Mobile nail trims are also offered to seniors who can't make it in to the salon.

The Play is "Magic"



(top) The members of the Middle School crew have been hard at work creating all the moving parts for their show, MAGIC, that is less than two weeks away on March 14th & 15th.

(Middle)The BFMS Theater Cast & Crew are coming your way! Their show, Magic, is March 14th & 15th at 7 PM in the BFACC Theater. Their charming, fascinating, 80's characters and spellbinding special effects promise to charm their audiences. (Bottom) One of the first steps of stage work: painting over last year's set. The crew of MAGIC will transform the stage from last year's medieval play to this year's 1980's themed production.





Sudoku

8 1 2 3
6 4 7
2 5 6 1
4
1 5 8
5 7 2
2 6 8 3
7 3

CROSSWORD PUZZLE

ACROSS 1 Tree 5 Jar 9 Orinoco 12 Wash 13 Jewish month 14 Tennis stroke 15 Cheater's notes 16 Harsh breathing 17 Berne's river 18 Able-bodied seaman (abbr.) 20 Spoken alphabet letter 22 Firm 25 Belonging to (suf.) 26 Office of Economic Development (abbr.) 27 Hindu title 29 Delay 33 Title of Athena 35 Kilowatt-hour (abbr.) 37 Wife of Vulcan
ANSWER TO PREVIOUS PUZZLE
SUBJ IDAIS AGT
OCTO NARK LAW
SAUK SOIE MBA
EAT STASIS
SCORIA ECT
LUX DNA HAGEN
OBOL TAD POLO
GENOA AEC BAG
FLA VIKING
SCUTUM ADV
PAD DAIL AGAL
ABAE SAU SORE
DAL LANE SACK
care (abbr.) 8 Group of seven
2 Fruiting spike 9 Axillary
3 Birds (pret.) 10 Animal sound
4 Meat on a skewer 11 Work (Sp.)
5 Amok 19 Bureau of Labor Statistics (abbr.)
6 Diminutive (suf.) 21 City in Judah
7 Honey and wine 22 Saturate
23 Web
24 Maple genus
28 Hawaiian frigate bird
30 Flavor
31 Ananias
32 Rockies peak
34 Frenzied
36 Spear-shaped
39 Agate stone
41 Braz. tree
44 Dancer/choreographer
46 Nature
47 Gangrene precursor
48 Vent
49 P. I. food
53 Cistern
55 Edible root
56 Atmosphere (abbr.)
57 Poly. beefwood

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Table with 5 columns: MON, TUE, WED, THU, FRI. Rows contain dates and meal descriptions. Includes a vertical banner for MARCH 2025 and a footer for Belle Silver Lining.

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# Chamber Annual Banquet

From A1 Chamber

gave the financial report also in a Dr. Seuss style rhyme and then went on to discuss the changes that have occurred to the Chamber over the past year, including changing from membership tiers to one membership price for everyone. "It doesn't matter how big or small your business is, it doesn't matter how many employees you have, all of our memberships are \$350," she shared.

Another change Horn highlighted was the switch from a business of the week to five membership spotlights a week so that all of the members of the Chamber get attention. "It's not gonna work to just go visit one a week, so I bumped it up to five a week.

If I haven't met and been in your business yet, you are on my list and I will get there," said Horn. "We are making our way through our list so that we can see our members—all our members, at some point in the year—to touch base."

Horn reminded the audience about the four upcoming events that the Chamber puts on: Casino Night, March 22, brought to you by Hometown Thursdays; River Fest, June 7, brought to you by Black Hills Energy; Ag Day, September 27, brought to you by Wolf's Plumbing and Heating; and Polar Express, December 11 and 12, brought to you by Northern Hills Fed-

eral Credit Union; and invited any business that wanted to help sponsor any of the events to step forward and let the Chamber know.

Chamber Board Vice Chairman, Randy Sowers, gave an overview of the proposed changes to the bylaws. "There's some changes that we felt needed to happen to give us more flexibility to be able to continue to be an exciting place, to promote business and the Belle Fourche area community," he said. Sowers invited all of the voting members to come at 7:00 a.m. to the March 13 meeting to vote on accepting the new bylaws. Awards were given out to outstanding members of the community.

The Faye Kennedy Award recognizes individuals dedicated to serving the Belle Fourche Community. This year it was given to Clint Haffner with other nominees being Bev Watson, Cheryl Anderson, Krystal Cazer and Salina Selchert.

The next award was the Spirit of Belle Fourche Award, it celebrates a Chamber Member business or employee for an outstanding customer service experience by going the extra mile to ensure customer satisfaction.

Jim Grapentine received this honor. Others nominated for the award include Monument Health Rehab and Clinic, Clint Haffner, Mikayla Boswell, Bill

and Sally Mason and Marke and Dave (Lueders).

The Ripple Effect Award is given to a business or organization that has positive and impactful improvements in Belle Fourche. This award was given to Alley Fitness and Recovery. Other nominees were Viking Property, Petes Clothing and Hodge Bootery, Grossenburg Implement and Watson Hennessy Group.

The Business Hall of Fame is a prestigious honor given to a local business that has given back to the community, thrives on their mission statement, has proven leadership skills, and provides a healthy workplace culture. Nominees for the Business Hall of Fame included: Vern Bills, NY Life Insurance; Schmaltz & Sons Construction; and Wayne's 24-Hour Conoco Service. The winner of this honor was Vern Bills.

Horn finished the evening thanking those who have helped make her first year as Executive Director a successful one including co-worker Brianne Bonnet and volunteers, Mike Reade and Lacey Crow and of course the Chamber Board of Directors. "This is a hands on Board eager to put in the work for Belle Fourche. Their dedication and commitment to our community is truly inspiring. I'm excited to work alongside them and see all that we can accomplish in 2025!"

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Chamber Executive Director **Michaela Horn** poses with #1 Chamber Volunteer **Mike Reade**.



Banquet attendees enjoy the wonderful meal served by Dave and his crew from **Cheyenne Crossing**. Photos Hunter Anderson



Owner **Trevor Kapsch** accepted the **Ripple Effect Award** on behalf of **Alley Fitness and Recovery**.



Longtime Belle Fourche businessman **LaVern Bills** was named to the **Business Hall of Fame**.



**Melissa Kraft** accepted the **Spirit of Belle Fourche Award** on behalf of recipient **Jim Grapentine**, manager of **Lynn's DakotaMart** and owner of **Grap's Burgers and Brews**.



**Belle Fourche City Code Enforcement** official and longtime Belle Fourche resident **Clint Haffner** received the **Faye Kennedy Award**. The **Cat in the Hat** looks on!



(Top) **The Black Hills Roudup** was a table sponsor and member **Chip Conner** was in attendance. (Below) Many attendees came in Dr Sues character attire and made the most of the festive event.



ANNUAL GETTING OUR ACTS TOGETHER A NIGHT OF NORTHERN HILLS ONE-ACTS

**ATOMIC LOBSTERS**  
FROM THE CENTER OF THE EARTH

**MARCH 29**  
BELLE FOURCHE REC CENTER

**IS HE DEAD?**  
Adapted by David Ives

**SEPTEMBER 12 - 14**  
BELLE FOURCHE REC CENTER

ROALD DAHLE'S **CHARLIE AND THE CHOCOLATE FACTORY**

**JUNE 26 - 29**  
BELLE FOURCHE REC CENTER

**2025 HOLIDAY SHOW**

**DECEMBER 12 - 14**  
BELLE FOURCHE REC CENTER



# Bullock Community Players present "Showdown at Prickly Pear Junction"

Bullock Community Players present "Showdown at Prickly Pear Junction", written & directed by Paula Richter  
7pm March 7th & 8th; 2pm March 9th @ The Bullock Community Center NW of Buffalo, SD  
Tickets are \$10 and can be purchased @ Pioneer Bank & Trust in Buffalo, SD and Dakota Community Bank in Bowman, ND. Tickets also available at the door.

Concessions available [Bullock Community Facebook page](#) has more information .

Showdown at Prickly Pear Junction roars onto the stage, March 7,8,9 with two evening performances and the Sunday matinee. Actors, carpenters, set designers, costume creators, lighting and sound techs, and props managers zoom through the hall at all hours of the day, figuring, trying things, and creating very vigorous scenes that won't endanger the audience. And we have not even introduced our live music, yet! This play moves fast from the very moment the lights go up. Playgoers will be riveted to the scenes so they don't miss a thing.

All this happens Friday and Saturday, (March 7,8,) at 7:00 p.m. and Sunday (March 9) at 2:00.



Images from the Bullock Players stage. DONT MISS IT! MARCH 7,8,, & 9



*an evening in Paris*  
March 8, 2025  
**Father Daughter Dance**  
Belle Fourche Rec Center  
1111 National St. | Belle Fourche

*Schedule of events*  
PHOTOS & SOCIALIZING 6:00 PM  
GRAND MARCH 6:30 PM  
DINNER 7:00 PM  
DANCE 8:00 PM  
(ENDS AT 10:00 PM)

*Dinner Menu*  
CHICKEN ALFREDO  
SALAD  
DESSERT

Purchase tickets online by scanning QR code  
PURCHASE DEADLINE 6 FEB 25TH

\$35 each

Sponsor opportunities available  
Contact Mary Riley 605-892-3411

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**Mother Son DANCE**  
Belle Fourche Community Hall  
512 6th Avenue | Belle Fourche  
March 15, 2025

**SCHEDULE OF EVENTS**  
Photos, Games & Socializing 6:00 pm  
Dinner 7:00 pm  
Dance 8:00 pm  
(ends at 10:00 pm)

**DINNER MENU**  
Chicken Alfredo  
Salad  
Dessert

Sponsor opportunities available  
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Purchase tickets online by scanning QR code  
PURCHASE DEADLINE 14 MARCH 14TH

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605-892-2467 or [tessa@bellefourche.org](mailto:tessa@bellefourche.org)

# The Valley Irrigator

Wed. March 5, 2025

Serving Newell, Vale and Nisland Communities

## Ready to Serve



The faces of the Newell Ambulance crew as they gathered for the Annual Banquet at High Plains Restaurant. From the left are: Back Row Calvin Fickbohm, Tom Lewis, Ryan Stark, Randy Decker, and Stan Lewis. Front Row Sherry Hocking, Amy Wismann, Lynn Koehn, Kurt Hocking, and Don Tishmack. Photo by Betty Bruner



### B's Buzz

Well. I had a plan on what I would write this week. There was a running commentary in my head that sounded pretty good. Uplifting. Happy. Light-hearted. All the things that make the days bright and sunny.

But life changes quickly. It's not that things are dark and gloomy, but right now the bright words seem to be far away. You see, today I watched as my big brother passed from this life into eternity. It was a quiet and peaceful time. He was taken off life-support and we as a family stood by his side and watched him as he took that last earthly breath.

He had been in a lot of pain and had been slipping away from us for quite a while. The phone call was expected, but still a surprise.

As we drove down to Rapid City, my thoughts turned to our childhood and adulthood. He was 74 and three years older than I am. He was my champion, my protector, my Big Brother.

Although, we didn't spend a lot of time together since we became adults, we always knew that the love we had for each other was beyond what many had. Anytime there was a problem in my life as an adult

or child, I could always count on Curt. He was steadfast and ready to help.

When our son, Daniel, died in a car wreck, it was Curt who came and hugged me. He didn't need to say a word, but I knew he hurt as much as I did.

And when our son, Matt, was killed he was there. All he said was "I know" and felt the pain of losing a child.

And now my Big Brother has left me. I told a close friend that although I know that Curt is in heaven and is free, I selfishly want him back. I'm all alone now-Mom and Dad are gone, it was Curt and me left of the Deyo family. It makes me feel isolated and alone because of the time we spent together growing up and doing stuff together.

But then I remember his laugh and how he argued with me about stuff growing up, too. Like the use of the word "condone" and how he said I kept using it wrong. I'm pretty sure I was right, but he was older and I respected that.

And I remember how all he talked about was cars! He drove us to school and always talked about cars and how he was going to "soup up" the Rambler he drove. So, I learned what things were called, maybe not where they were on a car, but at least their names.

He kept me from making

mistakes with boys and life decisions. Even when I thought I was right and he was wrong. He was usually right and I was safe.

I can't help but think about him and his laugh and how he talked. Things that will always echo in my head. He sounded like our dad. His tone and the manner of saying words. It must be a Deyo thing.

Letting you know about my big brother has helped me to see how much I loved him and how much he cared. I hope I've given you a bit of insight into our family by telling you about Curt. And I hope you realize how important family is to each of us. We can have differences of opinion and argue, but never be far from the love we have for each other.

Family is the most important part of life here on earth. Whether it's a brother or sister, cousin or aunt or uncle, or mom and dad, we need to embrace family.

We had lots of hugs today and will have more in the next few days. I'm so glad we are a family of hugs. They go a long way in healing. So, plan a time of getting together and talk about life and the good things that have happened. Hug somebody close and tell them you love and appreciate them.

I'm going to hug my hubby and hold him close for a while.

### HELP WANTED TOWN OF NEWELL PART-TIME FINANCE CLERK

Applicants must have knowledge of customer service standards, and procedures, ability to follow verbal and written instructions, ability to express ideas clearly, both verbally and in writing, and the ability to work both independently and in a team environment.

Must be able to perform routine clerical, secretarial and administrative work. Duties include but are not limited to answering phones, receiving the public, providing customer service, data processing, and bookkeeping.

Must be able to develop and maintain office forms and procedures. Will assist the Finance Officer with tasks as directed.

Must be able to present themselves at all time with a professional appearance and attitude and maintain a high standard of customer service. Pay along with other essential duties and responsibilities can be discussed at time of interview.

Applications can be picked up and dropped of at 101 East 3rd Street between the hours of 10 AM and 3 PM Monday – Thursday, and also printed out at our web site at [www.townofnewell.org](http://www.townofnewell.org). Applications will be taken until position is filled.

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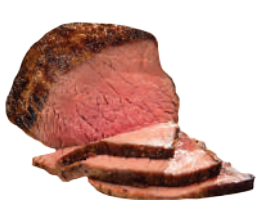









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<p><b>Red Baron Pizza</b> 4 Varieties</p>  <p><b>\$4<sup>99</sup></b></p>	<p><b>Best Choice Potato Chips</b> 8 Oz. • 5 Flavors</p>  <p><b>\$1<sup>99</sup></b></p>	<p><b>Campbell's Chicken Noodle or Tomato Soup</b> LIMIT 12</p>  <p><b>99¢</b></p>	<p><b>Kemp's Cottage Cheese</b> 22 Oz.</p>  <p><b>\$3<sup>49</sup></b></p>	<p><b>Crystal Farms Cheese</b> Shredded or Chunk</p>  <p><b>\$3<sup>49</sup></b></p>	<p><b>Best Choice Whole Kernel Canned Corn</b> 12 Pack</p>  <p><b>\$4<sup>99</sup></b></p>

**Betty Bruner**  
news@bellefourchebeacon.com  
NEWELL-Longstanding members of the Newell Ambulance crew were honored recently at the annual banquet held Friday, February 21 at High Plains Restaurant. Calvin Fickbohm has served as the ambulance treasurer for 10 years, Don Tishmack

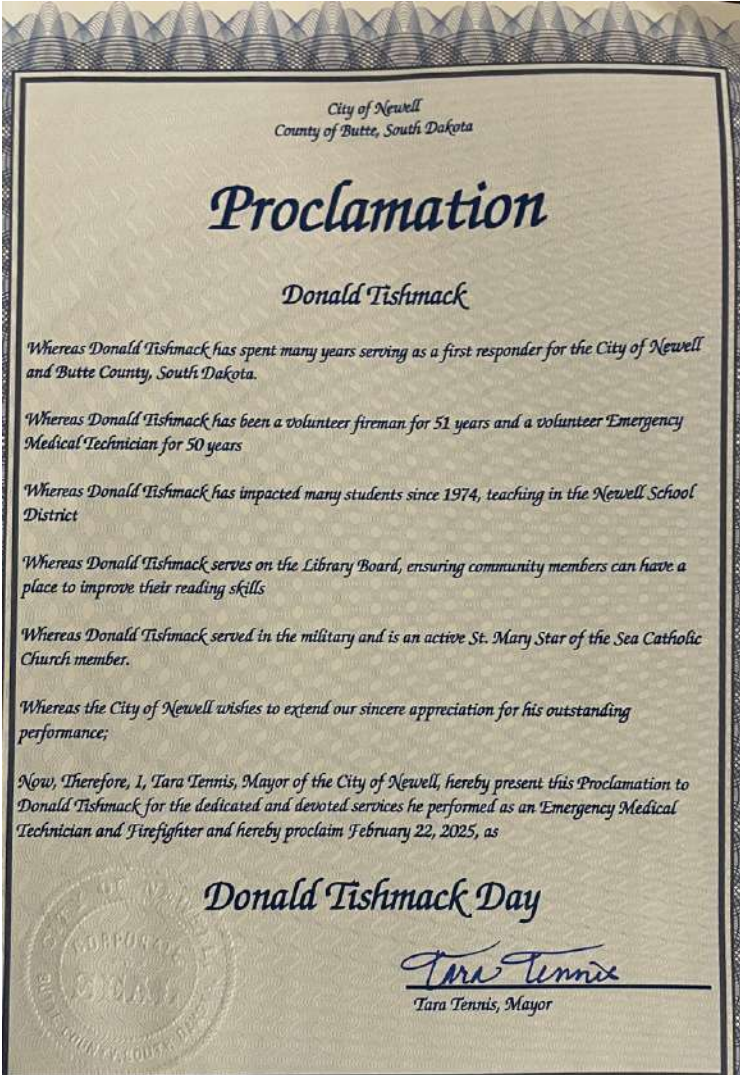
has served the community for over 50 years, and Sherry Hocking was given a special honor for being supportive from keeping everyone's passwords to anything that is needed. February 22, 2025 was proclaimed as Donald Tishmack Day in Newell. The procla-

mation was read and presented by Newell Mayor Tara Tennis and is found at the end of this article. The Newell Ambulance crew is staffed by volunteer EMTs and EMTs who have invested their time, efforts, and money to maintain skills that provide high quality care. The Newell Ambulance has been designated as a SD Cardiac Ready Community. During a cardiac emergency, every second – every minute that passes without CPR or AED use can mean the difference between life and death. It can take an ambulance more than 30 minutes to respond in our remote areas. The Cardiac Ready Community Programs equip and empower local members to be better prepared in helping someone experiencing a cardiac event before the ambulance arrives. The Newell Ambulance crew has worked diligently under the supervision of Director Sherry Hocking to provide training to over 130 community members.

**Right: Calvin Fickbohm has served as the ambulance Treasurer for 10 years.**  
Photo by Betty Bruner



**Above: New members are Amy Wismann and Lynn Koehn. Below: Mayor Tara Tennis proclaimed Saturday, February 22 as Donald Tishmack Day.**  
Photos by Betty Bruner



**Then and Now in Newell**

**“Looking Forward to our Past”**

**February 25, 1915**  
William Finck and wife had a narrow escape from death when a barrel of kerosene which they were hauling home in their wagon caught fire from a spark which dropped from a cigar and the clothing of both Finck, and his wife were ablaze before they could leap from the wagon. The team was got loose from the wagon and a part of the load pulled clear, but not without severe burns for both of them in their efforts to save the team and the other portions of the burning load which were pulled from the fire. The Fruitdale Pioneer changed hands last week. Melvin Brothers selling to F. F.

by their wits. Mr. & Mrs. Boy Nelson made a trip to Newell from Hoover Saturday on business, intending to take in the dance at Castle Rock on their way back. But about 5 miles out of town their car broke down and instead of dancing that evening, they were walking. In spite of their absence, the masquerade dance at Castle Rock was well attended by other Hoover people and consequently were well supplied with boxes of candy given by Mr. Jacobsen with each dance ticket. Ex-Sheriff Arthur Lefors of Belle Fourche left this week for the eastern part of the state to enter upon his new

**by Linda Velder**  
It was the largest crowd ever to attend a sale in this section, according to the old-timers. Everything brought very good prices and the bidding was brisk. C. E. Scott, Rapid City, was the auctioneer. Mr. & Mrs. Paul Schmele, Mrs. Joe Persche and her sister Miss Mae Free were visitors at the William Schmele home Sunday afternoon.

**February 22, 1945**  
At the dance in Vale last Saturday evening, 2 cartons of cigarettes contributed by Kingsbury & Son and the Vale Liquor Store were auctioned off as a good start to benefit the Red Cross, bringing in the neat sum of \$35.80. Roy Smith proved his ability as an auctioneer.

A freak accident happening, out in Meade County recently was no doubt an accident but might very easily have resulted in serious consequences. Thursday afternoon at Thomas McNenny's ranch house near Herford was damaged as the result from a box of 50-caliber machine gun ammunition was dropped from a bomber enroute to the Rapid City Air Base and hit the roof of the McNenny house. It broke through the roof, caused considerable damage in the attic, then crashed through the dining room ceiling, then broke a 6-foot hole, knocking down the stove pipes and completely demolished a rocking chair. Bullets and powder were scattered over the room, marring the floor, fixtures and woodwork. Due to the fact that the Heatrola was turned very low, no explosion resulted. Mrs. McNenny was in the adjoining room while Mr. McNenny and small daughter were in the yard. An investigation of the incident was made by officials from the Air Base.

**February 21, 1935**  
Leonard West, John Johnson, O.T. Queso and Harry Richards were in from Bixby on Monday. They are now baling hay at the Martin Haines ranch but ran out of wire, but none was to be had here and they had to go to Sturgis for more. There is about a week's work for the baler in that neighborhood.

**February 24, 1955**  
Butte County apparently ranks second among counties in South Dakota in the number of Registered Communists, according to Mrs. G. W. Austin, who told of Registered Communists in an Americanism talk at a meeting of the American Legion Auxiliary. She pointed out that Butte County ranked second to Minnehaha County in the number of such registrants. We are pleased to hear that Butte County is not the worst but wish a service organization such as the Legion or Auxiliary

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might make public a list of such registrants. A breakfast, at which the volunteer workers will receive materials, will kick-off the Annual 1955 Red Cross Fund Drive in the Newell territory, next Wednesday at 8:00 A.M., it was announced by local drive chairman, Walter Johnson. The

the helicopter caught and broke lines across First Street in the southwest part of town. **February 18, 1965**  
Ice fishing is in the mid-winter doldrums now with few catches reported and seemingly even fewer anglers. Orman Dam, which has been the hot spot in the West River



Empire School. The building also served as a Community Hall. Nearly all gatherings were held within.

**Newell Museum**

Sheppard late publisher of the McLaughlin Messenger. Br'er Sheppard is a thorough newspaper man and will give Fruitdale and vicinity, 100% on the dollar newspaper. Mr. Sheppard has taken his sons into partnership with him and the firm's name will be F. F. Sheppard & Sons. The Sheppard's were in town on Monday between trains. Several of the farmers east of Nisland, have organized a rural telephone company. Officers selected are President Chris Castle, Vice President Hans Sorensen and Secretary C. C. Briggs. Much interest is shown in such communications. **February 19, 1925**  
Will the person who received last month a First State Bank Certificate of Deposit belonging to the Neighborhood Club and addressed to "Horse Creek Neighborhood Club", kindly communicate with Mrs. George H. Day, President of South Hilen Neighborhood club. Authorities have opened warfare upon persons regarded as undesirable residents and are running them out of town. Thus far several have been ordered to leave the city within 24 hours and others will receive similar orders, the plan being to rid the town of persons who have no visible means of support and who are accustomed to living

duties as a Federal Prohibition Enforcement Officer. He will be assigned to a post somewhere in South Dakota. The position carries a good salary. A son was born last Sunday, February 15, north of Newell to Mr. & Mrs. Walter Valentine of Leola, South Dakota at the home of Mrs. Valentine's mother, Mrs. Dan Roberts. Dr. Clark reports that the little Valentine arrived only 50 minutes after Valentine's Day. **February 21, 1935**  
Leonard West, John Johnson, O.T. Queso and Harry Richards were in from Bixby on Monday. They are now baling hay at the Martin Haines ranch but ran out of wire, but none was to be had here and they had to go to Sturgis for more. There is about a week's work for the baler in that neighborhood. Drinking kerosene was fatal for Harold Dean Dahlinger, the 1-year-old son of Mr. & Mrs. David Dahlinger of Nisland. The little tot died Tuesday, and funeral services are being held today at the Lutheran Church with Rev. L. R. Schultz preaching the sermon with interment in Pineslope Cemetery near Belle Fourche. Around 2,000 people attended the auction sale held yesterday by Hemming Strong.



Bushnell Garage, Inc. where you could purchase kerosene by the can or barrel from trusty serviceman, Mr. Keefer. Many accidents occurred because of mishandling the product.

**Newell Museum**

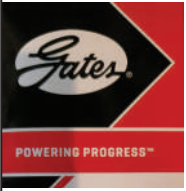
breakfast, courtesy of Herby Loewel, will be held in the Skyroom of The Cove, with volunteer workers in the eastern part of Butte County. The campaign is divided into sections: Newell Business, Newell Residential, Vale, and Rural Newell. Two members of the US Air Force were killed, respectively when a jet and helicopter from Ellsworth Air Force Base, crashed in northwestern Meade County east of Newell Thursday afternoon and evening. The jet pilot was killed when his parachute failed to completely open as the F-86 jet crashed about 8 miles northwest of Stoneville. His body was located about 3 miles from the plane. A helicopter, flying to the site of the downed jet at about 9:00 PM Thursday, then crashed about 3 miles east of Mud Butte along US 212, attempting to return to Rapid City for additional guards and investigating detail. The helicopter, brought to Newell on Saturday evening, attracted considerable attention as it was parked along Main Street. A portion of telephone service was disrupted when the top of

recently, has slowed down according to reports from Game Warden Chuck Webster. Wall-eyes taken there now average only from 1½ to 4 pounds. The ice is in good shape. A delegation to Washington, DC to testify before the Senate Appropriations Subcommittee on behalf retention of the US Newell Field Station, is necessary next week. It was noted by the Newell Community Club at its regular luncheon noon meeting at the Cove Café. Members voted that selection of such delegation be left to the US Citizens Advisory Council to the US Newell Field Station but ask other communities, including Belle Fourche, Sturgis, Rapid City, etc. to contribute on a like basis as the Newell Club to finance the expenses of such a delegation. Mrs. Cletus Huber and Mrs. Jack Dawson participated in the District Bowling Tournament in Sturgis on Sunday afternoon. Other members of the Irrigator Bowling Team: Mrs. Emmitt McDermott; Mrs. Bill Marty; Mrs. Ralph Kirk and Mrs. William Stolnack were also in the tournament.

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**Here's What's Happening in Newell!**

**Saturday, March 1, 5 p.m.**  
CCOBC/CCOSD Fundraiser- Chili Cookoff, NVN Center

**Wednesday**  
**Story Time with Patty**  
Every 1st & 3rd Wednesday, 11 a.m. All ages welcome

**St. Patty's Cornhole Tournament, Newell City Hall**  
Saturday, March 8. Registration 11:30 - Noon, Play begins at 12:30.

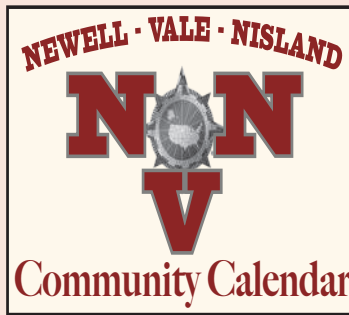
**Whistle Stop Market**  
First Saturday of every month through April, 9 a.m. to 2 p.m. at the Newell Senior Center

**Mondays**  
Monday Night Bingo at the NVN Senior Center 6 p.m. to 8 p.m.

**BH Farmer's Market**  
Second Tuesday each month, 4:30, Nisland Town Hall

**Feeding South Dakota**  
Second Thursday every month, 1:30

**Newell Library Hours**  
Open Monday, Wednesday, Friday 10 a.m. to 5 p.m.



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**From the Superintendent**



The Newell sixth and seventh graders have been

working diligently with Mrs. Erk to prepare for the Science Fair. The Science Fair will be held on Wednesday, February 12th with judging and projects on display. The awards will be presented on Thursday at 8:00 am in the Physical Education gym. Award winners will have the opportunity to advance to the regional competition at the School of Mines in Rapid City.

On Thursday, eighth grade students will be involved with the Business Fair. With the guidance of Mrs. Erk, students have developed a product and will present their creations in the gym through Thursday

morning. Feel free to shop in and enjoy some creations.

On February 13th, we will be hosting Parent Teacher Conferences from 1:00 to 7:00 pm. Students will have an early release from school at 12:00 pm. Conferences are a great opportunity to learn about your child's progress as well as ways to influence learning beyond the classroom. Parents and guardians have a huge impact on a child's learning. Understanding your child's progress will help you advance their learning. We also have online programs that can be used at home to reinforce learning. Feel free to

ask teachers about the various learning options.

A book fair will also be held in the multi-purpose room during conferences. A wonderful selection of books will be available for your child. Literacy is a powerful blessing in a child's life.

Thursday morning the Juniors and Seniors will travel to Sturgis for the annual Career Fair. Excellent opportunities for our students to experience various employment opportunities as well as post secondary education.

Newell Irrigators will be hosting Timberlake on Friday. The evening will include Parent's night. Join these young ladies and gentlemen as they host

their final home game of the season. The Newell wrestlers will travel to Bennet County on Saturday and the Middle School boys' basketball team will head the opposite direction to Harding County.

Newell Irrigators have been working hard this year. Join us in our celebration of activities.



**MARCH**

<u>Monday</u>	<u>Tuesday</u>	<u>Wednesday</u>	<u>Thursday</u>	<u>Friday</u>
<b>3)</b> Yogurt Parfait, Cereal, FF, Juice, Milk  Corn Dogs, Corn, Fruit, Milk Tomato or Broccoli Soup	<b>4)</b> Biscuits & Gravy, Cereal, FF, Juice, Milk  Mac & Cheese, Green Beans, Fruit, Milk  Tomato Soup	<b>5)</b> Breakfast Pizza, Cereal, FF, Juice, Milk  Beef Straganoff, Mixed Veggies, Fruit, Milk  Chicken Tortilla Soup	<b>6)</b> Egg Roll Eggs, Cereal, Juice, FF, Milk  Sloppy Joes, Green Beans, Fruit, Milk	<b>7)</b> <b>NO SCHOOL</b>
<b>10)</b> French Toast Sticks, Cereal, Juice, FF, Milk  Chili, Corn Bread, Corn, Fruit, Milk	<b>11)</b> Pancakes, Cereal, Juice, FF, Milk  Chicken Fajitas, Peppers, Onions, Tomatoes, Fruit, Milk	<b>12)</b> Muffins, Cereal, Juice, FF, Milk  Chicken Nuggets, Mixed Veggies, Fruit, Milk Broccoli Cheese Soup	<b>13)</b> Waffles, Cereal, Juice, FF, Milk  Irish Stew, Mixed Veggies, Fruit, Milk	<b>14)</b> <b>NO SCHOOL</b>
<b>17)</b> Long Johns, Cereal, Juice, Fruit, Milk  Irish Stew, Sweet Potatoes & Apples, Fruit, Milk	<b>18)</b> Bagels, Omelets. Cereal, Juice, Fruit, Milk Chicken Patty Sandwiches, Green Beans, Fruit, Milk Chicken Noodle Soup	<b>19)</b> Pancakes, Cereal, Juice, FF, Milk  Italian Pasta Bake, Corn, Fruit, Milk	<b>20)</b> Breakfast Pizza, Cereal, Juice, FF, Milk  Cubano Sandwiches, Baked Potatoes, Broccoli Salad, Fruit, Milk	<b>21)</b> <b>NO SCHOOL</b>
<b>24)</b> French Toast Sticks, Cereal, Juice, FF, Milk  Lasagna, Bread Sticks, Fruit, Milk	<b>25)</b> Maple Baked French Toast, Cereal, Juice, FF, Milk  Goulash, Broccoli, Fresh Rolls, Fruit, Milk	<b>26)</b> Breakfast Taco, Cereal, Juice, FF, Milk  Taco Salad, Corn, Fruit, Milk	<b>27)</b> Croissant Sandwich, Cereal, Juice, FF, Milk  Chicken Alfredo, Broccoli, Fruit, Milk	<b>28)</b> <b>NO SCHOOL</b>

**Menu is subject to change!**

**Middle School and High School have access to fresh Salad Bar**

# Newell School Highlights



Above: Mr. Fielder's Finish Carpentry 2 class built and installed a new cabinet for the elementary Title room .

Below: The students gathered for a pep rally to celebrate the wrestlers heading to State and the girls' and boys' basketball teams going to playoffs.

Below: Future ball handlers showed off their skills during a recent basketball game.

Courtesy Photos



Menu Sponsored by:

**Newell Hardware & Supply**  
**320 Girard - Newell SD**  
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## Honoring the Crew



This sign was presented to Don Tishmack for his 50+ years of service to the Newell Ambulance. The design was cut by Newell welding students and finished by Truck Defender employees. It is a testament to the caring skills of the Newell Community.

Photo by Betty Bruner

**Good Luck At State**  
**Newell School District**  
**Wrestling**

WE Are NEWELL

**Good Luck Girls & Boys Basketball in the playoffs!**



Newell Ambulance Director Sherry Hocking was noted for her unwavering support of crew members with a flower arrangement handed to her by Stan Lewis.

Photos by Betty Bruner

The Future of the Newell Basketball program was in the house last night!

Great job Little Dribblers!

Thank You Coach Morgan and Coach Liz

WE Are Newell