



# Belle Fourche Beacon

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VOL. 8 ISSUE 12

Belle Fourche, SD Wednesday • March 19, 2025

\$1.25

## World Day of Prayer

Mary Buchholz  
Special to the Beacon

BELLE FOURCHE – The Global Methodist Church in Belle Fourche welcomed community members for the annual World Day of Prayer, a cherished tradition that has been observed for 25 years.

Originally reorganized in 2000 by a dedicated group of 11 women, the event continues to bring people together in faith and fellowship. This year's gathering centered around the theme "I Made You Wonderful," a message shared by the sisters of the Cook Islands.

The service emphasized gratitude, unity, and the beauty of God's creation, encouraging attendees to reflect on their own faith journeys. Throughout the

World Day of Prayer contd. A8

## "World Day of Prayer Celebrated at B. F. Methodist Church"



The *Global Methodist Church* in Belle Fourche welcomed community members for the annual *World Day of Prayer*. Held March 7th the tradition has been observed for 25 years. *Hunter Anderson Photo*

## Mother Son Dance has LEGO Fun

Robbi Longbrake  
news@bellefourchebeacon.com

BELLE FOURCHE—"You are here with the first woman to ever love you," said D.J. Bull of Colt 45 to all of the boys as he welcomed them to the 1st Annual Mother Son Dance sponsored by the Belle Silver Lining on the evening of March 15. And while

the boys could be accompanied by their mom, grandma, aunt or other, it was clear to see, no matter who brought them to the dance, they were all very loved!

The theme for the night was LEGO and the Community Hall was transformed into a

Dance contd. A7



*Belle Silver Lining* 1st Annual Mother Son Dance had a *LEGO* theme. *Longbrake photo*

## Black Hills Roundup Hosts a Queen Clinic

Robbi Longbrake  
news@bellefourchebeacon.com

BELLE FOURCHE—15 gals with hopes of being future rodeo royalty gathered to learn the ins and outs of the rodeo pageant world at a free Queen Clinic on the morning of March 15.

Traveling from Wyoming and all parts of South Dakota the participants got to learn from top notch

professionals in the field. Lillie Longhorn, former Miss Rodeo Iowa talked to the girls about production, education and contest preparation. Kylie Myers former Miss Rodeo Oklahoma discussed arena etiquette. Amy Tierney Johnson owner of Permanently Perfect by Amy spent time teaching makeup and hair

Queens contd. C1



*Raye Brown*, Black Hills Roundup Queen Coordinator, talks to the cowgirls taking part in the Rodeo Queen Clinic. *Longbrake photo*

## Lunch & Learn: Workplace Communication

Ryder Heitz  
news@bellefourchebeacon.com

BELLE FOURCHE—The Branding Iron Steak House was the site of this month's Lunch & Learn series, hosted by the Belle Fourche Chamber of Commerce. Jennifer S. Frank, attorney with Lynn Jackson Attorneys, spoke about respectful workplace communication and conflict res-

olution on Wednesday, March 12 as the audience listened, learned, and enjoyed lunch from the Branding Iron's menu.

Frank explained that a respectful workplace is one that promotes honesty and a healthy, positive, and functional work environment. She noted that a fundamental aspect of a respectful work environment is one in which employees treat another individual as they would like to be treated. When it comes to problem-solving in the workplace, Frank emphasized that as human beings, our brains are wired to go negative, so we need to work to stay positive and solve problems in a calm manner.

Frank gives presentations on the topic of workplace communication often. "I've done these different Lunch and Learns for like, Spearfish, Belle Fourche. I speak at a lot of these trade organizations," she said.



Speaker *Jennifer S. Frank* teaches the audience about workplace communication.

## Literary Event Featured Area Authors

Robbi Longbrake  
news@bellefourchebeacon.com

BELLE FOURCHE—An afternoon of local authors sharing their work that reflects the Belle Fourche spirit was delivered to a full house at the Tri-State Museum on March 15.

The literary event, Raber, Reading and Writing opened with author David Raber reading three of the 33 stories from his latest book, *Life and Laughter in Belle Fourche*. He kept the audience entertained with the stories he told. His tales are all based on true stories and many in the audience responded with robust yes, nods and laughter when he would stop and ask if people remembered those he spoke about—including the story of The Legendary Eli Magpie and Philip Rosales and the Ski Jump.

Raber graduated from Belle Fourche in 1961 and decided to write about life growing up in the area. "I was a Ford dealer and when I retired I was kind of bored and I thought I had the talent to write, so I decided to write," he explained. "And I write about Belle Fourche because it was my favorite subject!"

After graduation Raber went off to college at USD in Vermillion, SD and then the Vietnam War and later opened a Ford dealership in Oregon. But his heart remained in the Belle Fourche area. "Oh, I just love Belle Fourche! You know, I grew up

here and I love the stories, I actually live in Spearfish, but this is where I'm going to stay, and I traveled all the world but here I am in Belle Fourche!" He is currently planning his third book which will focus on true stories from life during his Vietnam War experiences. "I was in Vietnam, but that was kind of gory, but I'll write about some of the other things, but true, I like writing about true things," said Raber. Following Raber eight talented authors from The Belle Fourche Writers group—whose work is featured in *Life's Landscapes*—took the stage to read one of their

poems. First up was Kathy Bjornstad reading her poem "This Old Place." Margaret Bolte took the stage next reading her "Recipe for Life" poem. Lynda Edwards was called to the stage twice to share her poems "Night Watchman" and "My South Dakota Home" with the audience. She explained that her husband reminded her to talk directly into the microphone so people could hear her, but then thanked him for being a great support to her.

Joan Gerkin explained that her poem was a found poem, a poem created using words or

Authors Contd C4



Author *David Raber* reads from his book, *Life and Laughter in Belle Fourche*. His daughter, *Stacey Raber Nault*, from Chicago, Il joined him on stage. *Longbrake photo*

## 3rd Annual Belle Fourche Arts Council Photo Contest Holds Reception & Awards

Robbi Longbrake  
news@bellefourchebeacon.com

BELLE FOURCHE—The new addition at the Tri-State Museum & Center of the Nation Visitor Center hosted the 3rd Annual Belle Fourche Arts Council Rural Life Expressions Photography Contest Reception and Awards Presentation on the evening of February 22.

77 photography entries were on display along the outside of the room. This year's theme was Rural Life Photography in the categories of Landscape, People,

and Animals with the age divisions of under 18, youth and over 18, adult.

The evening started with a social time and a beautiful layout of finger foods including meats and cheeses, various olives and vegetables, sandwiches and crackers and much more. Desserts and refreshments were also offered. During this time everyone was encouraged to vote for People's Choice Award while perusing the photography. By the time the awards

began, the room was filled with extra chairs set up around the outside of the room. Prizes were awarded to the top three in each category for both divisions as well as People's Choice for both Youth and Adult divisions. Cash awards were given to the winners. First place received \$175, second place received \$100, and third place received \$50. \$100 was given for People's Choice winners.

Judges for the contest were Rod Olson, Hunter Anderson

Photos Contd.A8



The new addition at the *Tri-State Museum and Center of the Nation Visitor Center* was full for the *Rural Life Expressions Photography Contest Reception and Awards Presentation*. *Longbrake photo*



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Brian Kline  
Owner

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**SPAGHETTI DINNER**  
Fundraiser

*To Benefit Storm Victims In North Carolina*

**When:** March 28, 2025  
5:30pm - 7:00pm

**Where:** St. James Lutheran Church  
1100 Stanley Street  
Belle Fourche, SD 57717

*\*Freewill offering with all proceeds going to storm victims\**

Part of a Thrivent Action Team Grant

**Norma Jean (Hansen) Schlekeway 90**


Norma Jean (Hansen) Schlekeway, age 90, peacefully left this world to join the Lord and her beloved husband on Sunday, March 9, 2025, just the way she lived her life: burdening no one and on her own terms.

Norma was born May 7, 1934, in Aberdeen, SD, to Carl and Nettena (Tena) (Peterson) Hansen. She grew up as the youngest of seven siblings in a big old house across the road from Melgaard Park in Aberdeen. Tena inspired her children to lead with love and set an example for them as an active member of her church and by feeding the homeless on the family home's backsteps during the Great Depression. The children learned the value of hard work and dedication from Carl, lessons each of them took to heart in their own lives.

Norma began her life's mission of taking care of others during high school by driving classmates around in her old car. She and her lifelong friends had priceless adventures that Norma loved to tell, laughing the whole time. She graduated from Aberdeen Central in 1952. Norma soon met a handsome Northern State College student athlete who worked with her mother in the school's cafeteria. Norma and Eugene (Gene) Schlekeway (Schlek) were married and became life partners in 1955.

During the early days of their marriage, the couple moved frequently for Gene's teaching and coaching positions. Along the way, they added five beautiful children to their family and in 1968 settled in their forever home in Spearfish, SD. Norma immersed herself into the Spearfish community by joining Our Savior's Lutheran Church, Black Hills State College Faculty Wives, bridge clubs, and her beloved Ten Sisters Birthday Club. Through these organizations, Norma made so many friends and impacted lives too numerous to count. Norma became a non-traditional college student when she attended Black Hills State College and earned her Bachelor of Science in Education in 1973. She went on to teach at West Elementary School for 22 years. During her teaching career she set the bar high for her students, inspiring them to reach beyond their expectations. She did so with kindness, love, fun, and her quick wit. Her students flourished in her classroom, and she was so proud of them all.

Norma disliked the spotlight, but her presence was apparent the minute she walked in a room. She made immediate friends of strangers and had



a knack for making everyone feel like they were the most special person on Earth. She had a birthday list a mile long and gave cards, lottery tickets, Schlek's hand-tied hangers, or jelly to them all. Norma went the extra mile for everyone, and everyone considered themselves lucky to know her.

After retirement, Norma and Schlek traveled the country and fished up a storm on the mighty Missouri. She made friends everywhere she went by cooking a homemade meal or playing cards and other games. She radiated life with her quick laugh and her beautiful, mischievous twinkle in her eye. She was a people magnet! She lived with the spirit of a teenager and never really grew old on the inside, which transcended to a most beautiful outside. Norma was a gem truly loved and honored by all she met. Though her passing leaves a hole in our hearts, she is now where she belongs, making the stars shine in Heaven alongside Coach Schlek, her beloved husband of 70 short years.

She is survived by her five children: sons Jack of Broken Arrow, OK; Bryan (Nelda) of Keota, OK; and Gary (Genevieve) of Gillette, WY; and daughters Jeanne (Michael) Brown of Sioux Falls, SD; and Karen Schlekeway (Marshall Graves) of Belle Fourche, SD. She will be missed by 10 grandchildren: Scott, Delila, Katrina, Ashley, Will, Keifer, Sarah, Caleb, Camden and Emelyn; five great grandchildren: Tanner, Bryer, Jenley, Jentry, and Tripp; and her sister-in-law Nedra Keller Hansen and her beloved brother-in-law Harold Kirchgasser.

She is preceded in death by her parents, her loving husband Gene Schlekeway, her brothers Howard (Cecelia) Hansen, Donald Hansen and her sisters Eleanor (Red) Janisse, Helen (Jim) Lewis, Pearl (Chuck) Parks, and Alice Kirchgasser.

There will be no funeral service per Norma's request. Her family is hosting a Celebration of Life on Tuesday, March 18, 4-8pm at BHSU Joy Center. Please join them to remember Norma and the joy she brought to all who knew her.

In lieu of flowers, Norma requested memorial donations be sent to Our Savior's Lutheran Church, Heartland Home Health, or to the Gene Schlekeway Scholarship at BHSU.


Isburg Funeral Chapels & Crematory Service

**Delores "Dee" Cain 82**

Delores "Dee" Cain, age 82 of Belle Fourche died Wednesday, March 12, 2025 at the Hospice House in Rapid City.

A Celebration of Life Service will be held 10:30am Tuesday, March 18, 2025 at the First Baptist Church in Belle Fourche. There will be no visitation. Inurnment will take place at Pine Slope Cemetery. Arrangements are with Leverington Funeral Home of the Northern Hills in Belle Fourche. Friends may leave written condolences online at: www.Leverington-FH.com

Delores Ilene Zenor was born April 20, 1942 in Eugene, Oregon. She was the daughter of Ralph and Alice (Lawton) Zenor. For many years, Dee was a successful real estate agent in the Kennewick Washington area. Dee was also a talented artist and created several wonderful portraits of her family, as well as nature scenes. In 2013, while on a cruise in the Mediterranean Sea, Dee met Michael Cain who by God's plan, happened to be there on



the same ship. They were later married in Belle Fourche on June 10, 2014. Together they were blessed with almost 11 years of marriage.


Dee loved being a grandmother, and she was very loving and caring to her many grandchildren. She was also very blessed to have several good friends from the Tri-Cities area of Washington. Dee will be greatly missed by her husband, children, grandchildren, and other family and friends.

Dee is survived by her husband, Michael (and his son, Barry Cain of Gillette WY) of Belle Fourche; son, Ron (Jenn) Besser of Bend OR; daughter, Ginger Dimond of Kennewick WA; several grandchildren; and sister, Jeanne McMillan of Umatilla OR. She was preceded in death by her parents; first husband; and brother, R. Douglas Zenor.



**Mary Lou Hanify 90**

Graveside rites will be held for Mary Lou Helmer Hanify at Black Hills National Cemetery at 3 p.m. on March 20th. Prior to that service, a visitation and lunch will be held at the



Belle Fourche UCC Congregational Church from noon - 2 p.m. All are welcome to come greet her families and share a memory of Mary Lou.

**Pastor's Perspective**  
**"Luanne, my sister, went home last Sunday."**

Jesus met her at 11:30 in the morning, while I was preaching the third service on The God Who Works in the Dark.

Beside her bed, just a few blocks from my pulpit, my father and mother had bowed a few hours before.


Father, she's Yours. We release her into your hands, in Jesus' name.

We had all fought a good fight. No enemy, not even cancer, and no specter, not even death, could drive out the confident sense of rejoicing: All is well! Through Christ our Conqueror, all is well!

A dozen stories long to be told, for as I moved through the ensuing hours I witnessed and experienced one miracle of God's grace after another. Oh! The marvel of God's way unsearchable past finding out until you're there by His leading. And then you discover wisdom, peace, grace, joy, power, and wonder you've never know before.

I sat with Duane, my brother-in-law, in the mortuary on Monday morning helping him with decisions

*This Perspective is from the archives of Four-square Pastor, the late Dr. Jack Hayford*



praying for guidance on simple and large matters watching it all flow together and then "Jack, would you write the wording for the tablet that will mark Luanne's grave?"

My pencil scrawled out some thoughts.

Words didn't seem enough. There was too few of them to empty my heart. I finalized a statement and prepared to read it to Duane and my father, seated across the room.

First, her name, birthdate, and homegoing date, and then: Duane's faithful wife, Amy and David's loving mother. She worshipped the Living God. She glorified His Son Jesus. And she gave herself to win China for Christ.

Then I stopped. No. Wait. My pencil scratched a hasty edit, converting the past tense into the present: "She worships the Living God, and she glorifies Jesus Christ."

Ah, praise God! To write an epitaph for a graduate saint, you need to watch your tenses. She's still worshipping. Oh, how she's worshipping Him!

**Black Hills TEAM**

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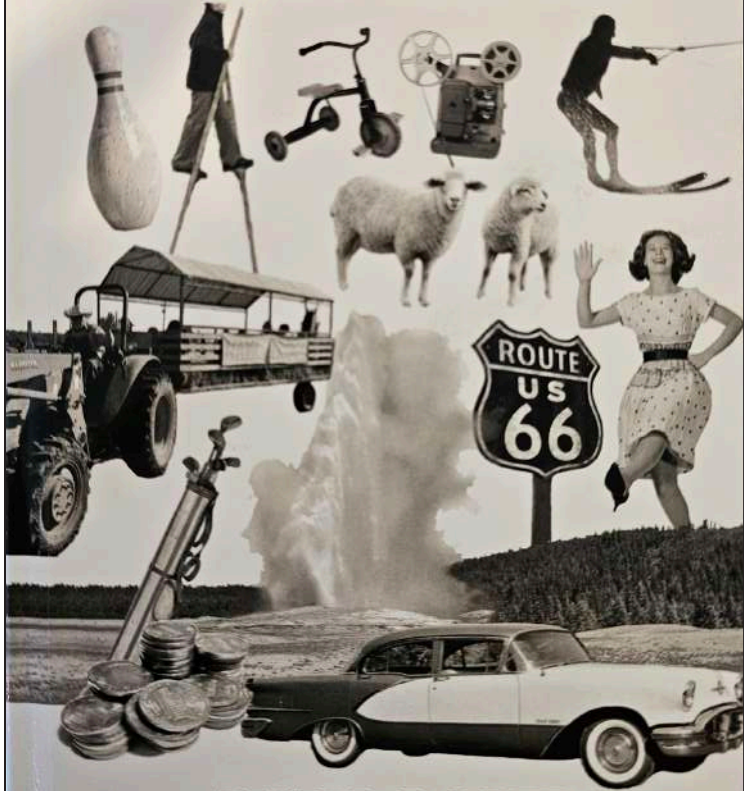
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# Life and Laughter in Belle Fourche



**DAVID RABER**

### "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, discuss 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

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 information about traditional library services. The Human Library Event is only the beginning of our library journey.

### 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).

## 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.

For more information contact Todd Keller at 605 569-2689 or email jnixon269@gmail.com or leave a message at the Senior Center. The event is free, and everyone is invited attend, to learn, be entertained and to grow from learning from real live "human books".

### Belle Fourche Recreation Center Spring Events for Kids

Youth Strength & Cardio (6th-9th): 5-week session starts Friday, February 28.

3rd-6th Girls Volleyball Camp: Join us on Tuesdays & Thursdays afterschool in March to develop your volleyball skills!

Kids Yoga: Kindergarten-3rd grade boys and girls. Wednesdays in March. Sign up soon as space is limited!

Registrations and more info available at the Rec or at www.bellefourcherec.com

We look forward to seeing you soon!

### SML Tires Car Clinic for Women and Teen Drivers

Saturday March 29. Free car clinic at SML tires at 1909 5th Avenue in Belle Fourche 10-1.

Learn basic car care, how to change a tire, safely jump a battery, check fluids and more Call 605.723.7700 to reserve a space.

### Tri-State's April First Saturday Brunch

is about famed female pilot Neva Esmay

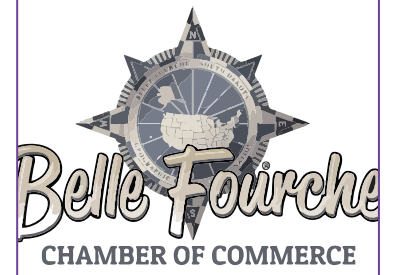
On Saturday, April 5, the Tri-State Museum and Visitor Center will hold a First Saturday Brunch featuring presenter Tim Velder. Velder's presentation is entitled, "Neva Esmay: Living Large in 1941 and beyond." Esmay was an extraordinary woman who was the first civilian pilot to fly after Pearl Harbor and the only woman to train pilots for service at the BH Airport.

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.

### Art at the Rec Friday

April 25, 2-4 PM Basket weaving. We will weave strips of paper from magazines or construction paper to make basket shapes. No sign up required, members free. Non-members day pass. \$4 kids, \$5 seniors, \$6 adults. Ages 8 and under must be supervised by someone over 12. Belle Fourche Rec Center, 1111 National Street 605.892.2467 www.bellefourcherec.com

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



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### 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

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.

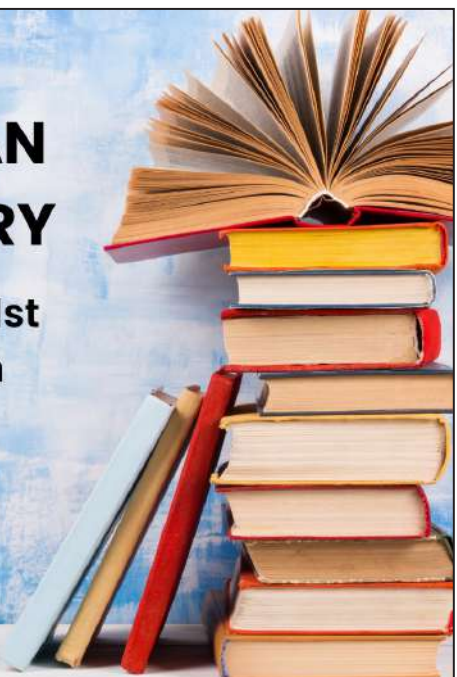


### BELLE FOURCHE CHARACTERS

Bill's presentation will be an "eclectic smorgasbord" of Belle Fourche characters, offering a lively and colorful dive into the unique personalities that have shaped the town. Through a mix of storytelling, history, and local lore, he'll bring to life the faces and figures—both past and present—that give Belle Fourche its character. Expect a blend of humor, insight, and fascinating anecdotes that showcase the town's rich and sometimes quirky heritage.

## HUMAN LIBRARY

March 21st  
2-4pm



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**March 20 - 2PM** Butte County Mitigation Planning @ Butte Co Courthouse, 2:30 Police Department Ground Breaking, 4:30 Chamber Mixer @ Landmark Hotel (Deadwood)

**March 21 - 2PM** Human Library @ Belle Silver Lining

**March 22 - CASINO NIGHT 5PM -**

**Tickets available at the door (Community Hall)**

Be sure to LIKE and FOLLOW us on social media for all the information or visit our website

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**Superintendent's Corner**

**R. Orion Thompson**  
Special to the Beacon

**Exciting Developments in Belle Fourche**

Our community continues to grow and thrive! Recently, Mike Walker from NeighborWorks provided an insightful presentation on the housing development currently underway in Belle Fourche.

As our town expands, these developments will play a crucial role in attracting families and professionals, further strengthening our community. The growth of Belle Fourche is a testament to the dedication of its people, and we are excited to see what the future holds.

**Important Board Meeting Updates**

A couple of important updates regarding upcoming School Board meetings:

- The Board will hold a special Board meeting on March 31st to address key District matters.
- Additionally, we are adjusting our **May School Board meeting date to May 5th, one week earlier than originally**

scheduled to accommodate scheduling needs.

As always, we welcome community input and encourage residents to attend and stay engaged with the District's initiatives.

**Interesting Facts: Importance of Being in School**

As we approach the final stretch of the year, I want to take a moment to emphasize the value of regular school attendance. Research consistently shows that students who attend school regularly are more likely to achieve academic success, graduate on time, and develop positive habits for the future.

• According to the **National Center for Education Statistics**, students with consistent attendance score higher on standardized tests and are more likely to continue their education beyond high school.

• **The Brookings Institution** found that students who miss more than 10% of the school year (just two days a month) are significantly more likely to fall behind academically.

- Beyond academics, school

provides crucial social development, emotional support, and opportunities for extracurricular engagement, all of which contribute to a well-rounded education.

Parents and guardians play a critical role in reinforcing the importance of attendance. Encouraging students to be in school, stay engaged, and participate in learning each day will set them up for lifelong success.

As we look ahead to the final months of the school year, let's continue to support our students, celebrate their achievements, and work together to ensure a strong finish. Thank you for your ongoing dedication to our schools and community. Let's make these last months of the school year the best yet!

**Orion Thompson**  
Superintendent, Belle Fourche School District

R. Orion Thompson, Ed.S  
Superintendent of Schools  
Belle Fourche School District  
9-1  
2305 13th Avenue, Belle Fourche, SD 57717  
605-723-3355 ext. 1



February's students of the month were recognized. 5th grade: **Talia Thompson** and **Reid Somervold**. 6th grade: **Mea Daniels** and **Tristan Wishard**. 7th grade: **Tayleigh Wooldridge** and **Jace Olson**. 8th grade: **Ansley O'Brien** and **Owen Hatling**.

**March School Board Meeting**

**Ryder Heitz**

news@bellefourchebeacon.com

**BELLE FOURCHE**—The Belle Fourche School Board held its monthly meeting on Monday, March 10.

During Open Forum, a concerned parent spoke to the Board about the lack of utilization of schoolbooks and teachers speaking negatively to students.

Mike Walker of NeighborWorks gave a presentation about housing in Butte County.

Student Council Senior representative Harvey Walden reported that the Council registered for the state convention and will be attending April 1 and 2 at the Monument in Rapid City. The Council also went to the Capitol and watched general sessions, went to committee meetings, and got photos with senators, representatives and Governor Larry Rhoden.

The Council's next big project will be preparing for the Man Pageant scheduled at the end of

the month, where they plan to hold a bake sale and all proceeds raised will go to the Children's Miracle Network at the Monument in Rapid City.

Middle schoolers will travel to Rapid City for a tour of Western Dakota Tech on March 18. There will also be a choir concert at the Rec center at 6:30. On March 20, the math and science club will sponsor a school dance in the multi-purpose room.

The regional science fair competition will be held March 25 at the School of Mines in Rapid City. 26 BFMS students will attend.

The Math & Science Club will leave for Florida on April 1 and return April 5. Two middle school teachers will be participating in the Literacy Blueprint course project being created by Compass. Both Penny Louks and Reva Potter will be

filmed on March 11 as they teach literacy related lessons.

The High School will be administering the South Dakota Assessment for Learning to the juniors in the areas of English, Math, and Science on April 7-10.

The National Honor Society induction ceremony will be held March 24 at 7 p.m. in the Ed Petranek Armory. Mr. Webb will be taking interested students to Western Dakota Tech for a visit and camp on March 20. The camp highlights all of the programs they offer. Prom will take place April 12 with grand march beginning at 7 p.m. and the dance taking place from 8-11 p.m.

Mathew Raba attended the National Advocacy Conference in Washington D.C. with six other principals from South Dakota on March 10-13.

The Board appointed Kelly Keegan as its Board of Equalization member, with Mike as her alternate.

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**Belle Fourche Lions Club PANCAKE BREAKFAST!**

**\$5** per person

Children Under 5 FREE  
Purchase tickets from any Belle Fourche Lions Club member

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Sunday, March 30th • 8:00 AM - 1:00 PM

*Belle Fourche Moose Lodge*

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**PaleoAdventures Marks 20th Anniversary**

20 years ago in March, Walt & Heather of PaleoAdventures set off on a wild and crazy, but oh so much fun adventure.

"March 16, twenty years ago we established our independent commercial paleontology operation and went solo.

Both of us left great jobs that we loved. Both of us knew it was going to be an insane amount of work. Both of us knew how stressful and difficult it would be.

From the "Raptors Nest Inn", which gave us a home and an income while we built up the paleontology and tour company to Field Station #1 (aka. my "one black hill of the Black Hills" to Field Station #2 (aka "The pirate ship") to our newest project the Dinosaurs of the Hell Creek Museum, its been a blast.

20 years later I would not

have changed a thing. Every mistake was a learning experience. Every roadblock a new challenge to creatively overcome. Every turn of the path a new direction few have dared to travel. Today we are on the cusp of creating a new dinosaur museum that is sure to wow kids for years and years to come. What a ride!

Our company and the freedom that it has given us, would not exist without the efforts of so many friends and family... I can not count you all. Without the help of you and all of our fans, friends, family, land owners, clients and guests we would not be here. Thank you all for letting us do what we love." (from FB)

Join them for their Chamber Mixer/open house of the new facility April 17 4:30 to 6:30.



That's a total of 12 teams, 47 members, 3 first place teams, and 3 first place individuals. Great job to our teams. A big thank you to Lemmon FFA for hosting this competition. All results are on [JudgingCard.com](http://JudgingCard.com).

Congratulations to all of our members that competed this week at the Lemmon CDE!

Results are as follows:

**Ag Business:** Kasey Dobesh - 2nd Andy Pruitt - 3rd Clifford Torberson - 17th Brahnson Brink - 22nd Team - 2nd

**Ag Mechanics:** Nathan Bowers - 2nd Kyle Hendrickson - 4th Nick Vetter - 23rd Tyler Hendrickson - 25th Team - 2nd

**Agronomy:** Clay Mackaben - 1st Tacen Carr - 2nd Justus Marshall - 5th Tucker Hughes - 6th Macy Krautschun - 13th Team - 1st

**Floriculture:** Jobie Manke - 10th Mya Bush - 19th Olivia Sutter - 22nd Hunter Brown - 34th Team - 5th

**Food Science:** Raif Par-

meter - 1st Taya Kirstine - 3rd Jazlyn Olson - 4th Kate Williamson - 5th Team - 1st

**Horse Evaluation:** Brooke Garman - 2nd Aaliyah Lennon and Connor Crowser - No Results Team - No Results

**Livestock Judging:** Kate Blair - 10th Bailey Moke - 12th Ellie Kukuchka - 16th Kaydence Lei - 27th Weston Hiles - 34th Team - 4th

**Meat Evaluation:** Josh Main - 5th Casen Schmidt - 7th Ryan Wood - 25th Team - 5th

**Milk Quality:** Abbey Clendening - 6th Mikka Dunavant - 11th Hadley Kudlock - 17th Team - 4th

**Natural Resources:** Kale

Williams - 1st Daven Williamson - 3rd Alexa Stone - 4th Misty Drieling - 6th EC Blair - 7th Jeffery Lafontaine - 12th Team - 1st

**Nursery Landscape:** Alexis Allart - 15th Team - 7th

**Vet Science:** Atlee Olson - 5th Ambree Kirstine - 8th Charleigh Silvernagel - 12th McKenzie Ewalt - 19th Alexis Hogan - 21st Team 3rd

That's a total of 12 teams, 47 members, 3 first place teams, and 3 first place individuals.

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**City Of Belle Fourche Police Department**



CHIEF RYAN CHERVENY  
1010 8<sup>th</sup> AVE • BELLE FOURCHE, SD 57717 •  
605-892-4354

**Belle Fourche Police Department Ground-Breaking Ceremony**

You are cordially invited to join us as we break ground on the future home of the Belle Fourche Police Department — a facility designed to better serve and protect our community for generations to come.

**Date:** Thursday, March 20th, 2025  
**Time:** 2:30 PM  
**Location:** Behind the current police department building  
1010 8th Ave, Belle Fourche, SD

This groundbreaking marks an important and exciting new chapter for our community. The new facility will provide a safer, more efficient space for our officers and staff, while also allowing for advanced training, enhanced emergency preparedness, and greater support for multi-agency operations. This investment is a reflection of our collective commitment to the safety and well-being of Belle Fourche.

We would be honored to have you join us in celebrating this significant moment in our city's history.

Thank you,  
Ryan Cherveney

For questions or more information, please contact:  
Ryan Cherveney  
Chief of Police  
Belle Fourche Police Department  
605-892-4240  
or  
Jason LaFayette  
City Manager  
Belle Fourche City Hall  
605-892-2494

Thank you for helping us build a better tomorrow.  
We look forward to celebrating this momentous occasion with you!



# 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 Area Community Theater is preparing their show, *Atomic Lobsters*, as part of *Getting Our Acts Together*. GOAT includes 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!

The Belle Fourche Middle School Theater Cast & Crew of *Magic*, performed their spring show, with performances on Friday & Saturday night, and now it's time for *Grease!* The Belle Fourche HS Theater announced 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 Belle Fourche Fine Arts Boosters is working on their upcoming *Community Variety Show 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 [bfhsfab@gmail.com](mailto:bfhsfab@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. 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*  
 May 4, *Sunday, Fine Arts Boosters, Community Variety & Arts Show, Belle Fourche Community Hall.*

Maybe YOU know what SHOW is UP next? Share your fine arts tidbits and upcoming events at [bellelavenue@gmail.com](mailto: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. *Magic Cast listed below- Photo on C8*

**City of Belle Fourche**  
3d · 🌐

On Thursday, March 20, 2025, City Hall will be closed from 1:45 PM to 2:30 PM. This temporary closure allows city employees to attend the groundbreaking ceremony for the new police station.

**IMPORTANT ANNOUNCEMENT**

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## Politicians can demand more logging in the Black Hills, but they can't make trees grow faster

**By Dave Mertz:** a retired from the Black Hills National Forest in 2017 as the forest's natural resource officer. Over the course of his career, he was a forester, silviculturist, forest fire management officer and a fire staff

Does the Black Hills need a viable timber industry to help manage its forests? Absolutely. Recently, U.S. Senators John Thune and Mike Rounds, U.S. Rep. Dusty Johnson and South Dakota Gov. Larry Rhoden have been pressuring U.S. Secretary of Agriculture Brooke Rollins to increase timber harvesting in the Black Hills National Forest. Paradoxically, this may lead to the demise of the Black Hills timber industry. The quantity of trees suitable for logging — known as the standing timber inventory — in the Black Hills National Forest has been in contention for at least 10 years. The forest has been heavily impacted by the mountain pine beetle, wildfires and overlogging, leading to a significant reduction of the standing inventory of trees. Larger trees were particularly hard hit. The mountain pine beetle and loggers both like larger trees. Several studies have been conducted to determine how many trees are left in the forest. Timber industry representatives have never accepted the results. To finally address this issue, in 2023, the Black Hills National Forest undertook an intensive Light Detection and Ranging (LiDAR) project. This project was supported by both of the states with land in the Black Hills National Forest, Wyoming and South Dakota. LiDAR uses lasers deployed from aircraft to provide an extremely accurate representation of the forest. Concurrent to the LiDAR flights, over 1,600 field plots were studied on the ground. This field data collection was accomplished in partnership with the Wyoming State Forestry Division, South Dakota State Forestry and Pennington County staff. The plots are used to “ground truth” the LiDAR data. In January, the ground-level field plot data was released after an external audit by the U. of Wyoming.

The field plot data included some interesting statistics. It showed that for pine trees greater than 5 inches in diameter, there were an average of 90 trees per acre. This indicates that the forest is very open. The average spacing of 90 trees per acre is about 22 feet between trees. For reference, when the Forest Service plants trees, it plants about 430 per acre at a spacing of 10 feet between trees. Yes, there are still some dense stands out there, but on average, it is a very open forest.

The field plot data also revealed that the average diameter of pine trees greater than 5 inches is 9.8 inches. For reference, the lower cutoff for sawtimber (trees suitable to cut into lumber) is 9 inches. This shows that the forest is now, on average, a very young forest. It will take decades to turn this around.

Members of the timber industry want to return to the higher harvest levels of the past so they can run at full capacity. For those sawmills that rely on sawtimber-size trees, there are simply not enough left in the forest for them to do that sustainably. The Forest Service is required by the National Forest Management Act to manage its timber for long-term sustainability. Forest Service employees are offering lower levels of timber for sale, but not because they're lazy or mismanaging the forest. They're simply following the law.

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Members of the timber industry want to return to the higher harvest levels of the past so they can run at full capacity. For those sawmills that rely on sawtimber-size trees, there are simply not enough left in the forest for them to do that sustainably. The Forest Service is required by the National Forest Management Act to manage its timber for long-term sustainability. Forest Service employees are offering lower levels of timber for sale, but not because they're lazy or mismanaging the forest. They're simply following the law.

In response to a commentary I wrote last year, Rep. Johnson did a Q&A with South Dakota Searchlight, which asked him to explain his statement that “roadblocks” were standing in the way of bigger timber harvests. Johnson mentioned his conversations with the Forest Service and the timber industry regarding 75 open positions in the Black Hills National Forest.

“We talked about what can be done to streamline that bureaucracy,” Johnson said. “It takes more than six months to go from an open position to a field spot. That is clearly a bureaucracy problem.” The Trump administration and its new Department of Government Efficiency, known as DOGE, recently fired at least 2,000 Forest Service employees nationwide, reportedly including some in the Black Hills National Forest. None of our high-ranking South Dakota politicians have yet expressed any concern about this.

If the amount of timber harvested in the Black Hills returns to levels that are not sustainable, the timber industry could cut itself out of business. The forest already has few options for finding more timber. Widespread clear-cutting may not be that far down the road.

I suggest you take a drive in the forest and get off the paved roads. Look closely at the spacing between the larger trees. There are many dense thickets of small trees (which are a fire hazard), but they aren't considered part of the timber inventory. It will take up to 100 years for them to grow into sawtimber. Look at the diameter of the larger trees. There aren't many of them anymore. They are, for the most part, gone.

Republican politicians will likely be successful in demanding more timber harvesting from the Trump administration, but they cannot make trees grow faster. If you visit the forest and don't like what you see, consider contacting your elected officials.

**MAGIC**  
By Reva J. Potter

**Directed by Reva Potter & Rachel Munce**  
Set Design by Terry Hoscheid

**The Cast & Crew**

<p><b>The Marlin Family</b></p> <p>Cassie...Kalani Myers</p> <p>Benji...Blake Willert</p> <p>Nicholas...Samuel Savory</p> <p>Sharon...Kynlee Henderson</p> <p>Caroline...Bella Welles</p> <p>Brent...Devyn Perschbacher</p> <p><b>The Drover Family</b></p> <p>Arthur...Titus Thompson</p> <p>Norman...Bruz Hartman</p> <p>Joanna...Ellie Kukuchka</p> <p>Stevio...Siorra Saivong</p> <p>Debbie...Addy Clem</p> <p>Andrew...Jacob Tonsager</p> <p>Erica...Cora Kokinos</p> <p><b>The Law</b></p> <p>Mckenna Freed...Det. Victor</p> <p>Rose Lafayette...Det. Murphy</p> <p>Tristan Wishard...Officer Jones</p> <p><b>The Bullies</b></p> <p>Kelly...Piper Curran</p> <p>Dusty...Kelton Streeter</p> <p>Lenny...Ari Beguine</p> <p><b>The Protestors</b></p> <p>Pam...Lauralee Dreiske</p> <p>Sam...Daniel Eddy</p> <p>Tommy...Elizabeth Nikodym</p> <p>Tammy...Adalyn Savery</p> <p><b>The Business People</b></p> <p>Carla...Ariel Jones</p> <p>Charlene...Aspen Richter</p> <p>Agatha...Ember Olson</p> <p>Gabrielle...Nikko Piekola</p> <p>Mariah...Hope Sinkey</p> <p>Simon...Kasey Dobesh</p> <p>Cherise...Lucia Rodriguez</p> <p>Penny...Lexi Allart</p> <p>Allora...Ainsley Jewett</p> <p>Jackie...Alexandra Huber</p> <p>Dolly...Paisely Featherston</p> <p>Tanya...Ruth Moore</p>	<p>Maurice...Toryn Bertolotto</p> <p>Serena...Jeselyn Carr</p> <p>Endora...Zephina Michaud</p> <p><b>The Tourists &amp; Townspeople</b></p> <p>Harry...Sylas Brink</p> <p>Lu...Lilith Fay</p> <p>Deana/Connie...Avery Dobesh</p> <p>Stuart...Jack Miley</p> <p>Helen...Madi Rhoads,</p> <p>Marlene...Ari Beguine</p> <p>Bart...Kelton Streeter</p> <p>Chuck...Daniel Eddy</p> <p><b>Puppeteers</b></p> <p>Aurora Elk Nation, Madi Rhoads, Ari Beguine, &amp; Paisley Featherston</p> <p><b>Stage Managers</b></p> <p>Adeline Humbracht &amp; Paityn Millett</p> <p><b>Sound</b></p> <p>Wyatt Stumpf &amp; Cade Pearson</p> <p><b>Lights</b></p> <p>Rebecca Stumpf &amp; Tayleigh Woodriddle</p> <p><b>Prop Masters</b></p> <p>Gracelynn Williams &amp; Ava Martell</p> <p><b>Tech Crew</b></p> <p>Hunter Mckay, Piper Curran, Elise Wood, Piper Davis, Devyn Perschbacher, Billy Rosencranz, Jaxon Sanderlin, Sam Goodvin, Paul Croteau, Marcus Shannon, William Collins, &amp; Bruz Hartman</p> <p><b>Set Construction:</b></p> <p>Terry Hoscheid &amp; Tynuthi Crittenden</p> <p><b>Program &amp; Poster Art:</b></p> <p>Kendal Schreier</p> <p><b>Costumes &amp; Hair:</b></p> <p>Colleen Anderson &amp; Andrea Rhoads</p>
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**Community Calendar**

**Belle Silver Lining Lunch Program**

Every day of the week

11am-1pm Belle Silver Lining Senior Center;  
828 Kingsbury St. • 605-892-6285

Belle Silver Lining is open so come and enjoy a different lunch menu Monday thru Friday. \$7 suggested donation.

**Belle Silver Lining Thrift Store**

Closed Monday; Tuesday-Friday 10am-5pm;  
Saturday 10am-4pm

Belle Silver Lining Senior Center 828 Kingsbury St.  
605-892-6285

For your shopping pleasure.

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

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## The Scout Journalism

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.

The *Dakota Scout* is a South Dakota owned, sourced and printed independent operation co-founded by Ellis and Sneve. Together, they have more than 30 years of combined experience in South Dakota journalism that have earned them reputations as dogged reporters who've not lost touch with their neighbors' sensibilities. Be in the Know!



Jonathan Ellis & Joe Sneve

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## BELLE FOURCHE ST. PAUL CATHOLIC CHURCH

Ash Wednesday – 6:00 pm

**Penance Services:**  
6:00 pm - 7:00 pm  
March 12th & 26th  
April 2nd, 9th & 16th

**Friday Stations of the Cross:**  
Each Friday during Lent we will pray the Stations of the Cross followed by a Lenten meal and a short talk on faith practices.



Contd. From A1 **Dance**

Lining made giant LEGO decorations that lined the room, packages of LEGO bricks greeted each table setting and LEGO play tables were set up for the kids to enjoy.

"We have a great turnout. So we're expecting at least 50 to 100 and we're close to that, so great turnout, great weather and great for the first year! And the theme, the LEGO theme seems to be going well," said Mary Riley, Events Coordinator. "This is the first year, so this is like a trial to see their interests."

The evening began with a social hour at 6:00 p.m. A perfect

time to socialize with friends, play games or have professional pictures taken. C.

Snow Imagery provided commemorative photos with a portion of the proceeds going to Belle Silver Lining.

A dinner of salad, Chicken Alfredo, breadsticks and dessert was served at 7:00 p.m. Dancing began at 8:00 p.m. with music provided by Colt 45. Drawings were held throughout the night for a blanket, a photo package and a LEGO set. LEGO vendor Sam Moore had a booth set up.

His motto is It's Moore fun with LEGO, and he is an autho-

rized LEGO reseller. "It's going great! We have a lot of great sets for every age. And me, personally, I love LEGO! I've always been into LEGO, so it's always fun," he said. He said his store sells LEGO for cheaper than big box stores. He also carries rare and vintage items.

You can find him online at MooresMinifigures.com. The Mother Son dance is a fundraiser for Belle Silver Lining whose mission is to celebrate, embrace and serve older adults for the betterment of our community. Tickets were sold for \$35.00 each.



The LEGO table was a popular area during social hour. Longbrake photos



Mother Son Dance attendees explore the games at each table setting.

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)

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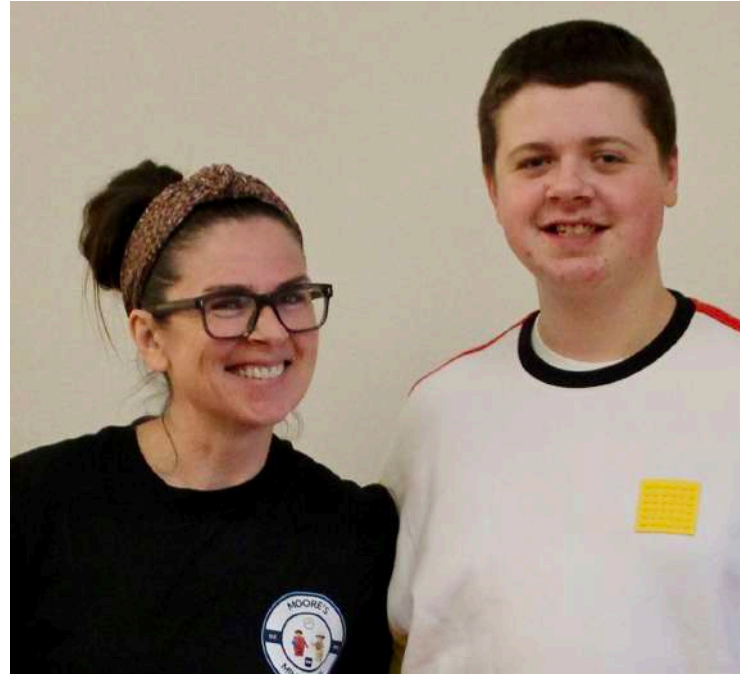
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**Alan Kindsfater**  
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(Above) Vendor Sam Moore of Moore's Minifigures and his mom Jade. (Below) Dressed up for the Mother Son Dance but taking some time to play at the LEGO station.



## Silver Linings Resident Letter

Headline: Let's Rename Belle Fourche to Belle Souls!

To my Dear Belle Fourche Community,

The mother son dance that was held at the community hall to benefit one of my FAVORITE places (Belle Silver Linings) was something so very special to me! When my son got invited to help sponsor the event, he was tickled pink! He is an 18 year old businessman - his business: LEGO! But despite the neat pros opportunity, an atmosphere, delicious homemade meal and lots of great Lego toys, it was still something else entirely that touched my soul on Saturday.

Community. Community is family you chose. I watched as community members volunteered during this beautiful dance. It was precious to see EVERY SINGLE SON USE EVERY SINGLE SPECIAL gift (mom, grandma, step mom and mentor) out on the dance floor. The DJ "Bull" had a special way of encouraging even the shyest of boys out to dance.

A blanket was hand crafted by a lovely local lady and the blanket was ruffled off. That alone was worthy of a joyous tear because it was an image of a mother with her young son - holding hands. I bet the mom who won that blanket will treasure it always.

A Ready To Go Song (Angels - look in your mother's eyes) was the first song the young boys could hear their special gifts onto the floor with. This is when it gets hard for me.

You see, I have two biological sons and one nephew that we had asked to be our son.

But of those three sons, only one is close. The other boys we cherish, we miss dearly. Some times I call them our prodigal sons.

As I watched the young boys (still at the age where love and hugs and dancing with mom isn't an embarrassing burden) I realized that this community event was fostering more than a strong local economy. This community event was fostering family itself. See why we might consider renaming our beautiful forks to "Beautiful Souls?"

Thank you to all who supported both dances (daddy daughter and mother son) and thank you for the bold and unhidden light that shines in Belle Souls... ever Belle Fourche!!!

God Bless you,

Jade McGivane - Resident

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(Above L) Viewing of the Photography entries at the Tri-State Museum for the **3rd Annual Belle Fourche Arts Council Photography Contest**. (Above R) Attendees of the 3rd Annual Belle Fourche Arts Council Rural Life Expressions Photography Contest Reception were treated to delicious food. (Below-R) Judges for the Photo Contest introduced themselves and then announced the winners. From left: **Hunter Anderson, Rod Olson, and Skott Chandler**. (Below L) **Nick Krull** won 3rd Place in the Adult Landscape Photo Competition. *Longbrake Photos*



**Roger O'Dea** received first place with his picture, *Native Pride*, in the Adult People category.



Who knew it was possible to tie with yourself, but that is what **Leith Sandness** did! Two of his animal pictures were both audience favorites as they tied for the People's Choice Award winner.

**Photos from A1**

and Skott Chandler. Anderson shared that he was familiar with the feelings that go along with being judged in a photography competition. "I know it's just hard to put yourself out there being judged, and that's a tough deal. I majored in photography and so we had to do that every week—just get cut down, it was a weekly deal," he said.

In the Youth Division, Jack Johnson had an amazing night. He won 1st place in each of the three divisions, Landscape, People, and Animal, and his animal picture, *Cat on a Post*, won the People's Choice Award.

In the Adult Division, Leith Sandness won 3rd in the An-

imal Division and then went on to tie with himself for two of his Animal photos for the People's Choice Award.

Winning entries will be displayed for thirty days following the final judging. Copies of the winning photographs will be on display around town and in area businesses. "They put together a group photo of the youth and the adult winners and then we have it on display at the library, the Rec Center, and downtown business," explained Charlotte Dougherty, BF Arts Council. "They are out there on display for a month so people get a chance to see them. We hope it encourages people who don't usually do that type of thing—that they could do that!"



(R) First place in the Adult Landscape category was **Charla O'Dea**; **Linda Leach** won 3rd place in Adult People category Award winners shown with Museum's **Jean Maher**. *Lonbrake Photos*

**World Day of Prayer**  
From A1

ceremony, music was performed by The Pickers, adding a uplifting atmosphere to the event.

Participants engaged in prayers for peace, healing, and strength, joining a movement around the globe of believers who observe this special day. The inspiring theme served as a reminder of each person's divine worth, fostering a spirit

of encouragement and renewal among those present.

As the service concluded, attendees enjoyed a time of fellowship over a shared lunch, exchanging stories and strengthening connections within the community.

Organizers expressed gratitude for the continued support of World Day of Prayer and look forward to many more years of this meaningful tradition.



**The Pickers** provided the music for **World Day of Prayer**: **Dan Gilger, Gordon Hogsett, Eric Beals, and Jan Gilger**. *Hunter Anderson Photos*



**Mary Wendt** serves as the chairman of the **World Day of Prayer**, pictured: **Eric Beals, Jan Gilger, Charlotte Dougherty, Maureen Beals, Mary Buchholz, Diane Reid, Pastor Sheri Fadley, Mary Wendt, Linda Wendt and Rhonda Myers**.



**Rhonda Myers** shares her part of the **World Day of Prayer** service.



**World Day of Prayer** presenters exit the sanctuary at conclusion of **World Day of Prayer** service



**Bobbi Ward** presents at the **World Day of Prayer** with tenant's altar table in the foreground. *Hunter Anderson Photos*.

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Justin Tupper ~ Cattle Yards Manager  
605-680-0259  
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Randy Searer ~ Auctioneer 406-480-1974  
Tim Tetrault ~ Fieldman: 605-642-9792 •  
605-641-0328

Ray Pepin ~ Fieldman: 605-892-5072  
Tyler Escott ~ Fieldman: 406-853-5690  
Scott Crowser ~ Fieldman: 605-645-2654

Casey Humble ~ Fieldman: 605-490-9829  
Kelly Baker ~ Fieldman: 605-569-3007  
JL Driskill ~ Fieldman: 307-660-5422

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

## Cattle Report - Friday, March 14, 2025

Just over 1000 hd today  
Yearlings were higher again today!  
Weigh ups sold steady

Next Sale - March 21 - Bred Heifer & Cow Special - 10 AM  
Thank you for marketing with St Onge Livestock!

### Feeder Cattle

Duprel & Sons, Jack, Sturgis SD	40	Bld	Hfr	860	\$279.50
Duprel & Sons, Jack, Sturgis SD	7	Bld	Hfr	856	\$285.00
Duprel & Sons, Jack, Sturgis SD	23	Bld	Hfr	849	\$275.00
Duprel & Sons, Jack, Sturgis SD	14	Bld	Hfr	740	\$317.00
Boylan, Robert, Newell SD	70	Bld	Hfr	735	\$299.00
Powell, Stanley, Biddle MT	41	Bld	Str	658	\$344.50
Powell, Stanley, Biddle MT	17	Bld	Str	553	\$383.00
Burghdoff, Gerald/Rebecca, Camp Crook	11	Bld	Hfr	725	\$300.00
Burghdoff, Gerald/Rebecca, Camp Crook	19	R/Ch	Hfr	714	\$270.00
Elmore Cattle Co, Gillette WY	11	Bld	Str	652	\$334.00
Holland, David Or Sandra, Moorcroft WY	10	B/R	Hfr	573	\$315.00
Hook, Lenord W & Carolyn J, Alva WY	22	Bld	Hfr	611	\$313.00
Laduke, Jim, Nisland SD	10	Bld	Str	718	\$311.00
Laduke, Jim, Nisland SD	11	Bld	Hfr	707	\$278.00
Lenhart, Jade Or Cinnamon, Weston WY	33	Bld	Hfr	341	\$449.00
Mackaben, Ronny, Broadus MT	15	Bld	Str	430	\$425.00
Mackaben, Ronny, Broadus MT	13	B/R	Hfr	428	\$360.00
Peegee Ranch, Arvada WY	19	Bld	Hfr	548	\$330.00
Randall Inc, Broadus MT	20	B/R	Bull	733	\$283.00
Randall Inc, Broadus MT	18	B/R	Bull	609	\$317.50

### Weigh Up Cows

3i Dunning Cattle Lc, Otter MT	1	Bld	Hfr	765	\$200.00
969 Ranch, Broadus MT	3	Bld	Hfr	953	\$238.00
969 Ranch, Broadus MT	1	Bld	Hfr	1070	\$222.50
Andersen, Myron, Whitewood SD	1	Bld	Cwette	1330	\$148.00
Arledge Ranch, Ekalaka MT	1	Bld	Hfr	950	\$207.50
Arledge Ranch, Ekalaka MT	9	Bld	Cow	1331	\$144.00
Arledge Ranch, Ekalaka MT	1	Bld	Cow	1400	\$139.00
Arledge Ranch, Ekalaka MT	3	Bld	Cow	1066	\$132.00
Black, Carl F & Vicky K, Rozet WY	1	Bld	Cwette	1235	\$167.00
Blair Bros Lc, Vale SD	3	Bld	Cwette	1231	\$157.00
Blair Bros Lc, Vale SD	1	Bld	Cow	1440	\$138.00
Blair Bros Lc, Vale SD	1	Bld	Cow	1680	\$117.00
Brown, Chris, Fruitdale SD	1	Bld	Cwette	1205	\$165.00
Cahoon, Jeanette Or Dan, Sonnette MT	1	Bld	Hfr	1140	\$204.00
Cahoon, Jeanette Or Dan, Sonnette MT	1	Bld	Cow	1380	\$133.00
Carroll, Donald Jr, Fairburn SD	3	Bld	Cow	1333	\$146.00
Crowser, Scott Or Carla, Whitewood SD	1	Bld	Cow	1460	\$143.00
Davis, Alfreda S, Belle Fourche SD	1	Bld	Hfr	1040	\$195.00
Davis, Douglas Or Julia, Belle Fourche SD	1	Bld	Hfr	935	\$227.50
Davis, Douglas Or Julia, Belle Fourche SD	1	Bld	Hfr	1170	\$175.00
Duprel Livestock, Vale SD	5	Bld	Hfr	1132	\$217.00
Duprel Livestock, Vale SD	7	Bld	Cow	1442	\$146.50
Duprel Livestock, Vale SD	6	Bld	Cow	1287	\$137.00
Farm In The Dell, Broadus MT	1	Bld	Cow	1510	\$129.00
Gotfredson Elm Creek Ranch, Newell SD	3	Bld	Hfr	1095	\$220.00
Gotfredson Elm Creek Ranch, Newell SD	1	Bld	Hfr	1155	\$173.00
Gotfredson Elm Creek Ranch, Newell SD	1	Bld	Cow	1105	\$147.00
Gotfredson Elm Creek Ranch, Newell SD	1	Bld	Cow	1355	\$142.50
Gotfredson Elm Creek Ranch, Newell SD	1	Bld	Cow	1395	\$140.00
Gregersen, Dennis, Gillette WY	3	R/rl	Cow	1713	\$137.50
Gregersen, Dennis, Gillette WY	1	Bld	Cow	1310	\$137.00
Grubl, Christopher, Sturgis SD	1	Bld	Hfr	900	\$232.50
Grubl, Christopher, Sturgis SD	1	Bld	Hfr	1160	\$187.50
Grubl, Christopher, Sturgis SD	2	Bld	Cow	1482	\$145.00
Grubl, Christopher, Sturgis SD	2	Bld	Cow	1560	\$142.00
Haier Enterprise Inc, Spearfish SD	1	Bld	Hfr	950	\$237.00
Haier Enterprise Inc, Spearfish SD	1	Bld	Cow	1485	\$147.50
H-C Feeders, Rozet WY	1	Bld	Cwette	1090	\$150.00
Herrington, Gary, Hermosa SD	3	Bld	Cow	1648	\$145.50
Herrington, Gary, Hermosa SD	2	Bld	Cow	1730	\$140.50
Herrington, Gary, Hermosa SD	1	Bld	Cow	1350	\$137.00
Howie, Ronald D, White Owl SD	3	Bld	Hfr	955	\$230.00
Howie, Ronald D, White Owl SD	1	Bld	Hfr	945	\$225.00
Howie, Ronald D, White Owl SD	1	Bld	Cow	640	\$145.00
J Six Enterprises, Seneca KS	2	Bld	Hfr	1005	\$185.00
J Six Enterprises, Seneca KS	1	Bld	Hfr	1070	\$172.50
J Six Enterprises, Seneca KS	4	Bld	Cow	1421	\$147.50
J Six Enterprises, Seneca KS	1	Bld	Cow	1175	\$145.00
Jewett, Tyler Or Sally, Belle Fourche SD	1	Herf	Cow	1335	\$141.00
Jewett, Tyler Or Sally, Belle Fourche SD	8	Bld	Cow	1496	\$135.50
Johnson Sheep & Cattle, Belle Fourche	1	Bld	Cow	1560	\$135.00
Kretschman, Kelby Or Lacey, Arvada WY	3	Bld	Cwette	1276	\$169.00
Kretschman, Kelby Or Lacey, Arvada WY	1	Bld	Cow	1310	\$145.50
Larson, Tom, Belle Fourche SD	1	Bld	Cow	1845	\$138.00
Lenhart, Jade Or Cinnamon, Weston WY	2	Bld	Hfr	865	\$227.00
Lorenz, Tyrell, Sturgis SD	1	Bld	Cow	1400	\$145.00
Marshall, David, Rozet WY	2	Bld	Cwette	1337	\$155.00
Maul, Robert Or Laura, Gillette WY	1	Bld	Cow	1365	\$134.00
Moody, Jim, Belle Fourche SD	1	Bld	Cwette	1295	\$148.50
Moody, Jim, Belle Fourche SD	1	Bld	Cow	1830	\$138.50
Miller, Ty, Newcastle WY	1	Red	Cow	1155	\$147.50
Myers, James & Mary, Belle Fourche SD	1	Bld	Hfr	885	\$220.00
Nuckolls Ranch, Hulet WY	4	Bld	Cwette	1412	\$148.50
Nuckolls Ranch, Hulet WY	1	Bld	Cwette	1405	\$148.00
Nuckolls Ranch, Hulet WY	2	Bld	Cow	1262	\$144.50
Nuckolls Ranch, Hulet WY	2	Bld	Cow	1335	\$141.00
Peters, Henry (Toby)Connie, Sturgis SD	1	Bld	Hfr	865	\$185.00
Policky Ranch Partnership, Upton WY	2	Bld	Hfr	1285	\$135.00
Randall Inc, Broadus MT	1	Red	Cow	1470	\$142.50
Randall, Ray, Broadus MT	1	Bld	Hfr	860	\$232.50
Randall, Ross, Broadus MT	2	Bld	Hfr	1000	\$220.00
Randall, Ross, Broadus MT	1	Bld	Cwette	1245	\$160.00
Rasmussen, Dean/Maxine, Camp Crook	3	Bld	Cow	1545	\$144.00
Rbj Ranch West Lc, Sundance WY	2	Bld	Cow	1482	\$145.00
Red Rose Cattle Lc, Caputa SD	1	Red	Cow	1515	\$145.00
Red Rose Cattle Lc, Caputa SD	2	B/R	Cow	1232	\$144.00

Red Rose Cattle Lc, Caputa SD	1	Red	Cow	1225	\$94.00
Richards, Kristy, Newell SD	1	Bld	Hfr	1050	\$190.00
Ritthaler Cattle Co, Upton WY	1	Bld	Cow	1230	\$137.00
Russiff Lazy Pk Ranch, Olive MT	1	Bld	Cow	1415	\$140.00
Sabo, Wyatt, Reva SD	3	Bld	Cow	1108	\$141.50
Sabo, Wyatt, Reva SD	1	Bld	Cow	985	\$131.00
Schueneman Trust, John, Spearfish SD	2	Herf	Cwette	1277	\$149.00
Schueneman Trust, John, Spearfish SD	1	Herf	Cow	1415	\$145.00
Speck, Greg, Rapid City SD	1	Bld	Cow	1555	\$134.00
Sprague, Dale/Ruth Ann, Mud Butte SD	1	Bld	Cwette	1260	\$148.00
Sprague, Dale/Ruth Ann, Mud Butte SD	6	Bld	Cow	1324	\$147.00
Sprague, Dale/Ruth Ann, Mud Butte SD	2	Bld	Cow	1532	\$145.50
Sprague, Dale/Ruth Ann, Mud Butte SD	4	Bld	Cow	1500	\$145.50
Sprague, Dale/Ruth Ann, Mud Butte SD	1	Bld	Cow	1155	\$137.00
Sprague, Dale/Ruth Ann, Mud Butte SD	1	Bld	Cow	1360	\$130.00
Sprague, Dale/Ruth Ann, Mud Butte SD	1	Bld	Cow	1065	\$130.00
Sprague, Lyle, Nisland SD	1	Bld	Hfr	885	\$220.00
Sprague, Lyle, Nisland SD	1	Bld	Cwette	1250	\$149.00
Sprague, Lyle, Nisland SD	1	Bld	Cow	1285	\$147.50
Sprague, Lyle, Nisland SD	1	Bld	Cow	1365	\$134.00
Thompson, Ted, Whitewood SD	1	Bld	Cow	1520	\$140.00
Trimble, John, Rapid City SD	1	Bld	Cow	1200	\$145.00
Trump, Steve, Custer SD	1	Red	Hfr	1015	\$211.00
Trump, Steve, Custer SD	1	Bld	Hfr	875	\$190.00
Trump, Steve, Custer SD	1	Bld	Hfr	1170	\$182.50
Trump, Steve, Custer SD	1	Bld	Cwette	1340	\$148.00
Trump, Ty, Custer SD	1	Herf	Hfr	935	\$204.00

### Weigh Up Bulls

Anderson, Jon, Rapid City SD	1	Bld	Bull	1300	\$154.00
Bar 8 Cattle Company Lc, Gillette WY	1	Red	Bull	1665	\$160.00
Carr, Warren & Douglas, Gillette WY	1	Bld	Bull	1505	\$140.00
Duprel Livestock, Vale SD	2	Bld	Bull	1895	\$139.00
Duprel Livestock, Vale SD	1	Bld	Bull	1590	\$141.00
Fisk, Christopher & Karre, Rozet WY	1	Bld	Bull	2165	\$162.50
Gaskill Jr, Andrew Or Carlene, Volborg MT	1	Bld	Bull	2000	\$145.00
Gotfredson Elm Creek Ranch, Newell SD	1	Bld	Bull	2125	\$157.50
Graham Mt Ranch Inc, Broadus MT	1	Bld	Bull	1670	\$145.00
Graham Mt Ranch Inc, Broadus MT	1	Bld	Bull	1645	\$152.00
Howie, Ronald D, White Owl SD	1	Bld	Bull	1735	\$147.50
Kretschman, Kelby Or Lacey, Arvada WY	6	Bld	Bull	1036	\$226.50
Nuckolls Ranch, Hulet WY	1	Bld	Bull	1840	\$138.00
Rathbun, Tony, Sundance WY	1	Bld	Bull	1300	\$150.00
Red Rose Cattle Lc, Caputa SD	1	Red	Bull	1875	\$188.00
Red Rose Cattle Lc, Caputa SD	2	Red	Bull	1872	\$190.00
Red Rose Cattle Lc, Caputa SD	1	Red	Bull	1790	\$190.00
Red Rose Cattle Lc, Caputa SD	1	Red	Bull	1685	\$145.00
Ritthaler Cattle Co, Upton WY	2	Bld	Bull	2302	\$172.50
Ritthaler Cattle Co, Upton WY	1	Bld	Bull	1910	\$183.50
Ritthaler Cattle Co, Upton WY	1	Bld	Bull	1900	\$157.50
Ritthaler Cattle Co, Upton WY	1	Bld	Bull	1710	\$180.00
Ritthaler Cattle Co, Upton WY	1	Bld	Bull	1635	\$157.50
Stinson Livestock, Moorcroft WY	1	Bld	Bull	1580	\$150.00

## Friday, March 21, 2025

Bred Heifer & Cow Special

10 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 Hfrs & Cows

Cross 4 Ranch - 400 Blk 3 To 9 Yr Old Cows - Bred Blk - 4/5  
Wayne Jordan Ranch - 10 Blk Hfrs - 1100# - Bred Lbw Blk - 4/1 For 30 Days  
-24 Blk 3 Yr To Short Term Cows - Bred Blk Sim/Angus - 5/1 For 30 Days

Plus more by sale time!

## 2025 CATTLE SALES

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  
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Video Auction Time is Coming up very, quickly -  
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Contact Us For Your Video Marketing Needs

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. You can also call Justin Tupper at 605-680-0259 & he can let them know your cattle are coming also.  
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.

## NEWELL SHEEP YARDS

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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, March 13, 2025

Just under 1000 sheep for today's sale

Lamb market was higher

Slaughter ewes sold \$15 lower

NO SALE - March 20

Next Sale - March 27 - 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!

### Bred Ewes - Sold by the head

Mills, Steve, Boyes MT	35	3-6yr Ewes	179	270.00
Mills, Steve, Boyes MT	12	3-6yr Ewes	179	250.00

### Feeder Lambs

# Scott Peterson Sales

Quality Used Equipment



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 <p><b>\$8,750</b></p> <p>'70 GMC 19' Box &amp; Hoist Roll Tarp</p>	 <p><b>\$8,950</b></p> <p>Westfield 100-61 Low Pro Swing Hopper</p>	 <p><b>\$16,500</b></p> <p>NH 195 1000 PTO One Owner</p>	 <p><b>\$13,900</b></p> <p>JD 235 25' W/ 7" Spacing 20" Blades</p>
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# Butte County EQUIPMENT

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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.

*144 years ago*  
**Deadwood Pioneer-Times**  
**June 12, 1881**

**THE UTE POW-WOW**  
**The Peace Commissioners**  
**and the Ute Indians Have an**  
**Exciting Meeting Robr. Col-**  
**lyer Ridicules the Revision**  
**An Excited Pow-wow with**  
**the Utes** CUTES Los Pinos Agency, Colo, June 5 – Saturday the Ute commissioners met in conference with the head chief, Saponovanora, of the Utes, and his sub-chiefs Shavono, Piah, Alahandra and others. There were at least 1,200 Utes about the agency. The scenes within Agent Berry's office were exciting, dramatic and perilous in the extreme. The Ute Indian commission – Lessrs. Mears, Russells and McMorris – was present. Each Indian was heavily armed, and when the talk began the building was surrounded by the Utes, who occupied every available spot to listen to the conference. It being the regular ration day, together with the sidely circulated information among the Utes, a larger number were present than usual. The Utes were told by the commissioners, through an interpreter, that the commission had come to the agency for the purpose of carrying out the terms of the treaty entered into last year; that it was the wish and intention of the government to accomplish the terms of this treaty as expeditiously as possible, and remove the Utes upon the new reservation. This announcement had a perceptibly unfavorable impression upon the Chief Saponovanora, as well upon Shavono and the other subchiefs. The Utes were furthermore informed by the commissioners that it was decided to expedite matters with them and permit very little talk. There were further told that the government was disposed to treat them fairly and just, but an enforcement of the stipuations of the treaty was absolutely paramount to everything else; that they were to be located on a new reservation, and no deviation from this determination was possible. Shavono, the leading subchief,, exloamed loudly that there never was a treaty made – neither this one under consideration nor any other – and boldly demanded to know who signed a treaty. He was soon informed that every Indian present signed. To this, Shavona made no answer. The chiefs were informed that they could select five Utes to accompany the commission to the new reservation. Should they decline to make a selection, the commission would proceed without them, located their reservation, and remove the agency thereon. The presence of the military kept the Utes under submission. The orders for an escort have been received from Washington.

*117 years ago*  
**Argus-Leader Sioux Falls**  
**Saturday, August 1, 1908**  
**UTES GO HOME** Indians After Living in South Dakota Three Years, go Back to Utah Started on a Raid, Ute Made Prisoners by the U. S. Troopers

Chamberlain, Aug. 1 – With a journey of a thousand miles before them, and broken in spirit and weary of the renegade life they have been leading for the past three years, the remnants of the once powerful nation of Ute Indians, who three years ago this fall abandoned their reservation in Utah and fled to South Dakota, where they found a temporary refuge among the Sioux Indians, now are returning to their former home in Utah. It is estimated that three month will be required to make the long and tedious journey through Wyoming, Colorado and a part of Utah to their old reservation, where they will be content to pass the remainder of their lives. On the journey the Indians are accompanied by Capt. Johnson, U.S.A., and a part of a troop of the Second United States cavalry, who will remain with them constantly until they are once more, after an absence of three years, located upon their own reservation. The resperience of these Indians since abandoning their reservation three years ago, and partiapiating in a raid which had numerous sensational features, has been of a strenuous character. After raiding through Colorado and Wyoming and a part of Utah, they were captured by a large force of United States troops which had been sent into the field against them. The raiding Utes had reached the northeastern part of Wyoming before they were headed off by the troops and made prisoners of war. It is estimated that these Indians, who number only about three hundred counting men, women and children, have during the past three years cost the United States government fully \$1,000,000. Tiring of their Utah home, and believing that somewhere toward the rising sun they would find a land where existance would be a joy, they began a nomadic wandering that led them on, against governmental objections, until they wer stopped by troops in northeastern Wyoming. The In-

*118 years ago*  
**Star Tirbune**  
**Minneapolis, MN**  
**October 25, 1907**

**OUTBREAK** Ute Indians in South Dakota on War-path – Troops Ordered Out Pierre, S. D., Oct. 25 – Late reports from the Cheyenne River Indian reservation last night say that the threateded outbreak of Ute Indians was controlled before dark by the Indian police of the reservation. The Utes yesterday showed signs

of starting serious trouble, and the situation became so threatening that the officers in charge called for troops to control the uneasy redskins. These Utes are the ones who last year broke away from their reservation in Utah and traveled overland through Wyoming, causing uneasiness to settlers and much worry to troops that were detailed to follow them. After a chase of several hundred miles, the Utes agreed to settle down if they were not sent back to Utah. The Indians were finally place in the Cheyenne reservation and they have peaceful until yesterday.

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diens were in a greatly excited condition, and not until they were completely surrounded by about one thousand soldiers would they surrender to the authority of the United States government. For some days, as the troops gradually closed un upon them, it was generally expected they would not be captured without a bloody fight, which could only have resulted in a complete annihilation of the band of raiders. But when things were at the most critical juncture, better council prevailed and the Indians decided to surrender without a resort to arms. They were taken to Fort Meade where they were held as priners of war for some time, the government providing for their wants in the form of clothing and food. They at that threatened they would fight and die before returning to Utah, so officials of the government cast about with a view of securing them homes on some of the Sioux Indian reservations of western South Dakota. The result that the Sioux consented to lease to their Ute bretheren a large tract of land on their reservation. After the trouble near Thunder Butte last fall, which resulted in troops from every fort within reaching distance of the Cheyenne reservation being sent there, an effort was made to induce the Utes to return to their old reservation in Utah. The negotiations with the branch of the tribe which had remained in the Thunder Butte country finally resulted successfully, and they gave their consent to returning to Utah. A few days before the departure of the entire they were removed to the vicinity of the Black Hills, where they joined their fellows and the homeward journey to Utah was commenced in a body. The disaffection of these Indians, who ware known as the White River Utes, which it is hoped now has been settled for all time by the return of the tribe to Utah, was due to the action of the congress in opening their resevation to white settlement in 1904. Chiefs Appah and Red cap, the two old warriors who have been prominent in the wanderings of the tribe during the past three years, and the defiance of the fobernment, led the revolt at that time and went to Washington and later held a conference with Indian Commissioner Leupp, who made a long journey to Utah with the express purpose of endeavoring to pacify them. When the lands were opened all but the White River Utes accepted their fate and settled upon the eighty acres which had been assigned to each of them and took up the peaceful occupation of farming. After remaining in a sullen mood for some time, the White River utes sold ponies and furs and purchased arms and ammunition and started on their



by Mary Buchholz

of starting serious trouble, and the situation became so threatening that the officers in charge called for troops to control the uneasy redskins. These Utes are the ones who last year broke away from their reservation in Utah and traveled overland through Wyoming, causing uneasiness to settlers and much worry to troops that were detailed to follow them. After a chase of several hundred miles, the Utes agreed to settle down if they were not sent back to Utah. The Indians were finally place in the Cheyenne reservation and they have peaceful until yesterday.

**CANDLES AND MIRRORS #25**  
**By DeAnn (Wolkow) Kruempel**  
**Sometimes Small Miracles**  
**are the Most Amazing**

"I am so sorry." I pulled the heavy quilt over the stack of white boxes and tucked in the corners. "Thank you for all that you've given me." A brick on top, a bag of leaves and several two-by-sixes held the covering in place. My heart hurt as I felt pretty certain that this was good-bye to my faithful hive of honeybees.



farms, trying to sell the syrup cans of honey they had collected. Did Dad's memories plant a seed in the heart of his ten-year-old daughter? I only know I dreamed of having bees someday.

Over the years, I have learned much of the science of what takes place in a bee hive, but I decided to find out exactly how those awe-inspiring, fuzzy girls had survived such a prolonged bitter spell.

Simply put, honey bees must create their own heat source and be able to reach a food supply (stored honey) in order to survive cold. The queen needs a temperature of at least 80 and is protected at all cost. Once temperatures fall to 57 in the hive, workers begin to form a cluster around the queen and younger bees. As the hive cools to 23, the bees in the cluster squeeze together tightly, rapidly vibrating their muscles to generate heat. They keep their heads pointed inward. This moves the heat to the center, allowing the bees in the middle to feed on honey. The outer shell of bees remains nearly motionless, acting as insulation. The inner bees, who continuously vibrate their wings trade places with the outer bees so they can warm up. The cluster expands and contracts as the temperature fluctuates, keeping that core temperature near 80 degrees. All the time, there is a constant insulating, vibrating, feeding, and switching places while they slowly position themselves over a fresh supply of honey.

Each day I scoped out the small dark mountain. Did I dare hope? But forecasts only got worse. Snow fell one night, and the next day the quilt-topped mountain was capped with white.

Finally, after what seemed forever, the frozen inferno was over. I trudged through the snow and pulled the cover back from the front of the hive. I held my ear to one side and listened. Nothing. Sunshine blazed down warming the next day to 55. Again, I trekked through the snow to check the bees. Within 30 feet, I noticed movement at the hive opening. I moved closer and gasped. The little critters were circling in front. I stood and watched a long time, for miracles are meant to be savored. Bees flew and returned, some whizzed by my ear. A gentle buzzing sound lifted in the breeze, nature's happy song of life.

The snow all around was pocked with little craters. A tiny brown spot centered each small basin and a light tan circle fanned around the spot and faded to white at the crater's rim. There were hundreds of these little indentations, each a result of a bee's cleansing flight and the warming sun. Never wanting to soil their hives, the critters hold their poop all winter until the first balmy day.

As I observed, I remembered our father telling of helping his dad with bees. During the Depression they drove around to neighboring

Scientists theorize that some bees are strangely able to warm their own bodies to provide a heat source. Infrared images of study hives show tiny oval-shaped hot spots close to the hive center. How can these select few insects become little heaters?

Turns out no one knows. That makes it even more amazing! All of the stories from Kruempel's previous columns have been published into books that are full of fun stories and precious memories. Those four books, along with her historical fiction series, "Promises to Keep," are available on Amazon. Contact the author at [deannkruempelaauthor@gmail.com](mailto:deannkruempelaauthor@gmail.com).



(Above) 6th Cavalry returning Ute Indians through Belle Fourche, 1908 (Below) Ute indians camped at Belle Fourche,



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FEEDER CATTLE	HD	DESC	WT	BID	\$/HEAD
Ben Or Lori Garman, Belle Fourche SD	89	Black-Str	640	359.00	\$2,298.40
	78	Black-Str	576	388.00	\$2,233.23
	37	Black-Str	607	362.00	\$2,195.97
	97	Black-Hfr	618	322.00	\$1,990.92
	45	Black-Hfr	525	337.00	\$1,770.37
	40	Black-Hfr	597	316.00	\$1,886.91
Box L Cattle Co, Hammond MT	74	Blk/BwF-Str	774	301.50	\$2,333.97
	73	Blk/BwF-Str	776	301.50	\$2,340.75
	72	Black-Str	795	297.50	\$2,366.57
	68	Blk/BwF-Str	706	314.00	\$2,216.47
	66	Blk/BwF-Hfr	628	313.50	\$1,968.16
Dave Nisley, Broadus MT	37	Black-Str	618	370.00	\$2,287.50
Todd Meccage, Baker MT	22	Blk/BwF-Str	743	297.00	\$2,206.57
	21	Black-Hfr	686	285.50	\$1,959.75
Kling Ranch, Belle Fourche SD	103	Blk/BwF-Hfr	520	342.50	\$1,781.16
	49	Blk/BwF-Hfr	451	357.00	\$1,610.87
	40	Red-Hfr	683	290.00	\$1,981.42
James & Jessica Halverson, Sundance WY	19	Blk/BwF-Str	600	375.00	\$2,249.01
	5	Black-Str	479	414.00	\$1,983.06
	8	Blk/BwF-Hfr	516	331.00	\$1,708.78
Ondriezek & Fligge, Upton WY	44	Black-Str	523	342.00	\$1,789.28
Ginger Harrington, Ekalaka MT	30	Black-Hfr	515	340.00	\$1,749.86
	10	Black-Hfr	379	407.50	\$1,542.38
Kylee Kennedy, Ekalaka MT	6	Black-Hfr	646	297.00	\$1,918.12
Snook Land & Livstck. Llc., Sundance WY	48	Blk/BwF-Str	482	407.00	\$1,960.80
Thomas V Simons, Edgemont SD	21	Black-Str	718	299.00	\$2,146.39
	9	Blk/BwF-Hfr	592	290.00	\$1,717.44
Saunders Land & Livstck Co, Gillette WY	14	Black-Hfr	548	327.00	\$1,792.66
	9	Red-Hfr	517	337.00	\$1,741.16

WEIGH-UPS	HD	DESC	WT	BID	\$/HEAD
Jw & Joey Moore, Sundance WY	1	Black-Cow	1515	146.50	\$2,219.47
	1	Black-Cow	1355	142.00	\$1,924.10
	1	Black-Cow	1405	142.00	\$1,995.10
	1	Black-Hfr	1135	217.00	\$2,462.95
Alan Miller, Beulah WY	1	Black-Cow	1375	152.00	\$2,090.00
Ivn Cattle Co Llc, Newcastle WY	1	Black-Cow	1640	142.50	\$2,337.00
	1	Black-Cow	1385	147.00	\$2,035.95
Gary Wells, Forsyth MT	2	Black-Cow	1218	178.00	\$2,167.15
Steven Schuldies, Nisland SD	1	Black-Cow	1500	142.50	\$2,137.50
	1	Black-Cow	1335	141.00	\$1,882.35
	1	Black-Cow	1225	143.00	\$1,751.75
Ryan Xz Ranch Llc, Aladdin WY	1	Black-Cow	1405	147.50	\$2,072.37
Ben Or Lori Garman, Belle Fourche SD	8	Blk/BwF-Cow	1358	147.50	\$2,003.23
	1	Black-Cow	1600	135.00	\$2,160.00
	9	Black-Cow	1273	144.00	\$1,833.60
	2	Black-Cow	1155	168.00	\$1,940.40
	1	Black-Cow	1360	134.00	\$1,822.40
Six Mile Cattle Co, Dayton WY	11	Rd/Blk-Cow	1325	144.50	\$1,914.62
	1	Black-Cow	1150	142.00	\$1,633.00
	1	Red-Cow	1315	149.00	\$1,959.35
	1	Black-Hfr	1115	195.00	\$2,174.25
	1	Red-Hfr	1015	207.50	\$2,106.12
Riley Lesh, Ekalaka MT	4	Black-Hfr	1250	189.00	\$2,362.50
	1	RwF-Cow	1530	146.00	\$2,233.80
Tyler Robertson, Hermosa SD	2	Black-Cow	1598	138.00	\$2,204.55
	5	Blk/BwF-Cow	1276	145.50	\$1,856.58

Ross Or Barbara Delzer, Belle Fourche SD	1	Black-Cow	1900	136.00	\$2,584.00
Shane Finn, Nisland SD	3	Red-Cow	1300	157.00	\$2,041.00
	1	Red-Cow	1480	146.00	\$2,160.80
	2	Red-Cow	1275	165.00	\$2,103.75
	1	Red-Cow	1270	144.00	\$1,828.80
Henry Ranch Llc, Edgemont SD	1	Black-Cow	1750	143.00	\$2,502.50
Henry & Viola Lambright, Hulet WY	6	Blk/BwF-Cow	1231	139.00	\$1,710.85
	1	Black-Cow	1045	202.50	\$2,116.12
Paul Or Nancy Brence, Ekalaka MT	2	Black-Hfr	1118	197.00	\$2,201.47
	2	Black-Cow	1553	147.50	\$2,289.93
Frederickson Ranch, Spearfish SD	2	Black-Cow	1443	144.50	\$2,084.41
	1	Black-Cow	1355	158.00	\$2,140.90
	1	BwF-Cow	1680	135.00	\$2,268.00
Burke Cattle Llc, Belle Fourche SD	3	Black-Cow	1258	149.00	\$1,874.91
Terry Or Deb Mpherson, Piedmont SD	2	Blk/BwF-Cow	1508	141.00	\$2,125.57
	1	BwF-Cow	1310	155.00	\$2,030.50
Darrell Or Jeanne Ennen, Rapid City SD	1	Black-Cow	1700	138.00	\$2,346.00
Schloreff Enterprises, Sundance WY	1	Black-Cow	1415	144.50	\$2,044.67
	1	Black-Cow	1415	139.00	\$1,968.85
Dave Nisley, Broadus MT	1	Black-Cow	1425	142.00	\$2,023.50
	2	Black-Cow	1563	143.00	\$2,234.37
	1	Red-Cow	1555	138.50	\$2,153.67

BULLS	HD	DESC	WT	BID	\$/HEAD
Cjr Ranch Llc, Gillette WY	1	Black-Bull Drug Free	1730	160.00	\$2,768.00
Clark Blake, Belle Fourche SD	1	Black-Bull Drug Free	2005	178.00	\$3,568.90
	1	Black-Bull Drug Free	2085	182.50	\$3,805.12
Frederickson Ranch, Spearfish SD	3	Black-Bull Drug Free	2072	172.50	\$3,573.62
Thomas W & Liane M Sewell, Upton WY	1	Black-Bull Drug Free	1990	185.00	\$3,681.50

**\*\*ATTENTION ON-LINE BUYERS\*\***  
ON-LINE BUYERS REGISTRATION MUST BE COMPLETED BY WEDNESDAY NOON PRIOR TO SALE DAY.

**High Plains Commodities Offices**  
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Kim Kling - Kem Kjerstad

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**RECEIVING STATIONS**

<b>Broadus,MT</b> Travis Linch   605-892-5951	<b>Forsyth,MT</b> Scott Anderson   406-351-1844
<b>Ekalaka,MT</b> Riley Lesh   406-697-0573	<b>Jordan,MT</b> Jason Bollinger   406-690-8344
<b>Brett Loughlin</b>   605-210-0615	<b>Wyoming</b> Mike Greenough   307-620-2597

**BRED CATTLE & WEIGH-UP SPECIAL**  
**MARCH 20, 2025**  
**WEIGH UPS @ 10 AM MT | BREDS @ 12 MT**

<b>BRED CATTLE - COMPLETE DISPERSION</b> KP STEVENS-MT 175 BLK 4YO-ST BRED COWS BRED BLK, CLV 4/15- 55 DAYS, REPRO SHOTS. POURED	<b>FEEDER CATTLE</b> MARK FIX-MT 50 BLK MOSTLY HFERS 550-600# PC, NI, DRUG-FREE
--	---

**REGULAR SALE**  
**MARCH 27, 2025**  
**ALL CLASSES @ 10 AM MT**

**SD Cattle & Horse Brand**  
located on RH  
Selling Thursday, 4/03/25 @ Noon

**UPCOMING SALE SCHEDULE**

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 UPS @ 10 AM MT, FEEDERS @ 12 MT

April 24, 2025..... REGULAR SALE - ALL CLASSES @ 10 AM MT

May 1, 2025..... FEEDER CATTLE & WEIGH UP SPECIAL - WEIGH UPS @ 10 AM MT, FEEDERS @ 12 MT

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

**UPCOMING BULL SALE SCHEDULE**

TUESDAY, APRIL 1ST @ 1:30 PM..... BAR 69 ANGUS RANCH

THURSDAY, APRIL 10TH @ 1:00 PM..... REICH CHAROLAIS RANCH

THURSDAY, APRIL 17TH @ 1:00 PM..... CS ANGUS

THURSDAY, APRIL 24TH @ 1:00 PM..... J SPEAR CATTLE CO

THURSDAY, MAY 22ND @ 1:00 PM..... ANNUAL TURN-OUT TIMES

..... ALL BREEDS BULL SALE

**Queens from A1**

styling skills.

Other clinicians included, Michelle May teaching microphone use and impromptu speaking skills, Cheyenne Winkler helping with interview brush-up practice, and Kiara Brown and Brittnay Lambert teaching modeling techniques.

Raye Brown, Black Hills Roundup Queen Coordinator explained, "all of these clinicians have volunteered their time and we prepared a pamphlet with tips and tricks from modeling, arena etiquette, headshots, the packet is probably 50 to 100 pages of different tricks."

So much behind the scenes goes into becoming a rodeo queen or princess, it is hard to understand all of the expectations without being able to learn from others who have already experienced what it takes to suc-

ceed and are now able to light the way for others.

"This clinic was created with the need to broaden the knowledge of the young ladies aspiring to be rodeo queens. And with our title, (Black Hills Roundup) it's a PRCA title so there are greater expectations because our rodeo is growing and it's getting bigger and we need girls that can be a positive and friendly representatives that have knowledge of the rodeo and can that can market the rodeo," said Brown. "We have so much publicity on animals and on agriculture in rodeo and we want to keep it positive, we want to be able to educate the public on our Western way of life."

Longhorn reminded the girls that they are basically filling out an application and applying for a job with the rodeo they are hoping to represent and to put in

the work needed to get that job. But most of all, "remember to have fun!"

Of course there are no guarantees of future outcomes, one can only set goals and work to achieve them. "This clinic is preparing you for a contest, it isn't telling you that you will win the contest," said Brown.

This is the first time the Black Hills Roundup Queen Committee has put together a Queen Clinic, but they are hoping to do many more in the future. Brown said, "We'll do it more, stay tuned to our Miss Black Hills Roundup Facebook page."

Your chance to represent the six time PRCA Medium Size Rodeo of the Year is fast approaching. The 8th Annual Black Hills Roundup Queen Competition takes place June 30, 2025 with Coronation on July 1, 2025.



After a busy morning learning rodeo queen skills, participants take a break and spend time eating a free lunch. Longbrake photo

**SPEE-DEE DELIVERY SERVICES**

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- Create call tags at Dakota Petals or SpeeDee to retrieve your freight throughout the Midwest.
- Have suppliers/vendors in the Midwest? Inform them you like to check pricing with SpeeDee. Then you can ask Dakota Petals to get you a price and create call tags. The freight can be shipped directly or back to Dakota Petals for additional savings.
- Find something cool on the Marketplace/Internet that would need shipping? Same story, with SpeeDee it is inexpensive and highly accessible.

**SPEE-DEE Why use delivery**

- No coverage charges until 130". That means that if your length + Width + Height is less than 130" it is considered to be a standard package- and that is a pretty big limit.
- Next day service to a large area (Map) White is next day, Blue is two day, red three day service from 57717.
- Quick, hands-On Service. Phenomenal reputation for care and execution.
- Cost Savings. There is no other way to say it, when you compare shipping in the Midwest compared to FEDEX or UPS SpeeDee is always the most affordable way to go.

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Jack The Clipper  
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1411 5th Ave Ste A - Belle Fourche, SD 57717

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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  
www.bellefourchegmc.com

## LANDMARK MISSIONARY BAPTIST CHURCH

(ABA) · 2.2 miles east on Hwy 34  
723-1092  
Sunday: 10 a.m. worship service

## NEW COVENANT PCA

1120 North Fifth Street, Spearfish  
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  
Envoys: Tim and Peggy North

Sunday: 9:45 a.m.  
Sunday School: 11 a.m.  
Worship Nursery available  
Wednesday: 6:30 p.m.,  
Learning and Discovery Study

## SPEARFISH ADVENTIST® CHURCH

290 W Highway 14  
Pastor Darren Purdy and  
Pastor Marveen Gentillon  
Join Us This Saturday  
Morning Prayer: 9:00am  
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  
and on Facebook.  
Pastor Randy Hedge  
605-642-8253

## ST. JAMES EPISCOPAL

6th and Roundup  
892-2446  
The Rev. Evelyn Weaver  
The Rev. Sandy Williams, Priests Deacon  
Rev. Mike Weaver  
Sunday: 10 a.m. Holy Eucharist

## ST. JAMES LUTHERAN

1100 Stanley Street  
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Sunday Worship 10:AM with coffee  
fellowship following the service.  
Watch live-streamed services:  
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  
Mass Times:  
Sunday Mass: 9:00 a.m.  
Daily Mass: Weds. & Thurs. 12:15 p.m.  
Confessions available one hour  
before all Masses

## SUMMIT OPEN BIBLE FELLOWSHIP

Seventh and Summit  
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

March 9, 2025  
by Karen Odell

Dick and Erma

Albert had a pretty

normal week. Dick

took his pick-up to town to have a little work done on it, and to do a little shopping. Wednesday was Ash Wednesday, and they both went to church at Ralph, for the Ash Wednesday Mass in the afternoon. On Friday, they both went to the Senior Citizen dinner in Buffalo. There was a special dumpling dish served for those who were giving up meat on Fridays, until Easter. Erma stayed to play cards after the dinner. On Sunday, they both went to church in Buffalo, and stayed for the pot luck dinner afterward. There was a special baby shower, too. The Helms family had returned from their trip to New Zealand and Australia. Their cruise ship had passed through a storm, that made things a little exciting for a while.

George Davis stopped by to visit at Alvin and Marlee Cordell's, on Monday. He had brought some hay for a cow that was stranded on the west side of the river, after the snow melt had brought the river up. Marlee had been fighting the cold that is going around. On Friday, Alvin went in to the Corner Bar for a special 60th birthday party for his niece, Wanda, and Karen Odell remembered being Wanda's fourth-grade teacher at the Camp Crook School. Alvin's two-year old heifers are producing calves, and Alvin does some of the day checking. Bruce and Lynn Gustafson are now city folks. They have moved to Camp Crook, which is actually pretty much country folks. They spent a couple of weeks visiting in Alabama, and got used to the warmer weather. Now they will get settled back here, in their new home. On Thursday, they officially became South Dakota residents again. They went to church at the Little Missouri Church, on Sunday. Julia Davis had doctor's appointments in Rapid City and Deadwood, on Thursday. That afternoon, they received a mixed load of cake and cracked corn. By getting both, they could fill their storage bins exactly to the top. Ernie and Tommy Melum have

been visiting Shirley and Junior Melum, on most evenings. Rachel has also been fighting the cold or flu that is going around. On Tuesday they went to Baker, so that Tommy could get his Montana driving permit. Tommy and Rachel had spent last weekend in Red Lodge at an Air B & B with the Youth Group from their church, and had a great time skiing. The Paddens have had another busy week. On Wednesday, Dawn and Dorothy went to Bowman to shop, and stock up again on food and supplies. Bryce, Dawn and Dorothy went to Timber Lake, on Thursday, for the SoDak 16 girls' basketball finals. Harding County played DeSmet for the chance to go to the state tournament. Harding County won, so they will play again on Thursday, against Huron. On Sunday, Dawn and Dorothy went to the Bullock Hall to see their play, and Dawn took pictures during the action. Karen Odell didn't travel much this week. She got in to the Camp Crook post office, and shopped at Wolffy's. Cody Odell had finished an art drawing, and Mollie and Kyia Smith had been creating art of their own. Karen watched the Mitchell and Rapid City basketball game on YouTube. Then she got to watch her home-town girls basketball team play in Ohio, and see a friend's granddaughter play. There are so many towns in Ohio, in competition, that it is the first time any of their teams had gone to the state tournament. On Sunday, Karen got to watch daughter-in-law, Amanda Odell, playing in the bell choir, at the choir concert at University of Iowa. The music included a most spectacular new huge pipe organ that was built especially for the university's Music Building. After the previous pipe organ had been destroyed in the 2008 flood, this new organ was designed especially for them and build on the spot, by German builder Klais. The pipe organ is made to use the acoustics of the building, and is designed specifically for the best sound in that building. Klais came from Germany in 2011 to design and fit it to the building. God may provide a worm for each bird, but he doesn't throw it into his nest.

"Building Main Street, not Wall Street"

## The Secret Ingredient to Great Marketing

Robert Rose once said, "Marketing is telling the world you are a rock star. Content marketing is showing the world you are one." This sentiment is more relevant today than ever before. In an era where consumers are bombarded with advertisements at every turn, the challenge for businesses and communities is not just to be seen but to be felt, experienced, and remembered.



Even in the automotive industry, car manufacturers know that the "new car smell" and the smooth feel of the steering wheel are as important as the design and specifications. These sensory elements work together to create an immersive experience, making consumers feel emotionally connected before they even make a purchase.

Beyond engaging the five senses, the most powerful marketing tool of all is imagination. Imagination-driven marketing enables potential customers to envision themselves with the product, within the community, or experiencing the service before they ever interact with it in reality. Some of history's most successful marketing campaigns thrive on this principle. Decades ago, cigarette ads didn't just sell tobacco; they sold the idea of rugged individualism through the Marlboro Man. Nike doesn't just sell shoes; it sells the dream of athletic greatness through the image of Michael Jordan soaring through the air.

This strategy extends to every industry. Fast-food commercials don't just display food; they create a craving by showing a close-up of a sizzling burger or an ice-cold soda being poured over ice. Car advertisements place viewers in the driver's seat, cruising along breathtaking landscapes, not merely listing vehicle features. Weight loss programs promise transformations by showcasing aspirational before-and-after images, allowing potential customers to imagine their own success stories.

So what does this mean for businesses and communities today? The takeaway is clear: don't just present facts—tell a story that allows people to imagine themselves as part of

your vision. A town with a rich musical heritage shouldn't just advertise concerts—it should make music an integral part of the visitor experience, from street performers to interactive music exhibits. A city that prides itself on its barbecue culture should do more than list top restaurants; it should evoke the sensation of smoky flavors in every piece of promotional material. If a community brands itself as an artistic hub, then it should ensure that art is visible, interactive, and immersive at every corner.

It's also important to distinguish between branding and marketing. While closely related, they serve different purposes. Marketing is the tactical execution of spreading a message—advertisements, promotions, and outreach efforts. Branding, on the other hand, is the soul of a business or community; it's the emotional and psychological association that people develop over time. A successful brand embodies its values at every touchpoint. If a business claims to prioritize sustainability, it must show this in its packaging, community efforts, and partnerships. If a town promotes itself as a family-friendly destination, every park, festival, and attraction should reinforce that identity.

The best marketing doesn't just tell people what you are—it lets them experience it, even if only in their minds. To truly captivate an audience, businesses and communities must ignite the imagination, engaging the senses in a way that creates lasting emotional connections. As Albert Einstein once wisely said, "Logic will get you from A to B. Imagination will take you everywhere." In marketing, imagination is the bridge between potential and reality. The question is: how will you use it to bring your brand, business, or community to life?

**John Newby** is a nationally recognized Columnist, Speaker, & Publisher. He consults with Chambers, Communities, Business & Media. This column appears in 60+ newspapers and



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Attorney at Law  
Licensed in SD, ND, and MT



Aaron W. Roseland  
Attorney at Law  
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*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.*

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5	4				9			

CROSSWORD PUZZLE

**ACROSS**  
 1 Alberta (abbr.)  
 5 Mother of Helen of Troy  
 9 Serum (pref.)  
 12 Rich soil  
 13 Holm oak  
 14 Pride  
 15 Babist  
 16 8 (Rom. numeral)  
 17 Agent  
 18 Personification of folly  
 20 Cloudy  
 22 Stammer  
 25 Fiddler crab genus  
 27 Phrygian god  
 28 Ember  
 29 Negatives  
 31 Thank God it's Friday (abbr.)  
 34 Noncommissioned officer (abbr.)  
 35 Aqog  
 37 Guido's note (2 words)

**DOWN**  
 1 Priest's garment  
 2 Haitian voodoo

**ANSWER TO PREVIOUS PUZZLE**  
 TEAK BUMP ARO  
 LAVE ELUL LOB  
 CRIB RALE AAR  
 ABS STIERRA  
 STABLE EAN  
 OEC SRI DALLY  
 ALEA KWH MAIA  
 KARMA AACAAL  
 OCH SPHERE  
 NESKHI TAU  
 OMA ANBA MOAT  
 MIB TEAT OCTO  
 ATA ESCE RAMA

38 Port. Timor's capital  
 40 100 centesimi  
 41 Cask  
 42 Outer (pref.)  
 44 Hindu title  
 45 Condition (suf.)  
 46 Hit  
 49 Admiral (abbr.)  
 51 General Accounting Office (abbr.)  
 52 Fr. month  
 54 Berne's river  
 58 City on the Danube  
 59 Dove  
 60 Heddies of a loom  
 61 Simian  
 62 Foolless  
 63 Mississippi bridge

deity  
 3 Price  
 4 Mudfish  
 5 Ember (2 words)  
 6 Teacher of Samuel  
 7 Devil (Scott.)  
 8 Accepted

principle  
 9 African savannah  
 10 Elbe tributary  
 11 Stringy  
 19 Air  
 21 Damp  
 22 Aid  
 23 Spore sacs  
 24 Hale  
 26 Sponsorship  
 30 Notched  
 32 Founder of Troy  
 33 Gooseberry  
 36 Foray  
 39 Amazon tributary  
 43 Diadem  
 46 Water (Sp.)  
 47 Oceanic tunicate  
 48 Circular turn  
 50 Symbol of authority  
 53 Chin. plant  
 55 Amer. Automobile Assn. (abbr.)  
 56 Energy unit  
 57 Prussian spa site

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**ENIGMA**™ Enigma cryptograms are created from quotations and proverbs from around the world. Each letter stands for another letter. Hint: "M" = "T". L.

**CRYPTOGRAM**

"MLH QNMDOGMH WHSQTDMJ DW  
 JZQT QRCHTWMGRCDRP ZI  
 THGNMJ."

— L. WMGRNHJ BQCC

PREVIOUS SOLUTION: "If there was no faith there would be no living in this world. We couldn't even eat hash with safety." — Josh Billings

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**2 Shows in 2025**

**HILL CITY ANTIQUES • RAILROAD & COLLECTIBLES SHOW & SALE**

September 26, 27, & 28  
 Saturday 9-4 • Sunday 10-3  
 Friday Night Preview 5-7

At the Hill City Center  
 227 Walnut Street  
 For information call Rick at 605-877-6629

Free Evaluations with your paid admission

Bring in your Antique Items and have them evaluated by our local experts!!

ADMISSION TO THE SHOW - \$3.00 EACH ADULT  
 Refreshments provided by Hill City Senior Citizens  
 Tables Available - \$30.00 Each  
 Proceeds to support the South Dakota State Railroad Museum

Graphic Design by Paige Litz @ Spizzirri Press

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 Email \_\_\_\_\_

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Central Meade County



By Sandy Rhoden March 16, 2025

After some windy, up and down weather patterns, Sunday turned out to be quite sunny and pleasant. Folks were taken by the moon in our clear skies. It was commented in church by Donna Cammack that we are so blessed to live where we do as so many in larger cities and towns with all the lights are not even able to see the night sky. The 100th Legislative Session came to an end last Thursday. The only day left at the end of the month is for any VETOs and Sine Die, to officially end the session. It takes much research, listening, patience and the heart to do the right thing for our state to be an effective legislator. By the end of the session, for those paying attention it is not difficult to distinguish the leaders from the followers, the team players from the individually motivated, and those who speak truth and facts from those who rely on hearsay. It is interesting to see and very important for citizens to look closely at those who they elect to represent them. With the end of session, the Governor will begin his Opportunity Tour by visiting communities around the state. This is something that Governor Rhoden has looked forward to as our state has so many unique surprises that we may or may not have even heard of. He will be in Belle Fourche on

Thursday. It will certainly be a change from the busy legislative session with deadlines, many meetings and pressing issues daily to deal with. Now, a new form of the big picture will take place. The Takini fire has been a challenge this past week. Firefighters have been working hard as citizens in the area help to support them with food and such. It is a good time to pray for rain as we continue to be dry and more vulnerable to fires each day. Wes and Sue Labrier made a trip from VA to Missouri where their son Shane lives. He had much damage to his place while others suffered even more. In his community, 18 people lost their lives to this terrible tornado. Please pray for the families of these victims.

A Historic Session – and a Path Forward

By Governor Larry Rhoden March 13, 2025

We just wrapped up the 2025 legislative session – our 100th in South Dakota's history. It's been quite a ride. Not only did we celebrate this history of our state in this Capitol, but we also navigated a historic succession of power. I stepped into the role of governor mid-session, and that's never happened in South Dakota history. I'm proud to say we didn't just keep the ship afloat – we made real progress to keep South Dakota strong, safe, and free. This session, we got things done. The first bill I signed banned sanctuary cities in South Dakota. That's a clear statement that we support President Trump and Secretary Noem in their work to keep our communities safe from cartels and human traffickers. We also passed pro-life and pro-Second Amendment bills that reflect who we are as a state. The House and Senate passed SB 216, my bill to address the rising burden of property taxes on homeowners. I signed it in the Capitol Rotunda to high-

light the importance of this issue for our people. That's a win for homeowners, but there's more work to do. We delivered South Dakota's 136th consecutive balanced budget. That took some tough calls, including over \$70 million in cuts to executive branch agencies, all proposed by the Governor's Office. I've heard plenty of folks in Pierre say we need to trim spending to ease property taxes. I've wrestled with property taxes and spending for years in the legislature; so I figured it's time to break it down for you plain and simple. Here's the truth: the state collects \$0 in property taxes – we don't collect a penny. I told that to the leader of a South Dakota trade organization the other day, and he said – and I'm just the messenger here – "bullsh!t." But it's fact! So if the state doesn't collect property taxes, where does the money go? 56% funds our schools. Counties get 27%, cities 13%, and townships and special districts split the rest. Then how do we cut property taxes? We've got three options: cut spending, shift the burden, or find new revenue. Cutting spending means slashing school budgets or county roads and public safety – there's not the will for that. Shifting it – like we've seen unintentionally with rising home values – won't fly either. I'm taking a deeper look at option three: find new revenue to provide direct property tax relief. And when we do so, we'll make it optional for counties. No mandates – each county will decide for themselves, either through their county commission or by a vote of the people. This won't be some top-down fix. It will be real tax relief for property owners, tailored to local needs. I will share this proposal with the legislature's Property Tax Relief Task Force prior to their first meeting, and they will be able to chew on this over the summer. I'm open to more ideas, more imagination, more creative problem-solving – we need to focus on solutions, not excuses. Together, we'll keep South Dakota the best place to live, work, and raise a family.

The South Dakota Roots Migration Survey

The South Dakota Roots Migration Survey: Looking for respondents willing to share why they chose to stay in, leave, or return to the state of South Dakota. My name is Andrew Husa and I am a geography lecturer at the University of Nebraska-Lincoln who is researching placeattachment and residential decision-making on the Great Plains. With the help of faculty and students across South Dakota, I am sharing a survey to better understand the factors that influence South Dakotans to stay, leave, or move back. This survey is for anyone over the age of 19 who was a resident of South Dakota when they attended high school. (This includes residents who lived in South Dakota but attended schools in neighboring states). This survey was initially designed by a team of Vermont researchers and conducted as the "Vermont Roots Migration Survey" in 2014. I have worked closely with Dr. Cheryl Morse of the University of Vermont, who was the lead on the original survey, to structure these questions for South Dakota. I have previously conducted this survey in Nebraska (2019) and Missouri (2021). The ultimate goal of the study is to learn more about the migration histories and factors determining residential choice of people from South Dakota and the Great Plains, and to draw comparisons to other states and regions of the country. I plan to present the findings of the South Dakota survey at the 56th annual South Dakota State Geography Convention in April 2025. Participation in this study will require approximately 8-12

minutes. You will be asked to answer 35+ survey questions. Participation will take place online (just simply click on the link below). This is a confidential survey, with no identifiable information being recorded. There are a handful of demographic questions at the end of the survey, but you are able to skip any question you don't feel comfortable answering. If you have questions about your rights or complaints about the research, contact the UNL Institutional Review Board (IRB) at (402)472-6965 or irb@unl.edu. Please consider taking a few minutes to complete the survey and to share it with as many South Dakotans as you can! Survey link: [https://qualtrics.uvm.edu/jfe/form/SV\\_eW1-a16MF6Wj4CkS](https://qualtrics.uvm.edu/jfe/form/SV_eW1-a16MF6Wj4CkS)

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| <b>The Law</b><br>Mckenna Freed...Det. Victor<br>Rose Lafayette...Det. Murphy<br>Tristan Wishard...Officer Jones  | <b>Puppeteers</b><br>Aurora Elk Nation, Madi Rhoads, Ari Boguino, & Paisley Featherston  |
| <b>The Bullies</b><br>Kelly...Piper Curran<br>Dusty...Kelton Streeter<br>Lonny...Ari Boguino  | <b>Stage Managers</b><br>Adeline Humbracht & Paityn Millett  |
| <b>The Protestors</b><br>Pam...Lauralee Dreiske   | <b>Sound</b><br>Wyatt Stumpf & Cade Pearson  |
|   | <b>Lights</b><br>Rebecca Stumpf & Tayleigh Wooldridge  |
|   | <b>Prop Masters</b><br>Gracelynn Williams & Ava Martell  |

**Literary Event Featured Area Authors**

**From A1 Authors**

phrases that have been selected and rearranged from another text.

Her poem is called "If You're Not from Belle Fourche." Angela Hastings explained that she enjoys writing poetry because while she may not have enough time to write a novel, finding time to scribble down a couple lines for a poem is much easier. She read her poem, "Birthright."

Holly Moseley took to the stage to entertain the audience with her poem called Presence. Bruce Roseland read his poem "66 Miles to Reva (leaving

Newell)."

Last was Jean Helmer, who introduced each author and then came back at the end to finished with her poem "Dakota-Bred Guilt."

Tri-State Museum Director Kristi Thielen took the stage to discuss the importance of written materials.

"I am here to make a plea, not just to you, but if you would spread to anybody that you know, museums are entities that are interested in gathering historical pieces for the sake of research, she said.

"We have a certain number of things already in our collection, but we need more. I am here

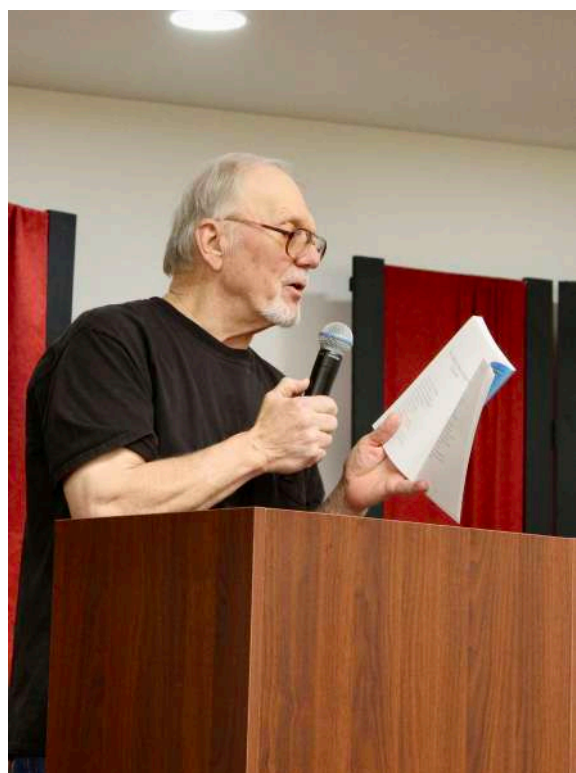
to ask you please, if you know people that have letters, cards, diaries, journals, anything that is of interest that you can pass on to the museum, we will take good care of them and use them for the future of people who might want to come and do historical research, we would appreciate it!"

The museum is looking for items from around the 1970s and on. "We hit a midpoint in the century and we don't have very many artifacts," explained Thielen.

The museum is working hard on a classroom that will contain a library with a computer to use for historical research and they



David Raber reads from his book, *Life and Laughter in Belle Fourche* to a full house. Longbrake photos



(Left) Bruce Roseland shared his poem "66 Miles to Reva (leaving Newell)" with the audience at the Raber, Reading and Writing event. (Right) Jean Helmer read her poem "Dakota-Bred Guilt" from the book *Life's Landscapes*.



Authors Joan Gerkin and Kathy Bjornestad sign copies of the book *Life's Landscapes*.

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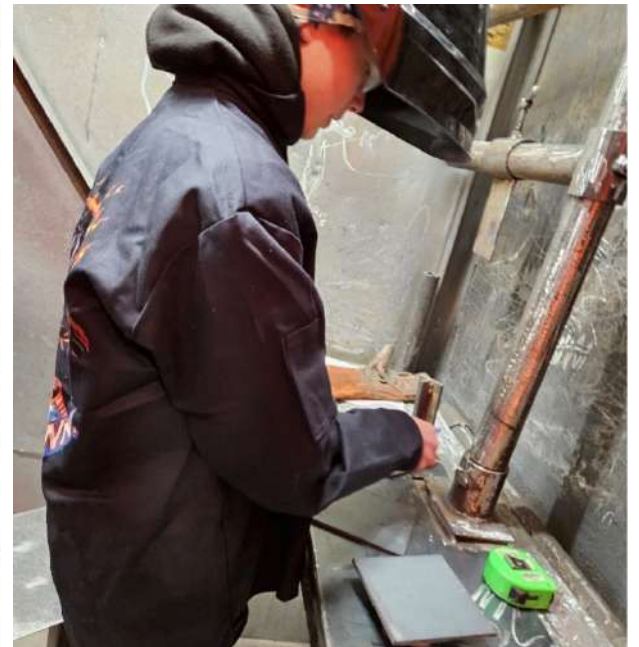
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Belle Fourche took 17 welding students to Western Dakota Technical College (WDTC) for their Weld to Win Competition on February 4th. Belle Fourche students yet again made us proud. They took home 4 of the top 10 places. . Out of the 10 schools at the competition Belle Fourche had 6 welders in the top 15. WDTC only gives the welding scores for the top 15.

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Sophomore **Silas Carson** (L) and Freshmen **Abbey Clendening** (C) were in the top 15 at the WDTC Weld to Win. Out of the 10 schools at the competition Belle Fourche had 6 welders in the top 15. WDTC only gives the welding scores for the top 15. (R) **Kyle Hendrickson**, just getting started on assembling his steel for the competition. *Courtesy Photos*



Belle Fourche took 17 welding students to **Western Dakota Technical College** (WDTC) for their Weld to Win Competition on February 4th. Belle Fourche students yet again made us proud. They took home 4 of the top 10 places.  
 Back row: **Mr. Hartwell, Allison Jewett, Dylan Park, Alex Norlin, Roenn Ruzicka, Grey Carlson, Jory Olson, Riggin Lutter** (hiding behind **Kyle Hendrickson**), **Conner Crowser, Silas Carson, Aolani Stone, Kate Blair, Alexa Stone, and Abbey Clendening**  
 Front row: the students who placed at the competition. **Carmen Beguin** took 10th place, **Tucker Hughes** took 6th place, **Cortez Rodriguez** took 4th place, and **Kyle Hendrickson** took 1st place.



(L) **Carmen Beguin**, getting started marking where all the different pieces go on the base plate. (C) **Cortez Rodriguez** getting a good start on his 4th place winning welds. Camera guy is interrupting the job. (R) Junior **Tucker Hughes** receiving his 6th place award. He won welding tools, gloves and a nice bag.



All Belle Fourche welding students did a great job on their welds. There were approximately 80 students at the competition and the seniors, juniors and sophomores were in the top 25.



# Legislative panel breaks 'piggy bank' plan for water projects

John Hult  
SD searchlight

A state House panel shut down a bill that would have created a place to set aside cash for water projects across South Dakota.

The bill earned the support of the state Senate, but floundered in front of the House Committee on Agriculture and Natural Resources on Tuesday at the Capitol in Pierre. It failed 10-3.

Senate Bill 202 would've created a water infrastructure development fund, but wouldn't have put any money in it.

Several committee members worried aloud that simply creating a fund presents a risk of its use as an excuse to plan for projects before those projects earn the support of lawmakers.

Some committee members referenced the incarceration construction fund to make their point. That fund, set up three years ago and now worth more than \$600 million, was created to fund a new prison. This year, lawmakers rejected the state's plans to open up the fund for use in building an \$825 million men's facility in a controversial Lincoln County location.

Rep. Richard Vasgaard, R-Centerville, said he's no longer certain that taxpayers trust the value of specialty savings accounts.

New Holland Republican and Committee Chair Marty Overweg, meanwhile, said previous legislatures had "built governmental monsters" by setting up such accounts.

"Now we're having to feed them," Overweg said.

Backer: We need a piggy bank

Sen. Helene Duhamel, R-Rapid City, did indeed bring

Senate Bill 202 in hopes that future legislatures would feed it.

Her take, however, is that doing so would be a smart way to leverage federal dollars and protect South Dakotans' access to clean drinking water. As envisioned, water infrastructure project managers would be able to request grants worth up to 10% and loans worth up to 50% of a project's cost.

The idea would be for the fund - if lawmakers chose to put money in it - to earn interest and be large enough to match any federal dollars that might come available. With talk from the Trump administration of bumping up state and local governments' share of funding in a range of areas, the state could benefit from such a setup, Duhamel said.

"We may, as a state and as local governments, need to come up with more money for these projects in the future," she said, referencing changes at the federal level without mentioning Trump by name.

The state Department of Agriculture and Natural Resources opposed the idea from the start, though. The Board of Water and Natural Resources, which would distribute dollars from the fund, already has a process for requesting water project funding.

The bill creates a "carve-out" for projects to go around "an established process," according to the department's Andy Bruels.

Bruels told lawmakers the department oversees the disbursement of around \$180 million in water funding through various channels each year. Federal COVID-19 pandemic relief added around \$700 billion to those typical dollar amounts in

recent years.

But Duhamel has argued that the rapid gobble-up of federal COVID relief dollars for water projects across the state over the past few years is proof that the state needs a "piggy bank" for water.

"Every year, everything we have is spent," Duhamel said. The bill's supporters included an economic development lobbyist from Rapid City and a representative from Black Hills Energy.

Western Dakota project earns committee backing

Duhamel had pointed to large-scale water projects for South Dakota as proof of the need for a fund. Just after shooting down that idea on Tuesday, the ag committee endorsed one of those projects.

Senate Joint Resolution 501 asks lawmakers to agree with a decision by the state's Water Resources Board to grant the Western Dakota Regional Water System's permit for the use of Missouri River water in its pipeline plans.

The water allotment in the system's pipeline application is large enough to trigger a clause in state law requiring legislative approval. The system wants to reserve 20,765 acre-feet of Missouri River water annually for use in 19 western South Dakota counties - nearly 7 billion gallons per year.

The system will take decades and significant federal investment to complete, ag committee members heard Tuesday morning, but all of it would hinge on SJR 501.

The committee sent the resolution to the House floor with a "do pass" recommendation on an 11-2 vote.

# Understanding your Income

Bill Kluck

Special to the Beacon

The foundation of creating an effective budget is to understand your income. By allowing our local governing bodies to create our tax need we are not forcing them to understand the income, we allow them to determine it. When budgets are made based on the understanding of income, we force local governing bodies to be held accountable for long- and short-term financial goals. The main determining factor in a budget's success or failure is determined by how well the human aspects of the process are handled. School boards, City Councils, County commissioners etc. oversee the budget. It is the responsibility of all individuals who work with-in those entities to do their part to help stay within budget and most employees don't know or understand their portion of the budget.

Talking about how humans affect governing bodies budgets in 2023, the state welcomed 14.7 million visitors according to the South Dakota Tourism industry. While those 14.7 million visitors brought in \$384 Million in tax dollars, only approximately 1/3 of that tax money is going back into our communities that are hosting, caring for, and protecting our visitors.

When we are not budgeting correctly, we all feel the effects of our property taxes. By implementing our current methodology for property tax, specifically how we tax agricultural property, ranchers have been hit hard by the state's property tax system. The current tax system assigns a taxable value based on an acre of land's highest and best use, not its actual use. That has led to claims that some rural landowners are paying unfairly high taxes on land that is being used as grazing land and isn't producing revenues.

Critics say the current tax system adds to the pressure on farmers and ranchers to plow up grasslands which perform essential environmental functions, such as preventing erosion. Grasslands also provide habitat for game animals such as pheasants, which are a big driver of the state's second largest industry - tourism.

While the County Director of Equalization assesses the value of all real property, SD State law requires each county to consider 3 approaches to estimate market value. Most are done by comparison of land sales over the past year. With the influx of smaller parcels of land being sold at outrageous prices, this DOES NOT give a fair representation of

land value. While ag property is assessed based on productivity of soils, an average of crop prices and grass rents. Again, this does not pertain to the actual value of the land as it is being used for.

According to the SD Dept of Ag 2023 Overview, SD has 28,300 farming/ranching operations that operate on 42,300,000 acres; all of which are taxed. There are 1,668 less farms/ranches in SD since 2017. Why you ask? Because our agricultural land is being taken over by large corporations, reducing our small family ranchers and farming operations.

In 2021, from the report of SD School and public lands, a total of 760,447.45 acres of school and public lands are leased out with income of \$8,234,822.76. \$15,833,495.11 was distributed to the states public schools, universities and endowed institutions.

According to the US Forest Service LAR (Land Area Report), South Dakota has \$1,413,041 of land in the Black Hills and Custer National Forests totaling 1,413,041. The National Grasslands (Buffalo Gap National Grassland, Ft Pierre National Grassland and Grand River National Grasslands which are shared with other states totals 1,022,880 acres of land that no taxes are derived from. The Payment in lieu of taxes of these 2,813,403 acres are a total of \$8,695,669 with none of it based on productivity.

The Bureau of Land Management provides figures for all SD counties having 213,851 acres of land that too has no productivity or taxation. Those two entities have over 3,000,000 acres of non-taxed land. So I ask, where is this money going to help SD property taxes when none of it has taxation values?

There has been substantial increases in ag land tax since production-based tax went into effect in western south Dakota. The stock production does not match tax rate. The fluxuation of market prices for livestock, the increase of input has left the normal rancher/farmer with nothing but loss and yet the State wants more because they fail to balance their own budget? Where are the property tax dollars going? Schools? Roads? Bridges? Where? I ask Where?



A view of Chamberlain and the Missouri River on Sept. 20, 2024 (Seth Tupper/South Dakota Searchlight)



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**Jonathan Ellis & Joe Sneve**



# Lawmaker assertions about voter fatigue don't stop them from sending four measures to the ballot

: MAKENZIE HUBERT

SD Searchlight

After some South Dakota lawmakers complained about fatigue from the number of questions on the ballot, they're sending four of their own measures to voters.

South Dakotans considered seven ballot questions during the 2024 election, including four state constitutional amendments. Rep. John Hughes, R-Sioux Falls, said that resulted in "millions of dollars in out-of-state money coming for deceptive, emotionally charged ads stating half-truths."

"The voters are weary of that," he said. "They're fatigued."

Hughes was speaking on behalf of his own resolution that will go to voters as a ballot measure. It will ask voters to approve a 60% threshold to pass constitutional ballot questions, rather than a simple majority.

That's one of the four questions lawmakers sent to the 2026 general election ballot this legislative session, which has one day left on March 31 to consider the governor's vetoes. Seven other proposed ballot questions from legislators failed to cross the finish line.

Lawmakers' eagerness to put their own measures on the ballot is "a little ironic" said Samantha Chapman, advocacy manager with the American Civil Liberties Union of South Dakota.

"The Legislature is contradicting itself and contributing to said 'ballot fatigue,'" Chapman told South Dakota Searchlight.

Another six potential ballot questions from the public are already listed on the Secretary of State's website. None of those questions have been approved for petition circulation yet.

Following are the questions that South Dakota voters will see from legislators — if they don't approve more next session.

Allowing the Legislature to remove South Dakota from expanded Medicaid

South Dakota voters will decide next year whether to continue requiring Medicaid expansion if federal support for the program declines.

Medicaid is government-funded health insurance for people with low incomes, and for adults and children with disabilities. In 2022, South Dakota voters expanded Medicaid eligibility to adults with incomes up to 138% of the poverty level, to capitalize on a 90% federal funding match included in the Obama-era Affordable Care Act. The expansion is part of the state constitution and can only be altered by voters.

The ballot question will ask voters to authorize the termination of Medicaid expansion if federal support falls below 90%. Speculation about a reduction in federal Medicaid expansion funding has been swirling as the Trump administration and a Republican-controlled Congress look for spending cuts.

Last fall, South Dakota

voters authorized state officials to consider imposing work requirements on people covered by Medicaid expansion. The state has not yet applied for federal permission to impose those requirements.

Requiring a 60% vote to amend the state constitution

Four years after Constitutional Amendment C and eight years after Constitutional Amendment X failed at the ballot box, voters will once again consider if the threshold for approving certain types of ballot questions should be raised from a simple majority.

Amendment C sought to require a three-fifths vote for the approval of ballot questions that would increase taxes or fees or require the state to appropriate \$10 million or more in the first five fiscal years after a measure's passage. The measure was defeated by 67% of voters.

South Dakota voters rejected Constitutional Amendment X in 2018, which would have raised the approval requirement for constitutional amendments to 55%. It was defeated with 54% voting against it.

Hughes' new proposal would raise the constitutional amendment approval threshold to 60%. Supporters of the proposal argue that a higher threshold is necessary to protect the state constitution from frequent changes and to ensure that only amendments with broad public support are adopted. They also say the proposal could discourage out-of-state interest groups from trying to amend South Dakota's constitution, and keep the constitution reserved for language dealing with the structure of government rather than policy matters.

Opponents argue that voters have spoken on the matter, and there's no need to ask them again.

Creating an unclaimed property trust fund

Voters will see a ballot question in 2026 asking permission for the state Investment Council to manage a trust fund for unclaimed property.

Unclaimed property consists of an array of abandoned or forgotten private assets, including money from bank accounts, PayPal accounts, stocks, life insurance payouts, uncashed checks, unused refunds, and even the contents of safe deposit boxes. Holders of the money or items, such as banks, try to find the owners. The property reverts to the state after three years.

Unclaimed property revenue surged to record levels during the past few years as people left assets behind during pandemic-motivated relocations, and because of Bancorp's relocation of its national headquarters to Sioux Falls.

The state typically spends much of the revenue, while setting aside only a portion of it for people who come forward to claim their property. Yet rightful owners can claim their assets from the state at any time.

Much of the money is never claimed. Last year, as the state took in about \$175 million of unclaimed property, it paid out \$38 million in claims to 6,768

claimants. South Dakota has received \$310 million worth of unclaimed property so far this year.

The ballot question is part of a legislative package passed this session to bring more predictability to the volatile revenue source, and to protect the state if claims increase. Senate Bill 155, which was signed by Gov. Larry Rhoden on Wednesday, would limit the amount of unclaimed property funds that can be used in the state's general fund budget, and gradually transition all unclaimed property money into the trust fund. Interest from the fund would then be treated as revenue for the state's annual budget.

Clarifying that non-U.S. citizens cannot vote in South Dakota elections

Senate Joint Resolution 503 sends a constitutional amendment to South Dakota voters clarifying a person must be a U.S. citizen to vote in any elections in the state. South Dakota's voter registration form already requires voters to certify they're citizens of the United States.

Sen. Taffy Howard, R-Rapid City, introduced the legislation. She said voters in several states have added similar clarifications in their state constitutions in recent elections. She added that the clarification ensures the "process remains secure" and that the "voices of American citizens aren't diluted."

Howard, who also introduced the unclaimed property ballot measure, told South Dakota Searchlight that ballot fatigue is "a very real concern," but she has "confidence in our citizens."

"They take time to research the issues and I do know no one here is in any way trying to take away or dilute the will of the voter," Howard said. "We want to listen to the voters. It's our intention, if anything, to maybe limit the influence of outside national organizations."

What else might appear on the ballot?

In 1898, South Dakota became the first state to allow citizen-backed initiatives and referendums.

Petitions are filed with the Secretary of State's Office and reviewed by the attorney general and the Legislative Research Council before they are approved for circulation. Petition circulators must gain 17,508 signatures from South Dakota registered voters for an initiated measure or referred law, and 35,017 signatures for a constitutional amendment. The deadline to turn in signed petitions is May 3, 2026.

Potential 2026 citizen-sponsored ballot questions include:

- An initiated measure requiring South Dakota public school teachers and students to recite a specific non-denominational prayer daily, with an exemption for students and teachers who object.
- A constitutional amendment requiring South Dakota voters approve legislative changes to initiative and referendum procedures.
- A constitutional amendment requiring that "laws

## James C. (Clark) Sowers Candidate for Ward 2 Belle Fourche City Council

To the Voters of Ward 2 of the City of Belle Fourche:

I have been privileged to serve you for the past three years during a period of positive change in our community! I am again seeking reelection as your councilman. I would appreciate your vote!

The three biggest changes from the past 4 years are: **Management – Culture – Financial**

With a designated **City Administrator**, which I have supported for 15 years, we have a point of reference and corporate history for our community. We have one location for concerns and complaints that citizens, council persons, department heads, contractors and vendors can access. It's called **management**.

With this **management** comes a change in **culture** among the city administration and employees, with the council, and with the public trust. This is "government"; and we are all involved, depending on each other to move our community forward. The most important seat in government is "that of the informed voter." The new **culture** needs **you** to be involved.

This leads to **financial accountability** that was debated heavily three years ago. It brought the council forward to doing the job they are responsible for in financial stability, accountability and transparency of our community. This was absent previously and our improved annual audits show this. With this, the City hasn't raised our property taxes for three years!

**As we move forward there are concerns:** The new Law Enforcement Center, which I support, as safety is our first priority as a community; Water supply with the South Well and water lines from the gallery by Spearfish; a new water treatment plant; housing with 3 Tax Increment Finance districts; annual street maintenance and infrastructure projects in the north, south and center part of town; improvement of our community culture in our parks and Recreation Center.

Please contact me if you have questions on these or other items of concern.

Leadership is needed for these projects and future decisions. The time is now. I would appreciate your support!

**"When I start something, I want to finish it"**

**I have lived in Belle Fourche for my entire life. My wife, Cathy, and I have been married for 45 years. We have 10 children and currently 28 grandchildren. We are lifelong members of St. Paul Catholic Church in Belle Fourche.**

**This March I will begin my 50th year in business having built, owned and operated several different businesses out of Belle Fourche that have serviced, or are in the Northern Black Hills and Rapid City. Currently these are Black Hills Laundry and Dry Cleaning/Sowers and Sons Dirty Laundry with laundromats in Belle Fourche, Spearfish and Sturgis as well as Laundry World and French Cleaners in Rapid City. This is my 25th year in the dry-cleaning profession.**

**Cathy has a Doctorate in Nursing and is a Practitioner for Monument Health for 23 years.**

**Before serving as your councilman the past three years, I served one term as Mayor of Belle Fourche in 1994-1996. During my current term I have served on Public Works, Legal Finance, Police, Chamber of Commerce, Butte County Ambulance, and Dispatch committees.**

**I appreciate your support and ask for your vote.**

**James C. (Clark) Sowers**

### My Commitment to the Center of the Nation

- **Fiscal Responsibility** - We pledge to be prudent with tax dollars while trying to move our community forward, understanding the "Common Good".
- **Transparency** - We pledge to be transparent to the public in operations and fiscal responsibility.
- **Citizen Involvement** - The most important seat in government is that of the informed voter.
- **Communicate With Those We Serve** - To both listen and speak clearly with our constituents.
- **Public Safety** - Our highest priority is public health and safety of those we serve.
- **Water** - The need for water to promote growth in a vibrant community.
- **Infrastructure and Housing Developments** - We pledge to "inspect what we expect" in our infrastructure as we move our community towards the future growth.
- **A Comprehensive Budget Process** - It is imperative to implement a comprehensive budget process.
- **Business Friendly Climate** - We pledge to be open and welcoming in promoting a business friendly climate.
- **Buy Local/Shop Local** - It is imperative for the "Common Good" of the community that we lead by example in promoting the BUY LOCAL/SHOP LOCAL resolution.
- **Community/County Health** - "Population health" is defined as the health outcomes and distribution within a group of individuals. We pledge to support awareness and positive outcomes in our community's physical, spiritual and mental health.
- **Beautification** - The simplest "Economic Development" is "Beautification" of our community.

**- REMEMBER TO VOTE ON APRIL 8TH! -**

**The lights have gone down for the final time on a truly stellar season for the Bullock Community Player's 22<sup>nd</sup> consecutive year of productions.**

**We want to thank all those who made "Showdown at Prickly Pear Junction" such a successful reality. To the army of folks that helped in any way, we are eternally grateful! A special thanks to the brave souls that faithfully make the trek to our unique but rather remote venue every year to support this venture. We have the best audiences!!**

**See ya next year!**

may not be enacted to restrict the power of initiative and referendum."

- A constitutional amendment requiring a two-thirds vote by the Legislature to change or repeal initiated measures.
- A constitutional amendment requiring a seven-year wait and a three-fourths

vote by the Legislature and vote of the people to make changes to voter-approved initiated measures.

- An initiated measure rolling back nonagricultural property assessments to 2020 valuations and capping assessment increases to 2.25% annually.

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FROM THE CENTER OF THE EARTH

**MARCH 29**  
BELLE FOURCHE REC CENTER

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Adapted by David Ives

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

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

**JUNE 26 - 29**  
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**2025 HOLIDAY SHOW**

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Joanna...Ellie Kukuchka

Stevie...Sierra Saivong

Debbie...Addy Clem

Andrew...Jacob Tonsager

Erica...Cora Kokinos

The Law

Mckenna Freed.....Det. Victor

Rose Lafayette.....Det. Murphy

Tristan Wishard....Officer Jones

The Bullies

Kelly...Piper Curran

Dusty...Kelton Streeter

Lenny...Ari Beguine

Bart...Kelton Streeter

Chuck...Daniel Eddy

Puppeteers

Aurora Elk Nation, Madi Rhoads, Ari Beguine, & Paisley Featheston

Stage Managers

Adeline Humbracht & Paityn Millett

Sound

Wyatt Stumpf & Cade Pearson

Lights

Rebecca Stumpf & Tayleigh Wooldridge

Prop Masters

Gregory Williams &



SPORT COATS

Photo on right: The cast & crew of MAGIC, the BFMS spring play, amazed audiences in their March 14th & 15th performances. (Entire cast list on page A6)

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## Let's Eat Lamb for Lunch



Earlier this week, I had all kinds of things I wanted to write about. But now as I sit here and stare at an empty page, all those plans have disintegrated. Now I'll have to search the recesses of my mind. It's a little cobwebby in there, though. But I'll give it a try.

All this week I have struggled with computers and tech issues. I love computers, when they cooperate!

The iMac that has stood by me through a lot of keyboard hammering, has finally decided that enough is enough. I have yelled at it. Scolded it. Turned it off and on. Unplugged it. Moved it on the desk. Turned the desk light off and on. Tried everything that I could think of. And yes, I did check with tech support.

In the end though, the old iMac is just that-old. It's 13 and that's ancient in computer years. When I "suggested" to my hubby that I needed a new iMac, he stated that 13 wasn't old-he has a tractor from the 20th century (1980 something) and it works. I tried to convince him that a computer is not a tractor and technology changes quickly.

But alas, he didn't understand and I am now sitting with a younger laptop that I've had for a couple of years. It works really great, but I miss the big 27" screen and larger keyboard to pound on.

I do have a solution though and as soon as I can I will put it all together! I'll get a new monitor, use the wireless keyboard from the iMac and the wireless mouse and use the Mac Pro laptop as the processor! I'm sure that will work sooner or later.

But I will miss good old iMac. A steady friend and companion. It has held my closest thoughts in its memory and never leaked a word.

And that reminds me of my second-best friend. We haven't seen each other for several years, although we have talked, and when we joined up a couple of weeks ago it was as if we had never been apart.

She has been through my side through the many weeks of hospitalizations of our youngest son, through the death of my mom, and the deaths of two



Students show off the lamb that is part of the Irish Stew served at Newell School. The lamb is provided by Kitzan Sheep and JHK Sheep.

Courtesy Photo

## Irish Stew Perfect for St. Patrick's Day

NEWELL-The students at Newell School had something new to enjoy at lunch on St. Patrick's Day. An Irish Stew was the main course made by the Lunch Ladies under the direction and help of Gwen

Kitzan. The lambe was generously donated by Kitzan Sheep and JHK Sheep. Dwight and Gwendolyn Kitzan and Joshua and Heather Kitzan are the owners of the two enterprises.

Gwen Kitzan assisted in the kitchen to make the appetizing dish. The perfect way to celebrate St. Patrick's Day!

sons and a grandson. I have told her secrets that no one else knows and she has never shared them with anyone else.

It's important to have at least one friend like that. Someone who loves us and really likes us, no matter what. Someone who never judges and always has a kind word of encouragement and helps us see the right direction to go.

Not only is it good to HAVE a friend like that, but TO BE a friend like that. Sometimes when someone shares their heart, we hurry to tell someone else all about it. Even if it's our spouse. Some things are said to be between two people and no more.

Think about how you can be someone's best friend and confidant. It's not always easy to keep things to yourself, but it is important.

I think I'll go talk to the parakeets-they never say anything to anyone. Only chirp and enjoy life. You know, they look at me a lot like my husband does when I talk to him about the computer.

## Potatoes and Toppings



Ready to serve up some scrumptious potatoes and toppings. From the left: Sherry Wells, Addison Wich, Tracy Seieroe, Amber Wich, Courtney Rans, Barb Garness, Sandy Heidrich, and Rhonda Valley. Betty Bruner Photo

Betty Bruner  
news@bellefourchebeacon.com

The helpful ladies of the Nisland-Arpan Search and Rescue Auxiliary served up delicious baked potatoes and toppings at the recent fund raiser held at the Nisland Fire Department. Toppings included corned beef and cabbage,

hamburger gravy, cheese, broccoli, sausage gravy, white chili, corn chowder, and buffalo ranch burger.

The hall was filled several times with hungry area residents. Conversations flowed and stories were exchanged as the dinner was enjoyed.

Midway through the

fundraiser, Fire Chief Lewis drew the winner of the burn barrel. Aaron Lindskov will be taking the large enclosed barrel home.

This is the 15th year for the Potato Topper Supper and every year folks look forward to tasting the handiwork of the Auxiliary.

**Do You Like to Write?**  
**Wanted-Reporter/Correspondent for the Irrigator. Part-time position covering the NVN area.**  
 Contact Betty Bruner, text: 605-641-4666, or email: bbrunernews@gmail.com  
 Or  
 Contact Doug Cole at news@bellefourchebeacon.com.

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## Grand River Roundup



**Betty Olson**

news@bellefourchebeacon.com  
This week was a little cooler than last week but we had a temperature of 64 degrees this Sunday.

We had coffee and fellowship after church last Sunday and ended the day with Bible Study at Lester and Sharon Longwood's ranch with Jim and Lucy Anderson and Duane Harris attending with us. We just finished Pastor Chip Ingram's last lesson on "The Invisible War, what every believer needs to know about Satan, demons & spiritual warfare", which was very interesting.

We went to Hettinger Monday afternoon for Reub's annual physical at the Hettinger Clinic. His checkup turned out good and we stopped at White Drug so he could get his tetanus and

RSV shots. We had to pick up some parts for Casey in Hettinger and Bowman before heading home so we were a little late getting to coffee in Reeder with the Prairie Pioneers but Deb Molbert hadn't run out of the delicious goodies she made for us to eat with our coffee.

We have a new great grandbaby! Our granddaughter Bryce and Braxton Hesper are the proud parents of another baby boy, little Atlas Jacob Hesper who was born on Tuesday, March 4 weighing 7 lbs and 5 oz and is 19.5 inches long. Missy went down to Rapid City to take care of Atlas' brother Argus Hesper while Bryce was in the hospital. This makes fourteen great grandkids for us and all these little people are so much fun! March 4 was also my mother, Lila (Wilkinson) White's birthday and since she was born

in 1925, Mom would have been 100 years old on the same day little Atlas was born! If Mom was still with us, this would have been a wonderful celebration.

This Wednesday was Ash Wednesday, the first day of Lent and there was a potluck supper and communion service at Slim Buttes Lutheran that evening. Missy came home that evening after Bryce and little Atlas got out of the hospital in Rapid City. Taz spent all day up at Ralph helping get everything ready for the Jensen Bull Sale on Friday.

Taz spent Thursday up at Ralph helping to get ready for the Jensen Bull Sale on Friday. Amanda took Copper and River Lu with her to Timber Lake for the SoDak 16 girls basketball game that evening with Grandma Missy kept the twins. The Harding County girls won the

game against Timber Lake so they will be headed to the state tournament in Huron on Thursday, March 13. I got Knox of the school bus in Reva that afternoon and he stayed at Grandma Missy's too. Taz's brother Trig and his wife Dakotah came to the ranch from Gillette, Wyoming that afternoon to take care of the calving while Taz and Casey were going to be at the bull sale all day on Friday.

Reub and I went up to Ralph for the bull sale on Friday and joined a big crowd for the delicious lunch and to watch the bulls sell. The sale went really well and we got to talk to a lot of friends that came to the sale. The weather was beautiful and we came home before the sale was over to do our chores. Trig and Dakotah said the cows had four calves while we were gone and they were all healthy.

Trig and Dakotah were still here to help with the calving and help do chores on Saturday while Casey went to Buffalo for the AAU wrestling at Harding County. Reub and I went to Bison that afternoon for the wedding reception for Mark and Ann (Wilken) Christenson at Grace Bible Fellowship Church. A lot of our friends were there, so we had a really good time at the reception. Taz left just as we got home to go up and help clean things up at Ralph after the bull sale on Friday. Trig went with Casey to help him put a new cast on the broken leg of a calf while Dakotah took care of all the little kids while Amanda was gone.

Trig and Dakotah left here early Sunday morning to go down to Rapid City to visit Bryce and

Braxton Hesper and meet baby Atlas before heading back to Gillette, Wyoming to go back to work on Monday morning. Everyone else here on the ranch went to church at Slim Buttes Lutheran that morning to hear Pastor David Douglas give the message because Pastor Henry and Linda were gone.

Did you remember to set your clocks ahead an hour for Daylight Savings time? I wonder where all that daylight we've been saving for years is stored? With that, I'll leave you with these Daylight Savings Jokes:

1. Q: What time is it when you read jokes about Daylight Saving Time?  
A: Time to laugh!
2. Q: What did the wall clock do after it was adjusted for Daylight Saving?  
A: It hung around.
3. Q: Why do they pick the weekend for Daylight Saving Time changes?  
A: Because the other days are weekdays.
4. Q: Why did the man sit on his clock after setting it ahead for Daylight Saving Time?  
A: He wanted to be on time.
5. Q: Why was Superman so busy after the sun rose this morning?  
A: It was daylight saving time.
6. Q: Which relative always chimes in about how Daylight Saving Time should be ended?  
A: A Grandfather Clock.
7. Q: What kind of clock is the hardest to change for Daylight Saving Time?  
A: A sundial.
8. Q: What is the best pet for daylight savings time?  
A: A watch dog.

## Then and Now in Newell

### "Looking Forward to our Past"

**March 18, 1915**

A neighbor farmer was recently arrested for drawing off the juice from his silo and developing a good, fair article of corn whiskey. Now a number of his neighbors have developed a taste for pure corn whiskey. They tap the silo the same as a sugar bush for sap. This may be a selling point for the silo man when the state goes dry.

August Erickson has installed an engine and feed grinder in his feed store. He informs us that as soon as the frost is out of the ground, he is going to erect a building especially for his new machinery.



ICBM Missile fired North of Newell Lake - 1965. It was an International event; to prove we actually had missiles in the silos. Newell Museum

Newell is to have a men's clothing store in the near future. C. W. Woodford of Atchison, Kansas and C. A. Woodford of Washington, Kansas are to be the proprietors, and they will open up for business in the Montgomery Building next to Hartwell's as soon as possible. The Woodford Bros. have been in the haberdashery business for a number of years and are planning to give Newell a first-class store. Watch for their announcement.

**March 12, 1925**

The creek was quite high last week, when Alex Getty attempted to cross it with a load of hay. The opposite side bank being slippery, the horses fell in such a way to cause the hay rack to go down stream. The results were that Alex lost a load of hay and had a boat ride on the hay rack.

David Richards, of the law firm Buchholz & Richards, is now a full-fledged attorney at law. Mr. Richards was officially notified yesterday that he had successfully passed the South Dakota Bar Examination taken before the Supreme Court at Pierre last month.

C. L. Brown arrived this

week from Bismarck, North Dakota, to take position as bookkeeper and assistant teller in the Reclamation State Bank. Increasing volume of business has made it necessary to increase the work force.

Mary F. Sanders, Idell Quinn and Fred Bruner represented Newell High School in the Rapid City debate contest and are to be congratulated on the excellent manner in which they argued the question. Professor Hansen received a letter from Mr. Powers, Rapid City School debate coach, congratulating our debate team upon the excellence shown at the recent debate and that we can be justly proud of the students and coach. The Newell debate team had won from Belle Fourche and Custer previous to the Rapid City debate and can be justly feel proud of their record this year.

**March 14, 1935**

Mrs. Harriet Sanders, of Newell, last week was appointed social worker and investigator for eastern Butte County, succeeding Mrs. William Clute, of Nisland, who resigned. Mrs. Sanders is well acquainted with the work, having been investigator for the Relief Administration prior to Mrs. Clute's appointment.

Mrs. William Timm, who has been very ill recently, is reported much better at this writing. Mrs. William Cook has been helping take care of her mother during her illness. Mr. Cook and the two oldest children have been batching during her absence.

A petition is being circulated about town calling for a city election to decide whether liquor shall be sold by the city. Only 17 signatures are required on the petition, and it is expected that arrangements for the election will be made at an early date. A vote "YES" on the petition as it will appear on the ballot will mean a vote favoring city management and a vote "NO" will mean that the City Commission may issue licenses to private individuals or firms.

**March 15, 1945**

Orlin J. Lickingteller, son of Mr. & Mrs. George Lickingteller of Newell has enlisted in the Navy and entered training at San Diego, Calif., Donald Hoover of Hoover, left Sunday for the West Coast with the avowed intention of entering the Marine Corps and Mrs. Albert Rielly returned from Tacoma, Wash. Where she had visited several weeks with her

by Linda Velder

husband, SGT. Rielly, who is stationed at Ft. Lewis, Wash. Deputy Fire Marshall Sam Mortimer was here a few days ago and ordered the razing of the old Christian Building on 3rd Street. Ed Byrd, who has been using it for his plumbing shop, is now looking for a place to move his business.

Anyone having wastepaper or tin cans for the scrap drive is asked to leave it at the old fire house in Newell, where the Girl Scouts will see that it is taken care of. People in the community have been asked to co-operate, as there is urgent need for these items in the war effort.

John C. Yuill, long time Newellite, now employed at the Ft. Meade hospital, calls attention to an unusual coincidence in the repetition of the number 331 in the different divisions in which the members of the Yuill family have served or are serving in the US Army: Pvt John C. Yuill, Order 331 Ambassador Company 239, 10th San Tr; Capt. John C. Yuill, Jr. 331 First Ordinance Dept. Co, APO 503 in southwest Pacific and Pvt Eugene W. Yuill, 331st, Infantry Co., APO 83, somewhere in Germany.

**March 17, 1955**

Newell and the Arcade Theater received nationwide publicity this week, when Collier's Magazine listed the local theater together with other select movie houses in the nation at which a pre-release showing of the new movie "CRAZY HORSE" were scheduled. The listing appeared in a double-page spread in the magazine advertising the show, which was filmed almost entirely in the Black Hills, Manager W. R. Pickard of the Arcade is to be complimented for the attention this gives Newell as the smallest of the 15 cities receiving such booking. Also listed were leading theaters in larger Black Hills cities.

Among those from the Newell community entertaining at the recent Hobby Show held in Belle Fourche were the ever-popular saxophone quartet, the "Sax-tettes" which is comprised of Newell High School, Senior and Junior girls: Shirley Boe, Anne Milberg, Patricia Heston and Waneta Turbiville.

Action to secure designation of a Veteran Service officer for eastern Butte County was taken at the regular meeting of the Ross-Kayras Post of the American Legion, Tuesday night the Post voted to petition the Butte County Commission and the director of the State Veterans Department that such an office



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Newly organized Boy Scout Troop at Newell - 1945

Newell Museum

be created, but deferred until the April meeting, to recommending an individual to fill same. M. N. Holmes, local Newell business man, submitted his application and was nominated for the Veterans' Service Job, however it is understood further applications and nominations might be made at the next meeting. Officers, were, elected as follows: Commander Albert Eickelman; Vice Commander Kenneth Sundstrom; Chaplain C. M. Smith; Finance Officer Frank Post and Charles Schwartz; Adjutant Neil Dow and Don Moore; Sergeants-at-Arms Leonard West and Ralph Hedrick.

**March 11, 1965**

The possibility of securing the establishment of a Job Corps Conservation Camp at Newell as a boost for the local economy was discussed at a special meeting of the business, civic and church leaders held at the Newell City Hall Monday evening, with the group voting unanimously that another citizens meeting be scheduled soon to secure more information about such a camp program. One of the greatest economic benefits expected in the program will be the development of the men into self-sufficient, tax-paying citizens. Applicants for such Job Corps training it was pointed out, must

be young men between the ages of 16 and 21 who are carefully screened to make certain that they sincerely desire a chance to prepare themselves for their responsibilities as decent citizens.

Dale Sprague, 6-0 All-Conference Forward will see action at the State Tournament in Sioux Falls, although his knee may be both braced and taped, friends teammates are pleased to hear. The announcement was made on Monday after the physician who operated on his knee last summer, had examined the re-injured member. However, he was able to participate in both football and basketball until the re-injury Saturday at Martin. Coach Bob Peterson has not indicated whether he would start the rugged Gator re-bouncer or save him in the opening game at Sioux Falls. The Irrigators won the Region 8 Championship in a tremendous win over Provo and Philip, by outstanding team play to elevate Newell to their first ever play in the High School State Basketball Tournament.

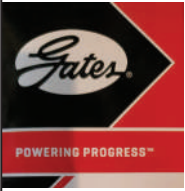
153 students are listed on the first semester Honor Roll at the SD School of Mines & Technology. The list is comprised of science and engineering students who maintain a grade point of 3.05 or better. The Honor Roll included Roger Abrahamson of Belle Fourche, Courtney Hann and Leonard

## Newell Service Center

101 4th Street- Phone 605-456-3455



- Automotive and Pickup Repair Shop
- Sturdevant's Parts Store
- Oil Lube & Filter Service •
- Gates-Belts & Hoses & • Custom Hose building + We sell all classes of Tires & do Tire repair!



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

### Mondays

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

### Whistle Stop Market

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

### BH Farmer's Market

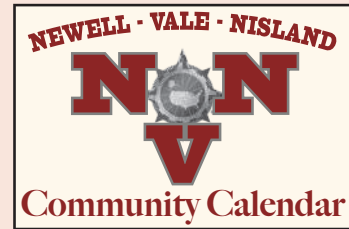
Second Tuesday each month, 4:30, Nisland Town Hall

### Feeding South Dakota

Second Thursday every month, 1:30

### Newell Library Hours

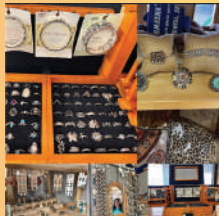
Open Monday, Wednesday, Friday 10 a.m. to 5 p.m.



## 212/79 Service Center



Fuel for the vehicle, fuel for you, and even gifts available from JT Boutique



121 South Dartmouth Newell, SD  
605-456-0133

106 8th Street

P: 605-456-1321  
F: 605-456-1621

## VIP Agency

Auto, Home, Farm, Commercial

PO Box 426  
Newell, SD 57760

VIPAgency@sdplains.com

## Heading to Eastern Wyoming



Kiana Miller signed a letter of intent with Eastern Wyoming College to compete in breakaway roping

for the Lancer's Rodeo Team. She also received a scholarship.



Menu Sponsored by:

## Newell Hardware & Supply

320 Girard - Newell SD

605-456-2312

Open Mon-Sat 7:30 AM-5:30 PM/Sundays 11 AM-3 PM

## Coalition Spotlight

This month we honor Leanne Wells.

Leanne Ekman Wells was born to Hans and Florence Ekman, by Wilmot SD. Leanne completed the end of four girls. Leanne's parents owned a business in Wilmot for many years. Sold and delivered milk and milk products out of the store and also had in town route, 2 country routes and one big route in Milbank.

They also sold feed and had a Montgomery Ward order store. The four girls had an equal part of helping run the business, being in the public.

Leanne graduated from Wilmot Public School with honors. Going onto Watertown, SD to start work 2 days after graduation. She worked at the Holiday Inn bakery and was also a waitress. Leanne moved out to the Black Hills and she got married and had 3 boys. She was a room mom at Newell for a number of years, helping out with whatever the teacher needed and helping out with the kids.

Leanne was President of the extension club River Side Gals for years. She joined a weekly craft club and bible study. She reported for the Valley Irrigator Newspaper. This was the gossip column for Newell and Nisland for years. She got to know even

more people. Leanne joined the Insurance industry in Belle Fourche insurance, which she still does.

Leanne's sons, Nathan Voorhees graduated with honors from Newell in 2003 and went on to Mitchell for HVAC. He worked in Spearfish for 10 years, later moving back east river to farm with his wife's family.

Nathan and Andrea have 3 children. They still are enjoying farm life.

Leanne's 2nd son Kenton Voorhees graduated with honors from Newell in 2007. He went onto Sioux Falls to learn auto body repair. He moved to the Spearfish area with his wife Jill. They have 2 children. Kenton went on to working as a plumber, he now goes out and bids jobs.

Leanne's 3rd son, Cameron Voorhees graduated with honors from Newell in 2014. He went onto Mitchell Tech to be an Electrician. He is in Rapid City with his girlfriend Marissa, working at a big company as an electrician, has his own vehicle to go to repair what ever is needed.

Leanne was on the Newell School Board for years and also a member of the W.I.T. Coalition and a board member and Vice President for the Harding

& Perkins Insurance for years. She became a board member and President of the South Dakota Farm Mutual Insurance Association, which she still a board member.

Leanne took over her late husband's crop insurance clients the fall of 2021. Leanne took the Federal Crop Insurance exam on 2-22-22 and passed the first time. Leanne works for Hibner Insurance based out of Bison, SD. She meets with each client, even going into Nebraska.

Leanne completed the paperwork that she and Jerry started with getting irrigation pivots put on their acreage. The pivots were put in spring of 2023. Leanne gets the work done on her place along with some help from Bruce Brunner.

Leanne helps out with whatever someone needs help with... Note from Sabrina, WIT Director. Leanne is one of the coalition members we can always rely on to help whenever and wherever we need it.

She is helping pop popcorn during the Newell School Reading night with the RUSH Hockey team.

She also helped out serving pie during the Educated Voter night and at the Trunk-Or-Treat. She has a friendly smile and loves to visit with all ages.

## MARCH

Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
3) Yogurt Parfait, Cereal, FF, Juice, Milk  Mac & Cheese, Green Beans, Fruit, Milk	4) Biscuits & Gravy, Cereal, FF, Juice, Milk  Corn Dogs, Mixed Veggies, Coleslaw, Fruit, Milk	5) Breakfast Pizza, Sausage, Cereal, FF, Juice, Milk  Beef Straganoff, Mixed Veggies, Fruit, Milk	6) Breakfast Egg Roll, Cereal, Juice, FF, Milk  Sloppy Joes, Broccoli, Fruit, Milk	7) NO SCHOOL
10) French Toast Sticks, Cereal, Juice, FF, Milk  Chili, Corn Bread, Corn, Fruit, Milk	11) Pancakes, Sausage, Cereal, Juice, FF, Milk  Chicken Fajitas, Peppers, Onions, Tomatoes, Fruit, Milk	12) Muffins, Cereal, Juice, FF, Milk  Chicken Nuggets, Mixed Veggies, Fruit, Milk Broccoli Cheese Soup	13) Waffles, Cereal, Juice, FF, Milk  Chili Dogs, Beets, Milk	14) NO SCHOOL
17) Long Johns, Cereal, Juice, Fruit, Milk  Irish Stew, Sweet Potatoes & Apples, Fruit, Milk	18) Bagels, Omelets. Cereal, Juice, FF, Milk  Chicken Patty Sandwiches, Green Beans, Fruit, Milk	19) Turkey Tornadoes, Cereal, Juice, FF, Milk  Scalloped Potatoes & Ham, Corn, Fruit, Milk	20) Breakfast Pizza, Cereal, Juice, FF, Milk  Cubano Sandwiches, Baked Potatoes, Broccoli Salad, Fruit, Milk	21) NO SCHOOL
24) French Toast Sticks, Cereal, Juice, FF, Milk  Chicken Caesar Wrap, Bread Sticks, Fruit, Milk	25) Maple Baked French Toast, Cereal, Juice, FF, Milk  Goulash, Broccoli, Fresh Rolls, Fruit, Milk	26) Breakfast Wrap, Cereal, Juice, FF, Milk  Chicken Alfredo, Corn, Fruit, Milk	27) Egg Omelet, Cereal, Juice, FF, Milk  Chicken Patty & Gravy, Mashed Potatoes, Broccoli, Fruit, Milk	28) NO SCHOOL

Menu is subject to change!

Middle School and High School have access to fresh Salad Bar

**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.

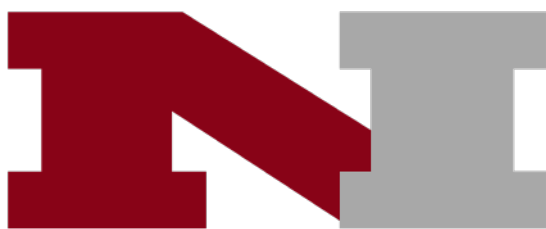
*The Town of Newell is an equal opportunity employer.*

**Festival of Trees  
Donations**



*This is the burn barrel Aaron Lindskov will put to use. Betty Bruner Photo*

**NHS Classes Visit Pierre  
During Legislative Session**



**Grand River Roundup**

**Betty Olson**

[news@bellefourchebeacon.com](mailto:news@bellefourchebeacon.com)

This was a fairly nice, warm week with a high temperature of 75 degrees on Thursday, but too much wind on Monday and Friday. It was so windy on Monday that my hens only gave me five eggs, so chickens must not like wind either.

I rode with Missy down to Ladies Aid at the church on Tuesday. Missy took River Lu along with us so she could play with Adley Johnson while we had WMF. Linda Mohagen hosted the meeting with a delicious lunch, but we missed Patsy Wilkinson who stayed home with a bad cold she didn't want to share with the rest of us. The guys are busy casting and Thad came up that evening to get his mail.

I really enjoy reading the South Dakota Magazine, but this last issue was really interesting. It had an article that Ty Fowler from Buffalo wrote about his classmate Ben Latham and Ben's father Erwin Latham. Both Ty and Ben were classmates of our daughter Teri

McNelis in Harding County. There was also a letter that Dr. Thomas Jacobson from Hettinger wrote about his missionary aunt's Oahe church before it was flooded and a beautiful picture of John Lopez and his art work at the Kokomo in Lemmon. I really get a lot of enjoyment from that magazine.

Sadly, there are more deaths to report: Gerald Verhulst, age 90, of Hettinger, passed away on Saturday, February 15, at the Western Horizons Care Center in Hettinger. Memorial services for Gerald were held on Saturday, March 15, at Our Savior's Lutheran Church in Reeder.

Jace Keg Scherbarth, a cherished son, grandson, nephew, cousin, and friend, passed away on March 2, at the tender age of 14 in Reva, South Dakota. His memorial services were held on Monday, March 10, in Hay Springs, NE and another service was held for him in Reva on March 15. Memorial donations can be directed to: The Jace Keg Scherbarth Memorial, 101 E. 2nd St, Rushville, NE 69360.

After a courageous journey

with cancer lasting more than a decade, Beverly (Ellingson) Byers passed away at Western Horizons Care Center on March 9, nineteen years to the day after her husband Tex Byers left this earth. A celebration of her life is being planned with a tentative date of May 30.

Our grandson Collin McNelis in Buffalo, Minnesota had his 21st birthday on Wednesday, but I didn't get him called because Reub had an early appointment at the Hettinger clinic that morning and I took the pickup out to Laufer Vermeer to get the oil changed. We ate a late lunch in town and had a good visit with Ron and Heather Nester at the café. Casey took some critters to the sale barn in Lemmon that day and we saw him at Runnings on his way back to the ranch. We stopped in Reeder on the way home to have coffee with the Prairie Pioneers and got home just in time to do chores and head down to the church of the Lenten service that evening. Bev Heier and Mary Lu Holt fed us a delicious lunch before the service.

The refrigerator in the basement died so we looked all over to find another one that would be short enough

to fit in the same place. We finally found one at Karl's TV and Appliance in Spearfish, so Reub and I went down there on Thursday to pick it up. Casey and Taz got it unloaded and put in the basement for us and then Casey got the tractor and hauled the old one down to the dump. I don't know what us old folks would do without these young people to help us. The Harding County girls lost their basketball game against St. Mary's at state in Huron that afternoon.

It was chilly and really windy on Friday when Casey took a cow to Baker to get a cesarean to take the dead calf out of her. With that 50 mph wind I didn't hardly go outside except to take care of my chickens. The Harding County girls won their game at the state tournament in Huron on Friday to take 7th place in the tournament.

It was just a little bit warmer on Saturday with not much wind when I went to Reeder Monday morning for our old friend Jerry Verhulst's funeral. Reub was still feeding cows when I left to join a large crowd of friends and neighbors to bid goodbye to our old friend. I would love to look through Jerry's museum in Reeder again. He has some interesting stuff

in there. One of the last times Reub and I visited Jerry at the nursing home in Hettinger, Jerry gave me an interesting rock that he'd found at the ocean. When I got home after the funeral I was reminded of the rock Jerry gave me when our great grandson Knox brought me a couple petrified wood rocks that he had found for me. Knox likes rocks almost as much as I do, so when I'm no longer here that big pile of petrified wood and other beautiful rocks I have out there beside Olson Creek belongs to Knox.

We had choir practice after church on Sunday to get ready for the Community Hymn Sing at the Beckman Memorial Church in Prairie City on Sunday, March 30 at 7:00 in the evening. We will also be having supper and Lenten service at Slim Buttes Lutheran March 19 at 5:30 and you are welcome to join us every Wednesday until Easter.

March 17 was St. Patrick's Day so I'll leave you with An Irish Blessing that Ron Traver sent me: "May you have the Hindsight to know where you've been, the Foresight to know where you are going, and the Insight to know when you've gone too far."



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**Newell FFA Members Compete in CDE**



Congratulations to our Newell FFA members in their first CDE competitions of the 2026 season. We can't wait to see what they do next week at their first qualifying contest in Sturgis!

Horse Evaluation- 1st Place Team Kate High 1st place Sorley Wetz 4th place McKenzie Rans 9th place Kendra Johnson 24th place Kiley Link 34th place Livestock Evaluation- 3rd Place Team Justin Stranberg 9th place Jesse Jones 13th place Bianca Bierman 17th place Poultry Evaluation- 3rd Place Team Jessica Raisanen 5th place Paul Raisanen 7th place Ag Mechanics- 3rd Place Team Orrin Youngberg 2nd place Joe Eaton 7th place Rowdy Wetz 18th place Brendt Tift 18th place Meat Evaluation- 4th Place Team Nevada Donahey 6th place Will Erk 10th place Hayden Johnston 12th place Floriculture- 5th Place Team Kianna Miller 19th place Bethany Mahaffy 20th place Evelyn Ahart 26th place Kaitlynn Shaykett 27th place Bailey Takes The Gun 30th place Tala Millage 31st place

**Book Blast Treasure Hunt Winners**



**Upper Left: Cooper Hight  
Center: Eliza Ahart  
Upper Right: Tyrel Lewis  
Far Left: Ayricka Schulte  
Left: Windsor Erickson**

*Courtesy Photo*