



Belle Fourche Beacon

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VOL. 8 ISSUE 42

Belle Fourche, SD Wednesday • November 19, 2025

\$1.25

Belle Fourche Middle School Leads Veterans Day Program



Kindergarten students sing *God Bless America* at the Veterans Day program. *Longbrake photo*

Robbi Longbrake

news@bellefourchebeacon.com

BELLE FOURCHE—The Belle Fourche Middle School students presented an impressive Veterans Day program dedicated to current and former members from any of the six military branches.

The 29th annual presentation was held on November 11 and had something for everyone. The event started with music and the presentation of colors. The kindergarten students led everyone in the Pledge of Allegiance and followed that up by

singing *God Bless America*.

Mayor Randy Schmidt was on hand to present the Veterans Day Proclamation.

The students educated the crowd on each of the branches of the U.S. Armed Forces and presented the flags for the Army,

Navy, Marine Corps, Air Force, Coast Guard and Space Force. After each flag was presented, it was hung up to be displayed on the stage backdrop.

The 7th and 8th grade band played the service song for each branch.

Later, the Belle Fourche Middle School Program Team gave a presentation covering the history of each branch, the creation of each flag—including when it was adopted and the meaning of each symbol—and

Veteran's Program Contd. A3

Rapid City Kountry Junkin Draws Vendors & A Crowd

Doug Cole

news@bellefourchebeacon.com

Mrs. Cole's niece Jenny and her husband Zach Gastjelon and their three children Clayton, Stella, and Iris own and operate Pearson Bloc Candy Store and Pearson Bloc Hous Vintage & Modern on State Street in Belle.

This past Saturday with this Editor in tow a trip was arranged to visit them at the Kountry Junkin event in the Rushmore Room at the Monument in Rapid City.

To our amazement as we entered we were participants in a line hundreds of people long filing into the event.

A few minutes later as we entered we were greeted by Jenny who's booth & candy display was the first you saw/came to in the great hall where the room was full of booths and people.

Two many to count, but guessing 2-3 thousand attendees.

Kountry Junkin' Vintage Market was founded in 2012. It was built for the love of junk and all things shabby, rusty, chippy, and handmade.

Founder, Amy Gustafson wanted to bring a market to the area that featured local artists and artists from around the country who celebrate a similar love for all things: JUNK! Her kids were getting older and she wanted something she



could do for herself as they flew the coop so to say.

She knew that I wanted to be self-employed to be her own boss and set her own rules.

"Junking" was in her DNA. From memories of going to auctions, yard sales, and even digging in the dump for treasures with my mom and dad....

Junkin Contd C2.



Crowds continuously shopped the crowded aisles of Rush-

St. James Lutheran Welcomes New Pastor

Robbi Longbrake

news@bellefourchebeacon.com

BELLE FOURCHE—Was it divine intervention that St. James Lutheran Church happened to be searching for a new minister just as the Lenning family was looking to move closer to relatives in the Black Hills area?

The new pastor of the church thinks so! "I really feel like the Holy Spirit was involved in it, because when I met with the call committee here, it seemed like there was a really good match," he said.

And so began the trek from Parshall, ND, south to Belle Fourche, SD, for the Lenning family. Pastor Chris began work at St. James Lutheran Church on August 1. Parshall is located about an hour from Minot—way up north! With a population of around 200 people, the town makes the Northern Hills area feel like a much bigger place for them.

"For us, it's a big town, and we're excited, because I think sometimes people don't realize all that the town has to offer.

I just want to encourage people to see that wherever you are, God can use you and you can bloom where you're planted and share your gifts," said Pastor Chris. "We are learning about the town and things like the Rec Center and being able to just go and get a pizza whenever you want to, that's kind of cool!

We're blessed to be here." Family is important to Pastor Chris. He brings with him his wife, Jennifer, and their son Kyle. They have two adult children, a daughter in Hettinger, ND, and a son living in Long Beach, CA. Making the move was also for family. "My father-in-law is a Vietnam vet, and they had moved down here to be closer to Fort Meade," he explained. "I guess we're just kind of at that stage where we're thinking about wanting to make sure that we have a chance to spend more time with our parents in their golden years, and Kyle being closer to grandparents."

As he learns about the community and settles into his new surroundings, Pastor Chris also hopes to learn from his church family. "The first year, my theory is that I want to learn from the congregation," he shared. "I mean, a lot of times when a new pastor comes, there's new songs or there's new ways of doing things, and it can be a little bit unsettling—but they've been very patient with me! I want to learn from them this first year!"

The church sees about 65 or 70 people worship on a Sunday. Pastor Chris hopes to grow the congregation. Services are 10 o'clock each Sunday. "We're just really blessed when we have visitors come and visit with us. We're very much wanting to work with other churches and work together just to make sure everyone has an opportunity to have a church home," shared Pastor Chris. "If you come here you have a chance to see this is a church that has a tremendous heart and very kind people! Our doors are always open, and we really want to welcome everyone!"

A lot of exciting things are happening at St. James! They have hosted a block party to celebrate the opening of 12th Ave.

They are building a prayer garden outside, and just held a cowboy worship service and free thanksgiving feast! "One of the things I'm excited about is we

applied for a grant that is focused on intergenerational events. Often we don't have as many kids on a Sunday, but we have a pretty good group of kids that come on Wednesday.

We want to see how we can make sure that the people who are there on Sunday and the kids who are there on Wednesday have more interaction with one another," explained Pastor Chris.

The Lenning family really likes their new home and new church and plan on staying for a long time! "I could see myself retiring here," he said. "I think this is just a group of people that really love God and just really feel like they're called to just share that joy with other people."

Pastor Chris plans on taking advantage of all that the Northern Hills has to offer. "I love skiing. I got a season pass to Terry Peak and I'm very excited—the first time in my life," he said. "Just getting out in the Hills with my family and our three dogs is so nice!"

A real passion for Lenning is chaplaincy. "What I'm really drawn to is crisis ministry (...) I think, if the church can't be there for you at some of your hardest times, then we need to rethink what we're doing. So, that's something I've always been drawn to," he said.



Chris Lenning, the new pastor at St. James Lutheran Church, standing in the developing prayer garden that the church is building. *Longbrake photo*

PINK FRIDAY
NOVEMBER 21ST, 2025

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Pastor's Perspective

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

"About Astrology"

Recently a local television reporter asked me by telephone to state my position on astrology, "as a Christian and as pastor of one of Los Angeles' well-known churches."

That conversation reminded me of the necessity for everyone to have a basic understanding of the subject, hence:

1) The Bible not only rejects but condemns astrology. Isaiah 47:12-15 should be read carefully. The concluding words of warning regarding the person committed to astrology and related occult practices make clear that confusion is the inevitable lot of such a person and tragic, eternal loss the final price.

2) The supposition that the wisemen (magi), who found the young Christ as the result of astrological pursuits, somehow supports the practice of astrology by reason of their inclusion in the Bible story, is a groundless one. They only evidence how God meets earnest hearts where they are, and if they honestly are searching for Him, He'll see that they get there. But please notice: the whole story in Matthew 2 notes that (a) it took the revelation of the Word of God to finalize their quest and b0 their quest wasn't final until they found the Son of God.

3) The danger of astrology is beyond a simple, superstitious misuse of time. Plying the trade of occult practices is to traffic with the demonic. the "uncanny" concurrence of events, people contacts and trivia in a person's life, seeming to confirm the forecast of their horoscope, is the direct result of demonic manipulation of people and circumstances. It isn't the result of some cosmic influence radiating from the stars, but a hellish one emanating from satan himself, hav-



ing found but one more way to seal, to kill and to destroy sheep-like humans (John 10).

4) Presumably, everyone reading these words knows the difference between astrology and astronomy: the former is a metaphysical or occult practice; the latter an objective pursuit of physical science. There is nothing wrong with the study of astronomy: Indeed, there is great inspiration in studying any aspect of

God's creation. In this realm, the acid test is the willingness of the student to acknowledge God's handiwork and to overcome the idolatrous systems of human pride which chalk galaxies off to a deity named Chance (Psalm 19:1-6; Romans 1:18-32).

5) Finally, knowledgeable Bible students are aware of the fact and the reason that the name of some star groups occur in the Bible (ex: Job 9:9; 38:31, 32; Amos 5:8). These references to constellations are not astrological, but are didactic—that is they are a means of teaching. It is a fact that before the ancient Babylonian systems of astrology came into vogue, the godly patriarchs linked the spiritual lessons of God's promised redemption in the minds of their children by using the canvas of the skies (and in a day when pen and paper were unknown).

The way to relate to a person involved in astrology is not to preach against their practice, but to show them the love of Jesus Christ. It may be that their quest is an honest one, not an avoidance of confronting the reality of the Savior. If so, when they encounter His live in you, they'll do what wise men do every time. They will cease "following stars" and bow before Jesus.

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Brian Kline
Owner

Most of us intend on "getting around to it someday," but that someday never comes and we leave our family wondering whether or not they did the right thing. **It doesn't have to be like that.** It's not pleasant to be reminded of our own mortality; we can laugh, cry, or do a little of both. Regardless of how we prefer to deal with the big questions of life, **it always works out for the best when we face things head on,** especially in regard to such a sensitive issue.

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Nov 20 - 4:30PM Chamber Mixer @ Prairie Hills Pharmacy, 5:30PM Moose Lodge Burger Night, 5:30PM Abolish Property Tax Presentation @ Grap's Burgers

Nov 21 - Nov 23 Multiple Holiday Events

Nov 25 - Festival of Trees

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

GOOD SHEPHERD CLINIC, INC.

Shepherd of the Hills Church
825 W Main Street in Lead

Good Shepherd Clinic

Next Clinic: Thursday, September 11th & Thursday, September 25th
Registration will be from 6:00-7:00pm.

Good Shepherd Clinic is a medical clinic for adults, ages 19-64, who meet our income guidelines. Medical services will be available at Shepherd of the Hills Lutheran Church in Lead. Enter the church through the Julius Street parking lot (*below 825 W. Main Street*).

Good Shepherd Clinic - Lead - December 11
Registration from 6:00-7:00pm.

Good Shepherd Clinic-Spearfish is open Monday nights at 1020 State Street.

For more information contact:
Phone: 605-717-2080
Email: director@goodshepherdclinicspearfish.com
Website: www.goodshepherdclinicspearfish.com

Philippians 2:3
"Do nothing out of selfish ambition or vain conceit. Rather, in humility value others above yourselves."

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Belle Fourche, SD 57717

From A1 Veterans Day

information about who wrote each service song and when it was composed.

The afternoon was filled with music. Kindergarten students sang, the 7th and 8th grade band played, the 7th and 8th grade choir sang We Say Thank You and Song for the Unsung Hero, the 8th grade band ensemble played America the Beautiful, and the Belle Fourche Middle School band played The Star-Spangled Banner.

Students performed historical recitations of famous speeches, including Abraham Lincoln's Gettysburg Address, Patrick Henry's Liberty or Death, Dwight D. Eisenhower's D-Day Order and the Preamble to the Declaration of Independence.

Poetry was included in the day. The students stood up in front of a room full of people and spoke with confidence and clarity.

Special guests were honored

and asked to stand and be recognized for their service and for sharing their experiences with students in the classrooms this year.

The Outstanding Veterans Day Program Supporter award was presented to Lt. Col. Kellen Willert. He is a member of the South Dakota National Guard and a graduate of SDSU and USD. After graduating from law school, he moved to the U.S. Army Judge Advocate General Corps. After joining the JAG Corps, Willert served in various roles and units.

When he was introduced, it was made clear that he has had an outstanding military career, but that this award is to thank him for more than his veteran contributions, and also to recognize his willingness to share his experiences with the BFMS students and community.

Superintendent Orion Thompson presented Willert with a plaque, and his wife

and kids joined him for the award presentation.

Nathan Juelfs, representing VFW Post 3312, announced the Patriot's Pen Award winners. The essay topic this year was: How are you showing patriotism and support for our country?

"Annually, over 150,000 junior high students enter this contest—with the prizes totaling over \$1.2 million from the local post to the national level, as well as an all-expenses-paid trip to our nation's capital for the national winner," explained Juelfs. "Our top six essays from Belle Fourche will be sent to compete in districts and hopefully to the state and national level. The top four essays will be awarded a \$50 prize from Center of the Nation's VFW Post."

The program came to a close with Lauralee Dreiske playing Taps and the Retirement of the Colors.

Guests were invited to join the students for punch, cookies and conversation following the program.



(Top Row L) Nathan Juelfs, representing VFW Post 3312, with the Patriot's Pen Award winners. The essay topic this year was: *How are you showing patriotism and support for our country?* (Top R) Mayor Randy Schmidt reads the *Veterans Day Proclamation* with BFMS Student Council members Cade Pearson and Adeline Humbrcht. (2nd Row L) The 8th grade band ensemble plays America the Beautiful (2nd R) Middle school students present the *United States Coast Guard flag*. (3rd L) Veteran Nick Jackson prepares to retire the colors at the end of the Veterans Day Program. (3rd R) Blake Willert presents the *Preamble to the Declaration of Independence*. (Bottom) Superintendent Orion Thompson presents Lt. Col. Kellen Willert with the *Outstanding Veterans Day Program Supporter* award. Willert is accompanied by his wife, Jenelle, and his children, Logan, Hope and Blake. Cade Pearson is assisting. Longbrake Photos

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Methodist Women's Annual

Bazaar & Lunch

Saturday November 15
Methodist Church - 1804 Seventh Ave. Belle Fourche

Bazaar - 10 am to 2 pm
Gifts
Crafts
Stocking Stuffers
Baked Goods

Vendors:
Julie's Décor & More
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White Elephant Table

Lunch - 11 am to 1 pm
\$10 per person (\$5 kids 5 & under)

Chili - Chicken Noodle Soup
Sandwiches - Dessert

Quarts of Soup: \$10
Caramel Rolls & Coffee \$4

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Hunt Date
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Senior, **Alexis Pickett**, of Belle Fourche High School committed to **Gillette College** on Monday, November 17th, 2025. Lexi received a scholarship to play soccer and further her career and passion in the sport while pursuing a nursing degree. She hopes to become a Labor and Delivery Nurse someday.

Alexis is the daughter of **Josh & Victoria Pickett**. She has been playing soccer since she was 5 years old and has played varsity soccer as a Bronc for the past six years.

Her favorite soccer memories have been scoring several goals this season, seeing her family in the crowd cheering her on over the years, especially their support on senior night this season. Alexis' advice to up and coming players is, "not to worry so much about the future as everything works out exactly how it's supposed to."

Alexis is looking forward to being a **Pronghorn!**

Middle School Wrestling off to a Great Start

Kandi Tonsager
news@bellefourchebeacon.com

The Belle Fourche Middle School boasts a team of 35 wrestlers this year, 25 males and 10 females.

Their first meet was at Stagebarn Middle School on Monday November 3rd.

The middle school schedule runs from mid October when practice starts, through mid December with 9 meets on the schedule, ending with Black Hills Conference in Custer on December 11th. Coaches of the Bronc middle schoolers are

Andrew Dighton, Slayter Nielsen, Bill Kirstine and Shawn Harris.

The Belle Fourche Middle School boasts a team of 38 wrestlers this year. 28 males and 10 females.

Their first meet was at Stagebarn Middle School on Monday November 3rd. The team had 4 practices before their first competition, which Coach Dighton mentioned was a tall ask for the newcomers to the sport.

For many, it was their first time stepping out on the mat


for competition. The sport has really grown.

The middle school season runs from mid October when practice starts, through mid December with 9 meets on the schedule, ending with Black Hills Conference in Custer on December 11th.

Coaches of the Bronc middle schoolers are Andrew Dighton and Slayter Nielsen with two volunteer coaches, Bill Kirstine and Shawn Harris. Coach Dighton says it is great to have two volunteer coaches this year with this great number of wrestlers. The season looks promising!



Belle Fourche AAU Wrestling ----- Middle School Wrestling



WRESTLING PRACTICE STARTS

Advanced kids practice starts December 15th 2025 @ 6:15-7:30

Beginner kids practice starts December 16th 2025 @ 6:15-7:15

MIDDLE SCHOOL WRESTLING SCHEDULE 2025-26 BELLE FOURCHE

HEAD: ANDREW DIGHTON | ASST: SLAYTER NIELSEN | VOLUNTEER: SHAWN HARRIS

DATE	OPPONENT	SITE	Start Time
11/3 - Monday	Stagebarn Tournament	Away	4:00 pm
11/7 - Friday	Belle Fourche Tournament (HS Gym)	Home	3:00 pm
11/11 - Tuesday	Newell Tournament	Away	4:30 pm
11/18 - Tuesday	Hot Springs Tournament	Away	4:30 pm
11/21 - Friday	Sturgis Tournament	Away	4:00 pm
12/2 - Tuesday	Spearfish Tournament	Away	4:00 pm
12/6 - Saturday	Rapid City Tournament	Away	9:00 am
12/9 - Tuesday	Douglas Tournament	Away	4:00 pm
12/11 - Thursday	Black Hills Conference Trny - Custer	Away	4:00 pm

Bold @ Belle Fourche * Denotes Update on



AFP Property Tax Meeting



Americans For Prosperity state chapter director Jennifer Beving Courtesy Photo

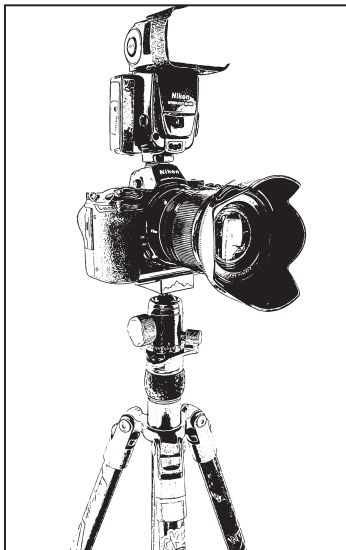


AFP meeting attendees enjoying the Holiday Inn prepared Prime Rib dinner Courtesy Photo

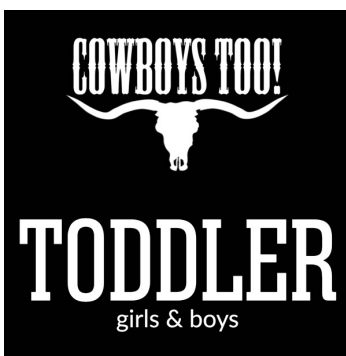


AFP staff and event volunteers. Courtesy Photo

Property Tax contd on C2



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BELLE FOURCHE ANNUAL COMMUNITY

Festival of Trees

NOVEMBER 25, 2025

BELLE FOURCHE COMMUNITY HALL
BELLE FOURCHE, SD

STARTING AT 5:00 PM

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AG COMMITTEE

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Julefest 2025

Scandinavian Christmas Festival & Bazaar

Our Savior's Lutheran Church
1020 State Street, Spearfish, SD
- Fellowship Hall -

Saturday, December 6
8:00 AM - 1:00 PM

Public Invited!
Coffee & Pastries served all day!

Lefse, Smorgasbord, Yuletide Music,
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Scandinavian Gift Shop
By House of Scandinavia

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Spearfish Food Pantry



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HATCHERY HOLIDAYS 2025

Thursday - Sunday
December 4th - 7th | Noon - 4pm

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Center of the Nation Concert Association
2025-26 Concert Series * Belle Fourche, SD
Belle Fourche Rec Center Theater



America's Sweethearts Christmas

Sunday, November 30, 2025 2:00 PM Matinee

Adorned in vibrant costumes, impeccably styled hairdos, an iconic red lipstick, the "Holiday" Sweethearts return to Belle Fourche with cherished holiday classics like "Man With a Bag", "Rockin' Around the Christmas Tree", "Let It Snow", and "White Christmas", all while channeling the spirit of The Andrews Sisters.



The French Family Band

Monday, March 30, 2026 7:00 PM

A unanimous choice by the CON Concerts Board and guests, Nashville-based Australian/New Zealander Family band to inspire from country swing icons like Chet Atkins, A Murray, and Merle Haggard. They have appeared at the Grand Opry and have received 9 Australian Golden Guitar Awards.



CeCe Teneal's Divas of Soul

Thursday April 30, 2026 7:00 PM

Take a ride on the "Midnight Train to Georgia" over "River Mountain High" as award-winning vocalist CeCe Teneal and her ensemble deliver the R-E-S-P-E-C-T you deserve in Divas of Soul. This spectacular celebration of 30 years of chart-topping hits from the Disco Era to Broadway to pop has wowed audiences world-wide.

Show Up

by Belle LaVene



This weekend in the theater! Belle Fourche High School's Fall Production, Sense and Sensibility, Thursday, Friday, & Saturday at 7 PM. Directors Nathan Schreier & Allie Juso-Verry captured some photos from practice, revealing their versatile set and beautiful time-period costuming. Be sure to attend this classic story, retold in a humorous, engaging script brought to life by our own BFHS thespians!

The beautiful Belle Fourche schools honored Veterans this past week at three school programs and one Rolling Hills program on November 11th. The high school program honored Veterans at 9 AM in the Rec Center Theater, the elementary program at 11 AM, and the middle school program was at 2 PM in the BFMS gymnasium. Students and guest speakers patriotically celebrated with music, poetry, speeches, and veteran history. The high school program guest speaker was Kellen Willert, Lt. Colonel in the SD National Guard & local community volunteer who was also honored at the Middle School program as their Outstanding Veterans Day Supporter, which was a surprise presentation for him. Overall the beautiful weather on the day also meant a large attendance at the programs for all the schools as they said "Thank You" to all of our veterans.

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

November 20-22, Thurs.-Sat., 7 PM: BFHS Production of Sense & Sensibility, BF Rec Center Theater.

December 1, Monday: BFHS/MS Jazz Concert, 7:00 PM, BF Rec Center Theater

December 8, Monday: BFMS 6-8 Grade Chorus Concert, 6:30 PM, BF Rec Center Theater

December 12-14, BFACT Radio Play Production of It's a Wonderful Life, Friday & Saturday @ 7:00 PM, Sunday @ 3:00 PM; BF Rec Center Theater

December 15, Monday: BFHS Band/Chorus Concert, 7:00 PM, BF Rec Center Theater

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



In period costumes & with a witty, entertaining script, BFHS thespians prepare for their three nights of performances, Nov. 20-22, of *Sense & Sensibility*, the Jane Austen classic.

BELLE FOURCHE HIGH SCHOOL THEATER PRESENTS

Sense & Sensibility

by Kate Hamill
based on the novel by Jane Austen

NOVEMBER
20
21
22
7.00PM

BELLE FOURCHE AREA COMMUNITY CENTER AUDITORIUM

ADULTS \$5
STUDENTS \$3



BFMS 7th & 8th graders honored veterans & presented patriotic music & poetry on Veterans Day for the *Rolling Hills Long Term Care Center* program at 10:30 AM.



Broadus Public Schools
has the following job opportunity:

District Business Manager/Clerk

This is a management position with previous business or accounting experience desirable. Hourly rate of pay will depend upon experience and education.

This is a full-time position. Attendance of all meetings of the Board is required, as well as traveling to and attending workshops and trainings.

Therefore, the applicant must be willing to work flexible hours. Benefits include health insurance, sick and vacation leave and PERS retirement. Position will be open until filled.

Contact Sarah Shannon for a job description and a district application at:

Broadus Public Schools
500 North Trautman
Broadus, MT 59317



Roots Grow Deep and Strong #42

“Should There be a Price for Misbehavior 2025”

Meg English

news@bellefourchebeacon.com



Sometimes it's interesting to revisit past writings. "Should There be a Price for

Misbehavior 2025" comes from an article I wrote in 2012.

It's about appropriateness and enforcement of school rules. It's a timeless topic that will likely never go out of style.

As always thanks to Owl Creek Organics and Natural Products in Nisland, SD for their kind support of this column, Roots Grow Deep and Strong and for their dedication to local organic foods.

Anyway, back in 2025 when I first began this article there was a lot of attention to the connection between strict discipline and academic success. There still is.

Even today advocates for educational reform often say that want more contact with school officials, more discipline and more structure because it's what's needed for academic success.

Our oldest son attended a strict academic charter school in 7th grade (Not in South Dakota)

"Your son has detention

today." The principal said when she called one day. She sounded tired. "What did he do?" I asked, also tired.

"He stepped on the snow." She said, her tone intensified as she explained. "The children were specifically told not to step on the snow and it's the third time this week that he deliberately..."

I didn't know how to respond. Apparently, when getting off the morning school bus, my 12-year-old son stepped on the snow, a forbidden infraction of the strict rules at his Classical Academy Charter School.

However, I agreed to rearrange my schedule so he could serve detention in compliance with school rules. Rules are rules and parents should be expected to support them.

Right?

Most children are like Max in Maurice Sendek's Where the Wild Things Are. They "wear their wolf suits and make mischief of one kind or another." Just because they are children.

During that school year, I rearranged my schedule many times to accommodate disciplinary sanctions.

In retrospect I still wonder exactly what is the connection between a stellar education and fervent discipline?

At about the same time, in Chicago the Noble Charter School Network argued that

strict discipline is critical to academic success.

Charter schools have the flexibility to determine their own rules. The Noble School Network consisted of several schools. They were and are still well known for strong academic performance...and a stringent discipline policy.

The Noble School Network method of sanctioning misconduct went beyond traditional tired methods such as assigning detention and calling parents. They charged students fines for misbehavior.

The Noble Schools are no longer charging students with fines, although as recently as 2012 even minor infractions such as not looking a teacher in the eye, or making annoying noises with a tapping pencil could cost a student \$5.

Students with multiple infractions (usually 12) were required to pay \$140 to take a behavioral improvement course during the summer. The total average misbehavior bill: \$200.

The Noble Schools director in 2012, Michael Milke defended the strict discipline code and related fees for misbehavior. Noble wants to correct inequities by required students who disrupt the learning of others to share in the cost.

Milke explained that waivers and payment plans are available to low-income students.

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Owl Creek Country Store from 3-6 on Wednesdays or by appointment. For directions to the country store, visit www.owlcreeknaturalproducts.com

Or call us at (605) 569-3124

He said that no student would be prevented from attending a Noble School based on the inability to pay.

Parents and teachers' groups have soundly criticized Noble schools for what they see as unethical and unfair practices.

The school's environment remains focused on success even now in 2025.

Noble schools no longer charge fees for student infractions. They continue to have high academic standards enforced by strict discipline. They have a long waiting list of parents who want their children enrolled.



I can understand why my son's principal sounded tired and frustrated. From a teaching and administrative point of view correcting misbehavior is time consuming, joyless, and boring.

Children will always wear their "wolf suits" from time to time. Sanctioned rebellion is healthy, but so are rules.

Discipline in schools is truly important, but it is one of many qualities that make education successful. If the Noble Schools are as successful as they appear to be, the strict discipline code is not the only contributing factor.

When our son stepped on the snow back in seventh grade, he was likely wearing his wolf suit.

These days he's a successful businessman, a good father, and loving husband. He has stepped on some restricted snow boundaries over the years, and he still finds value in the Latin root words he learned at his Classical Academy Charter School in 7th grade.

MEN'S 3V3 LEAGUE

WEDNESDAY NIGHTS

DEC 3-FEB 4

AGES: 16+

3-7 PERSON TEAMS

\$200/TEAM

REGISTER YOUR TEAM BY NOV. 19

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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.

Belle Fourche Recreation Center
Registration is open for our Men's 3v3 Basketball League. Team registrations are due by November 19th. If you'd like to play, but don't have a team, please reach out in the case we have a team looking for more players. Please share this info with anyone you think may be interested in participating! Contact information: jody@bellefourche.org bellefourcherec.com 605-892-2467

ABC November Coalition Meeting
Join us for our coalition meeting on November 21st at Noon! Some of our YLT members will be presenting their strategic plans and updating us on their activities for the year. Please RSVP by next Wednesday, the 19th. We hope to see you all there! The ABC Coalition stand for Action for the Betterment of Our Community - Butte County is an alcohol or drug dependency prevention or treatment organization in Belle Fourche, SD that was founded in 2023. When: September 26 at noon. Please RSVP by 9/24 Where: Christian Life Center - 2020 Vista St. Belle Fourche Contact Information: 605-644 65222 courtneyr@sturgisabc.org abc.butteco@gmail.com

Belle Fourche Writers
The Belle Fourche Writers will hold their regular November meeting on Saturday, November 15 from 10 AM to noon. The December editing meeting will be held on Monday, December 1 from 2-4 PM. The regular December meeting will be held on Saturday, November 15 from 10 AM to noon. Anyone interested in writing, regardless of background or experience is invited to attend. All meetings are held at the Belle Fourche Public Library

November is "Write Many Words Month" (WMWM) Join the challenge! Writing prompts will be posted Monday, Wednesday, and Friday on the Belle Fourche Writers Facebook page. Use the prompt or one of your own. Happy "Write Many Words Month" from the Belle Fourche Writers!



MEN'S 3v3 BASKETBALL

2025-26



Registrations due by November 19!

Season: December 3-February 4

Wednesday Nights

\$200/Team

SELF - OFFICIATED

* 3-7 players on a team * 1 game/30-minute time limit

* Ages 16 and up * 6-week league * End of season league tournament



Action for the Betterment of our Community - Butte County

COALITION MEETING

Our Youth Leadership Team members will be sharing their strategic plans they came up with for this year and the activities they have planned.

When: November 21st @ noon

Where: Christian Life Center 2020 Vista St

Lunch will be provided - please RSVP by 11/19

605-644-6522

courtneyr@sturgisabc.org

abc.butteco@gmail.com

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

Cattle Report - Friday, November 14, 2025

Right At 3500 Hd Today - Market Is Holding Steady

Next Sale - Friday, Nov. 21 - Spring Calf Special - 9 AM
Saturday, Nov. 22 - Bred Cow Special - 9 AM

Thank you for marketing with St Onge Livestock!

Yearlings

Fulton Ranch Llc, Broadus MT	18	B/R	Str	903	\$324.00
Fulton Ranch Llc, Broadus MT	52	B/R	Str	792	\$347.00
Fulton Ranch Llc, Broadus MT	21	B/R	Str	716	\$368.00
Gay Ranch Inc, Broadus MT	13	Bld	Str	1041	\$289.00
Gay Ranch Inc, Broadus MT	19	Bk	Hfr	899	\$313.00
Todd, Tim Or Kris, Sturgis SD	17	Bld	Str	819	\$329.00

Spring Calves

Hansen, Ken & Pam, Fruitdale SD	96	Bk	Str	616	\$436.00
Hansen, Ken & Pam, Fruitdale SD	25	Bk	Str	529	\$451.00
Gaskill Ranch, Volborg MT	51	Bk	Str	642	\$392.00
Gaskill Ranch, Volborg MT	93	Bld	Str	621	\$421.50
Gaskill Ranch, Volborg MT	34	Bld	Str	565	\$448.00
Gaskill Ranch, Volborg MT	19	Bk	Str	546	\$440.00
Gaskill Ranch, Volborg MT	22	Bk	Str	538	\$448.00
Madsen, Jim, Volborg MT	96	Bk	Str	582	\$430.00
Madsen, Jim, Volborg MT	29	Bk	Str	490	\$492.50
Giacometto, John, Broadus MT	59	Bld	Str	593	\$423.00
Giacometto, John, Broadus MT	64	Bk	Hfr	556	\$404.00
Giacometto, John, Broadus MT	35	Bld	Str	511	\$505.00
Giacometto, John, Broadus MT	29	Bk	Str	476	\$460.00
Roush Land & Livestock, Gillette WY	59	Bld	Str	539	\$461.00
Roush Land & Livestock, Gillette WY	54	Bld	Hfr	508	\$408.00
Brown, George A, Dodson MT	38	Bld	Hfr	493	\$404.00
Brown, George A, Dodson MT	12	Bld	Hfr	406	\$445.00
Brown, Sherm, Dodson MT	46	Bk	Str	537	\$420.00
Brown, Sherm, Dodson MT	10	Mix	Str	417	\$515.00
Bruch, John, Sturgis SD	67	Bld	Str	575	\$389.50
Bruch, John, Sturgis SD	28	Red	Hfr	506	\$379.00
Bruch, John, Sturgis SD	15	Red	Hfr	428	\$430.00
Burley, Quinn, Broadus MT	20	Bk	Str	522	\$392.50
Davis, Lloyd Or Kathryn, Osage WY	21	Bk	Str	453	\$535.00
Davis, Lloyd Or Kathryn, Osage WY	10	Bk	Hfr	419	\$475.00
Double H Ranch, Ashland MT	37	Bld	Str	592	\$411.00
Double H Ranch, Ashland MT	10	Bld	Str	450	\$517.50
Fruit, Tracy, Broadus MT	32	Bk	Hfr	445	\$467.50
Fruit, Tracy, Broadus MT	11	Bk	Str	410	\$550.00
Geis, James R, Aladdin WY	20	Bld	Str	593	\$412.00
Geis, James R, Aladdin WY	21	Bld	Hfr	529	\$391.00
Geis, James R, Aladdin WY	13	Bld	Str	490	\$480.00
Green, William Scott, Billings MT	22	Bk	Str	582	\$413.00
Green, William Scott, Billings MT	29	Bk	Hfr	535	\$393.00
Green, William Scott, Billings MT	16	Bk	Hfr	427	\$455.00
Hendrickson, Carol L, Hermosa SD	29	Bld	Str	701	\$372.00
Hendrickson, Carol L, Hermosa SD	17	Bk	Hfr	646	\$360.00
Hendrickson, Roy, Caputa SD	19	Bk	Str	545	\$427.50
Hooks Ranch, Big Timber MT	14	B/R	Str	447	\$525.00
Hooks Ranch, Big Timber MT	10	Bk	Str	441	\$407.50
K-C Ranch, Vale SD	18	Bld	Str	686	\$368.50
K-C Ranch, Vale SD	17	Rbd	Str	643	\$360.00
K-C Ranch, Vale SD	12	Rbd	Hfr	562	\$362.50
Keegan, Kelly, Hermosa SD	19	Bld	Str	653	\$372.50
Keegan, Kelly, Hermosa SD	23	Bk	Hfr	645	\$362.00
Kleven, Rick, Piedmont SD	11	Bk	Str	643	\$381.00
Kleven, Rick, Piedmont SD	54	Bld	Str	568	\$439.00
L & L Ranch Inc, Hammond MT	13	Bk	Str	581	\$415.00
L & L Ranch Inc, Hammond MT	10	Bk	Hfr	555	\$378.00
L & L Ranch Inc, Hammond MT	16	Bk	Str	455	\$517.50
Longreach Buffalo Co, Weston WY	15	Bk	Str	522	\$451.00
Longreach Buffalo Co, Weston WY	18	Bld	Hfr	505	\$382.00
Maul, Robert Or Laura, Gillette WY	10	Bk	Str	550	\$383.00
Maul, Robert Or Laura, Gillette WY	10	Bk	Hfr	420	\$435.00
Miller, Alan, Beulah WY	11	Bk	Str	633	\$382.00
Miller, Alan, Beulah WY	12	Bk	Hfr	553	\$370.00
Mills, Trent Or Kahla, Gillette WY	11	B/R	Str	488	\$465.00
Norman Ranch, Black Hawk SD	22	Bld	Hfr	559	\$364.00
Norman Ranch, Black Hawk SD	15	Bld	Str	532	\$427.00
Olson, Clay Or Molly, Newell SD	42	Bld	Str	626	\$399.00
Olson, Clay Or Molly, Newell SD	12	Bk	Str	617	\$399.00
Olson, Clay Or Molly, Newell SD	34	Hfr	Str	596	\$389.00
Olson, Clay Or Molly, Newell SD	19	Bld	Str	518	\$445.00
Oortog Ranch Llp, Fairburn SD	26	Bk	Str	605	\$420.00
Rasmussen, Dean Or Maxine, Camp Crook SD	12	Bk	Str	630	\$387.00
Russiff Ranch Co, Olive MT	17	Bk	Str	669	\$377.00
Russiff Ranch Co, Olive MT	17	Bk	Hfr	608	\$380.00
Simons, Sully Or Debbie, Beulah WY	20	Bld	Hfr	524	\$378.00
Simons, Sully Or Debbie, Beulah WY	39	Bld	Str	521	\$446.00
Simons, Sully Or Debbie, Beulah WY	27	Bk	Hfr	437	\$450.00
Spear E Ranch, Olive MT	54	Bld	Str	667	\$376.00
Spear E Ranch, Olive MT	16	Bk	Str	562	\$417.00
Spear E Ranch, Olive MT	22	Bk	Hfr	528	\$381.00
Slevens, Jan, Ashland MT	18	Bld	Str	520	\$436.00
Tetrault Ranch Trust, St Onge SD	16	Red	Str	600	\$401.00

Williams, Justin Or Heidi, St Onge SD	28	Bld	Str	669	\$360.00
Williams, Justin Or Heidi, St Onge SD	33	Bld	Str	534	\$440.00
Williams, Justin Or Heidi, St Onge SD	54	Bld	Hfr	515	\$406.00
Williams, Justin Or Heidi, St Onge SD	17	Bk	Str	434	\$547.50
Williams, Justin Or Heidi, St Onge SD	16	Bk	Hfr	408	\$460.00
Yates, Greg & Mindy, Ekalaka MT	44	Bld	Str	646	\$385.00
Yates, Greg & Mindy, Ekalaka MT	23	Bld	Str	528	\$440.00

Friday, November 21, 2025

Spring Calf Special 9 AM - Yearlings followed by Calves

BT-Branding Time Shots PC - PreCondition Shots DF-Drug Free BV-Bangs
Vaccinated NI- No Implants

Calves

Mt Rushmore Angus - 100 Blk Strs - 550-675# - BT, PC, Wnd
- 50 Blk Hfr - 525-625# - BT, PC, Wnd
Jason Garman - 140 Blk Strs & Hfrs - 525-560# - BT, PC, Ni
MT Consignment - 125 Blk Strs & Hfrs - 400-550# - BT, PC
SD Consignment - 125 Blk Strs & Hfrs - 450-550# - BT, PC
Jensen Ranch - 70 Red Hfrs - 600-625# - BT, PC, Wnd
David Long - 40 Blk Strs & Hfrs - 475-575# - BT, PC
Mike & Karen Dirks - 35 Blk Bldy Strs - 550-600# - BT, PC, Ni

Plus More By Sale Time!

Saturday, November 22, 2025

Bred Hfr & Cow Special

9 AM - Weigh Ups, 12 Noon - Bred Hfrs & Cows

Bred Cows

Ashcroft Ranch - 140 Blk 3 Yr Old Cows - Bred Blk - 4/1 For 55 Days
T Qtr Circle Ranch - 99 Blk 3 Yr Old Cows - Bred Herf - 4/1 For 50 Days
Geis Ranch - 67 Blk Short Term Cows - Bred Blk Or Herf - 3/20
- 20 Blk Hfrs - 1000# - Open
C & T Ranch - 90 Blk & Red 3 To 5 Yr Old Cows - Bred Blk - 4/5
Zimmerschied Ranch - 20 Herf 3 To 4 Yr Old Cows - Bred Blk - 4/5
- 20 Red L To 4 Yr Old Cows - Bred Blk - 4/5
- 35 Blk 3 To 4 Yr Old Cows - Bred Blk - 4/5
Hackamore Ranch - 55 Blk 3 Yr To Short Term Cows - Bred Blair Blk - 4/10
Matt & Jana Hoffman - 50 Blk Hfrs - Bred Lbw Angus - 3/1 In 3 20 Day Groups
Troy Johnson - 40 Blk 3 Yr Old Cows - Bred Blk - 3/20 For 30 Days - Home Raised
Tom & Susan Vore - 10 Blk Hfrs - Bred Blk - 4/15
- 15 Blk 2 To 4 Yr Old Cows - Bred Blk - 4/15
- 10 Blk 5 To 7 Yr Old Cows - Bred Blk - 4/15
James Halverson - 15 Blk Hfrs - Bred Lbw Blk - 4/10 For 30 Days
Open 8 Ranch - 10 Young Cows - Bred Blk Sim Angus - 3/20 For 50 Days

Plus More By Sale Time!

2025 CATTLE SALES

Saturday, November 29th - Annual Thanksgiving Bred Hfr & Stock Cow Special

December 5th - Spring Calf Special - Selling All Classes Of Cattle

December 12th - Spring Calf Special - Selling All Classes Of Cattle

December 19th - Bred Hfr & Cow Special - Selling All Classes Of Cattle

Final Sale Of 2025 - Thank You To All Our Consignors & Buyers For A Record Year!

2026 CATTLE SALES

January 9th - Feeder Cattle Special - Selling All Classes Of Cattle

January 16th - Bred Hfr & Cow Special - Selling All Classes Of Cattle

We are reps for
SUPERIOR LIVESTOCK AUCTION



Video Auction Time is Coming up very, quickly - If you are considering filming your Calves or Yearlings for Fall Delivery Contact Us For Your Video Marketing Needs

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

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Auctioneer: Cody Tupper 605-569-3589
Fieldman: Gilbert Wood 605-456-2400 605-641-7100
Fieldman: Dustin Vining 605-354-9966

Sheep Report - Thursday, November 13, 2025

Lambs sold higher on all weights
Slaughter ewe sold \$5 to \$10 higher
Lots Of People Looking For Replacement Ewes And They Sold Higher Today
Thanks To Everyone For Your Patience Dealing With The Power Outage Until 7:30pm

Next Sale - November 20 - Feeder Lamb Special - 1 PM start time
Thank you for your business!

Replacement Ewes - Sold by the head

Tennant Ranch, Camp Crook SD	194	Yrfg	159	\$395.00
Tennant Ranch, Camp Crook SD	129	5-7yr	166	\$225.00
Henry, Gale, Harrison NE	36	2-3yr	183	\$350.00
Henry, Gale, Harrison NE	50	4-6yr	188	\$295.00
Henry, Gale, Harrison NE	23	4-6yr	189	\$280.00
Henry, Gale, Harrison NE	34	Bkn	175	\$230.00
Anderson, Pete, Lodgepole SD	60	5-6yr	162	\$230.00
Tauck, Jeff, Hammond MT	36	4-5yr	201	\$250.00

New Crop Lambs

Clarkson, Shirley Buffalo SD	65	Lamb	88	\$257.50
Crazy Mountain Cattle Co [Big Timber Mt]	87	Lamb	73	\$296.00
Halverson, Kevin, Big Timber MT	32	Lamb	62	\$310.00
Henry, Gale, Harrison NE	99	Lamb	102	\$231.00
Ka Enterprises Inc, Livingston MT	18	Lamb	57	\$310.00
Ka Enterprises Inc, Livingston MT	153	Lamb	65	\$306.00
Mack, Dirk, Scanton ND	51	Lamb	86	\$257.50
Ollia, David, Newell SD	26	Lamb	70	\$287.50
Ollia, David, Newell SD	39	Lamb	91	\$236.00
Pokenhom Sheep, Phillip SD	122	Lamb	89	\$255.00
Robinson, Kruze & Bailey, Ralph SD	217	Lamb	105	\$232.00

Slaughter Ewes

Beckman Jr, Dan, Prairie City SD	31	K Ewe	176	\$114.00
Clarkson, Bill Or Reece, Buffalo SD	28	K Ewe	178	\$114.00
Clarkson, Bill Or Reece, Buffalo SD	22	K Ewe	165	\$106.00
Clarkson, Bill Or Reece, Buffalo SD	11	K Ewe	158	\$105.00
Crazy Mountain Cattle Co [Big Timber Mt]	15	K Ewe	150	\$105.00
Crazy Mountain Cattle Co [Big Timber Mt]	13	K Ewe	138	\$ 80.00
Ka Enterprises Inc, Livingston MT	13	K Ewe	158	\$114.00
Ka Enterprises Inc, Livingston MT	56	K Ewe	135	\$105.00
Ka Enterprises Inc, Livingston MT	15	K Ewe	127	\$ 80.00
Kemperich Livestock, Bowman ND	19	K Ewe	166	\$114.00
Kemperich Livestock, Bowman ND	11	K Ewe	155	\$105.00
Olson, Charlene, Bowman ND	31	K Ewe	185	\$114.00
Olson, Charlene, Bowman ND	27	K Ewe	167	\$106.00

Slaughter Bucks

Lawson, Don, Flasher ND	7	Kbuck	242	\$102.50
Miller, Jenne, Douglas WY	6	Kbuck	216	\$102.50

NEWELL SHEEP YARDS

Thursday, November 20, 2025 1 PM

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

2025 SHEEP SALES

November 20th - Feeder Lamb Special - Selling All Classes Of Sheep & Goats

November 27th - No Sale - Happy Thanksgiving!

December 4th - Feeder Lamb Special - Selling All Classes Of Sheep & Goats

December 11th - Replacement Ewe & Feeder Lamb Special - Selling All Classes Of Sheep & Goats

December 18th - Last Sheep Sale For 2025 - Regular Sale - Selling All Classes Of Sheep & Goats

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.

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A revolutionary improvement in plastic tank design, offering exceptional strength comparable to concrete tanks.

Suitable for use as septic tanks, pump/trash tanks, cisterns or rainwater (non-potable) storage/harvesting tanks.



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 <p>\$49,000</p> <p>2020 JD 560M 1000 Pro Windrow Roller</p>	 <p>\$8,950</p> <p>Westfield 100-61 Low Pro Swing Hopper</p>	 <p>\$9,500</p> <p>JD 960 Cultivator 27' Excellent Condition</p>	 <p>\$8,950</p> <p>JD 235 3 Bar Harrow 25' w/ 9" Spacing</p>
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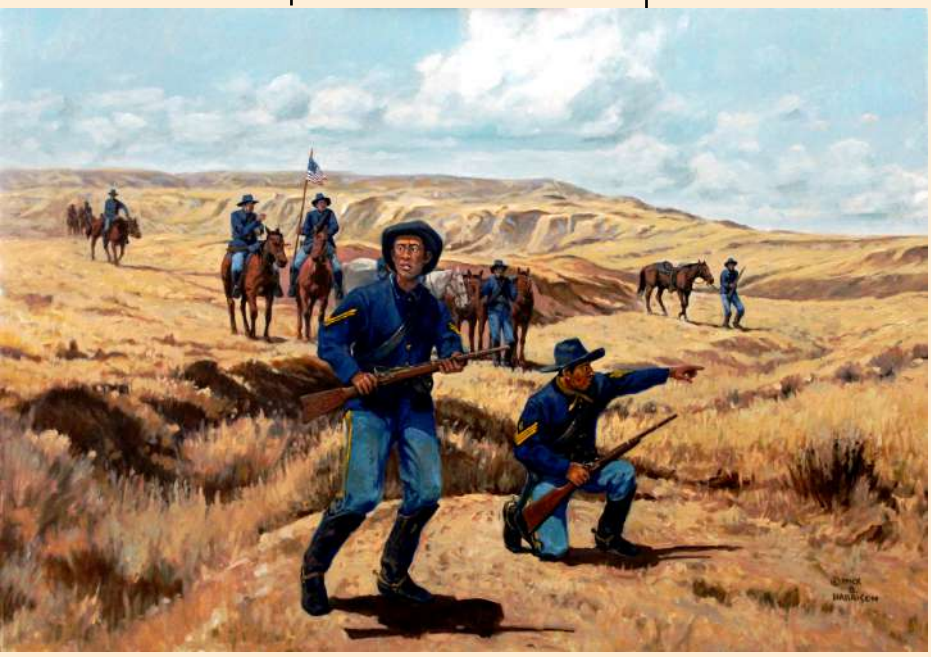
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Local.

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.



by Mary Buchholz

124 years ago
THE TIMES
November 28, 1901
Financial Standing Of Black Hills Counties The state auditor's annual report will show the financial condition of the counties of the state. The assets and liabilities of the counties of the Hills are as follows: Butte Liabilities \$64,150 Assets \$49,623; Custer Liabilities 180,444, Assets 90,280; Fall River liabilities 208,110, Assets 106,407; Meade liabilities 290,271, Assets 182,030; Lawrence liabilities 551,855 Assets 322,122; Pennington liabilities 216,118 Assets 277,390. From the above it will be seen that Butte county occupies a very favorable position with regard to other counties of the Hills. Last week the rate of taxation for state and county purposes was given, which, when considered with the liabilities of the county give some idea of the probable future rate of taxation. Investors and parties looking for future locations too often overlook that item of taxation in determining upon a location. Butte county officials have had in view economy in the administration of public affairs and it is hoped will continue so to do.

No better place for the stock growing business can be found than in Butte county and parties looking up a location should investigate the advantages offered in this section. There are many excellent localities yet in various parts of the county. While there is a gradual increase in the number of parties entering the stock business, it will be many years before the full resources of the county will be developed. Butte county has an area of nearly 9,000 square miles, the largest county in the state, and larger than two or three of the smallest eastern states; yet it has a population, according to the census of 1900, of a little less than 3,000. It is safe to say that the people of this county are as prosperous a class as is found in any part of the country. The people of Butte county have no reason to complain of the present, and the future seems bright.

100 years
The Belle Fourche Bee
November 26, 1925.

PIONEER BUILDER IS DEAD
A. A. Chouteau, Early Day Resident of Minnesela, Passed Away in California A. A. Chouteau, a former resident of Minnesela, when that town was one of the thriving communities of western South Dakota, died recently at Glendale, Calif., at the age of seventy-two years. Mr. Chouteau came from a family of pioneer builders, whose empire building work is still evident in many sections of the west. His great granduncle, Pierre Chouteau, founded the city of Pierre, which is named in his honor. A. A. Chouteau received his education in the schools of St. Louis, Mo., and graduated from a law school in that city, later practicing his profession there. Feeling the call of the west, he migrated to Pierre, S. D.; where other members of the family had located years before, and in 1879 came to the Black Hills country, locating at Minnesela, three miles southeast of Belle Fourche, when that town heralded as the "Chicago of the Northwest," and prior to the time the town of Belle Fourche had been thought of. In the years he remained in that town he was the outstanding man of the community, it was through his foresight and energy the first irrigation ditches were constructed, as well as the flouring mill at Minnesela. In 1883 he returned to St. Louis where he was united in marriage to Miss Cora Baker, who was introduced into society by General Sherman, the General declaring that she was one of the most charming ladies of the south. Miss Baker's father was editor of the Kentucky Journal, published at Louisville, Ky. Mr. and Mrs. Chouteau returned to Minnesela and made their home there until the hopes of that town went glimmering, when they returned to their former home St. Louis. They had two children, Azby, born in Minnesela in 1884, and Henry, born in Deadwood in 1889. The former was accidentally killed a little over a year ago in a polo game in Texas. The latter lives in St. Louis, Mo., where he is connected with the Chamber of Commerce, and also take an active part in politics.

Mr. Chouteau in addition to his activities in business lines, was a student of politics, and was the first member of the territorial legislature from this county. He was honored and respected wherever known, always a gentleman, and a friend of those in less fortunate circumstances than himself. Mrs. J. H. Gilbert of Belle Fourche came to the Hills with the family.

75 years ago
The Belle Fourche Bee
November 30, 1950
Recognize Rosander as U.S. Best Authority on Brahmalo Pete Rosander may use simple cowman's terms like "waterlogging" where the veterinarians say "hydramnios" but he is still the best authority in the United States on cross-breeding of buffalo and domesticated Brahma in the eyes of the federal department of agriculture. When a Seattle man - who is interested in buffalo being raised on Cook's inlet in Alaska - queried the department on cross-breeding, Animal Husbandman Earl W. McComas re-referred the question to Pete. Acting on that suggestion Edward Buffmyer wrote the Belle Fourche cattleman that the buffalo seem to be thriving on Cook's inlet but "the buffalo-Brahma cross may be better up there as they would be more beefie." He said he would be interested to hear of the local experiments.

McComa's original letter to Buffmyer had explained that the department's experiments with Brahma cattle have thus far been confined to the Gulf Coast region, adding that he was sure Rosander would divulge what knowledge he had gained through experimentation here. That's where we come to Pete's use of the descriptive language. It may not be acceptable for use in Washington, D.C., but when Pete wrote to Buffmyer describing his early experiments with crossing buffalo and Hereford cattle, he aptly ascribed the death of his cows to "waterlogging." Filled Up With Water "Four or five months after being bred, the cows swelled up until you were sure they were going to have twins or triplets." Pete said. "Actually they just filled up with water and died from exhaustion or from being unable to get up after lying down." It was then that Pete imported the Brahma cows for breeding to a buffalo bull he had separated to breed in keeping the Brahma cows from freezing and in "gentling" both animals were described for Buffmyer in a two-page letter. Pete further told how he now has seven yearling and six calf Brahmals and how the yearlings are weighing from 200 to 300 pounds more and are blockier than most domestic cattle. Acting on a tip from an animal husbandryman in Washington, where he went last year to obtain permission to buy some new buffalo breeding stock from the National Park Service, Pete is next going to the heifer Brahmalo he is raising. Through this new cross he expects to get another heavy animal that will be a milk producer, a good beef animal and a foraging breed that can take the severe winters without loss. Pete feels sure he is on the threshold of accomplishing what the Canadian government gave us after 41 years of experiments, mainly because he has used Brahma cattle in his crosses with buffalo instead of the smaller domestic breeds.

50 years ago
The Belle Fourche Bee
September 5, 1975
Sign Lease For Second Ambulance An agreement for lease of a second ambulance, and the pos-

sibility of locating an ambulance unit at Newell were discussed here Friday when county commissioners met with the city-county ambulance committee and the ambulance staff. The city and county representatives signed an agreement which provides that the committee will lease a second ambulance from the Butte County Ambulance Service and the Butte county ambulance staff, as of Oct. 1. The agreement calls for a lease payment of \$300 per month plus gas, oil and grease, and insurance after Jan. 1. Any major mechanical repairs will have to be borne by the ambulance service. The agreement may be terminated on 30 days notice. The second ambulance was purchased by the ambulance service and staff several weeks ago. Meanwhile, Dr. Michael Glanzer, Belle Fourche, who also practices in Newell, has agreed to train a group of 10 to 12 persons who have volunteered to man an ambulance at Newell. Dr. Glanzer will start first aid lessons as soon as possible, and has indicated that once these are completed he would be willing to provide further medical training to ambulance crews in both Belle Fourche and Newell.

Lindstad Firm Observes Anniversary Lindstad Alignment, at the corner of Fifth and Faulk is celebrating its 30th anniversary Friday. Emil Lindstad says the whole thing started in the old Sinclair Service Station on 10th Avenue in a building now occupied by Walker's Radiator Shop. After operating there for a few months, he moved to the building occupied by Stockmen's Recreation on Fifth Avenue and in 1947 built the first part of the building which the firm now occupies. The present building has been enlarged three times. Lindstad says the firm's staff now has a combined total of 101 years of experience. There's Lindstad with 30 years, Wayne Lindstad with 25 years, Norman Raines 21, Arland Webster 18, Dean Lindstad and Monte Drole, three years each and Joe Oberg, in his first year. Mendy Lindstad and Lucille Lindstad are part time book-keepers. Lindstad says it's been a pretty good 30 years. During that time he was heavily involved in civic affairs for about 15 years, including terms on the city council and a stint as mayor and president of the Chamber of Commerce



Dr. Micheal Glanzer served the Belle Fourche area for 25 years and the **Butte County Ambulance Board** for 22 years.



Rosander Brothers: Pierre "Pete", Ben, Oscar, and Andy



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10	Chicken ala King Noodles Mixed Veggies	11 Liver & Onions or Cheeseburger Potatoes & Gravy Green Beans	12 BBQ Chicken Scalloped Potato Spinach Salad	13 Ham & Bean Soup Cornbread Dinner Salad	14 Grilled Ham & Cheese Tomato Soup Dinner Roll
17	Swiss Steak Baked Potato Mixed Veggie	18 Chicken Cordon Bleu Wild Rice Broccoli Dinner Salad	19 Pork Loin Roasted Potato Mixed Veggies	20 Meatloaf Potatoes & Gravy Green Beans Roll	21 Beef Sausage Peppers & Onions Cheesy Potato
24	Pork Roast Sweet Potato Broccoli Salad	25 Chicken Fried Steak Potato & Gravy Green Beans	26 Ham Salad Sandwich Tossed Salad Chips	27 Traditional Thanksgiving Meal	28 Hot Hamburger Sandwich Potatoes & Gravy Dinner Roll

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Festival of Trees - November 25th | Chili Feed - November 28th (Both at Community Hall)
Trees at the Capitol - Dec. 12th - \$25 a person | New Years Eve Party - Dec. 31st - 7-9pm



AFP Property Tax Meeting

Property Tax from C3
According to a spokesperson from Koch Industries, the Koch companies do not direct the activities of AFP. AFP's original stated mission was "educating citizens about economic policy and mobilizing citizens as advocates in the public policy process"

– not special interests".
It is focused on "fiscal responsibility," and in particular on cutting taxes, reducing regulation of business, and limiting the power of the courts. [18] According to FactCheck.org, "AFP seeks to support free markets and entrepreneurship by advocating lower taxes and limited government spending and regulation."

tions.
According to NBC News, The New York Times and others, some of AFP's policy positions align with the business interests of the Koch brothers and Koch Industries, including its support for rescinding energy regulations and environmental restrictions; expanding domestic energy production; lowering taxes; and reducing government spending, especially Social Security, Medicare, and Medicaid. AFP had a staff of 116 employees in September 2012, and the next year it had chapters in 34 states and reported a membership of 2.3 million. In

June 2014, it had 240 employees in 32 states. AFP has been active in national, state, and local elections.
AFP registered to lobby in 2014.
According to FactCheck.org, by 2011, AFP had "emerged as one of the most influential conservative issue advocacy groups on the national and state political scene".
The Los Angeles Times said AFP performed roles typical of national and state political parties.
ABC News said in August 2014 that AFP was "poised to be the most influential con-

servative group in the nation this year, and among the most influential and heaviest spending across the political spectrum this year and into the looming presidential race". As of mid-September 2018, AFP has become one of just 15 groups that account for three-quarters of the anonymous cash following the 2010 Supreme Court decision Citizens United v. FEC, which paved the way for dark money to flow into U.S. elections
In 2023 in Wyoming, Tyler Lindholm formed the 36th state chapter of Americans for Prosperity. [

Comprehensive Property Tax Task Force: Recommendations to the Executive Board

Recommendation A: Senator Karr

- Increases income limits for the property tax assessment freeze for multi-member households, from \$65,000 to \$85,000

Recommendation B: Representative Jamison

- Requires each tax bill to include a URL link and QR code that takes the taxpayer to a website maintained by the Department of Revenue, giving the individual more detail regarding their tax bill, without requiring the county to spend money on extra printing and mailing costs

Recommendation D: Representative Jamison

- Subjects school districts to the same property tax limitations as all other taxing districts, where the annual increase in property tax revenues may not exceed the limit set forth in § 10-13-35, unless an opt out is implemented
- $PropTax_{Year 2} = PropTax_{Year 1} + IndexFactor + Growth + TIF_{expire} + Discretionary + Bonds$

Recommendation E: Representative Jamison

- Allows property owners to apply for property tax relief programs online, instead of submitting physical forms to the county, as is currently required
- Accomplished through a website maintained by the Department of Revenue

Recommendation G: Representative Heinemann

- Raises the minimum value of a new structure or addition that qualifies for the discretionary formula from \$30,000 to \$100,000
- Raises the minimum proportion of taxable value under the discretionary formula to 30%

Recommendation H: Representative Odenbach

- Creates a new fund dedicated to state aid to education for school districts' general fund and special education fund
- Deposits into the state aid to education fund all state lottery revenues that are currently distributed to the state general fund

Proposals for Committee Consideration, Page 2

Recommendation I: Representative Odenbach

- Repeals the authorization for a school district to transfer moneys from its capital outlay fund to its general fund
- Limits annual increases in a school district's capital outlay property taxes to the lesser of 3% or inflation, removing additional increases allowed from annexation, development of property, reclassification of property, the termination of a tax increment financing district, and the application of the discretionary formula

Recommendation J: Senator Otten

- Offers a refund of property taxes for those who qualify but did not apply for property tax relief programs for disabled and paraplegic veterans, covering up to the last five years that the individual was eligible but did not apply or receive the relief

Recommendation K: Representative Jamison

- Authorizes a municipality to implement a property tax rebate program for owner-occupied property according to criteria determined by the governing body of the municipality
- Only property taxes imposed by the municipality may be refunded under its program
- Any applicant that meets the criteria established by the municipality must receive the rebate

Recommendation L: Senator Howard

- Reduces the total maximum proportion of all tax increment base values from 10% of all assessed value in the city or county to 2.5% of all assessed value in the city or county
- Requires that at least 50% of the area within a proposed TIF district be blighted
- Amends the definition of "blight" by removing a reference to a predominance of open space or a diversity of ownership as possible qualifications
- Requires the county approve of a TIF district established by a municipality
- Strikes the authorization of grants provided by the governing body for purposes of the TIF district
- Requires a special election for TIF districts with an estimated project cost of \$10 million or more

Proposals for Committee Consideration, Page 3

Recommendation M: Senator Sue Peterson

- Subject to certain conditions, requires that all school district excess tax levies (opt outs) must be approved by an election
- Applies to school general fund opt outs and capital outlay opt outs

Recommendation N: Senator Sue Peterson

- Decreases the required petition to refer a school district excess tax levy (opt out) to a vote from 5% of the registered voters in the district to 5% of all voters who voted in the most recent special election of the district
- Increases the days provided to gather signatures from 20 to 40

Recommendation O: Senator Sue Peterson

- Requires that all capital outlay certificates issued by a school district must be approved by an election

Recommendation P: Senator Sue Peterson

- Changes the vote requirement for excess tax levy (opt out) elections from a simple majority to 60%

Recommendation Q: Senator Deibert

- Creates a dedicated fund in the state treasury to replace the property tax portion of local effort for school district general funds and special education funds
- Any sources of revenue the committee chooses to put toward reducing the general fund and special education levies can be directed into this fund for that purpose.

Recommendation R: Senator Deibert

- Creates a local effort replacement fund in the state treasury, used to replace a proportion of school districts' local effort from property taxes
- On July 1, 2027, when the sunset date is reached for the sales and use tax rate reduction, deposit into the local effort replacement fund the additional revenue raised by the 0.3% increase from the current tax rate of 4.2%

Recommendation V3: Representative Hansen

- Requests the Executive Branch's cooperation to bring recommendations to the Legislature for a 5% cut to the general fund

Recommendation W: Senator Karr

- Creates a new fund dedicated to providing property tax relief
- On an annual basis, deposits into the new fund 25% of the annual increase in state revenues from the prior year

Recommendation X: Representative Hansen

- Provides approximately \$120 million of property tax relief through property tax credits of approximately \$500 for all owner-occupied property
- The credit is funded half through moneys in the housing and infrastructure fund and half through current reserves



Governor Rhoden's Homeowner Tax Relief Proposal

OBJECTIVE

We are not done with our efforts to bring property tax relief to some areas of South Dakota. We need to deliver meaningful property tax relief – an actual property tax CUT for South Dakotans.

Main Points of the Homeowner Tax Relief Proposal:

- Each county commission would have the option to directly reduce owner-occupied (homeowner) property taxes by replacing the revenue with a county sales tax of up to 0.5%.
- The funds raised from the optional sales tax would be placed into a Property Tax Reduction Fund at the county level.
- The use of the optional sales tax would be 100% dedicated towards directly lowering the county property taxes for all homeowners within the county.
- The property tax reduction would be achieved through a Homeowner Tax Credit, which would be paid out from the Property Tax Reduction Fund.
- If owner-occupied property taxes in the county are fully offset by the Homeowner Tax Credit, any remaining funds in the Property Tax Reduction Fund must be used to lower property taxes among the other two classes of property: agriculture and other/commercial.

MORE BACKGROUND

Counties:

- This homeowner tax relief option would be referable to a public vote of the people of the county.
- For counties that implement the homeowner tax relief, a portion of their county tax burden will be shifted to out-of-state visitors who pay a sizable share of sales taxes.
- The optional county sales tax would be set for an initial five-year term through an ordinance and would be renewable every five years.
- In the event a municipality has legal boundaries that extend into one or more adjacent counties, there may need to be a provision to have a multi-county option.

Dispelling Myths:

- This proposal does not grow local government, as sales tax receipts must be reinvested into property tax reduction.
- Since the replacement revenues are coming from sales taxes, this proposal **does not** shift the property tax burden onto other classes of property. In fact, other classes may also benefit if the proceeds of the sales tax exceed owner-occupied property taxes in a particular county.

Administration/Application:

- Advance notice would be required to the Department of Revenue. All sales tax collections would be administered through the existing process, similar to municipal sales tax.
- The county tax would apply to everything that falls under the municipal & state sales tax. As with municipal sales tax, the county tax would **not** apply to excise tax on farm machinery in chapter 10-46E.

A potential South Dakota ballot measure to repeal property taxes and replace them with a flat retail transaction tax in South Dakota.

Title & Sponsor

- The proposal is an initiated constitutional amendment submitted by APTS SD, a statewide ballot-question committee formed by Julie Frye-Mueller, Matt Smith, and Mike Mueller.

Purpose

- The measure would **repeal South Dakota's current property tax scheme**, as set forth in the state constitution, and replace it with a "retail transaction" tax.

Major Provisions

- For each retail transaction of **\$15 or more**, a flat tax of **\$1.50** would be assessed.
- For each retail transaction of **less than \$15**, a tax of **10%** would be assessed.
- The tax would be **in addition to existing sales, use, and excise taxes**; it does **not** replace current sales taxes.
- The Legislature would be required, by law, to establish a designated fund to collect these retail taxes and a mechanism to redistribute the revenues to local political subdivisions (counties, cities, school districts, etc.).

STATE OF SOUTH DAKOTA) IN CIRCUIT COURT
) : SS
COUNTY OF BUTTE) FOURTH JUDICIAL CIRCUIT

THE FIRST NATIONAL BANK IN SIOUX FALLS,

09 CIV. 25-179

Plaintiff,

vs.

SUMMONS

RAYMOND D. HUSEBY d/b/a OUTLAW EXPRESS.

Defendant.

THE STATE OF SOUTH DAKOTA TO THE ABOVE-NAMED DEFENDANT, GREETINGS:

You are hereby summoned and required to answer the Complaint of the Plaintiff in the above-entitled action, a copy of which was filed with the Clerk of Courts of the Fourth Judicial Circuit, Butte County, South Dakota, on October 8, 2025. The address of the Butte County Clerk of Courts is 839 5th Avenue #5 in Belle Fourche, South Dakota. You must serve a copy of your Answer to said Complaint upon the subscribers, Davenport, Evans, Hurwitz & Smith, L.L.P., at their office at P.O. Box 1030, 206 West 14th Street, in the City of Sioux Falls, Minnehaha County, South Dakota, within thirty (30) days after the service of this Summons upon you. The time in which to answer the Complaint shall commence to run on the day following the fourth and final publication of this Summons. You will hereby take notice that in case of your failure to answer said Complaint, judgment by default may be rendered against you as requested in the Complaint.

Dated at Sioux Falls, South Dakota, this 22nd day of October, 2025.

DAVENPORT, EVANS, HURWITZ & SMITH, L.L.P.

/s/ Anthony M. Hohn

Anthony M. Hohn
206 West 14th Street
P.O. Box 1030
Sioux Falls, SD 57101-1030
Telephone (605) 336-2880
Facsimile (605) 335-3639
Attorneys for Plaintiff



Central Meade County News

By Sandy Rhoden November 15, 2025

It was a cold week-end in Central Meade County and all across the state when the white stuff re-introduced itself for the first time this year. Temperatures dipped well below freezing this past week, but what is typical for South Dakota is to see temperatures back up to 60 degrees this week.

This is a special week to remember our military as Tuesday, November 11 was Veterans Day. Monday was the 250th birthday for the US Marines and a number of celebrations took place across the state including in Sturgis. Bill Meirose is involved in several celebrations as a veteran himself.

There was a Veterans Day Program at the school in Union Center on Tuesday, November 11. Hopefully all local vets were able to attend.

The NHRW of Spearfish hosted a wonderful Veterans Day program and fried chicken dinner with mashed potatoes and gravy with sides and a beautiful cake for dessert. There were 70 veterans who showed up and the Veterans Club building was packed with about 180 guests.

Their keynote speaker was Governor Larry Rhoden. He gave a heartfelt talk about his family's service and highlighted his trip to Israel. While in Israel Larry spoke with at least three men whose father and grandfathers were prisoners at the concentration camp that Allen Rhoden's engineer group came upon to help liberate at the end of the war. He brought the photo album that holds photos that came from a roll

of film that Larry's father, Allen Rhoden, took during his service. The pictures were amazingly good and told the story. A group picture was taken at the end of all the vets and Governor Rhoden presented a challenge coin to a WWII Veteran who not only was in attendance, but began the pledge of allegiance and played the harmonica. Larry and Sandy's invited guests were Dan and Kathy Rhoden, (Vietnam) and Leo and Deb Schnell (Airforce)

The first monthly evening Bible Study was held at the Community Baptist Church in Union Center last week with 25 in attendance. It was an interesting topic. The first Sunday of the month will be a Bible study, while the 3rd Sunday of the month will be movie night. Both will begin at 4:00 pm in the afternoon on Sundays they have them. On Sunday, November 17 there will be a movie shown at the church called Seven Days of Utopia. All are welcome and refreshments will be served.

Before signing off I want to thank all of you who served our country in the military. What would our world look like if you had not served? We would never exist in the way we do with so many blessings, rights and freedoms.

It is because of you veterans that we are the richest and most blessed nation in the world, no matter how briefly or long you served. Our military is the backbone of our country and with out a backbone, our country would not have stood, nor would still stand as it does now. From the bottom of my heart, THANK YOU.



Central Meade County News

By Sandy Rhoden November 16, 2025

Larry Rhoden also had a special announcement on Tuesday in Rapid City. His family and friends attended the announcement for a show of support there at the Alex Johnson Hotel.

Sunday was a great day for being either outdoors or inside. It was a calm, sunny day in the mid 50s which provided great weather for deer hunting. There were many hunters in vehicles and pastures throughout the daylight hours on Sunday. For those not outdoors hunting or working cows it was a good afternoon for watching football, visiting, or a nice afternoon nap. The white stuff is nowhere to be seen here in Central Meade County as of the middle of November.

Floyd and Donna Cammack became great, great grandparents last week on Thursday, November 13. The birth of Weston Lee Tate also made John and Melanie Cammack happy, first time grandparents. Paternal grandparents are Lisa and Wilson Tate of Rapid City. The arrival of Weston Lee made Rachel (Cammack) and Austin Tate first time parents as he arrived into this world weighing 5lb. 4 oz.

The birth of this bundle of joy has created many new firsts and was born in God's perfect time. This little blessing also made Yvonne Barry and Mike Cammack great grandparents for the first time as well. The news of this baby boy is not just good news, it has resulted in much 'great' news! Congratulations to Rachel and Austin as well as the many grandparents, great grandparents and his great great grandparents.

Lorie Hausmann returned home

from her trip to Israel last week. She has many great memories and shared a few of them in church on Sunday. There was the first movie shown at the church on Sunday entitled "Seven Days in Utopia".

Edna Smith, Mr. & Mrs. Harold Delbridge, Chris and Stan Anders and others were at Nellies for lunch on Sunday after church services. Darrel Wilcox and Jack Sellar enjoyed Sunday lunch there as well as Gary and Lorie Hausmann and Larry and Sandy Rhoden. It is a nice opportunity out here on the prairie to be able to not have to cook on Sundays by running down highway 34 to Nellie's at Enning.

Larry and Sandy Rhoden attended a gathering and lunch for a guard unit that was to be deployed on Sunday to encourage them and to wish them well on their mission. This took place in Mitchell, SD. They also attended the State High School Football game on Friday evening between Pierre and Yankton at the Dome in Vermillion.

Larry was presented a football signifying it was a State Championship football from 2025. While Yankton was ranked #1 and Pierre was ranked #3, Pierre pulled away at halftime after a very close game to win the Championship. Wall beat Howard for the Championship win at the State Tournament for their class.

The boys on all of these teams are to be commended for their hard work and diligence, as well as their coaches. Well done!

This has been a week for announcements west of the Missouri River. While Monument Health is the primary healthcare provider in the Black Hills, Sanford Health is planning to bring healthcare to western South Dakota.



CANDLES AND MIRRORS

"Cattle and Chickens and Pigs, Oh My!"

by DeAnn (Wolkow) Kruempel

Looking back, I truly believe growing up on the farm in the fifties and sixties was the best of all worlds. One advantage my siblings and I had was a close connection with animals.

Economics required the "not putting all your eggs in one basket" approach; most farms kept a variety of livestock. Exiting our front yard gate, we would run into different animals in three of the four cardinal directions. Daily chores with cattle, chickens, hogs and sheep taught unique lessons to farm youngsters.

We saw babies born and eggs hatch and had a pretty good idea of what caused those things. We learned that hell hath no fury like a momma cow, sow or hen when we got anywhere near their newborns.

4-H offered opportunities to show or exhibit animals. Judging, grooming and feeding calves, hogs and chickens provided even closer hands-on experiences with the livestock that sometimes became beloved pets. That's another story!

Though at one time or another I swore that every species was the stupidest in God's creation, I also saw how quickly those animals learned the rhythm of the farm. When Mom headed for the chicken house with a bucket of feed in each hand, forty white hens fell in behind her like the Pied Piper.

An approaching storm,



or a pasture switch required rounding up our herd of fifty plus cows and their calves. When they were far out into the west pasture, Dad called them home. He would climb part ways up on the windmill and yell, "C'Boss. C'Boss."

From the top of a fencepost, I watched the amazing scene unfold.

The cows stopped grazing and looked up. Soon they turned toward Dad's voice. Finally, one cow started striding up the path that led home. The others joined in, and within 20 minutes the whole herd waited expectantly in the barnyard. The sheep and hogs also came running when called.

Occasionally one of the animals, especially a first-time mother, had difficulty giving birth. We witnessed and sometimes helped with the hopefully happy event. Only once do I remember Dad seriously ordering me to go to the house; some things in life children should not see. We learned about life and death.

My siblings and I understood, mostly, the reality of having livestock. Eventually those animals would be sold. A few would end up in the freezer as food for the family. Tears flowed and hearts hurt when we became too attached.

But along came the miracle piglet, Snooper, who defied all odds, and soon followed me around the yard like a puppy. He squeezed his eyes

shut and grunted in pure porcine pleasure when I scratched his back. I loved little Snooper. So, when the time came for him to go out to pasture with his peers, I approached our father. As the youngest, most spoiled in the family, I likely bent the rules more than the rest. "Dad, do you think we can keep Snooper? He can be the Daddy pig."

Dad sighed and rested his hand on my shoulder. "No, Snooper will have to be sold with the rest of the feeder pigs."

For a while the young pig would come to the pasture fence for scratches when I visited. Eventually, he barely gave me a glance as he romped and rooted with the others. I didn't even know the day he went to market. But I will never forget my miracle pig.

And I am truly grateful for the lives we shared and the lessons we learned, growing up together on the farm.

DeAnn Kruempel grew up on a farm near De Smet, SD, the sixth child of Harrison and Mabel Wolkow. She attended school at Erwin and De Smet and later lived in North Dakota and Iowa. The author worked in school and public libraries for more than 30 years. Her column has run in a growing number of Midwest newspapers for five years. Each year the author publishes the stories. She has also written a historical fiction series, "Promises to Keep." Her ten books are available on Amazon. Contact Kruempel at deannkruempelauthor@gmail.com.

'I'm not done yet': Gov. Rhoden's candidacy sets up South Dakota GOP showdown

Former lieutenant governor, longtime legislator leans on ranch roots, governing tenure in campaign kickoff in Rapid City

Joe Sneve

www.thedakotascout.com

RAPID CITY — He's in.

Gov. Larry Rhoden vowed to let his policies drive his politics in his bid for another four years as South Dakota state government's top executive, touting his lifelong South Dakota roots, his western South Dakota agriculture background and he and his family's legacy of military service during a Tuesday morning campaign kickoff.

"When I'm done being governor, whenever that is, I hope the people look back on my time as governor and say he left South Dakota a place that was built to last," he said. "But I'm not done yet.

Speaking to a crowd of supporters at the Alex Johnson Hotel in downtown Rapid City, Rhoden pointed to administrative accomplishments in the 10 months since he became governor after having served as lieutenant governor under Kristi Noem since 2019.

He specifically noted a recently approved penitentiary replacement effort that coalesced

legislative support around a \$650 million prison project in Sioux Falls that'd been highly contentious among state lawmakers for years. That South Dakota has maintained its strong financial standing and continued to protect conservative governing should appeal to South Dakotans who like where they live, said the Union Center rancher, who also served nearly two decades in the state Legislature."

Rhoden said his time not just in government but working cattle, fields and metal — the 66-year-old smith's branding irons — gives him a leg up when it comes to connecting with South Dakotans and a "real-world" perspective on governing.

"I've proven that I'm an effective governor. It's much different being one of 435 ... than being one of one," he said when asked why voters should prefer him living in the governor's mansion over Johnson. "My background makes me much more qualified, my experience in the Legislature and my experience prior to the Legislature in the real world,

living on the ranch."

In a message to The Dakota Scout, Johnson said: "Gov. Rhoden has been a worthy caretaker for South Dakota. However, the next 20 years could be the best in our state's history. That is going to take energy, vision, and a real plan. That is what I'm offering in this race."

Lt. Gov. Tony Venhuizen said the governor's leadership style, his ability to connect with legislators and everyday South Dakotans makes him uniquely suited to help navigate South Dakota through a time where chasms are often widening over politics, business and culture.

"He is exactly what South Dakota needs right now: a steady, responsible governor who protects what's working, fixes what isn't, and never forgets where he comes from," said Venhuizen, who introduced the governor before his campaign kickoff speech. "He's South Dakota forged and built to last."

The primary election is June 2.



THE DAKOTA SCOUT

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!

Stay on top of what's happening at the state Capitol in Pierre and around the state with breaking news, investigative reporting and a constant drumbeat of information about the world around you.

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Jonathan Ellis & Joe Sneve



Monument Health is nationally recognized for its commitment to providing high-quality stroke care

Rapid City, S.D., July 10, 2025 — Monument Health Rapid City Hospital has received the American Heart Association's Get With The Guidelines® - Stroke GoldPlus quality achievement award for its commitment to ensuring stroke patients receive the most appropriate treatment according to nationally recognized, research-based guidelines, ultimately leading to more lives saved and reduced disability.

Monument Health also received two additional recognitions, the first is the American Heart Association's Target: StrokeSM Honor Roll award.

To qualify for this recognition, hospitals must meet specific criteria that reduce the time between an eligible patient's arrival at the hospital and treatment with thrombolytic therapy.

The second recognition is the American Heart Association's Target: Type 2 Diabetes™ Honor Roll award. Target: Type 2 Diabetes aims to ensure patients with Type 2 diabetes, who might be at higher risk for complications, receive the most up-to-date, evidence-based care when hospitalized due to stroke.

Stroke is the No. 5 cause of death and a leading cause of disability in the U.S. A stroke occurs when a blood vessel that carries oxygen and nutrients to the brain is either blocked by a clot or bursts. When that happens, part of the brain cannot get the blood and oxygen it needs, so brain cells die. Early stroke detection and treatment are key to improving survival, minimizing disability and accelerating recovery times.

Get With The Guidelines puts the expertise of the American

Heart Association and American Stroke Association to work for hospitals nationwide, helping ensure patient care is aligned with the latest research- and evidence-based guidelines. Get With The Guidelines - Stroke is an in-hospital program for improving stroke care by promoting consistent adherence to these guidelines, which can minimize the long-term effects of a stroke and even prevent death.

"Monument Health Rapid City Hospital is committed to improving patient care by adhering to the latest treatment guidelines," Jill Tice, Monument Health Vice President of Quality, Safety and Risk Management. "Get With The Guidelines makes it easier for our teams to put proven knowledge and guidelines to work on a daily basis, which studies show can help patients recover better. The end goal is to ensure more people in the western South Dakota can experience longer, healthier lives."

Each year, program participants qualify for the award by demonstrating how their organization has committed to providing quality care for stroke patients. In addition to following treatment guidelines, Get With The Guidelines participants also educate patients to help them manage their health and recovery at home.

"We are incredibly pleased to recognize Monument Health for its commitment to caring for patients with stroke," said Steven Messe, M.D., volunteer chair of the American Heart Association Stroke System of Care Advisory Group. "Participation in Get With The Guidelines is associated with

improved patient outcomes, fewer readmissions and lower mortality rates — a win for health care systems, families and communities."

About Monument Health

Headquartered in Rapid City, S.D., Monument Health is a community-based health care system with a mission to make a difference, every day. The system offers care in 31 medical specialties and serves 14 communities across western South Dakota and in eastern Wyoming. With over 5,000 physicians and caregivers, Monument Health is composed of 5 hospitals and 38 medical clinics and specialty centers. Monument Health is a member of the Mayo Clinic Care Network.

About Get With The Guidelines®

Get With The Guidelines® is the American Heart Association/American Stroke Association's hospital-based quality improvement program that provides hospitals with the latest research-based guidelines. Developed with the goal of saving lives and hastening recovery, Get With The Guidelines has touched the lives of more than 14 million patients since 2001. For more information, visit heart.org.

Note: This message has been received from Monument Health. The information contained in this message, including any attachments, may be privileged, confidential, or protected from disclosure under state or federal laws. If the reader of this message is not the intended recipient, or an employee or agent responsible for delivering this message to the intended recipient, you are hereby notified that any dissem-

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TARGET: TYPE 2 DIABETES HONOR ROLL

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Job Corps program at risk

Bart Pfankuch

www.sdnewswatch.org

The Boxelder Job Corps Civilian Conservation Center in Nemo, S.D., is facing potential closure due to federal budget cuts that close 124 of the job training and education centers for low-income youth and young adult across the country. The Department of Labor has called for a halt to a majority of those programs, and federal budget documents show the remaining centers are also targeted for closure.

The Trump administration has said it wants to cut the

program as part of a larger effort to streamline government spending, and due to a report that showed low graduation and job-placement rates at some centers.

In June, a federal judge paused the closures, saying only Congress can cut the spending. Meanwhile, officials with Job Corps are worried that low-income youths in South Dakota and across the country could lose an opportunity to get a high school diploma and job skills needed to help pull them out of poverty.

South Dakota Impacted by Federal Budget/Program Cuts

The spending and taxation bill signed in July by President Donald Trump and the spending cuts made by the Department of Government Efficiency (DOGE) and other federal departments are having a wide variety of impacts on South Dakota.

The nearly 900-page bill was signed into law on Friday, July 4, and includes about \$4.5 trillion in tax cuts and supports other Trump administration priorities, such as boosting defense spending and immigration

enforcement. The measure also reduces Medicaid and food aid for the poor and will add \$3.3 trillion to the national deficit over the next decade, according to The Associated Press.

Over the past six months, South Dakota News Watch has tracked how the federal cuts will affect the Rushmore State. While timely and concrete information has at times been difficult to come by, News Watch has sought to highlight the impacts that are of greatest interest to the state.

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Pause of after-school funding part of larger education freeze

Bart Pfankuch
Investigative reporter
and content director
Contact: 605-937-9398 /
bart.pfankuch@sdnews-
watch.org

Thousands of South Dakota children – many from low-income working families – could lose the opportunity to attend after-school or summer education programs under the latest funding freeze enacted by the Trump administration.

The \$6.5 million in federal grants for community learning centers across South Dakota is part of a larger set of possible grant reductions that would eliminate \$25.8 million in federal spending on five education programs in the state.

Federal cuts roundup:

The impact on South Dakota A developing list on the effects of federal job cuts, program reductions and hiring freezes in the state.

Nationally, the administration has frozen \$6 billion in grants for the five education initiatives, including after-school and summer education, adult literacy, migrant education, school instructional assistance and English language instruction.

Money that was allocated and expected to be received by states on July 1 is on hold, as are any future grant allocations, The Associated Press reported.

The administration has frozen the grants as it reviews all spending to ensure it aligns with the goals of President Donald Trump, according to the AP. Beyond the current grant freeze, the president has not included funding for the five programs in his proposed 2026 spending plan.

South Dakota Secretary of Education Joseph Graves told News Watch that he has alerted all school superintendents across the state that the grants are on “pause.”

“They’re under review, but that doesn’t mean they’re being eliminated,” Graves said. “For reasons they haven’t talked about, they’re being reviewed.”

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Graves said he urged school officials to prepare to adapt if the grant funding is eliminated.

“At this point, what we’ve said to people is that we don’t know when the final decision will be made. And if I was a

school superintendent, I’d be trying to figure out how I can be flexible if the money doesn’t come,” he said.

11% of federal education funding for SD

The \$25.8 million attached to the five grant programs would amount to a loss of nearly 11% of the total federal funding provided for education in the state, according to the U.S. Department of Education.

The grants include \$10.8 million for instructional assistance in schools, \$6.7 million to support student achievement, \$6.5 million for after-school and summer learning as well as cuts to migrant and English language learning programs.

If the grant freeze becomes permanent, South Dakota would lose grants that serve an estimated 6,800 children in 84 communities through after-school or summer learning programs, according to the Afterschool Alliance, a national nonprofit advocacy organization. Many of the programs are run by school districts or through the Boys and Girls Club and other community organizations.

This article is the latest in an ongoing effort by South Dakota News Watch to document the changes in spending by the Trump administration. News Watch is also examining other programs, including Medicaid and the Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program, though details on those and other program impacts are only slowly becoming available.

Children and families aided in Kadoka

About 40 children in the rural community of Kadoka, located 100 miles east of Rapid City, attend the Kadoka Academy and Rural Connections program, which provides after-school education and activities during the school year and every day for eight weeks during the summer.

But the fate of the program is now uncertain due to the grant freeze.

For Nikki Bonenberger, who runs the Kadoka academy program, the grant freeze has caused uncertainty and raised concerns that children in her community who need educational help after school and during the summer could miss out on critical services. The programs, she said, help prevent children from falling behind in school or being left alone while

their parents work.

“We provide a safe place, but we also provide the education piece that supports the schools on a daily basis,” Bonenberger told News Watch. “We’re in rural South Dakota, so it would affect us and create a really big deficit here.”

Bonenberger was unsure how much federal grant money the program receives. But federal guidelines for the 21st Century Community Learning Centers Grant allows for funding of \$50,000 to \$300,000 a year for up to five years for qualified programs. Graves said the learning center grants are doled out after a competitive process among school districts and other community service providers.

Programs run outside the traditional school day have long-range benefits for many children, especially those with working parents or from low-income families, the Afterschool Alliance reports.

Children who attend after-school programs are less likely to get into trouble, do better in school and have the potential for greater educational

and financial success later in life.

Preparing to adapt in Belle Fourche

Orion Thompson, superintendent of the Belle Fourche School District, said he is keeping an eye on the grant pause because his district uses federal funding for after-school and summer school programming and as a supplement to the salaries of some district employees.

“My hope is that it’s just short-term posturing and not a permanent situation,” Thompson told News Watch.

Thompson said he is considering options to adapt if the freeze becomes permanent.

“This has the potential to create restrictions or a re-evaluation of services,” he said. “If we can’t do these things anymore, it really just falls back on the parents.”

Low-income families rely on programs

Sandra Waltman, spokeswoman for the South Dakota Education Association, said the program cuts will hurt students and their families, especially those with lower incomes.


“It will really affect low-income families whose parents might not have the ability to provide after-school or summer care while they’re at work,” Waltman said. “These are vital programs to help students reach their full potential and not fall through the cracks.”

Waltman said the timing of the grant freeze — coming a month or so before the school year — is causing deep uncertainty for school districts and families.

“With school just around the corner, it could leave a lot of families scrambling and trying to figure out what to do now,” she said.

Share your thoughts on this story

This story was produced by South Dakota News Watch, an independent, nonprofit organization. Read more stories and donate at sdnewswatch.org and sign up for an email to get stories when they’re published. Contact Bart Pfankuch at bart.pfankuch@sdnewswatch.org.



EDUCATION GRANTS

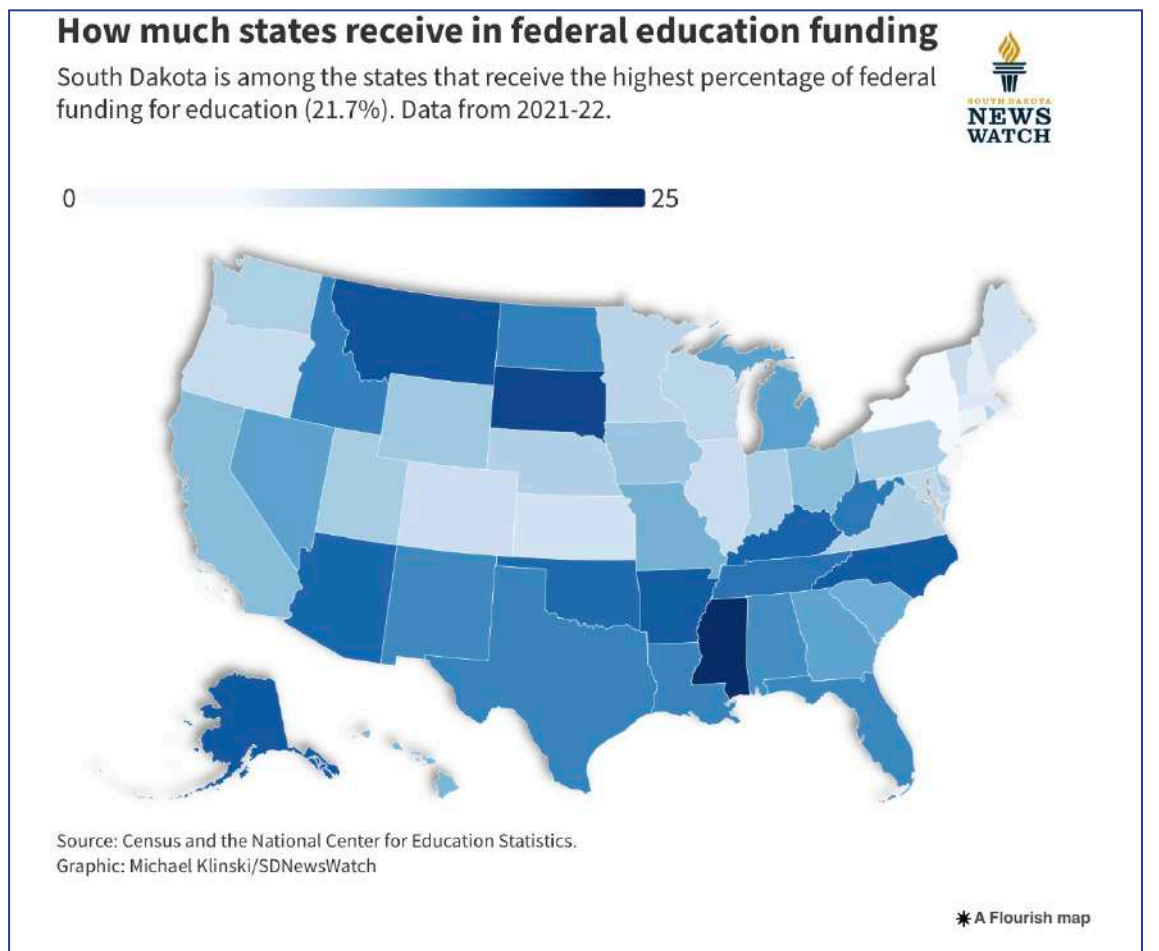
Here is a look at the federal grant funding that was frozen by the Trump administration on July 1, 2025 in South Dakota. The grants total about 10.8% of overall annual federal education funding provided to the state.

- \$10.8 million** for supporting effective instruction
- \$6.7 million** for student support and academic enrichment
- \$6.5 million** for after-school and summer school programs
- \$925,000** for English language acquisition
- \$839,000** for migrant education

Note: \$25.8 million total
Source: Department of Education



The Youth & Family Services complex in Rapid City, S.D., shown on July 8, 2025, hosts one of the supplemental learning programs being paused by the Trump administration. (Photo: Bart Pfankuch / South Dakota News Watch)



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CALVES	HD	DESC	WT	BID	\$/HEAD
Mcdonald Ranch Inc, Aladdin WY	90	Black-Str	703	381.50	\$2,683.42
	98	Black-Str	634	413.00	\$2,618.12
	91	Black-Hfr	661	369.00	\$2,439.45
	79	Black-Hfr	597	378.50	\$2,259.02
Riley Ranch, Spearfish SD	98	Black-Str	639	414.00	\$2,646.64
	46	Black-Str	556	448.00	\$2,491.75
	92	Black-Hfr	585	448.00	\$2,621.28
	21	Black-Hfr	513	437.50	\$2,243.75
Center Of The Nation Cattle, Newell SD	92	Bk/Bwf-Str	682	388.00	\$2,644.72
	18	Bk/Bwf-Str	579	420.00	\$2,433.66
	74	Bk/Bwf-Hfr	604	393.00	\$2,372.07
Mike Or Shawnda Morrison, Newcastle WY	55	Bk/Bwf-Str	674	384.50	\$2,592.57
	40	Bk/Bwf-Hfr	635	362.00	\$2,297.79
Jon & Becky Carr, Newcastle WY	49	Bk/Bwf-Str	573	423.00	\$2,424.04
Curren Ranch, Aladdin WY	95	Rd/Bk-Str	573	414.00	\$2,370.47
	16	Red-Str	486	457.50	\$2,224.59
Kelvin Or Donna Kennedy, Upton WY	76	Black-Str	533	467.00	\$2,490.76
	53	Black-Hfr	487	423.00	\$2,059.93
Mike & Lucy Moullet, Volborg MT	91	Black-Str	639	403.00	\$2,575.65
	49	Black-Str	574	420.00	\$2,412.42
	10	Black-Str	407	552.50	\$2,245.91
	91	Black-Hfr	554	391.00	\$2,165.53
Henry & Viola Lambright, Hulett WY	46	Bk/Bwf-Str	671	377.50	\$2,532.12
	16	Bk/Bwf-Str	542	441.00	\$2,391.04
	21	Black-Hfr	611	365.50	\$2,232.16
	15	Black-Hfr	504	428.00	\$2,158.54
TI Burch Ranch Llc, Colony WY	60	Black-Str	618	412.00	\$2,546.16
	50	Black-Hfr	586	389.00	\$2,281.09
Maupin Ranch Llc, Hulett WY	65	Bk/Bwf-Str	636	404.00	\$2,569.75
	19	Bk/Bwf-Str	489	474.00	\$2,316.36
	41	Rd/Bk-Hfr	565	373.00	\$2,108.35
	11	Bk/Bwf-Hfr	408	505.00	\$2,059.02
Nance Cattle Co, Birney MT	83	Bk/Bwf-Str	702	374.00	\$2,627.01
	6	Black-Str	558	400.00	\$2,230.00
Bryan Tarter, Ashland MT	14	Black-Str	468	530.00	\$2,481.53
	47	Black-Hfr	541	396.00	\$2,143.87
Alkali Inc, Ekalaka MT	71	Rd/Bk-Str	456	502.00	\$2,290.10
	18	Black-Str	388	585.00	\$2,266.87
	57	Rd/Bk-Hfr	442	470.00	\$2,078.71
	11	Rd/Bk-Hfr	358	537.50	\$1,925.22
Tim C & Joy B Moore, Hulett WY	88	Herf-Str	603	396.50	\$2,391.84
	14	Herf-Str	466	443.00	\$2,064.69
	60	Herf-Hfr	558	359.00	\$2,002.92
Jack Or Cindy Orwick, Newell SD	41	Herf-Str	566	404.00	\$2,288.51
Ronny Or Rhonda Casteel, Vale SD	33	Black-Hfr	538	393.00	\$2,112.67
Brenden Casteel, Vale SD	24	Black-Hfr	488	437.50	\$2,135.54
Padden Land & Cattle, Camp Crook SD	50	Black-Hfr	463	455.00	\$2,105.74
	7	Black-Hfr	375	530.00	\$1,987.50
Douglas Moore, Sundance WY	22	Black-Str	680	378.00	\$2,569.54
	13	Black-Str	558	430.00	\$2,401.38
	12	Black-Hfr	534	381.50	\$2,037.84
Rafter Diamond Lip, Buffalo SD	36	Bk/Bwf-Hfr	536	408.00	\$2,188.46
Tom Andrews, Biddle MT	36	Black-Str	530	466.00	\$2,471.74
	26	Black-Hfr	495	428.00	\$2,117.77
Leon Jay, Hulett WY	69	Black-Hfr	526	435.00	\$2,289.73
	10	Rd/Bk-Hfr	497	416.00	\$2,065.44
Tauk Stock & Barrel Llc, Hammond MT	19	Bk/Bwf-Str	456	500.00	\$2,277.63
Charles Belch, Upton WY	12	Black-Str	670	380.50	\$2,550.93
Gilbert Rittberger, Newell SD	13	Bk/Bwf-Str	655	380.00	\$2,487.53
Casey & Kirby Kluver, Forsyth MT	51	Black-Str	557	440.00	\$2,450.62
	17	Black-Str	472	515.00	\$2,432.61
	28	Black-Hfr	497	424.00	\$2,108.64
	10	Rd/Bk-Hfr	403	487.50	\$1,964.62
Shannon Or Emily Wiggers, Newell SD	11	Bk/Bwf-Str	797	338.00	\$2,694.78
	6	Bk/Bwf-Str	588	396.00	\$2,326.50
Terry & Nicky Groenwold, Newcastle WY	56	Bk/Bwf-Hfr	582	386.00	\$2,247.07
Gery Eckert, Rapid City SD	25	Black-Str	658	391.00	\$2,574.34
Waite Ranch Lip, Belle Fourche SD	32	Bk/Bwf-Str	661	382.50	\$2,528.68
	14	Bwf-Str Pc	495	492.50	\$2,439.63
	11	Bk/Bwf-Hfr	628	359.00	\$2,255.17
Bb & H Ranch, Miles City MT	49	Bk/Bwf-Str	548	452.00	\$2,477.69
	17	Bk/Bwf-Str	453	512.50	\$2,321.32
Two Tone Cattle Co, Spearfish SD	35	Bk/Bwf-Str	517	455.00	\$2,352.35
	14	Black-Str Pc	399	590.00	\$2,353.67
	49	Bk/Bwf-Hfr	499	435.00	\$2,171.44
	21	Bk/Bwf-Hfr	384	500.00	\$1,920.23
Daniel & Kathryn Rhoden, Newell SD	21	Bk/Bwf-Str	619	399.00	\$2,468.10
	15	Bk/Bwf-Hfr	602	369.00	\$2,222.61
Lance & Cassidy Marshall, Sundance WY	10	Bk/Bwf-Str	684	383.00	\$2,619.72
	20	Bk/Bwf-Hfr	638	362.00	\$2,310.46
YEARLINGS					
Tlt Cattle Co, Belle Fourche SD	49	Bk/Rd/Ch-Yrng Str	928	323.00	\$2,996.31
	51	Bk/Rd/Ch-Yrng Str	949	322.50	\$3,059.95
	60	Black-Yrng Str	848	326.00	\$2,763.93
Tarver Heart X Rch, Gillette WY	74	Black-Yrng Hfr	807	356.50	\$2,877.29
	25	Black-Yrng Hfr	701	365.00	\$2,559.38

Market Report - Friday, November 14, 2025

THANK YOU FOR YOUR BUSINESS!

BRED HEIFERS	HD	DESC	WT	BID	\$/HEAD
Sparky Ross, Jordan MT	47	Black-Brd Hfr	942	3775.00	\$3,775.00
	46	Black-Brd Hfr	926	3425.00	\$3,425.00
WEIGH-UPS					
Kaufman Ranch Llc, Alzada MT	1	Black-Cow	1800	172.00	\$3,096.00
Sourdough No 2, Hulett WY	1	Bwf-Cow	1405	173.50	\$2,437.67
	1	Black-Cow	1475	172.50	\$2,544.37
	1	Black-Cow	1165	237.50	\$2,766.87
Rick Soelzer, Piedmont SD	1	Black-Cow	1360	172.50	\$2,346.00
Donahue Williamson, Piedmont SD	1	Black-Cow	1420	174.00	\$2,470.80
Sandburn Scott, Biddle MT	1	Black-Cow	1640	172.50	\$2,829.00
	1	Bk/Hfr	1035	272.50	\$2,820.37
	1	Black-Cow	1245	182.50	\$2,272.12
Center Of The Nation Cattle, Newell SD	1	Bwf-Cow	1275	217.50	\$2,773.12
	1	Bwf-Cow	1250	215.00	\$2,687.50
Bruce Crago, Belle Fourche SD	1	Bwf-Cow	1465	173.00	\$2,534.45
Cody Or Gabrielle Burke, Newell SD	1	Black-Cow	1425	170.50	\$2,429.62
	1	Black-Cow	1820	161.00	\$2,930.20
	1	Bwf-Cow	1250	200.00	\$2,500.00
Joseph Or Melndie Burke, Newell SD	3	Black-Cow	1265	200.00	\$2,530.00
	3	Black-Cow	1317	176.00	\$2,317.33
	1	Black-Cow	1560	172.50	\$2,691.00
Austin Jordan, Rapid City SD	1	Black-Cow	1415	175.00	\$2,476.25
	1	Black-Cow	1375	172.50	\$2,371.87
Daniel Or Joann Stearns, Edgemont SD	3	Bk/Bwf-Cow	1422	172.50	\$2,452.37
David & Lynette Donahey, Capitol, MT	5	Black-Cow	1271	170.00	\$2,160.70
	1	Black-Cow	1300	173.00	\$2,249.00
	1	Black-Cow	1415	172.50	\$2,440.87
Branscom Ranch Llc, Osage WY	1	Black-Cow	1520	170.00	\$2,584.00
	1	Black-Cow	1605	168.00	\$2,696.40
Padden Land & Cattle, Camp Crook SD	7	Black-Hfr	944	294.00	\$2,774.10
	8	Black-Cow	1348	177.00	\$2,386.18
	3	Black-Cow	1185	173.00	\$2,050.05
Elisbury Ranch Llc, Sundance WY	8	Black-Cow	1451	172.50	\$2,503.40
	3	Black-Cow	1192	215.00	\$2,562.08
	1	Black-Cow	1580	175.00	\$2,765.00
Gaer Ranch, Newell SD	1	Black-Hfr	1010	285.00	\$2,878.50
	1	Ijjo	940	297.50	\$2,796.50
Reinecke Ox Yoke Ranch, Beulah WY	4	Black-Hfr	1008	287.50	\$2,896.56
	4	Black-Cow	1434	173.00	\$2,480.38
	5	Bk/Bwf-Cow	1271	173.00	\$2,198.83
Christensen Ranch, Newcastle WY	21	Black-Cow	1438	176.50	\$2,537.39
	9	Black-Cow	1202	204.00	\$2,452.53
Ryan Or Keelce Vroman, Buffalo SD	3	Black-Hfr	1040	260.00	\$2,704.00
Clark Blake, Belle Fourche SD	1	Black-Cow	1480	170.00	\$2,516.00
Shannon Secrest, Buffalo SD	1	Black-Cow	1350	170.00	\$2,295.00
	1	Black-Cow	1525	172.00	\$2,623.00
Tyler Mutchler, Newell SD	8	Bwf-Hfr	984	298.00	\$2,933.43
Richard N Rumph, Biddle MT	3	Black-Cow	1600	172.50	\$2,760.00
	1	Black-Cow	1115	217.50	\$2,425.12
Owen Rumph, Biddle MT	3	Black-Cow	1497	173.00	\$2,589.23
	4	Black-Cow	1413	173.00	\$2,443.62
	1	Black-Cow	1005	235.00	\$2,361.75
Moiney Ranch, Alzada MT	21	Black-Hfr	1089	242.50	\$2,641.51
	5	Black-Hfr	878	310.00	\$2,721.80
	14	Black-Cow	1326	172.50	\$2,287.47
	5	Black-Cow	1560	173.50	\$2,706.60
Glenn L Clabaugh Rev Trust, Gillette WY	3	Red-Cow	1633	173.50	\$2,833.83
	2	Red-Cow	1495	172.00	\$2,571.40
Pickrel Land & Cattle Co, Gillette WY	11	Red-Cow	1515	178.50	\$2,703.46
	12	Red-Cow	1335	179.50	\$2,396.32
Quentin Rumph, Biddle MT	8	Black-Cow	1577	176.00	\$2,775.30
	3	Black-Cow	1273	184.00	\$2,342.93
	1	Black-Cow	1315	202.50	\$2,662.87
Tenke Livestock Llc, Sundance WY	1	Black-Cow	1440	173.50	\$2,498.40
	1	Black-Cow	1535	174.00	\$2,670.90
Gary & Gail Mills, Powell WY	5	Rd/Bk-Cow	1421	173.00	\$2,458.33
Daniel & Kathryn Rhoden, Newell SD	1	Black-Cow	1330	168.00	\$2,234.40
Lester Aye, Broadus MT	1	Black-Cow	1620	169.00	\$2,737.80
Austin Jordan, Rapid City SD	9	Black-Cow	1498	174.50	\$2,614.59
	5	Black-Cow	1248	205.00	\$2,558.40
	4	Black-Cow	1391	175.00	\$2,434.68
	1	Black-Cow	1420	173.50	\$2,

Junkin From A1

yes, you read that correctly, THEY USED TO DIG IN THE DUMP AND OH WHAT TREASURES THEY FOUND! She commented she would still dig in the dump if they'd allow it but I settle for digging wherever the wind blows her way! She has a creative soul by nature, again deep in her DNA,

thanks to her momma. Always has a deep appreciation for those who create works of magic with their minds and hands. Amy Gustafson pours her heart and soul into making sure everything about Kountry Junkin', from the venue, the food, the vendors, the displays, make a junk lover out of you too!



Scene from in the **Pearson Bloc Haus** booth at **Kountry Junkin** Beacon Photo

MERRY MARKET
NOVEMBER 21ST & 22ND
FRIDAY 3pm-7pm
SATURDAY 9am-3pm
Get holiday ready!
VENUE 519

AFP Property Tax Meeting

Doug Cole

news@bellefourchebeacon.com
Last Thursday the Holiday Inn Civic center was a meeting sponsored by Americans for Prosperity. Spearfish State Senator Randy Deibert presented an explanation of current Lawrence County tax levys; how they are applied and by whom in the County. State House of Representatives Majority Leader Scott Odenbach explained the work of this year's Legislative Comprehensive Property Task Force Summer Study and the various recommendations that may be proposed in the 2026 Legislative Session. Americans for Prosperity (AFP), founded in 2004, is a libertarian conservative political advocacy group in the United States affiliated with brothers Charles Koch and the late David Koch.

South Dakota's State Chapter organized the event. It is one of 40 states that have AFP organization] As the Koch family's primary political advocacy group, it has been viewed as one of the most influential American conservative organizations. [After the 2009 inauguration of President Barack Obama, AFP helped transform the Tea Party movement into a political force. It organized significant opposition to Obama administration initiatives such as global warming regulation, the Patient Protection and Affordable Care Act, the expansion of Medicaid, and economic stimulus. It helped turn back cap and trade, the major environmental proposal of Obama's first term. AFP advocated for limits on the collective bargaining rights of public-sector trade unions and for right-to-work laws

2024 TAXES PAYABLE 2025 LAWRENCE COUNTY TAX PER THOUSAND DOLLARS OF VALUE									
TAXABLE VALUATION \$5,160,479,566									
GOVERNMENT UNIT	SCHOOL DIST.#	SCHOOL LEVY	COUNTY LEVY	COUNTY FIRE	FIRE LEVY	CITY/TWN LEVY	SAN LEVY	TOTAL TAX LEVY	CLASS
DEADWOOD	40-1	3.130 *	2.817			3.926	0.578	10.451	AG
DEADWOOD	40-1	4.428 *	2.817			3.926	0.578	11.749	OO
DEADWOOD	40-1	6.936 *	2.817			3.926	0.578	14.257	OTH
LEAD	40-1	3.130 *	2.817		0.487	5.734	0.578	12.746	AG
LEAD	40-1	4.428 *	2.817		0.487	5.734	0.578	14.044	OO
LEAD	40-1	6.936 *	2.817		0.487	5.734	0.578	16.552	OTH
SPEARFISH	40-2	4.632 *	2.817			1.935		9.384	AG
SPEARFISH	40-2	6.115 *	2.817			1.935		10.867	OO
SPEARFISH	40-2	8.983 *	2.817			1.935		13.735	OTH
CENTRAL CITY	40-1	3.130 *	2.817				0.578	6.525	AG
CENTRAL CITY	40-1	4.428 *	2.817				0.578	7.823	OO
CENTRAL CITY	40-1	6.936 *	2.817				0.578	10.331	OTH
WHITEWOOD	46-1	4.708 *	2.817		0.754	4.408		12.687	AG
WHITEWOOD	46-1	6.214 *	2.817		0.754	4.408		14.193	OO
WHITEWOOD	46-1	9.124 *	2.817		0.754	4.408		17.103	OTH
ST.ONGE S-1/2	40-2	4.632 *	2.817	0.047	0.935	0.284		8.715	AG
ST.ONGE S-1/2	40-2	6.115 *	2.817	0.047	0.935	0.284		10.198	OO
ST.ONGE S-1/2	40-2	8.983 *	2.817	0.047	0.935	0.284		13.066	OTH
ST.ONGE N-1/2	9-1	4.841 *	2.817	0.047	0.935	0.284		8.924	AG
ST.ONGE N-1/2	9-1	6.339 *	2.817	0.047	0.935	0.284		10.422	OO
ST.ONGE N-1/2	9-1	9.235 *	2.817	0.047	0.935	0.284		13.318	OTH
SPEARFISH SCHOOL		4.632 *	2.817	0.047				7.496	AG
		6.115 *	2.817	0.047				8.979	OO
		8.983 *	2.817	0.047				11.847	OTH
LEAD-DEADWOOD SCHOOL		3.130 *	2.817	0.047				5.994	AG
		4.428 *	2.817	0.047				7.292	OO
		6.936 *	2.817	0.047				9.800	OTH
MEADE SCHOOL		4.708 *	2.817	0.047				7.572	AG
		6.214 *	2.817	0.047				9.078	OO
		9.124 *	2.817	0.047				11.988	OTH
COUNTY LEVY BREAKDOWN					SANITARY / WATER / FIRE PROTECTION LEVIES				
COUNTY GENERAL	2.817					Apple Springs Sanitary District	0.438		
SNOW REMOVAL						Powder House Pass	2.627		
HIGHWAY & BRIDGE						Spearfish Valley Sanitary District	0.036		
LAWRENCE COUNTY OF	-					Lead/Deadwood Sanitary District	0.578		
TOTAL LEVY	2.817					Terry Trojan Water District	0.381		
FIRE PROTECTION	0.047			(property outside municipality)		Rochford Fire Protection District	0.993		
TOTAL LEVY	2.864					Whitewood Fire Protection District	0.754		
						Spearfish Canyon Fire Protection I	0.851		
						Lead Fire Protection Dist.	0.487		
						St.Onge Fire Protection Dist.	0.935		
						Spearfish Rural Fire Protection Dis	0.308		
						Deer Mountain Sanitary District	3.137		
						(For property in a sanitary, water, community improvement, or fire district these levies must be added to the total levy.)			
AG = AGRICULTURAL						OTH = NON-AGRICULTURAL (OTHER)			
OO = OWNER OCCUPIED									
*(SEE BACK FOR ADDITIONAL LEVY BREAKDOWN)									

A Beacon reader was driving by the St. Louis arch.

Lynn's
Est. 1968 **DAKOTAMART**

Your Hometown Neighborhood Grocery Store!
Better Choice for Value!

Now available at Lynn's Belle Fourche

Beer, Wine, & Spirits....

\$5.99	\$8.99	\$16.99
 Beringer Fine Wines 750ml several varieties	 Cupcake Vineyards Wine 750ml several varieties	 Prairie Berry Rosy Ass Wine 750ml
\$19.99	\$24.99	\$25.99
 Meiomi Pinot Noir 750ml	 Rum Chata 750ml several varieties	 Maker's Mark Bourbon 750ml

Prices effective 7am-9pm Seven Days a Week **Next week Wednesday November 19th through Tuesday, November 25th**



Spearfish State Senator **Randy Deibert** explains the various Government entities and how and what the can levy on Property Taxes at a recent **Americans For Prosperity** Meeting at the **Spearfish Holiday Inn Convention Center**. (Courtesy Photos)

and opposed raising the federal minimum wage. AFP played an active role in achieving the Republican majority in the House

of Representatives in 2010 and in the Senate in 2014.

In the 2014 midterm election cycle, AFP led all groups other than political action committees (PACs) in spending on political television advertising. AFP's scope of operations has drawn comparisons to political parties. AFP, an educational social welfare organization, and the associated Americans for Prosperity Foundation, a public charity, are tax-exempt nonprofits. As a tax-exempt nonprofit, AFP is not legally required to disclose its donors to the general public; [8] the extent of its political activities while operating as a tax-exempt entity has raised

concerns among some campaign finance watchdogs as to the transparency of its funding

Americans for Prosperity was founded in 2004 when internal rivalries caused a split in the conservative political advocacy group Citizens for a Sound Economy (CSE) creating Americans for Prosperity and FreedomWorks AFP's founding was funded by businessmen and philanthropist brothers David H. Koch and Charles Koch, of Koch Industries.

The Americans for Prosperity Foundation is the Koch brothers' primary political advocacy group.

Property Tax Contd. C5



Spearfish State Representative **Scott Odenbach** presented the various recommendations to the **Legislative Executive Board** that came from the **Comprehensive Property Task Force** summer meetings. (Courtesy Photos)

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
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: ebcfbf.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
642-7167
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
Open for in-house worship
Sunday Worship 10:AM with coffee
fellowship following the service.
Watch live-streamed services:
www.sjlcabellefourche.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

THE FIRST NATIONAL BANK IN SIOUX FALLS,

09 CIV. 25-179

Plaintiff,

vs.

RAYMOND D. HUSEBY d/b/a OUTLAW EXPRESS.

Defendant.

SUMMONS

THE STATE OF SOUTH DAKOTA TO THE ABOVE-NAMED DEFENDANT, GREETINGS:

You are hereby summoned and required to answer the Complaint of the Plaintiff in the above-entitled action, a copy of which was filed with the Clerk of Courts of the Fourth Judicial Circuit, Butte County, South Dakota, on October 8, 2025. The address of the Butte County Clerk of Courts is 839 5th Avenue #5 in Belle Fourche, South Dakota. You must serve a copy of your Answer to said Complaint upon the subscribers, Davenport, Evans, Hurwitz & Smith, L.L.P., at their office at P.O. Box 1030, 206 West 14th Street, in the City of Sioux Falls, Minnehaha County, South Dakota, within thirty (30) days after the service of this Summons upon you. The time in which to answer the Complaint shall commence to run on the day following the fourth and final publication of this Summons. You will hereby take notice that in case of your failure to answer said Complaint, judgment by default may be rendered against you as requested in the Complaint.

Dated at Sioux Falls, South Dakota, this 22nd day of November, 2025.

DAVENPORT, EVANS, HURWITZ & SMITH, L.L.P.

/s/ Anthony M. Hohn

Anthony M. Hohn
206 West 14th Street
P.O. Box 1030
Sioux Falls, SD 57101-1030
Telephone (605) 336-2880
Facsimile (605) 335-3639
Attorneys for Plaintiff

STATE OF SOUTH DAKOTA)
COUNTY OF BUTTE)

IN CIRCUIT COURT
FOURTH JUDICIAL CIRCUIT
File No. 09PRO24-000019

In the Matter of the Estate of)
ALAN J. BENNETT,)
Deceased.)

NOTICE TO CREDITORS
AND NOTICE OF APPOINTMENT
OF PERSONAL REPRESENTATIVE

Notice is given that on the 24th day of September, 2024, Cheryl A. Bennett was appointed as Personal Representative of the Estate of Alan J. Bennett.

Creditors of decedent must file their claims within four months after the date of the first publication of this notice or their claims may be barred.

Claims may be filed with the Personal Representative or may be filed with the clerk, and a copy of the claim mailed to the Personal Representative.

Dated this 19th day of September, 2025.

STRAIN MORMAN LAW FIRM

By: /s/ Kortney J. Smith
Kortney J. Smith
Attorney for the Estate
1134 Main Street, P.O. Box 729
Sturgis, South Dakota 57785
smith@mormanlaw.com
(605) 347-3624



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Sarah's bakery can survive without a loyalty program. But with one, especially one connected to her local merchants—she could thrive. The question isn't whether loyalty programs work. The data proves they do. The question is: will your community be among those building a future, or those left behind? The time to act is now. Your customers are ready. John A. Newby is the author of the "Building Main Street, Not Wall Street" column dedicated to helping local communities,

By John Newby

"Building Main Street, not Wall Street"

"Build It and They Will Come: The Local Loyalty

Sarah Miller stood behind the counter of her downtown bakery, watching another customer walk past without coming in. She'd seen that same person enter the national coffee chain across the street three times this week. What was she missing? The answer, it turns out, wasn't about her croissants—they were perfect. It was about something far more powerful: loyalty. Albert Szent-Gyorgyi once said, "Discovery is seeing what everybody else has seen, and thinking what nobody else has thought." Today's Main Street businesses face a landscape forever altered, and those who discover new ways to build customer loyalty won't just survive—they'll thrive.



in 19 loyalty programs, yet only 49% actively participate in them—meaning there's massive room for programs that truly engage customers.

When you ask consumers what would make them join a loyalty program, their answers are refreshingly straightforward. Free shipping motivates 66% of consumers, while instant discounts appeal to 60%. But here's where it gets interesting: 70% of consumers would join a premium loyalty program if their favorite retailers offered one with valuable benefits.

The payoff for getting it right is enormous. After a negative experience, loyal customers are 46% more likely to continue purchasing from a brand. They're also more forgiving, more likely to try new products, and willing to spend more. In fact, 57% of consumers spend more on brands to which they are loyal. Perhaps most remarkably, 88% of consumers who are satisfied with a retailer's premium loyalty benefits will choose that retailer over a competitor offering a lower price. Let that sink in—loyalty can trump price.

Here's where small-town America has a secret weapon: collective action. While an individual bakery, hardware store, or boutique might struggle to create a compelling loyalty program alone, together they become formidable. Imagine a "Downtown Dollars" program where purchases at any participating Main Street business earn points redeemable anywhere in the district. Suddenly, the customer choosing where to shop isn't just considering a store against Amazon—they're weighing an entire community ecosystem against faceless

corporations. 90% of businesses now have some form of loyalty program, but community-wide initiatives remain rare, giving early adopters a significant competitive edge. These programs work because they draw from a much larger consumer base and create a shopping experience that online retailers simply cannot replicate.

While the opportunity is clear, so is the risk of standing still. Thirty-one percent of consumers haven't joined a premium loyalty program simply because the retailers they shop with don't offer one. Translation: businesses without loyalty programs are invisible to nearly a third of potential customers. It costs 5-25 times more to acquire a new customer than to keep an existing one, yet 65% of a company's revenue comes from repeat business of existing customers. The math is unavoidable—invest in loyalty or watch your margins evaporate. Benjamin Franklin warned us: "Fail to plan, plan to fail." For Main Street businesses, planning means building loyalty programs that make customers feel valued, rewarded, and connected to something bigger than a transaction.

The good news? You don't need to reinvent the wheel. Successful community-wide loyalty programs already exist and can serve as blueprints. What you do need is commitment—from individual business owners, downtown associations, and local leadership. Start by convening Main Street stakeholders. Identify shared goals. Research existing platforms that can scale across multiple businesses. Make it simple for customers to join and easy for them to see value quickly. Remember: 75% of companies see a return on investment from their loyalty program. The path forward isn't competing with Wall Street chains and tech giants on their terms. It's about leveraging the local businesses authentic community connection, personal service, and the kind of relationship that makes a customer choose you even when a competitor offers a lower price.

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Jonathan Ellis & Joe Sneve



Capitol News
Nov. 16, 2025
 By Karen Odell
 Each week we have been expecting the winter cold to move in at Capitol and on Tie

Creek, but again the days have been mild, so that we can get more fall work done outside. We even got a nice rain again this week, and our grass is still green in November.

Dick and Erma Albert made a trip from Buffalo to Belle Fourche, for eye appointments, on Tuesday. Of course, they also picked up lots of groceries. On Wednesday, Erma had an appointment with the chiropractor. They both went to the Senior Citizen dinner, on Friday, and had lasagna. On Sunday, they both went to church at the Catholic Church in Buffalo. There was a large crowd of people, and they even had to bring chairs up from the basement to seat everyone. After church, Dick and Erma had lunch at Saloon Number Three.

Alvin Cordell made a trip to Ekalaka on Monday, and enjoyed visiting with a few people, there, that he doesn't see often. Marlee Cordell went the other direction, to Belle Fourche, to a dentist's appointment. She stayed over, and on Tuesday, she went to the school for the Veteran's Day Program that the students presented. Her grandson, Cade Pearson, was the Master of Ceremonies for the program, and

the students presented a nice program.

A deer hunter, and friend of many years, came on Tuesday from Colorado with his wife, to stay in their hunting cabin. On Sunday evening, the hunters invited Alvin, Marlee, and Ryan's family for supper. They had a wonderful meal. Marlee attended church at the Methodist Church in Camp Crook, on Sunday.

Pete Anderson attended church at the Methodist Church in Camp Crook, on Sunday, too. Doug and Julia Davis went to the Farmer's Union Meeting in Buffalo, on Friday. On Saturday, they went to Jake Davis's, to spend the night with their grandsons, Keaton and Kellan Davis, while their parents Jake and Kali went to the Acoustics Concert at Deadwood. The boys kept them quite busy, and they even had time to pick-up lots of groceries before coming home on Sunday. Doug is grateful to finally have a complete roof on his new shed. Before, when they were working on the roof, the wind had come up a few times, and they had to quit work, rather than sail away with a piece of metal roofing. They waited for a quieter day to finish. It is great to have it complete.

Junior and Shirley Melum had over-night visitors, on Monday. Their daughter, Bertha and Pete Molenda, had come from Kansas City for a visit. On Tuesday, they left to go on

to western Montana to visit his relatives there. On Friday, Tommy Melum went to Baker for the Youth Group meeting at their church. Ernie, Rachel and Tommy went to Baker on Sunday, for the church service there.

Dorothy Padden spent a busy week traveling. Brett and Stacey Padden came from Laurel, Montana, and Dorothy went back with them for a week's visit. Dorothy attended two birthday parties for great-grandchildren, Evelyn Padden and Jamison Padden. She got to see other grandchildren, Stephanie Lebrato and her little son, Benjamin. On Saturday, Brett and Stacey took her to Helena to visit with Robert John and Juanita Padden. They brought her back to the ranch on Sunday, and she had had a wonderful time.

Bryce and Dawn Padden went to Timber Lake for the high school SoDak 16 volleyball game. The girls played a great game, and will now go on to the state tournament in Rapid City. Bryce and Dawn had hunters visiting from New York, and the hunters got to ride along to the games at Timber Lake, too. On Friday, they went to the junior high basketball games in Buffalo.

Karen Odell spent more time trimming and mowing, this week. She assembled a reclining chair, but it seems that the Chinese don't realize that the chair leg width has to match the bolt

holes, so she will have to adapt with some stripping to adjust so the holes meet. She went in to the post office and Wolff's in Camp Crook. On Monday, she got to see her daughter, Micki's choir concert at a church in Tacoma, Washington. She watched it on YouTube. There was a variety of gospel and classical songs, and they were so very good, that Karen was singing along in Montana. There were two directors, and one also did solo sections of the songs. Then he turned to the audience and directed them on the choruses. Karen knew that meant audience participation, just like the Gymanfa Ganu's she had attended as a youth. It must have been lots of fun for Micki to learn and practice those songs, and the outcome was great. Karen's grandson, Rowan Hinds, is working in Spain, and it was good to see some pictures from him. The weather was still

mild and good for working outside in the warmth of the day. On Sunday, Karen went to the Methodist Church in Camp Crook and played piano for the hymns. Mary Tarter brought her a spider plant. Thank you, Mary. Karen has good memories of her mother's spider plant that hung in the corner and grew to be huge, until her mother cut and gave away spider shoots to make new plants. Karen got one front window sealed for winter, and began another. Now she is hoping for a couple of nice days in the future to finish the job, but next week looks to be cooler, and maybe rainy. Remember, the Buffalo Senior Citizens will have their Thanksgiving dinner this Friday. Some dogs may not have sense enough to come in out of the rain, but they all still have sense enough to sleep through all professional sports on TV.

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Turkey Bingo Draws a Big Crowd

Robbi Longbrake
news@bellefourchebeacon.com
VALE—The public came out in droves to support the annual Vale Community Club's Turkey Bingo on the evening of November 12. "It's our annual Turkey Bingo and the turkeys are definitely an incentive—come out and try to win—it's usually a pretty good turnout but this was a really great turnout! It was more than last year, so that's good to see," explained Angie Hanson, Vale Community Club President.

Bingo caller and Community Club member Dale Grant added, "If you put all the people together from the last three bingos, you still wouldn't have this many people!"

The evening is a fundraiser for the club but it is also a chance for the Vale community and surrounding areas to come together for an evening of fun, fellowship, laughter and perhaps a little luck! Ten games of bingo were played, with each round being a unique game of chance. From regular bingo to six-pack, picture frame and of course the always fun blackout bingo!

Each round was a new chance to win the pot. Everyone purchased their game cards for \$1 each per round. Half of the pot goes to the Community Club and the other half goes to the bingo winner. The average payout was around \$50 per game.

The Community Club has plans for the money raised. "We use it to pay for snacks, we use it for bills—to keep the building optimal and everything like that and for other activities as well,"

said Hanson. Throughout the evening winners were drawn for five turkeys. The Club purchased the turkeys to give away. Lucky winners of the turkeys this year were Jaden Adams, Telena Allen, Robbi Longbrake, Marilyn Sheeler and Steve Silvermagle.

Halfway through the evening there was an intermission where everyone in attendance was treated to snacks and drinks. The food line was long but it moved fairly fast. Club members served the crowd. There are about 50 members in the Club, although they are not all active.

This was the last bingo gathering for a while. "We take a break in the wintertime and we'll come back in April," said Hanson.

Next up for the Community Club will be the Ag Fair on January 7, 2026. "The Ag Fair is coming up and that's when vendors and businesses that are related to agriculture come and give out information and we have a free meal for everyone," said Hanson.

Everyone is welcome to come to any and all of the Vale Community Club's events!

"We love having everybody come to any of our events—if you hear about it going on at the Hall, come on over! We get people from Newell, Nisland, Belle and Sturgis—we try to just reach out to any of the surrounding communities in the Black Hills—we just like holding events and having fun," shared Hanson.

A New Ambulance Rolls Into Newell

Robbi Longbrake
news@bellefourchebeacon.com
NEWELL—Seeking to foster economic growth, NEWELL—Traversing the roads in South Dakota—back roads, side roads, main roads, in the heat of the summer or bitter cold of the winter, a reliable vehicle is a must. Now, when you add into it the responsibility of saving lives, that reliability becomes even more important.

The Butte County Ambulance of Newell had been running the same ambulance since 2002. This past week, a brand new state-of-the-art ambulance rolled into town! A new life-saving bus to serve the local population has arrived!

Although getting a new ambulance is exciting, the old one was purchased brand new and has been around for a long time.

Ambulance Director, Sherry Hocking, explained, "104,000 miles is not a lot of miles, really,

for a diesel engine, but we pull a lot of power, and then they update safety features all the time, so they don't recommend you keep ambulances in service that long, but I don't know—it's kind of a bittersweet moment, I think, for the crew, because a lot of the crew really liked that rig and didn't really want to see it go."

Even though much of the staff is attached to the old vehicle and letting it go is hard, the ambulance crew knew what needed to happen. "That rig was bought brand new, and so it's kind of like losing a piece of the family," said Hocking.

But, needing to keep up with safety and new technology, the old vehicle needed to go! The work to get the money to afford the new bus began. "So we've been working probably for the last year and a half to get a new ambulance—our old ambulance was a 2002 and not recommended that you run them that long—and so we started working with the

Butte County Ambulance Board of Directors to save money and budget for a new ambulance. And then Newell, with the fundraiser—the Festival of Trees—and memorial money that we are given from people—we were able to put \$45,000 towards the new ambulance," shared Hocking. The ambulance had a hefty price tag of \$224,900.00.

The Butte County Ambulance, Newell, covers over 1,500 square miles and often gets called out to even farther-away areas when asked; therefore, it needs the best possible technology and safety equipment available to care for the people of the community.

The crew has traveled far and wide, and even covered for other ambulance services whenever they have been asked. There are 14 crew members working out of the Newell station. "We have drivers and just gained a nurse—she just finished her probation.

Ambulance Contd. D4



The brand new Ambulance located in Newell, SD. Longbrake photo

Newell School Hosts Annual Veterans Day Program

Robbi Longbrake
news@bellefourchebeacon.com
NEWELL—A small school delivered a mighty and heartfelt tribute to America's current and former service members during the Newell School Veterans Day Program on November 11 in Austin Auditorium.

A warm welcome was given by Master of Ceremonies Mr. Wvatt Vander Vorst, MS/

HS Social Studies Teacher. He welcomed and thanked veterans for participating, as well as community members for attending and staff for preparing the kids to present the special program.

The highlight of the program had to be all of the beautiful music presented under the direction of Kimberly Bachman,

music director. Patriotic Medley and Star-Spangled Banner were played by the middle school and high school band. The middle school and high school choir sang America the Beautiful, while the elementary students performed a well-choreographed routine as they sang Thank You Soldiers.

The 7th grade and the 12th

Veterans Contd. D4



Newell School Flag Team presents the American flag. Longbrake photo



(Above)The Vale Community Center was filled with Bingo players and Turkey winners at the annual Turkey Bingo gathering.(Below) During intermission Vale Community Club members handed out goodies and refreshments to hungry bingo players. Longbrake photos



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<p style="text-align: center;">Birds Eye Steamfresh Vegetables Select Varieties • 10-10.8 oz.</p> <p style="text-align: center; font-size: 1.2em;">89¢</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">General Mills Chex Cereal All Varieties • 12-14 oz.</p> <p style="text-align: center; font-size: 1.2em;">\$2.99</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">Ocean Spray Cranberries 12 oz.</p> <p style="text-align: center; font-size: 1.2em;">2/\$5 or \$2.50</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">The Village Pie Maker Pies or Cheesecake • 32-48 oz.</p> <p style="text-align: center; font-size: 1.2em;">\$12.99</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">Best Choice Soda or Mixers All Varieties • 12 pk.</p> <p style="text-align: center; font-size: 1.2em;">2/\$8 or \$4.00</p>

Grand River Roundup



Betty Olson

news@bellefourchebeacon.com

Amanda gave me some apples the other day and I used them Monday morning to make an apple pie using my mother Lila White's recipes for the pie and the pie crust and it turned out pretty good. When my parents ran the White's Truckstop and cafe in Bison Mom would make several pies every morning and not often were any left by the end of the day. We were having trouble with the lid on the deepfreeze in the garage so Reub was working on it while I made the pie and then he came and got me to hold a flashlight for him so he could see to put the glue where it needed to be. Thankfully, the deepfreeze is running again so he's moving stuff from the deepfreeze in the basement to the one in the garage so we can defrost the

other one.

Tuesday, November 11 was Veterans Day and there were programs honoring the veterans in both Buffalo that morning and Bison that afternoon. By the time I got my chores done it was too late to go to the one in Buffalo, but Reub and I joined a really big crowd at the school gym in Bison for the Veterans Day program that afternoon. All the students from kindergarten to the senior class sang and did some great entertainment for the veterans and everyone else that was there. At the end of the program all the veterans that served in every military were asked to stand up so we could honor them. That was a wonderful program to honor all the veterans that sacrificed so much for all of us.

Usually we have Ladies

Aid at the church on Tuesday, but the meeting was moved to Wednesday because of Veterans Day on Tuesday. Bev Heier was the hostess and all the members were there except Teddi Carlson who was playing the piano for Bison school singers that afternoon. After Ladies Aid I drove over to get my Alison's Pantry order from Erin Klempel and then went to the Reva Store to get some groceries for us and Missy. I stuck around Reva to visit with Vince Tift until the school bus arrived and I got to bring Copper, Knox, River Lu and Beau and Hannah Doll home. Those kids are really entertaining and I love being able to drive them home once in a while.

Thursday was a beautiful warm day with no wind so Reub and I hauled in another big load of wood to the wood pile to burn in the woodstove when it

gets cold out again. Casey and Taz went down to put siding on my Aunt Patsy Wilkinson's house with that nice weather and Amanda spent a lot of time raking up tree leaves from the yard and hauling them to the dump. I took a long walk up to the top of Dead Man butte that afternoon. Dead Man is a butte a little over a half mile west of our buildings and it was named that because it looks like a dead man in a coffin with his arms across his chest. You can see several of our neighbors' places from the top of the butte and watch vehicles moving on Highway 79 about four or more miles away from the top of the butte. The last time I was up there was when our granddaughter Bryce was in grade school and we taking a walk across the prairie to the top of the butte. I was showing Bryce where all the neighbors lived when I stepped back and stepped on the leg of a deer that a mountain lion had buried up there. We climbed down the butte quickly and headed right home before the mountain lion showed up!

Reub and I went to Hettinger on Friday on another warm day and we stopped to have coffee with the Prairie Pioneers in Reeder on the way home. Casey and Taz were down working on Patsy Wilkinson's house and Amanda and the kids spent the day raking up the tree leaves out of the yard and hauling

the leaves down to the dump. Amanda has the yard looking pretty good!

Missy went over to Dupree for the fundraiser for her good friend Kristi Birkland Saturday morning and Casey, Taz, Copper, Knox and River Lu went over there Saturday afternoon. It was above freezing with no wind so I washed three loads of laundry and hung them on the clothesline, but they didn't get dry so I had to bring them back in the house to dry. I fought with my laptop computer all day to try to connect with the internet so I could send off this column that I had to write on my old desktop computer that won't connect to the internet at all so I called Marc Hotchkiss Saturday evening to see if he can get something to work for me so I can send my column off. I'll take it to church Sunday morning so hopefully Marc can get it sent for me.

I'll leave you with this:

Things that Took Me 50

Years to Learn by Dave Berry

*Nobody cares if you can't dance well. Just get up and dance.

*You will never find anybody who can give you a clear and compelling reason why we observe daylight savings time.

*The most powerful force in the universe is gossip.

*No matter what happens, somebody will find a way to take it too seriously.

Then and Now in Newell

"Looking Forward to our Past"

November 18, 1915

Charles Schedwin, of Vale dropped by the Irrigator Office Monday. After renewing his subscription for another year, we learned that Mr. Schedwin was the first man to subscribe to the Irrigator when it made its maiden appearance in Vale. Mr. Schedwin also informed us that he with several of his neighbors had received a settlement from the Homestake Mining Company on account of damages amounting to thousands of dollars to their lands along the river caused by tailings from the Company's melts.

Last Saturday the new seats were installed in the Congregational Church. They are the regular opera-style seats and make a very fine appearance. We also hear that they are a lot more comfortable to sleep in than the old hard seats.

Mr. Jaukkari is tearing down the old Horse Creek School house and moving it to the new building site to be converted into sheds, as there are horses on the school grounds needing shelter and a more secure coal shed.

November 12, 1925

H. W. Clarkson and George O. Sletten, both prominent sheep growers of Harding County, were business visitors here Saturday and shared their sheep loss concerns. Mr. Clarkson is President of the First State Bank of Buffalo. Coyote hunting was an occupation Sunday for different area farmers. They have been losing their sheep and lambs to the wily predator.

The Butte County Commission at the last meeting employed Miss Florence Smiley, a great nurse, to accompany Miss McWhirter, County Superintendent, on her visits to the rural schools of the county and make examinations of pupils and suggest corrective measures in regard to lice and flea infestations.

A number of life insur-

ance agents were in Vale for a convention last Thursday. Each representing a different company. It was great to hear each agent tell how much better their company was than the other ones.

November 14, 1935

Another used car sale will be held in Newell this coming Saturday, according to an announcement by the Mumford Motor Company of Deadwood. Last week the company had 4 units in Newell and contacted quite a number of prospects.

The people up and down Willow Creek were very busy Monday morning keeping in touch with the stratosphere balloon both by radio and by sight, as it was plainly visible in the locality. The huge stratosphere balloon was plainly visible for several hours from Newell and many local people reported its location was just a little east of Bear Butte. Most everyone in the Horse Creek vicinity was able to also see the balloon near Bear Butte after Mrs. R. M. Holt got on the party line and gave a general ring and informed them. Vale School was dismissed because most of the teachers went to the strato-bowl and failed to return.

Mr. & Mrs. Henry Severson of Hoover spent the past weekend at the I. Severson home. Arthur Severson, son of the I Severson's, received his transport license on the 10th and is now permitted to carry passengers in an airplane. The license was granted by Lester Orcutt, Federal Examiner and this covers the later-type airship.

Severino DeLeon, 77, a Mexican beet worker on the Wm. Schmele ranch, passed away November 6th from hypothermia and pneumonia, contracted when he went into a stock dam to rescue several head of sheep. The body recovered and turned over to the Widdoss Mortuary and prepared for shipment to Tulsa, Oklaho-

by Linda Velder

ma, where relatives reside.

November 15, 1945

To waterproof rope so it will last longer, treat it with a tar and tallow mixture. Add 20% tallow to the tar and melt both materials so they will spread over the rope easily, using an old paint brush. The rope will also be more flexible.

The South Dakota College at Brookings has purchased a stock sprayer for the delousing of cattle and is going to give demonstrations throughout the state. The charge will be 10 cents per animal. It takes 2 treatments, 14 to 20 days apart to free the cattle of lice. Contact our Butte County Agent for appointment.

Brodsky's Market has got a facelift, for better service, the past fortnight Brodsky's has been undergoing complete renovation, remodeling, repainting and re-arranging until it has now emerged as a most attractive and up-to-date store. Modern shelving has been installed throughout the store and counters and tables re-arranged to afford both services, more room and better display of the merchandise. A notable feature is the installation of an entirely new lighting system.

November 17, 1955

Eleven turkeys will be given away by the Newell Junior Chamber of Commerce at a special Pre-Thanksgiving Day dance held at the City Hall this coming Saturday night. Music for the dance will be the ever-popular Phillips Ambassadors of Lead, and the turkeys will be given away throughout the evening starting at 10:00 PM.

The turkeys are being donated by the north section local business district: Coast-to-Coast Store; Everett's Place; Joe's Barber Shop; Hedrick's Sales & Service; Corner Cafe; Valley Implement Company; Hafner Wool Company; Valley Irrigator; Black Hills Power & Light Company; Seaman's Sinclair

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Service; Price & Son Drugs, Newell Shoe Shop; Butch's Garage and Don's Service.

The American Legion Auxiliary met November 9th at the Legion Hall. President Mrs. Albert Eickelman conducted the meeting assisted by Secretary Dorothy Dow and Parliamentarian Mrs. John Youngberg. Volunteers were asked to go to Ft. Meade to wrap Christmas gifts. Those responding were Mrs. Neil Dow; Mrs. Orrin Mutchler; Mrs. John Youngberg; and Mrs. T. C. Renelt. Five members signed up for volunteer work at Ft. Meade; Mrs. Irving Winger; Mrs. Albert Eickelman; Mrs. Neil Dow; Mrs. Mutchler and Mrs. Renelt. Mrs. Winger also volunteered to bake a cake commemorating the birthday of the Auxiliary for the Veteran's Day dinner. A committee was appointed for the Veteran's Day dance and to prepare the BBQ luncheon.

There will be plenty of action and laughs in the annual Junior Class play, "Danger Willie At Work", which will be presented at the Newell High School Auditorium Friday night. Jerry Malcolm stars as Orville "Willie" Root who is always up to some mischief and Ronnie Glover as his best friend. Others of the cast who are friends of his or members of his family include; Barbara Lakson, Shirley Boe; Fronna West; Shirley Richards; Mary Ann Munroe; George Breidenbach; Everette Barber and Lorraine Scott. Mrs. Art Jones is directing the 3-Act production. The play begins at 8:00 PM and admission 60 cents.

November 11, 1965

The South Dakota Chapter of the Girls' Rodeo

Association will hold its annual awards banquet at the Old Town Supper Club in Rapid City, November 26th, starting at 7:00 PM, was announced by Jane Geigle, St. Onge, Secretary-Treasurer of the Chapter. Among local firms who have contributed to the organization for the 1965 season are Gambles; Bratton's and Dakota Drug.

Mr. & Mrs. Lorman Lange and children left Saturday afternoon for Laramie, Wyoming to visit 2 weeks with Mr. & Mrs. Norman Lee and Mr. & Mrs. Robert Lee and other relatives while Lorman is elk hunting in that vicinity.

E. M. McDonald, Materials & Soils Engineer of the South Dakota State Highways, will give a program on gumbo research projects at the 6th Annual Asphalt Conference at the University of Idaho. McDonald called Pierre shale or gumbo, as it is commonly called, the most immediate and perplexing problem facing design engineering in South Dakota. Nearly the whole west half of the state is compounded of shale and gumbo, one of the largest deposits in the world. With tests and studies at the US Experiment Farm, near Newell, gumbo has near fantastic capabilities of absorbing water and can expand to more than double its size when wet.

Vickie Pickard and Karen West, entertained 20 girl friends at a surprise party for Kristin Wiest on her 12th birthday Friday evening at the Pickard home. The girls enjoyed an evening of games and a birthday lunch was served after which Kristin opened her many lovely gifts.



(Above) The Horse Creek School before a fire. After the fire, 1915, Mr. Jaukkari tore it down and with the good lumber built a horse barn and coal shed.
 (L) Brodsky's Slaughter House. The animals were butchered here and processed and the meat taken to Brodsky's Market.

Here's What's Happening in Newell!

Newell Clinic now open at the Newell Evangelical Church
Call 605-204-9497

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Second Thursday every month,
1:30 p.m.

Wednesday Evenings
Summer Campus CleanUp
Every Wednesday, 4-6 p.m.
Newell School

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

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



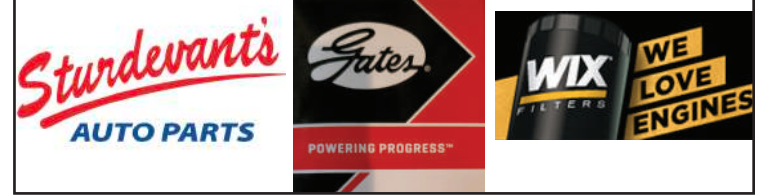
BH Farmer's Market
Second Tuesday each month,
4:30, Nisland Town Hall

Newell Service Center

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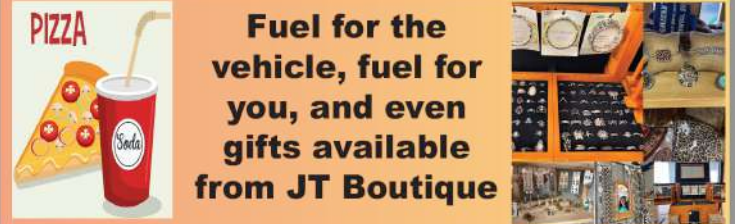


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Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
September 29) French Toast Sticks, Cereal, Fruit, Juice, Milk Hot Dogs, Baked Beans, Chips, Fruit, Milk	30) Long Johns, Cereal, Fruit, Juice, Milk Chicken Strips, Broccoli, Fruit, Milk	October 1) Turkey Wraps, Cereal, Fruit, Juice, Milk Tangerine Chicken, Rice, Fruit, Milk	2) Egg Tortilla Wraps, Cereal, Juice, Fruit, Milk Scalloped Potatoes & Ham, Biscuits, Fruit, Milk	3) NO SCHOOL
6) Cheese Omelet, Cereal, Juice, Fruit, Milk ADAM SANDLER DAY BLT, Fruit, Milk	7) Potato-Tomato Rhyme Hashbrowns/Eggs, & Tomatoes, Fruit, Milk Peach-Beach Rhyme Pinwheel Sandwiches, Tuna Salad, Peach Crisp, Fruit, Milk	8) Scrambled Eggs, Sausage, Cereal, Juice, Fruit, Milk DECADE DAY-THE 70S Chicken Pot Pie, Salad w/ Green Goddess Dressing, Carrot Cake, Fruit, Milk	9) Waffles, Cereal, Juice, Fruit, Milk BARBIE & KEN DAY Pink Chicken Alfredo, Beets, Fruit, Milk	10) NO SCHOOL
13) Scrambled Eggs & Sausage, Cereal, Juice, Fruit, Milk French Dip Sandwich on Flat Bread, Potato Wedges, Fruit, Milk	14) Long Johns. Cereal, Juice, Fruit, Milk Chicken Enchiladas, Corn, Broccoli Salad, Fruit, Milk	15) Dutch Waffles, Cereal, Juice, Fruit, Milk Chicken Patty Sandwiches, Corn, Potato Salad, Fruit, Milk	16) Yogurt Parfait, Cereal, Juice, Fruit, Milk Corn Dogs, Green Beans, Fruit, Milk	17) NO SCHOOL
20) French Toast Sticks, Cereal, Juice, Fruit, Milk Grilled Cheese, Tomato Soup, Broccoli, Fruit, Milk	21) Breakfast Egg Roll, Cereal, Juice, Fruit, Milk Pulled Pork, Pasta Salad, Fruit, Milk	22) Quiche, Cereal, Juice, Fruit, Milk Chicken Burrito, Coleslaw, Fruit, Milk	23) Tornadoes, Cereal, Juice, Fruit, Milk Chicken Nuggets, Broccoli, Fruit, Milk	24) NO SCHOOL
27) French Toast Sticks, Cereal, Juice, Fruit, Milk Chicken Nachos, Black Beans & Rice, Fruit, Milk	28) Long Johns, Cereal, Juice, Fruit, Milk Quesadillas, Broccoli, Fruit, Milk	29) Turkey Wraps Cereal, Juice, Fruit, Milk Chili, Sweet Rolls, Green Beans, Fruit, Milk	30) Yogurt Parfait, Cereal, Juice, Fruit, Milk Bat Wings (Chicken Wings), Corn, Fruit, Milk	31) NO SCHOOL

N



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N

Ambulance From C1

Her husband is still on probation, and we just had a driver who just took her EMT and passed it," said Hocking. "We're volunteer, but we do have on-call—which you sign up for—and then we're only paid when we're on a call."

Much of the Newell Ambulance crew has worked together for a long time and are a tight-knit family. Hocking shared, "We're very blessed as a crew! We have a Board of Directors over us, two Butte County Commissioners, two Belle Fourche Commissioners, and one Newell Commissioner, and they take very good care of Butte County Ambulance as a whole!"

If we go to them for a request for something, they're just very open to try to figure out how to make it happen—if it's going to help us out. I think they're very supportive!"

Even though it is a brand new

ambulance, it may come with a few problems! "It's been in service for just two days, we went on three runs Sunday morning and I was a little lost in the back just trying to figure out things, but we will get there," said Hocking.

Anyone that is interested in becoming part of the Butte County Ambulance, Newell, check out the next set of classes that are coming up to train EMTs. "I have a class starting December 8 that is for six students—paid for under a grant so that it won't cost any funds to do it—it's for EMT training. To become an EMT Basic, and then in the spring I'll do an EMR, which is Emergency Medical Responder," said Hocking.

Reach out to the Butte County Ambulance in Newell if you are interested in learning more about the upcoming training. In Newell and the surrounding area, the Newell Economic Development Corporation held its annual meeting on November

5 at Newell City Hall.

The meeting was aimed at restarting the previously inactive group.

The corporation has not held a board meeting in the past two years, which means it does not have a board.

According to Article 3, Section 1 of the bylaws: "The annual meeting of the members shall be held at the Newell City Hall, Newell, SD, in November of each year, beginning with the year 1996."

Melanie Williamson, the last official secretary of record, confirmed that no meetings had been held, leaving the board inactive. "We have not had an annual meeting for the past two years, and with advice from the economic director in Rapid City, who covers the West River area, we technically don't have a board," she said.

About 30 business owners and community members attended the meeting at the City Hall to support the restarting of the

Newell Economic Development Corporation.

The first order of business was to elect a board. New board members for the year going forward are President, Pandi Pittman; Vice President, Ryan Dennis; Secretary, Melanie Williamson; Treasurer, Dallas Conner; and Public Relations, Shelby Schuelke.

The board accepted the resignation of the last board president of record, Ken Wetz, who is stepping down due to health issues his family is dealing with at the moment.

Going forward, it was agreed that the bylaws would have to be updated and a mission statement developed.

The new treasurer, Dallas Conner, suggested that since no 501(c)(3) paperwork has been filed since 2017—more than six years ago—it may be easiest and most cost-effective to dissolve the current group and start a new one with the same bylaws and scope,

completing the EZ paperwork to save on costs.

Williamson reported that the Newell Economic Development Corporation had a treasury balance of \$25,200.54.

It was suggested that the group meet again after all of the paperwork is filed and the board is up and running in its official capacity. After discussion, it was determined that could happen fairly quickly, and the next meeting was set for Wednesday, December 3, at 6 p.m. in the Irrigation District office.

The December agenda will include: discussing 501(c)(3) status, picking a new name for the group, creating a mission statement, determining priorities, updating articles, deciding who the 12 voting members of the board are, determining membership fees, and any additional steps needed to get the Economic Development Corporation in good standing once again.



(AL) The back of the **Ambulance**, for the first time, has blue lights; (AR) The new **Ambulance** has an electronic gurney that loads in and out on its own. Don Tishmack demonstrates how it works. (Below L) Ambulance Director, Sherry Hocking inside the new **Ambulance**; (BR) The view from inside of the new **Ambulance**. Longbrake photos

Veterans From C1

grade presented patriotic poetry.

We Honor You Today was the selection from the middle school and What It Means to Me was the piece performed by the seniors.

Digital music, A Tribute to the Armed Services, showcased all of the branches of the US Armed Forces.

Veterans were asked to stand when the song that represents the branch they served in played. The service members obliged and as they arose, loud cheers and claps greeted them.

The guest speaker for the event was Mr. Lance Putnam. After giving an extensive introduction on all of the service he has given to our country, he was invited to the podium. His background includes 26 years

of service with five completed combat tours and multiple tours into hostile environments. Putnam has two Bronze Stars and four Meritorious Service Medals. He advised two U.S. presidents during times of international crisis. Even though he is retired, he still deploys, advises and consults with humanitarian organizations working around the world in natural disaster areas and areas of hostile conflict.

Putnam and his wife of 28 years moved to Newell in 2024. Putnam began speaking about all the men and women who were present at the program that swore an oath to support and defend our Constitution. "Now we don't always agree in this country, but we are still the greatest country in the world, and some of these men and women served

in times of war and others served in times of peace.

Some volunteered to serve and others were drafted and told to serve," he said. "But nevertheless, when the nation needed them, each one of these men and women answered the call and served out of honor and duty—regardless of the circumstances—they put their personal opinions aside and chose to serve a greater ideal and purpose—a purpose that is found in our nation's values and morals."

He went on to recount a story from WWII with the theme of "Earn it." Putnam explained, "Don't let your life be wasted. Don't let the honor of these men that died to save your life be for nothing. So here's my question for all of you today, how are you going to earn it?" He then told how in different countries he

has been to, people don't have the same rights as they do in America. Then he said, "Many of us here today are still living with those scars of war."

So go out and do good for our world, be creative, be the best student you can be. Be the best rancher or farmer or whatever it is you decide to do in life, go out and earn it! Don't forget the men and women who have served to ensure that we have every freedom and opportunity imaginable!"

Nila Charles with the local VFW was on hand to award the Patriot's Pen Essay winners. The theme this year was How are you showing patriotism and support for your country? "Our VFW-sponsored Patriot's Pen Essay contest is open to sixth, seventh and eighth graders. For every 15 entries, our post can

send one first place winner to the district level to be judged," she explained. "We have 13 entries so only one will qualify for the next level."

The winner was Zane Johnson. He received \$40 and shared his essay by reading it to the audience. After the VFW veterans retired the colors, the veterans and their families were invited to stay for a light brunch provided by the senior class. Vander Vorst said, "So veterans and family, if you would be so kind as to stay for that so we can visit, that would be wonderful! We also ask that before you guys leave, take time to shake hands with these men and women who made all this possible, these veterans that we honor not just today, but we should honor a lot more often than we do as a country."



(L) At the end of the program, students, staff and community members filed through the line to shake vets' hands and thank them for their service; (R) The 7th grade gathers and takes turns reading *We Honor You Today* for the **Veterans Day Program**. Longbrake Photos