



# Belle Fourche Beacon

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## Why Abolish Property Taxes?

Property Taxes are Immoral for one simple reason, if you don't pay your taxes, the government can take your property.

To take it another step further, the crime (not paying property taxes) doesn't fit the punishment (having your property taken away) as they are greatly unequal in value.

As such, the government uses this threat to make you comply.

The current system is neither fair nor equitable. Nevertheless, this is the system government uses and whether or not it was intended to control the people, the result is clear, that

is what is happening and the threat IS real and people are losing their properties.

This is what the American Feudal System looks like in the United States. Thus, making the government over the people.

Our state motto is, 'Under God the People Rule'. Either that is a lie or government has usurped the people's legal authority.

Join us in the fight to abolish property taxes and restore the rights of property owners. Whether you own a home, ag land, commercial property or rent, property taxes are immoral.

## Finding Treasures While Supporting Seniors

Robbi Longbrake

news@bellefourchebeacon.com  
BELLE FOURCHE—A unique opportunity for shopping is available at the Silver Lining Thrift Shoppe. Not only does it provide a chance for one to find some new treasures, but also it supports an important cause. Located in the back of the Belle Silver Lining Activities and Support Center, the community is invited to come thrift! They are open Tuesday through Saturday, 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. All the items that are available in the store are donations provided by the public. "Everything in the store has been donated to us, and when we sort through the items, we wash up all the knickknacks and dishes. We don't have the facility to wash clothes, so we

try to be very picky with our clothes," explained Marilyn Huston-Engle, Board President. "If there is a stain on them, they definitely don't go out on the floor. If they're real pilly—you know how some shirts get—they've had their wear, they don't go on the floor."

All the money earned at the Thrift Shoppe goes to a good cause. "And everything that's made at the thrift shop is used to support the kitchen in the senior center and pay electricity bills," shared Huston-Engle. "We have to help pay the kitchen staff, buy the food—the meal program is not self-sufficient—so we have to help cover the cost."

The store relies on the generosity of both donors and

**Silver Linings Contd. A8**



SD Department of Tourism's pize winning Rose Bowl Parade Float

## Belle Fourche Moose Lodge Serves Up Steak Tips

Robbi Longbrake

news@bellefourchebeacon.com

BELLE FOURCHE—Did you know that some of the most delicious steak tips you could ever eat are available right here in Belle Fourche? Tender, tasty, freshly made and cooked to perfection, but they only make an appearance twice a month—the first and third Saturdays.

The steak tips are brought to you by the hardworking volunteers at the Belle Fourche Moose Lodge #859. The food is offered from 5:30 p.m. to 7:00 p.m., but preparation starts well before then. "We always gather the crew at three o'clock—it's all volunteer," explained board president Chip Conner.

In addition to steak tips, all meals are served with freshly made coleslaw, a dinner roll, and either a baked potato or french fries. For a few dollars more, you can add jumbo shrimp to your meal. And of course, a full bar is available, along with pop and coffee. The Moose opens its food service to the entire commu-

nity. Most Moose events are members only, but in this case, the Lodge wants to share the dinner with the entire community.

The local Lodge currently has just over 100 members and is always looking for new folks to join. Conner says the Moose

is looking for new members. "It's easy—just show up and fill out an application—simple," he said. "The first year is \$72; after that, it's \$52. The initial year has a filing fee, so it goes down after that to \$52—that's just \$1 a week. I

**Moose Tips Contd. A7**



One of the many displays inside the Silver Lining Thrift Shoppe. Courtesy photo



## Resolution Run Expands to Month-Long Fitness Goals

Robbi Longbrake

news@bellefourchebeacon.com

BELLE FOURCHE—Warm sunshine and a pleasant 62-degree day welcomed community members to the Belle Rec Center as they kicked off the new year by participating in the 2026 Resolution Run.

With an emphasis on health and wellness, the Rec Center held their annual Resolution Run on January 4, with a new twist.

This year fitness will be the focus for the entire month of January. This change will allow participants to track any exercise from walking, running, biking, stair stepping and the like for the whole month.

"The weather's always been a stressor and it has affected our participation on occasion and we've even had to cancel. We've had years when it's been -40, you know?"

There's the risk factor of being outside with the snow and ice," explained Tessa Anderson-Voyles, Program Coordinator. "We decided we wanted to try and take away that stressor and offer an indoor option to people—or an outdoor option if they're comfortable being

outside—which today is a gorgeous day for it!"

It isn't too late to join the fun! The community is urged to sign up and participate anytime through January. There will be a celebration of all the miles logged on February 1, 2026 when the program comes to an end.

It will be marked by another gathering and a celebration walk/run.

"This used to just be a one-day event, but now we're doing a kick off today—which you don't have to be here for—and then it's a month-long event.

You can sign up anytime, and at the end we're doing a finale on February 1. It is a group event as well. We'll have a social and healthy snacks, we'll have giveaways and award their shirts that day, then Wild Magnolia is giving us hot chocolate for everybody," said Anderson-Voyles.

Everyone gets to set their own monthly goal! Anderson-Voyles shared, "It's individual and then we'll compile everybody's personal goals and shoot for that as a community and see where we end up at

the end of the month!"

If you want to join the Resolution Run challenge this month, you can sign up and get a calendar to log your miles on and turn in each week.

Participants can count the miles from any form of exercise they en-

gage in each session. "People have the option of using our walking track, walking laps around the gym, or they can use a treadmill, a bike, a variety of things.

So maybe walking or running doesn't work for people, but they can put their miles in on a bike,"

said Anderson-Voyles.

It isn't too late to join and keep your new year's resolutions! Anderson-Voyles explained, "Our goal is just to get people moving in January, tracking their miles and doing a little social event with it!"

**more photos B1**



Tessa Anderson-Voyles, Program Coordinator, welcomes everyone to the Resolution Run event and explains to participants how it is different from the other years. Longbrake photo

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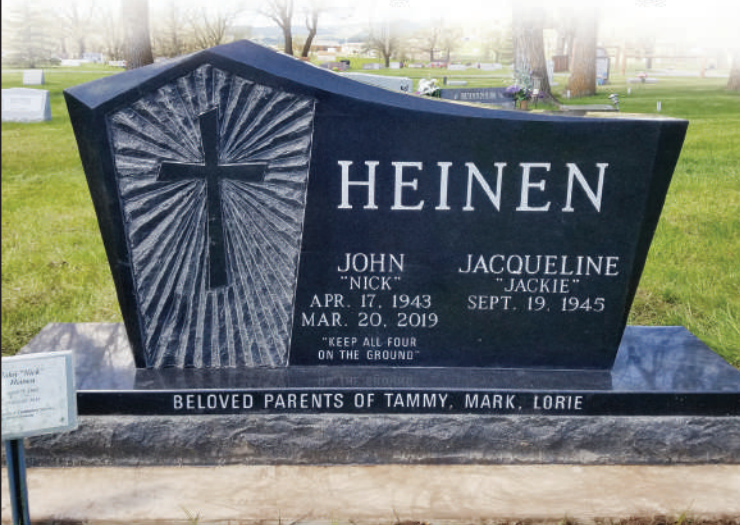


Most of us intend on "getting around to it someday," but that someday never comes and we leave our family wondering whether or not they did the right thing. **It doesn't have to be like that.** It's not pleasant to be reminded of our own mortality; we can laugh, cry, or do a little of both. Regardless 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.

Taking the time to make advanced funeral or cremation planning is a caring and responsible thing to do. Planning now, while we have the time to consider every option, can remove significant amount of the emotional and financial stress that every family must eventually face.  
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Good Shepherd Clinic  
Next Clinic: Lead - January 8 and 22, 2026.  
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-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

Phyllis "Rosie" Johnson 85

Phyllis "Rosie" Johnson, 85, of Newell, SD passed away surrounded by her loving family on Monday, December 15, 2025. A Celebration of Life will be conducted by the family at a later date. Arrangements are under the direction of Will Funeral Chapel of Mitchell & Kinkade Funeral Home of Sturgis.

In lieu of flowers, the family asks that memorials be directed to Pleasant View Cemetery Association, P.O. Box 131, Carthage, SD 57323, remembering that today is only temporary but our local cemeteries that we entrust our loved ones to require care forever.

The matriarch of the Newell Johnson clan, Rosie, was fitted with her angel wings while under hospice care at her winter apartment in Marion, SD, on December 15, 2025, surrounded by her family & friends.

Phyllis "Rosie" Arlene Johnson was born on May 4, 1940, to Johanna (Williams) & Andy Martin Roos in Adrian, MN. Rosie joined her older paternal half-sister, Dorothy Roos (who lost her mom shortly after childbirth), & was followed by brothers Army Roos & Ray Allen "Sonny" Roos. Rosie graduated from high school in Carthage, SD, with the Class of 1958. On June 5th of that same year, Rosie was united in marriage to Kenneth Wayne Johnson. The couple was blessed with three children: Vicki Diane, Brenda Kay, & Monty Allen. The young family began their journey in Carthage, later moving to Monroe & Marion, following Kenny's jobs, until moving West River to Newell, SD, in 1974. Upon moving to Newell, Rosie worked as the front desk administrator of The Valley Irrigator, the weekly newspaper, & also served many years as a volunteer EMT.

In her spare time, Rosie enjoyed bowling, playing women's softball, reading, crocheting countless afghans, & making "a jillion" jars of jelly each year to give as gifts. She & Kenny also boarded many country kids who stayed in town to attend high school in Newell. Rosie also enjoyed staying in contact with her & Ken's family members, & following their kids, grandkids, & great



grandkid's activities & accomplishments. In her later years, Rosie was on her computer daily, staying in touch with those close to her, & spent countless hours compiling family photo albums & doing genealogy, leaving her loved ones a detailed account of their family's legacy.

Rosie is survived by her husband, Ken; daughters: Vicki Stark of Nisland, SD, & Brenda (Terry) Burge of Marion, SD; son, Monty (Beth) Johnson of Madison, IN; grandchildren: Robert Burge (significant other LeAnn Peterson & her son Julian) of Lino Lakes, MN, Brian Burge of Beresford, SD, Crystal (Mike) Cunningham of Crestwood, KY, Logan (Lina) Rath of Sturgis, SD, Stephanie (Bryant) Fuchs of Bowman, ND, Jennifer (Evan) Hamilton of Madison, IN, & Daniel "Trapper" Johnson, currently a student at the University of Indiana, Bloomington; great-grandchildren: Clara, Oscar, & Walter "Wally" Burge; Emma, Samantha & Henry Cunningham; Evelyn & Aubrey Rath; Elianna & Vance Fuchs; and Alyeska & Asher Hamilton; sister-in-law: Barb (Mrs. Army) Roos of Peoria, AZ; as well as nieces, nephews, cousins, & many friends. A friend of special note, Marcella "Marcie" Hatfield of Newell, SD & Enid, OK, also survives, to whom Ken & family are deeply grateful for her loving care & friendship she has provided Rosie & Ken throughout the years, especially during Rosie's final days.

Rosie was preceded in death by her parents; sister, Dorothy (Eugene) Higgins; brothers, Army Roos & Sonny Roos; granddaughter, Lynn Burge; son-in-law, Peter Stark; & aunts, uncles, & cousins.

Rosie will be laid to rest in the Pleasant View Cemetery in Carthage, SD, following a Celebration of Life Service in Newell, SD, both of which will be held at a later date. Condolences to the family may be sent to: Kenneth Johnson, P.O. Box 104, Marion, SD 57043.

Will Funeral Chapel

Harvey C. Krautschun

Harvey C. Krautschun Jr., 76, of Spearfish, SD, passed away peacefully on January 1, 2026, after a long battle with Parkinson's. A devoted husband, father, and public servant, Harvey was a lifelong champion of the Spearfish community, defined by his integrity and unwavering belief in others.

Born July 15, 1949, in Brighton, CO, to Harvey Sr. and Iris Krautschun, Harvey graduated from Windsor High School before moving to Spearfish in 1968.

Harv enrolled in Black Hills State University, where he excelled in football and track. He was a member of the 1970 undefeated SDIC championship football team. His teammates loved Harv for his ferocity on the field, commitment to his team, and his take-no-prisoners attitude. Harv said he never waved his hand for a fair catch, because that "was for guppies". Harv and his track team competed against the best athletes in the nation, such as Air Force Academy and Idaho State. Led by his coach and close friend Dave Little, Harv and his teammates won numerous track meets and several conference championships. He loved to tell the story of running indoors in the basement of a campus building where he and other teammates hauled in load after load of dirt to build an indoor track. He would laugh at how he would run the competition into the low steam pipes of the ceiling to win the races.

He earned a Social Science Degree from Black Hills State University in 1972, where he also met his lifelong partner, Joy Proctor. Following graduation, he attended Marine Corps Officer Candidate School; true to the motto Semper Fidelis, he remained a Marine at heart throughout his life. In 2008, BHSU honored him as one of its "Top 125 Accomplished Alumni."

In 1976, Harvey and Joy launched a New York Life Insurance business, expanding in 1979 to found Financial Benefits Inc. Alongside partner Tamara Burke, who joined in 1996, Harvey built a nationally trusted firm known for excellence and community generosity. Harv strived for perfection. His hard work and dedication to helping people were unmatched. He loved what he did, and didn't consider it work. He made the New York Life council for an unprecedented 47 out of 47 years. His professional accolades are too numerous to mention but Harv set high standards for himself and everyone around him.

Harvey was elected to the SD House of Representatives in 1984 where he served 12 years in the South Dakota State Legislature for District 31, concluding his tenure as Speaker of the House. He was affectionately known as the "mouth of the house" for his boisterous laugh, and deafening shouts when it came to voice votes. Harv also broke numerous gavels and gavel blocks because he "didn't do anything halfway". Like it or not you always knew where you stood with Harv. Republicans and Democrats alike respected him for his honesty and



integrity. If Harv said it, you could "take it to the bank". A staunch advocate for local economies, he received the "Guardian of Small Business" Award. His leadership extended to the BHSU Foundation Board, Spearfish Lions Club, and St. Joseph Catholic Church. Harv was also a founding member of the Western South Dakota Catholic Foundation. He spent nearly 30 years traveling to every single parish in Western South Dakota to support his faith.

In 2023, Harvey's lifelong commitment to empowering others led him to establish the Uplifting Parents Program Fund through the Western South Dakota Catholic Foundation. This initiative helps single parents finish their college degrees and build stable careers. To ensure their success, the fund provides participants with monthly financial stipends, personal mentoring, and emergency support.

Above all, Harvey was a family man and a person of deep faith. He traveled all over the country supporting his children in numerous different sports. No matter how busy he was, he always made time for family. His wife Joy, nearly died in 1995. Harv charged full speed ahead to take care of her. She was in a coma for nearly 30 days and was in the hospital for over a year. Harv's faithfulness and commitment to his family and his community never wavered. He worked harder and longer to take care of the people and business he loved.

Harv was preceded in death by his parents, his beloved wife Joy, and brothers Scott and Marty. He is survived by his children, Bart (Nicole) and Jamie (Mike); eight grandchildren; Levi (Maudie), Mesa, Lane, Mattie, Macy and Rian, Noah, Isaiah and one great-grandchild Stanley, with another expected in February. A devout Catholic, Harvey drew constant strength from his devotion to Jesus Christ and the Rosary.

Harvey's legacy of service and passion for Spearfish will be felt for generations. In lieu of flowers, the family requests donations to the BHSU Harvey Krautschun Scholarship Fund or The Uplifting Parents Program Fund through the Western South Dakota Catholic Foundation.

Visitation will be from 4-6 PM on Thursday, January 8, 2026 at St. Joseph Catholic Church in Spearfish. Vigil will follow at 6 PM. Mass of Christian Burial will be at 1:00 PM on Friday, January 9, 2026 at the church. Burial will follow at Rose Hill Cemetery. A reception will follow the burial at 3:00 PM at the Joy Center located on the Black Hills State University Campus.

Arrangements are under the care of Fidler-Isburg Funeral Chapels and Isburg Crematory of Spearfish. Online condolences may be written at www.fidler-isburgfuneralchapels.com



Justin Anthony Mitchell 44

Justin Anthony Mitchell (44) of Duluth, MN, left our world on December 29, 2025. He was born on May 26, 1981, in Dell City, OK, but moved to Hot Springs, AR while still a baby and spent his early childhood there. At age 8, all long, lean, and towheaded, he made his way with his family to his mother's native South Dakota where he better blended into the wheat and range grasses to which he bore such striking similarity. A couple years later, his family found themselves landed on the Sheeler farm, a small segment of emerald corn and cottonwoods on the banks of the Belle Fourche River in Vale SD. For those uninitiated in the intricacies of the French language, "Belle Fourche" translates into "Beautiful Forks," and it was this emerald farm upon the banks of this small Sheeler section of those beautiful forks that would become Justin's North Star — a place to anchor his endless future travels, shape the remarkable man he would become, and call home.

Justin attended and graduated from Newell High School — an unbelievably brilliant child, but an utterly passable student. He joined the SD National Guard which took him to locations around the globe, like Nicaragua, Iraq, and...Sturgis. He took some college courses here and there, but rarely could they scratch the itch of curiosity that so defined him. Instead, he always seemed to throw himself, often with little regard for self or sensibilities, into every single thing that captured his highly attuned eye for wonder. To know Justin was to witness curiosity manifest - his thirst for knowledge buzzed inside him like a hive of bees. He loved music, literature, games, history, technology, the outdoors, and on and on and on. He was an artist, a photographer, a designer, an animator, and more. He was quixotic, kind, and funny. All gangly and pointed elbows, he was clumsy throwing a football, but moved with a ballerina's grace on a mountain bike. He built his own furniture, repaired his own vehicles, and paddled his own canoe. He could beat you at chess, beat you at Magic the Gathering, and beat you in a spur-of-the-moment sushi rolling competition. All of it was self-taught, and every bit of it was exceptional. He was a unique and wholly remarkable individual — a true Renaissance man.

In 2010, Justin met a pretty girl named Summer, who was born in April, who was working in a bar in Spearfish, South Dakota. She shared that she was going to a Ween concert soon, and it so happened that Justin was a



big fan of that very band. He also happened to be the proud bearer of a Ween tattoo, which he promptly displayed for her in what one must assume was some blatant bid for her approval. It was a moment of kismet. She was an artist, and artists often have soft spots for eclectic music and eclectic men, so his bid seemed to impress that pretty girl enough to keep talking with him, and eventually marrying him and building a life together. He and Summer

traveled around the country, visiting bright city skyscrapers, small town cheese festivals, and all manner of other wild and random places. They moved to Portland, then Denver, then Duluth. They bought a canoe, they bought a house, they bought themselves fancy cheeses and fancy crackers and ate them like fancy people. They camped and swam and gleefully drank in their lives like gluttons. In 2017 they pulled out all the stops and built a baby, Bishop, who promptly became Justin's best friend and proudest accomplishment. He is their finest work.

While he left us too soon, and with not nearly enough warning, we all feel so fortunate to have shared this realm with him that we'll do our best to excuse his Irish goodbye. We are heartbroken, but he was generous enough to share his eyes, as blue as the Lake Superior, his smile, bright with a glint of mischief, and his unquenchable curiosity, with his son Bishop, so we take some solace in still getting to relish in these parts of him.

Justin is survived by his wife Summer and son Bishop, his mother and father Marilyn and Sheldon Sheeler, sisters Amanda Mitchell (Marty Blomberg), Michelle Urias (Albert), and Lori Ellefson, brother Jonathan Sheeler (Chantel), mother-in-law Kris Venner, father-in-law Ivan Venner (Colleen), and many nephews, nieces, and extended family members. He will be deeply missed.

A Celebration of Life Service will be held 10am Saturday, January 17, 2026 at Leverington Funeral Home of the Northern Hills in Belle Fourche, with Pastor Harold Delbridge officiating. There will be no visitation. Inurnment will take place at Vale Cemetery.

Friends may leave written condolences and view a video tribute online at: www.LeveringtonFH.com



Romans 14:19

"Let us therefore make every effort to do what leads to peace and to mutual edification. Jack Hayform sermons"

# Christmas Dinner 2025



Bob & Renee Bachman and Clint Haffner and Nikki Holme delivered Christmas Meals to shut-ins who weren't able to make it to the event. (Below) Mounentment Health employees throughout the area served as Volunteers who helped staff the Christmas Dinner at the BF Community Hall. Courtesy Photos



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Code Enforcement officer Clint Haffner prepares the Christmas Ham for serving. Courtesy Photo

## First Interstate Bank Donates \$10,000 to NeighborWorks Dakota Home Resources (NWDHR), a local non-profit located in Deadwood working to provide Affordable Housing in Western SD.

First Interstate Bank Donates \$10,000 to NeighborWorks Dakota Home Resources (NWDHR), a local non-profit located in Deadwood working to provide Affordable Housing in Western SD.

NeighborWorks® Dakota Home Resources (NWDHR) assists in providing decent, safe and affordable housing and

revitalizing neighborhoods to improve the quality of life in our communities.

NeighborWorks® DHR achieves this mission by providing a variety of programs and services such as new home Construction, Home Rehab, Down Payment Assistance and Homebuyer Education among others.

When Julie Gardner, First Interstate Bank, Deadwood Branch President was asked why they support NeighborWorks® DHR, Julie replied, "At First Interstate Bank, we believe that giving back to our communities where we work and live is very important.

We also believe that Home Ownership strengthens our com-

munities and brings pride."

Mike Walker, Executive Director at NeighborWorks® DHR stated, "Owning a home is at the heart of the American Dream.

With home prices growing much faster than incomes, obtaining the dream of home-ownership is becoming more difficult than ever.

With the support of amaz-

ing partners like First Interstate Bank, our team at NeighborWorks® DHR is working hard to keep the American Dream alive in Western South Dakota. Thank you, First Interstate Bank, for your continued support!"

First Interstate Bank has been a strong supporter of NeighborWorks® DHR and its affordable housing initiatives for over 15 years.



NeighborWorks: Mike Walker Executive Director, Susan Trucano Lending Director, Katie Pearson Accountant; NeighborWorks Board Members: Eric Swanson, Board President, Casey Derfligner Board Vice President; First Interstate Bank; Julie Gardner, Deadwood Branch President and NeighborWorks® DHR Board Member, TJ Gusso, Northern Hills Regional Supervisor, Mike Tyndall, Belle Fourche Branch President, Bryan Hencke, Sturgis Branch President. Shanna Bridenstine, Misty Pietz, Kaylena Bong, & Kristin Williams. Courtesy Photo

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# Broncs Wrestlers Earn Top Placers

**Kandi Tonsager**  
 news@bellefourchebeacon.com  
 The Bronc boys headed to Harding County on Monday December 30th for a tournament where they had 5 placers, Caden Swayney, Cooper Conry and Garet Huston all earned a 3rd place finish, Koby Bowden placed 2nd and Riley Dighton earned champi-

on in their respective weight classes. Coach Cory notes that Caden and Cooper were able to avenge previous season losses to tough opponents at this tournament showing their persistence and determination paying off.

The Lady Bronc wrestlers competed in the Spearfish

Girls Invite on Saturday, January 3rd. 5 Lady Broncs wrestled with AnnaBelle Dighton placing 5th and Kyra Vandenberg taking champion in their respective weight classes.

The Broncs wrestle next in Hettinger North Dakota for the Hettinger Invite on January 9th and 10th.

# Senior Riley Dighton Earns Monumental Achievement

**Kandi Tonsager**  
 news@bellefourchebeacon.com

Senior Riley Dighton Earns Monumental Achievement  
 Accomplishing what few have been able to, Senior, Riley Dighton earns his 150th career win during the Harding County tournament on Monday, December 30th.

Riley earned his 100th career win as a Sophomore, not many

wrestlers go on to see 150 in their careers.

Riley is currently ranked number three on the Bronc all-time career record. Coach Cory Nueharth credits Riley's outstanding accomplishment to his continued consistency, commitment and hard work, expressing how proud the wrestling community is.

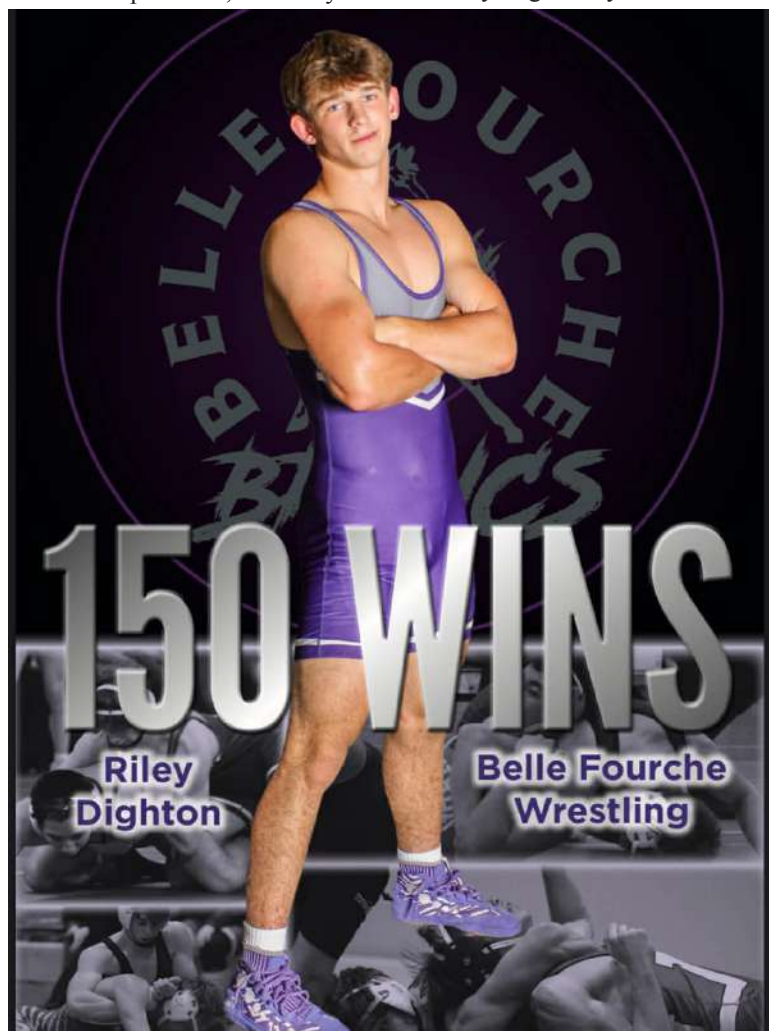
Way to go Riley!



Dyllan Park



Teedin Humble



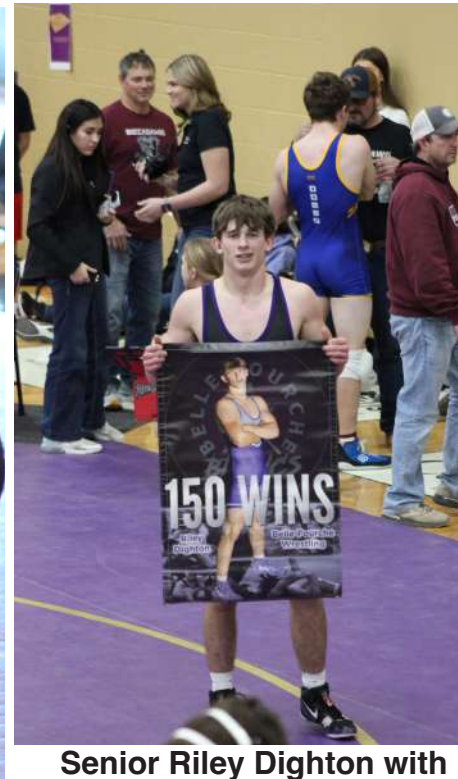
Caden Swaney



Cooper Conry



Dillon Streeter



Senior Riley Dighton with 150 career wins



Garet Huston.



Koby Bowden



Preston Lake



Kyra Vandenberg Spearfish Invite Champion at 100lb

# Bronc Basketball Hosts New Underwood, Travels to Madison

**Kandi Tonsager**

news@bellefourchebeacon.com  
On Tuesday December 30th, the Broncs hosted New Underwood at home with an action packed game. The Broncs trailed New Underwood at the end of the first quarter down by 9, then in the second quarter the Broncs took off with baskets by Sem Weishaar and JP Jensen, followed by 3 pointers by Tatum Martin and Aiden Keil to take the lead 22-18.

The New Underwood Tigers then made a series of baskets to retake their lead at with a score of 24-23. JP Jensen came back with a free throw to put the Broncs up by one 25-24 going into the half. In the 3rd quarter, Gabe Raba sunk a 3 pointer to increase the Bronc

lead, followed by a basket by two baskets by JP Jensen, then another by Gabe Raba and a three pointer by Tatum Martin to end the 3rd quarter with a Bronc lead of 43-37. In the 4th quarter, the intensity continued with a 3 pointer by New Underwood early on, followed by a back and forth hustle with a series of baskets leading to a score board flip flop. New Underwood then took the lead 60-51 with 5 layups in a matter of minutes.

The Broncs scrambled to regain ground with Jensen and Weishaar scoring a series of free throw shots to bring the final score to 54-60. Sem Weishaar was the leading scorer at 15 points, followed

by JP Jensen and Tatum Martin both at 9 points. Gabe Raba scored 7 points, Aiden Keil and Ben Raba both scored 6 points, and Noah Mailloux scored 2 points for the Broncs against the Tigers.

The Broncs travelled to Madison Friday January 2nd for the Hometown Basketball Classic tournament where they fell to the Madison Bulldogs 29-51.

Sern Weishaar was the leading scorer of this game as well with 9 points followed by Tatum Martin with 7 points. The Broncs played Parker-Marion on January 3rd with a final score of 44-67 at Madison High School. Sern Weishaar scored 20 points for the Broncs this game, followed by JP Jensen

and Reven Audiss both with 6 points on the game.

The Broncs play their long time rivals, the St Thomas More Cavaliers on Tuesday January 6th at STM with a 4:30pm JV tipoff and a 7:30pm Varsity tipoff.

The Lady Broncs put on a youth basketball camp over the holiday break for 3rd-8th grade boys. The camp aimed to help area youth improve ball handling, shooting and other fundamentals.

The players ran through drills and played team games with the youth as well as served pizza and cookies.

The Lady Broncs then took on Madison on Friday January 2nd at the Hometown Basketball

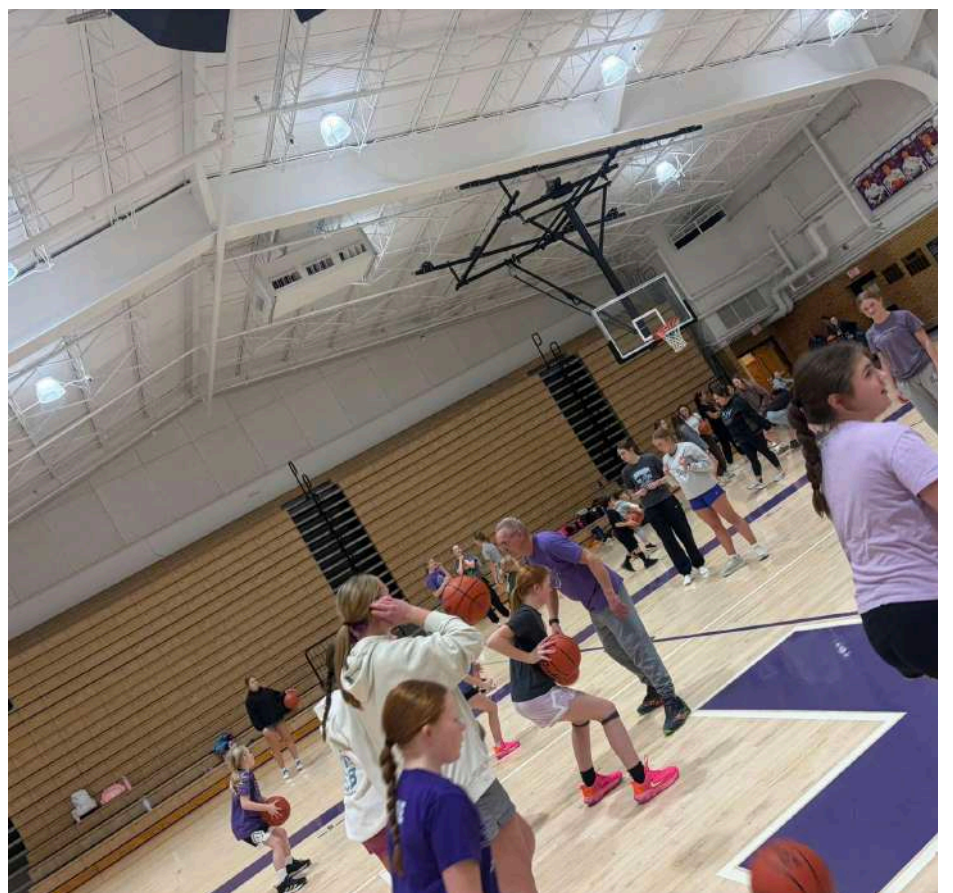
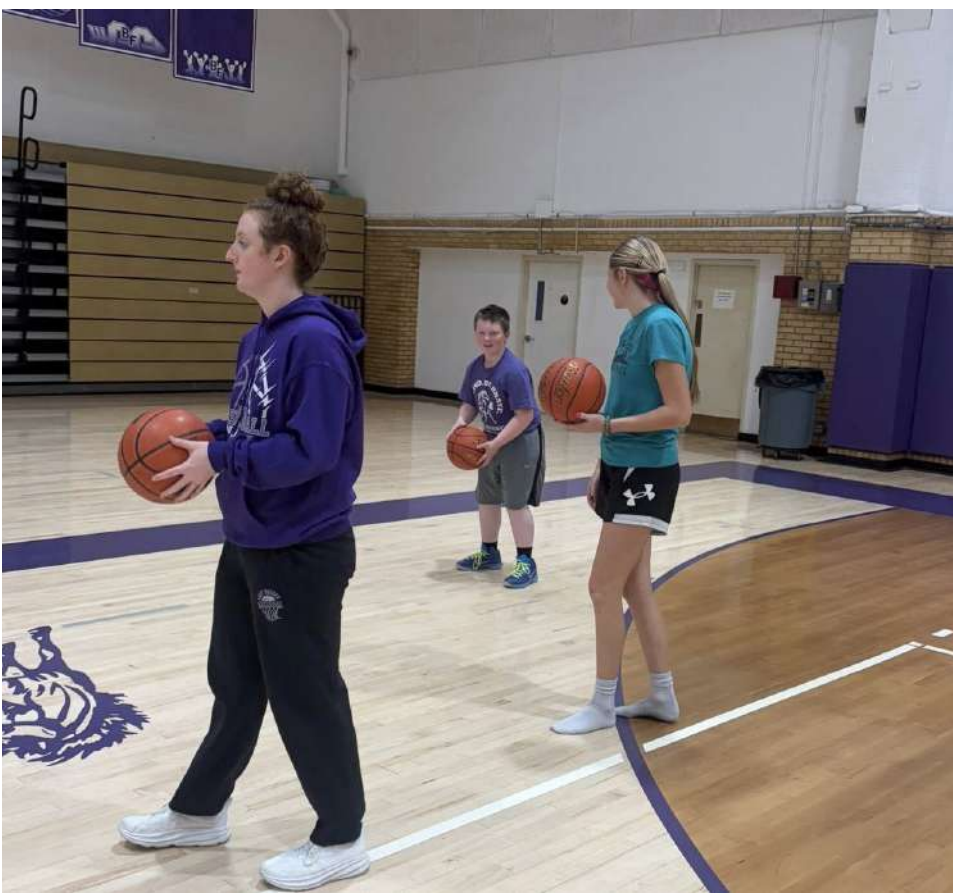
Classic tournament with a win 48-34. On Saturday, January 3rd, the Lady Broncs played Balltic at Madison with a loss 36-50. The Lady Broncs started the game with a lead 10-4 at the end of the 1st quarter, the Bulldogs quickly tied the game early in the 2nd quarter, then pulled ahead for a lead over the Broncs 20-14 going into the half.

The Bulldogs pulled away the second half of the game. Denali Larson scored 12 points for the Lady Broncs, with Emma Nehl, Ainsley O'Brien and Mya Nowowiejski all scoring 6 points on the game.

The Lady Broncs also take on St Thomas More on Tuesday Jan. 6th at STM with a 3pm JV tipoff and a 6pm Varsity tipoff.



four photos-Scenes from **Bronc Basketball Camps** at Belle Fourche highschool gym over the Holiday Break. *Tonsager Photos*



The Lady Bronc Basketball Camp for 3-8th grade boys & girls 12-30-25.

**Frontier Glass of Belle**  
Auto • Home • Commercial  
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Owner/Operator  
1-800-292-2052  
605-892-2052  
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**Chamber Annual Banquet**

Friday 13th

**Chamber Banquet - Friday February 13th**  
Reserve your table today!  
\$300 - table for 8



**CASINO NIGHT**

Belle Fourche Chamber of Commerce

Friday March 13th  
Belle Fourche



**January Chamber Mixer**

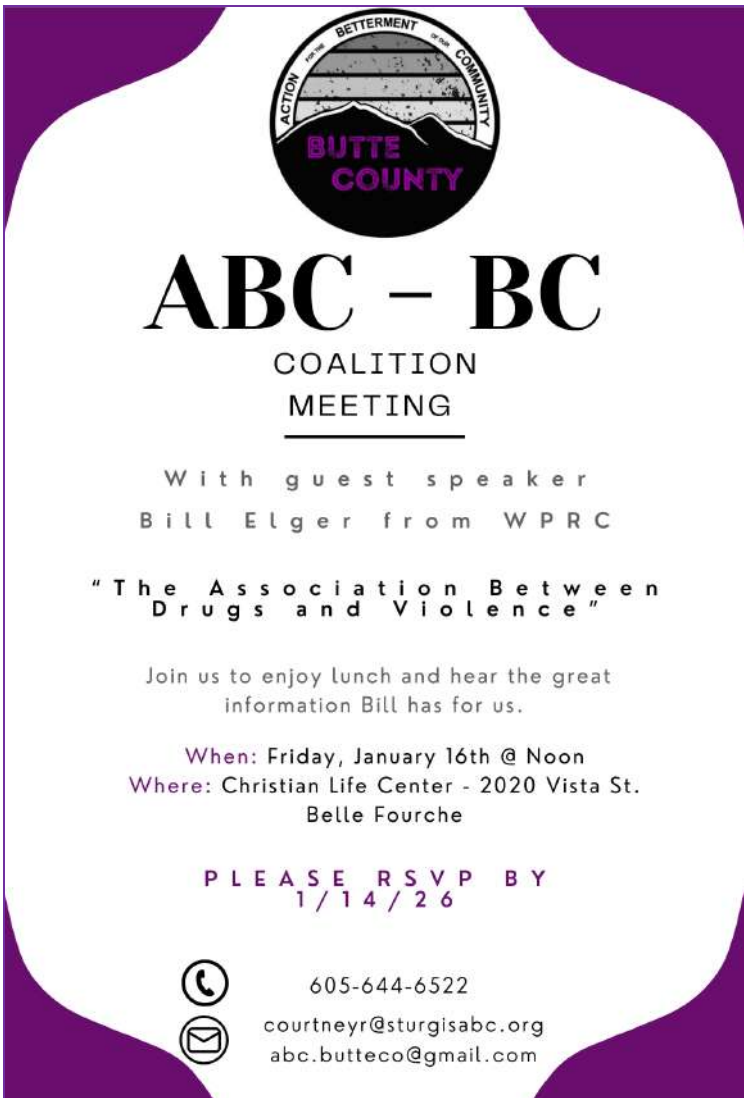
Belle Flowers + Co  
Florist • Boutique • Gifts

**TUESDAY- JANUARY 13TH**

CONNECT AND COLLECT  
DRAWING AT 5:30PM

4:30-6:30PM

PINK NOV. FRIDAY 21st



**BUTTE COUNTY**

**ABC - BC**  
COALITION MEETING

With guest speaker  
Bill Elger from WPRC

"The Association Between  
Drugs and Violence"

Join us to enjoy lunch and hear the great  
information Bill has for us.

When: Friday, January 16th @ Noon  
Where: Christian Life Center - 2020 Vista St.  
Belle Fourche

PLEASE RSVP BY  
1/14/26

605-644-6522  
courtneyr@sturgisabc.org  
abc.butteco@gmail.com



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painandmovementsolutions.com | facebook.com/PainandMovementSolutions



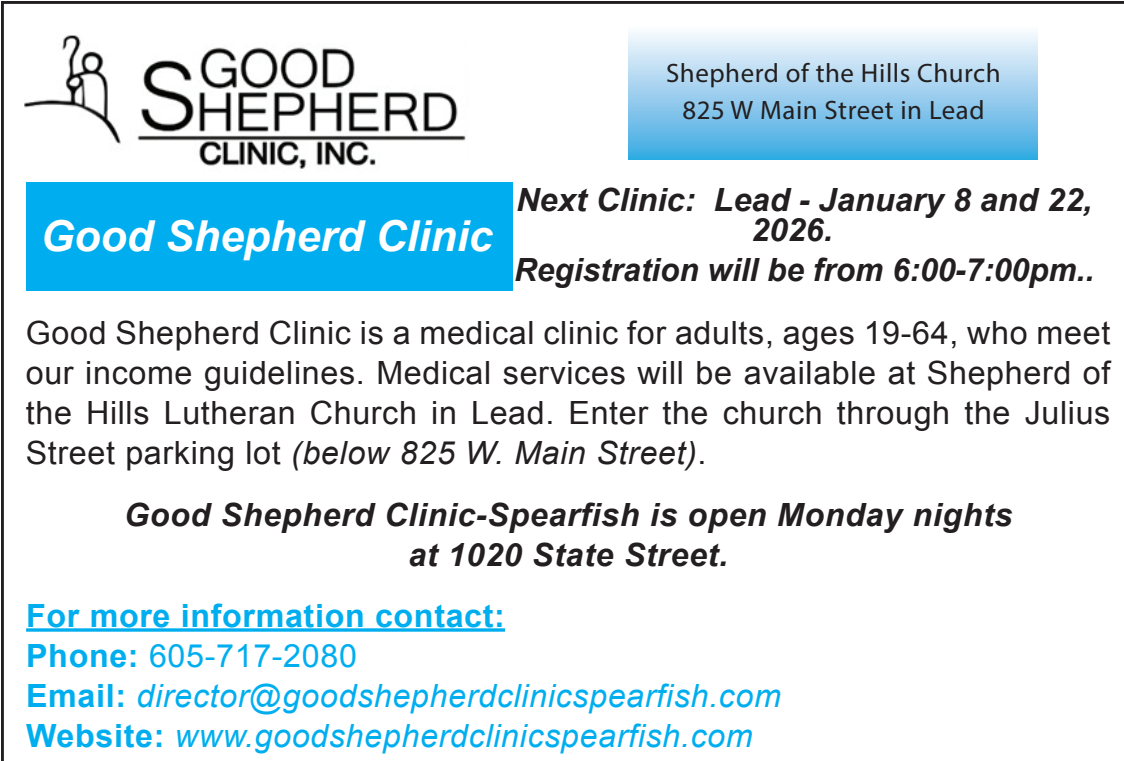
Upcoming events,  
for more information call:  
605-892-2676

**January**

9<sup>th</sup> - 7:30AM Caramel Rolls & Coffee @ Belle Silver Lining  
10<sup>th</sup> - 10AM New Years Class @ Tri State Museum  
14<sup>th</sup> - 1PM Cribbage

Annual Banquet February 13th  
Casino Night March 13th

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: Lead - January 8 and 22, 2026.  
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-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



**LOOKING FOR SOMETHING FUN?**

**RACQUETBALL ROOM RECREATION**

- PICKLEBALL
- WALLYBALL
- VOLLEYBALL
- BADMINTON
- DISC GOLF
- CORN HOLE
- SOCCER
- SPEED STACKS
- VELCRO CATCH & TOSS
- JUMP ROPES
- SPIKE BALL
- HULA HOOPS
- RACQUETBALL
- FOOTBALL TOSS
- LITTLE TIKES BASKETBALL
- DODGEBALL
- PING PONG
- FOOS BALL
- VIDEO GAMES

**ASK AT THE FRONT DESK FOR ANY OF THE ABOVE GAMES!!**



**WESTERN SOUTH DAKOTA GARDENING**

- Feb 17 - Philip
- Feb 19 - Kadoka
- Feb 26 - Lemmon
- Mar 5 - Hill City
- Mar 10 - Belle Fourche
- Mar 12 - Faith
- Mar 17 - Winner

Join a one-hour gardening workshop in one of seven locations. Open to all skill levels!

Registration is \$10. Participants will receive gardening resources, enjoy snacks and drinks, and have the chance to ask questions and share ideas with others.



Time and Location Details Available in Registration

Show Up

by Belle LaVenue



Happy 2026! January in the theater has quite a lineup to start the new year.

The Belle Fourche Area Community Theater is busy in January with three important and theatrical events:

**IMPROV WORKSHOP - JAN 6 & 7 - a FREE BFACT EVENT.** Want to pump up your stage muscles - or just build up your on acting strength? The BFACT Improv Workshop will be hosted by **Geno Pesicka** (You may remember him as the amazing Willy Wonka in Charlie and the Chocolate Factory!) The workshop will be held January 6th & 7th at 6:30 PM at the Rec Center. Improv comedy is a form of live, unscripted performance where actors create characters, dialogue, and scenes on the spot. Geno will teach & lead participants in various exercises and games throughout the night and explain how improv can make you a better actor. You can do this!! Both nights will cover the same material, so you only need to attend one evening. The workshop is FREE and open to those 18 years and older.

**BFACT ANNUAL MEETING - JAN 24 at 2 PM**, at the Branding Iron. Find out what's going on with all things community theater. All are welcome to attend. Also, if you're interested, they are looking for new BFACT board members. Please contact Derek with any questions: [director@bellefourcheact.com](mailto:director@bellefourcheact.com) The BFHS One Act is already practicing for their competitive performance in January with the show, The Day the Internet Died. The show is directed by Michale Kane - & we look forward to sneaking into rehearsal this month to learn more about the show & the high school performers.

**BFACT DIRECTOR'S WORKSHOP - JAN 28 at 6:30 PM - another FREE EVENT!** Derek Olson, BFACT Executive Director, will be hosting this Directors Workshop for anyone interested in the many facets of directing.

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

January 6 & 7, Tuesday & Wednesday: BFACT FREE Improv Workshop, 6:30 PM BF Rec Center Theater

January 19, Monday: BFMS Band Concert, 6:30 PM, BF Rec Center Theater

January 24, Saturday: BFACT ANNUAL MEETING, All welcome, 2 PM at the Branding Iron

January 26, Monday: BFHS One Act Public Performance, 6:30 PM BFRC Theater.



**Moose Tips** From A1 know it's a volunteer job, but we work with amazing people and get to do amazing things." The Moose Lodge is dedicated to serving local communities and supporting children and senior members in need. "The more members we have, the more volunteers we get. The Moose Lodge as a whole is a valuable asset to the community. We have a facility that can be used for events," explained Conner. "The

foundation of the Moose Club is community. We always try to work with the Lions Club and the fire department—we open our doors and open our arms to them." Additional activities currently happening at the Moose include dart league. Thursday nights from 5:30 p.m. to 6:30 p.m. are hamburger nights—dine in or call for takeout at 892-3121. January 9th is game night, beginning at 5 pm.



Moose volunteer coats the steak tips and prepares them to be fried. Longbrake Photos



Turn out was great for the first Moose Lodge steak tip night of the new year. Longbrake photo



**Join us in January for our MONTH LONG Resolution Run/Walk Community Mileage Challenge!**

**Log your miles ALL MONTH!**

**1-Kick-Off: January 4 ~ 1:30 pm @ the Rec Center**  
 -Group Event with Outdoor Laps around Highland Park/Rec Center (weather permitting) OR Indoor Laps around the walking track/gym.  
 -Set your PERSONAL MILEAGE GOALS for the month of January.  
 -Record your mileage weekly on the log sheets provided by the Rec.  
 -Mileage on ALL cardio machines counts as well!  
 -The Rec Center will post individual & total group mileage weekly.

**2-Program Finale: February 1 ~ 1:30 pm @ the Rec Center**  
 -Celebrate our January Mileage Goals with a Group Walk/Run inside or out!  
 -Enjoy our Group Social Event with healthy snacks and giveaways!  
 -Event shirts will be awarded this day!

**Sign up ANYTIME December 22-January 31.**

**Cost:**  
 Members \$15 (No shirt) or \$30 (With long sleeve t-shirt)  
 Nonmembers \$20 (No shirt) or \$35 (With long sleeve t-shirt)

*Sponsored in part by: Alpine Impressions & Wild Magnolia*

For more info, contact Tessa or Patty @ 605-892-2467 or [tessa@bellefourche.org](mailto:tessa@bellefourche.org)

**COMMUNITY MILEAGE CHALLENGE**

**NEW** **NOW**

**2026**



**Kicks off January 4 @ 1:30 pm**

**Month-long Mileage Challenge! Sign up ANYTIME between Dec 22-Jan 31.**

**Contact the Rec for details! 605-892-2467**



# Roots Grow Deep and Strong #47

Meg English

news@bellefourchebeacon.com



**Roots Grow Deep and Strong**  
Here, on the open plains, I see clearly.

Nothing obstructs my view  
And the wind tears away my illusions,  
Aided by this setting –  
Here, on a cemetery hill.  
Only truth abides.  
In death and on the plains  
There is only one posture.  
The upright stones  
Resist the wind  
As their namesakes did in their

living.

*Ultimately, we are all dust  
Troubling the next generation.  
Yet on the prairie  
Roots grow deep and strong,  
Find their nourishment  
And endure.*

Roots Grow Deep and Strong has been a steady feature of the Belle Fourche Beacon for two years as of January, 2026.

The concept of a local column started with the Belle Fourche Writers. The Belle Fourche Writers are a group of local Belle Fourche residents who liked to write. They banded together, formed a non-profit organization, and started to meet regularly in 2012. As a group, the members are diverse, but all have at least one common bond, all have fixed roots

in, or near to Belle Fourche.

Back in 2012 or maybe 2013, one of the original members, Holly Mosely wrote a poem that immediately drew the attention of the Belle Fourche Writers' newly formed anthology committee.

Holly's poem, titled Roots Grow Deep in Strong, so neatly represented the Belle Fourche Writers' collection of stories and poems that it soon became the title of their first anthology.

However, this article is not about the Belle Fourche Writers. Rather, it is about Holly's poem and how it continues to offer insightful interpretations about life in and near Belle Fourche.

This article is also about how however, looking for seasonal clothing, jewelry, small furniture, dishes, small appliances, Valentine's Day and St. Patrick's Day items.

If you come into the store and spend \$10, you can sign up for a giveaway. "We have been doing a promotion where we get a gift card from another business and then if you spend \$10 or more, we have you sign up for that; we draw a winner once a month," said Huston-Engle.

Belle Silver Lining is governed by an eight-member board. "We all wear multiple hats to keep the senior center open," explained Huston-Engle. "We all take a certain section—since we don't have a director right now.

I take this section of the thrift shop, some do the bill paying, some do the buildings and grounds, and a couple of board members help with

an idea for a regular Beacon feature came about.

Holly's poem Roots Grow Deep and Strong implies that the practice of persistence and the influence of place, reinforces the natural bonds that help communities work together. People in Belle attend funerals, take food to grieving families, volunteer for charities, and form lasting friendships.

We have stories to tell. In Belle Fourche, as in any town, our stories involve drama, poetry, music, forgiveness, and love. Sometimes there are tangles. Sometimes there are journeys and departures. We make efforts to avoid "troubling the next generation." Here, in our community we find nourishment and endure. At the same time, our stories are unlike those of other towns.

I thought that Roots Grow

Deep and Strong would be a very fitting title for a feature column in and about topics about and of interest to local readers.

This feature Beacon feature column borrowed the title Roots Grow Deep and Strong. The column will be about people and events from Belle Fourche past and present, whose stories become our story. The purpose of this column is to share Belle Fourche stories, keep them alive and in so doing, clarify and celebrate the identity of our shared community.

I have ideas for subjects for this feature Roots Grow Deep and Strong, although suggestions are always welcome. I look forward to researching and writing these articles. And I look forward to feedback and ideas at dr.meg.english@gmail.com. Happy New Year!

## From A1 Silver Linings

volunteers to keep the business running.

There is one paid Thrift Shoppe employee; the rest are all volunteers. "Usually, we have myself and another gal that probably put in anywhere from 20 to 30 hours a week. And then we have about four individuals that volunteer, like two hours to four hours a week," said Huston-Engle, who also serves as the Thrift Shoppe Supervisor.

The public is very giving when it comes to donating used items to the store. Huston-Engle explained, "We are struggling a little bit in getting quality stuff—a good saying that we try to go by is, if you would give it to a loved one or a friend, it's worth donating. If not, it should probably go in the garbage."

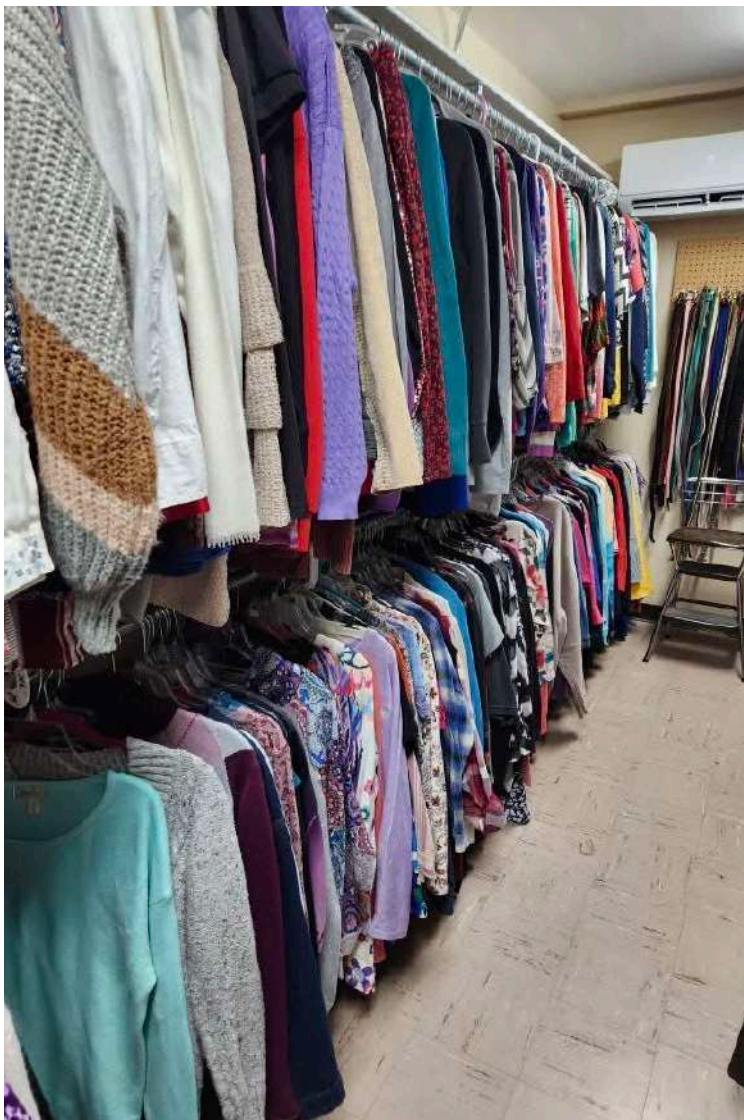
While the Shoppe appreciates all the donations they get, they can only accept them at certain times. They stress the importance of dropping off items while the business is

open.

Don't leave items unattended. "We take donations Tuesday through Saturday, from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. We do ask that you bring the donations to the back of the building—do not bring them through the kitchen, because that's kind of a health risk issue; we're serving food there," shared Huston-Engle. "Do not just drop stuff off. We have a doorbell for you to ring so we can go out and inspect the donations to make sure it's stuff that we want to take."

The building has limited storage, so not everything can be accepted. Some of the items the Shoppe cannot accept include large furniture, couches, mattresses, large desks or other large office furniture, large appliances such as refrigerators, freezers, stoves/ovens, washers/dryers, air conditioners, dehumidifiers, furnaces, trash compactors, water heaters, large console stereos, and carpet or carpet padding (there is a complete list on their website).

The Thrift Shoppe is,



Rows of clothes for the winter months are available to shoppers. Courtesy photo



There are lots of items to choose from inside the Silver Lining Thrift Shoppe. Lots of jeans to find your perfect fit! Courtesy photo

maintenance.

We have a kitchen committee and we are all looking for more volunteers!"

Huston-Engle has been involved with the Senior Center for over two years. She has a passion for helping people and sees a big need for the Center. "I really believe that the seniors need a place to socialize to feel wanted and loved.

Families are busy nowadays, and so it's hard for family to come over there."

She encourages everyone to give thrifting a try! "I love thrifting, I'm a big thrifter. I just think there's nothing better than repurposing an item... I just believe that thrifting is a great way to keep stuff out of the landfill."



Gift certificates are available to buy and give to others to shop at Silver Lining Thrift Shoppe. Courtesy photo



## 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 Writers

Belle Fourche Writers regular January meeting will be held on Saturday January 17. All writers are invited to attend! Meetings are held at the Belle Fourche Public Library.

### Belle Fourche Recreation Center

#### Swimming Lessons Winter Session

Swim Lessons are returning to the Belle Fourche Rec Center and registration for our first session is now live!

Below are the dates and times for the lessons:

Every Tuesday and Thursday from January 13th to February 5th

Levels Q, 1, and 2 will be held from 5:00 - 5:45 PM

Levels 3, 4, 5, and 6 will be held from 6:00 - 6:45 PM

The price is \$60 and Members get a discount!

#### Other Pool Winter Activities

**Water-walking** - This class is held every Monday, Wednesday, and Friday from 7:30 - 8:15 am. This class involves walking in waist-deep to chest-deep water. Water resistance provides a low-impact, full-body workout that strengthens the core while also improving cardiovascular health.

**Silver Splash** - This class is held every Tuesday and Thursday from 11:30 - 12:15 pm. Silver Splash is part of our Silver Sneakers program. It involves a series of low-impact workouts with specially designed Boogie Boards. This class is great for core strengthening and for cardiovascular health.

**Aquafit** - Starting December, we will hold Aquafit every Monday and Wednesday night from 6:30 - 7:15 pm. This class is higher intensity than what we currently offer. The workouts all involve using either dumbbells or foam weights. The class is designed to target multiple different muscle groups while also strengthening your core. 605-892-2467 [bellefourcherec.com](http://bellefourcherec.com)

Please register by January 12th so we have an estimate of how many will be in each class. For Inquiries, please email Collin at [collin@bellefourche.org](mailto:collin@bellefourche.org).

### 2026 Resolution Run/Walk Community Mileage Challenge!

**This year's event has a NEW FORMAT and runs the whole month of January!**

**Event Kick-Off is January 4th @ 1:30 pm at the Rec.** If you can't join us then, you can still sign up ANYTIME in January! This group kick-off will start with lap(s) outside around Highland Park OR inside @ the Rec using the walking track. (Your choice & weather permitting.)

*Set a personal mileage goal for the month. Track your mileage and turn in to the Rec weekly OR at the end of the month.*

We will have a **Program Finale on February 1st @ 1:30 pm at the Rec.** This finale will include a group walk/run, healthy snacks, Wild Magnolia hot chocolate, giveaways and prizes. Event shirts will also be awarded this day!

Blending traditional marketing with modern technology.

# St. Onge Livestock



*Doing business on our word and a handshake!*

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Our Internet Address: [www.stongelivestock.com](http://www.stongelivestock.com) E-mail: [stonge@rushmore.com](mailto:stonge@rushmore.com)

**We appreciate your business. Call any one of us any time if you have stock to sell. We are glad to come to your ranch.**

Justin Tupper ~ Cattle Yards Manager 605-680-0259	Randy Searer ~ Auctioneer 408-480-1974 Tim Tetrault ~ Fieldman: 805-842-9792 • 605-841-0328	Tyler Escott ~ Fieldman: 408-853-5690 Scott Crowser ~ Fieldman: 805-845-2854 Casey Humble ~ Fieldman: 805-490-9829 Kelly Baker ~ Fieldman: 805-589-3007	JL Driskill ~ Fieldman: 307-860-5422
Brooke Tupper ~ Office Mgr. 605-842-2200	Ray Pepin ~ Fieldman: 805-892-5072		
Doug Dietherle ~ Auctioneer 805-788-2983			

ST. ONGE LIVESTOCK Now Broadcasts our Sales live on the internet at [WWW.CATTLEUSA.COM](http://WWW.CATTLEUSA.COM)

### Friday, January 9, 2026 Feeder Cattle Special

9:00 AM – Weigh Ups

12:00 Noon – Bred Cows Followed By Feeder Cattle

BT-Branding Time Sheds PC-PreCondition Shots DF-Drug Free BM-Sangs Vaccinated NI-No Implants

#### Feeder Cattle

Shane Ward – 200 Blk & F-1 Bldy Strs & Hfns – 800-875# - Bt, Pc, Wnd  
Cedar Hills Ranch – 150 Blk Strs & Hfns – 550-800# Bt Pc Wnd  
Jeff Boardman – 110 Red & Bldy Strs & Hfns – 550-800# - Bt, Pc, Wnd  
Kent & Ann Lewton – 70 Blk Strs – 550-850# - Bt, Pc, Wnd  
- 30 Blk Hfns – 500-550# - Bt, Pc, Wnd  
Mt Consignment – 100 Blk Strs & Hfns – 500-800# - Bt, Pc, Wnd  
J & J Smeenk Ranch- 100 Blk Hfns – 500-800# - Bt, Pc, Wnd  
Stanley Powell – 85 Blk & Bldy Strs – 500-800# - Bt, Pc, Wnd  
Ken Heaton – 50 Red Strs – 800-850# - Bt, Pc, Wnd  
- 35 Red Hfns – 550-800# - Bt, Pc, Wnd  
Larry Losing – 75 Blk Strs & Hfns – 800-850# - Bt, Pc, Wnd  
Lucas Waterland – 85 Mostly Blk Strs & Hfns – 825-725# - Bt, Pc, Wnd  
Scott Joslyn – 45 Blk Hfns – 550-800# - Bt, Pc, Wnd  
Ed & Justin Lawrence – 40 Blk & Bldy Strs – 800-850# - Bt, Pc, Ni, Wnd  
Zane Brink – 25 Red Strs – 850-700# - Bt, Pc, Wnd  
Chris Cooper – 24 Blk & Bldy Strs & Hfns – 500-550# - Bt Pc  
Karl Knutson – 20 Blk Hfns – 500-800# - Bt, Pc, Wnd

Plus More By Sale Time!

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 1-888-573-2324. If they come to the sale barn without being tagged, you will be charged \$14 for our vet to do them. Please call us if you have any questions.

### 2026 CATTLE SALES

January 16th – Bred Hfr & Cow Special – Selling All Classes Of Cattle  
January 23rd – Feeder Cattle & Replacement Hfr Special – Selling All Classes Of Cattle  
January 30th – Bred Hfr & Cow Special – Selling All Classes Of Cattle  
February 6th – No Sale – Visit The Black Hills Stock Show  
February 13th – Feeder Cattle & Replacement Special – Selling All Classes Of Cattle  
February 20th – Bred Hfr & Cow Special – Selling All Classes Of Cattle  
February 27th – Feeder Cattle & Replacement Hfr Special – Selling All Classes Of Cattle  
March 6th – Bred Hfr & Cow Special – Selling All Classes Of Cattle  
March 13th – Feeder Cattle & Replacement Hfr Special – Selling All Classes Of Cattle  
March 20th – Regular Sale – Selling All Classes Of Cattle  
March 27th – Grass Cattle & Replacement Hfr Special – Selling All Classes Of Cattle  
April 3rd – Regular Sale – Selling All Classes Of Cattle  
April 10th – Grass Cattle & Replacement Hfr Special – Selling All Classes Of Cattle  
April 17th – Regular Sale – Selling All Classes Of Cattle

St Onge Livestock has a receiving station for the Gillette Area every Thursday. It is on Northern Drive in Gillette. Call Doug Miller at 307-669-0960 to let him know what is coming. You can unload all day every Thursday until 3pm. You pay receiving station fee of \$3 per head & \$2.50/ton for trucking. You can also call Justin Tupper at 805-880-0259 & 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/ton 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.

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

### NEWELL SHEEP YARDS

611 S Dartmouth Ave  
Newell, SD 57760  
1-800-409-4149 • 605-456-2348  
FAX: 605-456-2436

Barney Barnes Sheep Yards  
Mgr. - 605-841-2333  
Auctioneer: Cody Tupper  
805-688-3588

Fieldman: Gilbert Wood  
805-468-2400  
805-841-7100  
Fieldman: Dustin Vining  
805-354-9888

### NEWELL SHEEP YARDS

Thursday, January 8, 2026  
Regular Sale 1:00 PM

#### BRED EWES

KRONBERG LAND & LIVESTOCK – 200 4 YR TO BROKEN MOUTH EWES – INF BUCKS – LAMB 3025 FOR 28 DAYS  
BRENT FRANK – 60 3 TO 5 YR OLD TARGHEE EWES – INF BUCKS – 31 FOR 30 DAYS  
PLUS MORE BY SALE TIME!

Please Have Animals In By Noon  
So They Can All Be Weighed Before The Sale!

### 2026 SHEEP SALES

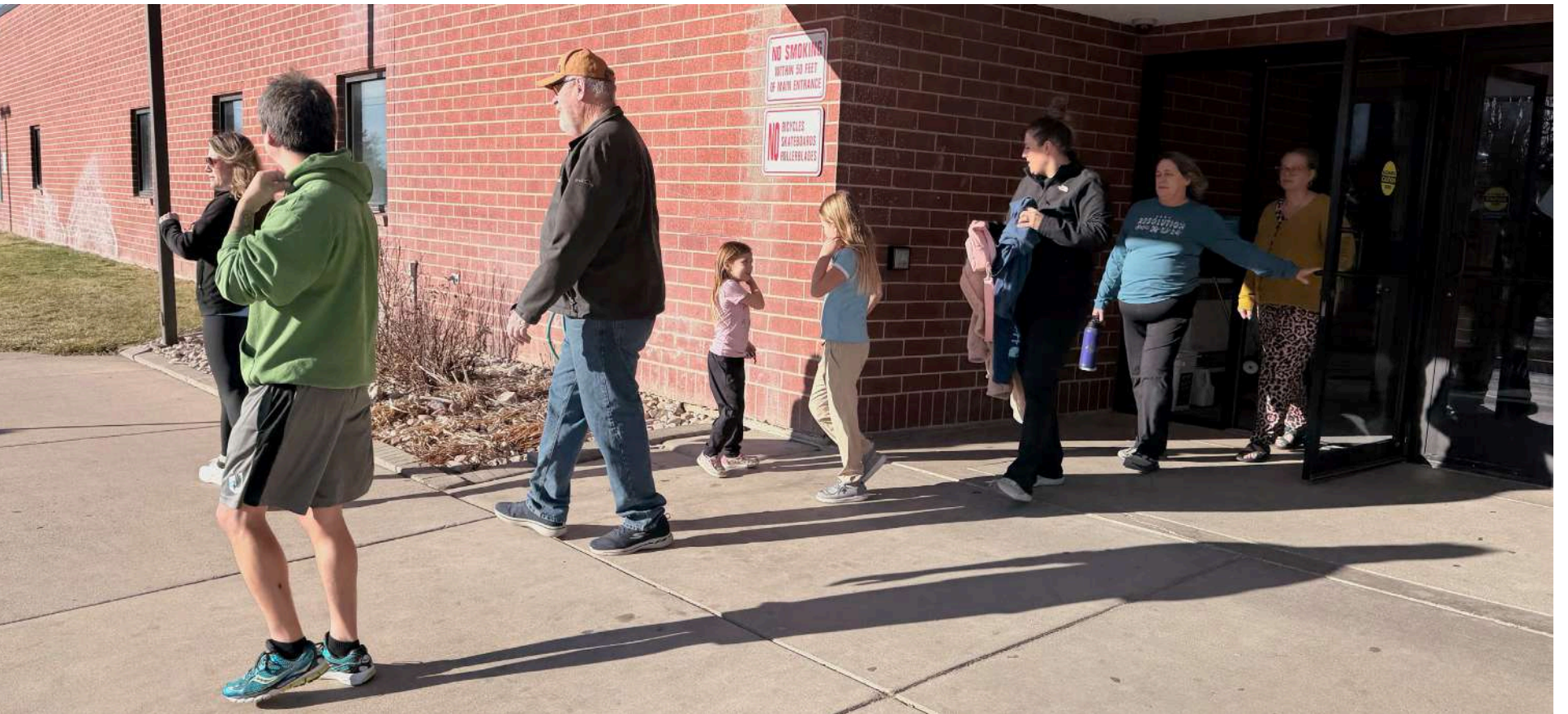
January 15th – Feeder Lamb Special – Selling All Classes Of Sheep & Goats  
January 22nd – Regular Sale – Selling All Classes Of Sheep & Goats  
January 29th – Bred Ewe Special – Selling All Classes Of Sheep & Goats  
February 5th – No Sale – Visit The Black Hills Stock Show  
February 12th – Bred Ewe Special – Selling All Classes Of Sheep & Goats  
February 19th – Regular Sale – Selling All Classes Of Sheep & Goats  
February 26th – Regular Sale – Selling All Classes Of Sheep & Goat



Rec Center staff sign up participants for the 2026 Resolution Run.

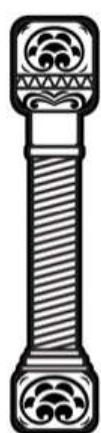


Participants ask questions about the Resolution Run event.



Resolution Run participants head outdoors to enjoy the sunshine and log miles walked/ran. Longbrake photos

PEARSON  
BLOCK  
CANDY SHOP



PEARSON  
BLOCK  
HOUS  
VINTAGE AND MODERN

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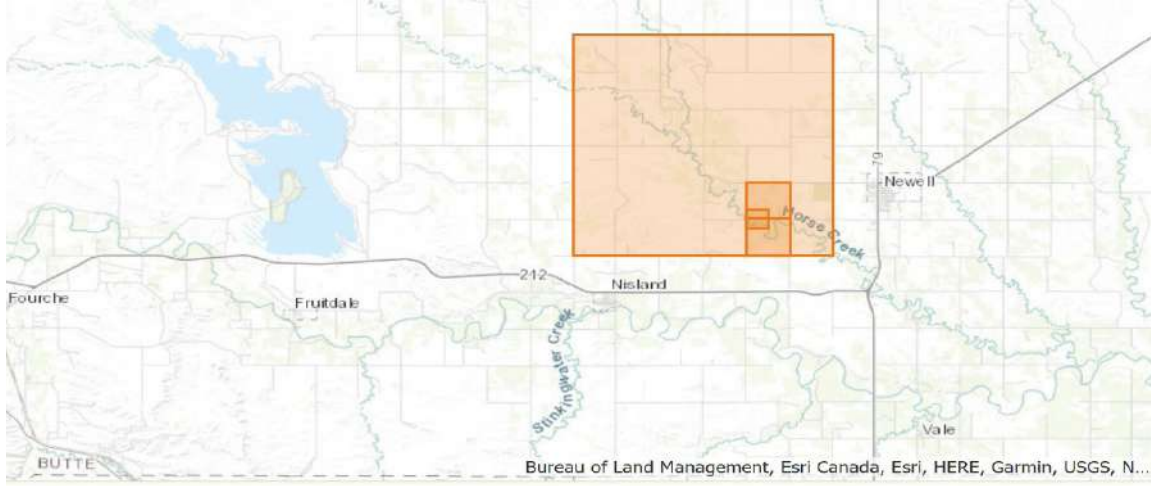
## Looking Back in Belle

These articles come from newspaper microfilm from the Belle Fourche Public library, using a new microfilm reader and printer. The photographs are from the Tri-State Museum.



by Mary Buchholz

135 years ago **Homestead Act of 1862** 15 September 1891



August Maass application for his homestead was qualified and he received his patent. Records of this homestead are found on the <https://gloreCORDS.blm.gov/> This is the the official federal land records portal run by the Bureau of Land Management (BLM). It provides public access to historic and current land title, survey, and status records across the United States.

*63 years ago*  
**Pioneer Footprints**  
*published by the Black Hills Half Century Club*

**Maass Family History**  
Mr. and Mrs. August Maass were born in Germany. Shortly after their marriage, Mr. Maass took part in the war between France and Germany. He was away over three years. George, the oldest son, was born soon after the father departed and was three years old before his father saw him.

During the war, Mrs. Maass was a nursemaid to a wealthy family. Her mother took care of George. Following the war, Mr. Maass worked at his trade as a carpenter and upholsterer. He supervised classes of young men who were learning the trade which is similar to manual training.

Times were not good, as is

usually the case after war; so Mr. Maass was eager to come to America. They decided that Mr. Maass and George, who was eight years old at the time, would go ahead and the family would follow later.

They were six weeks making the trip. They stopped at Yankton which was as far as the railroad extended. After living a short time in Yankton, they made the trip to Pierre by boat; and from Pierre to Deadwood by stage coach.

The family lived in Deadwood a year; but it was such a wild frontier town that Mr. Maass decided it was not place to bring up a family of boys; so in 1883, the family moved to Horse Creek. Here they lived and reared their family. Many were the difficulties and hardships they endured.

They had a start in cattle and the horse business when the hard winter of '86 came, causing them heavy losses. They hauled grain from Rapid City and hay from Two Top but it took so long to make the trips that they couldn't get the feed to the stock in time to save them.

Mr. Maass went back to Deadwood and secured work at five dollars a day, which was good pay at that time.

There were many neighbors

– Gardners, Steigers, Hodgsons and, a few years later, Schmles. A school was established near Hodgsons. Mrs. Phil Bonniwell, who lived west of the Carl D. Anderson place, was the first teacher. Nellie Hodgson, now Mrs. Mueller, was one of the first teachers, as were also Grace Gardner. Laura Grallup and Rose Boe Lemmon. Mrs. Ella Ames was the County Superintendent. At first, they had only about four months of school each year, later six months. Tragic events happened to the homesteaders; they lost a little boy, Ernest, who might have been saved if doctors could have been secured in time. In cases of sickness, the neighbors did the best they could. Deadwood would the closest town.

When the boys became old enough, they took over the ranch and Mr. and Mrs. Maass moved to Sturgis. Mr. Maass had heart trouble and he died suddenly in March, 1901. Minnie Maass continued to make her home in Sturgis; but when Henry, the youngest boy, married, she sold her home and lived with the children.

She spent much of her time visiting her many friend; and nearly every winter, she went to California. She died in 1928.

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Join us in January for our  
MONTH LONG  
Resolution Run/Walk  
Community Mileage Challenge!

Log your miles ALL MONTH!

1-Kick-Off: January 4 ~ 1:30 pm @ the Rec Center

-Group Event with Outdoor Laps around Highland Park/Rec Center (weather permitting)  
OR Indoor Laps around the walking track/gym.

- Set your PERSONAL MILEAGE GOALS for the month of January.
- Record your mileage weekly on the log sheets provided by the Rec.
- Mileage on ALL cardio machines counts as well!
- The Rec Center will post individual & total group mileage weekly.

2-Program Finale: February 1 ~ 1:30 pm @ the Rec Center

-Celebrate our January Mileage Goals with a Group Walk/Run inside or out!  
-Enjoy our Group Social Event with healthy snacks and giveaways!  
-Event shirts will be awarded this day!



Sign up ANYTIME December 22-January 31.

**Cost:**  
Members \$15 (No shirt) or \$30 (With long sleeve t-shirt)  
Nonmembers \$20 (No shirt) or \$35 (With long sleeve t-shirt)

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MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI
<p><b>Look What's Cooking at Belle Silver Lining</b>                      Come Join us M-F 11 am-1 pm                      828 Kingsbury St.   Belle Fourche, SD                      Menu subject to change or modification.</p>			<p><b>1</b>                      Meatloaf                      Mashed Potatoes &amp; Gravy                      Green Beans</p>	<p><b>2</b>                      Glazed Ham                      Sweet Potato                      Corn                      Peppers</p>
<p><b>5</b>                      Beef Tips &amp; Gravy                      Roasted Potatoes                      Spinach &amp; Strawberry Salad</p>	<p><b>6</b>                      Liver or Deluxe Cheeseburger                      Mashed Potato &amp; Gravy                      Mixed Vegetables</p>	<p><b>7</b>                      Chicken Enchilada Soup                      Grilled Cheese Sandwich                      Corn &amp; Peppers</p>	<p><b>8</b>                      Pork Loin                      Scalloped Potatoes                      Green Beans                      Roll</p>	<p><b>9</b>                      Cheesy Beef and Mac Casserole                      Corn Bread                      Mixed Vegetables</p>
<p><b>12</b>                      Beef Lasagna Soup                      Tossed Salad                      Garlic Toast</p>	<p><b>13</b>                      Meatloaf                      Mashed Potato &amp; Gravy                      Buttered Corn</p>	<p><b>14</b>                      Turkey Noodle Soup                      Garden Salad                      Biscuit with Butter</p>	<p><b>15</b>                      Chicken Sandwich                      Garden Pasta Salad                      Cowboy Beans</p>	<p><b>16</b>                      Breaded Fish Sandwich                      Bacon &amp; Pea Salad                      Sweet Potato Fries</p>
<p><b>19</b>                      Tortellini Soup                      Garden Salad                      Breadstick</p>	<p><b>20</b>                      Turkey Pot Pie                      Roasted Veggies                      Dinner Roll</p>	<p><b>21</b>                      Chicken Fried Steak                      Mashed Potatoes &amp; Gravy                      Corn</p>	<p><b>22</b>                      Ruben &amp; Sauerkraut Sandwich                      Fries                      Brussel Sprouts</p>	<p><b>23</b>                      Tuna Noodle Casserole                      Steamed Broccoli                      Dinner Roll</p>
<p><b>26</b>                      French Toast                      Egg Bake with Oven Potato &amp; Sausage</p>	<p><b>27</b>                      Chicken Cordon Bleu                      Mushroom Rice                      Salad</p>	<p><b>28</b>                      Turkey Club Sandwich                      Coleslaw                      Chips</p>	<p><b>29</b>                      Beef Stroganoff                      Butter Noodles                      Roasted Carrots                      Roll</p>	<p><b>30</b>                      White Chicken Chili                      Garden Salad                      Corn Bread</p>

**Don't miss the following events**  
 New Years Eve Party - Dec. 31<sup>st</sup> - 7-9pm  
 Speakers 12pm on January 14<sup>th</sup>, 23<sup>rd</sup> & 28<sup>th</sup>

Milk & Fruit Served with all meals  
 Menu subject to change based on availability.



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**FEEDER CATTLE SPECIAL & WEIGH-UP SPECIAL**  
**JANUARY 8, 2026**

**WUPS @ 10 AM MT | FEEDER CATTLE @ 12 PM MT**

**FEEDER CATTLE**  
**DAVE & CHASE HAYDEN - MT**  
340 - 230 BLK STRS & 110 BLK HFERS, 450-600#  
PC, BT SHOTS, NI, WEANED  
60 DAYS, CAKE BROKE, HOT WIRE BROKE  
**HAMILTON INC - WY**  
270 - 200 BLK STRS & 70 BLK HFERS  
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235 - 200 BLK HFERS & 35 RED HFERS  
550#, PC, BT SHOTS, NI, POURED, WEANED 90 DAYS, NO HFERS KEPT  
**CODY JOHNSON - MT**  
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PC, BT SHOTS, WEANED  
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**RHONDA CORDELL - SD**  
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**BRED STOCK COW & BRED HEIFER SPECIAL & WEIGH-UP SPECIAL**

**JANUARY 15, 2026**

**WUPS @ 10 AM MT | BRED CATTLE @ 12 PM MT**

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

**UPCOMING SALE SCHEDULE**

January 8, 2026 ..... FEEDER CATTLE SPECIAL & WEIGH-UP SPECIAL - WUPS @ 10 AM MT, FEEDER CATTLE @ 12 PM MT  
January 15, 2026 ..... BRED STOCK COW & BRED HEIFER SPECIAL & WEIGH-UP SPECIAL - WUPS @ 10 AM MT, BRED CATTLE @ 12 PM MT  
January 22, 2026 ..... FEEDER CATTLE SPECIAL & WEIGH-UP SPECIAL - WUPS @ 10 AM MT, FEEDER CATTLE @ 12 PM MT  
January 29, 2026 ..... BRED STOCK COW & BRED HEIFER SPECIAL & WEIGH-UP SPECIAL - WUPS @ 10 AM MT, BRED CATTLE @ 12 PM MT

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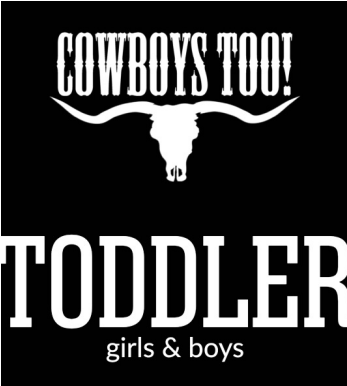
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**Join Us!**

As we celebrate our community's many successes!

We cordially invite you to join us for our annual meeting as we recognize our community accomplishments and look at the future of Belle Fourche.

**Thursday, January 15, 2026**

**Location:** The Branding Iron Banquet Room; 19079 Highway 85; Belle Fourche, SD

**Social:** 5-6 p.m.

**Dinner:** 6 p.m.

Meeting to follow with election for three board of director's seats. Each 2026 membership investment has one vote in the election.

**BELLE FOURCHE ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT**

RSVP by January 12<sup>th</sup>, 2026 to Hollie Stalder  
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<div style="background-color: red; color: white; border-radius: 50%; width: 40px; height: 40px; margin: 0 auto; display: flex; align-items: center; justify-content: center; margin-bottom: 10px;"> <span style="font-weight: bold; font-size: 1.2em;">\$21.99</span> </div> <div style="text-align: center;">  <p><b>Tito's Vodka</b> 750ml</p> </div>	<div style="background-color: red; color: white; border-radius: 50%; width: 40px; height: 40px; margin: 0 auto; display: flex; align-items: center; justify-content: center; margin-bottom: 10px;"> <span style="font-weight: bold; font-size: 1.2em;">\$21.99</span> </div> <div style="text-align: center;">  <p><b>Busch Light</b> 30-pack</p> </div>	<div style="background-color: red; color: white; border-radius: 50%; width: 40px; height: 40px; margin: 0 auto; display: flex; align-items: center; justify-content: center; margin-bottom: 10px;"> <span style="font-weight: bold; font-size: 1.2em;">\$21.99</span> </div> <div style="text-align: center;">  <p><b>Pendleton Canadian Whisky</b> 750ml</p> </div>

Prices effective 7am-9pm Seven Days a Week **Next week**  
**Tuesday January 6<sup>th</sup> through Tuesday, January 20<sup>th</sup>**



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**2026**

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 -Group Event with Outdoor Laps around Highland Park/Rec Center (weather permitting)  
 OR Indoor Laps around the walking track/gym.

- Set your **PERSONAL MILEAGE GOALS** for the month of January.
- Record your mileage weekly on the log sheets provided by the Rec.
- Mileage on ALL cardio machines counts as well!
- The Rec Center will post individual & total group mileage weekly.

**2-Program Finale: February 1 ~ 1:30 pm @ the Rec Center**  
 -Celebrate our January Mileage Goals with a Group Walk/Run inside or out!  
 -Enjoy our Group Social Event with healthy snacks and giveaways!  
 -Event shirts will be awarded this day!



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# Area Church Schedules

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

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

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

**CONNECTION CHURCH (SBC)**  
613 Sixth Ave., Belle Fourche  
(605)-210-2150  
Pastor Stephen Carson  
Worship Pastor Ashton Rone  
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: ebcfb.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 Jennwein  
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  
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Sunday School 9:30 am  
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**LANDMARK MISSIONARY BAPTIST CHURCH**  
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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

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

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Watch our Sunday service  
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**ST. ONGE UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST**  
Sunday School and Worship  
at 8:30 a.m.  
www.bfsoucc.org

**ST. PAUL CATHOLIC CHURCH**  
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Father Kevin Achbach, Pastor  
Father Max Vetch, Pastor  
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**SUMMIT OPEN BIBLE FELLOWSHIP**  
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892-4630 or 892-4389  
Pastor Rick and Diane Brennan  
Sunday: 10 a.m. Worship  
Kidz Church Immediately Following  
Wednesday: September - May  
6:30 p.m. Adult Bible Study  
Kidz Alive (Kindergarten - 6th Grade)

**VALE COMMUNITY COUNTRY CHURCH**  
Pastor Darla Dunn  
402 Rosander St. Vale SD 57788  
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By John Newby *"Building Main Street, not Wall Street"*  
**Why Visionary Leadership Matters Now**

William Ward once said, "The pessimist complains about the wind, the optimist expects it to change; the realist adjusts the sails." The question for every community leader is simple: which are you? Here's what we know: small thinking kills communities. Not slowly, not quietly, but with mathematical certainty.



truth: disruption is now the norm. The pace of economic change has accelerated. Communities that take three years to approve a downtown improvement project are competing against cities that green-light innovation districts in months. Speed matters because opportunities have expiration dates. A motivated entrepreneur won't wait for endless committee meetings. An investor exploring your region won't circle back after bureaucratic delays. The business that could anchor your downtown revitalization will choose the community that shows decisive leadership.

When considering the numbers, the economic reality sets in. When you spend \$100 at a locally-owned business, approximately \$68 stays in your community through local wages, suppliers, and reinvestment. Spend that same \$100 at a national chain, and only \$43 remains local. The difference compounds. Over time, this wealth extraction hollows out Main Street like water eroding limestone—steadily, invisibly, irreversibly.

Traditional approaches don't just fail—they guarantee failure. Thinking small coupled with lack of vision creates what researchers call "strategic drift," where incremental adjustments never add up to meaningful change. You're rearranging deck chairs while the ship slowly sinks. Vision isn't some fuzzy concept for motivational posters. It's the disciplined practice of seeing what could be and refusing to accept what is. Visionary leadership creates what economists call "network effects"—each success builds momentum for the next. One renovated building inspires another. One new business attracts talent that starts three more. One major win shifts the community narrative from decline to possibility.

Rural America has lost over 1,300 communities since 1990. Not because people stopped caring, but because leaders stopped thinking big enough to fight the economic gravity pulling resources toward metro areas. The system isn't neutral. It's designed to centralize capital, and without bold intervention, your community is on the losing end.

Government moves slowly by design—a feature during stable times, a fatal flaw during disruption. But here's the brutal

Look at communities that have reversed decades of decline. They share one characteristic: leaders who thought embarrassingly big. They didn't ask, "What's realistic?" They asked, "What's necessary?" Then they built coalitions, moved fast, and ignored the critics predicting failure.

Here's where most transformations die: the demand for perfection before action. Small minds obsess over potential problems with bold initiatives while ignoring the guaranteed catastrophe of inaction. They'll spend two years studying a \$50,000 downtown project while \$2 million in local spending leaks to online retailers and distant chains. Remember the progression: good, then great, then the continuous pursuit of perfection. But perfect is the enemy of great, and great is what saves communities. You don't need a flawless strategy. You need a bold one, executed with speed and adjusted based on reality.

Rapid change isn't clean. Things will go wrong. The key is maintaining perspective. When critics pounce on minor setbacks, acknowledge them, fix them quickly, and keep driving toward the vision. Don't let small minds make mountains from molehills. Their mentality has destroyed more communities than economic downturns ever did.

You face a binary choice. Continue the slow fade—the gradual resource drain, the "waiting for something to happen" strategy, the comfort of mediocrity—or disrupt the pattern with vision-driven, rapid transformation. The herd mentality rarely wins. In markets, in business, and certainly

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in community development, following the crowd leads to average outcomes at best. But your community doesn't need average. It needs exceptional leadership willing to think too big, move too fast, and care too much about the outcome. Economic systems, government structures, and market forces are stacked against small communities. The only counter-force powerful enough to overcome these headwinds is visionary leadership that refuses to accept decline as inevitable. So be guilty of thinking too big. Be guilty of moving too

fast. Be guilty of demanding greatness rather than accepting mediocrity. The alternative is a slow-motion collapse dressed up as prudent management.

Your community deserves better. The question is whether its leaders are bold enough to deliver it.

John A. Newby is the author of the "Building Main Street, Not Wall Street" column dedicated to helping local communities, government and business combine synergies allowing them to thrive in a world where truly-local is being lost to Amazon and Wall Street chains. His email is john@truly-local.org

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Jonathan Ellis & Joe Sneve



**Capitol News**  
**January 4, 2026**

By Karen Odell  
The new year comes more quickly.

The wait is shorter and the number counts up higher and higher. The older people experienced changes that the young cannot see.

The recent use of the word 'science' has been maneuvered to the exact opposite of what it meant to past students and speakers. 'Science' was never a noun. It was a verb to describe constant change. 'The speed of science' denotes that the word 'science' meant constant change, but the phrase is misused by

using 'science' as a stable noun. Science (that is constantly changing), cannot possibly designate one 'speed of science' because we already know that science means 'ever changing', so 'the speed of science' is a ridiculous term when used as a stable, unchanging noun. By using the term 'the science', many people are declaring that they have mastered all change, and that their opinions can be the only valid interpretations; making the word into a noun that is stable and never changing.

In their narrow world, they fear that their own ideas might be depicted as 'not the most superior', and could be changed. Their insecurity makes them belligerent to any feeling that

someone else might have a more valid, or even complimentary, thought. Still, today, students who delve into the world of discovery, are drawn to, and intrigued by, the ever changing study of science.

The word 'science' engulfs everything. Everything is a part of science; music, math, agriculture, crafts, animals. It is to inhibit children when 'the science' is used as a static noun, but luckily, young children are engulfed in the magic of discovery, and seldom fear change.

They do not see themselves as the only, superior mind; for even the most inhibited are constantly learning from all that surrounds them. It is too bad that as they grow, some

learn to fear the idea that others might show them new or better interpretations or thoughts.

It is sorrowful to see them unable to accept, or incorporate the learning that surrounds them, because they have been intimidated into thinking that acknowledging new ideas would belittle them. It is most brave, and wonderful to see the light in the eyes of an adult, who is unafraid to show he is still learning.

I am so thankful that adult learners still outnumber those that fear any idea that they are not superior to all they encounter. I am thankful that adult learners still outnumber those that blindly accept the thoughts of others they wish to impress.

Without the common-sense learners, where would we be?

I want to thank all of the people of Capitol and Tie Creek for your gifts to the country; and even the world. Your ability to share your lives with readers has brought the feeling of community, comradery, and home, to those who read about our lives.

Many have become our friends, simply through your everyday stories and happenings. Including those readers in your lives is a treasured gift to many.

**Butte County Legal Notice**

**Regular Meeting Minutes Butte County Courthouse Commission Meeting Room 839 5th Avenue Belle Fourche, SD 57717 Phone: 605-892-4485**

Tuesday, December 02, 2025  
Regular Meeting Minutes Butte County Courthouse Commission Meeting Room 839 5th Avenue Belle Fourche, SD 57717 Phone: 605-892-4485

THE BOARD OF BUTTE COUNTY COMMISSIONERS CONVENED AT 9:30 A.M. on December 2, 2025. Commissioners present were Ager, Erk, Batterman, Kari, and Brunner.

Chairman Ager called the meeting to order and led the group in the Pledge of Allegiance.

Motion by Brunner, Second by Erk to approve the meeting agenda with the removal of item 12. Vote Unanimous. Motion Carried

Pastor Chris Lenning led with a guided prayer.

Beginning at 9:36 AM, the opportunity for public comments was opened with no members of the public wishing to speak.

Mikayla Horn was present to provide an activity report for the Belle Fourche Chamber of Commerce. Motion by Erk, Second by Batterman, to approve the Consent Agenda Items with spelling correction to the 18Nov2025 meeting minutes. Vote Unanimous. Motion Carried. Consent Agenda - The following items were placed on the consent agenda for final action to be taken on all items by a single vote. Any item may be removed from the consent agenda by any member of the Commission for separate consideration.

a. Approval of Regular meeting minutes - 18Nov2025 b. Bills for Printout c. Apportioning and Other Payments d. Auditor's Monthly Settlement with Treasurer.

Daniel Cicho from Brosz Engineering, Inc. presented the 2025 Butte County Bridge Inspections report. There were five bridges inspected with recommendations for each. Priorities and BIG grants were discussed.

Jaryed Pugh was present to discuss the BJA Grant Information - Pugh looked at pricing for the plates. The pricing was lower, but not available until May. Commissioner Ager said he would prefer to shop local if the price isn't overly expensive. Commissioner Kari was able to find pricing that was half the cost and met the requirements of the grant.

Motion Kari, Second Batterman to approve purchase from Phoenix Uniforms in the amount of \$6,189.95. Vote Unanimous. Motion Carried

Discussion was held regarding 2026 Planning Commission Opening and the process for appointing a member to the commission.

Motion Batterman, Second Kari to approve Auditor Capp to publish the Planning Commission opening. Vote Unanimous. Motion Carried Motion by Brunner, Second by Erk, to approve Chairman Ager and Auditor Capp to sign the 2026 Butte County Memorandum of Understanding (4-H). Vote Unanimous. Motion Carried

Dispatch Supervisor Julia Day provided an activity report, which included the number of calls and current, and eliminating unnecessary bills. Future budgeting needs and the recent outage were discussed. The Hat Ranch siren appears to be resolved but homeowners are still upset. Assessment of sirens might be timely based on recent and future growth.

VSO Jasen Saivong provided an activity report including the number of new calls in October, disability compensations, intent to file process, benefit applications, death benefits, dismissals, and DAV transports (20). DAV volunteer will be resigning - a new volunteer will be needed.

A short recess was taken at 10:22 AM. Meeting reconvened at 10:28 AM.

Motion by Erk, Second by Batterman, to approve 2026 Application for Bridge Improvement Grant - BIG Funds - Old Hwy 85 - St# 10-142-047. Vote Unanimous. Motion Carried

Motion by Brunner, Second by Erk, to approve 2026 Application for Bridge Improvement Grant - BIG Funds - Old Hwy 85 - St# 10-142-093. Vote Unanimous. Motion Carried

Motion by Erk, Second by Batterman, to approve 2026 Application for Bridge Improvement Grant - BIG Funds - Winkler Rd - St# 10-260-298. Vote Unanimous. Motion Carried

Highway Superintendent Dwayne Heidrich provided an update on Gaver Road construction, as well as information on the injured employee and the equipment damaged during a recent accident. Heidrich provided an annual activity report including a sign/repair report, a gravel report, and a cattle guard report. Options for the Minnesela Road ditch were discussed. LTAP

was contacted - Butte County is 1st on the list, but no date will be set until spring.

The Cattle Guard report was shared with a focus on how many hours were spent doing this work. Superintendent Heidrich requested that the Cattle Guard Application be revised to the previous version. An assessment of all cattleguards and an estimate of county costs vs contract costs will be completed by March 2026. Haul Road Agreements were discussed.

Auditor Capp provided an activity report, including October and November building activities, end-of-year preparation, Building Maintenance Technician, and 2025 Payable 2026 Levies.

Motion by Batterman, Second by Erk to approve the revised 2026 Butte County Levies, and Resolution revision. Amounts changed slightly due to an error in growth calculation, and one levy was lowered. Vote Unanimous. Motion Carried.

Discussion was held regarding closing Butte County offices to the public on December 26, 2025, as the state will be closed.

Motion by Erk, Second by Batterman to approve closing Butte County offices to the public on December 26, 2025. Vote Unanimous. Motion Carried.

A short recess was taken at 11:55 AM. Meeting reconvened at 12:01 PM.

Payroll and Benefits Administrator Heather Abraham presented Health Insurance - HSA Contribution to the commissioners. A discussion was held regarding joining a pool and savings.

Motion Batterman, Second Brunner to contribute up to \$600.00 annually to any employees participating in HSA. Vote Unanimous. Motion Carried.

Motion by Kari, Second by Erk to enter into Executive Session: Personnel 1-25-2(1) at 12:11 PM, Exited Executive Session at 12:55 PM. There was no action as a result of the Executive Session.

Committee Reports were given • Batterman - EDC Railroad Grant not approved Old Business -

• HVAC walkthrough completed on 11/20/2025. Outstanding items include the rooftop platform, training county personnel, and installing a dehumidifier.

• Jason Boke from Northern Hills Technology asked to come on Tuesday, December 9th, to do an initial inspection.

• DSU will be sending equipment to do a security assessment.

• Discussion was held regarding



**Central Meade County News**

**By Sandy Rhoden January 4, 2026**

Sunday was a beautiful day that began with a white frosty morning and by the end of the day it was warm and all of the white stuff was melted. Many likely saw pictures folks posted on Facebook because of the stunning look in the morning.

There was a pot luck dinner after church in Union Center on Sunday. It was nice enough for the children to play outside. That afternoon they held a Bible Study and afterward, a movie on Creation by Kent Hoven. While the holidays are over, Sunday was a great family day to enjoy before school began again for kids, teachers and staff.

Cody and Liz Rhoden and family attended church and potluck at Union Center before spending the afternoon at Larry and Sandy Rhoden's. Cody and his dad enjoyed watching the Broncos play that afternoon while Sandy spent time with the granddaughters and Liz worked on her computer.

We were saddened to hear the news that Duane R. Keffeler, 92, passed away Thursday, January 1, 2026. Visitation is Friday, January 9, 5-7 p. m. at Kinkadee Funeral Chapel, Sturgis, SD. Funeral services will be Saturday, January 10, 11:30 a. m. at the Central Meade County Community Center in Union Center. Burial will follow at the White Owl Cemetery. Condolences may be sent to the family at [www.kinkadefunerals.com](http://www.kinkadefunerals.com).

Duane was a staple in our community who always enjoyed watching basketball, softball or any kind of sport that took place here in rural Meade County.

converting the commission room to Court Services offices. A building meeting will be held on December 30, 2025, at 8:30. Informational - • Disability Rights inspection of Moreau Hall (Castle Rock) was

conducted - plans are to open as a polling place in 2027. Motion by Batterman, Second by Erk to adjourn the meeting at 1:29 P.M. Vote Unanimous. Motion Carried.

**AUDITOR'S MONTHLY SETTLEMENT WITH TREASURER**

**BUTTE COUNTY**  
**October 31, 2025**

Wells Fargo Checking	\$	-	
First Interstate Bank	\$	7,035,665.61	
Pioneer Bank and Trust	\$	51,061.25	
<b>Total Checking/Savings Accounts</b>			<b>\$ 7,086,726.86</b>
<b>INVESTOR ACCOUNTS</b>			
Pioneer Bank and Trust	\$	50,293.79	
First Interstate Bank	\$	369,605.18	
<b>Total Investor Accounts</b>			<b>\$ 419,898.97</b>
<b>CERTIFICATES OF DEPOSIT</b>			
First National Bank	\$	3,041,559.77	
First Interstate Bank	\$	1,339,370.64	
Pioneer Bank and Trust	\$	1,376,694.51	
<b>Total Certificates of Deposit</b>			<b>\$ 5,757,624.92</b>
Cash on Hand	\$	1,745.00	
<b>Total Cash Accounts</b>			<b>\$ 13,265,995.75</b>
Insufficient Fund Checks In-process	\$	45.00	
<b>Total General Ledger Balance</b>			<b>\$ 13,266,040.75</b>

**Payments**

**Salary**

ASSESSOR'S OFFICE/PLANNING \$8,447.06, AUDITOR'S OFFICE \$16,877.24, BUILDING- \$0, COMMISSIONERS \$4,158.92, DISPATCH \$17,965.58, ELECTION- \$0, EM/911 \$989.72, EXTENSION \$1,936.80, HIGHWAY DEPT/WEED CONTROL \$33,107.33, JUDICIA- \$0, NURSE'S/WIC OFFICE \$1,213.92, REGISTER OF DEEDS OFFICE \$4,794.20, SHERIFF/JAIL DEPT \$25,812.11, STATES ATTORNEY OFFICE \$11,854.82, TREASURER'S OFFICE \$10,582.86, VETERAN SERVICE OFFICE \$878.85

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**PUBLICATIONS**  
BF BCN \$180.00, BH PNR \$532.98, CPTL JRNL \$297.78

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**UTILITIES**  
BH NRGY \$3,435.33, BLUPK \$2,331.06, CNTRYLNK \$42.90, BF CTY \$521.30

APPROVED BY THE COMMISSION: James Ager, Chairperson

ATTEST: Annie Capp, Butte County Auditor

# The Valley Irrigator

Serving Newell, Vale and Nisland Communities

## Christmas Day Fire

**Betty Bruner**

news@bellefourchebeacon.com

CASTLE ROCK-A Christmas afternoon fire off Old Highway 79 north of Newell interrupted Christmas Day celebrations for the Volunteer Firefighters of Castle Rock, Butte, Newell, and Belle Fourche Fire Departments. The call went out between 2 and 3 p.m. according to Castle Rock Fire Chief Chad Erk.

Erk said that seven Castle Rock FD rigs were joined by four Butte FD rigs, a tender from Newell, and the Belle Fourche FD to fight the fire that consumed about 189 acres. There were more than 30 firefighters on hand.

The cause of the fire remains unclear, according to Erk. It

started in a pasture that held no livestock.

"It takes great volunteer fire department to leave family and friends on a holiday to help a neighbor in need," Erk said.

Everyone in Butte County is thankful for neighbors who care, he added. "We are lucky to live here."

It only takes a moment for a fire to start, but when the call goes out volunteer fire fighters are ready to grab their "go bags" and jump into the truck to assist wherever it's needed.

The volunteer firefighters have spent hours training for moments like these and are willing to use their skills in helping neighbors.

## Christmas Cheer Comes to Newell on

**Robbi Longbrake**

news@bellefourchebeacon.com

NEWELL—Ho, ho, ho! Santa Claus made his way to the little town of Newell to spread Christmas cheer and visit with excited children during the Santa Day event on December 13, 2025. Every year during the holiday season, the Newell Community Club works hard to bring a very special Christmas celebration to the kids of the area.

City Hall was transformed into a holiday playground for all to enjoy. There were stations set up for the little ones to take part in a variety of activities. One booth was a hot chocolate station, one was designated to decorate sugar

cookies and yet another one was set up to craft Christmas ornaments.

Half of the room was set up for a cake walk, with a large circle of numbered squares taped to the floor. The kids walked from square to square while the music played. When the music stopped, a number was drawn and whoever was lucky enough to be on that numbered square got to take home a baked goodie! The Labor Day Rodeo Royalty helped keep the cake walk rolling along.

Another part of the room was set up to enjoy a taco bar, with taco meat being donated by Denna Lindsey, Laura Wierzbicki, Teri Blanchart, Judy Heisler and Sherry and Kurt Hocking. Doritos and sour

cream were donated by Kurt and Dawn Olson.

One of the highlights of the night is the giveaway of eight brand new bikes. Kids signed up according to their age groups and a drawing was held at the end of the night. Age groups were separated by girls and boys and were ages 0-3, 4-6, 7-9 and 10-12.

With all of the excitement and fun the kids were having throughout the evening, it is hard to imagine they could get any more excited, but the arrival of jolly old Saint Nick put that to the test! The arrival of the special guest, Santa, did the trick! He took his seat on a

Cheer Contd. D4

## Bee's Buzz

**Betty Bruner**

news@bellefourchebeacon.com

dusted and (most) of the corners are clean. The floors are free of debris for the time being. In fact, my granddaughter said that the old floors looked weird. I think she meant that they are worn and there are small tears here and there. Her house has beautiful wood flooring, so our 35-year-old flooring looks pretty dated. But they are part of our lives and are adequate for this old farmhouse.

New things are ok, but I like the tried and true things. I've never been a person who followed trends. After all, many times what once was is now again. (huh?) The stuff that has lasted 20 years will be in style again. But then, I probably won't be around another 20 years, so I guess it doesn't matter anyway.

Oh, and back to the party clean that I was talking about earlier. It takes a lot of energy to clean a whole house, so I have to admit that I really didn't get done all the way. But it does look better.

I'm off to do the dishes. Those I can do on a regular basis. Besides I can look out the window and watch the birds in the trees and dream about summer and flowers.

Did you say anything about a clean house? Mine is (was) clean for about 48 hours. At least the spiders have left and there aren't any cobweb for now.



I did it! Well, partly. Here at home, I did it! I did my best (sort of) and I did it!

What did I did? I mean, what did I do?

Cleaned! And cleaned some more! Christmas decorations are all put away (except for the ones I missed, how could I do that?) I've done a decent job of keeping things picked up and floors swept and vacuumed, but not consistently. Really, not as often as I should and the cobwebs had grown to look like something out of a spooky movie.

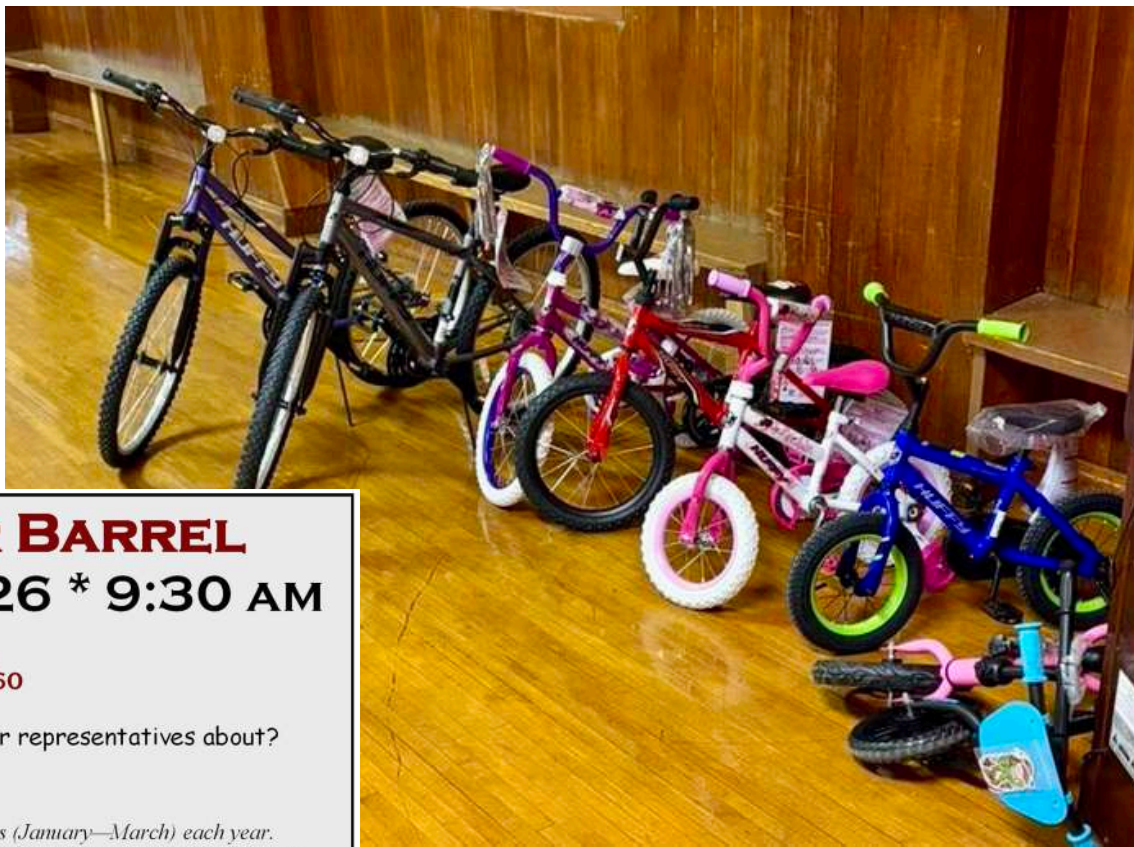
I would look at them and then walk on by, thinking that during Christmas break, I would tackle them. So, then guilt finely got the best of me and I did it! Out came the duster and armed with that mighty piece of cleaning equipment I swung it to the left then the right. Up and down the walls, into the corners and around the baseboards. I did it! Sorry to the spiders that got squashed, but they had to go!

As I swept the floors and emptied the dustpan, I sang to myself that it was going to be so worth it to have things once again in order. Each room met with the imposing duster. Swish, swoop! Take that!

And now, the house looks a little empty without the tree and decorations, but shelves are



(Above) One of the tables set up to do crafts. These kids are making Christmas ornaments; (Below) All eight of the bikes that were given away at the Santa Day event hosted by the Newell Community Club. Courtesy Photos



**LEGISLATIVE CRACKER BARREL**  
**SATURDAY, JANUARY 31, 2026 \* 9:30 AM**  
**NEWELL CITY HALL**  
108 3RD STREET, NEWELL, SD 57760

Do you have questions or concerns you would like to talk to your representatives about?

*Legislative Cracker Barrels are held during the Annual SD Legislative Sessions (January-March) each year. This is an opportunity for community members to hear from their legislators and ask questions concerning the issue.*

**Refreshments will be served**

**This is sponsored by the Whatever It Takes Coalition**

Our Area Legislative Representatives who plan to be there:



NEW Representative Travis Ismay District 28B



NEW Representative Jana Hunt District 28A



RETURNING Senator Sam Marty District 28

Other local legislators from District 29 have also been invited and will come if able.

Go to <https://sdlegislature.gov> to see what bills are being presented, find the session schedule, locate your representatives/senators and learn about what is happening within the State of South Dakota.

Come voice your concerns and THANK your Legislators for the work they are doing.

*The Whatever It Takes Coalition is not affiliated with a political party, nor do we try to persuade you to vote one way or another. This is an educational program where you will receive information.*



Sarah Erk has officially signed to compete in track and field for **Dakota State University**. She will specialize in high jump. Earlier this year she went to DSU's elite camp and was offered an athletic scholarship. Courtesy Photo

## Grand River Roundup



Betty Olson

news@bellefourchebeacon.com

I called Rep. Liz Marty May last Sunday evening to see how she was getting along after her 4-wheeler wreck and she's up and around and doing pretty good.

There are more deaths to report: Raymond Shina-barger, age 96 of Buffalo, died Tuesday, December 23, at the Spearfish Canyon Healthcare Center. Services are pending until late January with Leverington Funeral Home of the Northern Hills in Belle Fourche.

Mary (James) Vliem, 76, a devoted servant of Christ and the heart of her family, went to be with her Lord and Savior on December 28. Services to celebrate Mary's life and faith were held January 4th at Holland Center Christian Reformed Church near Lodgepole with burial at the Holland Center Cemetery.

These families have our sympathy.

Reub and I went over to Camp Crook Monday morning for Linda Humbracht's funeral. Linda is Karen Wilkinson's sister and there was a huge crowd attending her funeral.

We had good visits with Reub's nephew Chip Olson, with my cousin Joe and Karen Wilkinson's son Bob, and a lot of other friends and neighbors.

It was a nice warm day when Casey, Missy and Taz went to Buffalo for the wrestling tournament that morning and the Harding County wrestlers did pretty well. Reub and I brought a lot more firewood into the entryway to burn when it gets really cold again this winter.

Wednesday, December 31, New Year's Eve, was the last day of 2025. We went to Hettinger that day to get stuff from Runnings, the Dollar Store, and White Drug where Reub got his squeeze from his cousin Roxie Finck. We celebrated New Year's Eve on the way home by stopping

in Reeder to have coffee with the Prairie Pioneers. Barb Wood had a friend take a picture of all the Prairie Pioneers while we were gathered around the Christmas tree before we left to get back to the ranch.

All of Casey and Missy's kids and grandkids showed up that afternoon to get ready for their Christmas celebration on New Year's Day. Lanie and Matt Klug and their kids came down from South Heart, ND, Bryce and Braxton and their little boys came up from Rapid City and Trig and Dakotah Olson came from out west in Idaho to celebrate Christmas with Taz and Amanda and their kids at Casey and Missy's house on New Year's Day.

Thursday, January 1 was New Year's Day and the start of 2026. There was a lot of frost on everything that morning but it thawed off pretty fast. Reub and I celebrated the day by going over to Casey and Missy's house to join in their Christmas celebration with all their kids and grandkids. That was a really fun evening for us to celebrate with all these family members.

Our daughter Teri Dee and Mike McNelis and their sons Collin and Aidan came from Buffalo, Minnesota to celebrate Christmas with us on Friday. They had stayed in Bismarck with Teri's cousin

Lark on Thursday night and got here just after lunch on Friday. Casey and Missy and all of their kids and grandkids came over to visit Teri and her family that evening.

Saturday was a really fun day for all of us when our son Guy and Megan and their boys Creed and Cass came from Wyoming to visit with Teri and her family and celebrate Christmas with us at our house.

Their son Cade and KyLee came down from North Dakota to visit Teri and her family and celebrate with all of us.

Casey was gone to be with the Harding County wrestlers in Spearfish and Amanda and the kids were down in Hill City for the Harding County girls' basketball game so Missy and Taz came to visit with everyone and eat with us. Casey got home later that evening and came to our house to visit with everyone. Cade and KyLee left for North Dakota late that afternoon and Guy and his family left to go home to Wyoming that evening after we all had fun visiting together.

Teri and Mike and the boys stayed the night here and left to go back to Minnesota early Sunday morning before breakfast. Casey and Missy and Reub and I went to church at Slim Buttes Lutheran that morning and then

went over to Lodgepole to join a huge crowd of people that came to say goodbye to Mary Vliem at her funeral at the Holland Center Christian Reformed Church early that afternoon.

We had lunch there after her burial and got to visit with a lot of friends at the church before heading home. Mary was such a sweet lady and everyone in this community are going to miss her.

There was so much frost on the trees Sunday morning that was melting off when I went out to take care of my chickens and that wet frost falling off the trees onto my head felt just like rain and it got my hair wet.

Sunday was a nice warm day with a high temperature of 54 degrees and wouldn't it be fun if the rest of the winter stayed like the weather on January 4th? The weather channel told us that it's supposed to stay in the 40s and upper 30's for the next couple weeks. Let's hope the weather channel is right about that!

With the weather the way it is, I'll leave you with these about climate change: \*I haven't always believed in climate change, but I'm warming up to the theory. \*How many U.S. politicians does it take the solve climate change? Trick question: U.S. politicians can't solve anything.

## Then and Now in Newell

### "Looking Forward to our Past"

January 6, 1916

Ben Zachte, of this community, is in receipt of a letter from his mother in Holland, in which it is stated that flour is selling for \$50 a sack in Holland, meat is 75 cents per pound, and eggs are worth 12½ cents each.

Tyra Campbell was arrested last week at the Tom Burke ranch, charged with cattle rustling, had a preliminary hearing in Pennington County and was bound over to Circuit Court in the sum of \$2,000, which he failed to furnish. His accomplice was bound over in the sum of \$500 but was permitted to return home to care for his sick wife. Young man Campbell is alleged to have stolen 7 head of cattle driving them to Pennington County where he sold them to John Reddick. The cattle were recovered. This same gang took 15 head of cattle and 11 horses belonging to Robbins, living near Smithville, the loss so preyed on his mind that he committed suicide two weeks ago. Other theft cases are being investigated.

To clean smokey wallpaper, for a trial area, a cloth dipped into flour and rubbed across a smokey spot on the ceiling cleans it nicely. Later, the whole ceiling can be cleaned the same with satisfactory results.

December 31, 1925

Dr. L. H. Dunn, veteran, blacksmith and philosopher, raised on his Horse Creek farm a record sugar beet. The monster beet captured first prize in a contest put on by Sly's Grocery at Belle Fourche. Dunn is in receipt a \$2 check for the prize. Sly's plan to hold another similar contest next year, which Mr. Dunn is presumed to enter.

Reconsecration of Odd Fellowship will be observed at Vale, New Year's Eve by a chicken dinner and several speakers of prominence will be present. Rebekah's and Odd Fellows, don't forget the date, make every effort to



Dr. L. H. Dunn's winning sugar beet entered in Sly's Grocery Store Contest, December 1925. He won a \$2. prize.

attend.

W. E. Ross, Chicago & Northwestern engineer, has been assigned to take the passenger run between Rapid City and Deadwood. Prior to this assignment, Mr. Ross' run was between Newell and Deadwood.

Irene Keene entertained those of the Newell High School class of '23, who were so situated to come to a class reunion on Tuesday evening. Those present were Misses Mae Bratton, Dorothy Magruder, and Irene Keene and Messer's Warren Fairbanks and Floyd Viken. Floyd and his wife are leaving for Oldham Friday where he has appointment to preach in the Methodist Church. The good wishes of the community for a prosperous and happy life, go with the young folks.

January 2, 1936

The Misses Mary Brodsky and Floy Bratton were hostesses Wednesday evening at a skating party at the Golf Course Lake. About 15 young people were present. After skating they went to the J. C. Brodsky home where the hostesses served hot chocolate and chili to the group. All chimed in "Let's do it again."

N. R. Robbins has lost a large shepherd dog, dark color with white neck markings. He answers to the name of "Jerry". Robbins is offering a nice reward for return of Jerry at the US Experiment Farm.

A. M. Nelson, former Hoover resident, writes from Neppel, Washington stating that for the past few months trailing his sheep from Bonner's Ferry, Idaho across the country to Washington, where they are being wintered.

Mr. Nelson says it took them 40 days to trail the herd and wonders whether

by Linda Velder

this won't make his South Dakota friends "sit up and take notice". He sends his best regards to "the gang" for the new year.

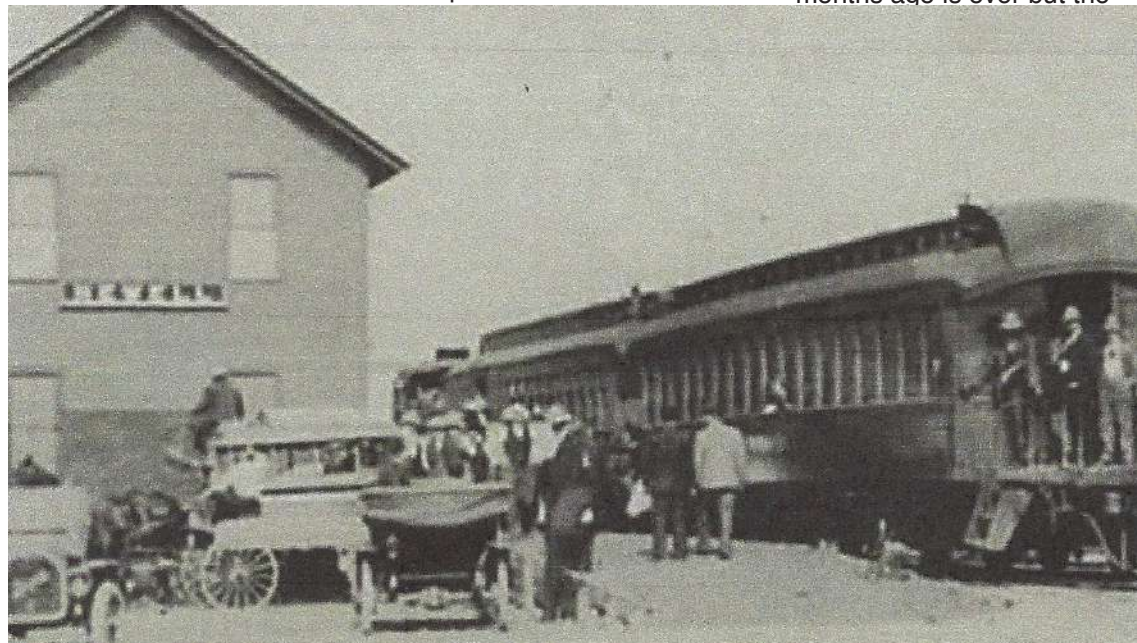
Word recently received in Rapid City that contracts have been awarded for 103 new bombing planes for the Army Air Corps. The Douglas Aircraft Company, Inc of Santa Monica, Cal was given an order for 90 all metal low wing, twin-engine mono planes costing \$6,498,000. Thirteen giant four-motored "sky cruisers" were bought from the Boeing Company of Seattle, Wash. The price for the Boeing craft was not given in the announcement by Harry H. Woodring, Assistant Secretary of War.

January 3, 1946

Hulin M. Arpan of Ekalaka Secretary lckes keeps reminding us that we still have a fuel problem in this country. The people are urged to conserve all kinds of fuel in every way possible. The smallest thing for Newell to do is to tap our natural gas supply.

The gas isn't doing anybody any good so long as it remains underground. There are ample natural gas resources that was proved at the Two-Top Well 6 miles north of town and geologists are pretty well agreed that a gas supply is available within a mile or south of town.

On Monday, 2 would be coyote hunters who came flying down from Minneapolis in planes equipped with skis. They had the notion they would be landing in snow. They succeeded in making a safe landing here, after having made a fruitless search of the surrounding territory for snowfields. They immediately wired home for their landing wheels. In the meantime, they were loaned 2 sets of wheels by Clyde Ice of Spearfish.



In Dec. 1925, W. E. Ross local C&NW RR engineer was promoted from the Newell to Deadwood run to engineer on the Rapid City to Deadwood run. They also stopped in Nisland and Belle Fourche.



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On Tuesday, they let out for Castle Rock to contact Henry Jacobsen and other sheep ranchers. Although the ammunition problem is still serious, shipment is to arrive most any day, however, the would-be hunters were well stocked.

The Vale School resumed classes on Wednesday. Mrs. Gaskins has resumed her position on the faculty, after a protracted illness. Mrs. Clara Lungren is assisting Mrs. Van Allen in High School classes.

January 5, 1956

Sale of the Tri-County Locker to Mr. & Mrs. P. L. Edwards and son Alan, well-known local ranch family, was announced this week by Mrs. C. E. Lewis. Mrs. Lewis has operated the locker plant since her husband's death, 1954. The sale was finalized January 1st. Mr. & Mrs. Edwards plan to dispose of their ranch southeast of Newell. Earl Mullenix, who managed the locker plant for Mrs. Lewis and Mrs. Marianna Richter are continuing as employees and Mrs. Clarence Wattawa is also assisting.

Specialist-Third Class Henry R. Ulrich, 26, recently was assigned to the elite Superior Headquarters Allied Powers Europe in France. Specialist Ulrich, a military policeman in the 520th Military Police Company entered the Army in 1947. He is a veteran of the Korean Conflict. His parents, Mr. & Mrs. Henry Ulrich, live south of Newell.

The Crockett fad which swept the country a few months ago is over but the

influence the heroic gentleman whose deeds inspired the nation's younger set still lingers in our area. Some fur buyers have reported that the fur trimmed caps, jackets and trousers so popular during the Davy Crockett craze have reduced stocks of rabbit furs, which accounts for the current high prices of rabbit carcasses. Other buyers have resorted to imports of rabbit skins. South Dakota Game Fish & Department is happy for the increase in rabbit prices which has stimulated rabbit hunting, since the varmint is responsible for extensive damage to young trees and are known to wipe out a whole shelter belt.

January 6, 1966

Ray Eichler, local employee of the Black Hills Power & Light Company, was presented with a 15-year service award from the company last week. Ken Steiner, local manager of the Power Co., gave the award to Eichler who has been employed here since November 1950. He is serviceman, does most of the line work and reads meters for the utility company in this extended area.

Albert C. "Ducky" Drake, of Vale was especially honored in recognition of his 35-year service at a regular meeting of the Vale Volunteer Fire Department Monday morning. Drake, who has either been Chief or Assistant Chief of the department since he helped organize it in 1930, was presented with an engraved cigarette case and butane lighter from the department, with present chief, Jack Ulrich making the presentation. Drake sole re-built a used fire truck, which had been secured from the Newell Volunteer Fire Department.

A gust of wind caught a trailer home and blew over along US Highway 212, 9 miles northeast of Newell. The mobile home was being transported from Watertown to Missoula, Mont. When the driver of the transport truck returned the following morning, he discovered it had been broken into and stripped, furniture and all.

The damage to the 52'x10' trailer was estimated at around \$3500. Butte Cty. Sheriff George Hafner and State Motor Patrol investigated the accident and theft.

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

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

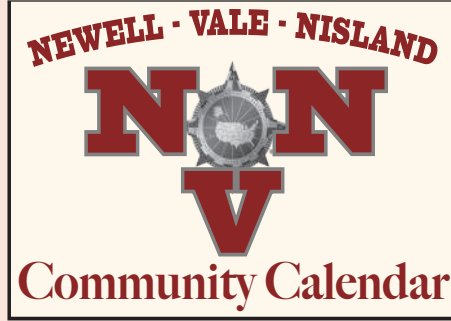
**Feeding South Dakota**  
Second Thursday every month,  
1:30 p.m.

**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



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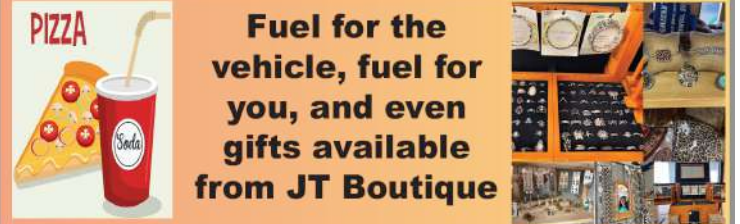
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### JANUARY 2026

Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
5) Egg Bites, Cereal, Fruit, Juice, Milk  Chicken Nachos, Black Beans, Corn, Fruit, Milk	6) Pancakes, Cereal, Fruit, Juice, Milk  Meal in a Peel, Ham, Broccoli, Cheese, Fruit, Milk	7) Maple Baked French Toast, Cereal, Fruit, Juice, Milk Pulled Pork on Flatbread, Green Beans, Fruit, Milk	8) Waffles, Cereal, Juice, Fruit, Milk  Chili Dogs on Bun, Corn, Fruit, Milk	9) Egg Patties, Cereal, Fruit, Juice, Milk  Chicken & Noodles, Corn Pudding, Fruit, Milk
12) Waffles, Cereal, Juice, Fruit, Milk  Country Pie, Mixed Vegetables, Fruit, Milk	13) Breakfast Burrito, Fruit, Milk  Chicken Enchilada Casserole, Green Beans, Fruit, Milk	14) Muffins, Cereal, Juice, Fruit, Milk  Scalloped Potatoes & Ham, Biscuit, Peas & Carrots, Fruit, Milk	15) Quiche, Cereal, Juice, Fruit, Milk  Veggie Pizza Wrap, Carrot Salad, Broccoli, Fruit, Milk	16) NO SCHOOL
19) French Toast, Cereal, Juice, Fruit, Milk  Walking Tacos, Corn, Fruit, Milk	20) Pancakes. Cereal, Juice, Fruit, Milk  Salisbury Steaks, Bread Sticks, Mashed Potatoes, Broccoli Salad, Fruit, Milk	21) Yogurt Parfait, Cereal, Juice, Fruit, Milk  Tater Tot Casserole, Fruit, Milk	22) Tornadoes, Cereal, Juice, Fruit, Milk  Chicken Strips, Green Beans, Fruit, Milk	23) NO SCHOOL
26) Croissant Sandwiches, Cereal, Juice, Fruit, Milk  Spanish Rice, Black Beans, Fruit, Milk	27) Long Johns, Cereal, Juice, Fruit, Milk  Chicken Fajita Casserole, Corn, Black Beans & Rice, Broccoli, Fruit, Milk	28) Egg Omelet, Cereal, Juice, Fruit, Milk  Spaghetti with Meat Sauce, Fruit, Milk	29) Cheesy Eggs, Cereal, Juice Fruit, Milk  Beef & Potato Bake, Roasted Broccoli, Fruit, Milk	30) NO SCHOOL



**Newell Health Clinic**  
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located in the Newell Evangelical Church  
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Donate in February and you'll receive a \$15 Rewards gift card! \* Must use code **GIVELOVE-2026-V** when scheduling appointment to receive gift card.

Donor Rewards program opt-in required to redeem gift cards in the online store.

Make an appointment at [vitalant.org](http://vitalant.org) or call 877-25-VITAL

Use blood drive code: **Newell**

**NEWELL COMMUNITY BLOOD DRIVE**

Location: **Newell Christian Fellowship Church-308 4th St.**

Date: **Monday, February 2nd**

Time: **11:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m.**

Sponsored by **W.I.T Coalition**

Scan the QR code or contact Sabrina Harmon at 605-361-9136 or [sabrina.harmon.wit@sdplains.com](mailto:sabrina.harmon.wit@sdplains.com).

\*Terms and condition apply; see [vitalant.org/FebDonorGift](http://vitalant.org/FebDonorGift).

Find us @vitalant:



The table set up to register for a chance to win a bike.

**Cheer From C1**

big wooden throne and one by one the young'uns sat on his lap and told him what they wanted for Christmas. It was a very special day made just for the children. Santa Day wouldn't be complete without the support of the community, and once again they came through in a big way. Local residents baked cakes, cookies and other goodies that were used as prizes for games and the cake walk. The Community Club asked

for help ahead of the event: "This Saturday is Santa Day, and with it comes the eagerly anticipated cake walk that brings so much joy to the kids! We're counting on the community's support once again to make this event truly special. Your contributions of homemade goodies and sweet treats to be given as prizes for the games will make a real difference." The response was overwhelming, with tables filled with homemade treats to help bring smiles to the kids' faces.



(Top from Left) The bike winner for the girls age 0-3 was **Jozey**, with Morgan Wulf; The bike winner for the girls age 4-6 was **Raina**, with Morgan Wulf; The bike winner for the boys age division 4-6 winner was **Wrenley**, with Morgan Wulf; The winner of the boys age 10-12 bike was **Kade**, with Morgan Wulf; (Bottom From Left) The winner of the girls age 7-9 bike was **Raelyn**, with Morgan Wulf; The winner of the boys age 7-9 bike was **Jared**, with Morgan Wulf; The winner of the girls age 10-12 was **Alice**, with Morgan Wulf. *Courtesy Photos*

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