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Belle Fourche, SD Wednesday • January 28, 2026

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Robbi Longbrake
news@bellefourchebeacon.com
BELLE FOURCHE—Members and supporters of the Belle Fourche Area Community Theater (BFACT) joined together to learn about the organization and celebrate their 2025 season accomplishments at the Annual Meeting on January 24 at the Branding Iron Steakhouse.

Beginning at 2 p.m. everyone gathered for social hour where food and snacks along with drinks were served. As people enjoyed food and drink, they were invited to interact with the Board of Directors and ask them any questions they may have about BFACT.

Following the social time, everyone present was asked to take a seat so the President, Nathan Schreier, could call the meeting to order. After doing so, Schreier gave his report.

He discussed the accomplishments of the 15th year of BFACT which included the creation of a strategic plan for the organization. Implementation of the plan will be the next project for the upcoming year. One of the areas that Schreier intends to focus on moving forward is better record keeping of volunteer engagement. He said he has a "commitment to growth" in the new year and maintaining a "growing volunteer base is a goal." Schreier commented on one of the main shows, Charlie and the Chocolate Factory. It was a success this past year as the show broke the audience attendance records twice in a row.

There was a record number of volunteers for this show, seeing 70 people step up, help out and get involved. One of the ways to encourage public involvement is through a series of BFACT Social Hours. Katie Anderson, Member-At-Large and Chair

Belle Fourche Area Community Theater Annual Meeting

of the Volunteer Committee, included in her report that the social hours are "to encourage communication between board members and members of the community through board games, karaoke, trivia and other various activities."

The Social Hours will continue in 2026 and will be held on the second Saturday of each month. The first one in the new year is scheduled for February.

Board Member-At-Large and Chair of the Public Relations Committee, Mike Meemken, informed the attendees that in the year 2025 "we made a focused effort to expand our public relations and outreach more than before." This was accomplished through strengthened relationships with the Belle Fourche Chamber and BFACT informational booths at various events around the area.

He shared that a highlight of the year was when the City of Belle Fourche declared June 28, 2025 Performing Arts Day. The day happened to be the same day as a Charlie and the Chocolate Factory performance.

Growing social media presence and increasing engagement was successful this year. Total views were 403,080, up from 39,070 the previous year.

The Secretary's Report was given by Heather Pittman, a founding member of BFACT and active for the past 15 years. She informed everyone that the Board did meet every month as provided for in the bylaws. All meeting minutes are available for members as well as the public to inspect at any time.

Treasurer Kelsey Gronlund reported that revenue was down but BFACT was able to weather the loss because



New board members for the 2026 season of the **Belle Fourche Area Community Theater** are from left: **Arianna Scherer**, Member-at-Large; **Nathan Thompson**, Vice President; **Heather Pittman**, Secretary; **Kelsey Gronlund**, Treasurer; **Michael Meemken**, Member-At-Large; and **Nathan Schreier**, President. *Longbrake photo*

of several good years. 2025 revenue included ticket sales, \$12,978.15; grants, \$9,500; sponsorships, \$7,000; individual contributions, \$6,054.57; misc., \$618.06; membership donations, \$567.48; and business contributions, \$267. Executive Director Derek Olson discussed the shows that BFACT held over the past year. They had four stage shows, Is He Dead?, Atomic Lobsters from the Center of the Earth, Charlie and the Chocolate Factory and Beauty and the Beast. The year 2025 saw the largest turnout of volunteers to date. Over 105 volunteers participated and over 1,300 tickets to performances were sold.

The upcoming year, 2026, has four main stage shows scheduled once again. There will be many different workshops, a volunteer gala and a kids' camp.

The last order of business for the annual meeting was the election of board members for three open seats. All seats are two-year positions. Up for election were the Vice President, Treasurer and one Member-At-Large. Next elections will be in 2027 for the other four seats, President, Secretary and two Members-At-Large. In order to vote in the election, you had to have a paid membership. The memberships cost \$25 and runs yearly from January 1. You have to be over

the age of 18 to join.

Two board positions only had one person nominated, so they were appointed with no vote. Nathan Thompson was re-elected as Vice President and Kelsey Gronlund was re-elected as Treasurer.

There were two nominees for the Member-At-Large position. Arianna Scherer was elected with the biggest number of votes ever cast for a board election according to Olson.

The Volunteer Gala is scheduled for February 21. It is a night to celebrate the volunteers. Planning is still underway, so watch for further details to become available.

BFACT contd. A3

The Red Onion and Posy Palace Team Up for Delicious Fun

Robbi Longbrake
news@bellefourchebeacon.com
BELLE FOURCHE—Years of friendship created the perfect partnership for the ladies behind the Red Onion Marketplace and Posy Palace when the two businesses teamed up to offer a Pop-Up Bakery Day at the Posy Palace Florist on January 23.

"I think it's just such a good combination and we've known each other forever—been friends forever—so I don't know which of us decided to do this, but it works," explained Shelly Kapsa, owner of Posy Palace.

Robin Ager, the talented baker and owner behind Red Onion Marketplace, crafted an abundance of fresh-baked, from-scratch breads and desserts, including pies, sweet rolls, scones and cookies, for the event.

During the summer months, the Red Onion offers a Farm Stand full of garden-grown produce and fresh-baked goodies.

During the off season, Ager

finds ways to stay busy. "We did two (Pop-Ups) last year and will do four this year," she said. "We're gonna do Valentine's Day, Easter, and Mother's Day."

Today was just a random day—a fun way to break up the monotony of the winter!" Kapsa has owned the flower store for the past 23 years.

The thought of closing down during the cold snap was out of the question for her. "Never! My hours are short but consistent," she said. "We've been very busy today," added Ager.

In addition to the fresh-baked goods, shoppers could enjoy a hot cup of apple cider and, of course, beautiful flowers, bouquets and gift items available in the store.

The friends have known each other since high school. Ager said, "Our children were friends, too!"

If you missed this Pop-Up event, plan on attending the next one! "We'll be teamed up together for Valentine's Day—
Pop Up Contd. A3



Red Onion Marketplace owner, **Robin Ager** and **Posy Palace** owner, **Shelly Kapsa** during their Pop-up event at the flower shop. *Longbrake photo*

State Street's Little Station with a Lot of Service



Mary Cronk, owner of **SML Southside Conoco**, braves the freezing cold to pump your gas—no need to get out of your car! She will do it in all kinds of weather, but it is especially nice when it's frigid outside! *Longbrake photo*

Robbi Longbrake
news@bellefourchebeacon.com

BELLE FOURCHE—In a world of pay-at-the-pump and self-serve everything, there is a small, family owned gas station on State Street in downtown Belle that's bringing back something you don't see much anymore—old fashioned, full service with a personal touch. This local spot is a reminder that good service and friendly faces never go out of style.

At SML Southside Conoco, when you pull up to the gas pump, Mary Cronk will come out and begin pumping your gas for you! If it is cold outside, you do not have to get out of your car, she is bundled up and takes care of everything! "When it's not so horribly cold, we wash the windows and have had people that we check their oil or fill up their coolant or different things like that as well," explained Cronk. "And eventually, hopefully, we'll get a mechanic in here!"

Cronk will even come out to your car and take your order! "I'll go in and get the items, I'll ring it up and bring it all back out to their car," she shared.

The small storefront packs in a large variety of products. The store specializes in vintage, odd candies. Items you can't find in just any store. "We have some crazy, odd, vintage candy, you name it, it's in there somewhere," explained Cronk. "I do two or three of just about everything under the sun—I got gummy pizza in a pizza box, SpongeBob Krabby Patties and Wacky Wafers. Whatever you can imagine, if it's still being made, it's probably here somewhere!"

The station also has a large variety of drinks, special gift bags for dogs and cats and handmade quilts. "I don't want to be like a normal gas station, I want it to be different," said Cronk.

John and Mary Cronk have owned

SML Contd. A3

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Brian Kline
 Owner



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

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

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

Darlene J. Schafer 82

Darlene J. Schafer, 82, of Council Bluffs, IA and formerly of Mission, TX, passed away at home on January 12, 2026 from the effects of a malignant brain tumor, diagnosed in June 2025.

Darlene Jewel Johnson was born on July 24, 1943 and was the seventh of ten children born to George J. and Mamie E. (Stolnack) Johnson. George and Mamie leased ranches in Butte and Harding counties until purchasing the Brady place north of Castle Rock, SD in 1946. Darlene was born while the Johnsons lived on the Larson place north of Camp Crook, SD.

Darlene attended country school at the Crow Butte school near the family ranch north of Castle Rock and graduated from Belle Fourche High School with the Class of 1961. She earned a Bachelor of Fine Arts degree from the University of South Dakota, graduating in 1965, and a Master of Science degree in Art from Texas A&I University at Kingsville, graduating in 1991.

Darlene was united in marriage to William G. Schafer of East Meadow, New York on July 25, 1969 in Rapid City, SD. Bill was a Captain in the United States Air Force and stationed at Ellsworth Air Force Base near Rapid City. Bill and Darlene adopted two children to complete their family, including Mindi Susan in 1974 and James Andrew in 1976.

Darlene was a dedicated Art teacher to students at independent school districts in four states, including Rapid City, South Dakota (1967-1971), Harvard, Illinois (1971-1974), Lebanon, Missouri (1974-1986), and McAllen, Texas (from 1986 until her retirement in the Spring of 2000). She also taught American and Texas history during her tenure at McAllen ISD.

Bill and Darlene continued to live in the Rio Grande Valley of Texas after Darlene's retirement. Bill sadly passed away on January 27, 2004 after a short bout with cancer. Thankfully, Darlene's sister, Beverly, and her husband, Douglas Miller, had moved to Mission in 2003 to live near Darlene and Bill. In the past 22 years,

Beverly and Darlene enjoyed many wonderful times together, just as they had in their adolescent years on the South Dakota prairie.

Darlene enjoyed domestic and foreign travel, often with members of the Johnson family, visiting six of the seven continents. She was an avid bowler and participated in many state and national bowling tournaments. The national bowling tournament was a special event due to participating with six of her sisters. Darlene was also an avid golfer and a keen bridge player. She made dear friends in all of the activities she enjoyed during her retirement years.

Declining health forced Darlene to move Council Bluffs, IA to live with her daughter and son-in-law in August 2025.

Darlene was preceded in death by her husband, William G. Schafer; her parents, George J. and Mamie E. Johnson; six siblings and spouses, including Betty J. (John) Niemi, Doris H. Johnson, G. Douglas (Patricia) Johnson, Andrew W. Johnson, Marilyn M. (Arnold, Jr.) Schmidt, and Judith G. Johnson; other brothers-in-law, including Douglas L. Miller and Roger D. Reynolds; niece, Teryl Johnson McGriff; and Schafer family members.

Darlene is survived by her daughter, Mindi (Jeff Locrino) of Council Bluffs, IA; her son, James, of Dallas, TX; four grandchildren, including Kaitlyn Schach (fiancé, Matt), Cody (Hunter) Schach, Zachary Lopez, and Ethan Schafer; three sisters, one brother-in-law, and one sister-in-law, including Beverly J. Miller of Mission, TX; Arlene J. Reynolds of Rapid City, SD; Ida L. (Mel) Johnson of Apple Valley, MN; and Linda Johnson of Sturgis, SD. Other survivors include special cousins, Annitta Stolnack of Newell, SD and Janet Hardy of Largo, FL, and several nieces and nephews.

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Pastor's Perspective

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

"A Test of Commitment"

Maybe it was a legalistic pressure point imposed upon me by some churchiness to which I was exposed in my upbringing, but carrying one's Bible always was important.

We had Sunday school awards and point systems that scored you higher if you had your own Bible with you.

In church, a Bible in the hymnal rack was the sign of a rather "backslidden" church ... I mean, why didn't the people bring their own, anyway?

At school, the "gutsy Christians" were the ones who carried their Bible along with their books. It was a kind of declaration of where you stood.

Carrying your Bible on the way church, was "good style." Don't be caught without your sword, we were taught. And it stuck. I carry my Bible with me a lot of the time. Just to have it handy. "Never know when you'll need it," you know.

Having your Bible around was kind of like being unafraid to bow your head in a restaurant. You weren't like you "used to be," when you scratched your eyebrows as you prayed over the food. You know, in case someone was watching, you wouldn't look "weird."

Well, years come and go, and sometimes I wonder what progress really is. I've grown a lot in the Lord, and I think



I'm unafraid to stand up for Him when the chips are down.

But the other day, I left my Bible in the car when I was going into a restaurant.

Wait a minute. Hear the whole thing. I was going in there to the banquet room to speak to a group of people about Jesus.

Right. I was the speaker ... on a Bible theme ... uhhuh. And I left my Bible in the car.

Now, there's more to it than that. They had printed outlines with the entire text I was going to speak from already in hand. I knew they would. So I didn't really need my Bible.

What bothers me is how comfortable I felt about that. The convenient sense of a somewhat carnal ease which I felt when I got out of the car. The fact is, I was slightly relieved.

Well, anyway, I guess it's a mark of maturity to not want to appear too religious.

Or is it cowardice?

All I know is I'm carrying my Bible a little more openly nowadays. I mean, if you're truly filled with the power of the Dove, you certainly shouldn't grow older and find yourself chicken.

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"The Grace to Be Wrong"

I am becoming increasingly sensitive to the need for grace in believers which will allow them to be wrong. Not to do wrong. But to be wrong.

There are far too few who simply acknowledge their own humanity when their own doings, calling, efforts, or sincere goals are called into question.

This past week I encountered three occasions where this grace was needed: at a gathering of men who were consulting together over a specific ministry to the Body of Christ; in a conversation over the radio, in which I was being interviewed on the subject of the believer and his willingness to acknowledge his failures; and in a private counseling session in which we discovered a man's preoccupation with his sense of God-given mission, to the point that he couldn't see the need for balance.

He was too taken with his sense of the importance of what he felt he was supposed to do.

Somehow, "being right" isn't as easy as one thinks. Our own sense of dimension on a matter is the key to balance, and the fact is that when something seems important or necessary to me, it tends to become ALL important... ABSOLUTELY necessary. And the time for the answer to this important/necessary matter is always NOW! Especially if God and His will are involved in the matter.

Thankfully, I am discovering a small but growing band of folks who are willing to trust the Lord to cover their imperfections—whether it be in timing, in understanding, or in sense of urgency. They are gaining the capacity to be wrong in their perspective, as right as they might be in their purpose.

I find that grace was powerfully present in the early Church. I hear the apostles and elders at Jerusalem say, concerning a decision that would reshape the Church's future, "It seemed good..." (Acts 15:28). Before they invoke the ultimate of divine authority, they simply says,

The Lord Jesus frees us from Satan's power

Jesus declared that he came to overthrow the power of Satan and his kingdom [John 12:31] Jesus [numerous exorcisms brought freedom to many who were troubled and oppressed by the work of evil spirits. Jesus himself encountered personal opposition and battle with Satan when he was put to the test in the wilderness just before his public ministry [Matthew 4:1; Luke 4:1] He overcame the Evil One through his obedience to the will of his Father.

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From A1 **BFACT**
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Beginning at 2 p.m. everyone gathered for social hour where food and snacks along with drinks were served. As people enjoyed food and drink, they were invited to interact with the Board of Directors and ask them any questions they may have about BFACT.

Following the social time, everyone present was asked to take a seat so the President, Nathan Schreier, could call the meeting to order. After doing so, Schreier gave his report. He discussed the accomplishments of the 15th year of BFACT which included the creation of a strategic plan for the organization. Implementation of the plan will be the next project for the upcoming year.

One of the areas that Schreier intends to focus on moving forward is better record keeping of volunteer engagement. He said he has a “commitment to growth” in the new year and maintaining a “growing volunteer base is a goal.”

Schreier commented on one of the main shows, Charlie and the Chocolate Factory. It was a success this past year as the show broke the audience

attendance records twice in a row. There was a record number of volunteers for this show, seeing 70 people step up, help out and get involved.

One of the ways to encourage public involvement is through a series of BFACT Social Hours. Katie Anderson, Member-At-Large and Chair of the Volunteer Committee, included in her report that the social hours are “to encourage communication between board members and members of the community through board games, karaoke, trivia and other various activities.” The Social Hours will continue in 2026 and will be held on the second Saturday of each month. The first one in the new year is scheduled for February.

Board Member-At-Large and Chair of the Public Relations Committee, Mike Meemken, informed the attendees that in the year 2025 “we made a focused effort to expand our public relations and outreach more than before.” This was accomplished through strengthened relationships with the Belle Fourche Chamber and BFACT informational booths at various events around the area.

He shared that a highlight of the year was when the City of Belle Fourche declared June 28, 2025 Performing Arts Day. The day happened to be the same day as a Charlie and the Chocolate Factory performance.

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engagement was successful this year. Total views were 403,080, up from 39,070 the previous year.

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The upcoming year, 2026, has four main stage shows scheduled once again. There will be many different workshops, a volunteer gala and a kids’ camp.

The last order of business for the annual meeting was the election of board members for three open seats. All seats

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are two-year positions. Up for election were the Vice President, Treasurer and one Member-At-Large. Next elections will be in 2027 for the other four seats, President, Secretary and two Members-At-Large.

In order to vote in the election, you had to have a paid membership. The memberships cost \$25 and runs yearly from January 1. You have to be over the age of 18 to join.

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so they were appointed with no vote. Nathan Thompson was re-elected as Vice President and Kelsey Gronlund was re-elected as Treasurer.

There were two nominees for the Member-At-Large position. Arianna Scherer was elected with the biggest number of votes ever cast for a board election according to Olson.

The Volunteer Gala is scheduled for February 21. It is a night to celebrate the volunteers. Planning is still underway, so watch for further details to become available.



Belle Fourche Area Community Theater members visit and enjoy treats during social hour at the Branding Iron Steakhouse.



Members of the Belle Fourche Area Community Theater prepare for the Annual Meeting. Longbrake photos

From A1 **Pop Up**

the Friday before it because Valentine’s is a Saturday,” shared Ager.

As for the hours, the marketplace and flower shop will run as long as they can! “I think that’ll be our big day. I don’t know how long we’ll run. We’re gonna be starting to sell out—so get in here and get it while you can,” added Kapsa.

You can stop by Posy Palace and grab gifts or beautiful bouquets anytime during store hours. They also offer ordering online.

Red Onion Marketplace is available to order from for whatever the special occasion. Ager said, “It’s fun. I love doing it. It’s fun!”



(L) Robin Ager, Red Onion Marketplace, helps customers with an order; (R) Red Onion Marketplace owner, Robin Ager tells customers all about her delicious baked goods. Longbrake photos



(Top) Handmade quilts are for sale inside the store; (Bottom) A sweet selection of candies awaits inside the station. (R) Behind the counter, Mary Cronk, rings up a customer. Longbrake photos

From A1 **SML**

the SML Southside Conoco for the past three years. The gas station was a nice fit with their other business, SML Tires, Point S Tire and Auto Service.

Family is important to the couple, so much so that their businesses are named after their three oldest grandkids, Samson, Mary and Leland—though they have four grandkids now, the last one was a surprise!

For the past five years, the Cronks have been running Point S and offer specials. “We do senior discounts, first responder discounts and veteran military discounts on everything across the board—it doesn’t matter, alignments, full mechanic and tires—we do it all,” Cronk said.

The Cronks take pride in their full service station, something one doesn’t see much of anymore. But there is something even more important to them. “God first, we’re all about God first, business second. If you do things honestly, it’ll all fall into place. If you don’t, you don’t deserve to expand,” she said.

They embrace old school values—old school candy, old school

full service and old school kindness. “We try to do stuff for the community, we try to do things old school—it shouldn’t always be about money, it should be done because it’s right,” shared Cronk.

Some of the things they have done include offering free hot cocoa during the Parade of Lights and offering their bathrooms to the community during that time as well as letting the radio stations

park and plug in to broadcast the Parade.

Their veteran-owned store is currently undergoing renovations. The space inside will soon double in size when it’s finished allowing them to offer even more products to their customers.

Be sure to stop by and check out all this sweet little place has to offer! You will be surprised all that is packed into the small space!



Bronc Wrestlers Honor Four Seniors

Kandi Tonsager
news@bellefourchebeacon.com

On Thursday January 22nd the Broncs honored 4 Seniors ahead of a duel against Rapid City Stevens. The 4 Seniors included, Spencer Bush-Graslie, Riley Dighton, Garet Huston, and Dylan Park.

Spencer expressed his favorite wrestling memories were watching the Chadron State College duels and hanging out with friends during tournaments. His future plans are to attend Dakota State University where he has signed on to play football & plans to major in Business management.

Riley expressed his most memorable moments in wrestling as upsetting the #3 seed at the state tournament to advance to the finals round. His future plans are to attend college, but has not decided where.

Garet's most memorable wrestling moment to date is winning his second match at state his Junior year and seeing his coaches and teammates so excited for him. His future plans are to spend the summer after graduation working as a

Wildland Firefighter with the US Forest Service in Bigfork, MT, then attend college in Montana in the fall majoring in Business Administration.

Dylan's favorite wrestling memory is winning Black Hills Conference as a team in 2025. Dylan plans to pursue his love of fitness and music by developing his own fitness program. Good luck Broncs Seniors!

The Belle Fourche AAU program hosted a duel against the Stevens Raiders AAU wrestlers to open the evening Thursday. The Raiders came up on top in points for both the AAU and the High School duels.

On Friday, January 23rd, the Broncs teams headed to Chadron State College to watch the Chadron Eagles compete in a duel.

The high schoolers express enjoying getting the opportunity to watch the college competition including some former wrestling friends. On Saturday they went on to compete in the Chadron Invitational.

The Broncs saw new

competition from Colorado, Nebraska, Wyoming and some South Dakota schools they do not meet often.

The Broncs had 4 wrestlers place this weekend at the invite, the Lady Broncs had one make the podium for top 4 and two ladies place top 8. Riley Dighton placed 3rd, Luke Tonsager placed 2nd and Caden Swaney earned Champion in their respective weight classes for the boys, while AnnaBelle Dighton and Charlie Huston each placed 5th and Kyra Vandenberg earned Champion in their respective weight classes for the Lady Broncs.

The Broncs wrestle next in Sturgis for a duel on Thursday, January 29th, followed by the home invitational on Friday, January 30th and Saturday, January 31st.

The Ladies will compete in the Belle Fourche Rec Center gym, while the boys will compete in the high school gymnasium.

The Belle Fourche AAU club will host their home invite on Sunday February 1st at the Belle Fourche High school gym.



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Seniors & families with Coach Cory 2026



Kyra Vandenberg Champion Chadron Invite



Caden Swaney Champion Chadron Invite



(From L Above) Seniors: Senior Dylan Park with parents Angel & Robert Park; Senior Garet Huston and parents Audrey & Chuck & sister Charlie; (Below) Senior Spencer Bush-Graslie with Parents Lindsey & Kyle Graslie & sister Adilyn, Robin & Ronald Bass & sister Pria; Senior Riley Dighton with Parents Andrew & Chelsea & sister AnnaBelle



Bronc Basketball Hosts at Home

Kandi Tonsager

news@bellefourchebeacon.com

On Tuesday, January 13th, the Broncs hosted Lead-Deadwood at home.

The boys C team won over Lead-Deadwood 51-27. The Broncs led 12 to 4 after the first quarter, they scored an additional 10 points in the second quarter to Lead-Deadwood's 4, and 20 points in the third quarter to Lead-Deadwood's 7 points to bring the score to 42 to 15. In the fourth quarter, the Gold-diggers scored 12 points to the Broncs' 9 points, resulting in the final score to 51-27.

The boys JV team fell short to Lead Deadwood. The Broncs scored 21 points in the first quarter over Lead-Deadwood's 11 points, in the second quarter the Broncs kept their led with 17 points over Lead Deadwood's 14 points for a score of 38 to 25 going into the half. In the third quarter the Broncs scored 11

points while Lead Deadwood took off with 35 points during the quarter. In the fourth quarter, Lead Deadwood scored 19 points with the Broncs gaining an additional 7 points for a final score of 56-79.

The Varsity boys team took a loss of 46-64 to Lead Deadwood Tuesday night with first quarter scores close at 16 to 17, in the second quarter Lead Deadwood started to pull away scoring 19 points to the Broncs' 8 for a score of 24- 36 going into the half.

In the 3rd quarter the Broncs scored an additional 5 points to Lead Deadwood's 14 points and the Broncs outscored the Digger with 17 point to 14 points in the fourth.

Lead scorers for the game were, Sern Weishaar with 11 points, Gabe Raba with 7 points, and Revyn Audiss with 6 points. Noah Mailloux and Ben Raba each scored 5 points,

followed by Gavin Pearson and JP Jensen each with 4 points and Tatum Martin and Ian Voyles with 2 points.

On Thursday, January 15th, the Broncs played a makeup game against Newcastle that was held up due to inclement weather in December from the Stateline Shootout.

It was a close game with a final score of 51-54 and on Saturday, January 17th, the Broncs hosted Bowman County with the Varsity game ending 44-54.

The Lady Broncs played their Stateline Shootout makeup game against Newcastle on Thursday, January 15th with a win 56-36.

On Saturday, January 17th, the Lady Broncs fell to the Bowman County Bulldogs in a close matchup 30-34.

Next on the schedule for the Broncs is the Hill City Rangers with a 7:30 tipoff in Hill City, followed by Mahpiya Luta at

GOOD LUCK TO THE
Broncs
BASKETBALL TEAMS!

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home with a 3:30pm tipoff in the Belle Fourche High School gym and for the Lady Broncs, January 20th in Hill City with a 6pm tipoff, followed by the Winner Warriors on Thursday,

January 22nd in Winner with a 5pm Central Time tipoff. On Saturday January 24th they will host Mahpiya Luta at home with a 2pm tipoff in the Belle Fourche High School gym.

Lady Bronc Basketball Action Photos Courtesy Laura Young





**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 February meeting schedule: Monday February from 2-4 PM. Saturday, February 21 from 10 AM to Noon. 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 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

Our pool will be closed to the public every Tuesday and Thursday from 5 PM - 6:45 PM for swimming lessons. This will be from January 13th to February 5th. The following week we will be back to normal business hours. We will be open after for lap swim until 7:30 PM afterwards. Thank you to everyone who signed up for lessons! We are excited to offer them again.

As always, please reach out if you have any questions, comments, or concerns! My email is listed below as well as the Rec Center front desk number collin@bellefourche.org 605-892-2467

Classes

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 - 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 bellefourherec.com

We will have a **Program Finale January Fitness 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!

Mileage can be accumulated in and out of the Rec and includes mileage on the bikes, treadmills, ellipticals, etc.

We are excited to see how many miles our community can accomplish!

Tri-State Museum

Belle Fourche Arts Council to hold third annual Photography Contest

The Belle Fourche Arts Council will hold its third annual "Rural Life Expressions" Photography Contest in February, with the final judging and public reception to take place on February 28 from 5-7 p.m.

Submissions can be made from February 2 through February 20, and participant categories include Under 18 and Adult. Subject categories include Landscape, People and Animals. There is an entry fee of \$20 per entrant and this covers four submissions, with two maximum per category.

Prizes will be awarded for each subject category: 1st place - \$175; 2nd place - \$100; 3rd place - \$50. There will also be awards for People's Choice for each subject category.

Entries will be on exhibit in the Tri-State Museum gallery from February 24 through February 28 and prizes will be awarded at the Tri-State Museum & Visitor Center reception on Saturday, February 28 5-7pm.

Entry forms and additional info, available online at <http://www.rurallifeexpressions.com>.

Mail or drop-off entries to: Tri-State Museum and Visitor Center, 415 5th Avenue, Belle Fourche, SD 57717. If sent via mail, the postmark date must be no later than February 20, 2024.

For additional information, please call 605-723-1200.

Tri-State Museum to hold First Saturday Brunch on "Weather Matters"

The Tri-State Museum and Visitor Center in Belle Fourche will hold a First Saturday Brunch on Saturday, February 7 at 10 a.m. The featured speaker will be retired meteorologist Susan Sanders, speaking on unusual weather in the Black Hills.

The brunch at 10 a.m. is \$5 per person or free to museum members. The presentation at 10:30 a.m. is free to all.

Reservations are required, whether for the brunch/presentation or just the presentation. Call 605-723-1200. Those who wish to attend are urged to call soon as brunches fill up quickly. There is typically a waiting list for seats, so if you make a reservation but cannot come, please call the museum to say so.

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



City Council Opportunity!
Ward 1, 2 & 3 opening
Have you ever thought about serving your community?
Now's your chance! 

There are currently open seats on City Council, and petitions will be available starting February 6th for those interested in running. If you're passionate about making a difference and shaping the future of our city, we encourage you to consider this opportunity.

17 Petitions available: February 6th

 Belle Fourche City Hall 511 6th Ave. Belle Fourche, SD 57717

Belle Fourche High School "A" and "B" Honor Roll

"A" Honor Roll

Seniors' "A" Honor Roll: Griffen Biehl, Tiril Brattas, Joshua Brill, Tegan Fredericksen, Reagan Hatling, Trinity Hostetter, Emma Juelfs, Leah Lambert, Aurora Larive, Denali Larson, Justus Marshall, Joseph McLennan, Atlee Olson, Jazlyn Olson, Trigg Olson, Raif Parmeter, Syd Pelster, Kate Williamson

Juniors' "A" Honor Roll: Kloe Barber, Denali Biegert, Mya Bush, Tacen Carr, Madison Dalton, Angela Derschan, Misty Drieling, Brooke Garman, Zachary Gerbracht, Iva Hale, Kora Knoapp, Paxton Luong, Jobie Manke, Dylan Park, Gabriel Raba, Elliot Schreder, Derek Scott, Lynley Seaman, Austey Stiefvater, Olivia Sutter, Clifford Torberson, Addilyn VanSickle, Nicholas Vetter, Aurora Voyles, Ian Voyles, Keagan Walker, Trevor Welles, Logan Willert

Sophomores' "A" Honor Roll: Nathan Anderson, Jaxon Bach, Kate Blair, Brahnson Brink, LuKayzee Brink, Cooper Conry, Chloe Crowser, Eva Daniels, Mikka Dunavant, Micaylah Harwood, Londyn Hermann, Jaye Hollow-Horn, Kaylie Ivester, Jaездyn Jones, Jaxon Kirksey, Birk Kraft, Macy Krautschun, Hadley Kudlock, Parker Lee, Kavin Lynch, Joshua Main, Peyton Manke, Tatum Martin, Hailey Millett, Emma Nehl, Tenley Neuharth, Iris Nieman, Mya Nowowiejski, Jozelin Palmer, Rhys Pearson, Abigail Schmidt, Charleigh Silvernagel, Alexa Stone, Aolani Stone, Kaeli Thompson, Kloie Udager, Dante White, Turner Williams, Daven Williamson, **Freshman "A" Honor Roll:** Fara Bricker, Lissy Broderson, Ella Bryan, William Cudmore, Oaklee Curtis, Delilah Daniels, Kasey Dobesh, Nathan Erhart, Owen Hatling, Sadee Keil, Rhyann Knapp, Aaliyah Lennon, Sedona Marshall, Kalani Meyers, Elizabeth Moore, Ansley O'Brien, Neeko Piekola, Jess Pinkerton, McKenzie Rans, Raina Reder, Payton Richardson, Jaylea Scoggin, Rebecca Stumpf, Mariah Tanninen, Jaxsen Tucker, Lyla VanderBoom, Madisyn VanSickle,

"B" Honor Roll

Seniors' "B" Honor Roll: Ysabelle Angeles, Avey Atkins, Nathan Bowers, Hunter Cazer, Riley Dighton, Caleb Dosch, Cierra Erhart, Urijah Hamilton, Adeline Hayes, Ashtyn Hight, Tucker Hughes, Slater Humbracht, Journee Littleton, Merik McNeese, Gavin Pearson, Alexis Pickett, Andrew Pruitt, Corbin Rowe, Roenn Ruzicka, Rylan Stedillie, Stephen Stein, Lily Tippmann, Aubree Wallery, Lukas Warmbrunn

Juniors' "B" Honor Roll: Elsie Adams, Carmen Beguin, Koby Bowden, Lann Broderson, Madisyn Carson, Lennon Clarkson, Conner Crowser, Sierra Feickert, Carter Goeders, Mary Hayworth, Cynthia Katon, Adian Keil, Prosper Knappen, Preston Lake, Deegan Lunders, Clay Mackaben, Annika McNeese, Lucila Merjil, Riley Okeson, Jory Olson, Max Rhoads, Vivienne Riesland, Casen Schmidt, Lindsey Selzler, Ember Shannon, Clayton Tanninen, Lucas Tonsager, Kyra Vandenberg, Kale Williams, Kaylyn Wolf, Ryan Wood

Sophomores' "B" Honor Roll: Alice Biden, Liah Castro-Bazurto, Abbey Clendening, Mollie Collins, Veronika Crouch, Johnny Estrada, McKenzie Ewalt, LouElla Gleason, Ivanna Gonzalez-Bazurto, Timothy Graig, Colt Humbracht, Evan Jackson, Jack Johnson, Jeffery Lafontaine, Kailynn Lang, Zion Morales, Davian O'Brien, Dyllon Pea, Jasmine Reason, Trey Shannon, Caden Swaney, Teagan Tompkins, Chelsea Zinke

Freshman "B" Honor Roll: Alexis Allart, Reven Audiss, Presley Conry, Andrew Coyle, Avery Coyle, Marcus Fetty, Kylie Frisbie, Kimber Gabert, Rylan Gross, Mars Hill, Mackenzie Huston, Ainsley Jewett, Cora Kokinos, Connor Kukla, Ellie Kukuchka, Rose LaFayette, Hope Ogaard, Isaiah Slama, Saxton Stiefvater, Brystel Tucker, Belle Welles,



WINTER BALL
DENIM AND DIAMONDS
Belle Fourche Community Hall
Tickets
Single - \$20
Couple - \$35
Table - \$150 (8 per table)
Day of price goes up \$10
Dinner provided, Alcohol for purchase
JANUARY 31
AT 6PM
Tickets can be picked up at Belle Fourche Chamber



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



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



January
28th - 2PM Estate Planning in Buffalo
29th - 5:30PM Register of Deeds informative lecture - Grap's Burgers, 6:30 PM CASA Board member informative meeting - Spearfish
31st - 1PM Cracker Barrel @ Venue 519
Feb 2 - 6PM City Council Meeting

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

The 2026 Lawrence County District 31 Legislative Crackerbarrels:
Will be held Saturday, February 7th at the Joy Center (1351 St Joe St. Spearfish, SD) and Saturday, February 28th at the Deadwood Gulch (304 Cliff St, Deadwood).
Both events will be held at 10:00 AM.

The District 31 Lawrence County Cracker Barrels are organized by the Spearfish and Deadwood Chamber of Commerce to give the community an opportunity to meet with our elected officials.

Legislative Crackerbarrels in your area offer access to your local legislators, as well as the chance to hear their answers on a variety of legislative topics. Each elected official will give an update on the committees they serve and bills that have been introduced. Attendees will have the opportunity to submit questions in writing at the event.

Senator Deibert, Representative Odenbach and Representative Fitzgerald have been invited to sit as a panel to give updates on the current legislative session.

Our legislators are also available at that time to answer questions from the audience. The events are free to attend.

For more information, contact the Spearfish Chamber 605-642-2626 or the Deadwood Chamber 605-578-1876.

Show Up

by Belle LaVenue



SHOW UP
by Belle LaVenue

Theater and MORE theater! From middle school to high school to local community theater, the stage is a busy location.

Getting ready to take over the theater in a couple weeks, is the BFMS Theater cast and crew with practices for their show, **VOLTAGE**, an electric comedy about robots. Pay attention, Elon Musk - a future full of robots might not be the dream you imagine! Their show is also well into the future: We will see them onstage in mid-March.

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. According to BFACT information, This workshop is free to the public and open to anyone 18+. The workshop will dive into directing techniques and theory, making it a great place to start if you've never directed before. Even seasoned directors will find valuable insights to take away. Much of the workshop will focus on the complexities, unique opportunities, and challenges that come with directing for community theater.

BFACT AUDITIONS: Auditions are coming up for the first show of the BFACT 2026 Season, "Curtain Call: A Night of One-Acts" on February 3 & 5 at 6:15pm at the BF Rec Center Auditorium. Come audition for a role (or roles) in four different one-acts that range from comedy to drama. You don't need anything prepared, just bring yourself. If you are unable to make auditions and need to schedule a different time, please email director@bellefourcheact.com. The show itself will be on March 27 - 29.

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 28, Wednesday: BFACT FREE Directors Workshop hosted by Derek Olson, BFACT Executive Director.
February 3 & 4, Tuesday & Wednesday: AUDITIONS for BFACT A Night of One-Acts, 6:15 PM. BF Rec Center Theater.
March 13 & 14, Friday & Saturday: BFMS performances of Voltage, 7 PM @ the BF Rec Center Theater.
March 27-29, BFACT presents "Curtain Call: A Night of One-Acts"



Local DJ Spins Passion Into Business

Robbi Longbrake
news@bellefourchebeacon.com

BELLE FOURCHE—The new year brings a new opportunity for Belle Fourche resident Michael Meemken.

After more than 20 years working as a DJ for other companies, he launched his own business, Pass the Mike Entertainment.

After Mike's first time singing karaoke, he was hooked. At the young age of 19, he got his start DJing in Southwest Minnesota. His first time on the mic, he wasn't even old enough to get into the local bar that was hosting the event, so he had no choice but to sneak in to sing.

"The guy that was DJing there asked if I ever thought about DJing—because I was just up there singing and having a good old time," explained Meemken. "I stayed there until closing and ended up getting hired!"

I learned that, as entertainment, you don't need to be 21 (to be in the bar) so I got hired with their company!"

Meemken has been a DJ long enough that he has seen the technology change. Around 2002, vinyl setups gave way to digital systems. "I went from flipping discs to digital," he said.

The DJ moved to Belle Fourche area in 2005. "I set up at Brooster's Brewery on Thursday, Friday, and Saturday nights.

We started Thursday night Kamikaze Karaoke, where they would sing songs they've never sang before, or I'd randomly pick one for them—it kicked off really good," shared Meemken.

He continued working and filling in for other companies and DJs until Rhonda Schild at the Outlaw Bar decided to buy a system and reached out to Meemken. "She asked if I would DJ and so I helped her pick out her new system.

Rhonda has been very supportive over the last 10 years," he said.

A dream that Meemken has had for a really long time finally came to fruition this year. "I bought my own system, finally," he shared. "First of all, finally, just finally—I've talked about it for years, and I just finally did it!"

I started looking online and found a website that I could order everything from—the lights and the mixer, speakers, the whole bit, everything that I need. Before everything even arrived, I got booked for a show!"

Getting his own system is something Meemken has wanted to do for a long time. "I lived

out here for 20 years and I've turned down so many weddings because I never had my own system," he explained. "I'm ready to do weddings now—I've already booked two for this year without any advertising!"

Going by the name DJ Smiley Mike, he is all about getting everyone involved with having a great time with great music! You can find him once a month at the Outlaw. "I'll be there February 13 and 14 for Valentine's Day weekend," he said.

He uses a system called Karafun, so he is able to get most any song participants may request. "They have all your new songs, so there's very few songs I don't have for karaoke...they take care of all my licensing and everything, so I don't have to worry about that," explained Meemken.

Coming up in February, DJ Smiley Mike will be partnering with the one and only Lil' Raya, his daughter, for the elementary school Glow Light Party. Raya, 13, gets to help pick out music for the event.

This is a part-time gig for Meemken, as he works full time at Hersruds Auto Family.

He explained, "Karaoke is my addiction, and this is my way of feeding it—doing weddings and stuff—it's just fun. It's great!"

For more information, you can reach out to DJ Smiley Mike at Pass the Mike Entertainment on.

Directing
for community theater



WORKSHOP / **JANUARY 28**



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



DJ Smiley Mike playing tunes for the crowd at the **Outlaw Bar** on Saturday night. *Courtesy photo*

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Roots 49: A New Year at Home and Abroad

Meg English

news@bellefourchebeacon.com



We did not go home for Christmas this year. We were invited to celebrate with

friends. There were seven place settings on the long table at Christmas Eve dinner, but only six of us were present. The occasion was a traditional Polish Christmas Eve dinner party, called Wigilia. Wigilia consists of twelve meatless courses, painstakingly prepared, and served in abundance.

Regarding the extra place setting, our host explained, "My mother would never forgive me if I forgot to set the extra place." He placed emphasis on the word, 'never'.

Our host is the second oldest son of Polish immigrants who

escaped Poland following WWII. When Poland was invaded by Germany in 1939 and subsequently Russia, political upheaval changed life abruptly for everyone.

Our host's mother Danka, her mother, and two siblings were displaced from their rural village in the far east of what is now part of Ukraine. During Danka's childhood, the family's farm and their village were part of Poland. The nearest large city was Lviv, farther east in Ukraine.

Danka, the youngest family member was just entering her teens when the family was transported to a Soviet refugee camp in Siberia. They travelled on slow moving trains crowded with other refugees.

In the Polish tradition, the additional place setting symbolizes the custom of welcoming unexpected guests who might appear at the door on Christmas Eve.

The extra chair and plate

are reserved for the sacred unexpected guests, Mary and Joseph as well as absent loved ones, friends, and neighbors. On Christmas Eve in Poland, guests are not unexpected and not to be turned away.

Wigilia translates to 'vigil' The Wigilia feast is a celebratory occasion that typically lasts for several hours, suitable for any vigil that may take some time.

Christmas 1938 was the last time Danka's family celebrated Wigalia together. It was a happy time. Her father Wladyslaw who was very unwell came home from the hospital to have Christmas with the family. He died a little while later, but the family did not know of his passing until quite some time later.

Alcohol such as vodka may be served during Wigalia or it may be completely absent.

As our group was celebrating Polish Christmas in France, we substituted a little French Rose for vodka.

The first course is oplatek. These are flat, wafers embossed with the nativity scene. Each person starting with the host breaks off a piece of a wafer, and passes it to the next person. Everyone around the table will share a piece of the wafer with others around that same table. During the sharing, people exchange their wishes for the upcoming year.

The next course was a delicious beet broth soup, called borscht or in Polish 'Barszcz' with mushroom stuffed dumplings called Uszka. The broth is fermented naturally and takes 5-10 days to prepare. The mushrooms may be collected in the forest and the dumplings prepared and stuffed by hand.

Wigalia is one of the most important celebrations of the year in Polish tradition. Most of the dishes are cooked only once a year and specifically for this special day.

The main courses were all

served after the Barszcz. There were pierogie dumplings made by wrapping unleavened dough around a filling and cooking in boiling water. Polish pierogies are usually served plain without sauce.

Additional dishes might include herring, ryebread, sauerkraut, cabbage coleslaw, cabbage rolls, red beet cabbage with caraway seed, and my favorite, crepe pancakes stuffed with potatoes, and topped with mushrooms.

Finally, there are desserts, and always more than one. Poppy-seed cake and gingerbread cake are familiar options. The twelve different dishes, symbolize the Twelve Apostles. Variations are allowed. Carp is the main component of the Christmas Eve meal across Poland, prepared as carp fillet, carp in aspic, and gefilte fish.

In place of carp, our host prepared baked salmon with herbs and butter.

Our host's mother, Danka, her brother, Jan and sister, Zosia and mother, Janina were held in the Soviet refugee camp for many months with little hope or being released and even less hope of returning to their former home.

Finally, they were able to make their way to freedom, but the journey was arduous. They had nothing. Starvation and disease nearly cost them their fragile lives on more than one occasion.

The family's journey took them far out of the way, nearly to China and finally to Iran, where Janina succumbed to starvation, died. She is buried in Iran.

Our host's mother Danka came very close to death several times during her sojourn from Siberia. The odds were not in her favor. Starvation and dysentery were recurring factors. Her survival as well as that of her siblings is miraculous.

Eventually, Danka, Jan and Zosia were among around 200,000

Poles who found refuge in the United Kingdom after World War II.

Historically staying in one's country of origin is not always possible or desirable. People migrate for myriad reasons such as natural disasters, political unrest, global warming, forced political evacuation, the list goes on.

Today, people finding safe refuge is more difficult than ever. The tacit declarative that "people should stay in their own countries" is ideology firmly fixed in most countries today. Walls have been devised both to keep people "out" or to keep them "in".

Perhaps readers will recall the Berlin wall a formidable barrier erected around East Berlin after World War II to force people to stay 'home'. In the 1980s when the Berlin Wall became more trouble than it was worth, it came down and souvenir pieces of the wall can be found in various places including Memorial Park in Rapid City.

It seems like a lot of angst for no reason.

Along with many world wanderers, we did not stay home for the recent holiday season.

Our Wigilia host was born in England where his parents, Polish refugees were welcomed after the war. The family moved to Scotland with their five children. Our host welcomed us to Wigilia at his home in France with a characteristic Scottish accent. Altogether, the six Wigilia guests represented five nationalities.

As an American, I am most comfortable with people and traditions from other cultures. America is a nation of immigrants

My takeaway from the traditional Wigilia celebration was like being home. We all need a little Christmas. We all need a little Christmas at home and abroad.

Thank you, Danka. Thank you for making sure the table was set. Thank you for the invitation to share what it means to be "home".



Beet broth soup, a traditional part of the Polish Christmas Eve feast is not a simple process. The broth is fermented for 5-10 days. The dumplings are prepared and stuffed with mushrooms perhaps collected from the forest. However, Baby Bella or dried porcini mushrooms from the grocery store will do.



Transports of people in Poland being deported in early 1940. (Courtesy Photo)

BELLE CHIRO PRACTIC
RELIEVE - HEAL - MAINTAIN

GENTLEMAN'S NIGHT CHAMBER MIXER

Tuesday- February 17th
4:30-6:30PM
1407 5tgh Ave. #200

Connect and Collect drawing at 6PM

Belle Fourche CHAMBER OF COMMERCE

COWBOYS TOO!
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COWBOYS TOO!

SPORT COATS

Good Shepherd FREE CLINIC

Shepherd of the Hills Church
825 W Main Street in Lead

Next Clinic: Lead - February 12 and 26
Registration: 6:00-7:00 p.m.

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

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

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

Cattle Report - Friday, January 23, 2026

Right at 1500 HD On This Cold Day With Lots Of Demand!
Next Sale - January 30th - Bred Hfr & Cow Special - 9 AM
Thank you for marketing with St Onge Livestock!

Feeder Cattle					
Brence, Charles & Greg, Ekalaka MT	62	Bld	Str	868	\$363.00
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Brence, Charles & Greg, Ekalaka MT	57	Bk	Str	712	\$401.50
Brence, Charles & Greg, Ekalaka MT	43	Bld	Hfr	684	\$380.00
Brence, Charles & Greg, Ekalaka MT	14	Bld	Hfr	578	\$434.00
Brown, Roger, Fruitdale SD	30	Bld	Str	908	\$328.00
Brown, Roger, Fruitdale SD	21	Bk	Hfr	866	\$316.00
Duprel Ranch, Sturgis SD	47	Bld	Str	613	\$459.00
Duprel Ranch, Sturgis SD	90	Bk	Str	713	\$407.50
Duprel Ranch, Sturgis SD	23	Bld	Hfr	597	\$419.00
Duprel Ranch, Sturgis SD	80	Bk	Hfr	695	\$399.00
Habeck, Lee, Sundance WY	38	Hfr	Str	624	\$422.50
Habeck, Lee, Sundance WY	10	Xrd	Str	539	\$382.50
Habeck, Lee, Sundance WY	23	Hfr	Hfr	589	\$450.00
Habeck, Lee, Sundance WY	15	Hfr	Hfr	578	\$475.00
Harmon, Josh & Sophie, Terry MT	35	Hfr	Str	769	\$349.00
Harmon, Josh & Sophie, Terry MT	29	Hfr	Hfr	725	\$405.00
Harmon, Josh & Sophie, Terry MT	14	Hfr	Hfr	592	\$455.00
Hutchinson, Drew & Judy & Clay, Aladdin WY	63	Red	Str	560	\$482.00
Hutchinson, Drew & Judy & Clay, Aladdin WY	22	Red	Str	445	\$537.50
JL Livestock, Melville MT	13	Bk	Str	427	\$595.00
JL Livestock, Melville MT	28	B/R	Str	540	\$447.00
Miller Ranch Inc, St Onge SD	11	Hfr	Str	661	\$382.50
Nixon, Reni, Alzada MT	14	Bk	Hfr	515	\$475.00
Opstedahl, Loren, Union Center SD	15	Bk	Hfr	659	\$404.00
Perner, Tony, Newell SD	22	Bk	Str	675	\$416.00
Perli, Richard Or Sharon, Rapid City SD	32	Bk	Hfr	596	\$436.00
Perli, Richard Or Sharon, Rapid City SD	11	Bk	Hfr	525	\$469.00
Schmidt, Cleve, Newell SD	13	Bk	Hfr	577	\$464.00
Ryan Xz Ranch Llc, Aladdin WY	60	Bld	Hfr	614	\$426.00
Ryan Xz Ranch Llc, Aladdin WY	14	Bld	Hfr	554	\$467.50
Severson, Brad, Vale SD	10	Red	Hfr	598	\$423.00
Sinson, Clint, Miss City MT	11	Bk	Hfr	578	\$444.00
Sinson, Clint, Miss City MT	77	B/R	Hfr	540	\$463.00
Valley, Randy & Rhonda, Nisland SD	41	Bld	Hfr	691	\$391.00
Wells, Gary, Forsyth MT	11	Bk	Hfr	592	\$429.00
Weyrich, Keith, Sturgis SD	42	Bld	Str	739	\$385.00
Weyrich, Keith, Sturgis SD	17	Bld	Str	610	\$457.00
Weyrich, Keith, Sturgis SD	48	Bld	Hfr	684	\$379.00
Weyrich, Keith, Sturgis SD	13	Bk	Hfr	563	\$440.00

Weigh Up Cows					
Andrews, Tom, Biddle MT	1	Bk	Ovette	1510	\$172.00
Coal Creek Ranch Llc, Gillette WY	1	Bk	Ovette	1480	\$179.00
Coal Creek Ranch Llc, Gillette WY	1	Bk	Ovette	1350	\$177.00
French, Conni D Or Craig R, Malta MT	1	Bk	Ovette	1240	\$208.00
French, Conni D Or Craig R, Malta MT	2	Bk	Cow	1377	\$153.00
Garman, Trevor, Belle Fourche SD	6	Bld	Ovette	1565	\$172.50
Garman, Trevor, Belle Fourche SD	2	B/R	Cow	1315	\$162.00
Gay Ranch Inc, Broadus MT	1	Bk	Ovette	1245	\$174.00
Goodson, Amy, Sundance WY	1	Bk	Hfr	1025	\$252.50
Goodson, Amy, Sundance WY	1	Bk	Ovette	1275	\$187.00
Goodson, Amy, Sundance WY	2	Bk	Cow	1660	\$168.00
Grubbs II, Dallas, Upton WY	1	Red	Hfr	910	\$265.00
Grubbs II, Dallas, Upton WY	2	Red	Ovette	1097	\$210.00
Grubbs II, Dallas, Upton WY	3	Bk	Ovette	1185	\$186.00
Grubbs II, Dallas, Upton WY	1	Red	Ovette	1375	\$181.00
Hutchinson, Clay, Aladdin WY	1	Red	Ovette	995	\$175.00
Kansanback, Wade, Belle Fourche SD	2	Bld	Cow	1757	\$156.00
Mills Ranch Livestock Llc, Sundance WY	1	Bk	Ovette	1185	\$205.00
Mills, Gary L & Gail A, Powell WY	4	Bk	Ovette	1438	\$175.00
Mitchell, John Or Anna, Aladdin WY	2	B/R	Cow	1247	\$172.00
Rbj Ranch West Llc, Sundance WY	1	Bk	Ovette	1245	\$178.00
Reid, James & Katherine, Nisland SD	1	Bk	Ovette	1420	\$177.50
Reid, James & Katherine, Nisland SD	2	Bk	Cow	1682	\$165.50
River Valley Ranch, Sundance WY	1	Red	Ovette	1255	\$187.50
Roberson, Triston, Newcastle WY	1	Bk	Cow	1460	\$151.00
Semlek Ranch, Moorcroft WY	1	Bld	Ovette	1540	\$176.00
Semlek Ranch, Moorcroft WY	1	Bk	Cow	1455	\$153.00

Williams, Loyd, Broadus MT	1	Bk	Hfr	1055	\$255.00
Weigh Up Bulls					
Brown, Kyle Or Shannon, Sturgis SD	1	Bk	Bull	1170	\$209.00
Garman, Trevor, Belle Fourche SD	2	Bk	Bull	1175	\$207.50
Maackaben, Ronny, Broadus MT	1	Bk	Bull	1820	\$185.00
Maackaben, Ronny, Broadus MT	1	Bk	Bull	1665	\$187.50
Schmidt, Cleve Or Kristy, Belle Fourche SD	3	Bk	Bull	1751	\$167.50
Schmidt, Cleve Or Kristy, Belle Fourche SD	1	Bk	Bull	1435	\$167.50
Stevens, Jan, Ashland MT	1	Bk	Bull	1875	\$190.00
Stevens, Jan, Ashland MT	1	Bk	Bull	1790	\$165.00
Turbiville, Brian, Belle Fourche Sd]	1	Char	Bull	1690	\$182.50

Friday, January 30, 2026

Bred Hfr & Cow Special

9:00 AM - Weigh Ups

12:00 Noon - Feeder Cattle Followed By Bred Cows

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

Bred Cows

21 Ranch - 115 Red & Bldy Hfrs - Bred Sons Of Piepers Captain - 3/14 For 30 Days - Home Raised

Smith Cattle Co - 26 Blk Hfrs - Bred Lbw Blk Angus - 4/25 For 25 Days

- 25 Blk Short Term Cows - Bred Blk - 4/10

- 35 Blk Solid Mouth Cows - Bred Blk - 6/1 For 20 Days

John & Mike Riley - 50 Blk Hfrs - 1100# - Bred Blk Angus - 3/1 - Fancy

- 6 Blk Hfrs - 1100# - Bred Blk Angus - 4/1 - Fancy

Sd Consignment - 50 Blk Short Term Cows - B Red Blk - 4/1

Hagedom Ranch - 30 Blk Hfrs - 1100# - Bred Blk - 3/15 For 45 Days

Whitney & Grubb - 12 Blk & Red Solid To Short Term Cows - Bred Blk - 3/25

Bill Carlisle - 10 Blk Young Cows - Bred Blk-Sim - 4/1

Randy Russell - 10 Corriente 4 To 8 Yr Old Cows - Bred Corriente - 5/1 For 60 Days

Terry Goodwin - 7 Blk Short Term Cows - Bred Blk Angus Or Herf - 4/28

Kelly Keegan - 4 Blk 6 To 8 Yr Old Cows - Bred Blk - Aug To Oct

Feeder Cattle

Kelly Keegan - 7 Blk Strs & Hfrs - 400-600# - Bt, Pc, Poured

Plus More By Sale Time!

2026 CATTLE SALES

- 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

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

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Sheep Report - Thursday, January 15, 2026

Small Run Today
Lambs Sold Steady, Not Enough Ewes To Establish A Market

Next Sale - January 29th - Bred Ewe Special - Selling All Classes Of Sheep & Goats - Start Time 1:00 pm

Animals should be here by 10:00 am so they can be weighed before the sale
Thank you for your business!

Feeder Lambs

White, Howard, Upton WY	7	Lamb	61	\$405.00
White, Howard, Upton WY	92	Lamb	81	\$313.00
White, Howard, Upton WY	39	Lamb	99	\$274.00
Fralick, Kevan, Gillette WY	4	Lamb	101	\$274.00
Jensen, Andrew, Newell SD	10	Lamb	73	\$309.00
ND Consignment	13	Lamb	74	\$349.00
ND Consignment	10	Lamb	97	\$278.00

NEWELL SHEEP YARDS

Thursday, January 29, 2026

Bred Ewe Special

1:00 pm

PLUS MORE BY SALE TIME!

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

2026 SHEEP SALES

- 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

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

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Exploring the New Year at the Tri-State Museum

Robbi Longbrake

news@bellefourchebeacon.com

BELLE FOURCHE—The Tri-State Museum offers many exciting, entertaining and educational programs throughout the year. January brought several different activities, including a class aimed at exploring January and the New Year. The class was geared for students

in grades third, fourth and fifth and was held Saturday morning, January 24.

The educational morning was led by Samantha Comes, Program and Events Assistant. She shared that this was her first class she was teaching since taking over her current position and it took her about a week to prepare for the lessons. "Today we are going to learn about

January in the New Year," she explained. "So where did January come from?"

Janus was a Roman god with two faces... it is said that he had one face that looked into the past and another one that looked into the future. This is why January represents the beginnings of a new year."

The morning started with

a video about the story of the Roman god Janus, and after some discussion moved into another video about how to set New Year's goals and how to make those goals attainable. Comes led an activity to help students set New Year's resolutions.

A take-home packet was given to participants.

If you have a student who is

interested in participating in future classes, the next one will be February 21 and will explore ground-hogs. Participants will get to make their own groundhog. Make sure you call the Museum and sign up for the class.

Up next for the Museum is the opening of their next temporary exhibit, called Our Town: Downtown Belle Fourche Through the Years. It will open Saturday, January 31 and run through May 22.



(L) Starting the video for the class January and the New Year. (R) Samantha Comes, Program and Events Assistant at the Tri-State Museum leads the class January and the New Year. Longbrake photo

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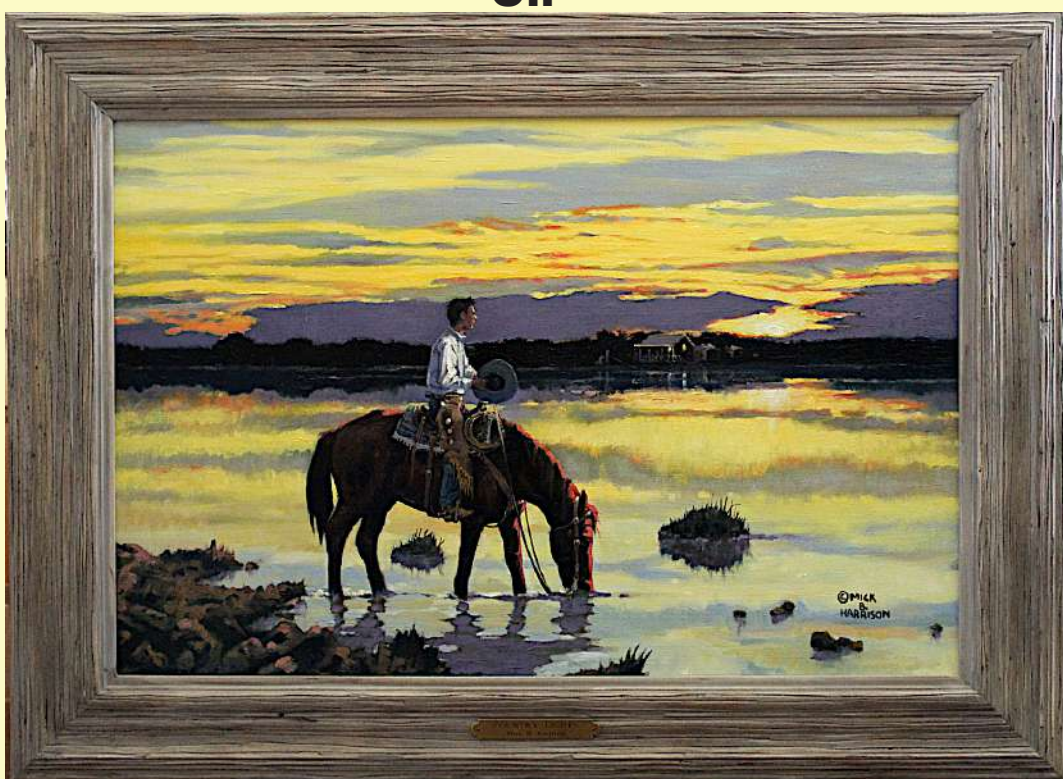
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Looking Back in Belle

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

red units were pulling back behind the Han river for a major stand there.

ARMY CALLS FOR 80,000 IN APRIL Washington, Feb. 1 - The army has ordered selective service to draft 80,000 more men in April. The request boosts the number of draftees requested by the military since the start of the Korean war to 530,000. Local boards will receive their April quotas from state draft headquarters later.

50 years ago
The Belle Fourche Daily Post
 February 2, 1976

Letter to the Editor WHAT IS COMMUNISM ANYWAY? Bud Cooper, South Dakota rancher, was unanimously voted out of the NFO because "He is a communist." Mr. Cooper admits he "approves of communism." What is communism, anyway? Is it an economic system? A political party? An ideal way of life where all people are liberated and equal? Or none of these? Are our elected and appointed officials giving us a true picture of communism when they return with words of praise from communist countries? Bud Cooper's situation gives rise to two comments: 1. Let's not look for a communist "under every bed"; 2. Let's find out what communism really is. A good place to start is to attend the Patrick Mahoney "talk and question" evening at the Sundance Episcopal Parish Hall, Saturday, Feb. 14. Mr. Mahoney will give a first hand account of his experiences as a veteran of the world of espionage and counter-intelligence in Laos, North and South Vietnam and Europe. Mahoney's topic is: "What is Communism, Anyway? As Pat Mahoney tours the United States, his only other appearance in this area will be Gillette. It is imperative that we find out why, on the one hand, people try desperately to escape communist Russia, Cuba and China. Yet our leaders praise these regimes and beg them to negotiate arms limitations and make trade deals with us. Are we being sold out by a few top level "experts"? Are we being deliberately deceived by a controlled news media? What is communism? Maybe we'd better find out, and soon. Mrs. Joe Svoboda, Alva, Wyoming

Senior Citizens Hear About Belle Meals Program Explanation of the meals-in-wheels program, a guest speaker and plans for card parties were some of the features of the Senior Citizens meeting held Sunday and attended by 103 people. A. H. Mortenson, who is in charge of the meals-on-wheels program explained how the operation will work. The Don Pratt Manor will prepare the meals and the food will be delivered by volunteers. The program is in operation Monday thru Friday. Mrs. Fred Hallstrom related some of her experiences with meals on wheels. Sponsored by the Belle Fourche Senior Citizens organization, this project of furnishing hot, well-prepared meals to older residents or the disabled got under way this week.

127 years ago
Belle Fourche TIMES
 January 10, 1899
Mrs. Marble Dead That dread disease, diphtheria, is in Belle Fourche and has taken from our midst the beloved wife of A. H. Marble, cashier of Butte County Bank, who died this afternoon at 4:30 o'clock. Mrs. Marble had been suffering with her throat for nearly a week, and on Sunday Dr. Paddock, of Deadwood, was called in for consultation and it was decided that it was a case of diphtheria. The house and occupants were at once quarantined and every precaution taken to prevent the spreading of the disease. During the past week Dr. Townsent has been constantly at the bedside of Mrs. Marble and exhausted every resource known to the medical profession to save her life but to no avail. The deceased was a loving mother, affectionate wife and was loved by all who know here. She leaves two small children - one about five months, and other four years old - and husband to mourn her demise. The affected husband has the sincere sympathy of the entire population. Interment will take place tomorrow.

TALK OF THE TOWN At the recent meeting of the directors of the Shedley Cattle company, Ed Lemmon resigned as general manager and S. G. Sheffield, of Sturgis. Was elected to the position. Mr. Sheffield was in the employ of this company for many years and the promotion, which means a big fat salary, is merited.

100 years
The Northwest Post
 February 11, 1926
FOR BETTER FARMING AND BETTER LIVESTOCK President D. R. Evans of the First National bank of Belle Fourche and County Agent A. D. Ellison were in Rapid City last Thursday, attending a joint meeting of the bankers representing the eighth district of the South Dakota Bankers' Association and county agents. Mr. Evans said that the meeting was one of importance to the farming and live stock interests of this part of the state, the slogan adopted being "Better Farming and Better Live Stock." The bankers section of the meeting passed a resolution heartily endorsing the county agents' plans for boys' and girls' club work, and will co-operate with them in every way. "Ninety per cent of the wealth of South Dakota comes from the farm" A. E. Anderson, director of extension. That means that when we aid in securing better methods of agriculture, we are aiding our own prosperity as well as that of the state. When we teach our children better methods of farming and house-building, we are aiding an improvement of a permanent nature."

ACQUITTED OF PERJURY CHARGE The long-drawn-out perjury case against Dr. Fred L. Mitchell of Newell, which occupied the entire time of circuit court six days last week and all day Monday of this week, resulted in an acquittal of the defendant after a few minutes deliberation by the jury. During the trial of this

case a large number of witnesses were called by both sides, the testimony being completed Saturday afternoon, when the court read the instructions to the jury and an adjournment was taken until 10:00 a.m. Monday. The arguments by the attorneys lasted until Monday afternoon at about 3:30, when the case was given to the jury. Judge McNeany excused the entire list for the balance of the term.

75 years ago
Belle Fourche Daily Post
 January 30, 1951
Mercury Hits -26 in Belle Fourche
 Temperatures skidded to 26 below zero here Sunday night to hit a new low for an otherwise mild winter. The -26 was recorded on the official thermometers at the diversion dam on the outskirts of town. Similar - and lower- readings were reported in Belle Fourche. A bright sun fought the bitter cold Monday to bring the mercury up as far as 12 above. However, the temperature began to fall again in late afternoon. At 5 p.m. the thermometer read eight above zero. Sunday's low reading followed two days of frigid temperatures. The mercury began dropping Friday night, remained low thru Saturday. Low reading Saturday night was -20, and the highest point reached Sunday was -8. Belle Fourche wasn't alone however. Towns throughout the region reported record season lows. Custer led the list with -36 Sunday night. Rapid City and Deadwood had -24, Aberdeen -32, Mobridge -31, Watertown -30, Lemmon and Brookings -27, Philip -25 and Pierre and Hot Springs -25.

Typhus Strikes Red Forces In Korea Tokyo, Feb. 1 - Chinese communists have been set back by a dread new enemy in Korea. An army spokesman says a typhus epidemic has hit the communists hard and "materially reduced" their fighting ability. He sways the outbreak started three weeks ago and shows no signs of letting up. It has spread to the North Koreans. But American and other UN troops, because of their inoculations, have not been affected. Typhus has been an enemy of armies in the field for centuries. Sanitation and injection methods have kept it from affecting modern armies. But the communists in Korea have fought a primitive war from the start, and their poorly-equipped troops easily fall victim to the scourge. The Pentagon spokesman says the epidemic among the reds has resulted in a change in UN operations, especially on the eastern flank. The indication is that the outbreak is partially responsible for the mysterious lull last month, and the present allied offensive. However, by now the reds appear to have removed their sick to rear areas and sent fresh troops to the front.

A regiment of American and French troops in the central sector was encircled by 8000 enemy troops yesterday and still was fighting for its life today. A rescue column was trying to get thru. Planes dropped supplies to the surrounded and outnumbered allies, but there is no late word on their plight. To the west, below Seoul, other allied troops found enemy rear guards making a stand to the death. Airmen said large numbers of

FLYING V - SHEIDLEY CATTLE CO. First range on French Creek southeast of the Black Hills on South Fork of the Cheyenne. Then north to the Belle Fourche or North Fork of Cheyenne river and to the Moreau rivers. Dave Glark, gen. mgr., Ed Lemmon, asst. mgr., and Sam Sheffield range mgr. 30,000 cattle.

From *Back Trailing in the Heart of Short Grass Country* by John O. Bye published in 1956 Their last round-up was in about 1907

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Shaine Odell
 MANAGER

shaine@buffalohardwarestore.com

We've got you covered with products to fit any project or need!

- Pole Barns
- Steel Buildings
- Barbed Wire
- Steel Posts
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- Water Tanks
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- Concrete
- Continuous Fence
- Gates
- Panels
- Drill Stem
- Guard Rail
- Valspar Paint
- Lumber
- Full line Hardware Store

Store: 605-375-3322
 buffalohardwarestore.com

Keller Williams Realty Black Hills



(605) 210-1162
 email: alank@kw.com



501 Grant Street Belle Fourche, SD
 Licensed in SD & WY

Alan Kindsfater
 Broker Associate <https://www.bhhomeandland.com>

SUPERIOR WATER

your local water experts

(605) 717-3210

SuperiorWaterSD.com

- WATER CONDITIONING
- SOFTENERS
- FILTERS
- RO'S
- SALT

SUBSCRIBE TO THE BEACON
\$52 online or local
www.bellefourchebeacon.com

SEND US YOUR NEWS AND PHOTOS
news@BelleFourcheBeacon.com
Your Support is appreciated!

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

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

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





Toll Free: 800-894-8684

Office: 605-892-2655

Fax: 605-892-3142

18662 Livestock Road • Belle Fourche, SD 57717 • www.bellefourchelivestock.com

"The Cattlemen's Market - Where buyers & sellers come together with confidence!"

TRAVIS LINCH

- OWNER -

CELL - 605-892-5951

OFFICE - 605-892-2655

JADE HARPER

Auctioneer: 605-515-0337

COLLIN GIBBS

Auctioneer: 406-939-0645

DAN PIROUTEK

Market Rep: 605-544-3316

BRIAN SCHMIDT

Yard Foreman: 605-569-0114

FIELDMEN

BRETT LOUGHLIN - 605-210-0615

MIKE GREENOUGH - 307-620-2597

BEN GREENOUGH - 307-620-5553

SHANE MOKE - 605-641-7961

TYLER GAER - 605-222-9513

JOHN HENRY BEARDSLEY -

406-853-4938

SCOTT ANDERSON - 406-351-1844

RILEY LESH - 406-697-0573

TREVOR GARMAN - 605-892-5972

"SERVING THE TRI-STATE AREA SINCE 1935"

Market Report - Thursday, JANUARY 22, 2026

THANK YOU FOR YOUR BUSINESS!

FEEDER CATTLE	HD	DESC	WT	BID	\$/HEAD
Mobley Land Inc, Olive MT	95	Black-Str	566	508.00	\$2,876.34
	78	Black-Str	469	576.00	\$2,699.81
Box L Cattle Co, Hammond MT	85	Black-Str	773	380.25	\$2,939.55
	85	Black-Str	785	380.25	\$2,984.73
	89	Black-Str	684	419.00	\$2,866.14
	14	Black-Str	633	450.00	\$2,847.85
Burdick Ranch, Baker MT	87	Black-Str	700	399.00	\$2,791.16
	25	Black-Str	540	482.50	\$2,605.50
	101	Black-Hfr	659	393.00	\$2,590.29
	56	Black-Hfr	557	446.00	\$2,482.86
Stieber Cattle Company, Hardin MT	87	Black-Str	695	411.50	\$2,860.87
	7	Black-Str	651	417.50	\$2,719.71
	19	Black-Str	574	455.00	\$2,611.46
Brian Budmayer, Belle Fourche SD	63	Black-Str	726	387.50	\$2,814.60
Glenn L Clabaugh Rev Trust,					
Gillette WY	61	Red-Str	919	336.50	\$3,091.66
	10	Red-Str	794	372.50	\$2,957.65
Middle Fork Land & Livest,					
Forsyth MT	73	Black-Str	501	524.00	\$2,625.38
	31	Black-Str	584	424.00	\$2,476.29
	123	Black-Hfr	471	505.00	\$2,377.60
	67	Black-Hfr	409	515.00	\$2,103.81
Jesse Or Nastel Dean, Upton WY	34	Black-Hfr	670	383.50	\$2,568.88
Janet K Evans, Weston WY	109	Black-Hfr	559	462.00	\$2,582.53
George & Bobetta Etchemendy R,					
Lost Sprin	36	Red-Str	699	396.50	\$2,772.74
	34	Red-Hfr	639	413.00	\$2,640.16
Martina Loobey, Whitewood SD	6	Red-Str	715	393.00	\$2,809.95
Brandon Weber, Forsyth MT	11	Black-Str	785	373.00	\$2,929.74
	15	Black-Str	549	465.00	\$2,551.30
	13	Black-Hfr	493	427.50	\$2,109.54
Dalton & Daniel Stearns,					
Edgemont SD	47	Black-Hfr	569	445.00	\$2,530.81
Greg Or Susan Herden,					
Brookway MT	12	Black-Str	619	455.00	\$2,815.31
	18	Red-Str	610	444.00	\$2,709.63
	12	Rd/Blk-Str	486	490.00	\$2,380.58
	16	Black-Hfr	591	435.00	\$2,570.57
	22	Red-Hfr	573	422.50	\$2,421.69
Lantis Ranch Llc, Spearfish SD	9	Black-Hfr	456	467.50	\$2,129.72
Travis H Byrne, Vale SD	5	Black-Str	650	420.00	\$2,730.00
	13	Black-Hfr	634	410.00	\$2,598.76
Jeff Morgan, Gillette WY	9	Black-Str	563	452.50	\$2,546.56
	4	Black-Str	429	520.00	\$2,229.50
Joe Gnerer, Olive MT	21	Black-Str	718	390.00	\$2,798.71
Steve Mills, Boyes MT	10	Rwf/Bwf-Hfr	658	388.00	\$2,551.10
J&M Cattle Co, Ekalaka MT	17	Black-Hfr	512	434.00	\$2,222.33
Rod Coulter, Brusett MT	6	Black-Str	691	408.00	\$2,818.60
	6	Black-Hfr	591	434.00	\$2,564.21

COWS

Jensen Livestock Llc,					
Belle Fourche SD	35	Blk/Bwf-Cow	1513	177.50	\$2,685.32
	21	Black-Cow	1267	176.50	\$2,236.50
Douglas Moore, Sundance WY	4	Black-Cow	1473	175.00	\$2,576.87
Levi Mcdonald, Capitol MT	1	Black-Cow	1465	175.00	\$2,563.75
Jacci Lee Tracy, Newcastle WY	3	Black-Cow	1403	174.50	\$2,448.81
John Henry Beardsley, Ismay MT	20	Black-Cow	1244	169.00	\$2,101.51
	6	Black-Cow	1048	199.00	\$2,086.18
	9	Black-Cow	1212	169.00	\$2,048.65
Shane Wolf, Hulett WY	2	Black-Hfr	973	225.00	\$2,188.12

BULLS

M W Cattle Co Llc, Newcastle WY	1	Black-Bull	2075	183.50	\$3,807.62
Jensen Livestock Llc,					
Belle Fourche SD	6	Herf-Bull	2068	188.50	\$3,897.23

High Plains Commodities Offices

Belle Fourche Livestock Market, LLC.

Stop in or Call 1-800-888-1432

Kim Kling - Kem Kjerstad

CATTLE USA

Sales broadcast live on www.cattleusa.com.

ATTENTION ON-LINE BUYERS

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

UPCOMING SALE SCHEDULE

January 29, 2026	BRED STOCK COW & BRED HEIFER SPECIAL & WEIGH-UP SPECIAL - WUPS @ 10 AM MT, BRED CATTLE @ 12 PM MT
February 5, 2026	NO SALE - ENJOY THE STOCK SHOW!
February 12, 2026	FEEDER CATTLE SPECIAL & WEIGH-UP SPECIAL - WUPS @ 9 AM MT, FEEDER CATTLE @ 12 PM MT
February 19, 2026	STOCK COW & BRED HEIFER SPECIAL & WEIGH-UP SPECIAL - WUPS @ 9 AM MT, BRED CATTLE @ 12 PM MT
February 26, 2026	FEEDER CATTLE SPECIAL & WEIGH-UP SPECIAL - WUPS @ 9 AM MT, FEEDER CATTLE @ 12 PM MT

STOCK SHOW BRED COW & BRED HEIFER

SPECIAL & WEIGH-UP SPECIAL

JANUARY 29, 2026

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

BRED HEIFERS

BRUCE CRAGO - SD

40 BLK BRED HFERS

1150-1200#

BRED BLK, 20 HD - CLV 4/3, 20 DAYS, 20 HD - CLV 4/23 - 20 DAYS, BRED TO NEW ADDITION (LBW BULL), REPRO SHOTS, POURED, HR, CAKE BROKE

BRIAN & HALLIE BUDMAYR - SD

28 BLK/BWF BRED HFERS

BRED BLK, CLV 3/10 - 60 DAYS, BRED TO BAR 69 ANGUS BULLS, REPRO SHOTS, POURED

LAZY Y QUARTER CIRCLE - WY

15 BLK HFERS

A/ED BLK, CLV 3/10 - 30 DAYS, REPRO SHOTS, POURED

TLT CATTLE CO - SD

15 BLK BRED HFERS

1000#

BRED BLK, CLV 3/20 - 45 DAYS

DANE & KRISTI DOBESH - WY

10 BLK/HEREF HFERS

BRED BLK, CLV 4/1 - 45 DAYS, BRED TO CS ANGUS BULLS

STOCK COWS

WILLSALL RANCH - MT

140 BLK 3YO BRED COWS

BRED BLK, CLV 4/1 - 45 DAYS, BRED TO VERMILLION ANGUS & KREBS ANGUS BULLS, COWS - HOGAN & STEVENSON GENETICS, ALL FROM ONE RANCH

6 CREEK FARMS - MT

70 BLK MXD AGED BRED COWS BRED BLK, CLV 4/20 - 40 DAYS, BRED TO LUNDS ANGUS & MCDONNELL ANGUS BULLS, REPRO SHOTS, POURED

VERONA CATTLE LLC - WY

30 BLK MXD AGED BRED COWS BRED BLK, CLV 4/20 - 60 DAYS, BRED TO VERMILLION ANGUS & SKINNER RANCH SEEDSTOCK, REPRO SHOTS, POURED

DANE & KRISTI DOBESH - SD

20 BWF/HEREF MXD

AGED BRED COWS

BRED BLK & HEREF, CLV

4/1 - 45 DAYS

BURDICK RANCH - MT

18 BLK ST BRED COWS

BRED BLK, CLV 4/1 - 60 DAYS, REPRO SHOTS, POURED

NO SALE - ENJOY THE STOCK SHOW!

FEBRUARY 5, 2026

RECEIVING STATIONS

Broadus, MT

Travis Linch | 605-892-5951

Ekalaka, MT

Riley Lesh | 406-697-0573

Brett Loughlin | 605-210-0615

Forsyth, MT

Scott Anderson | 406-351-1844

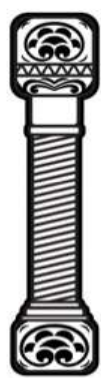
Jordan, MT

Jason Bollinger | 406-690-8344

Wyoming

Mike Greenough | 307-620-2597

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VINTAGE AND MODERN

STATE STREET - BELLE FOURCHE - SD

PEARSONBLOCK.COM

Jazlyn Olson To Play Soccer at BH



Jaz Olson with mom Kim Terrill, Anthony, Jackson & Raegan Bradley

Kandi Tonsager

news@bellefourchebeacon.com

Senior Jazlyn Olson of Belle Fourche High School committed to Black Hills State University on Wednesday, January 28th, 2026. Jaz received a scholarship to play soccer and further her education where she is considering a major in Political Science with hopes to attend law school in the future.

She also hopes to pursue parliamentary work along the

way.

Jaz has been playing soccer since she was 5 years old. In her 13 year career she has been a member of multiple school and club teams, improving her skills and commitment to the sport along the way.

She expresses it is difficult to pick one favorite soccer memory, however, states that the memory of her first ever indoor soccer tournament comes to mind as one near and dear to her. Jaz says her team lost the game,

but it was such a new and fun experience for her, she had "the biggest grin on her face".

Advice for up and coming players that Jaz would offer is, "To not let other people convince you you are too loud, too much, or too intense of a player. People hate to see true passion in a sport and it means you are doing something right!"

Jazlyn is looking forward to being a Yellowjacket!

BELLE FOURCHE SCHOOL DISTRICT

Kindergarten
ROUNDUP



APRIL 10TH, 2026

8:00 - 3:00

SCHEDULE
APPOINTMENT

605-723-3379

YOU WILL NEED TO BRING A BIRTH CERTIFICATE AND IMMUNIZATION RECORDS CHILDREN MUST BE 5 YEARS OLD BEFORE SEPT. 1, 2026 APPOINTMENTS ARE REQUIRED CURRENT KG STUDENTS WILL NOT HAVE SCHOOL THIS DAY

RELIEVE - HEAL - MAINTAIN

BELLE CHIROPRACTIC

GENTLEMAN'S NIGHT CHAMBER

MIXER




Tuesday- February 17th
4:30-6:30PM
1407 5th Ave. #200

Connect and Collect drawing at 6PM

Belle Fourche
CHAMBER OF COMMERCE

2026

RESOLUTION RUN/WALK

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 Teesa or Patty @ 605-892-2467 or teesa@bellefourche.org



WELLS SUPPLY

1700 5TH AVENUE | BELLE FOURCHE, SD
605-892-2613

WATER & AIR FILTERS



Water filters can help improve your household waters taste and smell.

Keeping the air filter in your furnace clean provides several benefits:

- It will prolong the life of the furnace
- Provide better air quality
- Improved heating and cooling efficiency


MONDAY - FRIDAY 8AM - 5PM
SATURDAY 8AM - 12PM | CLOSED SUNDAY

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		BOARDGAMES
			VIDEO GAMES

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



Your Hometown Neighborhood Grocery Store!

Lynn's

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Better Choice for Value!

Now available at Lynn's Belle Fourche

Beer, Wine, & Spirits...

<p>\$22.99</p>  <p>Ole Smoky Flavored Whisky 750ml several varieties</p>	<p>\$19.99</p>  <p>Jose Cuervo Tequila 750ml</p>	<p>\$19.99</p>  <p>Lord Calvert Canadian Whisky 1.75L</p>
<p>\$14.99</p>  <p>Jose Cuervo Ready-to-Drink Cocktails 1.75L several varieties</p>	<p>\$19.99</p>  <p>Summit Wine 3L several varieties</p>	<p>\$49.99</p>  <p>Maker's Mark Whisky 1.75L</p>

Prices effective 7am-9pm Seven Days a Week **Two weeks!**
Wednesday, January 21st through Tuesday, February 3rd

Position: Full-Time Director of Equalization and Planning
Reports to: Butte County Commission

Summary of Duties: The county Director of Equalization is responsible for confirming that all property in the county is accounted for on the tax list. They are also responsible for guaranteeing that these properties are all assessed in an equal and uniform manner.

Salary: \$66,901.43 Annual
Hours/Week: 40 hours per week M-F

Education Required: High school diploma required.

Abilities/Skills:
A successful applicant will have the ability to obtain the South Dakota CAA certification within one year, with prior property assessment or appraisal experience preferred, and experience with typical office software, such as Word, Excel, and Outlook. Advanced Excel experience preferred.

Additional Information: The work environment is split between typical indoor office duties and outdoor inspection of property activities. Travel will be required for certification and training.

Benefits: SDRS Retirement, Health insurance, Holidays, Vacation, Sick Time

Applications and a detailed job description may be picked up at the Auditor's office at the Butte County Administration building, 117 5th Ave, Belle Fourche, SD 57717.

Interested individuals can apply by submitting an Application, Resume, and Cover Letter addressed to the Butte County Auditor, Attn: Annie Capp, 117 5th Avenue, Belle Fourche, SD 57717. Phone 605-892-4485. Email: auditor@buttesd.org

\$15 GIFT CARD FOR ALL DONORS

you're the ONE



Help Patients in February and Receive \$15 Gift Card in Thanks

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 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 605-381-9136 or sabrina.harmon.wit@sdplains.com.



*Terms and condition apply; see vitalant.org/FebDonorGift.

Find us @vitalant: 

vitalant

Area Church Schedules

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

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

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

CONNECTION CHURCH (SBC)
613 Sixth Ave., Belle Fourche
(605)-210-2150
Pastor Stephen Carson
Worship Pastor Ashton Rone
Sunday Worship: 8:30 or 10:15 am

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

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

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

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

Pastor Sheri Fadley
1804 7th Ave. Belle Fourche
605-892-2405
Worship: Sunday 10:30 am - FB Live
Sunday School 9:30 am
Small Groups & Studies
schedule online at
www.bellefourchegmc.com

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

NEW COVENANT PCA
1120 North Fifth Street, Spearfish
642-1122
Luke Bluhm, Pastor
Sunday: 10 a.m. Worship Service

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

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

NORTHERN HILLS CHURCH OF CHRIST
5 miles South of Belle Fourche
on Hwy 85
642-7167
Calvin Chapman - Int. Minister
Sunday: 9:30 a.m. Bible Class
10:30 a.m. Praise & Worship
Wednesday: 6:30 p.m. Bible Class

NORTH POINT CHRISTIAN CHURCH
10959 Kellem Lane, Spearfish
Sunday Services: 9AM and 10:30AM

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

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

RED WATER CHURCH OF CHRIST
Belle Fourche Rec Center
Sun: 9:30-12:30.
Contact: Nathan Thompson
605 569-3057
Sermons: fightintheshade

SALVATION ARMY OF THE NORTHERN HILLS
120 Ryan Rd., Spearfish
605-642-0924
Envoys: Tim and Peggy North
Sunday: 9:45 a.m.

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

SPEARFISH ADVENTIST® CHURCH
290 W Highway 14
Pastor Darren Purdy and
Pastor Marveen Gentillon
Join Us This Saturday
Morning Prayer: 9:00am
Sabbath School: 9:30am
Worship Service: 10:45am
Bible Study-Tuesday: 6:00pm

SPEARFISH UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST (CONGREGATIONAL)
920 N Main Street, Spearfish
Sunday Service 10 a.m. in person
and on Facebook.
Pastor Randy Hedge
605-642-8253

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

ST. JAMES LUTHERAN
1100 Stanley Street
Open for in-house worship
Sunday Worship 10:AM with coffee
fellowship following the service.
Watch live-streamed services:
www.sjlcbeellefourche.org
Wednesday at 5:55 PM during
the school year.
Watch our Sunday service
live on Facebook.

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

ST. PAUL CATHOLIC CHURCH
855 5th Ave.
Father Kevin Achbach, Pastor
Father Max Vetch, Pastor
Mass Times:
Sunday Mass: 9:00 a.m.
Daily Mass: Tues. & Thurs. 12:15 p.m.
Confessions available one hour
before all Masses

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

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

Sponsored by:
RANDY'S TIRE & LUBE
420 5TH AVE. • BELLE FOURCHE, SD 57717
(605) 892-6331 www.randystireandlube.com

By John Newby "Building Main Street, not Wall Street" The Speed of Community Transformation

There's wisdom in the old saying: "A problem well defined is a problem half solved." It's a simple truth that applies everywhere—in our personal lives, in business ventures, and especially in the transformation of our communities. But here's what most people miss: defining the problem is just the beginning. The real challenge lies in what comes next.



communities attempting transformation. In any community project or business venture, there's always a small group—maybe 10%—willing to do the heavy lifting early on. These are the dreamers, the believers, the ones who see what's possible before others do. They push, they plan, they persevere through doubt and setbacks. They're the ones working late nights, attending every meeting, rallying support when enthusiasm wanes.

But here's the critical insight: for true transformation to be made possible in smaller communities, for it to really take hold and create lasting change, we need the 80%. We need the entire community kicking in to reach the heights possible. As the saying goes, many hands make light work. Without that broader participation, even the most dedicated leaders face inevitable burnout. Sustainable transformation requires many hands willing to pick up the mantle of work, creating a consistent and long-term effort that outlasts individual enthusiasm.

Albert Einstein taught us something profound: there is no such thing as darkness. Darkness is simply an absence of light. When we apply this insight to community and business building, we discover an equally powerful truth—there is no such thing as inaction, only an absence of action. Years ago, a wise leader named Dieter Uchtdorf shared a simple but

powerful message with his audience: we must "lift where we stand." Not somewhere else. Not when conditions are perfect. Not when someone else takes the lead. Right here. Right now. Where we stand.

Now is the time to cast inaction aside and spring into action. Now is the time to lift where we stand in our community. There is no better time than now to become the light and action your community desperately needs. So what does this look like in practice? What are successful communities actually doing?

Forward-thinking communities understand something fundamental: they're in the business of building dreams. Not just their own dreams, but the dreams of entrepreneurs, families, and citizens who are looking for a place to call home. These communities are busy creating environments rich with trust, innovation, friendly competition, quality of life, teamwork, and motivation. They're cultivating business-friendly attributes at every level.

And here's the key—they do this at all levels of their community. They involve everyone, from individual citizens to local government, in the transformation process. They understand the true power of teamwork and how building a business-friendly community attracts not only entrepreneurs but others seeking this vibrant mindset. People want to be part of something growing, something alive with possibility.

But let's be honest about what this requires. Communities must be aggressive and focused on business-attracting change. They must be willing to embrace the needed change, which isn't always easy. In fact, it's rarely easy. Change brings disruption. Disruption upends the status

In the technology world, there's a fascinating principle called "Diffusion of Innovations." It reveals something that seems counterintuitive at first but makes perfect sense once you understand it. This theory tells us it takes the same amount of time for new innovations to become used and perfected by 10% of early adopters as it will take for the next 80% of the population to adapt and embrace it.

Think for a moment, early adopters struggle through the same learning curve, face the same obstacles, and invest the same amount of time as the vast majority who come after them. Once that innovation reaches a tipping point, once it proves itself viable and sustainable, adoption doesn't just continue—it accelerates rapidly.

While this principle emerged from technology studies, it applies to most innovations. And perhaps more importantly for us, it applies to community and business transformation as well. This same pattern plays out in

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quo. And that makes people uncomfortable—sometimes deeply uncomfortable. It's human nature to resist change, even when we know intellectually that change is necessary. We like our routines, our familiar patterns, our predictable outcomes. Change threatens all of that. As General Shinske once told his troops, "If you don't like change, you will like irrelevance even less."
That's the choice communities face today: embrace change or embrace irrelevance. There's no middle ground anymore. The fast and adaptable will transform most effectively. The slow will be roadkill on the road to transformation. That's not meant to be harsh—it's simply reality in today's accelerating world.
So, here's my challenge to you: don't let up when it comes to transformation. You will have roadblocks thrown in your way. Bank on it. There will be naysayers, skeptics, and those invested in keeping things exactly as they are.
Budget constraints will be cited. "We've always done it this way" will be offered as justification. Fear masquerades as prudence. Don't get discouraged, let that resistance motivate you and drive you harder. Be aggressive in building a community that helps other people's dreams come true. As you do this, as you persist through the obstacles, your community will begin to transform in ways many believed were not possible.
The time communities have left to transform is shrinking even as the world speeds up. The window of opportunity doesn't stay open indefinitely. Every day of delay makes transformation harder, every month of inaction allows competitors to pull further ahead. The question isn't whether change is coming to your community. Change is already here. The real question is whether you'll lead it or be swept aside by it. Will you be part of the 10% lifting early, helping to reach that tipping point? Will you help engage the 80% to create lasting transformation?
Your community's future depends on the answer. And the time to answer is now.
John A. Newby is the author of the "Building Main Street, Not Wall Street" column dedicated to helping local communities, government and business combine their 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

Jonathan Ellis & Joe Sneve



Capitol News
January 25, 2026

Well, Capitol and Tie Creek finally got some winter. The warm weather suddenly disappeared and we touched twenty below zero, but the snow is still only a covering. Texas and southern states have debilitating ice storms, and the north-east has had snow and very cold weather.

Last Week Ronda Cordell went to Darla Hamel's farewell dinner at the Camp Crook Community Center. It had been held the day after Darla's birthday. This frigid weather, this week kept her from going to Spearfish for a couple of physical therapy appointments. She did go to Rapid City on Monday, for her second shoulder checkup. The PA told her she didn't need to be seen again. She will still go to a few more physical therapy sessions for strength training. as the therapist didn't want to push the shoulder too much. She is only 6-weeks out of surgery, and her shoulder is doing great. She had lunch with Curt and Carsen Zolnoski at the Rapid City Pizza

Ranch. Then she stopped by his house to visit, and drop off a toolbox. Caden and Krista came from work before Ronda headed to Cristen Westling's where she would spend the night. On Tuesday morning, Ronda and Cristen visited the insurance agent before Ronda headed home. She went by way of Spearfish, and by the time she ate lunch, the weather was socking in. The roads between Spearfish and Alzada would bear watching. She went on to Ekalaka to attend a seminar for renewal of her weed permit, that was headed up by County Agent Amanda Williams. Then, the rest of the week, she stuck close in by the fire doing paperwork. The lowest reading Ronda saw on the thermometer was a seventeen below zero, one morning, but it was a negative temperature every morning this week. There's been very little snow, but that wind has been horrific! We had been spoiled by all the nice winter we've been having. Ronda feels sorry for the livestock, but the cattle don't seem too affected by the temperatures, if they're able to get out of the wind, have a belly

full of feed and water close by. Even with the sub-zero weather, Dick and Erma Albert had a typical week. They made a trip to Spearfish for doctor's check-ups and got groceries. They went to the Senior Citizen dinner in Buffalo, on Friday, and to church on Sunday in the frigid weather. Alvin and Marlee Cordell saw the temperature at twenty below, on Friday, twelve below, on Saturday, and sixteen below, early on Sunday. Only a little snow was on the ground, but there was a little more snow up in the Sheep Mountains. They went to Alvin's chiropractor appointment on Tuesday, and Marlee stayed in Belle Fourche to visit. Marlee rode with Ashley and Gavin Pearson to Yankton to visit Mount Marty University. As a senior at Belle Fourche, he will be choosing a college for next year. On Friday, Alvin and Marlee watched the basketball games in Belle Fourche against a Pine Ridge team. They came home on Saturday. Alvin has been busy feeding, and was watching the Denver Bronco game on Sunday.

Lynn Gustafson went shopping in Buffalo, on Tuesday. She and Bruce had stayed in out of the cold for the rest of the week. Doug and Julia Davis took Julia's car to Spearfish for some repair to the back door. Of course, it included wiring and the back camera and things like that. Julia had a doctor's appointment on Wednesday. They both got to go to Belle Fourche for the band concert for grades six, seven, and eight. It was really a wonderful concert, and their grandson, Keaton, was playing his grandpa's saxophone in the special jazz band. Morgan Buck has been out to the ranch do chores each day. Bryce, Dawn and Dorothy Padden spent time in their nice warm car, and the nice warm gym in Lemmon, for the Little Moreau Conference basketball games. The roads were good, and the girls won the conference championship. During the same time, Brandon and Ashley traveled to wrestling meets. They went to Dupris and Chamberlain, where Kanyn Padden won first place at both meets. Looks like another great year for her. Karen Odell visited Camp

Crook on Tuesday to mail letters, and get the oil changed in a vehicle. It was lucky she chose that day, because suddenly sub-zero temperatures moved in, and we reached twenty below zero. Thursday was a good day, because she got four calls from friends, and relatives in Ohio and Florida, and enjoyed the visits. She got to see grandson, Carson Odell in wrestling for Mitchell High School, in Chamberlain, on YouTube on her computer. Then, she also got to see videos of granddaughter, Kyia Smith, who was playing club volleyball in Minneapolis. She got pictures of Micki Odell and Murphy who were skiing in the Washington mountains, while Jesse and Rowan Hinds were at the Seahawks game in Seattle. The west coast was a little cold, but nothing compared to the rest of the family. Jeff and Amanda Odell was only a little warmer in Iowa than the rest of us farther north. When you are good at something, honorable people will tell you. If you have to tell them how good you are, you're probably only mediocre.



Central Meade County News

By Sandy Rhoden January 18, 2026

A good way to describe last weekend would simply be 'cold'. Friday's highs failed to reach up into the positive numbers in most of South Dakota. Saturday was over 20 degrees in Central Meade County, but Sunday reached only up to about 7 degrees above zero. We finally got our extreme cold blast this winter.

It was a very cold day in Pierre on Friday, but our hearts were warmed by Pastor Will Graham's visit to Pierre.

Larry and Sandy Rhoden were honored to host Will and his 3 traveling staff on Thursday and Friday. It was a good time of fellowship and storytelling here and there between meetings on Thursday. Friday morning was the Governor's Prayer Breakfast in Pierre that was brought back after 6 years. Over 400 people were in attendance despite the bitter temperatures. Well over 500 tickets had been purchased. The luncheon that day hosted by Larry and Sandy included Will's team as well as the prayer break-

fast team where more sharing and storytelling ensued. Lorie Hausmann was able to join them for the occasion. Will also opened the House in prayer that day for the legislative session.

There will be the monthly Bible Study next Sunday in Union Center starting at 4:00 pm. The topic will be about addictions. After church service that day there will be the typical first Sunday of the month pot luck dinner at noon. All are welcome.

Soldiers of the Cross is going on for kids ages 5 and up at the Community Baptist Church in Union Center on Wednesdays

after school. For more information one may contact Melanie Cammack.

Shirley Baker is recovering nicely from her knee surgery she had a week ago or so. Feel free to drop her a line on FB or give her a call while she mends.

The Black Hills Rodeo and Stock Show will begin this week on January 30 and will go until February 7. Hopefully the weather will co-operate and it can be enjoyed by many here in western South Dakota.

On February 12 West River Telephone will be at the Red Owl Hall at 1:00 pm for a Cyber Security Training. Information on keeping yourself safe on

e-mails, links, social media and other sites will be shared. This will be a valuable learning tool for many.

Per Red Owl Community FB page: Love is in the air, and the Studs-R-U's Maitre' D's are looking forward to spending an evening of good food and fellowship with you all. Steak Tips & Shrimp are on the menu for your dining pleasure with all the trimmings. Call Georgi Ann Cobb to make reservations at 605-985-5914. Couples, families and groups are who may be seen on Saturday, February 14 starting at 6 PM for the Valentines Date Night. Adults are \$25 pp, kids 12 and under are \$8 each.

PRESSED BETWEEN THE PAGES

by DeAnn (Wolkow) Kruempel

"Much More Than a Piece of Cloth"



She could have said, "You take care of the supper dishes, DeAnn. I am going to rest in my chair." Dad would have supported her; she had put in more than a day's work on the farm. I may have complained (softly), but I would have washed the dishes. As the youngest, most spoiled child, my life was not too tough. But instead, our mother began clearing the table and said, "I'll wash. You dry."

Three neat stacks were perfectly arranged in the middle drawer of the metal cabinet by the sink. The stacks were smooth, flat squares of cloth. On the left was the tallest pile. Colorful, embroidered stitches beamed from a bleached-white background on these lovely, but

worn dish towels, the everyday towels. The stack on the right was a mix of older towels, some with whimsical stitches faded from many trips through the Maytag.

There were also pretty prints—flour sacks, Mom said. Some were thin and patched. These were used to dry pots and pans, and eventually graduated to the rag bag. In the very back of the drawer were the brand new, beautifully embellished towels that were only used when company dried the dishes after sharing a meal.

Mom turned on the sink faucet, squirted in Dove dish soap, and gently placed glasses and cups into the hot water. I reached for a towel from the left stack, one for everyday dishes. A delightful scent of Tide, bleach and fresh air, all mixed together, filled my senses as I unfolded the iron-creased fabric. And for the

next half hour, wrapped in its magic, I learned. I learned of a one-room schoolhouse and the expectations of girls when Mom was growing up. I learned about the war, worry, rationing and doing without. I learned how Mom met Dad, and about their life as they started out on the farm.

Threads of history intertwined with family, love, hardship, perseverance and faith. At the time I had no idea that those moments with my mother in front of the kitchen sink, dish towel in my hands, were threads that fashioned the tapestry of my life. Many years later, the memories pressed between the pages of my mind unfold like that dish towel.

That large square of fabric that wiped water spots from glasses and turned silver to mirrors, was so much more than a piece of cloth. It was a

work of art. Sparkling clean and pressed, that beautifully embroidered towel embodied the human desire to add beauty and meaning to everyday objects. It taught economics. We learned to make the best of what we had. The old eventually became threadbare and graduated to the rag drawer; nothing should be wasted.

Mom's purpose in her classification system was to keep the new, beautifully embellished towels just that, new and pretty. "I like to keep them nice." I can still see her smile. That carefully hemmed length of cotton, whether a flour sack or newly purchased fabric, is a tangible connection to history. The stories our mother shared and the time we spent together became deeply intertwined with the threads of those old dish towels. They connected love and family with memories and tradition. "I'll wash. You dry." Did our mother know what a difference those words would make in my life and those who carry on

after me? That someday I would hold one of those cherished towels close to my heart and remember?

Yes, today I am quite certain that Mom knew. She knew all along that that dish towel was much more than a piece of cloth.

! DeAnn Kruempel grew up on a farm near De Smet, SD, the sixth child of Harrison and Mabel Wolkow. She attended school at Erwin and De Smet and has lived in Benedict, ND, Toeterville, Akron, Missouri Valley and Logan, IA. The author worked in school and public libraries for more than 30 years.

Her column has run in a growing number of Midwest newspapers for five years. Each year the author has published the stories into a book. She has also published a historical fiction series, "Promises to Keep."

Her ten books are available on Amazon. Contact Kruempel at deannkruempelauthor@gmail.com.

Butte County Legal Notice

Position: Full-Time Director of Equalization and Planning
Reports to: Butte County Commission

Summary of Duties: The county Director of Equalization is responsible for confirming that all property in the county is accounted for on the tax list. They are also responsible for guaranteeing that these properties are all assessed in an equal and uniform manner.

Salary: \$66,901.43 Annual
Hours/Week: 40 hours per week M-F

Education Required: High school diploma required.

Abilities/Skills:

A successful applicant will have the ability to obtain the South Dakota CAA certification within one year, with prior property assessment or appraisal experience preferred, and experience with typical office software, such as Word, Excel, and Outlook. Advanced Excel experience preferred.

Additional Information: The work environment is split between typical indoor office duties and outdoor inspection of property activities. Travel will be required for certification and training.

Benefits: SDRS Retirement, Health insurance, Holidays, Vacation, Sick Time

Applications and a detailed job description may be picked up at the Auditor's office at the Butte County Administration building, 117 5th Ave, Belle Fourche, SD 57717.

Interested individuals can apply by submitting an Application, Resume, and Cover Letter addressed to the Butte County Auditor, Attn: Annie Capp, 117 5th Avenue, Belle Fourche, SD 57717. Phone 605-892-4485. Email: auditor@buttesd.org

Butte County is an Equal Opportunity, Affirmative Action Employer.

**NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING ON NEW APPLICATION
RETAIL (ON-OFF SALE) MALT BEVERAGE & SD FARM WINE
RETAIL (ON-OFF SALE) WINE & CIDER
SUNDAY SALES**

Notice is hereby given that the Board of Butte County Commissioners will meet in the Commissioners' Room at the Butte County Courthouse, which is located at 839 5th Avenue, Belle Fourche, SD, 57717 on **Tuesday, February 03rd, 2026 at 9:45 a.m.** to consider the Retail (on-off sale) Malt Beverage & SD Farm Wine License.

Said applicant is as follows:
Silver Spur Ranch LLC
Retail (on-off sale) Malt Beverage & SD Farm Wine License
Sunday Sales

APPLICANT	LEGAL DESCRIPTION	TYPE OF LICENSE
Silver Spur Ranch LLC Steve Jung 10078 Wagon Wheel Trail Belle Fourche, SD 57717	Tract 2A-1 of Tract 2, of the SUBD of Sec 18, T8N, R1E, BHM, Butte County	Retail (on-off sale) Malt Beverage & SD Farm Wine Sunday Sales

Notice is further given that any person, persons, or their attorney may appear at said scheduled public hearing and present objections to any or all applicants, if any objections there be.

Dated at Belle Fourche, SD, this 14th day of January 2026.
/s/ Annie Capp, Butte County Auditor

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The Valley Irrigator

Wed. January 28, 2026

Serving Newell, Vale and Nisland Communities

January School Board

Ryder Heitz

news@bellefourchebeacon.com
 NEWELL—The Newell School Board held a meeting on Monday evening, January 12 at 6 p.m. After the consent agenda was approved, administrators provided reports. Activities Director Dominic Santiago said that the boys basketball team has been kicked out of the LMC; they were removed from their conference because they are a JV team. He recommended that next year, we need a varsity team so that we can compete in conference tournaments. Santiago also mentioned concerns with scheduling football games for next season due to most other schools not wanting to play 6-man football. He raised the option of reaching out to schools in Nebraska and Wyoming.

Elementary Principal Paul Clark gave information on the Elementary Title Literacy Night on January 22 from 5 to 7 p.m. in the lunchroom. There will be activities that go along with the book/theme of the night, "Snowman at Night." Parents will be able to take a school survey and receive a summary of what the title program does for the school and their students. Clark stated that students are showing great growth, which validates the programs that they are using as well as interventions. The spelling bee, which will occur in March, is being set up, and there will be a book fair with parent/teacher conferences on February 12.

High School Principal and Superintendent Pandi Pittman noted that the fourth graders will be taking a national exam on February 5. Pittman is working on scheduling the ACT for the last week of March. CNA data collection for the high school will occur on January 19. The Building Committee will meet at 4 pm. On January 26 with the Budget meeting directly before at 5:30.

Old Business items were discussed, with the second reading of policies concerning multi-occupancy room use, criminal background checks, compulsory attendance ages, and exemptions from school

Small School, Big Wins for Newell Irrigators

Robbi Longbrake
news@bellefourchebeacon.com

NEWELL—For the week ending January 25, the Newell Irrigators delivered an impressive showing, with every basketball team, boys and girls alike, bringing home a victory. At a small school that sometimes faces challenges

fielding full teams, this sweep is no minor accomplishment. Small but mighty, the Newell Irrigators continue to prove they don't give up!

Both the high school girls and boys teams competed in the two-day Little Moreau Conference (LMC) Basketball Tournament hosted by the Lemmon School District. The girls team, led by

Coach Luke Bonefield, edged out Dupree in a thrilling nail-biter, defeating the Tigers 54-53.

On the boys side, head coach Chad Oliver guided his squad to a strong win as the Irrigators took on the McIntosh Tigers and came away victorious.

Success carried through all levels of play. Coach High and the middle school boys team defeated

the Belle Fourche Broncos at the Newell Quad. The 1st and 2nd grade team also picked up a win against Belle Fourche, while the 3rd and 4th grade team capped off the week with a victory over the Sundance Bulldogs.

From the youngest players to the varsity teams, it was a week to remember for Irrigator basketball.



Middle School Boys Basketball team bringing home a win against the Belle Fourche Broncos. Courtesy photo

attendance. New Business included the first viewing of the proposed 2026/2027 School Calendar. The start date is one week later than normal, which sparked discussion on whether semester tests should occur before or after winter break.

Concerns were raised about the data on students' performance at the school, with Todd Youngberg stating that "I've equated more than once that as our academics fell, that's when we started dropping our hours that we educated our children. Now we've hit where we're one of the lower schools in the state and we're the lower report cards in the state."

According to Youngberg, in 12 years, "we've dropped 102

hours off of our high school contact time, our middle school, we've dropped 75, and our elementary, we've dropped 32 hours of actual education." He proposed that the district should try adding more contact time to the curriculum as that's the "one thing we have not attempted."

Three students were approved for early graduation next school year. A motion for co-sponsoring transportation costs for summer swim lessons was approved. The board then entered into executive session at 6:58 p.m. and remained in session for two and a half hours, exiting executive session at 9:33 p.m. The meeting was then adjourned at 9:33 p.m.

Celebrate Recovery Support Group is now meeting at Emmanuel Baptist Church

Every Friday at 6:30 pm.
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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.

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Grand River Roundup



Betty Olson

news@bellefourchebeacon.com

Monday was the second week of the South Dakota legislature and I try to keep track of what our legislators are doing in Pierre by going to <https://sdlegislature.gov/> to check up on the bills that they are working on. All the legislators from this district are doing very well.

Last Monday Reub and I went down to Fort Meade to visit his brother Doug Olson and his cousin Sandy Bill Matson in the hospital down there. Both of them are veterans that served in Vietnam. Doug is doing better but Sandy Bill was in bad shape although he was ready to visit with us. Maura Jo Nixon was there visiting with Sandy Bill when we got there and Pastor Henry and Linda Mohagen came to visit him while we were still there. Pastor Henry led us in prayer over Sandy Bill before we left and we're so glad they were

there to comfort him.

It snowed on Tuesday and it was cold and windy when we left for Les Kaitfors' funeral in Ralph that morning. He was buried in the Ralph cemetery and we got to see a lot of friends and neighbors at his funeral. Les' father Ray Kaitfors was a good friend of ours. Ray is the one who remodeled our kitchen and hung the basement doors for us and hardly charged us anything. I still miss the fun phone calls from Les when he used to call me often while he lived at Ralph. When we got home from his funeral, we found that the drain to our sewer was blocked and frozen up.

Taz came and helped Reub open it enough so water would go through the drain. I don't know what old folks like us would do without Taz here to help us out. Casey was in Buffalo for the Harding County girls wrestling meet. Sadly, we found out that evening that Sandy Bill Matson had

passed away at the hospital at Fort Meade and we were glad that we had gone down to see him on Monday.

Arron Ace Foster, 60, of Freeport, IL, formerly of rural Perkins County, passed away January 16, while on a motorcycle tour of Ecuador. Ace was born May 5, 1965 to Randy and Vonnie Foster. He grew up on Thunder Butte Creek. Services will be held at Grace Funeral & Cremation Services in Rockford, IL. on Saturday January 31. Memorial Visitation from 10 am to 1 pm, followed by a Celebration of Life at 1 pm. There will be a Celebration of Life in South Dakota in July.

Reub and I went to Hettering on Wednesday and the wind was blowing snow across the highway so hard that we could hardly see anything ahead of us but we made it to town safely. We went to visit our friend John Erickson who has been put in the hospital up there. We got to see his wife Corinne and their granddaughter Shawna Kolb who were there. Shawna had brought John a cute little puppy to entertain him. John is doing better and was able to visit with us before we had to leave for home. The wind wasn't blowing as bad and the highway was pretty open on the way home.

The highest temperature on Thursday was 13 degrees but it dropped to 21 degrees below zero by that evening. Reub and I each had our cell phones updated this week and that messed up both of our phones.

Reub was going to call Guy and let him know that Sandy Bill had passed but his phone wouldn't work at all and while I could still call people my phone was messed up too so I called Taz to see if he could come and get our phones fixed for us. Taz showed up and in just moments he had both of our phones fixed and working right again. We don't know what we'd do without Taz here to help out us old folks out because we are terrible with that tech stuff! After watching those criminals rioting in Minneapolis, I called our daughter Teri Dee McNelis in Buffalo, Minnesota, to see what was going on in the town where she and her husband are doctors but she told me they live in a really nice community with no riots and they don't go to Minneapolis.

It was 26 below zero when we woke up Friday morning and we're really glad we've got our woodstove because it would have been pretty chilly in the house without it. I talked to Corinne Erickson that morning and she

told me where she woke up down at their ranch east of Bison the temperature there was 31 below zero! Casey took the Harding County boy wrestlers to Killdeer, North Dakota that day and the girl wrestlers went to Pierre.

It was 21 degrees below zero when we got up Saturday morning but it warmed up to 19 above pretty soon and it was nice outside with no wind. Casey was with the boy wrestlers in Killdeer and the girls were in Chamberlain. Taz and Reub went over to the Nash ranch to visit with Dennis, Roger, Judy and Dale that afternoon and Knox came up to visit me, which was really entertaining.

With this nasty weather I'll leave you with this:

It's winter in South Dakota, And the gentle breezes blow, Seventy miles an hour At twenty-nine below.

Oh, how I love South Dakota, When the snow's up to your butt, You take a breath of winter air And your nose gets frozen shut.

Yes, the weather here is wonderful

So I guess I'll hang around. I could never leave South Dakota

'Cause I'm frozen to the ground!!

Then and Now in Newell

"Looking Forward to our Past"

January 20, 1916

It is a misdemeanor to leave horses hitched outside for an unreasonable time. Or later than 10:30 PM during cold or stormy weather. Persons disregarding this notice will be prosecuted under the State Law. This reminder by order of the Newell Board of Trustees, Patrick Meskel, Town Marshall.

Last Friday evening the Royal Neighbors initiated a class of 6 candidates and after the session they entertained the Neighbors and their IOOF husbands to a big spread. From all reports the various cooks outdid themselves and the evening will be long remembered. The Neighbors have another class of 3 to put through their paces on their next meeting. Frank P. Seeley took his initial step in Odd Fellows membership on Tuesday evening.

Col. Elbridge, American Army Officer, has been credited with the invention of barbed wire, but it appears the idea was first conceived by W. D. Hunt, who used spur wheels on the line wires of fences and who patented the idea in 1867. L. B. Smith is also given a patent on a wire provided with projecting wire spurs. In 1873, H. M. Rose patented an armored wire which is the basis of the barbed wire now in common use on our farms as well as the battle fields in Europe.

January 21, 1926

For doing their work carefully and efficiently during the past year, 271 underground employees of the Homestake Gold Mining Company have been presented each with a \$10 gold piece as a token of appreciation, according to an announcement made by B. C. Yates, Superintendent of the Mine. In 1925, the Homestake produced approximately \$5,590,000 in gold and 100,000 ounces of silver compared to 1924 gold valued at \$6,117,421 and \$6,548 ounces of silver.

The children on the Horse Creek school bus were frightened Tuesday evening

to find an unconscious man laying at the side of the road in the storm. The matter was reported to the Newell Town Mashall who came to investigate. They learned later that the party was to be Mr. Varland of Newell, who had been thrown from his wagon when his team ran away. We have not learned the extent of his injuries.

A straight-shooting tale of old west, "The Rainbow Trail" will hit the center of your heart. Tom Mix in Zane Grey's story and sequel "Riders of The Purple Sage" to "The Rainbow Trail" showing at the Liberty Theater Sunday and Monday, January 24th and 25th.

January 23, 1936

George Arpan went to Deadwood on Tuesday and brought back a good second-hand car. William and Chris Arpan of Hoover came to visit at George's home and viewed the new automobile.

A few weeks ago, Dr. & Mrs. W. C. Hills made a trip to Sioux Falls to make a personal investigation into the merits of the Brookings Methods of all vapor baths. Having found the system of great value in the treatment of selected cases, they have installed a cabinet which will be operated by Mrs. Hills. Newell now has such a device, please call at the office or phone for an appointment.

Out of a total of 7,000 lambs on the Sioux City Market, January 13th, around 6,000 came from Newell and Nisland, according to the Sioux City Livestock Record. On the market that day were the following: C. J. Watkins, John Killinen and Carl Jukkola of Newell and John Wright, John Smith and Henry Dahlberg of Nisland. Last Friday 40 more carloads shipped from all points in the Belle Fourche Valley. Fat lambs shipped that day from Belle Fourche, Newell, Nisland, Fruitdale and St. Onge.

January 24, 1946

A meeting called in the City Hall Thursday evening of foreign war veterans (mostly WWII), was decided to apply for a Charter for a Newell Post

by Linda Velder

of the Veterans of Foreign War. Thirty-five men signed up as Charter Members. The Post will be mustered in as soon as an approval comes from National Headquarters and supplies for the new Post are received, which may be 2 or 3 weeks. In the meantime, all foreign service men are invited to request an application from one of those already signed up. Information and applications may also be had from Charles Schwartz and others.

Five big red bobsleds were sold in one day to ranchers of this immediate area. That's the record made a few days ago by the Newell Implement Company. If those ranchers have the right premonition, maybe the rest of us ought to buy a sled or at least a pair of skis.

Albert Nelson submitted to major surgery in a Rapid City Hospital last Saturday. Mrs. Nelson and sons Pvt Emil, Wesley and Harold were visitors Sunday with Mr. Nelson. Emil was enroute to an army camp in Georgia after a furlough visit at home.

The Victory Clothes Collection being conducted on behalf of UNTTA between January 7th and 31st will help fill this need. Everyone can give at least one garment, a pair of shoes, and bedding toward the national goal of 100,000,000 garments.

You are invited to enclose a good will letter with your contribution as an adventure in international friendship. Mrs. Elsie Alexander has been chosen chairman of the War Relief Clothing Drive for the Empire District. Those wishing to contribute to the cause in Europe may leave their articles at the Empire Schoolhouse or Kingsbury Store in Vale.

January 26, 1956

Prairie Pinafores met Wednesday in the eighth-grade room at the school. All members were present and answered roll call. Diana Wat-tawa gave a demonstration on making a sewing kit and Carolyn Wilson gave a demonstration on hemming a dishtowel.



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Two new members joined the club, Marcella Schroeder and Barbara Ahonen. At the next meeting Waneta Turbiville will give a report on washing sweaters. The next meeting will be February 8th with Caroline and Marion Wilson as hostesses. Lunch was served by Diana assisted by her mother.

To use the old expression, South Dakota school children will start eating "high off the hog" this week. The State Department of Public Instruction announced that the school lunch program will receive 18 tons of canned boneless hams during the next week. The hams are packed in 10 pounds to a can.

The program so far has been allocated to a total of 61 tons of meat under US Department of Agriculture, including 13 tons of fresh frozen hamburger and 30 tons of pork luncheon meat in addition to the hams. Estimated market value of all meat allocated to the school lunch program is \$58,620.

Funeral services were held Tuesday in Deadwood Tuesday for William M. Anderson, 57, long-time resident of Newell area and was employed by Bureau of Reclamation here and later several gold mines. He was married to the former Ali Heikkila and a member of the Newell IOOF and First Lutheran Church. He was a brother to Henry Anderson, Newell, Mrs. Guy Farber of Vale and Mrs. Lydia Vainio, St Onge. Among those from this vicinity attending the funeral were Mr. & Mrs. John Jaukkari, Mr. & Mrs. Frank Molk, Mr. & Mrs. Orrin Tysdal, Mr. & Mrs. E. Muotka, Mrs. Alfred Holsten and Byron Schipke.

January 27, 1966

Darlene Payne, Nisland,

informed her parents in a long-distance phone call Sunday evening, that she has accepted a position as stewardess for foreign service with Military Air Transport. She will be working from Clark Air Force Base in Manila, Honolulu, Bangkok, Saigon, Okinawa, Tokyo and other points.

Historical stories of 3 prominent pioneer families will be related at the Old Friends of Vale get-together which is planned at the Vale Community Hall Saturday evening, it was announced by Publicity Chairman Reggie Long. The event will begin with a pot-luck dinner at 6:30 PM, followed by special entertainment and the telling of the stories of the Fredlund, Mix and Long families. A dance to old time music will follow the program.

Although Newell City streets and intersections have been sanded, they are still slippery and should be driven with caution, it is advised by Police Chief Edward Yoder, following a minor accident this week. The mishap, due to the icy conditions on Main Street, he noted, when a car driven by Karen Stumpf, daughter of Mr. & Mrs. Victor Stumpf, Arpan area, hit a parked car in front of the V-Store as she was slowing up and attempting to park. Damage to the Stumpf's 1960 Ford was estimated at around \$100 but none occurred to the other vehicle owned by Robert Dye, Newell.

A potluck supper and regular meeting of the Newell Saddle Club will be held this Saturday evening at 6:30 at the Veteran's Hall. There will be cards for the adults and games for children after supper, and all members are urged to attend the first meeting of the year.



Picture of the Horse Creek School Bus. Although it was a team and wagon that went around the neighborhood collecting students. Loading children at old Horse Creek School.(1919 circa.)



Horses on Girard Ave. By Town Ordinance adopted in 1911, horses could not be hitched for long periods of time unattended on the street.

Here's What's Happening in Newell!

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

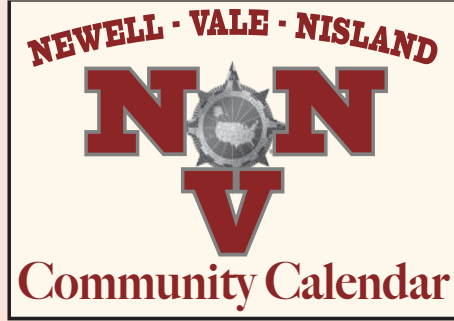
Feeding South Dakota
Second Thursday every month,
1:30 p.m.

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



Newell Service Center

101 4th Street- Phone 605-456-3455



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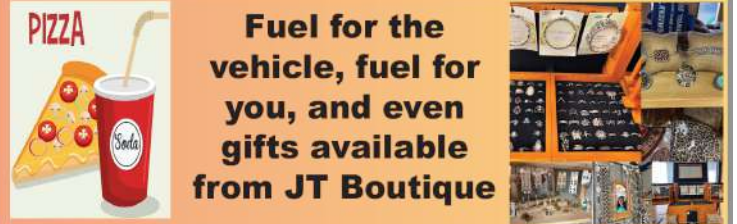
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JANUARY 2026

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

is accepting new patients!

located in the **Newell Evangelical Church**
on 8th street across from the Blue Line Diner.

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Retailers Association 2026 Scholarship Open

For more than 30 years the South Dakota Retailers Association has awarded scholarships to South Dakota students pursuing an education in retail, trades, or hospitality. The Retailers Association is continuing that tradition in 2026.

The application period for the 2026 scholarship cycle is now open.

Nathan Sanderson, South Dakota Retailers Association Executive Director, says the Association is looking for students who are gunning for business ownership or management in South Dakota.

"We know our communities are stronger when they have healthy businesses," said Sanderson.

"Our goal is to help build strong business minds that help build strong business communities."

Throughout the history of the program, the Retailers Association has awarded more than \$270,000 to 285 students.

Last year, the Retailers awarded \$16,500 among five students.

"We continue to see an increasing impressive applicant pool," said Chris

Verhoek, Association Board Scholarship Chair and owner of Country Corner in Estelline. "There's a lot of young talent in South Dakota and that certainly points to a positive future for the industry."

Scholarships start at \$2,000 and support individuals studying for careers in retail, hospitality, business, or trades.

Visit sdra.org/scholarships to download the application and view the full eligibility guidelines.

The scholarship application cycle closes April 15, 2026.

WINTER BALL

DENIM AND DIAMONDS

Belle Fourche Community Hall
Tickets

Single - \$20
Couple - \$35
Table - \$150 (8 per table)

Day of price goes up \$10
Dinner provided, Alcohol for purchase

JANUARY 31

AT 6PM

Tickets can be picked up at Belle Fourche Chamber

Position: Full-Time Director of Equalization and Planning
Reports to: Butte County Commission

Summary of Duties: The county Director of Equalization is responsible for confirming that all property in the county is accounted for on the tax list. They are also responsible for guaranteeing that these properties are all assessed in an equal and uniform manner.

Salary: \$66,901.43 Annual
Hours/Week: 40 hours per week M-F

Education Required: High school diploma required.

Abilities/Skills:
A successful applicant will have the ability to obtain the South Dakota CAA certification within one year, with prior property assessment or appraisal experience preferred, and experience with typical office software, such as Word, Excel, and Outlook. Advanced Excel experience preferred.


Additional Information: The work environment is split between typical indoor office duties and outdoor inspection of property activities. Travel will be required for certification and training.

Benefits: SDRS Retirement, Health insurance, Holidays, Vacation, Sick Time

Applications and a detailed job description may be picked up at the Auditor's office at the Butte County Administration building, 117 5th Ave, Belle Fourche, SD 57717.

Interested individuals can apply by submitting an Application, Resume, and Cover Letter addressed to the Butte County Auditor, Attn: Annie Capp, 117 5th Avenue, Belle Fourche, SD 57717. Phone 605-892-4485. Email: auditor@buttesd.org

Butte County is an Equal Opportunity, Affirmative Action Employer.



Shepherd of the Hills Church
825 W Main Street in Lead

Next Clinic: Lead - January 22, 2026
Registration: 6:00-7:00 p.m.

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

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



The South Dakota Retailers Association scholarship program provides financial help to students studying for a career in hospitality, business, or trades.

Since launching the program in 1992, the Association has awarded 285 scholarships, totaling more than \$270,000.

APPLY TODAY!
APPLICATIONS DUE APRIL 15, 2026

For more information on eligibility and how to apply, visit: sdra.org/scholarships



Questions? Please contact Brooke or Tammy at (605) 224-5050 or info@sdra.org.

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