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Arts Council Hosts Annual Rural Life Expressions Photo Contest

Robbi Longbrake
news@bellefourchebeacon.com
BELLE FOURCHE—Taking pictures of everyday life in rural America for a chance to win a cash prize? What could be better? That's exactly what participants in this year's Rural Life Expressions Photography Contest did.

For the fourth year, the Belle Fourche Arts Council held its annual photography contest from February 2 through February 20. The contest reception and awards ceremony took place at the Tri-State Museum on February 28 from 5 p.m. to 7 p.m.

A delicious spread of finger foods and desserts, along with coffee and lemonade, was offered at the reception. All of the photos were on display. Artists could submit two photographs per category, taken within the past three years, to be judged.

The categories were People, Animals, and Landscape/Environment, with two age divisions: under 18 and 18 and older.

An entry fee of \$20 per four photos was charged. In addition to the judged categories, two People's Choice Awards were also given.

Judges for the competition were Hunter Anderson, Sentel Schreier, and Heidi Stefanich.

They awarded the top three photographs in each category and division. Prizes were \$50 for third place, \$100 for second place, and \$175 for first place. An additional \$100 was awarded for the People's Choice winners.

Winners for this year's contest were:

Adult: People: 1) Caleb Minor, Grandpa Out the Farm; 2) Summer Busenitz, Cowboy in the Smoke; 3) Savanna Pickett-Kitzmilller, Wonder Landscape: 1) Caleb Minor, The Old Stone House; 2) Lisa Gabriel, Humble Beauty; 3) Roger O'Dea, Golden Hour Animals: 1) Jordan Taylor, What Moves Through the City; 2) Caleb Minor, Charlie the Charolais; 3) Edgar Simon, Untitled

Youth: People: 1) Jack Johnson, Cowboy in the Aurora; 2) Rebekah Jones, Smile! Landscape: 1) Jasper Gardner, Flipped Pivot; 2) Jasper Gardner, Billy Schmele; 3) Aleah Cassins, Dainty Meets Stoney Animals: 1) Aleah Cassins, A Tiny Watcher in a Big World; 2) Jack Johnson, Cattle on the Horizon; 3) Jack Johnson, Golden Guardian

The People's Choice winners were Golden Hour by Roger O'Dea for adults and Cowboy in the Aurora by Jack Johnson for youth.

Everyday life in Rural America



(Top) Walking around and looking at all the photos while carefully looking for your favorite to write on a piece of paper and vote for People's Choice is part of the fun of the reception. (Below) All the folks enjoying some good food and visiting while they wait for the awards to begin. Longbrake photos. (additional photos A8)



Chamber of Commerce Finds a Spacious New Home



Location, Black Hills Title building on 6th Ave.

Robbi Longbrake
news@bellefourchebeacon.com
BELLE FOURCHE—The Belle Fourche Chamber of Commerce has packed up and moved a few blocks south. Visitors will now find it at 713 6th Ave, in the familiar walls of the old Black Hills Title building. The new space is bigger and ready to offer expanded services to the community. Visitors entering the Chamber are welcomed by a spacious counter that provides a central spot for assistance. A display showcases business cards, pamphlets and brochures, and a side room contains Chamber member information and merchandise. "This room is our stage prep area with a lot of our membership materials," explained Michaela Horn, Executive Director. With the move, the Chamber has

nearly twice the space it had at its former location. The extra space enables the Chamber to offer more services to its members. "We thought it would be nice to have a conference room that our members could use. And then there's also an office space that people who don't work in town but do business around town or work out of their house—they can come and meet their clients here," shared Horn. The extra space that is set up for meetings also contains podcasting equipment that members are welcome to come in and use if they are interested. "It's someplace that is not in their house—it's just a clean, blank canvas to do a show from," said Horn.

There is also a large conference room with tables and chairs avail-

Chamber Move Contd. A6

LOCAL VETERAN TO TAKE FLIGHT WITH MIDWEST HONOR FLIGHT

Dave Raber of Belle Fourche has been selected to fly on Mission 30 on May 18

Dave Raber, a Vietnam War Veteran of Belle Fourche who served in the United States Navy, has been selected along with over 80 Veterans by Midwest Honor Flight to take a long awaited trip to Washington, D.C. on Mission 30 on May 18th. Midwest Honor Flight's mission is to transport America's Veterans to Washington, D.C. to visit those memorials dedicated to honor the service and sacrifices of themselves and to fellow Veterans.

When asked about the importance of Midwest Honor Flight, Aaron Van Beek, CEO, said, "They answered the call to serve our country and those around the globe. It's now our duty as a grateful nation to get them out



Dave Raber today and in 1967 on PBR Patrol Boat Mekong Delta Viet Nam.

to Washington, D.C. to see the memorials dedicated to their service and fellow comrades. It truly is the least we can do as the American people for our brave American heroes to visit their memorials dedicated to their service and sacrifice in our nation's capital - Washington, D.C!"

The trip begins with a celebratory send-off, including a presentation of our nation's colors. The men and women who comprise the Veteran group will board the chartered commercial jet and head to DC for a one-day trip they will talk about for the rest of their lives. During their time in DC, we will visit Arlington National Cemetery to witness the Changing of the Guard at the Tomb of the Unknown Soldier. They will also visit the Navy Memorial, Air Force Memorial, and Marine Corps Memorial. To finish the day, they will spend time at each of the war memorials as well - WWII Memorial, Korean War Memorial, and the Vietnam Veterans Wall and Memorial.

Today, we live in a free country thanks to the Veterans who have served over the years. This freedom came at a very

high cost. We can never repay them for what they've done. An "Honor Flight Tour" is simply a small token of our appreciation for everything they've done. Throughout their Midwest Honor Flight tour, the Veterans are thanked, recognized and admired for their service. They come home personally knowing how much their country loves them and respects them. Veterans will never forget this gratitude and adoration.

Trips are made possible with the support of community members, organizations, and businesses. Veterans do not pay a single cent for their trip which is why donations are vital to continuing these Missions. Those interested in supporting the Midwest Honor Flight or applying for a future Mission can visit their website at www.midwesthonorflight.org or by calling 605-215-1319.

Midwest Honor Flight is a non-profit organization dedicated to providing Veterans with respect, honor, and closure with an all-expense paid trip to our nation's capital serving the state of South Dakota and areas of NW Iowa, NE Nebraska, and SW Minnesota.

Lynn's DakotaMart Will have New line of Labels

Doug Cole
news@bellefourchebeacon.com

While grocery shopping recently you may have noticed a score of workers in the aisles at Lynn's DakotaMart. The store originally built in 1962, with additions in 1980, was being prepped for a new line of store brand products. Lynns is becoming a home to the Associated Food Stores brand of products.

When Nash Finch started the Belle Fourche store, it was originally Piggly Wiggly, then still under their ownership Sunmart Foods and Family Thrift until being purchased by Lynn's in 2006.

63 years and two owners. Until this move to AFS the store has carried the Our Family line of products. Lynn's Dakotamart decision to change.

Third generation owner Lincoln Feist, the grandson of Lynn's founder Lynn and his wife Georgia Feist who



purchased their first grocery store in Faith in 1968, had this to say about the changes, "the main reason for the change was to better unify our company.

We have been operating as

a segmented company for so long that being able to tie the majority of the stores under one umbrella is special. I would say we have been espe-

Lynn's 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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Steven Clyde 64

Steven Clyde, age 64 of Belle Fourche, died Sunday, March 1, 2026 at the Monument Health Spearfish Hospital, with his loving family by his side.

Services will be held 10:30am Saturday, March 7, 2026 at St. James Lutheran Church in Belle Fourche, with Pastor Chris Lenning officiating. Visitation will be held 5 to 7pm Friday at Leverington Funeral Home of the Northern Hills in Belle Fourche. Inurnment will take place in Pine Slope Cemetery. Friends may leave written condolences and view a video tribute from Steve's obituary page located at www.LeveringtonFH.com

Steven Kenneth Clyde was born on April 17, 1961, in Newcastle, Wyoming, to Kenny and Leta (Bock) Clyde. He joined his sisters Kathy, Bev, and Cindy as the youngest of four children. Steve grew up in Osage, Wyoming, and attended Kitty Moats School through the sixth grade. His early years were filled with adventures alongside his family and many cousins. Camping trips to Sand Creek, chasing and catching critters around Osage, and being his dad's loyal sidekick were among his happiest memories. Kenny taught Steve how to hunt, fish, cook, and fix just about anything — skills that would serve him well throughout his life.

Steve later moved with his family to Colony, Wyoming, in 1974, where he attended school in Belle Fourche. During his high school years, he worked on ranches in the Colony area. After graduating with the Belle Fourche High School Class of 1979, Steve went to work for Baroid, where he remained for several years. In the summer of 1982, Steve met Jinger Herman. They began dating and were married in December of that same year, beginning nearly 44 wonderful years together. They welcomed their daughter, Mardi Sue, in 1983. Twin sons Doug and Jack arrived in June 1987, and in July 1988, their son Taylor completed the "Clyde 6." Steve worked for several construction companies before venturing out on his own to establish Clyde Construction. Over the years, he built pole barns, completed remodels, and constructed custom homes throughout Wyoming and South Dakota. A gifted carpenter, Steve took great pride in his craftsmanship. In 1995, he and Jinger purchased a lot on East Snoma Road and, alongside their children, began building their family home in 1996. In the late 90's, Steve built a dairy barn for the Neiman family in Hulett, Wyoming. During this time, he formed a strong bond with the Neiman family. He stepped away from construction for a period and worked on the ranch as well as at Tower Valley Ag Supply. His beloved dog Buddy accompanied him during the workweeks in Hulett, helping "care" for the ranch animals. Steve treasured his time in Hulett — as a true Wyoming boy, there was no place he would rather be.

After multiple major surgeries to repair the toll that years of hard construction work had taken on his body, Steve went to work for Lamb Painting in Spearfish, SD. Under the guidance of Cara Parsons, he eventually became a project manager. Steve faithfully served his community in many ways. In 1995, his friend Ross Milliken encouraged him to



join the Belle Fourche Fire Department. Steve earned Rookie of the Year in 1996 and Firefighter of the Year in 2000. He later served as Assistant Fire Chief and became a certified fire instructor. Steve deeply valued his time with the department and formed lifelong friendships through the brotherhood of service. He also served as a reserve police officer with the Belle Fourche Police Department and as a First Responder with the Belle Fourche Ambulance Service. In 1998, he received the Golden Heart Award from the Ambulance Service in recognition of his dedication.

After his children grew up and began families of their own, Steve embraced one of his most cherished roles — Grandpa. He loved his grandchildren deeply and considered it his personal mission to make them laugh. He often joked that there was never a recliner big enough for him, the grandkids, and the dogs. Following a diagnosis of terminal cancer, Steve set a goal to make it to May 2026 so he could meet his newest granddaughter. True to his nature, he never sat around feeling sorry for himself. Even in retirement — though brief — he always had a project planned around the house.

Steve still had many plans he hoped to fulfill. Camping had become one of his favorite pastimes. In 2025, Steve and Jinger, along with friends and family, enjoyed wonderful weekend trips near the water and forests of the Black Hills, exploring in their ATV's. On nice days, Steve could often be found driving his side-by-side, taking his beloved fur babies, Roxie and Ruby, for rides. Every fall, hunting with his sons was a cherished tradition. Steve and Jinger also enjoyed traveling together. Visiting sister Kathy in Maine was a favorite destination, and they treasured trips to Cabo and Maui with their children. Steve was a devoted husband, son, brother, dad, friend, and grandpa. His wonderful sense of humor brought comfort and laughter to all those around him.

Steve is survived by his wife Jinger; children, Mardi (Ryan) Reeves, Doug Clyde, Jack (Callie) Clyde and Taylor Clyde; grandchildren, Carlie, Jackson, Sophia and Dagon Reeves, Declan Clyde, Rio Clyde and baby girl Clyde arriving in May 2026; sisters, Kathy (Wayne) Wood, Beverly (Dan) Quackenbush, Cindy (Howard) Biegert and his stepbrother Shane (Maggie) Mott. He is also survived by his sisters-in-law, Jana (Lon) Dale and Jodi (Brian Johnson) Scherr; aunts; cousins; nieces; nephews, and family friends that were all very dear to him, including his fur babies, Roxie and Ruby.

Steve was preceded in death by his paternal grandparents, Leonard and Lucy Clyde; maternal grandparents, Helen and Gerald Bock; parents, Kenneth and Leta Clyde; stepmother, Larine Verhulst Mott Clyde; father and mother-in-law, Jack and Liz Herman; brother-in-law, Cal Meyers; niece Cadee Elizabeth Meyers Dale; and his faithful dog Buddy.



Raymond Shinabarger 96

Raymond Shinabarger, age 96 of Buffalo, SD, died Tuesday, December 23, 2025 at the Spearfish Canyon Healthcare Center.

Services will be held 12:30pm Friday, March 13, 2026 at Black Hills National Cemetery in Sturgis with military honors. Arrangements are with Leverington Funeral Home of the Northern Hills in Belle Fourche. Friends may leave written condolences online at: www.LeveringtonFH.com

Raymond Warren Shinabarger was born September 21, 1929 in Swanville, Minnesota. He was the son of Warren and Lena (Schwandt) Shinabarger. In July of 1952, Raymond was drafted into the U.S. Army during the middle of the Korean War, and the escalation of the Cold War. He received a National Defense Service Medal, Good Conduct Medal, the Driver with Truck Medal, Safe Driver Certificate, and his unit received the Presidential Unit Citation. He was part of the 172nd Chemical Company. Raymond was united in marriage to Diana Lee Derby in Deadwood, on December 18, 1963. To this union three children were born: Charlotte, Patsy, and Warren. Following their marriage, Raymond and Diana lived in Buffalo. Together they were blessed with 61 years of marriage,

until Diana died in August of 2025. Raymond worked several years for the SD Highway Department. He was a dedicated member of the American Legion and in 2024 he reached a milestone having served in the Legion for 70 years. He was known for his dedicated service to the Buffalo Community and was a huge supporter of the Rancher Students for many years.

Raymond is survived by his daughter, Patsy (Raymond) Dillard of Castroville TX; son, Warren (Amy Seales) of Rapid City; 9 grandchildren, Ronald, Jonathan, Aleisha, Brent, Brian, Lakisha, Brittney, Raymond, Warren; 17 great grandchildren, Colton, Conner, Landon, Cade, Addasyn, Petyon, Hubert, Zach, James, Ryker, Winter, Kyzzer, Kynzlee, Tay'lee, Tayten, Theo, and Niah. He is also survived by several nieces and nephews.

He was preceded in death by his parents; wife; daughter, Charlotte Ottmo; two brothers, Donald and Clarence "Buster" Shinabarger; two sisters, Eleanor Lindholm and Gladys Baird Nelson.



Prayer for the week of March 4th

Heavenly Father, Thank you for the gift of a new week and a new day.
I am grateful for the opportunities ahead and the blessings you have in store.
Fill my heart with joy, my mind with peace, and my spirit with energy to embrace each day.
Guide my steps, bless my work, and help me to spread kindness and positivity wherever I go.
With you by my side, I know this week will be filled with purpose and joy.
In Jesus' name, I pray. Amen.

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Black Hills TEAM

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From A1 **Lynn's**

cially excited about some new items for our markets to try as well as some more aggressive ads.

We believe this partnership with AFS is the best thing for our communities as well as the best thing for Lynn's."

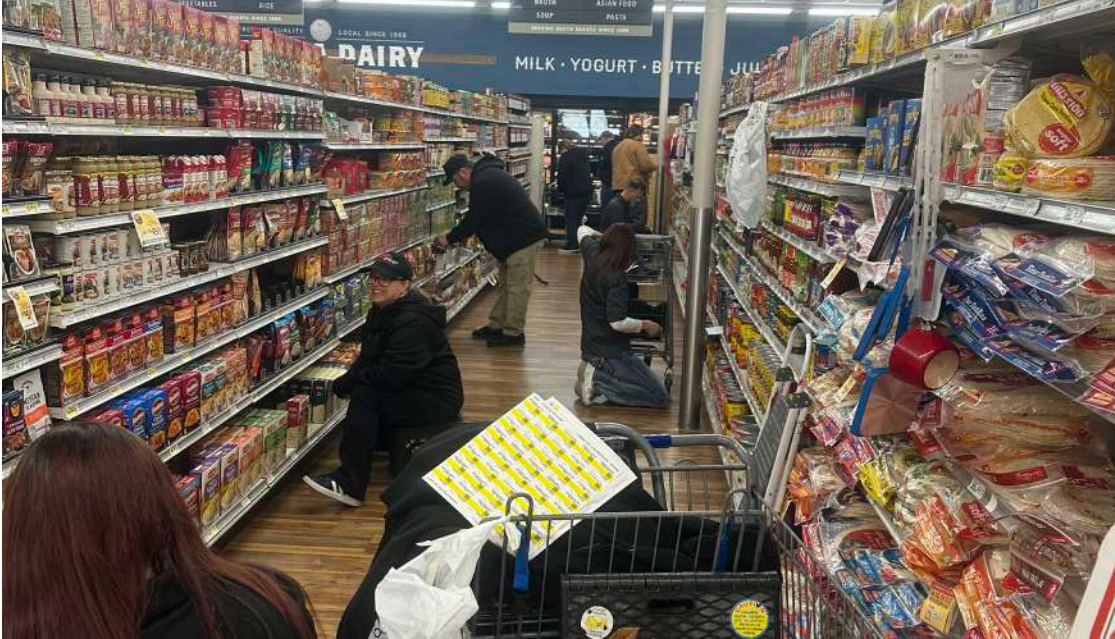
Associated Food Stores was founded on the idea of local grocers banding together

to help improve individual businesses and that philosophy continues today by sourcing local products when possible.

Some of the new brand items are already there but current Our Family brand products will continue to be sold until current supplies are depleted at which time they will be replaced with the new store brand labeled products.

One of the new items already there will be Red Button ice cream. Made at the Red Button Vintage Creamery in Richmond, Utah they produce over twenty flavors, both classic and unique.

This writer has tried their White Chocolate Strawberry and can without reservation recommend. Store manager Jim Grapentine wishes to thank everyone for their patience with the time of transition.



AFS transition set up crew working with Lynn's employees on preparation for the new line of private label products. *Beacon Photos*



Lynn's Dakotamart sees its last Nash Finch truck backed up to the store's loading dock with its final supply of Our Family brand products.

Annual Variety Show & Art Exhibition Highlights Local Artists

BELLE FOURCHE—An afternoon celebrating the arts of every kind took center stage at the Annual Fine Arts Boosters Variety Show and Art Exhibition on March 1.

The special event highlighted the various types of fine arts, from drawing, painting, photography and music to poetry and acting. It was all on display.

Fine Arts Boosters (FAB) got its start under a different name. "The Fine Arts Boosters have been around for many, many years—we used to be called Belle Fourche High School Band Parents—but we celebrate all the arts and all the student arts in Belle Fourche,"

explained Sharon Thompson, president of FAB. "We used to just focus on high school, but we wanted to expand to include middle school as well."

Kids and adults alike participated in the Variety Show. Before the start of the performance, tables were set up to give kids the opportunity to create their own artwork or have an artist create artwork on them with the option of face painting.

At various stations around the room, artwork was on display. There was everything from metal art and 3D art to drawings and acrylic and spray paintings and a photo art display. At the beginning of

the event, each of the art booths was introduced and the type of art on display was explained by either the artist themselves or the MC for the day, Michael Meemken. Thompson also helped with the introductions.

The money raised throughout the day is for a good cause! "Some community members and some parents—we meet once a month, and we try to help support the students, whether they are public school, private school or homeschooled—it does not matter," shared Thompson. "Kids under 18 that have a love for the arts, whether they are performing arts, visual arts or reading arts—it doesn't matter! ...So we provide scholarships

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8:00 - 3:00

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APPOINTMENTS ARE REQUIRED
CURRENT KG STUDENTS WILL NOT HAVE SCHOOL THIS DAY

for camps—summer camps, music camps, theater camps, no art camps yet, but if you are interested, and you find one and you need help funding, we usually provide \$200 to \$250 per student."

Thompson went on to explain that FAB raises money all year via concession stand sales and bake sales in addition to this annual fundraiser Variety Show and Art Exhibition.

After meandering around the room and taking in all of the beautiful and unique artwork, everyone's attention was drawn to the stage for the start of the Variety Show.

There was a plethora of live acts performed by both student and community artists. The amazing talent from the Belle Fourche area was on full display. Showcasing the performing arts, acts included singing, guitar and ukulele playing, dance, poetry and dramatic readings, skits and an improv performance.

All the attendees were treated to finger foods and desserts throughout the afternoon along with water and lemonade.

A table displaying all of the raffle items was set up along the back wall. Each attendee received one raffle ticket with the price of entry, with the option of purchasing more for \$1 each. Admission was \$10 for adults and \$5 for children. Each raffle ticket was then dropped into a bucket in front of the desired item. At the end of the day the winning ticket was drawn from each bucket.

Local businesses donated a variety of items that included: Pony Express, gift basket; Devil's Tower Tipi Camping, One Night's Stay; The Breakfast Club, \$20 gift card; Belle Flowers & Co, \$35 gift card; Digits Nail Spa, Allure Manicure; Belle Chiropractic, one-hour massage; Prairie Hills Pharmacy, \$25 gift certificate; Lynn's Dakotamart, two \$25 gift certificates; Round Up Building Center, \$75 gift certificate; The Homestead Store, gift basket; High Mark Credit Union, gift basket; Runnings, gift basket and gift certificate; Quality Quick Print, gift basket; Office Emporium, gift basket; Royal Spraying and Lawn Care, three kids chairs; Budget Appliance, Kitchen and Spice Kit; Napa Auto Parts, Care Car Kit; Posy Palace, candle and \$15 gift card and Domino's, gift card.



(L) Local businesses donated items to be raffled off during the FAB fundraiser. (R) Attendees chose where they wanted to place their raffle ticket in hopes of winning that prize; (R) Attendees spend time visiting with each other and looking at all of the artwork. *Longbrake photos (additional photos- A-7)*

Bronc Wrestler Place at State Tournament

Bronc State Wrestling Tournament sendoff



Kandi Tonsager
news@bellefourchebeacon.com

The Broncs wrestlers took 2 girls and 4 boys to the South Dakota State Championship held at the Denny Sandford Premier Center on February 26-28th.

State qualifiers were AnnaBelle Dighton and Kyra Vandenberg for the girls and Caden Swaney, Cooper Conry, Kolby Tibbs and Riley Dighton for the boys. Cooper and Kolby were beat out in the initial rounds.

Kyra Vandenberg went 4-1 and placed 3rd in the girls 100lb weight class at state with a 43-2 season record.

Caden Swaney went 3-3 at the state tournament with a 6th place finish in the boys 106lb weight class and a season record of 37-16.

Riley Dighton went 2-2 at the state tournament with an 8th place finish in the 157lb weight class and a 42-8 season record.

Coach Cory expresses a season filled with highs and lows and gratitude toward the team, the managers, the coaching staff, parents, wrestling clubs and other clubs and organizations for the support during the season.

He is looking forward to the end of season awards banquet with a time and date to be determined.



AnnaBelle Dighton



Caden Swaney



Cooper Conry



Kolby Tibbs



Kyra Vandenberg



Riley Dighton



Coach Tevin, Coach Nathan, Kyra Vandenberg, Caden Swaney, Riley Dighton, Coach Cory- Bronc State Placers



Managers Ambree Kirstine & McKenzie Ewalt

Broncs Defeat Longhorns in Final Regular

Kandi Tonsager
news@bellefourchebeacon.com

The Broncs hosted the Faith Longhorns on Friday February 27th with a final score of 83-56 for their last regular season game and last home game. Parents of Seniors Gavin Pearson and Sern Weishaar comment on the last game of their “forever stomping grounds” as having been a joy to sit together over the years and watch the boys grow, with many memories and “some of the best times”. The parents hope to spend more time in the future “continuing to cheer on the Broncs, eat popcorn suppers, and grow old together in the gym”.

Class A playoffs, the Broncs will play Rapid City Christian who’s current record stands at 12-8 on the season, with the Broncs at 4-16 on the season. The game will be played at Rapid City’s Christian with a 6pm tipoff.

Lady Broncs Beat Custer in Quarterfinals

On Tuesday, February 24th, the Broncs traveled to Custer for the Region 8 class A quarterfinal game against the Wildcats. In the first quarter Danali Larson made a 3 pointer, Emma Nehl scored 4 points and Raegan Hatling scored two points to end the first quarter with a score of 9-13. In the second quarter Raegan Hatling

and Emma Nehl continued get points on the board with a 25-19 lead at the half. In the third quarter an additional 9 points by the Lady Broncs put the score at 34-28 going into the fourth. In the final quarter of the game, Raegan Hatling scored another 3 pointer to bring her to 4 on the game, as well as two free throws. Payton Richardson, Emma Nehl, and Berkley Nore each made a basket and Denali Larson made a basket and a free throw in the fourth to bring the final score to a victorious 48-42 win over the Wildcats. Lead scorers were Raegan Hatling with 22 points, Emma Nehl with 15 points and Denali Larson with 6. This game marked Coach Bill Burr’s 200th win!

For the first round of Region 8

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Broncs ready for final regular season game



Lady Broncs cheer on the boys



Senior Gavin Pearson enters the court.



Broncs pose for *National Anthem* before playoff starts.



Coach Burr ready for game.



Lady Broncs final game.



Lady Broncs Team 2026

From A1 Chamber Move

able to use. "This conference room is open to our membership as well. We have a screen and a projector and a few other things that will get set up," said the Director.

The Chamber moved locations in the past month and then went directly into putting on the Annual Chamber Banquet with the Annual Casino Night up next, so moving in and setting up everything will be happening slowly over time.

So far feedback has been positive. Horn explained, "Everybody who comes in says they like it. They think it looks very professional—very fitting for us! And they're excited about the room and the space that's available for them to use."

If you are interested in using any

of the available space, there is an online portal set up to go on and reserve a room. It is free to Chamber members.

The new location has tinted windows, which can make it a little hard to see inside, and the Chamber sign hasn't been affixed to the building yet, so it may be confusing when you're looking for the office.

But once you step through the door, you'll be greeted with warm welcomes and smiling faces—and you'll know you're in the right place!

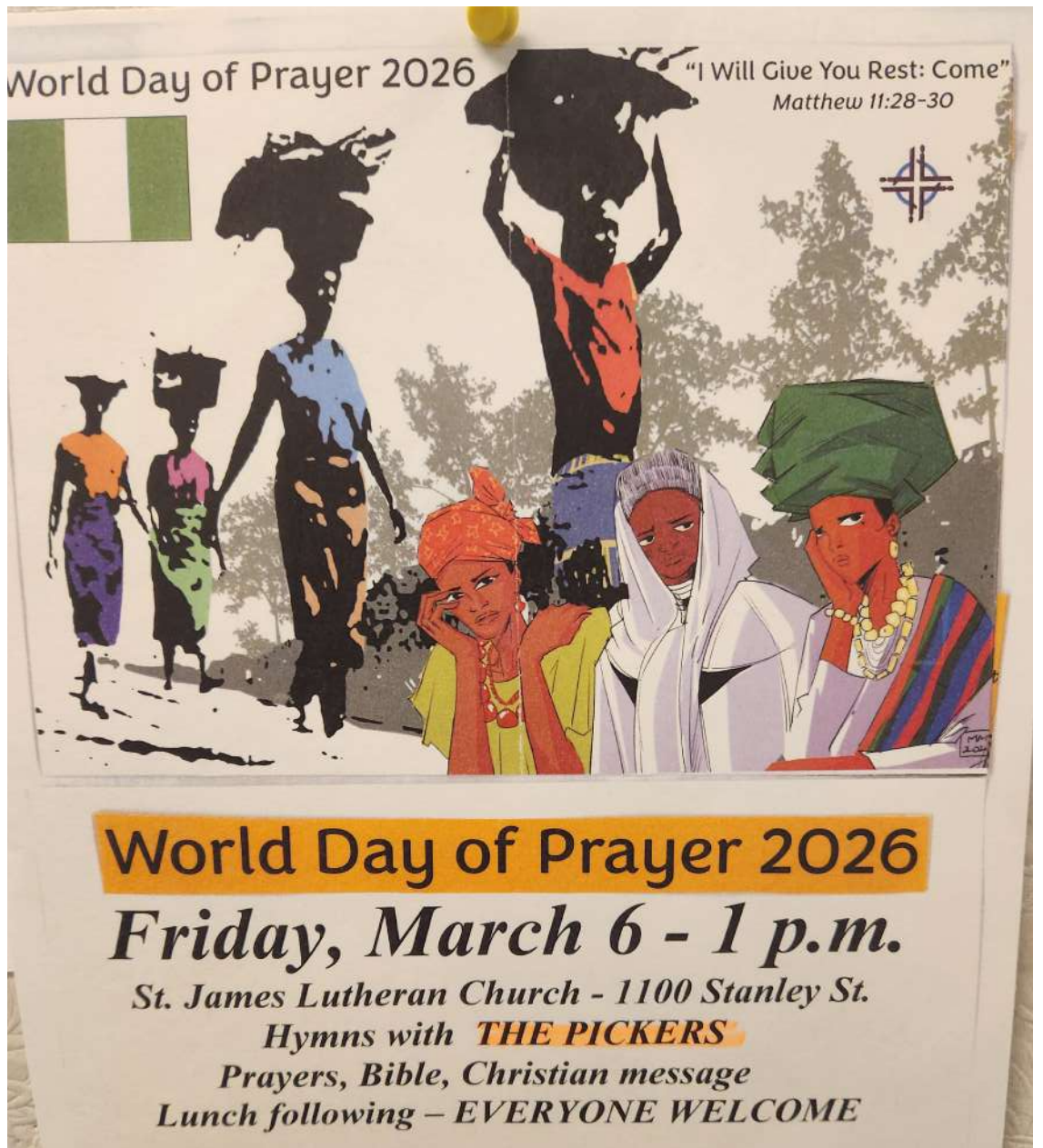
Soon, the metal sign from the old location, which was recently taken down, will be installed at the new office.

World Day of Prayer at St James Lutheran

March 6, 2026 - 1 p.m. St. James Lutheran Church, 1100 Stanley St, Belle Fourche, SD
Everyone is invited to the World Day of Prayer event on Friday, March 6, 2026, at 1 p.m., at St. James Lutheran Church, 1100 Stanley Street, in Belle Fourche, South Dakota.

There will be hymns with music by The Pickers. Prayers and a Bible message will be shared. Donations will be taken to help women and their families in Nigeria, West Africa, who are living in poverty. Lunch following the event.

Men and women are welcome.



Michaela Horn, Executive Director and Brianne Bonnet, Assistant Director inside of the new office space at the Chamber of Commerce office building. Longbrake photos



(Top Row): Michaela Horn, Executive Director makes use of the new counter inside the new business office to discuss Chamber business with Chamber Board members; Brianne Bonnet, Assistant Director, discusses Chamber business with board member Hunter Anderson. (2nd Row) A Chamber Member brings in business pamphlets to be displayed at the Chamber Office; One of the features of the new office space is the large conference room available to Chamber members to use; (3rd Row) A room dedicated to Chamber member business information and handouts. Anyone can come in and gather information about area businesses; There is a room with a small table and various equipment for Chamber members to come in and use as they need. Reservations can be made on the website; (Bottom) Historical displays about the Chamber are found throughout the new space..

Show Up

by Belle LaVenue



BFHS Theater Directors Nathan Schreier, Allie Juso Verry, & Micah Pennel have announced the cast for the spring musical, Seussical! They have a large ensemble with Alice Biden, Slater Humbracht, Trey Shannon, Maddie Dalton, Tace Hartman, Aolani Stone, Avery Mastin, Kalani Meyers, Chelsea Zinke, and Brahnson Brink. Those playing the familiar Seuss characters are Derek Scott - Cat in the Hat; Timothy Thompson - Horton; Iva Hale - Jojo; Trinity Hostetter - Gertrude; Alexa Stone - Mayzie; Kate Blair - Bird Girl Trio; Tiril Brattas - Bird Girl Trio; Abby Schmidt - Bird Girl Trio; Kaeli Thompson - Sour Kangaroo; Andy Pruitt - Wickersham Bro 1; Logan Willert - Wickersham Bro 2; Trevor Welles - Wickersham Bro 3; Sonja Cropper - Yertle the Turtle; Dillon Streeter - Mr. Mayor; Mollie Collins - Mrs. Mayor; John Hale - General Schmitz; Kale Williams - Grinch; Nathan Erhart - Thing 1; Samuel Savery - Thing 2. Music practices for the show are underway! Show dates are April 24-26 with two evening performances and a Sunday matinee.

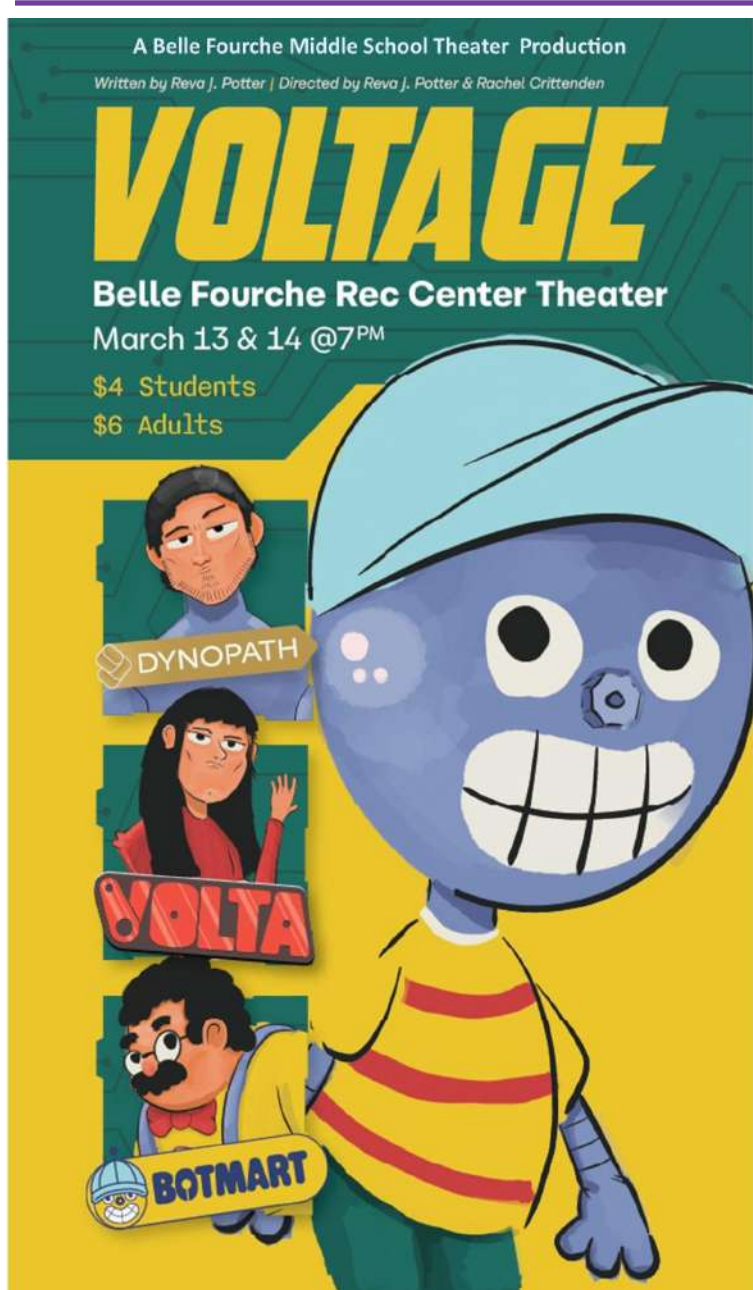
Meanwhile, the Belle Fourche Middle School Theater's show VOLTAGE is just two weeks away! The show will be on March 13 & 14 at 7 PM in the Rec Center Theater. The set is up and the "robots" are coming to life on stage. Adults and kids of all ages will enjoy seeing the future of technology in this energetic comedy!

Belle Fourche Area Community Theater has announced their season for this year beginning with Curtain Call: A Night of One Acts on March 27-29. Their summer production in July will be Minnesela - a western with a local connection! The local theaters will be Getting Our Acts Together in September, and the Christmas show will be a Suessified Christmas in December.

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

- Mar. 13, Friday, BFMS Play, VOLTAGE, @ the Rec Center Theater, 7:00 pm
- Mar. 14, Saturday, BFMS Play, VOLTAGE, @ the Rec Center Theater, 7:00 pm
- Mar. 16, BFHS Band / Chorus Concert @ the Rec Center Theater, 7:00 pm
- Mar. 17, BFMS 6th, 7th, & 8th Grade Spring Choir Concert, @ the Rec Center Theater, 6:30 pm
- Mar. 27-29, BFACT's Curtain Call: A Night of One Acts @ the Belle Fourche Community Hall
- April 13, BFMS/BFHS Jazz Concert @ the Rec Center Theater, 7:00 pm
- April 24-26, BFHS Musical - Suessical!

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



BELLE FOURCHE SENIOR TO BE FEATURED IN RISING STAR OF THE WEST CONTEST



Belle Fourche High School senior **Alexis Pickett** will be featured as part of **KOTA Territory News' Rising Star of the West** scholarship contest Wednesday March 4th on KOTA Territory News on FOX at 6:00 and 9:00. Pickett qualified for the contest by submitting a short video of herself to KOTA Territory News.

Pickett is one of the semi-finalists who will be seen through March 13th. Her one minute commentary will be aired and then placed on kotatv.com for viewers to watch and rate. One competitor from each week will then advance to the final round in May. The winner from that group will receive a \$4,000 college scholarship, with a total of \$7,500 in scholarship money awarded from KEVN Black Hills FOX and Monument Health.

FAB pics From A1 (clockwise below) Kids to enjoy included a face-painting booth; A hands-on art table gave kids a place to practice their own art; A 3D artist holds up his creation and explains how many hours it takes to create such a project; Michael Meemken, MC for the day, introduces the art and artist on display, with FAB President Sharon Thompson. Longbrake Photos-More photos Page C7





From A1 Photo Contest



(Top L) Third place in Youth Animal was **Jack Johnson**, Golden Guardian, with judges **Hunter Anderson** and **Sentel Schreier**; (R) Youth third place in Landscape is **Aleah Cassins**, Dainty Meets Stony, with judges Hunter Anderson, Sentel Schreier and **Heidi Stefanich** (2nd Row) Second place in Animal was Jack Johnson, Cattle on the Horizon; Youth winner in People was Jack Johnson, Cowboy in the Aurora; (3rd Row) Winner in the Youth Animal category was Aleah Cassins, A Tiny Watcher in a Big World, with judges; Adult People third place was **Savanna Pickett-Kitzmilller**, Wonder, being held up by Judge Heidi Stefanich, with Hunter Anderson and Sentel Schreier; ((4th Row) Winning first place in Adult Landscape is **Caleb Minor**, The Old Stone House; Second place for Adult People category was **Summer Busenitz**, Cowboy in the Smoke; (5th Row) Winner of the Adult Animal category is **Jordan Taylor**, What Moves Through the City; Winning \$100 each for People's Choice Award, the winners are: Adult, Golden Hour by Roger O'Dea and Youth, Cowboy in the Aurora by Jack Johnson; (6th Row) Receiving second place in Adult Landscape is **Lisa Gabriel**, Humble Beauty; Winner for the Adult People category was **Caleb Minor**, Grandpa On the Farm Longbrake photos

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Tim Tetrault ~ Fieldman: 605-642-9792 • 605-641-0328
Ray Pepin ~ Fieldman: 605-892-5072

Tyler Escott ~ Fieldman: 406-853-5690
Scott Crowser ~ Fieldman: 605-645-2654
JL Driskill ~ Fieldman: 307-660-5422

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

Cattle Report - Friday, February 27, 2026

Just Under 2000 Hd Today With Lots Of Demand For Feeder Cattle, Even With The Board Down

Next Sale - March 6th - Bred Cow & Hfr Special - 10 AM
Thank you for marketing with St Onge Livestock!

Feeder Cattle					
Anderson, Taten, Volborg MT	28	Blk	Hfr	759	\$367.50
Bird, Ken, Volborg MT	32	Blk	Hfr	715	\$412.00
Bird, Ken, Volborg MT	60	Blk	Hfr	714	\$392.00
Bird, Ken, Volborg MT	22	Blk	Hfr	619	\$427.50
Boylan, Robert, Newell SD	93	Blk	Hfr	536	\$470.00
Boylan, Robert, Newell SD	11	Blk	Hfr	418	\$545.00
Duprel, Jack, Sturgis SD	67	B/R	Str	836	\$356.50
Erickson, Kelly, Kadoka SD	10	Blk	Hfr	752	\$342.00
Fulton Ranch LLC, Broadus MT	30	B/R	Str	523	\$465.00
Gaskill, Dan, Volborg MT	31	Blk	Hfr	750	\$448.00
Gaskill, Dan, Volborg MT	66	Blk	Hfr	749	\$448.00
Giger, Triston, Boyes MT	26	Blk	Str	703	\$412.00
Gottfredson Elm Creek Ranch, Newell SD	84	Bld	Hfr	754	\$377.00
Gottfredson Elm Creek Ranch, Newell SD	15	Bld	Hfr	743	\$380.00
Hanson, Sandy, Vale SD	21	Blk	Hfr	800	\$380.00
Humbrecht, John, Camp Crook SD	82	B/Ch	Hfr	604	\$448.00
Humbrecht, John, Camp Crook SD	41	B/Ch	Hfr	533	\$470.00
KC Ranch LLC, Rozet WY	91	B/R	Str	661	\$440.00
KC Ranch LLC, Rozet WY	23	B/R	Str	588	\$476.00
KC Ranch LLC, Rozet WY	26	Red	Hfr	572	\$447.50
King, Dale Or Helen, Hammond MT	40	Bld	Hfr	602	\$434.00
King, Dale Or Helen, Hammond MT	11	Bld	Hfr	516	\$460.00
Kluver, Cortney, Forsyth MT	10	Blk	Str	571	\$480.00
Lindblom, David Or Starla, Rapid City SD	21	Blk	Str	586	\$467.00
Lindblom, David Or Starla, Rapid City SD	20	B/Ch	Str	694	\$409.00
Murphy Cattle Co, Hermosa SD	27	Blk	Hfr	642	\$399.00
Nelson, Travis, Miles City MT	31	Bld	Hfr	574	\$430.00
OP Bar Ranch LP, St Onge SD	15	B/R	Str	708	\$394.00
Schell Long Pine Ranch, Capitol MT	10	Bld	Str	562	\$491.00
Shuck Bros, Union Center SD	16	B/R	Hfr	428	\$545.00

Bred Cows - Sold By The Head					
Shepperson, Bob J & Julie G, Upton WY	11	Blk	Short Solid	1257	\$3,400.00
Shepperson, Bob J & Julie G, Upton WY	23	Blk	Broken	1231	\$3,100.00

Weigh Up Cows					
Bachand, Benny R, Sturgis SD	2	Blk	Cow	1540	\$162.00
Bauer, Bradley Or Rhonda, Union Center SD	3	Blk	Hfr	1121	\$261.00
Bauer, Bradley Or Rhonda, Union Center SD	1	Blk	Hfr	1075	\$237.50
Bauer, Bradley Or Rhonda, Union Center SD	2	Blk	Cow	1440	\$176.00
Bauer, Bradley Or Rhonda, Union Center SD	4	Blk	Cow	1537	\$172.50
Bauer, Bradley Or Rhonda, Union Center SD	1	Blk	Cow	1255	\$168.00
Bauer, Bradley Or Rhonda, Union Center SD	1	Bld	Cow	1125	\$164.00
Bauer, Casey, Union Center SD	1	Blk	Cow	1715	\$169.00
Bird, Ken, Volborg MT	1	Blk	Cow	1480	\$165.00
Bush Ranch Inc, Fa, Hulet WY	1	Blk	Cow	1245	\$115.00
C & W Ranch, SD	34	Mix	Cow	1636	\$172.00
C & W Ranch, SD	34	Mix	Cow	1640	\$171.50
C & W Ranch, SD	34	Mix	Cow	1711	\$171.00
C & W Ranch, SD	38	Mix	Cow	1484	\$170.50
Cahoon, Jeanette Or Dan, Sonnette MT	1	Bld	Hfr	1205	\$256.00
Cahoon, Jeanette Or Dan, Sonnette MT	1	Blk	Cow	985	\$160.00
Crowser, Jenny, Newell SD	2	Herf	Hfr	750	\$322.50
Crowser, Jenny, Newell SD	3	Xbrd	Hfr	836	\$215.00
Crowser, Jenny, Newell SD	1	Blk	Cowette	1040	\$195.00
Crowser, Jenny, Newell SD	1	Char	Cow	1160	\$160.00
Crowser, Jenny, Newell SD	1	Herf	Cow	1200	\$154.00
Crowser, Jenny, Newell SD	7	Herf	Cow	1199	\$154.00
Duprel Livestock, Vale SD	7	Blk	Hfr	1055	\$262.50
Duprel Livestock, Vale SD	1	Blk	Hfr	1180	\$227.50
Duprel Livestock, Vale SD	1	Blk	Cow	1265	\$183.00
Duprel Livestock, Vale SD	1	Blk	Cow	925	\$172.50
Duprel Livestock, Vale SD	1	Blk	Cow	1690	\$167.00
Duprel Livestock, Vale SD	1	Blk	Cow	1555	\$167.00
Duprel Livestock, Vale SD	1	Blk	Cow	1440	\$167.00
Duprel Livestock, Vale SD	2	Blk	Cow	1387	\$165.00
Elerton, Terry, Custer SD	2	Blk	Cow	1662	\$169.50
Grubi, Christopher, Sturgis SD	5	B/R	Cow	1381	\$173.50
Hanson, Sandy, Vale SD	1	Blk	Hfr	1120	\$250.00
Hanson, Sandy, Vale SD	1	Blk	Cow	1535	\$170.00
Jev Livestock LLC, St Onge SD	1	Blk	Cow	1545	\$157.00
Keleson, Cole, Sturgis SD	2	Blk	Hfr	1087	\$260.00
Kluver, Cortney, Forsyth MT	5	Blk	Hfr	860	\$316.00
Kluver, Cortney, Forsyth MT	5	Blk	Hfr	921	\$287.50
Kluver, Cortney, Forsyth MT	1	Red	Cowette	960	\$192.50
Kluver, Cortney, Forsyth MT	6	Blk	Cow	1080	\$161.00
Lewis, Dan, Rapid City SD	1	Blk	Hfr	1245	\$235.00

Lewis, Dan, Rapid City SD	1	Blk	Cowette	1445	\$198.00
Lewis, Dan, Rapid City SD	3	Blk	Cowette	1306	\$198.00
Lewis, Dan, Rapid City SD	1	Blk	Cow	1690	\$167.50
Lewis, Dan, Rapid City SD	1	Blk	Cow	1675	\$155.00
Lintz, Jim & Brenda, Hermosa SD	1	Blk	Cow	1430	\$171.00
Lone Tree Ranch, Sturgis SD	2	B/R	Hfr	1032	\$200.00
Madsen, Jim, Volborg MT	12	Blk	Hfr	1095	\$265.00
Madsen, Jim, Volborg MT	2	Blk	Hfr	1182	\$242.50
Madsen, Jim, Volborg MT	1	Blk	Cow	1770	\$161.00
Pekron, Cody, Hot Springs SD	1	Blk	Hfr	1235	\$232.50
Ryan Xz Ranch LLC, Aladdin WY	1	Blk	Hfr	1230	\$240.00
Rypkema Family Ranching LLC, Hermosa SD	5	Blk	Hfr	960	\$281.00
Rypkema Family Ranching LLC, Hermosa SD	16	Blk	Hfr	1093	\$247.50
Rypkema Family Ranching LLC, Hermosa SD	3	Blk	Hfr	1278	\$225.00
Rypkema Family Ranching LLC, Hermosa SD	1	Cow		1410	\$171.50
Schuchard, Eric Or Amanda, Prairie City SD	1	Xbrd	Hfr	870	\$210.00
Schuchard, Eric Or Amanda, Prairie City SD	1	Char	Cow	1610	\$162.00
Schultz Ranch, Newell SD	1	Blk	Cow	1440	\$171.50
Shepperson, Bob J & Julie G, Upton WY	1	Red	Cowette	960	\$193.00
Shepperson, Bob J & Julie G, Upton WY	2	Blk	Cow	1342	\$177.00
Spear E Ranch, Olive MT	1	Blk	Hfr	1255	\$230.00
Tveit, Bernard, Sturgis SD	1	Blk	Cow	1760	\$160.00

Weigh Up Bulls					
Heier, Ver J, Prairie City SD	4	Bld	Bull	1515	\$182.50
Schuchard, Eric Or Amanda, Prairie City SD	1	Blk	Bull	1910	\$191.00
Garnan, Ben Or Lori, Belle Fourche SD	1	Blk	Bull	1790	\$206.00
Powell, Stanley, Biddle MT	1	Blk	Bull	1715	\$192.50
Fritz, Tyler, Belle Fourche SD	1	Blk	Bull	1195	\$180.00
Kluver, Cortney, Forsyth MT	1	Blk	Bull	1025	\$230.00
Crowser, Scott Or Carla, Whitehead SD	1	Bld	Bull	1745	\$187.50
Lawrence, Kagan, Alzada MT	1	Herf	Bull	2030	\$185.00
Lawrence, Justin, Alzada MT	2	Herf	Bull	1455	\$197.50
Lawrence Nelson, Dalie, Alzada MT	1	Herf	Bull	1375	\$182.00
Hutchinson Trust, Drew & Judy, Aladdin WY	1	Red	Bull	2020	\$210.00
Hutchinson, Clay Or Jessica, Aladdin WY	1	Red	Bull	1935	\$212.50
Shepperson, Bob J & Julie G, Upton WY	2	Red	Bull	1915	\$195.00
Hutchinson, Clay Or Jessica, Aladdin WY	1	Red	Bull	1615	\$180.00
Hutchinson Trust, Drew & Judy, Aladdin WY	2	Red	Bull	1522	\$189.00

Friday, March 6, 2026

Bred Hfr & Cow Special

10:00 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

Roy Hendrickson - 8 Blk 7 To 9 Yr Old Cows - Bred Blk - 4/1

Plus More By Sale Time!

2026 CATTLE SALES

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 scrapie 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.

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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Sheep Report - Thursday, February 26, 2026

Good Run Of Sheep For Today's Sale
Lambs Sold A Little Lower
Slaughter Ewes Sold \$10 Lower

Next Sale - March 5th - 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!

Bred Ewes - Sold by the Head

Askins, Sage, Lusk WY.....80...2yr.....109.....\$320.00
Hewson, Troy Or Elaine, Newell SD.....8.....3-Sld.....231.....\$280.00

Feeder Lambs

Haber, Cody Or Desiree, Circle MT.....143..Lamb.....73.....\$375.00
Haber, Cody Or Desiree, Circle MT.....24...Lamb.....61.....\$390.00
Palmer, Dean & Shannon, Culbertson MT...94...Lamb.....92.....\$333.00
Palmer, Dean & Shannon, Culbertson MT...10...Lamb.....71.....\$376.00
Palmer, Dean & Shannon, Culbertson MT...15...Lamb.....112.....\$282.00
Askins, Sage, Lusk WY.....65...Lamb.....84.....\$361.00
Ahart, Keegan & Jean, Nisland SD.....9.....Lamb.....68.....\$415.00
Ahart, Keegan & Jean, Nisland SD.....22...Lamb.....87.....\$340.00
Burtis, Brittney, Howes SD.....47...Lamb.....112.....\$282.00
Burtis, Brittney, Howes SD.....40...Lamb.....128.....\$240.00
Green, John, Lodge Pole SD.....14...Lamb.....93.....\$342.50
Jensen, Kye, Buffalo WY.....20...Lamb.....53.....\$390.00
Smith, Amber, Broadus MT.....25...Lamb.....83.....\$367.00

Slaughter Ewes

Braun, Elizabeth, Newell SD.....6.....K Ewe.....132.....\$101.00
Haber, Cody Or Desiree, Circle MT.....39...K Ewe.....169.....\$124.00
Haber, Cody Or Desiree, Circle MT.....28...K Ewe.....150.....\$124.00
Palmer, Dean & Shannon, Culbertson MT...15...K Ewe.....197.....\$126.00
Pitz Or Gnelle Dauwen, Tom, Faith SD.....14...K Ewe.....155.....\$124.00
Pitz Or Gnelle Dauwen, Tom, Faith SD.....13...K Ewe.....136.....\$124.00

Slaughter Bucks

Germand, Darwin, Rhame ND.....3.....Kbuck.....298.....\$119.00
Palmer, Dean & Shannon, Culbertson MT...4.....Kbuck.....227.....\$119.00

NEWELL SHEEP YARDS

MARCH 5, 2026

BRED EWE SPECIAL

1:00 PM

BRED EWES

SAGE ASKIN - 600 3 TO 5 YR OLD EWES - 5/15 TO WF BUCKS - FINE WOOL

TROY HEWSON - 300 2 TO 4 YR OLD EWES - 4/15 TO WF & BF BUCKS

PLUS MORE BY SALE TIME!

Please Have Animals In By 10:00 AM
So They Can All Be Weighed Before The Sale!

2026 SHEEP SALES

March 12th - Regular Sale - Selling All Classes Of Sheep & Goats
March 19th - Regular Sale - Selling All Classes Of Sheep & Goats
March 26th - Bred Ewe Special - Selling All Classes Of Sheep & Goats
April 2nd - Regular Sale - Selling All Classes Of Sheep & Goats
April 9th - Bred Ewe Special - Selling All Classes Of Sheep & Goats
April 16th - Regular Sale - Selling All Classes Of Sheep & Goats
April 23rd - Bred Ewe Special - Selling All Classes Of Sheep & Goats
April 30th - Regular Sale - Selling All Classes Of Sheep & Goats
May 7th - Bred Ewe Special - Selling All Classes Of Sheep & Goats
May 14th - Regular Sale - Selling All Classes Of Sheep & Goats
May 21st - Regular Sale - Selling All Classes Of Sheep & Goats
May 28th - Feeder Lamb Special - Selling All Classes Of Sheep & Goats

Belle Fourche Lions Club PANCAKE BREAKFAST!

\$5 per person
Children Under 5 FREE
Purchase tickets from any Belle Fourche Lions Club member

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Sunday, March 29th • 8:00 am - 1:00 pm
Belle Fourche Moose Lodge

Upcoming events,
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March

4th - 1Pm Cribbage at Belle silver Lining
5th - 5:30PM Burger Night at Moose Lodge
7th - Father Daughter Dance at Rec Center
8th - Daylight Savings Time

Casino Night March 13th

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Kevin: 605-801-0974


2017 KUBOTA MX5800HST



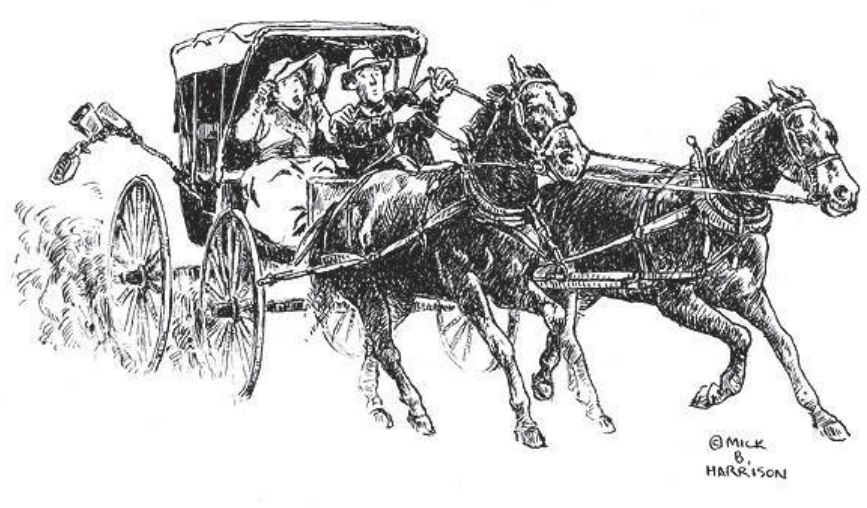
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"Illustration from Cowboy Life"
Pen & Ink



Mick Harrison

<p>Mailing Address: Mick Harrison Paintings PO Box 457 Belle Fourche, SD 57717</p>	<p>Website: www.MickHarrison.com</p> <p>Email: mickart@ mickharrison.com</p>
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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

Dr. Townsend (L.J.) practiced in Belle Fourche in 1898 until he left to study medicine and surgery in Europe in 1901. He left Belle in 1909 and began his medicinal practice in Sioux City, where he had been. Before he left, in those days, he would make doctor calls to the vast territory in the Belle Fourche area. This time, after the turn of the century, Dr. Townsend was summoned to a ranch halfway to the Powder River, on Box Elder, where a bachelor named Ed. R. was down with pneumonia. L. J. changed teams at Alzada to speed the sixty mile journey to his patient. "It was winter," L. J. said, "there was no fire in the house. Old Ed had not eaten for two days, and his bed was two tanned cow hides on a plank bunk. He was in a bad way. I started a fire, made some soup, and stayed with him for two days. A cowboy dropped in, and I made him stay with Ed until he was well enough to travel, then ordered him brought to the clinic in town." Old Ed survived. When

brought to the clinic, Mrs. Bogue reported that Ed complained that he could not stand the clean bedding and the soft bed. He preferred to lie on the floor. When his place was needed by another patient Ed loafed in L. J.'s office "Your hoss-pittle is too darn little," Old Ed grumbled one day. "Why don't you get a bigger one?" Dr. L. J. looked across the street where his store and lot was located and explained he had dreamed of doing just that. If he had the money he would build a big place with store rooms on the street level and plenty of hospital and office rooms upstairs. "How much would it cost?" Ed asked. Dr. L. J. needed ten thousand dollars more than he could then scrape up. "I'll loan it to you, Doc." Old Ed said, and he wrote out a check for that amount on a St. Louis bank. "I been shippin' horses and banking the mon-ey down there for years." He explained. by Mary Buchholz That is how Belle Fourche got

the Townsend Block, the building in which Frey's Hardware and Furniture is now located. Dr. L. J. said cement blocks were then the new building product. He contacted a man called "Steam Shovel Dick" to make the block on Redwater where there is a lot of gravel; and J. O'Banion built the imposing Townsend Block. In later years, Dr. L. J. said "I never go down on that side of the street for fear the building will fall on me. We didn't put much cement in the blocks; it was mostly rock and sand. When I came back and found it still standing, I was down right surprised." Dr. Louis J. Townsend, in 1943, retired from practice to enjoy the country life at his farm home, "This'le-DoMe" east of town on the McCoy Road. There is something age-less about Dr. L. J. Townsend, and his spirit lives in memory.



The Townsend block in downtown Belle Fourche.



This is a picture of the Bronson Drug Store storefront. The hospital was upstairs.

CASINO NIGHT
 Belle Fourche Chamber of Commerce
 Friday March 13th
 Belle Fourche

MELLING & ROSELAND Law, PC
 Erin L. Melling, Attorney at Law
 Aaron W. Roseland, Attorney at Law
 South Dakota Office: 1409 5th Ave. Belle Fourche, SD 57717
 North Dakota Office: 602 Adams Ave., Suite 1 Hettinger, ND 58639

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 shannon.rolando@edwardjones.com edwardjones.com/shannon-rolando

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 Greg Warren
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 Event equipment rental



Check out our Facebook Page for local events

BELLE CHIROPRACTIC

RELIEVE - HEAL - MAINTAIN

Tuesday
 March 17th
 12PM-1PM

Join Dr. Colton for this free event to learn about the importance of animal chiropractic and how it can benefit your (large or small) furry friend!



BONUS SESSION:
 Neck and Back Pain
 in the Workplace

Limited space!
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 605-892-2676



Location:
 713 6th Ave

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Alan Kindsfater
 Broker Associate

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



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March

For information about Delivery or Frozen Meals, call 892-6285 Milk & Fruit Served with all meals Menu subject to change based on availability.

MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI
2 BBQ Meatballs Baked Potato Broccoli Salad Roll	3 Chicken Fried Steak Mashed Potato/Gravy Buttered Corn	4 Pepper Steak Bits Rice & Mixed Veggies Dinner Roll	5 Meatloaf Mashed Potato/Gravy Green beans Roll	6 Tuna or Chicken Salad Sandwich Garden Salad
9 Taco Salad with Black Beans & Spanish Rice Chips	10 Glazed Ham Sweet Potato Green Beans Roll	11 Beef Spaghetti Dinner Salad Garlic Toast	12 Smothered Pork Chops Oven Potato & Gravy Peas & Carrots	13 Beef Stew OR Cod Dinner Salad Roll
16 Ruben Sandwich & Sauerkraut/ Carrots & potatoes	17 Beef Stroganoff with Egg Noodle Broccoli Roll	18 Orange Chicken Buttered Rice Green Bean Roll	19 Meatloaf Mashed Potato/Gravy Corn Roll	20 Fish or Hamburger on a bun Potato Salad & Veggie
23 Chicken Cordon Bleu Buttered Noodle Spinach Salad Roll	24 Fried Chicken Oven Roasted Potato Corn	25 Pork Loin Rice Pilaf & Corn	26 Chicken Fried Steak Mashed Potato & Gravy Dinner Salad	27 Chicken Enchiladas OR Fish Black Beans with Rice Green Beans
c 30 Chicken Alfredo Penne Pasta Broccoli	31 Beef Stew Dinner salad Biscuit	<p>Join us M-F 11 am-1 pm 828 Kingsbury St. Belle Fourche, SD Menu subject to change or modification.</p>		



Don't miss the following events

3/3 Bingo at Branding Iron 7pm | 3/11 - Computer Awareness 1pm
 3/19 - Hearing Health 11:30am | 3/26 Writing Workshop 12pm

Meat Raffle benefitting BSL at Circle Lounge from 2-4pm 2/28, 3/14, 3/28, 4/4, 4/18



Toll Free: 800-894-8684

Office: 605-892-2655

Fax: 605-892-3142

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

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- 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

BRETT LOUGHLIN - 605-210-0615
MIKE GREENOUGH - 307-620-2597
BEN GREENOUGH - 307-620-5553

FIELDMEN

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, February 26, 2026

THANK YOU FOR YOUR BUSINESS!

FEEDER CATTLE	HD	DESC	WT	BID	\$/HEAD
Anders Cattle Co Llc, Rapid City SD	.66	Black-Str	819	370.50	\$3,035.85
	.65	Black-Str	841	370.50	\$3,114.48
	.64	Black-Str	829	370.50	\$3,069.65
	.66	Black-Str	841	370.50	\$3,115.28
Joseph/Melindie Burke, Newell SD	.58	Black-Hfr	670	396.00	\$2,670.93
Ennen & Anstine, Rapid City SD	.75	Black-Hfr	692	373.50	\$2,584.37
Steven Schuldies, Nisland SD	.47	Black-Hfr	749	351.00	\$2,629.88
George & Jean Etchemendy,					
Douglas WY	.60	Black-Hfr	616	439.00	\$2,702.77
Ti Burch Ranch Llc, Colony WY	.35	Black-Str	578	483.00	\$2,793.12
	.8	Black-Str	480	550.00	\$2,640.00
	.37	Black-Hfr	564	438.00	\$2,470.55
Todd Meccage, Baker MT	.24	Black-Str	776	383.00	\$2,970.64
	.29	Black-Hfr	713	367.50	\$2,621.28
Sd Consignment	.46	Black-Hfr	673	366.00	\$2,462.94
Middle Fork Land & Livest,					
Forsyth MT	.29	Black-Str	529	532.00	\$2,815.01
	.11	Black-Str	419	610.00	\$2,556.45
	.16	Black-Hfr	457	532.50	\$2,431.19
Dennis Denson, Ashland MT	.16	Black-Str	680	423.00	\$2,875.07
Josh Or Molly Masters,					
Ranchester WY	.12	Rd/Blk-Str	549	490.00	\$2,690.91
	.8	Blk/Rd/Ch-Str	395	550.00	\$2,172.50
	.13	Black-Hfr	481	497.50	\$2,393.74
Riley Ranch, Volborg MT	.10	Black-Str	710	410.00	\$2,911.00
Ty Or Briley Miller, Newcastle WY	.5	Blk/Bwf-Hfr	598	409.00	\$2,445.82
WEIGH-UPS					
Middle Fork Land & Livest,					
Forsyth MT	.12	Black-Cow	1266	179.50	\$2,272.17
	.3	Black-Cow	1132	179.00	\$2,025.68
Six Mile Cattle Co, Dayton WY	.15	Black-Cow	1285	180.00	\$2,313.60
	.7	Black-Cow	1451	177.50	\$2,575.01
	.1	Black-Cow	1380	179.00	\$2,470.20
	.4	Black-Hfr	799	322.00	\$2,571.97
	.8	Black-Cow	1304	168.00	\$2,191.35
	.1	Red-Cow	1205	183.50	\$2,211.17
Perino Ranch, Newcastle WY	.4	Char/Blk-Cow	1300	180.00	\$2,340.00
	.2	Char-Cow	1368	180.00	\$2,461.50
Kermit Rumph, Biddle MT	.2	Black-Hfr	968	312.50	\$3,023.43
Moneyny Ranch Inc, Sturgis SD	.1	Black-Cow	1365	178.00	\$2,429.70

BULLS

Brook Loobey, Whitewood SD	.1	Red-Bull Drug Free	1705	210.00	\$3,580.50
Kenneth Talcott Inc, Broadus MT	.1	Black-Bull Drug Free	2075	207.50	\$4,305.62
	.1	Black-Bull Drug Free	1865	215.00	\$4,009.75
	.1	Black-Bull Drug Free	2155	187.50	\$4,040.62
Coit Besler, Reva SD	.1	Red-Bull Drug Free	1850	212.50	\$3,931.25
Ray Williams, Broadus MT	.1	Black-Bull Drug Free	2175	200.00	\$4,350.00

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

FEEDER CATTLE SPECIAL & WEIGH-UP SPECIAL
MARCH 12, 2026
WUPS @ 10 AM MT | FEEDER CATTLE @ 12 PM MT

High Plains Commodities Offices
Belle Fourche Livestock Market, LLC.
Stop in or Call 1-800-888-1432
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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

BRED COW & HEIFER SPECIAL & WEIGH-UP SPECIAL
MARCH 5, 2026
WUPS @ 10 AM MT | BRED CATTLE @ 12 PM MT
RUSSELL GUYER - MT 50 BLK MXD AGED BRED COWS BRED BLK, CLV 4/17 - 45 DAYS, CB
WEBB RANCH-MT 50 BLK 3YO BRED COWS 1100-1150#
BRED BLK, CLV 4/1 - 50 DAYS, BRED TO TD ANG BULLS, HR, REPRO SHOTS, POURED, NO BRANDS
AVERY & GRAHAM-WY 45 BLK MXD AGED BRED COWS BRED BLK, CLV 3/20 - 45 DAYS, BRED TO BEARTOOTH ANG BULLS, REPRO SHOTS, POURED
CURREN RANCH - WY 30 - 20 RED ANG ST BRED COWS & 10 RED ANG 3-6YO BRED COWS BRED RED ANG, ST COWS - CLV APR/MAY, 3-6YO COWS - CLV JUNE
TAFT RANCH-WY 12 BLK ST BRED COWS BRED BLK, CLV 3/20 - 55 DAYS, REPRO SHOTS, POURED
LOYD WEAVER-SD 6 BLK/RED 3-6YO BRED COWS BRED BLK, CLV 4/20 - 45 DAYS, HR, REPRO SHOTS, POURED

UPCOMING SALE SCHEDULE
March 5, 2026BRED COW & HEIFER SPECIAL & WEIGH-UP SPECIAL
.....WUPS @ 10 AM MT, BRED CATTLE @ 12 PM MT
March 12, 2026FEEDER CATTLE SPECIAL & WEIGH-UP SPECIAL -
.....WUPS @ 10 AM MT, FEEDER CATTLE @ 12 PM MT
March 19, 2026BRED COW & HEIFER SPECIAL & WEIGH-UP SPECIAL
.....WUPS @ 10 AM MT, BRED CATTLE @ 12 PM MT
March 26, 2026REGULAR SALE - SELLING ALL CLASSES - WUPS
@ 10 AM MT
April 2, 2026GRASS CATTLE & BANGS VACCINATED
.....HEIFER SPECIAL
April 7, 2026BAR 69 ANGUS RANCH BULL SALE
April 9, 2026REGULAR SALE - SELLING ALL CLASSES & REICH
.....CHAROLAIS RANCH BULL SALE
April 16, 2026GRASS CATTLE & BANGS VACCINATED
.....HEIFER SPECIAL
April 23, 2026REGULAR SALE - SELLING ALL CLASSES
April 30, 2026REGULAR SALE - SELLING ALL CLASSES & J SPEAR
.....CATTLE CO BULL SALE

BFHS RODEO TEAM BANQUET & FUNDRAISER AUCTION

Saturday March 7, 2026
Belle Fourche Community Hall
Live and Silent Auction
Steak Dinner
Tickets - \$30
Doors Open @ 4:30 - Dinner @ 5:00 -
Auction to Follow
Tickets May Be Purchased From Any Belle Fourche High School Rodeo Member

Father Daughter Dance
Theme: Denim & Diamonds
Saturday March 7th 2026

Belle Fourche Rec Center | 1111 National Street
Formal Attire | Door Prizes | DJ Entertainment
Advance Tickets ONLY. No tickets sold at the door. | Choice of 2 Entrees: Chicken or Pork
All Ages Welcome! 5 PM Photo's by Dusty Rose Photography/
Social Hour
6 PM Dinner
7 PM Dance (Ends at 8pm)
\$60 Per Couple * \$15 for each additional child

Event By: Spirit of Belle Fourche Inc

Please note your name's & Event name
Tickets sold online via QR code or in person call our Vice President Carmen Gomez-Barnes at 605-210-3987

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**Quadruplet Simmental Bulls
Sell for Breeding Purposes**



Readers of The Dakota Scout's weekly Scouting Report might recall the extremely rare births of quadruplet calves on the Stavick Simmental ranch near Veblen last year. The odds of a cow giving birth to four healthy calves at the same time are as low as 1 in 179.2 million births.

The calves – now young bulls – continue to make history. All four have been sold for breeding purposes, The Aberdeen Insider reports. It means they won't be turned into steers and enter the food supply.

"I don't know that there has ever been a set of quad bulls sold at a sale in the United States – ever," Stavick said told the newspaper. "It's a pretty unique deal. They are good-looking animals. It's unheard of to have four quad calves – all males – develop enough to be offered at sale. Since we raise breeding bulls, it's really tough for bulls to be good enough to make the sale. They have to be the top of the top, right? So every calf that's not of quality becomes a steer and goes into the food supply."

The bulls were among the top third in the sale. They were purchased by Holly Roe-Johnson and her husband, Bill. Johnson is a veterinarian who has provided care to the animals since their birth.

Because their births were so rare, Stavick had trouble getting DNA testing. That's because they aren't like normal siblings, and instead have DNA that appears as exact duplicates. The theory is that a fertilized embryo split before attaching to the mother's uterus, where the four segments developed independently.

"So, they are (essentially) clones that we got out of

one cow without having to do any cloning costs. ... Astronomical," Stavick said. "I honestly thought maybe one or two might make the sale. Even when twins are born sometimes one will have a tough time as they compete for milk. They always just don't seem to be as good as a big single. But to have all four make it is pretty amazing."

Following their birth, the black calves with white face splotches stayed with their mom, a cow named Barb No. 458, for two weeks while she cared for them. The Stavick family supplemented Barb's milk.

They weighed between 55 and 65 pounds at their birth. By the time they sold, they were 1,300 pounds. Their registered names are Curley, Mo, Harry and Lloyd – comedy homages to Three Stooges and Dumb & Dumber.

Roe-Johnson says the bulls will be put on different pastures with older bulls until they are two years old. The four will then be introduced to a herd of 80 to 100 cows, where they will be tasked with conducting, well, bull-like behavior.

"When it came down to it, we needed the bull power and got the bid," Roe-Johnson said. "We discussed it briefly and I said, 'Hey guys, they are genetically the same. If one made your list, then they all make the list.' So we bought all four."

I'm really glad they will all stay together. At the sale, I remarked that whoever gets the bid, they have to keep the quads together to compare how they do. This is a once-in-a-lifetime opportunity to watch them grow and see what kind of a calf crop they produce."

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<p>\$49.99</p> <p>Pendleton Whisky 175L</p>	<p>\$19.99</p> <p>Windsor Whisky 175L</p>	<p>\$29.99</p> <p>Bacardi Superior White Rum 175L</p>

Prices effective 7am-9pm Seven Days a Week **Two weeks!**
Wednesday, March 4th through Tuesday, March 10th

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.

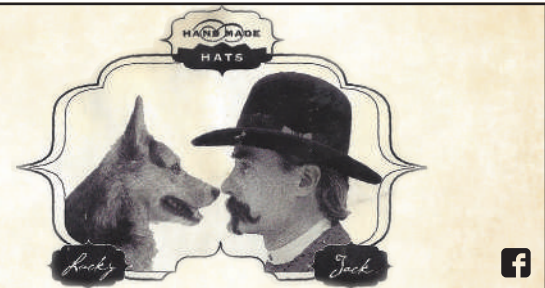
Benefits: SDRS Retirement, Health insurance, Holidays, Vacation, Sick Time

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

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Area Church Schedules

BLACK HILLS GOSPEL ASSEMBLY

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

CHRISTIAN LIFE CENTER

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

CHURCH OF JESUS CHRIST OF LATTER DAY SAINTS

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

CONNECTION CHURCH (SBC)

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

EMMANUEL BAPTIST

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

FIRST BAPTIST

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

FIRST CONGREGATIONAL UCC

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

FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

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

Pastor Sheri Fadley
1804 7th Ave. Belle Fourche
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
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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

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The Rev. Sandy Williams, Priests Deacon
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By John Newby

"Building Main Street, not Wall Street"

"Perfect is the Enemy of Great!"

Paul Arden once said, "Too many people spend too much time trying to perfect something before they actually do it. Instead of waiting for perfection, run with what you have, and fix it along the way". This cannot be stressed enough – perfection never arrives and great is often missed. In previous columns, we've addressed change, transformation, revitalization, and how best to achieve these.



One of the greatest attributes of transformational leadership is understanding nearly every worthwhile transformation will involve pivots and deviating from the original plans.

The key ingredient for success is typically the ability to enact these efforts quickly and decisively. Remember, great changes rarely come through evolution, it will come through revolution. Greatness is a result of a willingness to be decisive and act. Those moving slowly are usually indecisive and not confident and most likely afraid of change. Those resistant to change consistently find ways to slow it down.

Transformational leadership is truly an art. Transformational leadership is the art of understanding when to pivot, how to pivot, where to pivot and finally, when to rinse and repeat doing it again. All too commonly, communities or businesses become bogged-down in attempting to create a perfect model or execute the perfect plan. While we might give them an A+ for attempting to stick to the script, they receive an F- because they are unwilling to adjust the script. A great sailor isn't great by sailing in calm seas, a great sailor has learned to sail in all sorts of weather and knows how to adjust their sails to navigate storms along the way.

While moving slow usually hinders change and transformation, another threat to change is the expectation of perfection. When communities, businesses, and companies embark on change, especially unknown change, they tend to measure their success based on perfection and how well they do as it relates to their original plans and goals. Understand, change comes with alterations, failure, and bumps. Even worse, many get caught in the trap of seeking perfection and ignoring the greatness that may be occurring right before them.

I have mentioned Brian Chesky and Joe Gebbia in a previous column. In 2007, they rented out air mattresses in San Francisco to conference attendees due to lack of available hotel rooms for nearby conferences. They called their business Air Bed and Breakfast. However, it wasn't long before they realized without conferences in the area, their business model wasn't sustainable. They rethought their entire business model. They made a monumental pivot and took the concept nationwide for all travelers. That pivot is worth tens of bil-

ions today! Had they stuck with the original plan, Airbnb would not exist today.

I have seen entire industries, communities and businesses racked with the inability to pivot when pivoting was crucial. Group think, focus groups and poor leadership in leadership are death nails in the coffin. Group think assures you rarely innovate or make the changes required to survive. Focus groups usually arrive at the lowest common denominator. Leadership is crucial when it comes to change or transformation. Leaders must convince others to alter course as needed and be able to provide and instill confidence in the entire team to affect the most viable change or alterations. When teams have faith in the transformational leadership skills of their leaders, little will stop them from achieving greatness regardless of the obstacles in the way.

Leaders with the ability to build community and business dreams are rare. When a community or business comes across these individuals, they must empower them and support them. Every community or business achieving greatness has done so because a dreamer had a vision in what that community or business could become. They achieved greatness behind a leader willing to take risks. They did so behind a leader willing to accept greatness in lieu of seeking perfection. They embraced what could be and would not settle for the current status-quo.

In closing, the message of change and transformation must be coupled with relentless communication and other components. All is for naught if we only focus on perfection in lieu of accepting greatness. Achieving greatness as a community

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Women's Open	June 13th	2 Person Scramble \$ 160 PER TEAM
Member Guest	July 31st- Aug 2nd	2 Person Chicago \$ 220 PER PERSON SKINS & DUCES INCLUDED
Club Championship	August 23th	Individual \$ 60 PER PERSON SKINS & DUCES INCLUDED
Couples Tournament	September 6th	2 Person Campman \$ 150 PER COUPLE \$ 180 PER COUPLE <- MEMBER <- NON-MEMBER
Triple Crown	September 19th-20th	2 Person Teams \$ 180 PER PERSON 3 DIFFERENT FORMATS

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or business involves effective communication, quality teamwork, sparkling innovation, all of which lead to the joy of transformation. That said, as stated above, never allow perfect be the enemy of great!
John A. Newby, author of the "Building Main Street, Not Wall Street" column, assists communities and their local media companies combine synergies allowing them to not just survive, but thrive in a world where truly-local is lost to Amazon, Wall Street chains and others. His email: john@360MediaAlliance.net.

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Jonathan Ellis & Joe Sneve



Capitol News
March 1, 2026
by Karen Odell

This week it felt nearly like spring at Capitol and on Tie Creek. We had only a little rain and some sun, too, but each day reached above freezing. Dick and Erma made a trip to the Hills for an appointment and some shopping, on Tuesday. They went to the Friday Senior Citizen Chicken dinner, on Friday. They celebrated Tim Glines's birthday, and he brought delicious cinnamon roll dessert. On Sunday, they went to church at the Catholic Church, and then had lunch at Saloon Number Three.

Alvin and Marlee Cordell went to Buffalo for the girls' high school basketball game against McLaughlin. Their granddaughter, Kymber Cordell, plays on the team. Alvin went to Buffalo again on Thursday for another girls' basketball game with Timber Lake. The Buffalo girls won both games, and earned the chance

to next compete in the SoDak 16 tournament. On Friday, Alvin and Marlee went to Belle Fourche to watch grandson, Gavin Pearson, in his last high school basketball game as a senior. On Saturday, their friend, Rod Bisgaard, came out for a visit. Rod had just come back to the Hills from Arizona. Alvin and Rod went to Camp Crook for supper at the Corner Bar, and stayed to watch the Baker girls basketball game on TV. The Baker girls won their regional basketball game. Marlee, Ryan, Tawni, Kymber, Kynlee and Barrett Cordell went to church at the Methodist Church in Camp Crook on Sunday, and stayed for coffee and breakfast afterward. Marlee's brother,

Jack Owen and Rozina, came for coffee, and a great visit, on Sunday afternoon. Alvin will soon have heifers calving. They will be able to watch the BHSU Yellowjackets tournament basketball games on TV on RMAC.

Lynn Gustafson made a trip to Buffalo and Bowman, on Monday. She and Bruce went to church at Little Missouri Church at Capitol, on Sunday morning.

They were invited to supper by Pete Anderson, and enjoyed spending the afternoon with him. Pete had gone to church at the Methodist Church in Camp Crook, and joined other church-goers in the breakfast afterward, that was provided by Mary Tarter and Tawni Cordell. Doug Davis had an appointment in the Hills, on Tuesday. He also got to see grandson, Keaton Davis, playing basketball at the Belle Fourche Middle School. Doug had another meeting and dentist's appointment in Belle Fourche, on Thursday. They have a month, yet, until calving time, (or whenever the next snow storm comes). Tommy Melum has been busy in competitions, as a member of the Ekalaka FFA. He will

get to go to the state competition in Great Falls. He will compete in Agronomy and Mechanics. He is looking forward to a trip to Red Lodge with local teens, for a skiing trip. Rachel will go, too, but she will not be skiing. She will be cooking for the hungry skiers. Dorothy Padden went to Buffalo, on Tuesday, with Bryce and Dawn, for the girls' basketball game against McLaughlin. Tim Padden stopped for a visit on Wednesday morning.

Dorothy's son, Brett and Stacy Padden, came to visit, on Wednesday morning, and they took her to Buffalo, on Thursday, for the next girls' basketball game against Timber Lake. She spent much of the rest of the week watching South Dakota state wrestling on TV. She got to see granddaughter, Kany, earn third place at the state competition.

Dawn Padden left on Wednesday, for the state wrestling competition in Sioux Falls. She got lots of pictures of the competition, and had a great time watching granddaughter, Kany place third at the

state competition. With the state competition over, Brandon and Ashley can relax at home for a while.

Karen Odell stayed home most of the week. She visited Wolff's and the post office. She visited with friends on phone and computer, and enjoyed talking to friend Jeanne Dineen, Mary Ann Balser, and Bill Foulkes in Ohio. Karen had re-watch the end of the men's and women's Olympic hockey games, because they were so fun. Karen visited with Cody Odell, and Mollie, and Kyia Smith. She texted with Micki, Kylie, and Jeff Odell.

Saturday was Micki Odell's birthday, and Sunday was St. David's Day. On Sunday, she played piano for the service at the Methodist Church. There was communion, and Alan Loken provided the sermon. Mary Tarter and Tawni Cordell had brought some delicious baked goods, and we enjoyed breakfast and visiting before going home. Envy is just a waste of energy.



Central Meade County News
By Sandy Rhoden March 1 2026

March came in like a lamb on Sunday with sunshine and temperatures in the high thirties.

However, we could really use moisture of some sort and a nice rain would be just fine.

While spring is not officially here, some have seen birds in the trees that suggest the new season. But one characteristic is that we will 'spring ahead' this next weekend. We will lose

that hour and will see daylight much later in the day.

We were saddened to hear of the passing of our neighbor Patsy Mulloy. Patsy Lee (Tiensvold) Mulloy was born on November 4, 1953, in Tacoma, Washington. The oldest of six children, Patsy grew up and attended school in Chugiak, Alaska, where her formative years shaped her resilience and independence. She passed away peacefully, surrounded by

family, on February 22, 2026, at Monument Health in Rapid City, South Dakota, after a brief illness.

On August 3, 1987, she married Bruce Mulloy, and in 1991 they moved to Union Center, South Dakota. Patsy spent much of her career as a bookkeeper and tax preparer. She and her husband, Bruce raised their three girls in Union Center. Patsy helped Martha Hall begin the country rummage sale that still continues at Enning. She is survived by her husband, Bruce; her children;

eleven grandchildren—Marty, Angela (Shawn), Rowan, Carston, Holden, Maren, Waylon, Zeke, Briggs, Tiberius, Magnolia; two great-grandchildren—Isabel and Zoey; her sister Joy (John) Pappas; and her brothers Norris Jr. (Lisa) Tiensvold and Russ (Chris) Tiensvold. Patsy spoke with a sweet, higher pitched voice and many times her phrases ended with a little chuckle. That distinct voice and her love to serve others will be dearly missed. Putting in hours of work without pay, the proceeds went to the local

fire department. Her memorial service will be held on Thursday, March 5 at the Central Meade County Community Center at 10:00 am.

As the first Sunday of the month, a pot luck dinner was held after church services in Union Center. Jan Tift and her daughter, Vonda, were visitors that day and stayed afterwards for pot luck dinner as well.

Easter Sunday is April 5. The Community Baptist Church of Union Center will plan a sunrise service that day. More details will follow soon.

Legals

Regular Meeting Minutes
Butte County Courthouse
Commission Meeting Room
839 5th Avenue
Belle Fourche, SD 57717

Tuesday, February 17, 2026

THE BOARD OF BUTTE COUNTY COMMISSIONERS CONVENED AT 9:30 A.M. on Tuesday, February 17, 2026. Commissioners present were Erk, Brunner, Batterman, Kari, and Ager.

Chair Erk called the meeting to order and led the group in the Pledge of Allegiance.

Motion by Brunner, Second by Kari to adopt the meeting agenda with the addition of 10.5 discussion on Fairgrounds. Vote Unanimous. Motion Carried.

Pastor Rick Brennan led in a moment of prayer.

Beginning at 9:33 AM, the opportunity for public comments was opened, with no members of the public participating.

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

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

Consent Agenda:

- Approval of regular meeting minutes – 03Feb2026
- Approval of special meeting minutes – 03Feb2026
- County Lien Report
- Bills per Printout
- Apportioning and Other payments
- Register of Deeds Report
- Abatements:

i.	15.00.52.01	Abate \$ 891.74
ii.	15.44.01.16	Abate \$1,391.00
iii.	15.63.01.05	Abate \$2,398.04
iv.	15.63.04.29	Abate \$2,487.48
v.	40.08.2.06A	Abate \$ 343.42
vi.	15.14.08.11	Abate \$ 127.42
vii.	15.100.H.04	Abate \$ 6.30
viii.	09.4.34.4.2	Abate \$ 979.63
- Travel Requests:
 - Dispatch: Crystal Rath, Lori Tokely, and Larae Beguin to attend training in Pierre, SD, April 14-17, 2026.
- Wage Adjustments:
 - Dispatch: LaRae Beguin Step 4 Full Wage - \$24.80
 - Equalization: Teena Simmons Step 4 Full Wage - \$21.80
- Highway: Application to Construct an Approach or Driveway to a County Road – Kathy Yates – Sec 15-T8N-R6E – on Youngberg Rd between Wilson Cemetery Rd & Lewis Rd.

Director of Belle Fourche Economic Development, Hollie Stalder, spoke on Data Centers. A discussion was held regarding water usage, size, noise, location, and power. Ms. Stalder spoke on other EDC activities, including housing, annual meeting, new businesses, marketing, leadership program, and phase 3 of the rail park.

Position: Full-Time Deputy Auditor
Reports to: Butte County Auditor

Summary of Duties:
The Sworn Deputy Auditor's main emphasis will be on Local, State, and Federal financial reporting. Other duties include maintenance of County asset inventory, insurance, and leases, administering and training the Financial, Payroll, and Human Resources Software (Tyler Incode). The Deputy Auditor will perform Auditor duties in the Auditor's absence.

Salary: \$23.87-\$29.49 DOQ
Hours/Week: 40 hours Mon-Fri

Education Required: GED/High School Equivalent – Bachelor's degree preferred

Abilities/Skills:
A successful applicant will have knowledge of accounting principles and financials, strong numerical aptitude and attention to detail, skills in Microsoft Office, leadership skills, supervisor experience, knowledge of insurance policies and claims process, written and verbal communication skills, time management, and organizational skills

Benefits: Retirement, Health insurance, Holidays, Vacation

Applications 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 the submission of 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.

BUTTE COUNTY SCHOOL LAND LEASE AUCTION

A school land lease auction will be held at the Butte County Courthouse, Belle Fourche, SD on March 19, 2026 at 10.00AM (MT).

A list of tracts available for lease may be obtained at the Butte County Auditor's Office or by contacting the Office of School & Public Lands, 500 E Capitol Avenue, Pierre, SD, 57501-5070 at (605) 773-3303.

You may also visit the SPL website www.sdpubliclands.sd.gov. Phone bidding will be allowed on a recorded conference line at 1-848-777-1212 with access code of 18892020#

Disabled individuals needing assistance should contact the Office of School and Public Lands at least 48 hours in advance of the auction to make any necessary arrangements.

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Southern Hills: March 20

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“Scary Fairy Tales”

Meg English

news@bellefourchebeacon.com



My Granddaughter Teannah (Tea, for short) and I were

talking last week. She’s almost 15.

The subject of classic fairy tales came up. I asked her if she was familiar with the story of Hansel and Gretel. She wasn’t.

“I’m glad you don’t know the story. You should never read it.” I told her.

“Why not?” She asked.

“Because.”

“Because why?” She smiled fully aware that I might be pulling her leg.

“Well, it’s really scary and will probably give you nightmares.”

“How so? It’s just a story for kids, isn’t it? It can’t be that scary.” She said mockingly.

“Oh, it’s bad all right.” Said I, “Hansel and Gretel might even be one of the scariest stories that the Grimm’s brothers ever put on paper.”

“You’re hilarious Grandma.” Said Teannah.

“I know.” Said I.

I told her about the brothers Grimm Jacob and Wilhelm who went around the German countryside talking to people collecting and recording folk stories.

That’s where stories like Little Red Riding Hood, Snow White, and Jack and the Beanstalk came from. Folk tales are kind of like urban legends I told her.

The bothers Grimm didn’t know what to do with all the stories they collected so they put them all together in a big book called Grimms Fairy Tales.

“I own a copy of the original Grimms Fairy Tales published in the 1830s.” I told her.

“Can I see it?” Teannah asked.

“Maybe someday.” I told her. “I keep it locked in a storage safe not only because it’s valuable, but mainly to prevent anyone from reading it. Most of the stories in Grimms Fairy Tales are downright dangerous.”

Tea pulled her hair into a tighter ponytail. She was thinking.

“Who were Hansel and Gretel?”

“If I tell you that I’ll have to tell the whole story.”

“So tell it.”

“Well, I guess it would be OK...to tell about the story rather than actually reading it...” I said.

So, I related the story as closely as I could remember, but with this long-winded disclaimer:

‘Like all folklore turned fairy tale these stories were meant for telling and are often altered depending on the storyteller, the region, language, perception, of the storyteller Also, these stories have always been in the public domain, so I’m not breaking any copy write laws by sharing. And further, there are no fairies in Hansel and Gretel.’

“Well, Teannah,” I began,

‘Once Upon a Time’ there was a family who lived in the deep dark woods somewhere in Europe. The woods were really, really, scary back in those days as there were no electric lights, no street corner lights or yard lights. Dark was dark. Pitch black dark. And there were ghosts, witches, and real wolves that stalked the woods in the dark, so you can imagine how scary it was.

The family was somewhat ordinary, a father, a stepmother, and two small children, Hansel and Gretel.

The father made his living as a woodcutter and had recently remarried like so many men did in those days as their original wives were always dying in childbirth.

“Wait a minute!” Teannah exclaimed. “Is that really in the story?”

“Not exactly, but it does explain the historical context of the story. It contributes to the atmosphere and provides ample opportunity for discussion.”

I apologized for the digression and continued.

‘Like many people who lived in the woods, off the grid you might say, making a living was tough. Really tough. There was no money for shoes, clothing, and other amenities and often the family was food deprived. Unfortunately, the new stepmother preferred three square meals a day to having kids.’

“Why didn’t she like the kids?” Teannah asked.

“Well, the wife was resentful of them, maybe jealous too” I said. “That’s why she complained to the woodcutter.”

‘She told him, Those kids eat way too much. They are eating us out of house and home and their dirty and smelly too and blah, blah, blah... the wife went on and on.

The woodcutter grew tired of his wife’s nagging. He wasn’t really a bad person, but he had to agree that he hardly had enough strength to cut wood all day, because of their sparse diet, so when the stepmother suggested a plan, he listened and finally agreed with some reluctance. She had a good point. The kids were expensive to feed.

However, the woodcutter kind of liked the kids. They were cute and funny sometimes. He probably even loved them, at least a little bit. However, he ended up agreeing with the wife’s plan. I can’t take another day. She told him. You gotta get rid of the kids. It’s me or them.

The woodcutter hemmed and hawed, but finally one day when Gretel, who was kind of clumsy, spilled milk all over the dirt floor of their house, wasting precious food and making a horrible muddy mess he determined to follow through with his wife’s plan. He would lead the children on an “innocent” nature walk into the deepest, darkest most remote part of the woods and there, abandon them.

So, the very next day the woodcutter walked along a narrow footpath through the woods with his children, trailing behind. Hey kids, isn’t it a really a nice day for a nature walk? He called out cheerfully.

Of course, the sun was shining above the trees casting light on the green leaves that made the leaves look like they were dancing. Soon they passed through an open space where a furtive little brook gurgled merrily over the stones. Gretel the younger of the two children was delighted with the winged butterflies and dragonflies and longed to put her bare feet in the beautiful bubbling water.

Let’s not dawdle children, the woodcutter said and they trudged farther into the woods, along pathways that grew increasingly narrow. We have a long way to go. The woodcutter encouraged the children as wicker prickly vines prevented their progress.

Hansel, who was a year or two older than Gretel was very quiet. Something was not right.

By this time, the light was fading. The shadows fell quickly.

I’m hungry! Gretel complained aloud but Hansel was the only one to hear her. The woodcutter was nowhere to be seen. Poor little Hansel and Gretel were abandoned in the woods, and the light was fading quickly.

“That’s so messed up.” Tea said.

“Yes,” I said, “And this is just the beginning. Did I mention that this is a serial story?”

To be continued on March 11.



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:

Belle Fourche Writers

Belle Fourche Writers February meeting schedule: 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

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

March Events

The 3rd-6th Youth Girls Volleyball Camp starts March 3rd. Register by February 24th for the early bird rate!

Youth Strength & Cardio kicks off March 6th. This class targets 6th-9th grade kids, teaching them how to use the weight and cardio machines and gets them set up on a beginner training program.

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 bellefourcherec.com

Tri-State Museum Tri-State Museum and Visitor Center offers new exhibits

The Tri-State Museum spent January freshening some exhibits and creating other new ones. The changes occur in the mercantile and a new “transportation” exhibit in the center of the museum.

In the mercantile, the case that has exhibited dolls features a new collection of 12 dolls from the museum’s extensive Millicent Henderson collection. These new dolls are from the 1940s-1980s and include a Madame Alexander doll, a Romanian doll and a distinctive burlap doll of Central American origin.

Also in the mercantile is a mini “haberdashery,” filled with vintage men’s clothing and toiletries. “We’ve had a number of exhibits about women’s and children’s apparel, but nothing that focused on men,” said Collections Archivist Jada Udager. “We thought this was a chance to feature artifacts we’ve not featured before.”

Across the floor from mercantile is the museum’s collection of salt and pepper shakers. The museum has so many of these that the entire four-shelf case could be completely refreshed. Some of new novel shakers include a lock and key, loaves of bread – and a little green alien in a spaceship.

A new exhibit in the museum’s mid-section is “Transportation: From Stagecoaches to Trains to Cars.” This exhibit includes images plus artifacts such as spokes for wagon wheels, a lady’s travel case, a miniature car and a vintage model stagecoach crossing a “path” with grass on either side of the roadway. There is also a brick roadway made of the few surviving bricks from Belle Fourche’s brick factory.

This exhibit also includes a basket with vintage postcards from places across the U.S. and abroad, which can be examined by visitors.

There is no admission charge to visit the Tri-State Museum and Visitor Center, which is located at 415 Fifth Avenue in Belle Fourche. For more information, call 605-723-1200 or visit the website at www.thetristatemuseum.com



Belle Fourche Global Methodist Church

Mission Committee’s

Soup & Desserts Fundraiser



Proceeds for Local Missions

Sunday – March 15

11:45 am to 2:00 pm

\$10.00 – ages 12 & up

\$5.00 – ages 2 -11



Chili, Zuppa Toscana, Chicken Noodle, and Cream of Broccoli Soups

Desserts

Bread & Drinks



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

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Jonathan Ellis & Joe Sneve

The Valley Irrigator

Wed. March 4, 2026

Serving Newell, Vale and Nisland Communities

Newell Musicians Compete at Region 8 Solo and Ensemble



Newell High School students **Bianca Bierman** and **Jenna Yule** attended the Region 8 Solo and Ensemble Contest in Rapid City. *Courtesy photo*

Region 8 Contest

Robbi Longbrake

news@bellefourchebeacon.com

NEWELL—Standing up in front of people and asking to be judged is something most people would rather avoid. However, two brave musicians from Newell High School embraced the challenge when they competed in the 2026 Region 8 Solo and Ensemble Contest.

The contest was for both vocal and instrumental performances. It was held at the Monument Civic Center and Rapid City Central High School on February 18. Over 1000 students competed for a rating on their performance.

Bianca Bierman and Jenna

Yule represented Newell at the contest—that is something that hasn't happened for quite some time in Newell. "Jenna and Bianca are both competing for the high school contest at the Rapid City Civic Center. Newell has not been there for years and years and years," explained Music Director Kimberly Bachman. "In fact, we were not even included on the email—I had to hunt it down—so we're really excited to go back to contest this year!" Bianca played flute and Jenna sang a solo. Bianca's competition song was "Dust in the Wind" and she was accompanied by Jonah Braning on the guitar. "I'm very proud of these brave souls," said Bachman.

The musicians were judged on a variety of skills

including: tone, intonation, accuracy, interpretation/musicianship, vocal technique and other factors for vocal solo and tone, intonation, rhythm, interpretation/musicianship, technique and other factors for wind instrument solo.

The students ended up with a superior #1 rating for Jenna and her vocal performance and #3 rating for Bianca on the flute.

Region 8 music contest consists of 19 schools. They are: Belle Fourche, Custer, Douglas, Edgemont, Elk Mountain, Harding County, Hill City, Hot Springs, Lead-Deadwood, New Underwood, Newell, Oelrichs, Rapid City Central, Rapid City Christian, Rapid City Stevens, Spearfish, St. Thomas More, Sturgis Brown and Takini.

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February Commission Meeting

Ryder Heitz

news@bellefourchebeacon.com

NEWELL—The Newell Commission held its monthly meeting on February 9, 2026. During the meeting, commissioners approved monthly bills totaling more than \$79,000, addressed utility access for several undeveloped properties and supported upcoming community events.

Bills and payroll were approved. Payroll expenses covered multiple departments, including finance, highways and streets, snow removal, sewer, water, parks, library, museum and the municipal liquor store. The liquor department accounted for the largest share of payroll expenses at \$9,473.54.

The commission approved installation of a grab rail in the women's restroom at the city

bar to improve accessibility. Members also voted to waive rental fees for tables and chairs for a Senior Center fundraising event.

Several agenda items focused on undeveloped properties and access to city utilities. Commissioners discussed Lots 1 and 2 of Block 104 along Sixth Street, including the availability of city water and sewer services and whether a septic system might be required. Water and sewer access was also discussed for undeveloped property in Block 98, along with the necessary steps to connect to utilities. In addition, commissioners reviewed the possibility of subdividing Lots 1 and 2 of Block 107. No formal action was taken on those items.

Sabrina Harmon with the WIT Coalition provided an

update, including information about a recent Legislative Cracker Barrel and an upcoming blood drive. She also reminded residents of the Veterans Resource and Collaboration supper meeting scheduled for February 10 at the Newell Christian Fellowship Community Hall.

Commissioner Kopetsky reported that work continues on bylaws for Newell Area Economic Development.

During citizens' comments, residents shared ideas for the Big Summer Blowout celebration tentatively planned for June and discussed concerns related to a recently completed construction project.

The meeting adjourned at 5:56 p.m. The next regular meeting of the Newell Commission is scheduled for March 9 at 5 p.m.



Grand River Roundup



Betty Olson

news@bellefourchebeacon.com

This week started out with a nice warm day last Monday so I washed all the laundry and hung it outside to dry. Our son Sandy Dan came up in time for lunch to stay and help Taz and Reub with the chores while Casey and Missy were going to be gone to be with the Harding County wrestlers at the state tournament in Sioux Falls on Thursday, Friday and Saturday.

After Sandy Dan helped get the feeding done Tuesday morning he got Reub's pellet stove in the basement working again and then he started working on the drain under my kitchen sink that has been leaking for quite a while. For some reason our internet and our home phone both quit working so I called Consolidated on my cell phone to tell them about it and a nice guy from Consolidated came down and got both working right away. I watched President Trump's

State of the Union address that evening while Reub and Sandy watched a rodeo in the basement.

Sadly, there are more deaths to report: Betty (Erickson) Ramsey, age 83, from Becker, Minnesota, and formerly from Reeder, passed away on Thursday, February 19. Her memorial service was held on Friday, February 27th at the Oakwood Community Church in Becker, MN. Betty was in Reub's high school class in Reeder and she is Iver Hejer's cousin.

Phillip James Orwick, known to all as Jim, age 92, died peacefully on Thursday, February 19, at Belle Estates in Belle Fourche. Jim's funeral was Saturday, February 28, at St. Mary's Star of the Sea Catholic Church in Newell.

Dean Schrempp, age 90, from Eagle Butte, died on Saturday, February 21. A Mass of Christian burial will be held on Saturday, March 14th at All Saints Catholic

Church at 10:00 AM in Eagle Butte. His burial will be held on Saturday, March 14th at 11:30 AM at the Lantry Cemetery. Dean served in the South Dakota legislature with me and was a good friend.

Lauren Hendricks, 88, of Duck Creek Township, passed away at Western Horizon's Care Center in Hettinger on Monday, February 23. Her Service of Remembrance will be Thursday, March 5, at the Centennial Chapel of Evanson Jensen Funeral Home in Hettinger with burial at the Duck Creek Cemetery in Perkins County next to her husband Gary Hendricks.

Casey left early Wednesday morning to take the Harding County wrestlers to Sioux Falls for the State Wrestling Tournament. After lunch, Reub and I went to Hettinger to get parts for the tire changer from Laufer Vermeer and parts to fix my kitchen sink from Runnings for Sandy to use to fix the tire changer that broke down in the shop and fix the drain on my sink. Sandy stayed home to help Taz with the calving and the feeding. We stopped in Reeder on the way home to have coffee and a good visit with the Prairie Pioneers.

Congratulations to Kodi and Joshua Beckman who are the proud parents of a baby girl, Ainsley Jane Beckman, born Wednesday,

February 25th weighing 7lbs 15.7oz and 19 3/4 inches long!

Sandy Dan got the drain fixed on my kitchen sink when we brought the parts back from Hettinger on Wednesday, but we had to go back to Hettinger Thursday afternoon to get some more parts from Laufer Vermeer so he could fix the tire changer in the shop. We are blessed to have business places so near to us so we can get the parts we need to fix almost everything around here.

Reub's classmate in Hettinger, Elke (Schmidt) Brock, called on Saturday to let Reub know that another one of their classmates Larry Luckow had passed away in Wyoming. His obituary hasn't been posted yet so we don't know anything about his funeral, but we are so glad that Elke keeps all her classmates posted about who is sick, which one has died, and she greets everyone on their birthday.

Sunday was a great day for us. Sandy Dan went to church with us that morning and we were just getting ready to eat lunch at home when our son Guy, Megan and their son Cass showed up to visit with us on their way back to Wyoming after visiting their son Cade and KyLee Olson up where they live in Beulah, North Dakota. After Guy and his family left

Taz and Sandy Dan went out to feed and check the cows that are starting to calve. Casey and Missy got home from the State Wrestling Tournament in Sioux Falls about 4:00 so everything was going good around here.

After watching the great things that President Trump is doing to Iran that has been at war against us forever and have been killing thousands of their own people who were protesting. The US military had the supreme commander Ayatollah Khameni and 40 other evil Islamic leaders killed and the leftists in Washington are just screaming and losing their minds, when they never mentioned anything about two of their leftist presidents that did the same thing. I was reminded of this that Milo Yield printed in the Fence Post:

"Remember: when something goes wrong in the circus, they send in the clowns to distract the audience. Well, something has gone very wrong with the American political circus, and the clowns are everywhere."



Then and Now in Newell

"Looking Forward to our Past"

February 24, 1916

A very excitable time occurred at the Thorval Thorson home Saturday night. Thorval having purchased a new gas lamp. A few neighbors were spending the evening and enjoying the bright light, when Miss Ida getting up to prepare lunch accidentally knocked it on the floor. The fire was extinguished and no damage was done, accepting Joe Short and Martin Forsett broke the stove trying to get out of the house.

George A. Fry, clerk of Newell independent School No. 7 was informed that his application of Block 10 of the Town of Newell Townsite has been set aside for agriculture demonstration work in connection with the High School, has been approved by the Secretary of Interior and notified Project Manager B. E. Hayden, is hereby authorized to take possession of the block and fence it and improve it in whatever manner he deem fit or necessary.

Mrs. E. Huffman is wanting someone to break 37 acres of sod under ditch adjoining Newell for crops. A good chance for anyone to make some cash. Write to Mrs. Huffman at Newell.

February 25, 1926

The stage drivers are having a strenuous time. Sometimes they travel by wagon, sometimes by sled and at times on horseback. Most of the range horses are looking fair unless they went into the winter thin. What little grass there was, cured well, the long winter with much too snow is telling on the majority of haystacks.

To see a flash in the dark and the next instant hear the zing of a bullet as it lodged in the seat beside the driver was an experience that Day Glover of Vale had one night last week as he was returning home to his home east of

Vale. The mysterious shooting took place just a few miles from the Vale Post office, as though someone was lying in wait. Mr. Glover states that he stopped the car immediately and heard someone running through a corn field adjoining the road but was unable to take chase on account of the darkness. The identity of his assailant has not been discovered.

The Hoover General Merchandise Store changed hands this week, Ben Grane, former Hoover-Newell mail carrier, being the new owner. Earl Bresee, who has been operating the store for the past 3 years, is going into the ranching business on the Grane Place near the Moreau, this piece of land being included in the transaction.

February 27, 1936

Efforts are being made to secure federal aid to further development of the Newell Airport. Improvements contemplated include completion of the hanger, boundary markers, leveling, circle markers and other features necessary to obtain a commercial airport rating under Department of Commerce. The airport has been fenced and all lots within the area have been set aside by the Government for airport purposes. The efforts have the backing of the city council and Community Club, and a petition will be circulated shortly for the necessary signatures to further the proposal.

J. J. Heymann, Rapid City, traveling agent for the Chicago & Northwestern Railway company, was in Newell Tuesday gathering data in connection with the company's trans-freight service during the recent severe cold spell. News clippings, pictures, etc., will be compiled and published for the company in pamphlet form as a permanent record, he said.

Lawrence Maguire of

by Linda Velder

Newell was given an award at the close of the independent basketball tournament at Rapid City for the most spectacular shot made by any player during the tourney. Lawrence is a member of the Newell team, which played last Tuesday evening against Seidel's, the overall winners of the tournament.

February 28, 1946

The Belle Bit & Spur club is inviting the public to attend their 3rd Annual Boot Stompers Brawl at the Belle Fourche Legion Hall on Saturday night. Admission ticket price also buys votes to elect a new queen pf the club. Rodeo costumes ae required for attendance.

Mr. & Mrs. Floyd Varland, Miss Clarice Wiest and Dale Anderson drove to Rapid City Thursday evening to meet Tommy Lyons. Tommy has received his discharge from the Navy and plans to go to work here at Newell in the future.

Despite the cold wind prevalent that day a nice crowd was on hand Monday for the Andrew Syverts fam sale. Mr. & Mrs. Syverts recently sold their farm to Alfred Kayras. They do not plan to give possession until the first of May, and their future plans are not to leave this area.

Mr. & Mrs. Matousek, of Sturgis Hatchery, entertained about 50 flock owners who supply eggs for the hatchery and others at a buffet luncheon in the rooms over the hatchery, as has been their annual custom for several years. During the luncheon entertainment was the Sturgis High School Band. Mr. Matousek stated that currently they employ 5 persons on the job and plan to add several more in the peak season. The first chicks of the 1946 season had already been delivered last week. He also stated that last year the Sturgis Hatchery



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March 1, 1956

Approximately 2 and a half million pounds of government wool of the 5 million pounds total stored at Newell has moved out of the Hafner Wool warehouse since January 1, as reported by Vern Hafner of the local firm. The wool is sold on the bid basis until thru government's program for orderly disposal of the backlog of wool in the country. The wool was of different grades and varying scouring shrinks. Of the CCC wool here, most of the 1954 clip is now gone and some of 1953 has been sold, with most of that here still consisting of 1952 wool.

Rosemary Buck, 16 of Belle Fourche, daughter of Dr. R. M. Buck, was shot and seriously wounded Sunday afternoon, was flown to Denver on an Air force plane for surgery. The girl was shot, after getting into a car owned by Sheriff George Hafner being driven by his son Howard Hafner. When Howard moved a jacket, another passenger, LuAnn Cobb, 16, daughter of Mr. & Mrs. Fred Cobb of Belle Fourche, accidentally uncovered the 38-caliber police revolver. As she picked it up to examine, the loaded revolver discharged the slug hit Rosemary in the head below her let ear then deflected from the mastoid bone along several vertebrae in her neck, coming in on the back of the right shoulder. Immediately taken to Hospital and upon examination determined to forward to St. Lukes, in Colorado.

March 3, 1966

Janice Ann Neff, daughter of Mr. & Mrs. Lyle Neff, Newell and 1965 Newell High School graduate, was one of 24 nurses receiving caps at West Nebraska General Hospital, Friday evening. An impressive capping ceremony and reception was held for the group at the Methodist Church in Gering, Nebraska.

Among the locals attending the meeting on Juvenile Delinquency at the Congregational church were Mrs. George Erk, Mrs. Grant Otis and Mrs. Tom Burke of Castle Rock, Mrs. Oscar Orwick and Mrs. Leroy Scofield of Zeona and Mr. & Mrs. Virgil Van derboom and Mr. & Mrs. Ingman Karlson of Newell.

Empire, South Hilen and Most of Owl Creek consolidated School Districts will become part of Newell Independent School District and hay Creek will be joined to Belle Fourche Independent School, July 1, 1966, according to action taken by the Butte County Board of Education in a special meeting Tuesday night. Approximately 75 to 80 people attended the hearing before the moratorium set by the last Legislature.

Mr. & Mrs. Don Engleson, former Newell residents now of Rapid City, returned Sunday from an all-expense paid trip to New Orleans, L.A. and Jamaica. Don, who is District Manager of West-America Securities, Inc. was a winner of the company's sales award program.



67. Steam plowing on stubble ground (Wilsos.). Newell, S. D. 10/10. BA.



Breaking sod with a steam tractor. Thousands of acres of grass land was plowed under. Neighbors arrived to view the new lamp. These ladies are ready to serve lunch.

Here's What's Happening in Newell!

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

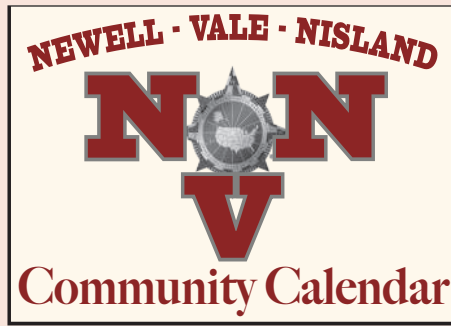
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Mondays
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Senior Center 6 p.m. to 8 p.m.

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



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2) Waffles, Cereal, Fruit, Juice, Milk Chicken Nachoes, Mexican Sweet Corn, Fruit, Milk	3) Egg Omelet, Muffins, Cereal, Fruit, Juice, Milk Turkey or Ham Subs, Green Beans, Fruit, Milk	4) Egg Rolls, Cereal, Fruit, Juice, Milk Chicken Quesadillas, Broccoli, Fruit, Milk	5) Yogurt Parfait, Cereal, Juice, Fruit, Milk Cook's Choice, Fruit, Milk	6) NO SCHOOL
9) Cheesy Eggs, Cereal, Juice, Fruit, Milk Chicken Nuggets, Peas & Carrots, Fruit, Milk	10) Turkey Bagel Breakfast Sandwich, Fruit, Milk Sweet & Sour Pork, Sugar Snap Peas, Fruit, Milk	11) Egg Bites, Cereal, Juice, Fruit, Milk Chicken Patty Sandwiches, Green Beans, Fruit, Milk	12) Croissant Sandwiches, Cereal, Juice, Fruit, Milk Cook's Choice, Fruit, Milk	13) NO SCHOOL
16) Pancake Wraps, Cereal, Juice, Fruit, Milk Grilled Hot Turkey Sandwiches, Brussel Sprouts, Fruit, Milk	17) St Patrick's Day Biscuits & Gravy, Cereal, Juice, Fruit, Milk Cottage Pie, Cabbage Soup, Irish Soda Bread, Fruit, Milk	18) Pancakes, Sausage, Cereal, Juice, Fruit, Milk French Dip on Flatbread, Mixed Veggies, Fruit, Milk	19) Breakfast Pizza, Cereal, Juice, Fruit, Milk BBQ Pork Patties, Roasted Brussel Sprouts, Fruit, Milk	20) NO SCHOOL
23) Hashbrown Eggs, Cereal, Juice, Fruit, Milk Scalloped Potatoes & Ham, Baked Beans, Potato Salad, Fruit, Milk	24) Tornadoes, Cereal, Juice, Fruit, Milk Spaghetti, Green Beans, Garlic Bread, Fruit, Milk	25) Yogurt Parfait, Cereal, Juice, Fruit, Milk Meatloaf, Mashed Potatoes, Fruit, Milk	26) Cheesy Eggs, Cereal, Juice Fruit, Milk Cook's Choice, Fruit, Milk	27) NO SCHOOL
30) Scrambled Eggs, Cereal, Juice, Fruit, Milk Chicken Cordon Bleu, Green Beans, Fruit, Milk	31) Quiche, Cereal, Juice Fruit Milk Pigs in a Blanket, Pork 'n Beans, Fruit, Milk			

Salad Bar available. Menu is always subject to change!





Whatever It Takes Coalition LUNCHEON MEETING INVITATION

When:
Thursday, March 12, 2026 * 11:30 am
Free Luncheon starting at 11:30 am with program to follow.

Where:
Newell Christian Fellowship Community Hall
306 4th Street, Newell, SD 57760

Program:
William Elger and Laisha Ramirez with Western Prevention Resource Center will be going over the recent trends in drug data/research. This will include a review of regional overdose data collected by the SD Department of Health and the overdose response initiatives. They will explain how and why Narcan kits are beneficial and have a few to leave in Newell.

Steve Ardis—State Coordinator, National Overdose Response Strategy, Midwest HIDTA will also be on hand to add to the discussion.



Please let me know if you can make it, so I can plan accordingly.
Want to make sure I have enough for lunch and seats set up.
sabrina.harmon.wit@sdplains.com * 605-381-9136

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