



Election Decided by Just Two Votes in Ward 2 Race

Robbi Longbrake
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BELLE FOURCHE—One always hears how every vote counts, and in the Belle Fourche City Council Special Election, that proved true in the most literal way possible when the outcome for Ward 2 was decided by just two votes.

Voters went to the polls on April 7 from 7 a.m. to 7 p.m. at the Community Hall to fill three vacant seats on the City Council, one each from Ward 1, Ward 2, and Ward 3.

The last election for City Council was held one year ago on April 8, 2025, and it suffered from low voter turn-



Winner of Ward 1 is John Fyffe. Courtesy photo

to cast a ballot, so focusing on getting citizens to the polls was a priority for this election's candidates.

Ward 2 had four candidates running for one open seat on the City Council. They were Faith Melanson, Aydalou Cazer, Falina Selchert, and Gene Pesicka. The winner to represent Ward 2 is Geno Pesicka. He received 84 votes. Selchert received 82 votes, Cazer received 42 votes, and Melanson got 28 votes. Ward 2 had 236 total votes cast in the special election.

For Ward 2 the voting was pretty strong all throughout the day. "It's been steady, not busy, but steady—so the voting is good," said Stacey Raisanen, poll worker. "We are at about 20 percent voter



Belle Community Hall encouraged Vote Here! . Longbrake photo

turnout in Ward 2 so far."

Ward 1 had two candidates running for one open seat, John Fyffe and Wilma "Faith" Goehring. Fyffe is the new council member, receiving 79 votes. Goehring received 25 votes. A total of 104 votes were cast in Ward 1, making voter turnout in Ward 1 around a dismal 10 percent. Voters just trickled in to the

polling place for Ward 1. "Ward 1 isn't seeing the same numbers of voters turn out to vote," shared poll worker Anita Bierschenk. "We are only at 80 votes cast for the whole day, and we have 995 registered voters."

Poll worker Beth Morey added, "Ward 2 always does better with turnout—our ward has always been terrible, and it's

about the same size."

The poll workers have to stay in the polling area all day, from 7 a.m. to 7 p.m. "We are not discouraged that we have to sit here; we are discouraged because people aren't interested," said Bierschenk.

Ward 3 only had one candidate running for the open seat. Vern Hintz will be representing Ward 3 on the City Council.



Winner of Ward 2 is Geno Pesicka. He won by two votes. Courtesy photo

out. Only around 11 percent of registered voters turned out



(L) Ward 1 poll workers, from left: Cheryl Miller, Beth Morey, and Anita Bierschenk (R) Ward 2 poll workers, from left: Andy Lippincott, Stephanie Lippincott, and Stacey Raisanen Longbrake photos



A Lasting Tribute: Flagpole Dedicated in Memory of Ryan In't Veld

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BELLE FOURCHE—The landmark-sized flagpole, a commanding presence over the Roundup Sports Complex near the baseball fields, was dedicated in memory of Ryan

In't Veld on the evening of April 8.

Mayor Randy Schmidt opened the ceremony with welcoming remarks for those in attendance. "Today we stand together in gratitude, reflection and support of a

family whose love and dedication have left a lasting mark on all of us. Thank you for joining us to share in this special dedication," he said.

Dylan Clarkson, on behalf of Pioneer Bank and Trust, dedicated the flagpole to the memory of Ryan and honored Ryan's mom and dad, Sue and Arlen.

Clarkson shared that Arlen was a long time employee of Pioneer Bank and Trust. "Ryan was diagnosed with muscular dystrophy early in his life, yet Ryan, with Sue and Arlen's vigilant care, lived far beyond the estimate of the doctors that surrounded him most of his life.

Despite the physical challenges that Ryan faced, he maintained a courageous heart. May this flagpole stand in his

memory and in honor of his parents' selfless dedication to their son."

Veterans from VFW Post 3312 raised the American flag on the newly dedicated flagpole. The crowd then joined in the singing of the National Anthem.

Michelle Watson of Watson Hennessey Group-Keller William gave the closing remarks. She reminded everyone that this day was about honoring a life that continues to leave an impact on the Belle Fourche community.

Ryan's life reflects perseverance and his heart remained strong through all of his challenges. Watson also wanted everyone to know that the dedication was also to honor Ryan's parents and their unwavering love and dedication

to their son.

She highlighted why the location of the flagpole was so important. "What makes this place so meaningful is the life that surrounds it.

This is where families gather, where kids play baseball and soccer, where rodeo brings energy and excitement and where the special needs playground creates a space for every child to belong," said Watson.

For everyone that visits the Sports Complex and sees the flag flying high on the flagpole, they will be reminded of Ryan, his presence will remain. "May this flagpole stand as a lasting tribute to Ryan's life and as a quiet reminder of courage, love and the kind of strength that never fades," shared Watson.



Raising the flag, Belle Fourche VFW Post 312. Longbrake photos



Belle Fourche Broncs/Post 32 Baseball watch the American flag being raised on the Ryan In't Veld flagpole.

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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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Michele Kreuzer, 65

Michele Kreuzer, age 65 of Belle Fourche, died Sunday, April 5, 2026 at the Monument Health Spearfish Hospital, following a sudden cardiac event.

The funeral service will be held 10:30 am Wednesday, April 15, 2026 at Leverington Funeral Home of the Northern Hills in Belle Fourche. Visitation will take place 5 to 7pm Tuesday at the funeral home. Interment will take place in Pine Slope Cemetery. Friends may leave written condolences, view a video tribute, and view the funeral service as well, from Michele's obituary page located on the funeral home's website: www.LeveringtonFH.com

Born September 28th, 1960 in Troy, NY. She attended Siena College, and later received a Master of Library Sciences from SUNY Albany. Michele loved to laugh, she had a smile that lit up a room and a sense of humor that captivated and enamored those she met.



Michele lived a full and vibrant life surrounded by her children Heather, Amber, Erin, and Harley; her son in law Nick, grandchildren Auden and Gracie, as well as her partner Ben. When she wasn't cooking or making all of her vchildren their favorite food, she spent her days working in the garden, loving her multitude of pets and leaving fairy dust in her wake. At her heart, Michele was a painter, librarian, caregiver, mother, and friend to many.

Michele is survived by her daughters, Heather (Wife, Benn) Ranken of MA, Erin (Fiance, Sheamus) Ranken of NY, Amber (Husband, Nick) Biegert of Belle Fourche; her son, Harley Rivera of CA; her 2 grandchildren, Auden and Gracie; her brother, Keith Kreuzer of NY; and her partner, Ben Hilton of Belle Fourche.



James "Jim" Enrico Bonato, 87

James "Jim" Enrico Bonato was 87 years old, born in Belle Fourche, South Dakota to Ann and Enrico Bonato on November 9, 1938. He went to high school at Belle Fourche Senior High and graduated in 1958. He went on to earn a certificate as an H-Vac Technician and licensed Electrician. He worked as an H-Vac Technician for Jefferson County School for 15 Years and May D&F for 23 Years, self-employed Jim Bonato Services, for 25 years.

He enjoyed camping, fishing watching the Avalanche, Nuggets, and Broncos. He received Honorable Discharge from the Army and was involved in The Knights of Columbus. James is survived by his wife Julie Bonato, son John Bonato, daughter Joli Devries, Son Jim Bonato, 10 Grandchildren, 15 Great-Grandchildren, and 2 Great-Great-grandchildren.



He is also survived by his sisters Reina Maxwell, Sylvia Stolley, and Betty Adler. He is preceded in death by Enrico Bonato father, Ann Bonato Mother, and Martin Bonato brother.

Funeral service will be held at St Frances Cabrini church on Tuesday, April 28th, 2026 at 10:30am. Visitation will be held Monday, April 27th, 2026 from 5pm to 7pm. Family burial will be Thursday, April 30th, 2026 at 11am at Mount Olivet Catholic Cemetery.

Memorial donations may be made to American Cancer Association PO Box 1640, Hagerstown, MD 21740

The family wishes to extend their gratitude to St Frances Cabrini Parish and the Archdiocese of Denver Mortuary.

Pastor's Perspective

This Perspective is from Paster Jack Hayford archives "Divine Adjustments"

I don't know anything about watches or clocks.

I'm even mystified by the mechanics I have to go through on a thirty-day month to get my stem-wound calendar watch advanced to where the date and day are both correct.

But I do know that "balance," "adjustment," and "good timing" are three clock-talk terms. They're also three terms that need to come to mind as we are praying.

I made a major calendar adjustment this past week. I was to have spent the whole month of next January ministering in conferences and churches throughout Australia and New Zealand--major cities and many conferences.

The trip had been scheduled for months. I was committed. But something was wrong. The whole thing tied into the same season last spring when I made a whirlwind set of bad decisions. I have since confessed it all to the Lord, and have marveled at how He has compensated, redeemed, covered, and forgiven.

But this particular trip, this residual, lingering remnant of that season remained. It had never occurred to me that it, too, might be wrong.

It was. Two weeks ago, while I was up early one clear and chilly morning, walking a leaf-strewn back road in Maine, praying and communing with the Lord, He told me.

He didn't slap me in the face with it. But like a Master of timepieces, He gently adjusted something in my understanding. It didn't explode, it didn't introduce a recorded announcement. Nothing dramatic happened. But one small, inner sense was awakened. It stirred--and I then stood up and shook violently.



My sense of unsettledness.

I knew something was wrong. If my wristwatch started chiming on my arm it wouldn't have been any clearer. Something was badly out of balance. Out of timing. Out of synch.

Father, I prayed urgently, stirred in the depths of my soul as though an ocean wave had struck, what's the matter?

I didn't hear a voice, but I did receive a clear, concise impression. A message from Headquarters.

Pray about the Australia trip.

I did. I began then and continued for seven days. I felt freed to ask the heavenly Father to give me firm confirmation as to whether I should go or not.

The events of the days which followed are thrilling to review: (1) the peace in knowing He was going to set the balance and establish timing for the trip; (2) the joy in knowing He never abandons us to our own imperfect planning, but will signal us in time; and (3) the confidence that He would take care of things on both ends. If I went in January, He'd cover all matters at home base in California. If I stayed home, He would supply the ministry needed in Australia and New Zealand.

When the seven days were past, a powerful and precious thing took place. The Lord sent the answer. It was clear. It was sure. It was as finely tuned and perfectly understandable as the time on the face of a clock. The precision of the message brought the confidence you would have in setting your watch by a giant steeple timepiece maintained by a master clockmaker.

Looking back on it all this morning, my heart is filled with praise and thanksgiving to the God who keeps us in time... who keeps us adjusted to His will and His way for us..

Proverbs 3:5

Trust in the LORD with all your heart, and lean not on your own understanding; 6 in all your ways acknowledge Him, and He will make your paths straight.

Prayer for the Week

Dear Lord, thank you for the gift of this new morning and the blessing of life on this day. As I quiet my heart, I ask that you fill me with your peace, clearing away distractions so I can focus solely on you.

I acknowledge my shortcomings and ask for your merciful love to cleanse me and lift me up.

Lord, I surrender my heavy burdens, my worries, and my questions about the future into your hands.

I pray for guidance in my next steps, that I may trust in you with all my heart and not lean on my own understanding, as your Word says in Proverbs 3:5-6. Protect me and my loved ones from seen and unseen dangers, and cover us with your mighty wings.

Thank you, God, for your unwavering grace and for being my refuge. May I walk this week with a grateful heart, reflecting your compassion to others. In Jesus' name, I pray. Amen.

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A Sweet Night for the Lady Broncs Golf Team

Robbi Longbrake

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BELLE FOURCHE—For the fourth year in a row, the community showed up hungry and ready to support the Lady Broncs Golf Team at their annual Spaghetti Dinner fundraiser on April 10 at the Belle Fourche Country Club.

In addition to spaghetti, meat sauce and bread sticks, the event boasts a dessert auction, both silent and live! “Actually, we had a Spaghetti Feed fundraiser for her (Kelly Milliken) daughter, Chloe one year—she was on the golf team and she was having some medical issues, so we decided to help out, and that’s kind of how we got this going,” explained Damon Lange, Golf Coach. “And then we put the Dessert Auction with it and it just took off! I mean, the Spaghetti Feeds is good, but this—the Dessert Auction is really good!”

The event draws desserts from a variety of sources. This year there were 58 delicious delights to choose from, including everything from chocolate dipped fruit, strawberry cheesecake bars, lemon poppyseed scones and chocolate silk pie to name just a few. “All the girls from the team donate something if they can, and then I reached out to a lot of community members that I’ve known through other volunteer things, and it just kind of took off from there,” explained Kelly Milliken, event coordinator. “And now it’s become kind of

a little competition between some of the local bakers as to who can have the top selling items! Some of them are from actual bakeries and businesses in town and others are just friends of friends.”

And boy oh boy did the community show up to help out the Lady Broncs Golf Team. The auctioneer for the night was Justin Tupper. The highest selling dessert of the night was German chocolate cake donated by Sherry Kokesh. After a wild round of bids, the dessert sold for \$240. A peanut butter cheesecake by Shelley LeFebre brought \$230 and two desserts tied at \$190, they were a six inch white cake with raspberry filling by SME Treats and strawberry Jello poke cake by Elsie Adams.

The official booster club for the Lady Broncs Golf Team is Tee to Green. They run the fundraiser and collect all of the money for the night and then put it to good use taking care of the golfers. “We have paid for shirts and every year when the girls go to Black Hills Conference and Regions, we get each of them a sleeve of golf balls, so they’ve got fresh golf balls to play with,” shared Milliken. “We’ve done some meals at State when the girls go to State, we’ve done State shirts, so that way they all kind of have their special state golf shirts. We bought them all

range finders to help the girls determine how far it is from their ball to the hole.”

Recently Tee to Green partnered with a grant from the West River Foundation, and put in a golf simulator at the high school. This allows the girls to practice inside. “Spring golf is really hard because you never know if it’s going to be 20 below or if it’s going to be 70 degrees outside,” said Milliken.

Coach Lange, in his fifth year as head coach, said there were seven girls on the Belle Fourche High School golf team this year. They had their first meet on Monday, April 13. The season runs through June. “The State Tournament is the first Monday and Tuesday of June, and it’s in North Sioux City, South Dakota,” explained Lange. “It is a short, quick season, we play two meets a week—most weeks until we get to State—very fast and furious!”

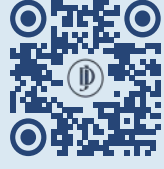
Coach Lange shared, “we’ve got a really good team of people—Kelly is definitely a rock star for us, and Jamie (her husband) has been my assistant coach for the last four or five years, and just a good group of parents. We are very, very fortunate to have what we have here!”

Milliken added, “we’re just extremely grateful to all of our community members for continuing to support us—between the people coming out tonight and buying the desserts to the people that bake them and volunteer their time.”


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(AL) Lady Broncs Golf team served up pasta at their annual Spaghetti Dinner fundraiser.; (AR) There were 20 desserts up for grabs for the highest bidder at the silent auction.; (BL) Letting potential bidders see what delicious dessert is up for auction.; (BR) During the live auction, the Lady Broncs presented each dessert to the crowd, walking through the audience to let everyone see what they were bidding on—here they are lining up and getting ready for the auction. Longbrake photos



(A) Kelly Milliken is in charge of keeping track of the auction. (B) This German chocolate cake was the highest selling dessert for the evening. This beauty sold for \$240. Justin Tupper was in charge of auctioning off the sweets. Longbrake photos



Belle Fourche Volunteer Firefighters doing mop up after extinguishing the blaze that swept through Rail Auto Body 523 RoundUp Street.



School Records Broken at Queen City Classic Track & Field Meet

Kandi Tonsager

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On Friday April 10th, the high school track and field team competed in the Queen City Classic in Spearfish against 22 other teams. The Broncs had two athletes who set new school records at the meet.

On the men's team, Chris Jewett set the school record in the javelin with a throw of 130 feet 7 inches. This broke the previous record set by Anthony Budmyer in 2023 with a throw of 124 feet 3 inches.

On the women's team, Rhys Pearson set a new school record in the 800 meter run, breaking her own previous record running a 2:19.39.

The Broncs had an additional 17 athletes set PRs (personal records) in their events at the meet and an additional 3 athletes and 2 relay teams move spots on

the Belle Fourche High School Top 10 List.

For the men's team, Corbin Rowe moved into 10th spot for javelin with a throw of 89 feet 7 inches. For the women's team, Rhyan Knapp moved into number 6 for the javelin with a throw of 67 feet 2 inches, and Ansley O'Brien tied for 8th in high jump with a height of 4 foot 10 inches. The 4x100 relay team of Jaz Olson, Ansley O'Brien, Mikka Dunavant, and Mya Nowowiejski moved into 2nd all time on the record board with a time of 50.42 and the same ladies moved to 3rd all time on the record board in the 4x200 with a time of 1:48 flat.

The Broncs compete next on Tuesday April 14th for a JV meet in Spearfish, followed by the Track O'Rama at O'Harra stadium in Rapid City on Thursday April 16th beginning at 9am then the Center of the Nation Invite at home on Saturday April 18th beginning at 8am.



Javelin record breaker **Chris Jewett**. Tonsager photo

Middle School Track and Field Competes in First Two Meets of the Year

Kandi Tonsager

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On Tuesday April 7th the Belle Fourche Middle School track and field team had their long awaited for first competition after a cancellation of their first scheduled meet due to inclement weather. The weather Tuesday was fantastic for a track meet with sunny skies and temps in the 60s. The middle schoolers competed in a Quad with Sturgis Williams, Stagebarn, Enning/Union Center and Lead-Deadwood.

Many athletes had top results in their first meet of the season with results as follows:

7th grade boys: Kellen Williams placed 2nd in the 100 and in the 200 meter dash, Parker Martin placed 3rd in the 400 meter dash, Maddox Clarkson placed 1st and Keaton Davis placed 2nd in the 1600 meter run, Blake Willert placed 3rd in the 100 meter hurdles and 5th in the 200 meter hurdles, Maddox Clarkson placed 3rd in the high jump, Parker Martin placed 2nd and Grady Martin placed 4th in the long jump,

8th grade boys: Ben Raba placed 6th, Cole Mailloux placed 7th and Bradly Dreiske placed 8th in the 100 meter dash, Blaine Moke placed 5th, Cole Mailloux placed 6th and Devyn Perchbacher placed 9th in the

200 meter dash, Bradley Dreiske placed 1st in the 400 meter dash, Brux Hartman placed 1st and Cade Pearson tied for 3rd in the 800 meter run, Brux Hartman placed 1st in the 1600 meter run, Ben Raba placed 2nd, Oaklee Atkins placed 6th, and Oliver Carson placed 9th in shot put, Ben Raba placed 3rd and Oaklee Atkins placed 10th in discus, Elijah Beatson placed 1st, Zane Baker placed 4th and Brux Hartman tied for 7th in high jump, Blain Moke placed 4th and Elijah Beatson placed 5th in long jump.

7th grade girls: Emersyn Carmichael placed 1st, Anna-Belle Dighton placed 4th, Natalie Cvatch placed 5th and Charlie Huston placed 10th in the 100 meter dash, Charlie Huston placed 3rd and Natalie Cvatch placed 7th in the 200 meter dash, Emersyn Carmichael placed 1st and AnnaBelle Dighton placed 3rd in the 400 meter dash, Aubyn Hartman placed 2nd and Gracie Hodge placed 9th in the 800 meter run, Aubyn Hartman placed 1st and Gracie Hodge placed 2nd in the 1600 meter run, Ruth Moore placed 3rd in the 100 meter hurdles and 2nd in the 200 meter hurdles, Annabelle Dighton placed 2nd, Emersyn Carmichael placed 3rd and Charlie Huston placed 5th in the high jump, Emersyn Carmichael placed 4th, Charlie Huston

placed 5th, Jacey Nash placed 6th and Adilynn Burke tied for 8th in the long jump.

8th grade girls: Skylar Randolph placed 4th in the 100 meter dash and 3rd in the 400 meter dash, Isabela Torberson placed 2nd in the 800 meter run and 1st in the 1600 meter run, Lux Kirstine placed 6th and Kimber Mez placed 7th in the 100 meter hurdles, Elise Roberts placed 6th, Kimber Mez placed 7th and Adeline Humbrecht placed 8th in the 200 meter hurdles, and Chloe Shulze placed 4th in the long jump.

On Saturday in Spearfish the Broncs competed against 16 teams including Spearfish, Custer, Douglas, Enning/Union Center, Harding County, Hermosa, Hill City, Hot Springs, Lead-Deadwood, Newell, Rapid City Christian, St Thomas More, Sturgis Williams, Stagebarn, and Wall. With more competition and other teams seeing their first meets of the year placing varied at this meet. A number of 8th grade athletes were out this week as they embarked on the Math and Science Club trip to Florida.

The middle school team competes next on Friday April 17th at home at the Belle Fourche High School beginning at 9am weather permitting.

Photos Cont'd A5



Rhys Pearson. 800 meter un record breaker.



(A) **Coach Thompson** encouraging **Maddy Rhoads** to pass opponent at Spearfish Meet. (B) **Skylar Randolph & Addilyn Humbrecht** at Sturgis meet. Tonsager photos



(A) 8th grade boys discus throwers **Oaklee Atkins, Cade Pearson, Ben Raba & Jake Tonsager**. (B) Middle School Girls Discus Throwers at Spearfish Meet. Tonsager photos



Track Meet Photos



(A) AnnaBelle Dighton High Jump. (B) Elijah Beatson long jump.



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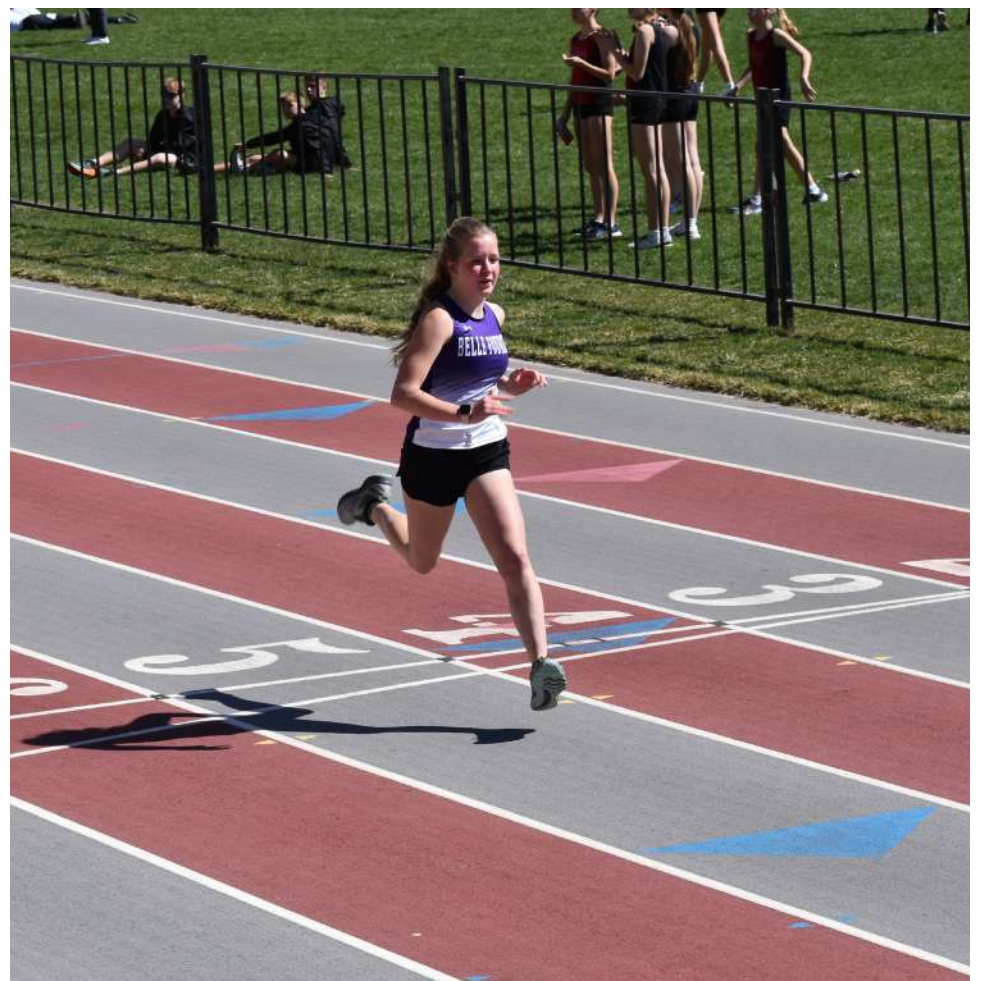
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(Clockwise from Upper Left) Blaine Moke long jump; Lux Kirstine crosses finish line in 100 meter hurdles; Gunner Walding long jump; Bryn Coyle, Everly Uttecht, Brynlee Barerra & Aubyn Hartman at Sturgis Quad. Tosanger photos



New Mini Exhibit Explores Rocks and Minerals at Tri-State Museum

Robbi Longbrake

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BELLE FOURCHE—A new mini exhibit is now on display in the space that greets visitors near the museum entrance. Rock On opened to an all-day reception at the Tri-State Museum on Saturday, April 11.

Red Onion Marketplace made chocolate cupcakes with rock candy topping and coconut lime cupcakes for the reception. Coffee and drinks were also provided.

The newest display introduces the public to the various forms of minerals and rocks. You can learn that there are numerous minerals and that minerals make up rocks. But, there are only three types of rock: sedimentary, igneous and metamorphic. The latest display at the museum offers many examples to explore and learn all about the hard, solid topic!

For the kids there are hand-outs, books and learning centers that encourage youth to spend time learning all about rocks and minerals. There is also an electronic quiz to take to see how much you know about rocks and minerals!

Jean Maher, assistant director, explained that the museum staff has planning meetings to determine the yearly exhibits and likes to have exhibits that show science and nature and general interest displays.

Rock On was offered to the public back in 2015. “We have refreshed it with new boards, pictures and items in the display too,” said Maher.

The museum exhibits are an all-hands-on-deck experience. Kristi Thielen, director, does all of the research. Maher is in charge of the design while Jada Udager, Collections Archivist, gathers all of the artifacts for the exhibit and Kim Reausaw, Store Manager/Volunteer Coordinator, puts together the touch screen quiz.

The mini exhibit runs through June 13, 2026. Come to the museum and take in the latest mini exhibit and check out the temporary exhibit Downtown Belle Fourche. It is a trip back in time with artifacts and stories from past businesses that called downtown Belle home. It only runs through May 22. Then it will make way for a new temporary exhibit about Vaudeville opening on May 23.

April’s Family Fun Day is coming up this weekend, Sunday, April 19 at 2 p.m. Bring your friends and family to learn about The Science and Beauty of Crystals. One lucky kid will win a free book and all kids can take home a fun packet full of games and coloring pages. There will be refreshments! Let the museum know if you are coming—not mandatory, but helpful!



(Top) Rock On mini exhibit at the Tri-State Museum. (BL) A hands-on activity to learn about rocks and minerals. (BR) Rock and mineral activity table for the kids. (O) Rocky salt-and-pepper shakers are in the mini exhibit. Longbrake photos



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Show Up

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The Belle Fourche High School Theater's spring musical, *Seussical*, is only a week away! I stopped by set building this weekend to find the energetic set crew painting, creating, and lifting the set to new heights! All is looking very Seussical, bright, and ambitious. The show is very family friendly - sure to be a treat for kids & adults of all ages. Performances are April 24-26, Friday & Saturday nights at 7 PM, & Sunday afternoon at 2 PM. Check out the cool set building photos & mark this show on your calendar ASAP. The BFMS & BFHS Fine Arts departments will end the year with other entertaining events! Check out the list below for all the concert dates & times for your spring calendar. 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!

- April 13, BFMS/BFHS Jazz Concert @ the Rec Center Theater, 7:00 pm
- April 24-26, BFHS Musical - *Suessical!* Friday & Saturday nights at 7 PM, & Sunday afternoon at 2 PM @ the BFRC THEATER, \$4 students & \$6 adults - Activity passes also apply.
- May 4, Monday, BFHS Band & Chorus Concert, BFRC Theater, 7:00 PM
- May 7, Thursday, BFMS Band Concert, BFRC Theater, 6:30 PM
- May 10, Saturday, BFHS Graduation
- May 12, Tuesday, BFMS 6th, 7th, 8th grade Chorus Concert, BFRC Theater, 6:30 PM
- May 25 & 26, Auditions for the BFACT Summer Production: *Minnesela, a Comedy of Western Proportions*

Cast & crew members for *Seussical, the Musical*, have been working weekends to create a wondrous Seuss world onstage! Young & old alike will enjoy this fast-paced musical favorite April 24-25 at 7 PM & April 26 at 2 PM. 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!*



Take a ride on the "Midnight Train to Georgia" over "River Deep, Mountain High" while award-winning vocalist CeCe Teneal delivers you the "R-E-S-P-E-C-T" you deserve in DIVAS OF SOUL.

The *Center of the Nation Concert Association* welcomes **CeCe Teneal** to the stage of the *Belle Fourche Rec Center* on Thursday, April 30, 2026 at 7:00 PM as the last concert in the Center of the Nation Concert Association's concert series.

This spectacular evening will include a celebration of thirty years of chart-topping music from artists like Aretha Franklin, Gladys Knight, Chaka Khan, Tina Turner, Whitney Houston and more. This performance has wowed audiences worldwide, featuring hits from the Disco Era to Broadway to Pop.

An award-winning songstress in her own right, Ms. Teneal has been nominated for four Independent Music Awards and claimed the title for 2011 Best Gospel Song and 2011 Best R&B Album, as well as 2018 Best Soul/Funk/Fusion Song. Her energy is contagious and will have you dancing in the aisles.



Cast & crew members for *Seussical, the Musical*, have been working weekends to create a wondrous Seuss world onstage! Young & old alike will enjoy this fast-paced musical favorite. April 24-25 at 7 PM & April 26 at 2 PM.

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Lyrics by LYNN AHRENS
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Co-Conceived by LYNN AHRENS, STEPHEN FLAHERTY, and ERIC IDLE
Based on the Works of DR. SEUSS

April 24, 25 - 7PM
April 26 - 2PM
Belle Fourche Rec Center

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Spring Style Takes the Spotlight at Pasque Ladies Fashions

Robbi Longbrake
news@bellefourchebeacon.com

BELLE FOURCHE—The private showing of the newest spring fashions was held at Pasque Ladies Fashions on April 9. The boutique transformed its storefront into a stylish fashion show reminiscent of a Paris high-fashion runway.

The event, aimed at ushering in the spring season, featured a spring flowers backdrop and brightly colored spring fashions. Michelle Evans, co-owner, welcomed everyone to the show. “Thank you for coming to our fourth fashion show and this is our second spring show. I see some familiar faces! Thank you for being here!”

The light-hearted evening showcased women from the area, all the while cheering for women walking the runway, with women in charge of styling and preparing the event at an event that simply celebrates women. Master of Ceremonies for the evening was Michaela Horn, Chamber Director. She set the tone for the show!

“Welcome tonight! We have some fresh styles. It’s spring,” she said. “Tonight, it’s all about fresh styles and confidence as we welcome the much-needed sunshine that we’ve all been



(L) **Michelle Evans**, co-owner of **Pasque Ladies Fashions**, welcomes everyone to the fourth fashion show held in the store. (R) Spring is always a good season for wearing a sundress, as **Tiffanie Romero** demonstrates. *Longbrake photos*

waiting for and some amazing women in this room and some beautiful ones who have volunteered to walk the catwalk tonight!”

There were nine ladies doubling as high-fashion models for the night. They were Pat Main, Julie Main, Mikayla Boswell, Melissa Scofield, Julie Snoozy, Isabella Evans, Brittany Wilkinson, Tiffanie Romero and Maria

Ellendorf. They all strutted the long, narrow runway with confidence, grace and humor. The aisle was lined with two rows of chairs on each side.

The audience was filled with ladies ready for a spring show. Everyone that was there had to purchase a ticket to enter the event. As each lady found her seat, she was greeted with a gift bag, and inside each bag



was a raffle ticket, some goodies and a coupon for 10% off of the night’s purchases.

The gals walked the runway in three different sets, wearing a new outfit each time. During each clothing change, Horn kept the crowd entertained by giving away door prizes.

Charcuterie boxes and desserts were available to nibble on throughout the evening.

Free-flowing lemon martinis and lemon water kept thirst at bay.

Each lady showed off her outfit along with jewelry, purse and shoes, and all items could be purchased at the store.

After the fashion show came to a close, the excited audience members went to find their favorite looks to purchase for their spring wardrobe.



(Top L) **Melissa Scofield** takes time to show the audience her Pasque Ladies Fashions jewelry. (TR) Shopping time! (2L) During the Spring Fashion Show there were good snacks to enjoy. (2R) **Maria Ellendorf** strikes a pose to highlight her bag. (3L) **Pat Main** struts down the runway. (3R) **Julie Snoozy** is ready for spring in her fresh black and white set. (BL) **Mikayla Boswell** dances down the catwalk. (BR) **Michelle Evans**, with help from **Brittany Wilkinson**, rings up a customer. *Longbrake photos*



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

Cattle Report - Friday, April 10, 2026

Just under 3,000 HD today - Record high markets!

Next Sale - April 17th - Regular Sale - 10:00 AM
Baker Lemar Angus Bull Sale - 1:00 PM
Thank you for Marketing with St Onge Livestock!

Feeder Cattle

Table listing various cattle sales with columns for seller, quantity, sex, and price. Includes entries like Arledge Livestock Co LLC, Robert Lee TX and others.

Bred Heifers - Sold By The Head

Rantapaa, Justin, Deadwood SD 10 Bk Hfr 1091 \$4,575.00

Weigh Up Cows

Table listing weigh-up cow sales with columns for seller, quantity, sex, and price. Includes entries like Antler Angus Ranch LLC, Moorcroft WY and others.

Large table listing various cattle sales with columns for seller, quantity, sex, and price. Includes entries like Knapp Ranch Holding LLC, Hemosa SD and others.

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Sheep Report - Thursday, April 9, 2026

Small Run For Today's Sale
Lamb Sold Steady, Slaughter Ewes Sold Lower

Next Sale - April 16, 2026 - 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!

Butcher

Table listing butcher sales with columns for seller, quantity, sex, and price. Includes entries like Darling Creek Ranch Lic, Meadow SD and others.

Ewe

Table listing ewe sales with columns for seller, quantity, sex, and price. Includes entries like Manson, Mallory, Lodge Grass MT and others.

Lamb

Table listing lamb sales with columns for seller, quantity, sex, and price. Includes entries like Manson, Mallory, Lodge Grass MT and others.

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Regular Sale
1:00 PM

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

Watch Our Sales Live On Cattleusa!

2026 SHEEP SALES

- 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

SUPERIOR LIVESTOCK COUNTRY PAGE CONSIGNORS

Table listing consignor information with columns for consignor, HD#, sex, weight, price, vac prog, and delivery date.

2026 CATTLE SALES

- April 10th - Grass Cattle & Replacement Hfr Special - Selling All Classes Of Cattle
April 17th - Regular Sale & Baker Lemar Angus Bull Sale - Selling All Classes Of Cattle
April 24th - Pair & Bred Cow Special & Jordan Cattle Co Bull Sale - Selling All Classes Of Cattle
May 1st - Weigh Up Cow & Bull Special - Selling All Classes Of Cattle
May 8th - Pair & Feeder Cattle Special - Selling All Classes Of Cattle
May 15th - Weigh Up Cow & Bull Special - Selling All Classes Of Cattle
May 22nd - Pair & Feeder Cattle Special - Selling All Classes Of Cattle
May 29th - Weigh Up Cow & Bull Special - Selling All Classes Of Cattle
June 5th - Weigh Up Cow & Bull Special - Selling All Classes Of Cattle
June 12th - Regular Sale - Selling All Classes Of Cattle
Saturday, June 20th - World Livestock Auctioneer Contest - Selling All Classes Of Cattle

2026 SPRING BULL SALE LIST

April 24th - Jordan Cattle Co Sim Angus & Angus Bull Sale
May 15th - Turn-Out Bull Sale

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

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.

Friday, April 17, 2026

Regular Cattle Sale & Baker Lemar Angus Bull Sale

10:00 AM - Weigh Ups

12:00 Noon - Feeder Cattle Followed By Bred Cows

1:00 PM - Baker Lemar Angus Bull Sale

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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

136 years ago
Deadwood Pioneer-Times
Thursday Dec. 6, 1906
Deputy LeFors City Marshal
Cheyenne, Wyo., Joe Lefors, the trapper of Tom Horn and one of the best and shrewdest detectives in the western county, is to the next city marshal of Cheyenne. Lafors has made application for the position and it is understood has been assured of the appointment by Mayor elect P. S. Cook. Lefors has a national reputation as a sleuth and thief-taker and has proven a valuable assistant to Frank Hadsell as deputy United States marshal for Wyoming. Mr. Lefors came into public prominence by his clever and daring capture of Tom Horn, perhaps one of the coolest and most remarkable pieces of detective work on record. His appointment will doubtless operate to rid the city of crooks and thieves, as his name alone is a source of terror to the wrong-doers.

at Hollywood. H. R. Eerner, eminent stage star, who is taking a fling in pictures, is completing the title role in the play. He is directed by Lefors himself, who brought to Hollywood his album containing tintypes and photographs. He helped Warner select costumes for his make-up. News of his new job came to Sheridan by way of a feature story to R. G. Diefenderfer, attorney, and one of Lefors' best friends when the former marshal had his headquarters in Sheridan. Although Lefors operated as detective for several of the largest cattle outfits of Wyoming, he came into national prominence when he forced Tom Horn to confess to the death of Willie Nickell, 14 year old, youth near Iron mountain in Laramie county, climaxing a career of "professional killing." Accounts of the number of Horn's victims vary from eight to twenty-five, and the price he was paid between \$25 and \$800. By his own testimony he received \$2,100 for three dead men, and \$500 for the Nickell youth. Two other witnesses overheard the confession of the Nickell murder, made to Lefors in the office of the United States marshal at Cheyenne, Jan. 12, 1902. A small rock under the boy's head - admitted by Horn to be a sign that the victim was one he had killed - was one of the clues in the case. A line of the confessions made by Horn was "killing men is my specialty, I look at it as a business proposition, and I think I have a corner of the market."

Driscoll to Be Main Western Air Speaker Robert E. Driscoll, Sr., chairman of the board of directors of the First National Bank of the Black Hills and newly-elected director of Western Air Lines, will be principal speaker at the banquet commemorating the twenty-fifth anniversary of the air lines' first commercial flight. Announcement that Driscoll would give the main address completes arrangements for the dinner next Tuesday in the new men's dormitory at Black Hills Teachers college in Spearfish. The ceremony will be one of 45 birthday parties to be held through the west. In continuous operation since April 17, 1926, Western is American oldest commercial airline. Western service to Spearfish was inaugurated on March 1, 1950. Since that initial flight, the airline has steadily developed local business and to date has boarded over 700 passengers from the Black Hills airport.

100 years ago
Belle Fourche Bee
February 11, 1926
JOE LEFORS - MOVIE DIRECTOR Joe LaFors, brother of Wm. LaFors, of Belle Fourche, is a versatile fellow, to say the least. Known for many years as one of the most fearless officers in the west; we next hear of him as an all king in California; then as a successful fruit rancher; and now as a director in the movies. This sixty-two years have not dampened his ardor for adventure, as is shown by the following from the Sheridan, Wyo., Post-Enterprise: "Joe Lefors - United States marshal who packed a gun on either hip and brought down cattle rustlers and other bad men of the west Joe Lefors - detective whose testimony convicted Tom Horn, alleged "professional killer" who operated principally in the "hole in the wall" country in Johnson county. Joe Lefors - man of the days of the first railroads; a fellow who probably feared God, but was not afraid of man or the devil. and now, a Los Angeles fruit farmer and assistant movie director. His job is to see that the right kind of "local color" goes into western thrillers. "Lefors was the original of "Whispering Smith, a story of red blooded, virile men, now being filmed

75 years ago
Belle Fourche Bee
April 12, 1951
Light City Election Vote
Seen Tuesday Interest in next week's city election perked up somewhat this week but there is no indication that there will be anything but a light vote when residents go to the polls Tuesday to elect three city councilmen and two police magistrates. Last April a total of 698 votes were cast, primarily drawn out by the question of the parking meter installation and the city-wide vote for mayor. This year with no widely publicized campaign issues it appears doubtful if more than 500 residents will exercise their voting franchise, despite creation of the new fourth ward where three candidates have been nominated for the one-year term on the

50 years ago
Belle Fourche Bee
April 10, 1976
Ed Petranek Named to Hall of Fame Ed Petranek, Belle Fourche High School activities director and long time local faculty member has been named to the Coyote Hall of Fame at the University of South Dakota at Vermillion, it was learned here this week. Petranek, along with other outstanding USD athletes, will be honored in June at Vermillion. Petranek was an outstanding lineman on the USD football squad while in college.
Voters Reject City Sales Tax Library Levy OK'd; Hesper, Lindstad, Rodig Win Posts Belle Fourche voters yesterday said "no" to the sales tax, "yes" to a library levy, returned Mayor Hesper and Alderman Rodig and voted in a new second ward alderman - Wayne Lindstad. Voters rejected the proposed one cent city sales tax by a vote of 672 to 542. All but residents of the fourth ward rejected the tax proposal. The request for a special two mill levy for a new city library building received substantial approval, with 705 voting yes and 504 against. Mayor Henry Hesper won re-election over Bob Helmer by a margin of 687 to 536.

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COALITION MEETING

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Where: Christian Life Center 2020 Vista St

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6	7	8	9	10
Swiss Steak Baked Potato Carrots & Dinner Roll	Liver & Onion or Burger Mashed Potato/Gravy Mixed Veggies	Shepard Pie Garden Salad Dinner Roll	Beef & Bean Enchilada Spanish Rice Dinner Salad	Cod or Chicken sandwich Potato salad Green Beans
13	14	15	16	17
Broccoli & Cheese Chicken Roasted Potato Vegetables & Roll	Beef Barley Soup Ham & Cheese sandwich Dinner Salad	Pineapple Pork Baked Potato Broccoli	Meatloaf with Mashed Potato/ Gravy Green Beans Roll	Cod or Grilled Chicken Sandwich Spinach Salad
20	21	22	23	24
Chicken Cordon Bleu Buttered Rice Green Beans/ Roll	Sloppy Joes Mac & Cheese Broccoli Salad	Tater Tot Casserole Mixed Veggies Dinner Rolls	Scalloped Ham & Potatoes Green Beans Roll	Potato Soup with Grilled Cheese Dinner Salad Roll
27	28	29	30	
Stuffed Pepper Soup Grilled Cheese Dinner Salad	Beef & Cheese Lasagna Dinner Salad Garlic Toast	Hot Turkey Sandwich With Mashed Potato Gravy/ Corn	Chicken Fried Steak Mashed Potatoes/ Gravy Dinner Salad & Roll	

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

Don't miss the following events

4/7 Bingo at Branding Iron 7pm | 4/22 Medicare & Social Security 12pm
Meat Raffle benefitting BSL at Circle Lounge from 2-4pm 4/11, 4/25





Toll Free: 800-894-8684

Office: 605-892-2655

Fax: 605-892-3142

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

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

TRAVIS LINCH
- OWNER -
CELL - 605-892-5951
OFFICE - 605-892-2655

JADE HARPER
Auctioneer: 605-515-0337
COLLIN GIBBS
Auctioneer: 406-939-0645
DAN PIROUTEK
Market Rep: 605-544-3316
BRIAN SCHMIDT
Yard Foreman: 605-569-0114

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

SHANE MOKE - 605-641-7961
TYLER GAER - 605-222-9513
JOHN HENRY BEARDSLEY -
406-853-4938

SCOTT ANDERSON - 406-351-1844
RILEY LESH - 406-697-0573
TREVOR GARMAN - 605-892-5972

"SERVING THE TRI-STATE AREA SINCE 1935"

Market Report - Thursday, April 9, 2026

THANK YOU FOR YOUR BUSINESS!

Bar 69 Angus Ranch.....58hd Avg \$ 9625.00
Reich Charolais Ranch.....56hd Avg \$ 5850.00

WEIGH UPS	HD	DESC	WT	BID	\$/HEAD
Jensen Livestock Llc,					
Belle Fourche SD	1	Black-Hfrt	985	327.50	\$3,225.87
	1	Black-Hfrt	975	327.50	\$3,193.12
	1	Black-Hfrt	975	322.50	\$3,144.37
Rittberger Beef, Hermosa SD	1	Black-Hfrt	1215	287.50	\$3,250.12
	1	Black-Cow	1330	190.00	\$2,527.00
	1	Black-Cow	1370	220.00	\$3,014.00
	1	Black-Hfrt	1240	257.50	\$3,193.00
	1	Black-Hfrt	1195	310.00	\$3,704.50
	1	Black-Cow	1510	190.50	\$2,876.55
	1	Black-Cow	1630	188.00	\$3,064.40
Darel & Debra Casteel, Vale SD	1	Black-Hfrt	1130	300.00	\$3,390.00
	1	Black-Cow	1390	199.00	\$2,766.10
	1	Black-Cow	1300	190.00	\$2,470.00
	2	Black-Cow	1493	189.00	\$2,820.82
	1	Black-Cow	1435	197.00	\$2,826.95
Dean & Mary Tarter,					
Camp Crook SD	2	Red-Hfrt	1163	287.50	\$3,342.18
	1	Red-Cow	1335	188.00	\$2,509.80
	1	Red-Cow	1225	250.00	\$3,062.50
	1	Red-Cow	1200	255.00	\$3,060.00
Til Cattle Co, Belle Fourche SD	1	Red-Cow	1165	227.50	\$2,650.37
	1	Red-Cow	1510	190.50	\$2,876.55
	1	Red-Cow	1265	199.00	\$2,517.35
Larson Family Ltd Partner,					
Spears SD	1	Black-Cow	2170	171.50	\$3,721.55
James A Mccoy, Belle Fourche SD	1	Black-Cow	1400	196.00	\$2,744.00
George A & Linda Davis,					
Camp Crook SD	1	Black-Cow	1440	196.00	\$2,822.40
Terry & Laurie Goehring, Buffalo SD	1	Black-Hfrt	1070	307.50	\$3,290.25
	1	Black-Cow	1545	189.50	\$2,927.77
Roy Sigman, Vale SD	1	Black-Cow	1680	187.00	\$3,141.60
Josh Sigman, Vale SD	1	Rwf-Cow	1370	191.00	\$2,616.70
J-Six SD Ops, Vale SD	1	Black-Cow	1415	197.00	\$2,787.55
	1	Black-Cow	1350	196.00	\$2,846.00
Chad Mackaben, Belle Fourche SD	1	Black-Cow	1380	198.00	\$2,732.40
	1	Black-Cow	1535	189.00	\$2,901.15
John S Or Bonnie Johnson,					
Buffalo SD	1	Black-Cow	1530	189.00	\$2,891.70
	1	Black-Cow	1430	186.00	\$2,659.80
Sand Rook Angus, Broadus MT	1	Black-Cow	1270	190.00	\$2,413.00
	1	Black-Cow	1475	193.00	\$2,846.75
Pearson Ranch Llc, Aladdin WY	1	Herf-Cow	1340	189.00	\$2,532.60
	1	Herf-Cow	1250	189.50	\$2,368.75
Bart & Kathy Kissack, Gillette WY	5	Black-Hfrt	979	326.00	\$3,191.54
Michele Smith, Sundance WY	1	Rwf-Cow	1295	190.00	\$2,460.50
	1	Bwf-Cow	1560	186.00	\$2,901.60
Matt Or Donna Perino,					
Newcastle WY	4	Black-Hfrt	886	322.50	\$2,858.15
	4	Black-Cow	1433	197.00	\$2,822.02
	1	Char-Cow	1375	190.00	\$2,612.50
Levin Ranch Inc, Sturgis SD	4	Black-Cow	1445	200.00	\$2,890.00
	1	Black-Cow	1455	200.00	\$2,910.00
Doyle Or Lorie Dejong, Box Elder SD	1	Black-Cow	1515	190.00	\$2,878.50
Kelsie Dejong, Box Elder SD	1	Black-Cow	1470	189.50	\$2,785.65
Richard A Smith Ranch Llc,					
Buffalo SD	1	Black-Hfrt	1040	311.00	\$3,234.40
Justin Casteel, Vale SD	1	Black-Cow	1250	240.00	\$3,000.00
	1	Black-Cow	1365	221.00	\$3,016.65
	1	Black-Cow	1325	190.00	\$2,517.50
K&K Cattle Co Llc,					
Belle Fourche SD	14	Black-Hfr	1067	307.00	\$3,275.03

Shaun Casteel, Vale SD	1	Black-Cow	1580	185.00	\$2,923.00
	1	Black-Cow	1355	189.50	\$2,567.72
Frank J Nies, Ekalaka MT	1	Black-Hfrt	1035	311.00	\$3,218.85
	2	Black-Cow	1198	277.50	\$3,323.06
Joe Fortner, Biddle MT	14	Black-Hfrt	996	315.00	\$3,138.75
Lane Lamphere, Sturgis SD	1	Bwf-Cow	1585	180.00	\$2,853.00
	1	Red-Cow	1030	265.00	\$2,729.50
Mac Tooke, Ekalaka MT	14	Bk/Bwf-Hfrt	992	317.00	\$3,145.09
Dave Williams, Ekalaka MT	1	Bwf-Cow	1635	177.50	\$2,902.12
Bill Lambert, Hammond MT	3	Black-Hfrt	983	317.50	\$3,122.08

CATTLE USA
Sales broadcast live on www.cattleusa.com.

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

SUPERIOR Livestock Auction
COUNTRY PAGE CONTRACTS AVAILABLE

CORN BELT CLASSIC:
SOUTH SIOUX CITY, NE | JUNE 16, 2026
CATALOG: MAY 29, 2026, 5:00PM MT
VIDEO: JUNE 8, 2026, 5:00PM CT

WEEK IN THE ROCKIES:
STEAMBOAT SPRINGS, CO | JULY 6, 2026
CATALOG: JUNE 19, 2026, 5:00PM MT
VIDEO: JUNE 26, 2026, 5:00PM CT

BIG HORN CLASSIC:
SHERIDAN, WY | AUGUST 17, 2026
CATALOG: JULY 31, 2026, 5:00PM MT
VIDEO: AUGUST 7, 2026, 5:00PM CT

RECEIVING STATIONS

Broadus, MT
Travis Linch | 605-892-5951

Ekalaka, MT
Travis Linch | 605-892-5951
Dave Williams | 406-975-6805

Forsyth, MT
Scott Anderson | 406-351-1844

Jordan, MT
Jason Bollinger | 406-690-8344

Wyoming
Mike Greenough | 307-620-2597

GRASS CATTLE & BANGS VACCINATED HEIFER SPECIAL & HORSE SALE
APRIL 16, 2026
WUPS @ 10AM MT & FEEDER CATTLE @ 12PM MT & HORSE SALE TO FOLLOW

KUHBACHER RANCH-WY
230 BLK MXD FALL CLVS, 500-650#
PC, BT SHOTS, NI, POURED, NO HFRS KEPT

LOEHING INC-MT
230 BLK STRS, 700-750#
PC, BT SHOTS, NI, HR, POURED

ROBY CLYDE-MT
165 - 140 HFRS & 25 STRS
700#, PC, BT SHOTS, NI

RAFTER DIAMOND RANCH-SD
150 BLK HFRS, 700-750#
PC, BT SHOTS, NI, BV, REPLACEMENT QUALITY, SCHIEFELBEIN GENETICS

WEBB LIVESTOCK -MT
90 BLK HFRS, 600-625#
THREE ROUNDS OF SHOTS, NI, NO BRANDS

JOHN NYQUIST-MT
60 BLK HFRS, 550-600#
PC, BT SHOTS, NI, HR

ONDRIEZEK & FLIGGE-WY
60 BLK HFRS, 550-600#
PC, BT SHOTS, NI, BV, POURED

TRAVIS HURST-SD
45 BLK MOSTLY STRS
550#, PC, BT SHOTS, NI

DOUG BONSELL -MT
42 RED/CHAR COMPOSITE HFRS
550-600#, PC, BT SHOTS, NI, POURED

MEDICINE ROCKS -MT
40 BLK/BVWF HFRS, 700#
PC, BT SHOTS, NI, BV, POURED

BRIAN & HALLIE BUDMAYR -SD
30 BLK HFRS, 700#
BV, PRE-BREEDING SHOTS, REPLACEMENT QUALITY

SPUR LAND & LIVESTOCK -WY
18 BLK MXD CLVS, 500-600#
PC, BT SHOTS, NI, WEANED BRANDS

WY CONSIGNMENT-WY
WY BRAND
CATTLE (LEFT-RIB), SHEEP (LEFT-SHOULDER), HORSE (LEFT-SHOULDER)

WY CONSIGNMENT-WY
WY BRAND
CATTLE (LEFT-RIB), SHEEP (LEFT-SHOULDER), HORSE (LEFT-THIGH)

REGULAR SALE - SELLING ALL CLASSES
APRIL 23, 2026
WUPS @ 10AM MT

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

UPCOMING SALE SCHEDULE

April 16, 2026 GRASS CATTLE & BANGS VACCINATED HEIFER SPECIAL & HORSE SALE - WUPS @ 10AM MT & FEEDER CATTLE @ 12PM MT & HORSE SALE TO FOLLOW

April 23, 2026 REGULAR SALE - SELLING ALL CLASSES - WUPS @ 10AM MT

April 30, 2026 PAIR & FEEDER CATTLE SPECIAL - WUPS @ 10AM MT & PAIRS & FEEDER CATTLE @ 12PM MT

May 7, 2026 REGULAR SALE - SELLING ALL CLASSES & J SPEAR CATTLE CO BULL SALE

May 14, 2026 PAIR & FEEDER CATTLE SPECIAL & HORSE SALE - SELLING ALL CLASSES

May 21, 2026 REGULAR SALE & TURNOUT BULL SALE - SELLING ALL CLASSES

May 28, 2026 PAIR & FEEDER CATTLE SPECIAL - SELLING ALL CLASSES



MONUMENT HEALTH

Wellness Lab Draws

Saturday, April 18 | 9 a.m. to 1 p.m.
Belle Fourche Rec Center | 1111 National St., Belle Fourche, SD

Monument Health is offering Wellness Law Draws at the Belle Fourche Rec Center Wellness Fair. Please fast for 12 hours prior to your blood draw.

Payment is required; insurance will not be billed.

Also available:
free health screenings, physical therapy, sleep study and prize drawings.

Wellness Lab Menu

- Wellness Fair Profile (this screening provides baseline information on cholesterol, electrolytes, blood glucose, liver, kidney, thyroid, anemia and more.)
- Vitamin D, 25-hydroxy
- Vitamin B12
- Prostate Specific Antigen (PSA) Screen
- A1C
- High Sensitivity C-Reactive Protein (CRP)
- COVID IgG Ab (Antibody)
- And much more

BLOOD DRIVE SOON!

BLOOD DRIVE

Belle Fourche Rec Center
Wellness Fair & Marketplace

DATE: SATURDAY, APRIL 18
TIME: 9:00 A.M. - 2:00 P.M.
1111 NATIONAL ST.

Please schedule your blood donation appointment by scanning the QR code or visit www.donors.vitalant.org and enter the blood drive code: bellefourcherec. Let's save lives together at the 12th Annual Wellness Fair & Marketplace. Join us for a variety of vendors, door prizes and refreshments too. For more details, call the Belle Fourche Rec Center at 605-892-2467.

For more information visit us at vitalant.org or call 877-258-4825. **Because of you, life doesn't stop.**

vitalant

Now available at Lynn's Belle Fourche

Beer, Wine, & Spirits....

<p>\$11.99</p> <p>Angeline Pinot Noir Red Wine 750 ml</p>	<p>\$10.99</p> <p>Yellow Tail Wine several varieties 1.5 L</p>	<p>\$10.99</p> <p>Malibu Ready To Drink Daiquiri 4 pk. several varieties</p>
<p>\$9.99</p> <p>Jose Cuervo Sparkling Classic Margaritas 12oz 4 pk</p>	<p>\$15.99</p> <p>Jose Cuervo Authentic Ready To Drink Cocktails 1.75 L</p>	<p>\$19.99</p> <p>Jim Beam Kentucky Bourbon 750 ml Several Varieties</p>

Prices effective 7am-9pm Seven Days a Week **Two weeks!** Wednesday, April 15th through Tuesday, April 28th

Hop to the Polls: Peeps Spreads

Robbi Longbrake
news@bellefourchebeacon.com

BELLE FOURCHE—A bright yellow baby chick, Peeps, was spotted out on Easter Sunday on the corner of National Street and US 85. The Peeps was waving, jumping and handing out colored plastic Easter eggs while spreading holiday cheer.

In addition to extending joy, the Peeps had a larger message: GO VOTE! When one opened the Easter egg, candy treats along with a message were inside.

The message encouraged everyone to get out and vote on April 7. “I am Gino Pesicka running for Ward 2, and I am handing out Easter eggs—just telling people to actually vote! Not for me, not for anyone, just vote! This wasn’t publicized—

my wife thought it would be hilarious, and I’m like, I think so too! So that’s why I’m here,” explained Pesicka.

The Belle Fourche City Council Special Election was held on Tuesday, April 7, from 7 a.m. through 7 p.m. at the Belle Fourche Community Hall.

There are open seats in Ward 1, Ward 2, and Ward 3. Running for election in Ward 1 are John Fyffe and Wilma Goehring. For Ward 2, those on the ballot are Faith Kari-Melanson, Aydalou Cazer, Falina Selchert, and Gene Pesicka. Ward 3 has Vern Hintz running unopposed.

Although Pesicka is running, he wasn’t doing the Peeps promotion for himself but rather to remind everyone to vote. “I’m not saying vote for me—although that would be nice—my whole premise has been

vote for who you want, just get out and vote! If you want me, I’m all aboard. But if you don’t, please just go out and vote! 11% turnout is terrible!”

Pesicka didn’t readily tell people he met that it was him in the costume. He kept that part quiet. He just wanted to spread smiles. “It’s best nobody does know until after the whole thing, this wasn’t a publicity stunt...I just wanted a little more joy in the community,” he said.

Excited folks pulled over to meet the Peeps and get their pictures taken with him. Pesicka carried the basket full of colorful plastic Easter eggs with him.

“If you open up the egg, it just says Ward 1, Ward 2. Please vote April 7, BF Community Hall,” said Pesicka. A few chocolate kisses accompanied his message!

(Lower Left) Inside the yellow Peeps costume is **Geno Pesicka**, spreading joy and reminding everyone to get out and vote in the **City Council Special Elections!** (L) Inside the plastic eggs had a special message along with some chocolate kisses. Longbrake photos



IMMEDIATE UNOFFICIAL RETURNS

Municipal Election

April 7, 2026

Title of Office	Name of Candidate	Number of Votes
Ward 1 City Council Member	John Fyffe	79
	Wilma "Faith" Goehring	25
Ward 2 City Council Member	Faith Kari-Melanson	28
	Aydalou "Ida" Cazer	42
	Falina Selchert	82
	Gene "Geno" Pesicka	84

12th Annual Wellness Fair & Marketplace-NEW this year!
Saturday, April 18 ~ 9:00 am-3:00 pm
BF Rec Center ~ 1111 National St. ~ 605-892-2467

FREE EVENT ~ Door Prizes ~ AMAZING VENDORS

HEALTH VENDORS
Farm to Market, Handmade Goods, Unique Gifts & Boutiques, Art, Jewelry, Pottery, Books, Woodworks, Photography, Herbs & Tea, Tastefully Simple, Physical Therapy, Health & Wellness, Dental, Massage, Fitness, Nutrition, Vitamins, Senior Living, Water Filtration Systems, Financial Services, Volunteer and Services Groups, Local Resources and more!

DISCOUNTED WELLNESS LABS BY MONUMENT HEALTH
-A variety of Wellness Panels offered: Rates vary from \$8-\$288
-General Wellness Panels, Iron, Thyroid, Hormone, Allergen, Vitamin B & D and MORE!
-Walk-ins and appointments accepted. Call 605-723-8970 for details.

vitalant. Blood Donation **BLOOD DRIVE 1-877-258-4825**
Walk-ins and appointments accepted. Donate blood and help save lives!

KIDS ACTIVITIES
Fitness Zone, Healthy Snacks, Coloring, Face Painting (\$) and Giveaways. -Facepainting Fundraiser provided by the BFHS Cheer Team. -Register for our **BF Rec Kids Track & Field Program, Girls Softball Clinic & Summer Youth Strength Training Classes.**

BF Rec FREE ADMISSION PASSES & PUNCH CARD SPECIAL
-The first 50 attendees to the fair will receive a 1-day admission pass to the Rec Center. -Daily Admission Punch Card SALE! (6 Admissions/card) Youth \$16 - Sr \$20 - Adult \$24
Stop by our Rec Center booth to receive this special! (Limit 1/person)

BF Rec FITNESS CLASS PROMOS & LINE DANCING DEMO
-Check out the monthly fitness calendar and learn about our Fitness Classes. -Line Dancing Class-is back in May! Join us for demos at 10:00 & 11:00 am.

MEET OUR BF Rec AQUATICS TEAM-Learn about summer job opportunities!
-Stop by the Rec Center booth and meet our Aquatics Managers, Coltin Cramer & Blade Stotz.

GIVEAWAYS & DOOR PRIZES
Shopper Bags, Pickleball Paddle Set, Mickelson Trail Registration (5k, ½ Marathon or Full Marathon), Wild Magnolia Gift Cards, healthy snacks and more!

RED WHITE and BIRDIE
June 27th
9AM SHOTGUN START
REGISTRATION @ 8:00AM

SAVE THE DATE

9-HOLE TOURNAMENT
4 PERSON SCRAMBLE
MUST BE 21 TO PLAY
\$150 PER PLAYER

BLACK HILLS ROUNDUP Chutes for Charity
HOSTED AT BELLE FOURCHE COUNTRY CLUB

FOR MORE INFO
BEV: 605-210-1406
DENISE: 605-892-5445

BLOOD DONORS NEEDED

BLOOD DRIVE

VFW Post 3312 Belle Fourche

DATE: FRIDAY, MAY 1
TIME: 9:00 A.M. - 1:00 P.M.
GRAP'S BURGERS & BREWS
512 NATIONAL ST., BELLE FOURCHE

Scan the QR code or schedule your blood donation appointment at Donors.vitalant.org and enter the Blood Drive Code: Post3312 or call 877-258-4825.

All blood types are needed. Help us save lives together. For more information, contact Chuck Lawless at 480-410-2911 or Blane Anderson at 605-210-0172.

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.
Rick McCartney, 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
Join Us This Saturday
Morning Prayer: 9:00am
Sabbath School: 9:30am
Worship Service: 10:45am
Bible Study-Tuesday: 6:00pm

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

Bo's Lawn Systems
605-723-1899

- Sprinkler Turn Ons, Blowouts, Repair and Installs
- Mowing • Spraying
- Small Landscaping
- Snow Removal and More

Office 605-723-1899
ggtlawnservice@yahoo.com
P.O. Box 327, Belle Fourche, SD
Serving Belle Fourche and the surrounding area for over 15 years.

Shop Services include:
300 Ton Press Brake, 5ft Roll to make pipe, Angle Iron Roll, Tubular Roller, and a CNC Plasma Table

EZ Fabrication offers a wide range of services:
Agriculture Repairs
Fabrication of Industrial Parts
Installation of various Plant Equipment
Retail Steel Dealer
Stainless Steel, Aluminum, and Cast Brazing
Mobile Welding

EZ FABRICATION & WELDING

Contact Scott Huber / Owner (605) 892-2220
221 Industrial St • Belle Fourche SD 57717
Email: scott@ezfabricationandwelding.com
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Wednesday- April 22nd
4:30-6:30PM

Belle Fourche CHAMBER OF COMMERCE

SHAYNA AGER
Cosmetologist
Hair Gallery
518 State St, Belle Fourche, SD
Call or Text: 605-892-5170
Salon: 605-892-3588

BELLE FOURCHE COUNTRY CLUB

TOURNAMENT LINE-UP 2026

Early Bird	April 25th-26th	3 Person Scramble \$ 185 PER PERSON
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 Campan \$ 150 PER COUPLE \$ 180 PER COUPLE ← MEMBER ← NON-MEMBER
Triple Crown	September 19th-20th	2 Person Teams \$ 180 PER PERSON 3 DIFFERENT FORMATS

HORSE RACE TO END
https://www.bellefourchecountryclub.com/tournaments/ 605-892-3472

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

April

- 18th - Wellness Fair @ Rec Center, Sportsman's Club Banquet, Belle Flowers "Fill A Bag"
- 20th - 6PM City Council
- 22nd - 12PM Social Security Webinar @ Belle Silver Lining, 4:30PM Chamber Mixer @ Alley Fitness
- 25th - Lincoln Day Dinner
- 26th - Hobo Healing Event

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

By John Newby "Building Main Street, not Wall Street"

"AI Is Already Here. The Question Is What We Do Next?"

The morning shift at the downtown diner started the way it always does, food cooking in the background, coffee brewing, and customers taking their usual tables. But something was different at the retail establishment next door. The owner, a third-generation small businessman was showing his teenage employee how to use an AI tool to write product descriptions, answer customer emails, and predict which inventory to restock before winter. It took only a few minutes to set up. It replaced what used to be several hours of daily mundane tasks.



McKinsey, AI could add up to \$13 trillion to the global economy by 2030. Some of that wealth will flow to communities that position themselves early through workforce training, small business adoption, and attracting employers who build and use these technologies. Cities like Pittsburgh and Columbus, once written off as post-industrial has-beens, are actively recruiting AI-driven companies and retraining workers for the jobs that come with them.

THE BAD - But the disruption is just as real as the opportunity, and it is already happening in the middle of the country, not in some distant future. The Goldman Sachs research division estimated in 2023 that roughly 300 million full-time jobs globally could be exposed to automation. Customer service centers that once employed hundreds of people in mid-sized cities are shrinking. Data entry roles, paralegal work, basic bookkeeping, and truck dispatching are all being compressed by software that doesn't take breaks and doesn't need benefits. That reality is already upon us. When those jobs go, they don't come back in the same form. And the communities that rely most heavily on those roles — working-class towns, places without major universities or tech ecosystems face the steepest climb. Without intentional investment in retraining and local infrastructure, AI risks widening a gap that is already quite wide.

THE UGLY - Then there is the part nobody wants to talk about over coffee. AI-generated misinformation is flooding local news ecosystems that are already hollowed out. Deepfake audio and video — once the prov-

ince of nation-state actors — is now accessible to anyone with a laptop. Scammers are using AI voice cloning to impersonate grandchildren and steal from the elderly. Local governments, often underfunded and under-resourced, are scrambling to understand tools they have no policy framework to regulate. The communities least equipped to defend against AI's harms are, not coincidentally, the same ones least equipped to capture its benefits.

There is a huge cost of standing still! This is the part that should keep civic leaders up at night. The gap between communities moving on AI and those waiting to see what happens is not static. It compounds the way interest compounds, every single quarter. Businesses and communities that adopt AI tools now are building institutional knowledge, competitive moats, and efficiencies that will be very hard to close. Workers who are developing AI literacy today are becoming more valuable every month. Communities that are training their workforce, updating school curricula, and incentivizing tech adoption are writing their own economic story. The ones that aren't are letting someone else write it for them.

Back at the retail establishment we started with, employees are finished setting up the AI system and amazed at the power it unleashes on their behalf. looked up. They didn't know everything about artificial intelligence, and they didn't need to. They just needed to start. So does everyone else.

John Newby, Pineville, MO., is a nationally recognized publisher, community, business and media consultant, & speaker. His columns appear in communities nationwide. He is currently the CEO of the McDonald County Chamber and the founder of Truly-Local, dedicated to helping communities create excitement, energy, and capture the synergies needed to thrive in an ever increasingly complicated environment. He can be reached at John@Truly-Local.org.

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Jonathan Ellis & Joe Sneve

Central Meade County News

By Sandy Rhoden, April 2026



The weekend turned out to be a picture perfect Saturday without the high winds that were expected. We are dry, along with most all of west of the river. Fires broke out again in the Custer area on Friday which the Governor called as a state of emergency. As of Sunday morning it was 40% contained. Now is a good time for our prayer warriors to pray for rain. Planning has been and is in the works for Union Center's

100th year celebration. A parade will kick off the day with a variety of festivities to follow. Mark your calendars for Saturday, June 27. Hopefully, the day's weather will co-operate for both indoor and outdoor activities. Larry and Sandy Rhoden have been blessed with their newest grand daughter, Ruby Marilyn Rhoden. Ruby is the daughter of Jesse Rhoden and his wife, Sarah Lewis. Ruby came into this world on February 10, 2026 in Spearfish to join Ladd,

Sully and Bucky Rhoden as her doting big brothers and sister. She weighed 7lbs 4 oz. She has been a delightful addition to the family and spends much of her time sleeping and growing. When she isn't at home she spends much of her time attending sports events for her siblings or with her paternal grandparents, Judy and Chuck Lewis of Sturgis. Congratulations to Jesse and Sarah who are now blessed as a family of 6. Two more baby granddaughters will join the Rhoden family in June and July of this year. Tristen and Kalen Rhoden are expecting in June

while Reggie and Jenny are due in July. We all look forward to watching these little cousins play and grow together. Soldiers of the Cross has been taking place every Wednesday throughout the school year at the Community Baptist Church in Union Center. The last gathering of Soldiers of the Cross will be on Wednesday, April 29. Melanie Cammack is the youth director and we are thankful to her and all who show up to help throughout the year. Amy Cammack is recovering at home from knee surgery. It is a fairly long process but one can pray for her complete healing. Gary and Deb Vig made it home

safely after a road trip over the Easter week. Registrations for Cedar Canyon Bible Camp will be available as of May 1. It should be found on their website. Vacation Bible School at Union Center will take place from June 29- July 2, Monday through Thursday. If you are interested in volunteering, please contact Melanie Cammack. Folks had a chuckle today at church. One attendee noticed that standing before the church prepared to do the offering was a deputy sheriff, the pastor, and the SD Governor. (John Rhoden, Bill Meirose, Larry Rhoden) Have a great week!

Capitol News

April 5, 2026 by Karen Odell

We got another good shower, this week at Capitol and on Tie Creek. The grass is greening, and growing fast, so that it is time to get the mowers in shape for summer.



Dick and Erma Albert have had a good week with their little great-granddaughter, Amarie, as a visitor. Their daughter and her husband have been visiting since last week. On Tuesday, Erma and her daughter, Heather, made a trip to Rapid City, and stayed overnight, so that Erma could be at her doctor's appointment on Wednesday. Dick went to the Senior Citizen dinner on Friday, and brought home a meal for Erma. Erma's family attended mass on Sunday, and brought lunch home for Irma from Saloon Number Three.

Calving is beginning to wind down at Alvin Cordell's. Alvin made a trip to Ekalaka, on Tuesday, to pick up some grass seed. Alvin and Marlee went to the huge track meet at Spearfish, on Friday. There were many teams competing, making lots of flights for the running events. Some Harding County students were there, and some of Ryan's family competed. Alvin and Marlee's

grandchildren, Cade and Rhys Pearson, competed from Belle Fourche. Gavin earned sixth place out of a field of fifty-two, and Rhys was second in her heat, but they were not sure of the total standings. Marlee stayed overnight to be able to see the junior high track meet on Saturday. Alvin rode home with Ryan. On Sunday, Alvin and Marlee had supper at the Corner Bar in Camp Crook. Lynn Gustafson attended the Diligent Doers Extension Club meeting at the Camp Crook City building, on Wednesday. They wet to the Community Center on Thursday, to play bingo. On Sunday, they went to church at the Little Missouri Church.

Tommy Melum had an interesting and exciting trip to the state FFA competitions in Great Falls. The Ekalaka team did very well, and even placed third in Ag communications. He is looking forward to next year's competition. He has been working hard on his school classes, and will be able to finish up the year by May. The baptist church in Baker had a week-end revival this week. Rachel and Tommy went up to Baker for the Saturday and Sunday meetings. The Youth Group meeting was on Saturday, and Ernie joined them for church on Sunday. Junior and Shirley Melum

joined Rachel's relatives for Easter dinner. Dawn and Dorothy Padden went to Camp Crook, on Wednesday, for the Diligent Doers Extension Club meeting. There was not a designated hostess, but Yvonne Yoder brought lunch for everyone. There had been a track meet scheduled this week, but it was canceled. Dorothy watched on TV, as the astronauts took off to circle the moon. Dawn had a very busy Saturday. She had been asked to take prom pictures, so each couple or individual would have their picture taken before the Grand March on Saturday. Dawn's mother, Helen Stevens, had the special equipment for portraits, and agreed to help Dawn with the photography. They were only given three minutes with each couple, but they got all the pictures taken in time for the Grand March. On Sunday, Dawn was busy finishing work with the pictures on her computer.

Karen Odell had a good time texting with her family, this week. Carson Odell had asked for some historical research for a book he was writing, and Karen emailed some of her research to him. His return text thanked her, and said he would look at it when he got done with the triple jump competition he was competing

in right then. Kenna had gotten a top score on her ACT test. Micki and Jesse were at the ice hockey game in Tacoma, Mollie and Kyia Smith were on their way to the musical in Minneapolis, and Jeff and Amanda joined in the conversation, too. Karen Odell spent much of one day watching as our astronauts came back to earth from the other side of the moon. Karen remembers the earliest space missions. Only a few years after her family first got TV, Karen watched the high school's TV, as the 1962 space mission, with John Glenn, returned to earth. The splash down, at the end of the mission, was only one more of the perilous things that took place. The burns to redirect the space capsule, had to be precise to the second, to turn the capsule into the exact, perfect trajectory. If the atmosphere entry angle was too big, the ship would bounce off the atmosphere, rather than penetrate the ozone layer. If the angle was too small, the resistance would cause heat that the capsule's tile protection might not withstand. In those early days of the space program, they might have suspected that the communications would be stopped for awhile during the heat of re-entry, but when there was no response for about five minutes, everyone watching held their breath for about that long, too. We felt such a relief when we

could again hear the astronaut's calm voice, for so many things could have gone wrong. Next, the parachutes had to work perfectly, so that the capsule was slowed enough, and not damaged, when it hit the water, allowing it to float. The ships, ready to pick up the astronaut, had to be positioned out of the way, yet close enough to get to the capsule to right away after it splashed-down. The whole project included hundreds of specialists on the ground and in the sea. Later, when the space shuttle was first used, and it could land after each mission, and be used again, Karen thought the tension of those ocean splash-downs was gone forever. It wasn't true. Now, over sixty years later, Karen saw the miracle happen again. The tension and precision of each action was renewed. Though she expected the communication to stop during re-entry, she still held her breath and prayed, until we heard the astronaut's voice again. Her eyes were riveted on the capsule as the parachutes deployed, released, and deployed again. She watched the little space capsule floating in the sea, but had to actually see the astronauts get out, before she was satisfied that they were really ok. It was a rerun of a miracle, and the miracle was that, with God's help, so many individuals had worked together to accomplish so much.

PRESSED BETWEEN THE PAGES

by DeAnn (Wolkow) Kruempel



Growing up on the farm in the 1950s and 60s meant being around animals. Daily responsibilities required caring for cattle, hogs, sheep and chickens. For years we milked a cow. A dog and barn cats did their part in protecting the farm and animals.

Dad, Donald and Delmer shouldered the main jobs for large livestock care, while Deloris, Darlene, Dorothy and I helped Mom with gathering eggs and caring for the chickens. In the summer, the older girls padded barefoot to the far pasture to bring home the milk cow. When extra help was needed for catching or moving livestock, or for emergency situations, every one of us stepped up.

All those animals around us meant that every so often a creature needed to be rescued. Baby calves were born outside on the coldest late winter nights. In spite of watchful farmers, it never failed that a heifer showed no signs, yet chose the worst time and place to produce her firstborn. Chilled

and barely alive, the tiny calf needed immediate attention. A warmup near the wood stove in the kitchen along with a brisk rubdown with a rough gunny sack sometimes brought the little one around.

Once in a while baby hogs and sheep came into the world with health issues. Occasionally one was injured by the mother or pushed away from the milk bar by tougher siblings. Sometimes a runt piglet required tender loving care. There was once a just-hatched baby chick that had to have foot therapy before she could stand. I recall times when a mother cow didn't claim her calf. Rex was called into the barn for assistance.

Dad had read that seeing a dog, which I assume Momma Cow perceived as a threat, sometimes inspired her to protect and claim her offspring. If the plan failed, the kids in the family assumed bottle feeding duty, which was needed every few hours the first days. We learned the critical value of colostrum before we were old enough to go to school.

Even wild animals sometimes came within our

care when accidents or Mother Nature dealt harsh blows. Dad rescued young pheasants that were nearly frozen. A gradual warmup in the basement was all they needed. He brought home nests of duck eggs when the mother was killed. A setting banty hen gladly kept those eggs warm until hatch-time.

Her astonished cackling the first time her babies hopped into the water pan was

story fodder for years!

A tiny rabbit, rescued from instinct-driven jaws or a naked baby robin whose nest could not withstand the South Dakota wind were given place of honor in a soft, rag-lined shoe-box.

Pressed between the pages of my mind are our Mom's gentle words: "Sometimes these little creatures don't make it." In their parental wisdom, Mom and Dad appreciated and shared our compassion for animals. They understood and often helped with our efforts to save

them. Whether our hearts were broken or we learned to believe in miracles, our parents realized such experiences prepared us for life.

Growing up on the farm with animals offered invaluable life lessons. We learned the merits of hard work. We learned responsibility, resilience and compassion. We learned that sometimes life did not turn out the way we wanted, but when it did, we rejoiced with the angels. Maybe the most important lesson of all: we learned that no matter what, we had to try.



RABIES VACCINATION CLINIC

SATURDAY MAY 2, 2026 8AM - 12PM

LOCATED AT:

Belle Fourche Veterinary Clinic 406 Summit Street Belle Fourche, SD



The City of Belle Fourche will be onsite for city licenses.

*COST:

\$10 Rabies Vaccine *CASH ONLY

No appointment needed!

Some of the proceeds will be donated to Hobos Healing Heart

Please leash all dogs and have cats in carriers! Have Questions? Call 605-892-2618 for more information

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4 Guest Speakers - this is one you won't want to miss!

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Roots #59 "Take Good Care of Yourself"

Meg English
news@bellefourchebeacon.com



Today, as an introduction to a discussion on the upcoming Wellness Fair at the Belle

Fourche Recreation Center, I'd like to reference a song from a 1930s American musical.

The song is Button Up Your Overcoat. It's a familiar, happy melody, and a positive way to convey some sage advice. The refrain, "Take good care of yourself, you belong to me"

suggests a non-punishing incentive to lose weight, quite smoking, or exercise more regularly. All of which are important aspects of maintaining good health.

The song is a reminder that someone might care whether you live or die and that is surely comforting, if not an incentive too.

In any case Button Up Your Overcoat is not an

unpleasant little tune to have buzzing around in your head, but be aware it is certified to stay there all day.

Here's the link to a Bing Crosby version of the tune so you can hum or sing along, if you are so inspired. Please note the lyrics below the link.

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=do8yYHWPHaE>

Button up Your Overcoat
Written by Ray Henderson,
with lyrics by BG DeSylva and Lew Brown.

'Button up your overcoat,
When the wind is free,
Take good care of yourself,
You belong to me!

Eat an apple every day,
Get to bed by three,
Oh, take good care of your-

self,
You belong to me!

Be careful crossing streets,
ooh-ooh,
Cut out sweets, ooh-ooh,

Lay off meat, ooh-ooh,
You'll get a pain and ruin

your tum-tum!
Wear your flannel under-

wear,
When you climb a tree,
Oh, take good care of your-

self,
You belong to me!

Be careful crossing streets,
ooh-ooh,
Cut out sweets, ooh-ooh,

Lay off meat, ooh-ooh,
You'll get a pain and ruin

your tum-tum!
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Wear your flannel under-

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When you climb a tree,
Oh, take good care of your-

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You belong to me!

Be careful crossing streets,
ooh-ooh,
Cut out sweets, ooh-ooh,

Lay off meat, ooh-ooh,
You'll get a pain and ruin

your tum-tum!
Wear your flannel under-

wear,
When you climb a tree,
Oh, take good care of your-

self,
You belong to me!
Button up your overcoat,
When the wind is free,
Oh, take good care of your-
self,
You belong to me!
When you sass a traffic cop,
Use diplomacy;
Just take good care of
yourself,
You belong to me!
Beware of frozen ponds,
ooh-ooh,
Stocks and bonds, ooh-ooh,
Peroxide blondes, ooh-ooh,
You'll get a pain and ruin
your bankroll!
Keep the spoon out of your
cup,
When you're drinking tea,
Oh, take good care of your-
self,
You belong to me!
Don't sit on hornet's tails,
ooh-ooh!
Or on nails, ooh-ooh!
Or third rails, ooh-ooh!
You'll get a pain and ruin
your tum-tum!
Keep away from bootleg
hooch
When you're on a spree,
Oh, take good care of your-
self,
You belong to me!
Good physical, mental and
emotional health are essential.
All too often we overlook the
best way to keep ourselves in
balance. Such balance is one of
life's great challenges.
The Wellness Fair is an
established tradition in Belle

Fourche thanks to the dedicated
rec center staff, local vendors,
and community wide commit-
ment to achieving balance in
physical, emotional, and mental
health.
We all feel better when
everyone feels better.
For years, the Wellness
Fair was great fun for me and
the three blond granddaughters,
Taylor, Teannah, and Tessa.
We never missed it. The 'little'
girls are now 17, 15, and 13.
This year, only Teannah wants
to attend the Wellness Fair with
me, but I can live with that.
This year, Belle Fourche
Rec Center Wellness Fair &
Marketplace takes place on
SATURDAY, APRIL 18
from 9:00 AM to 2:00 PM at
the Belle Fourche Rec Center
at 1111 National Street in Belle
Fourche. For more details, call
the Belle Fourche Rec Center at
605-892-2467
Wellness Fair participants
are welcome to participate in
a blood drive. Blood donation
appointments may be sched-
uled by visiting www.donors.vitalant.org and enter the blood
drive code: bellefourcherec.
Vendor booths on Sat-
urday include: Aboutbodies,
Amare-The Mental Wellness
Company, American Founda-
tion for Suicide Prevention,
Beartown Press and Redwa-
ter Woods, Bella Pregnancy
Resource Center, Belle Fourche
Area Community Theatre, Belle
Fourche Police Department,

Belle Fourche Rec Center,
Belle Fourche Volunteer Fire
Department, Black Hills Road
Trip to Hope, Bugaboo Designs,
Butte County Ambulance C.
Snow Imagery, Cathy's Stu-
dio-N-Graphics, CC Studio, Da-
nian Art, Emmanuel Baptist
Church, Energy Medicine,
Epiphany Mental Health, Hay
Creek Ranch, WY, Highland
Senior Solutions, Highmark
Federal Credit Union, Iron and
Oak Works, Jackson Dental,
Lifewave, Mardi's Whole
Home & Apothecary, Morgan
Krul, Monument Health Belle
Fourche Clinic/Rehab, Nadig
Family Farm, Naja Shriners,
NARFE South Dakota, Pain &
Movement Solutions, Second
Chance Movement, Superior
Water, Tastefully Simple, TREC
Badlands Head Start, Veterans
of Foreign Wars (VFW), Vita-
lant, Western SD Community
Action Agency, Wild Lightning,
Boutique, LLC, Wood Butcher
Visit the Wellness Fair.
Wellness Fair & Marketplace
vendors are looking forward
to meeting you. Be glad that
the Wellness Fair continues to
grow and thrive for everyone's
good health. Take the kids as
there is plenty for them to do
and to learn. Meet some people.
Pick up some swag. Win some
prizes, and enjoy some re-
freshments. Have a good time.
Enjoy taking care of yourself
and know that you are loved!




Action for the Betterment of our
Community - Butte County

COALITION MEETING

*April is Alcohol Awareness month and
our Police Department will be
presenting on how alcohol is affecting
the community.*

When: April 17th @ noon
Where: Christian Life Center
2020 Vista St

*Lunch will be provided -
please RSVP by 4/15*

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



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 April meeting schedule: Monday April 6 is the editing meeting. Bring whatever you are working on and copies to share 2-4 PM. The Regular April Meeting is Saturday April 18 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 if you have any questions, comments, or concerns! My email is listed below as well as the Rec Center front desk number collin@bellefourche.org 605-892-2467

April Events
Line Dancing! Thursdays 5:30 PM in April. No partner needed. Bring your friends and have fun. Free for members. (14 yrs and up) Non-members \$6 adults, \$5 seniors, \$4 youth.

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

Women's Basketball League Co-Ed Volleyball Tournament Sunday, April 19.

Belle Fourche Rec Center Wellness Fair & Marketplace
DATE: SATURDAY, APRIL 18 TIME: 9:00 A.M.- 2:00 P.M.
Please schedule your blood donation appointment by visiting www.donors.vitalant.org and enter the blood drive code: bellefourcherec. Let's save lives together at the 12th Annual Wellness Fair & Marketplace. Join us for a variety of vendors, door prizes and refreshments too. For more details, call the Belle Fourche Rec Center at 605-892-2467.


Tri-State Museum
The Tri-State Museum and Visitor Center mini exhibit entitled, "Rocks and Minerals," is now open. The exhibit will be in the Visitor Center and include rocks and minerals to examine, storyboards, photos, geologic equipment, a microscope, books and guides, a touchscreen quiz and a take-home workbook on the subject for young people.
There is no charge to enter the museum or see this mini exhibit which is up until June 12. The Tri-State is located at 415 Fifth Avenue in Belle Fourche. It can be reached by calling 605-723-1200.

Family Fun Day: Science and Beauty of Crystals
Families learn the science behind crystal formation and how they are used and collected. Film, activities, book-drawing, free take-home packet. Refreshments served. \$2 per person or free with membership. 2-4 PM April 19

Tri-State Performers: Dancin Daughters of Diamond City
Comedic play about Mineral Marge, her many daughters and the fact that they go out dancing at night and are too tired to work the next day in Marge's mine. Where are they going? Mineral Marge hires several unusual characters to learn the truth. Entertainment for the whole family. Admission is \$2 per person or free with membership. 7-9 PM April 24-25


Northern Hills CASA
April is Child Abuse Prevention Month. Learn more about how CASA protects children at a local Cup O' CASA event.

April 16 Community Cup O'CASA, That Place, Lead 9-10 AM
April 23 Community Cup O'CASA; Wild Magnolia; Belle Fourche 9-10 AM



The **Dakota Scout** is a South Dakota owned, sourced and printed independent operation co-founded by Ellis and Sneve. Together, they have more than 30 years of combined experience in South Dakota journalism that have earned them reputations as dogged reporters who've not lost touch with their neighbors' sensibilities. Be in the Know!
Stay on top of what's happening at the state Capitol in Pierre and around the state with breaking news, investigative reporting and a constant drumbeat of information about the world around you.

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Jonathan Ellis & Joe Sneve



12th Annual WELLNESS FAIR AND MARKETPLACE

Saturday, April 18th 2026
9:00 am-3:00 pm

VENDOR REGISTRATION NOW OPEN!



Contact Tessa for more information
605-892-2467 or tessa@bellefourche.org

NORTHERN HILLS AREA CASA CHILD ABUSE PREVENTION MONTH



- April 1 - Spearfish Chamber Coffee Connection; NHCASA Office; 8:00 - 9:00 AM
- April 1 - Caring Community Night; Sawyer Brewing; Spearfish; 6:00 - 8:00 PM
- April 6 - Arby's Fundraiser Night; Spearfish; 4:00 - 7:00 PM
- April 9 - Community Cup O'CASA; Brew Berry Bistro; Sturgis; 9:00 - 10:00 AM
- April 16 - Community Cup O'CASA; That Place; Lead; 9:00 - 10:00 AM
- April 23 - Community Cup O'CASA; Wild Magnolia; Belle Fourche; 9:00 - 10:00 AM
- April 30 - Community Cup O'CASA; Ally's Eats; Spearfish; 9:00 - 10:00 AM

We are excited to connect with our local community members to raise awareness about the CASA mission and child maltreatment. Wear blue in April to support child abuse prevention. Consider getting involved and discover how **YOU** can change a child's story!

Pinwheels for Prevention launched in 2008 as a national campaign to raise awareness about child abuse and neglect. Pinwheels represent playfulness and joy. They serve as a physical reminder of the great childhoods we want for all children. As a symbol, the cyclical nature of the pinwheel calls to mind the positive cycles of love and support we want to help families create. It also signifies America's efforts to change the way our nation thinks about prevention by focusing on community activities. Prevention happens when a community comes together to bring awareness and education to the issues surrounding child maltreatment. Every child deserves the chance to be raised in a healthy, safe, and nurturing environment.



Please stop by Northern Hills CASA, located at 741 N. 5th St. in Spearfish, during the month of April and "Pick a Pinwheel" from our garden. Display it to demonstrate your commitment to preventing child abuse.

TRACK SCHEDULE 2026 BELLE FOURCHE

Head: MATTHEW WATTIER | ASSTS: BRITTANY CLARKSON, SAMANTHA COMES, KYLE GRASLIE & KYLE HAXTON

DATE	MEET	SITE	TIME
3/26 - Thursday	Newcastle Invite ^	Away	9:00 am
4/2 - Thursday	Early Bird Invite (Sturgis) ^	Away	9:00 am
4/7 - Tuesday	Douglas Early Bird Invite (Box Elder)	Away	9:00 am
4/10 - Friday	Queen City Invite (Spearfish)	Away	9:00 am
4/14 - Tuesday	Spearfish JV Invite ^	Away	11:00 am
4/16 - Thursday	Track O' Rama (O'Harra) ^	Away	9:00 am
4/18 - Saturday	Center of the Nation Invite (Belle)	Home	8:00 am
4/21 - Tuesday	Rapid City JV Invite (O'Harra)	Away	11:00 am
4/23 - Thursday	Custer Invite	Away	9:00 am
4/28 - Tuesday	Northern Hills Invite (Belle)	Home	8:00 am
			10:30 am CST
5/1-2 - Friday / Saturday	Howard Wood Relays (Sioux Falls)	Away	9:00 am CST
5/5 - Tuesday	JV Invite (Sturgis)	Away	10:00 am
5/9 - Saturday	Black Hills Classic Invite (Sturgis)	Away	8:00 am
5/12 - Tuesday	Mountain West Invite (Lead)	Away	10:00 am
5/14 - Thursday	Black Hills Conference Invite (Custer)	Away	9:00 am
5/19 - Tuesday	Last Chance Invite (Rapid City - O'Harra)	Away	9:00 am
5/28-30	State A - Sioux Falls	Away	TBA

Bold @ Belle Fourche | Red - Playoff / State | ^ Denotes Update on 1/14/2026

MIDDLE SCHOOL TRACK SCHEDULE 2026 BELLE FOURCHE

Head: SARAH THOMPSON | ASSTS: BRODY BENSON, LARS DUNAVANT, KARLEE GUSO & JIM MARTIN

DATE	OPPONENT	SITE	Start Time
3/31 - Tuesday	Douglas (Box Elder) Invite	Away	9:00 am
4/7 - Tuesday	Sturgis Quad	Away	1:00 pm
4/11 - Saturday	Spearfish Invite	Away	9:00 am
4/17 - Friday	Belle Fourche Invite	Home	9:00 am
4/21 - Tuesday	Custer Invite	Away	TBD
4/24 - Friday	Lead-Deadwood Invite ^	Away	Cancelled
5/2 - Saturday	Jeff Smit Invite - Sturgis	Away	8:00 am
5/5 - Tuesday	West River Invite - Rapid - Sioux Park	Away	8:00 am
5/8 - Friday	Black Hills Conference Invite (Spearfish)	Away	9:00 am

Bold @ Belle Fourche

^ Denotes Update on 3/18/26

Social Security & Medicare Basics

Hosted by



12 pm Wednesday, April 22, 2026

Belle Silver Linings Senior Center
828 Kingsbury St, Belle Fourche, SD

Guest speakers

Ashley Sanders, NSSA
Certified National Social Security Advisor



Stephanie Salazar
Health & Life Insurance Advisor



Get answers to questions ~

- Why would I need a Social Security account before I retire?
- How much can I earn before Social Security payments are taxable?
- What do I need to know before I sign up for Medicare?
- When do I sign up for Medicare?
- What are the Medicare A, B, C & Ds?

Free & open to the public!



RANDOM DRAW COED VOLLEYBALL TOURNAMENT

SUNDAY, APRIL 19, 2026
REGISTER BY APRIL 8, 2026

Members \$20 | Non-Members \$25

Teams are randomly drawn
Wait to be contacted with team & game info

For more information contact:
TESSA AT 605-892-2467 OR TESSA@BELLEFOURCHE.ORG.



March Students of the Month



JOB OPPORTUNITY ANNOUNCEMENT
BUTTE COUNTY HIGHWAY DEPARTMENT

The Butte County Highway Department currently has an opening for a full-time Highway Crew Maintenance Worker. Great wage starting at 23.82/hour and excellent benefit package. No matter the weather- guaranteed work.

This person will be required to operate light highway equipment and perform maintenance on signs and cattle guards. Some heavy lifting is required. Job duties include working outdoors in inclement weather. CDL is a plus but not required. Other duties exclusive to the position will also be assigned and required.

It is essential to be able to pass a background check and pre-employment drug test prior to employment.

Application may be acquired between 8:00 AM and 4:00 PM at the Butte County Highway Administration office located at 117 5th Avenue, Belle Fourche, SD. An application can be requested by calling 605-892-4414.

Please send resume and application to:

Butte Co Hwy Dept.
% Dwayne Heidrich
117 5th Ave
Belle Fourche, SD 57717

The position will remain open until it is filled.
Butte County is an equal opportunity, affirmative action employer.

NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING ON APPLICATION
FOR A SPECIAL EVENT RETAIL (ON-SALE) LIQUOR LICENSE

Notice is hereby given that the Board of Butte County Commissioners will meet in the Commissioner's Room at the Butte County Courthouse, which is located at 839 5th Avenue, Belle Fourche, SD, 57717 on **Tuesday, April 21, 2026, at 9:45 p.m.** to consider a special event retail (on-sale) liquor license.

Said applicant is as follows:

Retail (on-sale) Liquor Special Event License:

<u>APPLICANT</u>	<u>LEGAL DESCRIPTION</u>	<u>TYPE OF LICENSE</u>
Branding Iron Steakhouse 19079 US Hwy 85 Belle Fourche, SD 57717	Lot 1 Subd TRA in SE1/4 SE1/4 Ex. Lot H1 & H2 Section 22, Twp 8, Range 2	Retail (on- sale) Liquor Special Event Retail Liquor Wedding July 15, 2023

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

Dated at Belle Fourche, SD, this 31st day of March, 2026.
/s/ Annie Capp, Butte County Auditor

NOTICE OF MEETING OF COUNTY EQUALIZATION BOARD

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN THAT the Board of County Commissioners, sitting as a County Board of Equalization of Butte County, South Dakota will meet at 1:00 P.M. in Commissioners room which is in the Butte County Courthouse Building at 839 5th Avenue, Belle Fourche, SD in said County on **Tuesday, the 28th day of April 2026**, for reviewing, correcting, and equalizing the assessments of said County for the year 2026 (payable 2027) and shall continue in session and may adjourn from time to time until all properly filed appeals have been determined and equalization is completed but no later than May 05, 2026.

All persons considering themselves aggrieved by said assessment, are required to submit written notice to the Butte County Auditor @ 117 5th Avenue, Belle Fourche, SD, 57717 no later than April 21st, 2026.

Respectfully submitted,
Annie Capp
Butte County Auditor

Published April 17th, 2025 & April 24th, 2026

Published two times at the total approximate cost of \$ _____

APRIL CHAMBER MIXER
Wednesday- April 22nd
4:30-6:30PM

SHAYNA AGER
Cosmetologist

Hair Gallery
518 State St, Belle Fourche, SD

Call or Text: 605-892-5170
Salon: 605-892-3588

Chaska Arts Center presents
Moving Beyond Bars
Reclaiming Identity Through Creative Expression

Moving Beyond Bars brings together artwork created by more than forty-five women incarcerated at South Dakota Women's Prison in Pierre, South Dakota and the Women's Prison in Ocala, Florida. Directed by Suzanne Costello and Aradne Albright, this intensive three-week arts residency engages participants in a multidisciplinary creative process that integrates visual art, movement, and writing as pathways for reflection, healing, and self-expression.

April 1 - May 15, 2026
Chaska Arts Center at Mahipya Luta
Pine Ridge, SD 57770

Reception: Thursday April 23, 2026 4-7p

WELLNESSFAIR
April 18, 2026

BELLE FOURCHE REC CENTER

PEARSON BLOCK CANDY SHOP

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VINTAGE AND MODERN

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PEARSONBLOCK.COM

A Simple Post, A Big Opening for Hitch'n Post Market

Robbi Longbrake
news@bellefourchebeacon.com

NEWELL—After months of remodeling, reordering, restocking, rehiring and creating anticipation for the entire town, it came down to one post on social media on Saturday morning, April 11, stating “we are open.”

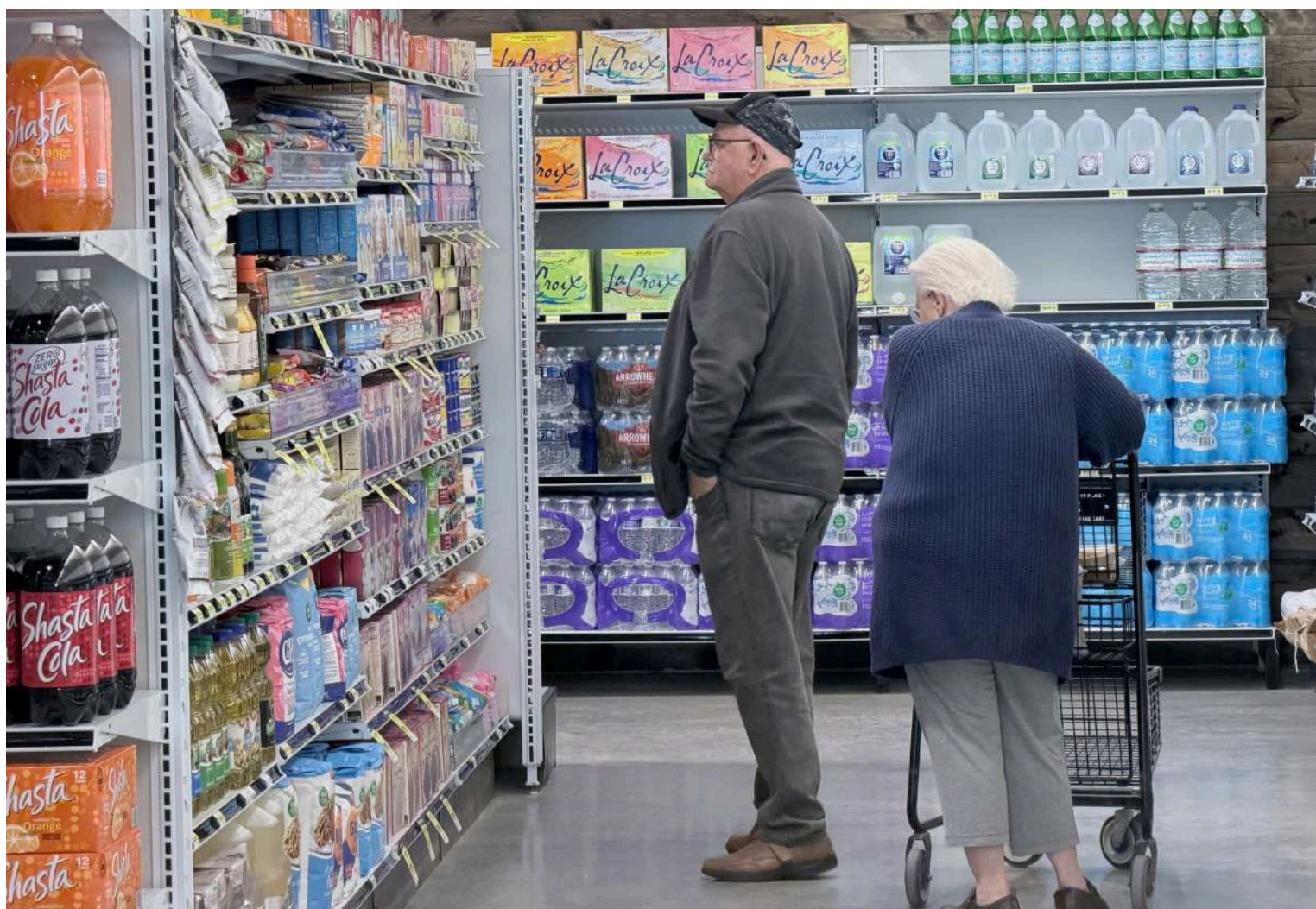
This was how the Hitch'n Post Market announced it was now open for business. No hoopla, no advertisement, no celebration, nope, just a post on social media. But that is all it took to send the masses into the store to see what had been brewing over the past few months.

But this was by design. Rodney and Gloria Peachey, owners, were excited, yet nervous for the opening as well. “I have another gal doing the Facebook page—I'm not doing that personally—I told her not to tell anybody until we've been open for an hour or two, and then, I said, I think it's okay—we had to make sure that everything was working out and running,” explained Rodney.

The town of Newell lost its grocery store when Howdy Hobernicht closed Newmart Grocery Store on June 30, 2025. The rumors started about possibilities of a new grocery store, and then changes to the building started happening and excitement started building!

In February, a new billboard went up outside of town with the new name of the grocery store and a notice that the store was actually hiring! That made the community know that the time was getting closer! Opening would be happening soon!

Then, in early March, Hitch'n Post Market page appeared on Facebook and the teasing began! Posts of new products and shelves slowly filling up began to appear! Updates were happening often. The public made comment after comment on the posts proclaiming how



A couple of shoppers enjoying the first day at the Hitch'n Post Market. Longbrake photo

excited they were for the store to open!

The grocers started the remodel last September. For the past six months they have been working hard. “There was a suspended ceiling in here—we took that all out. There was insulation above that, so we took that all down and just exposed the existing ceiling. There had been a roof leak years ago that was repaired, and so the ceiling was falling down. We just patched that up and redid the ceiling, re-insulated—lots more insulation in the attic and lots of paint—buckets and buckets of paint,” said Rodney. “New heating and new air system was installed and the floor was really bad, so we

poured another layer of concrete in here. We upgraded the coolers and added the deli.”

Rodney is well aware that even though the Newell community is excited for the store to open, it is going to take attracting customers from surrounding communities to help it thrive. “I feel like we need to, to survive. That's what we hope the bulk products and the Walnut Creek products will do. We'll try to expand that and bring more products in as people see them, like them and need them,” he explained. “But to make it, to draw everybody in, we needed to do the regular grocery and the produce and the milk and the fresh meat—that's another thing we want to expand

quite a bit on—the fresh meat. Right now we have just the ground beef and steaks and pork roasts and chicken, but we'll branch out to whatever people want.”

Another new service available at the store is a deli. “We have a variety of cheeses and meats, and any of these are sliced on demand—fresh sliced,” said Rodney. “There will be some ready-to-go sandwiches and drinks—we just want to be here for whatever people need.”

Another service the Hitch'n Post would like to explore is providing wholesale food for the local restaurants and schools as they are able to order in larger quantities.

The store has ten employees who are eager to work at the new business. Currently, store hours are from 7 a.m. to 7 p.m. six days a week. The store is closed on Sundays. They hope as time goes by they will be open later, perhaps in the busiest part of the summer.

The Peachey family moved to Newell in 2019 and enjoy the area. They also run Prairie Lane Farm. Rodney says the community has been supportive in his latest endeavor, and he could tell they were excited about the new place by the way they would drive by slowly, peering in the windows and also just from visiting with them.

Photos D4



(Top L) Cashiers ringing up customers and bagging groceries. (Top R) Rodney and Gloria Peachey, owners of Hitch'n Post Market. (Below) If you have a sweet tooth, there is every kind of snack you can think of waiting for you to come get it! Longbrake photos

Newell Health Clinic
is accepting new patients!

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

We offer primary health care services for adults and children in the Newell-Vale-Nisland community.

(605) 204-9497

Wellness exams, chronic care management, DOT physicals.

Call today to book your appointment!

For info about Patrick or schedule a virtual TELE-HEALTH visit:

PatNP.com  





Grand River Roundup



Betty Olson

news@bellefourchebeacon.com

Loren Opstedahl and his crew came to shear our sheep Monday morning and Matt and Lanie Klug and their kids helped with the shearing because they stayed overnight at Casey and Missy's after Easter Sunday to help these guys because the kids didn't have school that day. Reub had talked to Sam Marty in church on Sunday about how Reub's father, Buck Olson and his brothers Check and Leck Olson used to shear with a shearing crew that used the old blades to shear the sheep all over the country as far away as Bakersfield, California. Leck's wife Susie went with the crew to cook for all of them, which was an awfully hard job. When Loren and his crew came, he brought his blades with him and sheared one of the ewes with his blades. After Reub saw that, he had me call Sam Marty to have him come to watch Loren shear a sheep with blades. Sam was

just leaving Hettinger came down Highway 79 to turn in at our ranch to see how it was done and he got here just in time for lunch. I'd never seen a sheep sheared with blades either, so I went up to the lambing shed to watch Loren use those blades to shear two more ewes and it was amazing how fast and smooth he got it done!

It was a nice day on Tuesday when Taz hauled the wool down to Belle Fourche to sell. One of the wheels on the trailer that he was hauling the wool on broke down, but he got it strapped up and made it home so he and Casey could get it fixed.

The wind was blowing so hard Wednesday morning that it almost blew me off the front steps when I went out to feed my chickens and I had to go down to the basement door that faces east to get back in the house. Reub and I went to Hettinger that afternoon to get stuff from Runnings and White Drug where Reub got his squeeze from his cousin

Roxie Finck. We stopped in Reeder for coffee on the way home and Barney Nichols let us know that Avis Howe had died. The wind was still blowing hard when we drove back home so our pickup didn't get very good gas mileage that day!

There are two more deaths to report: Marilyn (Scott) Freimark, 89, from Spearfish and formerly from Buffalo, passed away peacefully in the late hours of April 4. Marilyn's life was celebrated on Tuesday, April 14, at Leverington Funeral Home of the Northern Hills in Belle Fourche. In-urnment will take place later this summer in the Ladner Cemetery.

Avis Yvonne Howe, 86, of rural Northwest Perkins County, SD, passed away peacefully with family at her side on Tuesday, April 7, at her home. Funeral services are tentatively set for Saturday, May 2, at the Hettinger Lutheran Church in Hettinger with burial to follow at the Hettinger Cemetery.

These families have our sympathy.

It was a nice warm day without much wind when these guys branded the first set of calves up at the arena on Thursday. Reub was up there helping Casey and Taz and both Missy and Amanda were helping too. The twins and I were up there just to watch them brand. I had the privilege of going down to

Reva that afternoon to pick up Copper, Knox and River Lu off the school bus. I had a ZOOM call that evening with the SD Coalition of Counties to listen to Melissa Hull who is running for state treasurer after Jeff Monroe has stepped aside because of health issues.

These guys branded a big bunch of calves again on Friday with Missy and Amanda, Copper, Knox and River Lu up there helping them. I brought Scout and Shylo down to play at my house for a while and River Lu came down to play with them a little later. After they finished branding the calves everyone went to the lambing shed to haul off the dry ewes and set the shed up for lambing because they had already had two sets of twins. That afternoon I watched ARTEMIS II reenter earth and land in the Pacific Ocean near San Diego, California, after going all the way around the moon and back to earth. It was 6:07pm our time when they splashed down and it took quite a while to get them out of the capsule, but they came out healthy and happy!

Casey and Missy left Saturday morning to drive out to Idaho to meet their new grandson Haze Samuel, the new baby of their son Trig and Dakotah Olson. The hay grinder came down that day to grind straw bales to bed the lambing shed now that lambing has started and then he ground a bunch of hay

bales to feed to the cows. Taz, Amanda and the kids went over to spread the straw though the lambing shed that afternoon to get the shed ready for all the lambs coming and the lambs that have already arrived.

We went to church Sunday morning and then went to the Gideon meeting at the Coal Springs Church that afternoon. Pastor Mohagen had this in the Slim Buttes Lutheran Church bulletin: John Quincy Adams said, "You will never know how much it has cost my generation to preserve your freedom. I hope you will make good use of it." We must do all we can to protect the freedoms that generations past have entrusted to us.



Then and Now in Newell

"Looking Forward to our Past"

April 6, 1916

A Troop of Indian Cavalry have asked that they might be allowed to provide such a troop in case any demand is made upon South Dakota to provide any troops for the trouble in Mexico. The proposition of Indians is of a portion of the Standing Rock Reservation, which lies north of us and travel through this area frequently.

Several days ago, 2 ducks were taken from the Berg residence on Horse Creek to the Winkler residence on Dry Creek some 9 miles north. Imagine the surprise when Mrs. Berg went to feed the chicks and there stood the same 2 ducks. The question is how the ducks walked the 9 miles on a strange road or did some one gave them a ride? It is alleged that the ducks were transported in a sack and taken in a car and someone unknown played a joke on the owners.

There will be a caucus of the voters of the Town of Newell next Tuesday, April 11, at 8:00 PM at the John Barrett Barber Shop for the purpose of nominating candidates for the various town offices. The annual Town election will take place at the Barrett Shop on Tuesday, April 18. The polls will be open at 9:00 AM and will close at 4:00 PM the same day. Information may be obtained from Town Clerk, John Hartwich.

April 8, 1926

Sheriff Craven and Deputy Sheriff Long went on Monday and searched the place occupied by Carl Berger, 4 miles north of Arpan. They found a complete still with all the equipment that seemed to have been used for booze making very recently. The still was taken to Belle Fourche and placed with a number of others that have been confiscated.

J. Fred Steck, Representative of the Great Western Sugar Company, announced that when approximately 250 acres of beets are contracted the

company will install a power dump. Through the efforts of the Newell Community Club, 234 acres now are signed, and it is expected the total will go above 250 acres.

Robert Kosola returned home from the Rapid City Hospital last Tuesday. His eye may not be injured as badly as they feared. He will go back for further examination and treatment in 2 weeks.

April 9, 1936

E. H. McLean, State Highway Commissioner, was a business visitor in Newell Wednesday. Mr. McLean was making a tour over this district, inspecting roads and bridges and attending to other business of the Department.

Mrs. B. J. Mosley and son Bobby left Tuesday for Fairbanks, Alaska to join Mr. Mosley, who has been in the far country for a year or more. They went to Bowman, North Dakota to entrain for the coast and expected to sail from Seattle, Washington on April 11th. Mrs. Mosley is a daughter of Mrs. H. B. Meyer, of Newell.

The ladies of the Horse Creek community met Monday and Tuesday at the home of Mrs. William Schmele to do some quilting. A potluck lunch was served each day.

Be there when the G-Men are out to get the gangsters in the picture "G-Men" coming to the Arcade on Friday and Saturday. Jimmie Cagney comes through again with a fine performance, with plenty of laughs, as well as thrills and excitement. Also starring, Margaret Lindsay, Ann Dvorak, Regis Toomey and Robert Armstrong. Cagney plays a Public Enemy, who comes from the ranks of the Public Enemies and knows how to handle them. Admission 10 cents, 15 cents and 25 cents.

April 4, 1946

One of the largest real estate transfers was consummated here the past week when L. R. Chies-

by Linda Velder

man, pioneer Butte County stockman disposed of his ranch holdings east of Newell on Willow Creek to E. E. Harrison of Faith. The deal involved 6,000 acres of deeded land and an equal amount under lease. The ranch was once the headquarters of the "Flying V", one of the largest early-day ranches of this territory. Mr. Chiesman plans to dispose of his stock consisting of approximately 400 head of cattle. Mr. Harrison is also widely known as a ranchman, having large holdings near Bixby and near Faith and Mobridge.

A little inquiry regarding the First National Bank of the Black Hills in Newell brought to light some interesting facts. An employee estimated the number of checks handled per day averaged around 1400 to 1500. Tuesday seems to be the lightest day of the week. That's the day they receive correspondence (checks, notes, etc.) from other banks for business completed on Sunday, consequently the correspondence is almost nil. Postings in the bank have approximately doubled in the past 5 years.

If in need of an 8-foot windmill with 35-foot 4-post tower, ask at the Newell Implement Company. Also new shipment of a McCormick-Deering Milker, complete with electric motor, also on hand a supply of Eversman Land Levelers and they can now supply you with 1500-watt 32-volt electric light plant and several sizes of STEEL CABLE always in stock. Indeed, if in need, give them your order.

April 12, 1956

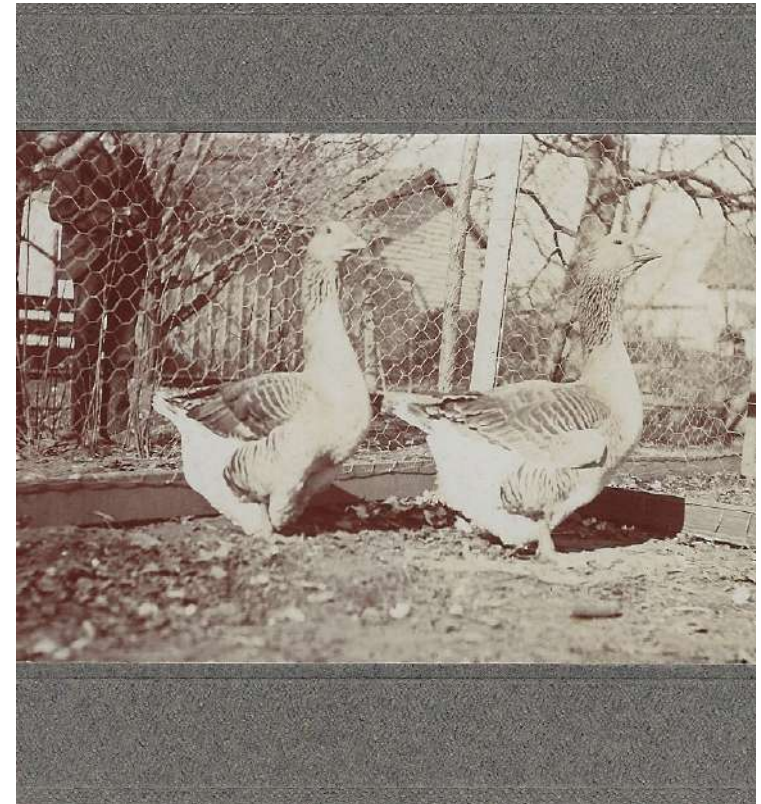
Only a stranger would question the fact that the 1956 delegates to Girls and Boys States, are also second cousins. Anne Milberg and Jerry Malcolm have been attending school together since they entered the first grade. Anne is the daughter of Mr. & Mrs. Walt Milberg and Jerry is the son of Mr. & Mrs. Kirk Malcolm.

Sponsored by:



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Proud communications provider of the Newell, Vale & Nisland areas



Vale High School has also announced their delegates John Ruff and Jean Boe. John is the son of Mr. & Mrs. Dave Ruff and Jean the daughter of Mr. & Mrs. Rudolph Boe. Alternates for Newell are, Velda Lange daughter of Mr. & Mrs. Ted Lange and Ronnie Glover son of Mr. & Mrs. James Glover and for Vale, Sharon Williamson daughter of Mr. & Mrs. William Williamson, and Alex Balderramos son of Mr. & Mrs. Tony Balderramos.

LeRoy Sletten, who just completed his apprenticeship training on TV and Radio repair service, joined the local Gambles Store the past week as a serviceman in such line there. Owners Clarence and Elmer Milberg announce that Sletten will answer home service calls for radio and television testing and repair, as well as necessary work in the shop. Sletten a graduate of Newell High School, attended the Parks Radio & TV Institute in Denver, Colorado and took his apprenticeship training there. He has set up shop with new equipment in the rear end of the Store.

Utah-Idaho Sugar Company announces they have wet beet pulp available to anyone. For a stronger lamb crop, feed your ewes wet beet pulp before and after lambing. Inquire immediately if interested. Phone 252, Belle Fourche, South Dakota.

April 14, 1966

Ralph Carlsen of Rapid City was out to the Henry Carlsen Castle Rock ranch last Tuesday and assisted in butchering a beef. Lat-

er Ralph and Henry were coffee guests at the Francis Jacobsen home, on Ralph's enroute home to Rapid City.

Marcella Schroeder and Loren Larson Students at Brookings were visitors at the Paul Farber home Saturday. A Bridal shower was held in Marcella's honor. Paulette Deschamps came in from Castle Rock to attend the shower hosted by Marcie's many friends.

Wesley Babb of Belle Fourche, Miss Diana Babb of Rapid City, Mr. & Mrs. Bill Lange, Mr. & Mrs. Alvin Babb and Mr. & Mrs. Raymond Keene were guests on Easter Sunday at the home of Mr. & Mrs. Gary Babb and daughters near Twilight.

Gerry Stambaugh, Nisland and Lyn Smeenk, Newell both Newell High School Juniors, are winners of trips to Washington, D C in the essay writing contest sponsored by Butte Electric Cooperative, it was announced this week by Earl Morgan, local Cooperative Manager. Gerry is daughter of Mr. & Mrs. Maurice Stambaugh, Lyn is son of Mr. & Mrs. Wm Smeenk. The subject for the contest was "Rural Electric Cooperatives, Past, Present and Future". They will be among 44 young people from all over South Dakota participating in the South Dakota Rural Electric Tour to the Nation's Capital City June 1-11. Alternates were Becky Farber and Barry Neisent and finalists were Karen Lungren, Vale and Steve Wurnig, Newell. These 4 contestants have won an Oahe-Capital Tour to Pierre in June.



Here's What's Happening in Newell!

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

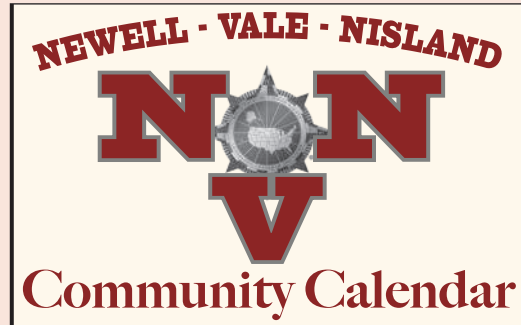
Feeding South Dakota
Second Thursday every month,
1:30 p.m.

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

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

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

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

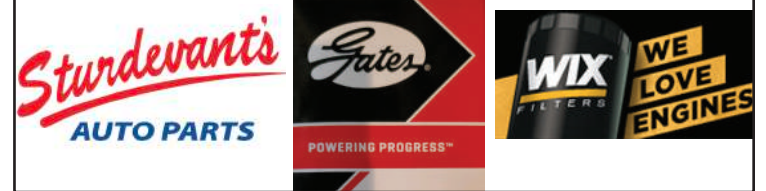


Newell Service Center

101 4th Street- Phone 605-456-3455



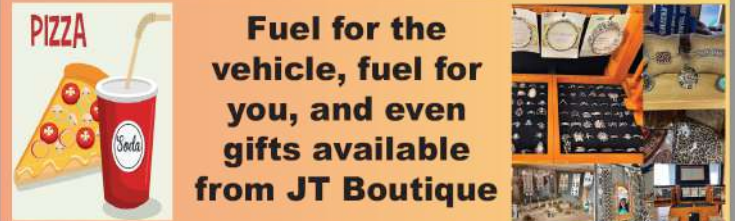
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212/79 Service Center



Fuel for the vehicle, fuel for you, and even gifts available from JT Boutique
121 South Dartmouth Newell, SD
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106 8th Street P: 605-456-1321
F: 605-456-1621

VIP Agency

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PO Box 426
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Support Local Business From the Beacon and Irrigator.

*Your support of local businesses, makes it work.
We're Newell-Vale-Nisland proud!*

Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
March 30) Scrambled Eggs/Sausage, Cereal, Fruit, Juice, Milk Chicken Patty, Broccoli, Fruit, Milk	31) Quiche, Cereal, Fruit, Juice, Milk Pigs in a Blanket, Corn, Fruit, Milk	April 1) Turkey Bites, Cereal, Fruit, Juice, Milk Shredded Turkey & Mashed Potatoes, Fruit, Milk	2) Baked Egg Muffins, Cereal, Juice, Fruit, Milk Grilled Cheese, Tomato Soup, Fruit, Milk	3) NO SCHOOL
6) NO SCHOOL	7) Long Johns, Cereal, Fruit, Milk Tangerine Chicken, Cream Cheese Wontons, Chinese Veggies, Fruit, Milk	8) Turkey Tornadoes, Cereal, Juice, Fruit, Milk Salisbury Steaks, Mashed Potatoes, Fruit, Milk	9) Scrambled Eggs & Sausage, Cereal, Juice, Fruit, Milk Dorothy Lynch Sloppy Joes, Cream Corn, Fruit, Milk	10) NO SCHOOL
12) French Toast Sticks, Cereal, Juice, Fruit, Milk Chicken Soft Shell Tacos, Refried Beans, Fruit, Milk	13) Turkey Sticks, Cereal, Juice, Fruit, Milk Walking Tacos, Onions, Peppers, Refried Beans, Fruit, Milk	14) Croissant Sandwiches, Cereal, Juice, Fruit, Milk Tater Tot Casserole, Fruit, Milk	15) Muffins, Cereal, Juice, Fruit, Milk Lasagna, Green Beans, Garlic Toast, Fruit, Milk	16) NO SCHOOL
20) French Toast Sticks, Cereal, Juice, Fruit, Milk Corn Dogs, Corn, Potato Salad, Fruit, Milk	21) Biscuits & Gravy, Cereal, Juice, Fruit, Milk Chicken Poutine, Fresh Rolls, Fruit, Milk	22) Egg Omelet, Cereal, Juice, Fruit, Milk Pizza, Corn, Fruit, Milk	23) Maple Baked French Toast, Cereal, Juice Fruit, Milk Chicken Gyros, French Fries, Fruit, Milk	24) NO SCHOOL
27) Hashbrown Eggs, Cereal, Juice, Fruit, Milk Chicken Fajitas, Green Beans, Fruit, Milk	28) French Toast Sticks, Cereal, Juice Fruit Milk Mac & Cheese, Pork 'n Beans, Fruit, Milk	29) Yogurt Parfait, Cereal, Juice Fruit Milk Burgers, Chips, Corn, Fruit, Milk	30) COOK'S CHOICE, Cereal, Juice Fruit Milk Chicken/Turkey Taquitos, Fruit, Milk	NO SCHOOL

Salad Bar available. Menu is always subject to change!



Library Partners with K Bar J Leather Co. for Hands-On Craft Class

Robbi Longbrake

news@bellefourchebeacon.com
NEWELL—Creating something unique to pair with your favorite book was the idea behind the leather class offered by the Newell Public Library on April 10.

Newell Public Library partnered with its neighbor, K Bar J Leather Co., to hold a class to make leather bookmarks. K Bar J owner Jay Olson was on hand to guide both kids and adults through the steps needed to make a leather bookmark.

In a meeting of the Library Board there was discussion about programs to offer the public. “I think it was the December board meeting, we were talking and trying to think of some things that we could host out of the library to get people coming in and get them involved in the community. And one of them mentioned the leather shop and talked to him, and they were willing to do it,

so I went and talked to him and set it up and everything,” explained Librarian Matt Clausen.

This was the first time the library hosted a leather-making class. “I figured it’d be something easy to get people into it, and then also something that relates to the library,” shared Clausen.

The class was free, sponsored by the library, for anyone that wanted to partake in the educational process.

As for Olson, he is experienced teaching youth how to work with leather and welcomed the opportunity to show people his art. “We have a class for the 4-H club—a 4-H club comes over—so same kind of deal—we do a project. They do a bigger project, just because they’re here for quite a few hours,” explained Olson. “And so, I mean, especially with the youth, leather work is something that needs to be kept alive, we hope we can spark a little interest.”

Olson says he is self-taught and learned how to work with leather out of necessity, growing up on a ranch. He has owned K Bar J for four years. “Jack and Kelly started the company here, brick and mortar, 24 years ago. Gully’s did a good job of building a great company, and we didn’t want to see it leave the country, so that was one of the biggest things for us—we didn’t want to see it go away—the industry that we enjoy,” shared Olson.

If you want to check out the Newell Public Library, they are open Monday, Wednesday and Friday from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m.

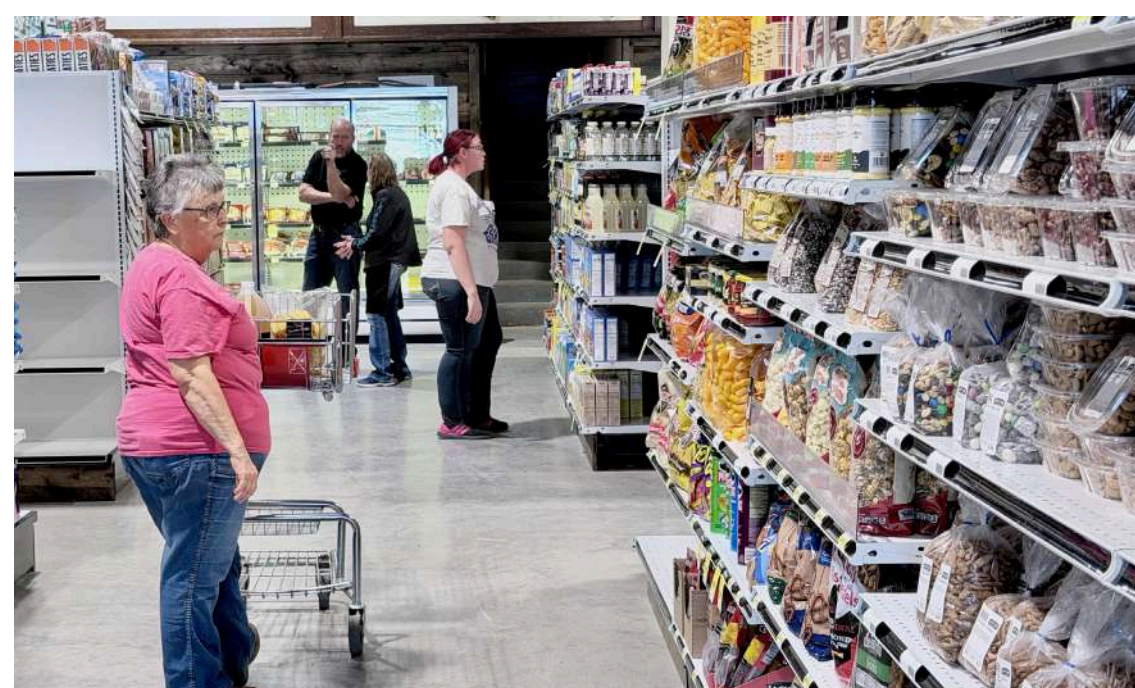
On April 17 the library will be bringing in a live emu for the public to meet. The event is open to all ages and there will be real emu eggs to see! The birds can grow up to 6 feet tall and weigh up to 120 pounds. This could be an interesting sight to see for sure!



Above: Helping stamp the leather. Below: Jay Olson, owner of K Bar J Leather, demonstrates how to stamp the leather. Longbrake photos



Hitch’n Post Photos




(Top L) Deli worker preparing an order for a customer. (TR) The new store has a large variety of stocked items.

(Bottom L) Employee **Cindy Hippen** has been working at the store since February. She also worked for **Newmart**, the old grocery store in Newell.

(BR) The outside of the **Hitch’n Post Market**. Longbrake photos






Whatever It Takes Coalition
LUNCHEON MEETING INVITATION

When:
Monday, April 27, 2026 * 11:30 am
Free Luncheon starting at 11:30 a.m. with program to follow.

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

Program:
Christine Allen & Verla Little with NH Diversion
(Teen Court • Diversion • Truancy Juvenile Detention Alternatives Initiative) will be here to give a overview of what they do at Northern Hills Diversion and will have a few youth that will do a mock trial to give us a first hand experience of the program.



Helping Youth
Become Contributing
Members of
Their Community.

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

Newell Lion’s Club

PANCAKE SUPPER

Friday, April 17, 2026

5:00 pm—7:00 pm

at NVN Senior Citizen Center





Bring your
Friends and Family
out for supper.



*Pancakes, Sausage, Eggs,
Biscuits & Gravy, Milk, Juice & Coffee*

Free will donation

Fundraiser for the Newell Lion’s Club
(The Newell Lion’s Club hands out scholarships, sends youth to camps, offer medical donations, do eye screenings, etc.)
Help us Help the Community

**There will also be a
Silent Auction & Bake Sale**

If you would like to donate a Silent Auction Item please contact:
Neil Vollmer at 605-456-1055 or Judy Heisler at 605-210-2586.
You can bring the Bake Sale items to the supper or turn into a Lion’s Club member beforehand.