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## The Homestead Store Expands: New Location and Coffee Addition

Robbi Longbrake

news@bellefourchebeacon.com

**BELLE FOURCHE**—A strong belief that God provides, paired with the new year, brought a fresh direction for the Homestead Store.

The store opened almost a year ago when friends Bridget Johnson and Michelle Hafer were both ready for a change, and a plan for the store came together so easily that they only had one explanation. Johnson, co-owner, said at the time, “Both of us just feel like God opened doors and made this to where we couldn’t not do it. He made it so easy, I don’t have any other answers for it—it’s pretty amazing!”

Bridget’s sister, Brook, has been involved with the store since its opening and found some new products she was really excited about when she was down in Arizona this past winter. “So it was kind of a God thing—honestly, around the first of the year, I had all these ideas...my husband and I spend our winters in Arizona training horses, and there’s an actual olive oil shop that’s in Cave Creek, Arizona...and I was obsessed! That’s all I cook with, so I got the research about the company,” explained Brook. “I was like, Bridget we should bring this to Belle Fourche. It’s Veronica Foods and they source out the highest quality olive oil and vinegar out of California—then you can rebrand them and sell them in your store.”



Taking care of customers and making fresh orders is all part of The Homestead Store experience. Longbrake photo

And just like that, things fell into place for the sisters, with everything coming together in a new direction with no other explanation than God’s plan. “I’m super health conscious, and I started looking at the research about it. It would go perfectly with the vibe of our store, but the location—we need to be bigger,” explained Brook. Hafer loved the vision that Brook had for the store but

didn’t feel like she had the energy for all the excitement to come, so she sold her part of the business to Brook around the first of the year. Now Brook and Bridget are both sisters and co-owners of The Homestead Store. Hafer told the new co-owners that she would be there to support them and help them anyway she could. Needing a larger location for the growing store, the sisters

found the perfect location—the old Hot Shots Ice Cream storefront was available. At the same time they found the location, the lease on the old store was up.

Everything was falling into place like it was meant to be. The Homestead Store was moving to a bigger location. “The other one, I want to say was like 750 or 800 square feet, and this is 1,200 square feet,” said Brook.

They brought in the new olive oil and vinegar line and planned for the store move. “Then about that time, Spearfish Coffee Roasters—Tristan Bridges reached out to us. He’s like, ‘hey, I want to start a coffee cart in your location.’ And we’re like, well, we’re actually moving locations and there’s a drive-through window—we have no idea what we’re going

Homestead Store Contd. A3

## After 20 Years, AmericInn Owners Step Into Retirement

Robbi Longbrake

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**BELLE FOURCHE**—After running their business, AmericInn, for the past 20 years, business partners, spouses and best friends are now joining together in the next stage of life as partners in retirement. A retirement party was held April 18 at the Branding Iron Steakhouse. After selling their hotel on March 31, the couple is ready to relax a little, spend more time with their family and travel.

Their journey into the hospitality world began 20 years ago when Greg showed up at home and told Stacey his new plans. “Greg came home and said, ‘We’re gonna open a hotel in Belle Fourche,’” explained Stacey. “We knew nothing about running a hotel other than treat people the way you want to be treated. And I went to school for two weeks, and Susan Jaspersen was sent out here to open this up, and she took one look when she showed up and said, ‘You will never be ready.’ Greg said, ‘We have to be ready—the bank needs paid,’ so we opened May 12, 2006. The church ladies came and helped us scrub tubs and get everything ready.”

It took around two years to get everything for the motel in order, from the purchase of the franchise to finding backers and building. “We did everything from first shovel to comple-

tion,” explained Stacey. “He’s maintained it for 20 years, and we added on—we started with 42 rooms, and then in 2015 we added 19 rooms, plus a workout room with the elliptical, treadmill and bike in it.”

The hotel employed anywhere between 19 people in the winter and 26 in the summer, all from the local area. Many of the staff stayed on for years, with the new manager being employed at the AmericInn for 18 years, and several housekeeping staff being there for over seven years. “We work well together,” shared Stacey. “Everyone that works there takes pride in what they do and what they’re part of, and they ensure that everything is ready and looking the best that it can for our guests.”

Stacey ended up loving the hotel business. She said, “It was never about Greg and I but about everybody else.” She wants to make sure that those who have been coming to Belle Fourche for the past 20 years will still get to have the Biker Barbecue during the rally. “We’re still going to have a barbecue. We already talked to the new owner about that before he bought it. We always have two barbecues, Saturday and Wednesday. I told him that we will pay for it—we have a big banner that says Sturgis Family Reunion.” The new owner agreed.

As far as retiring, Greg said,

“It hasn’t really sunk in yet, so I don’t know how I feel, but in theory, it sounds great! Everybody I talk to is like, well, you need to make sure you have something to do—you need to make sure! And I do, I have lots of stuff to do, so I’m not worried about that.”

He has a lot of plans for what he will do with all of his free time. “What we’re hoping to do is some traveling. We have 12 grandchildren out in Washington State, and then I’ve got some cars that I have been fixing up over the years. I like to continue and get them done. So, just hobby stuff,” said Greg.

Stacey will continue to be involved with volunteer work. She is active in the Center of the Nation Business Association (CONBA) and helps run many of the activities they do, like the Easter Egg Hunt, Pie at the Sale Barn, Halloween Parade and costume contest, and Christmas fireworks and more.

“I don’t mind helping out—if I’m available, I’ll help. That’s what we do. We’ve been involved in the community all throughout our time here, except for the first two or three years because I was having babies. But community is important,” said Stacey.

Greg says his wife does enough volunteer work that it could be considered a full-time

Retirement Contd. A8



(A) Greg and Stacey Raisanen retiring after 20 years at the AmericInn. (B) There was a good turnout to honor Greg and Stacey Raisanen on their retirement. Longbrake photos



## Lawrence (Larry) Schmaltz Announces Candidacy for SD House of Representatives, District 28B



**BELLE FOURCHE** [April 17, 2026]—Larry Schmaltz, a Belle Fourche Native, officially announced his candidacy for the South Dakota House of Representatives, District 28B, launching a campaign focused on practical problem-solving, responsible stewardship of taxpayer dollars, and a commitment to strengthening the rural communities that define the region.

“District 28B deserves a representative who listens first, works hard, and never forgets who they serve,” said Larry Schmaltz. “Our district is built on grit, independence, and

neighbors looking out for one another. I’m running because I believe those values should guide every decision made in Pierre.”

Larry Schmaltz emphasized priorities shaped by conversations with residents across the district, including:

- Protecting and strengthening agriculture, the backbone of the local economy
- Defending individual freedoms and keeping government limited, transparent, and accountable
- Supporting rural schools, educators, and opportunities that keep young people in the region
- Improving infrastructure, from roads to broadband, to ensure rural communities can thrive
- Standing up for taxpayers by promoting responsible budget-

ing and opposing unnecessary spending

“As South Dakotans, we don’t expect government to solve every problem—but we do expect it to work for the taxpayers,” Larry added. “I’m committed to bringing common sense, honesty, and a strong work ethic to the Legislature.”

Larry Schmaltz has deep roots in the region and over a century of family ties in the area, with experience in engineering and fiduciary board roles, as well as city government.

His campaign will focus on meeting voters directly, listening to concerns, and building a coalition centered on shared values of faith, family and freedom rather than partisan noise.

For more information, visit: www.larryfords.us Media Contact: larry@larryfords.us

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Pastor's Perspective

This Perspective is from Rev. Sheri Fadley archives

"A Good Listener"

"You will be ever hearing but never understanding; you will be ever seeing but never perceiving. For this people's heart has become calloused; they hardly hear with their ears, and they have closed their eyes. Otherwise, they might see with their eyes, hear with their ears, and understand with their hearts and turn and I would heal them." Matthew 13:14-15



than good questions. Truly listening involves many parts of our bodies: ears, eyes, hearts, minds, hands, and souls. What do I mean by this?

Ears to hear...but can you hear? What kind of noises are there around you? If you wear hearing aids, are you actually wearing them?

Eyes to see. As we listen, we should also be watching for body language. As you get to know someone, you will learn to read their body language. You

will be able to see when they get excited, bored, confused, offended.

Mind focused in the present moment. This is truly a gift. Your mind isn't wandering to other things, other responsibilities. This is a form of self-control and self-sacrifice. When your mind is focused on the other person, you will glean understanding about them and their life.

Our hearts are important to engage in compassion and genuine interest in the person.

Our hands can provide a caring touch, a very simple gesture, but adds to relationship. We do need to be careful about this one. There are some people who aren't comfortable with touch, so you shouldn't go there, until you are sure they are okay with it.

Finally, our souls need to be engaged in our conversation. If there is anything you might be able to tie in with the conversation, it's the Holy Spirit. The Holy Spirit's presence is always with us, but it's very difficult for most people to truly listen to a person and be open to the Holy Spirit's promptings. Yet it's something we all could seek. Nevertheless, keeping focused on your neighbor is your faithful obedience to the Lord and your soul will grow as you practice better listening skills.

What Isaiah prophesied and Jesus experienced in Israel during his lifetime, is still very true for us today. We may think we are listening, but we're not truly listening. We are very distracted and at times a very rude culture. How many of us spend hours with screen time? From tv, to video games, to tablets and our phones? The other day I was conducting three texting conversations at the same time! It's really kind of crazy!

Another symptom of our culture is how rude we are becoming. How often do we interrupt a current conversation, barging in with our own needs or agenda? How often do we interrupt someone's thought just to interject our thoughts? How often do we hog the conversation, never giving someone the opportunity to share? How often are we not really listening to the person, but rather searching in our minds for our response or comeback?

Listening, truly listening, is such a gift. In his book, Caring Enough to Hear and Be Heard, David Augsburger said: "Being heard is as close to being loved that for the average person, they are almost indistinguishable." By asking questions, we are showing genuine interest in our neighbor's life and in them as a person. (B.L.E.S.S. Dave Ferguson and Jon Ferguson, Salem Books, 2021, p. 56)

Asking good questions is important to show our genuine interest, but truly listening requires more

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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.*

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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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Prayer for the Week

☐ Heavenly Father, I come before You today, acknowledging You as my Creator, Redeemer, and Sustainer. Thank You for loving me before the world began and for giving me another day of life.

Lord, I surrender this entire week into Your hands. I bring my anxieties, my to-do lists, and my unknowns to You, asking for Your peace to calm the storms within my mind. As I walk into this work week, I ask that You go before me to clear the path, removing every obstacle that hinders my progress. Grant me wisdom to make right decisions, clarity of mind to execute my tasks, and the strength to work with passion and integrity.

Protect me, my family, and my loved ones from all calamity. Be our refuge, our rear guard, and our strong tower. I pray that I will not be distracted by the busyness of life, but instead, keep my eyes fixed on You, honoring You in my thoughts, words, and actions.

Help me to be a light to others this week ☐ to show Your love through my actions and be a source of encouragement. When I feel weak, remind me that Your strength is made perfect in my weakness. Give me the endurance to stay faithful, not turning to the right or left, but staying on the path You have ordained for me.

I thank You that Your plan for me is perfect, and I trust You to sustain me from Monday to Sunday. In Jesus ☐ name, Amen. ☐

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From A1 Homestead Store

to do with it,” explained Brook. “He’s kind of held our hands and helped us get started. He trained me as a barista, and we’re bringing a bunch of younger women in who have a work ethic and teaching them the ins and outs of inventory and that type of thing—everything just lined up!”

The Homestead Store opened in its new location with a new addition, The Homestead Grind, offering fresh Spearfish Coffee Roasters coffee, Sage & Cedar herbal teas and matcha, organic syrups, fresh local milk, organic milk alternatives, local honey for sweetness. You can also find smoothies, Italian cream soda, steamed milk, hot cocoa, chai, latte, mocha, cold brew, frappe plus a variety of breakfast foods and much more!

It was finally time to move and put all of the new visions

into practice. The Homestead Store closed the old location on Saturday, April 11. Brook said, “I think we closed the store down last Saturday at noon, and we have so many people in our corner that helped us. And we just started moving stuff, and we got 95% of it moved over on Saturday, and then we worked here.” The business opened in its new location on Thursday, April 16.

Currently, the business has six employees with plans to add more as time goes on. “I have some friends that have barista experience that are willing to chip in throughout the summer, and our younger sister wants to work part time and my cousin is helping my husband and I with horses—so she’ll work part time—we have a good network, a group of us,” shared Brook.

The Homestead Store has

the goal of only using and selling the highest quality possible.

“I just want to say that we are really striving to bring locally sourced food and if we can’t get it locally, we bring the highest quality ingredients we can in here. Our goal is for people to be able to walk in here and not guess—they could walk and buy anything in our store and know that it’s clean, it’s good for them, it has wholesome ingredients,” explained Brook. “And that goes for everything—all the flavors we’re putting in our coffee, our smoothies, everything! We want to take the guesswork out of it for you, so you don’t have to spend hours reading labels!”

The sisters plan to set up outdoor seating when the weather gets a little warmer. They are currently open Monday through Friday, 7 a.m. to 5 p.m.; Saturday, 7:30 a.m. to 3 p.m.; and closed Sunday.



(Clockwise from Above) Packing up supplies for customers and making orders keeps the workers busy in the store; The Homestead Store in its new location at 603 5th Ave., Belle Fourche, SD; A wall of oils and vinegars inside The Homestead Store; Homestead Store co-owner Brook Curuchet behind the counter at their new location; A side room filled with healthy and organic grocery items. Longbrake photos

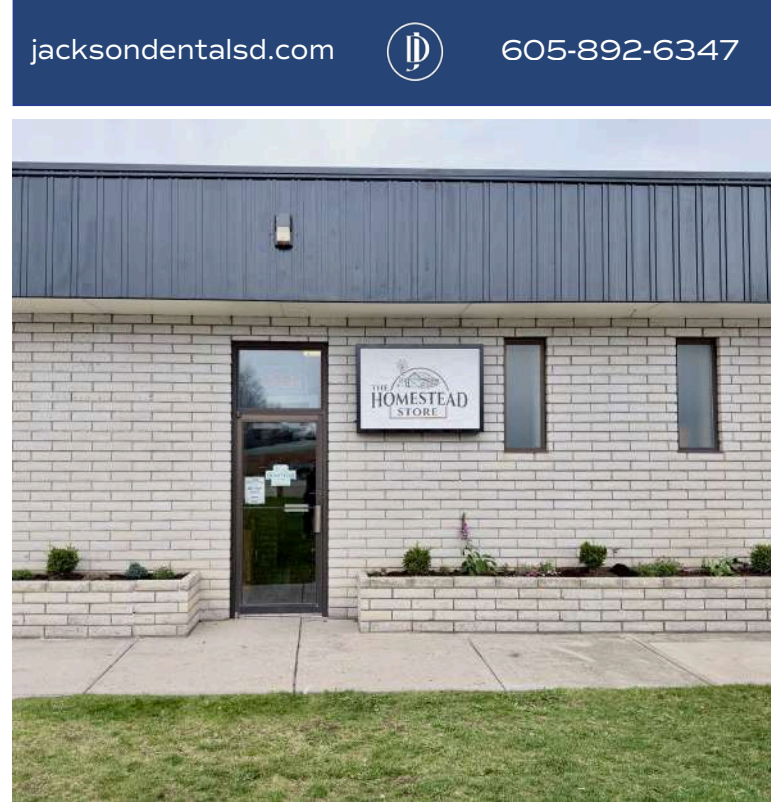
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**Robbi Longbrake**  
news@bellefourchebeacon.com

**BELLE FOURCHE**—An opportunity for the community to not only learn about wellness, but visit with providers and check vitals and labs was offered at the 12th Annual Wellness Fair and Marketplace at the Belle Fourche Rec Center on April 18.

A few changes were made this year to diversify the offerings a little bit and try to get a larger turnout. A Marketplace was added to the Wellness Fair. “The Wellness Fair, obviously, was focused more on health and wellness-related stuff. And so this year we have added a few more vendors with artisan-type people in here with pottery and wood-working and baby clothes and beadwork and some of those extra things,” explained Tessa Anderson-Voyles, Program Coordinator.

Another change for this year’s Wellness Fair was to expand the time. “We started an hour later, so we started at nine and we’re going until three, so we’re also staying open a couple hours longer, thinking with the marketplace added in this year that gives people time to come in and shop around,” said Anderson-Voyles.

For those who showed up to explore the Wellness Fair and Marketplace, they were greeted with 42 vendor booths. “That is up by about a dozen and turnout’s been good! The vendors all seem real happy as I’ve been walking around,” shared Anderson-Voyles.

## Belle Fourche Wellness Fair Expands with New Marketplace Addition



(AL) The Belle Fourche High School Cheerleaders are raising funds to get to the Macy’s Day Parade. They offered face painting for a freewill donation. (AM) Customers visiting one of the Marketplace vendors, Mardi’s Whole Home & Apothecary. (AR) The Rec Center table welcomed participants to the Wellness Fair. Staff was on hand to answer questions and sign people up for door prizes. (Below) Monument Health was at the Wellness Fair answering questions, taking blood pressure and lab draws for attendees. Longbrake photos

The scheduled Vitalant Blood Donation Blood Drive had to be canceled because they had some sick employees and not enough extra staffing to bring that to the Wellness Fair this year.

But there was still so much to see and do! Monument Health offered discounted wellness labs. They took blood draws right on site. They also checked blood pressure and blood oxygen levels.

There were many activities for kids to do. A Fitness Zone was set up at the entrance of the Wellness Fair. It had kid-sized gym equipment. There were healthy snacks and coloring pages as well as

face painting offered by Belle Fourche High School cheerleaders, who are fundraising for their Macy’s Day Parade trip.

The Belle Fourche Rec Center table encouraged kids to sign up for their Kids Track & Field Program, Girls Softball Clinic and Summer Youth Strength Training Classes.

The first 50 people through the door to the Wellness Fair and Marketplace received a one-day pass to enjoy the Rec Center. A variety of door prizes were given away during the day, including shopper bags, pickleball paddle set, Mickelson Trail registration, Wild Magnolia gift cards and healthy snacks.



# Track and Field Continues to Advance Leader Board Athletes Despite Weather Challenges



Above: The **Spearfish JV Invite** on April 14. Broncos competed against Douglas, Hill City, Hot Springs, Oelrichs, Lead-Deadwood, Rapid City Central, Rapid City Stevens, Sturgis Brown and Spearfish. Below: **Lennon Clarkson** readies for the **3200 meter** race. *Tonsager photos*

**Kandi Tonsager**  
news@bellefourchebeacon.com  
BELLE FOURCHE—On Tuesday, April 14th, the high school track and field team Bronc throwers competed in Spearfish's JV invite against Douglas, Hill City, Hot Springs, Oelrichs, Lead-Deadwood, Rapid City Central, Rapid City Stevens, Sturgis Brown and Spearfish.

On the boy's side, 85 competitors competed in shot put with the Broncos results as follows:

Junior Charlie Houck (7th place) with a throw of 36-4, Senior Corbin Rowe with a throw of 31-08, Freshman Drew Coyle with a throw of 29-02, Freshman Ryder Roseland with a throw of 25-04.5, Sophomore Colt Humbracht with a throw of 24-09.5, Sophomore Evan Jackson with a throw of 24-03.5, Freshman Marcus Fetty with a throw of

21-07, and Freshman Greyson Silacci with a throw of 19-05.

In discus there were 94 competitors for the boys with Bronc results as follows:

Charlie Houck with a throw of 101, Corbin Rowe 92-04, Drew Coyle 85-03, Marcus Fetty 79-09, Colt Humbracht 72-02, Ryder Roseland 69, Evan Jackson 67-09, and Greyson Silacci 52-04.

In javelin among 52 competitors, Corbin Rowe threw 81' and Colt Humbracht threw 78-08'.

On the ladies' side, in shot put there were 51 competitors with one Lady Bronc, Lucila Merjil throwing 20-03.5 feet. In discus there were 67 competitors with Lucila throwing 44-10 feet, and in javelin there were 61 competitors with two Lady Broncos throwers, Lucila Merjil throwing 38-04 and Mckenzie Rans throwing 45-02 feet.

**Track Cont'd A5**



**Nathan Hudson** at the track meet. *Tonsager photo*

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### Track-o-Rama Meet

**Kandi Tonsager**  
news@bellefourchebeacon.com

BELLE FOURCHE—On Thursday, April 16th, the Broncos high school track and field team travelled to Rapid City to the South Dakota School of Mines O'Hara Stadium for the Track-O-Rama meet with 24 schools competing. Coach Wattier comments that with many double A schools in attendance at such a large meet, just placing top 8 at this meet is tough to do.

Highlights of the Track-O-Rama meet on the boy's side include Gabe Raba moving into 7th on the Belle Fourche High School Top 10 of All Time Leader Board in shot put with a throw of 45'-01.5", and Gabe Raba and Joseph McLennon placing 6th and 7th respectively in the shot put. On the girl's side, highlights of the meet included, Ansley O'Brien moving to 4th All Time on the school leader board in the high jump with a jump of 5'01" as well as placing 4th in the event and moving to 8th in the leader board in the 100 meter Hurdles. Betsy Moore moved to number 10 on the leader board in the 300 meter hurdles with a time of 52.88. Mya Nowowiejski placed 8th in the 400 meter dash and Rhys Pearson placed 2nd in the 1600 meter run. The girls 4x4 relay team of Rhys Pearson, Betsy Moore, Ansley O'Brien, and Mikka Dunavant placed 6th at the meet.

The home meet that was scheduled for Saturday April 18th in Belle Fourche was cancelled due to inclement weather and will not be rescheduled due to the tight schedule of events on the calendar for the track team. The Broncos compete next at the Rapid City JV meet, which was changed to a JV and Varsity meet and will again be held at O'Hara Stadium, followed by the Custer Invite on Thursday April 23rd, weather permitting.

The middle school track and field team ran into inclement weather on a snowy Friday April 17th which prompted their home meet to be postponed to Friday April 24th at the Belle Fourche High School Track, weather permitting. The middle school will compete on Tuesday April 21st in Custer ahead of the home invite.



(A) Tegan Frederickson (B) Lucila Merjil posing with a shot put. Tonsager photos

GOOD LUCK TO THE

Broncos



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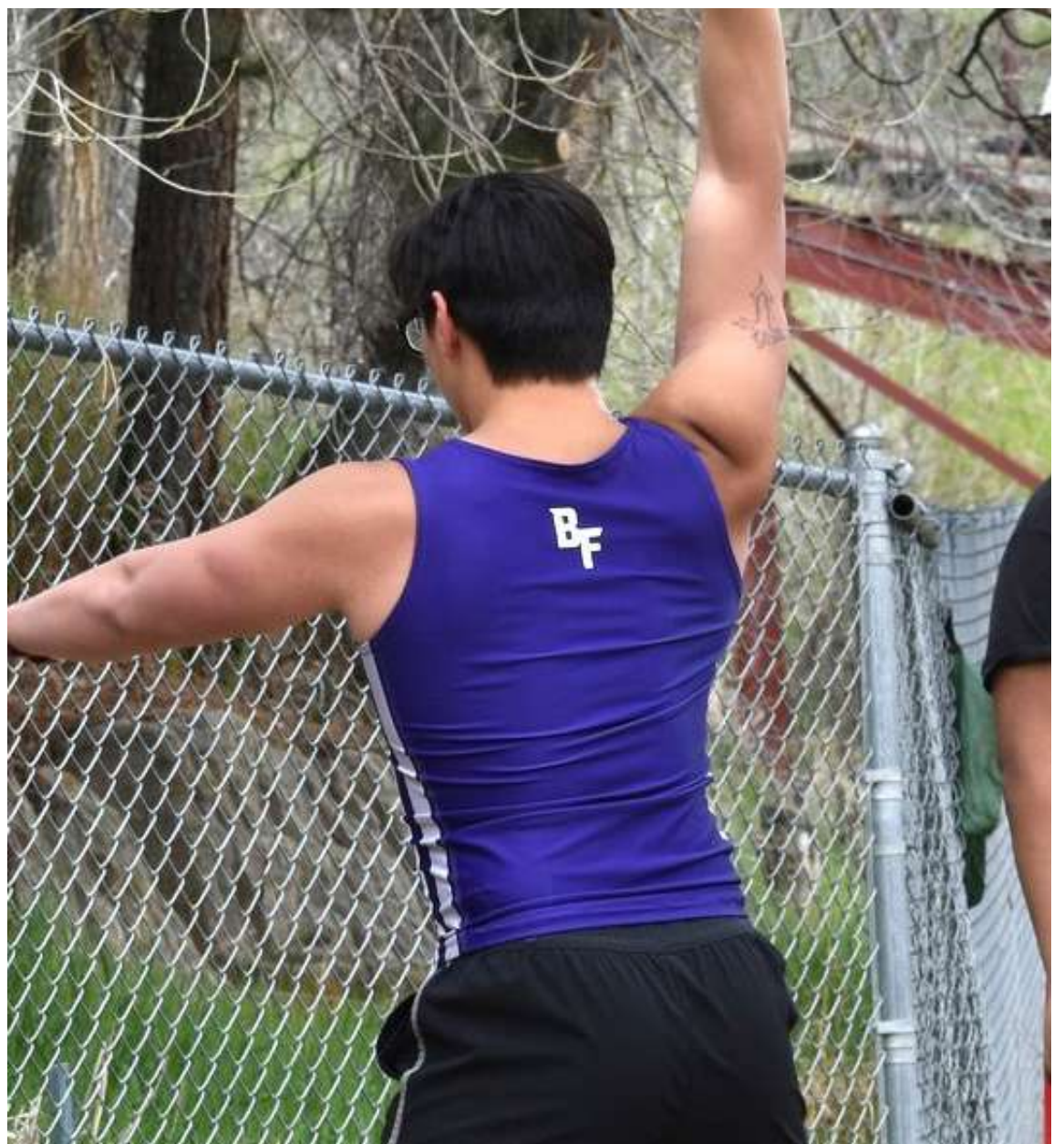
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girls & boys



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COWBOYS TOO!  
JEANS



(AL) Ansley O'Brien. (AR) Charlie Houck competing in shot put. Tonsager photos

# Larry Schmaltz, SD House District 28B



My name is Larry Schmaltz, candidate for South Dakota House of Representatives, District 28B.

## Why I'm Running

I care deeply about South Dakota and believe practical, experience-based leadership can help our communities remain strong, affordable, and prosperous.

South Dakota works best when state government is rooted in real-world experience, fiscal responsibility, and respect for local communities.

My background in business and board service has taught me how decisions affect families, landowners, and employers. I want to put that experience to work for the people of District 28B and the state as a whole.



## Experience and Strengths

My approach to public service is practical, and focused on solutions. My strengths include:

- ◆ Local government experience with proven results
- ◆ Ability to work collaboratively with others
- ◆ Strong negotiation skills
- ◆ Fast learner, commitment to continuous improvement
- ◆ Analytical, detail-oriented thinker
- ◆ Effective problem solver
- ◆ Long-term, visionary perspective
- ◆ Experienced business owner and fiduciary focused on responsible budgeting

These will allow me to work for you in evaluating legislation, working across differences, and delivering real results.

## Policy Priorities

As your Representative, I will focus on issues that directly impact District 28B and western South Dakota:

### Supporting Agriculture

Agriculture is the backbone of western South Dakota's economy. I support policies that protect farmers and ranchers, strengthen rural communities, and ensure agriculture remains viable for future generations.

### Property Tax Relief

Rising property taxes affect families, retirees, and landowners. I will continue working toward meaningful and responsible property tax relief.

### Quality Economic Growth

Growth should be thoughtful and sustainable. I support policies that encourage job creation and investment while preserving South Dakota's quality of life.

### Transportation Infrastructure

Reliable transportation is essential for commerce, safety, and rural connectivity. I will advocate for addressing South Dakota's transportation needs.

### Public Safety and Cybercrime

As scams and cybercrime increase, state law enforcement needs the tools and authority to protect citizens. I support strengthening law enforcement's ability to combat cyber criminals and fraud.

### Education Excellence

As a fiduciary trustee at the South Dakota School of Mines, I appreciate deeply the importance of primary and secondary education.

## Commitment to Constituents

I believe effective representation starts with listening to you. As your Representative, I will work diligently, remain accessible, and make decisions based on careful analysis and the long-term interests of District 28B and South Dakota. Thank you for taking the time to learn more about me and my priorities. I welcome your feedback!

E M A I L [larry@larryfordsd.us](mailto:larry@larryfordsd.us)

W E B S I T E [larryfordsd.us](http://larryfordsd.us)

# GRIT & GLORY

AMERICA'S 250TH



South Dakota Historical Society History Conference  
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## March Students of the Month - Elementary School



(Back Row, L to R): Katelyn Daniels, Allison Venter, Avery Carmichael, and Colton Willey. (Front Row, L to R): Clara Blair, Gracie Daniels, Graham Williams, Aspy Wood and Echo Dudley.



Student of the Month Kayden Anderson shows off his certificate.

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**SATURDAY, APRIL 25, 2026 5-10 P.M.**

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\$750 PER TABLE



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HOME+ HOSPICE OF THE NORTHERN HILLS

# Show Up

by Belle LaVenue



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 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](mailto: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.

Oh, the Places You'll go in..

# SEUSSICAL

## THE MUSICAL

Music by STEPHEN FLAHERTY  
Lyrics by LYNN AHRENS  
Book by LYNN AHRENS and STEPHEN FLAHERTY  
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

Presented by  
**BFHS THEATER**

Adults \$6  
Students \$4

Seussical is presented through special arrangement with Music Theatre International (MTI).  
All Authorized performance materials are also supplied by MTI.  
[www.mtishows.com](http://www.mtishows.com)

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# Family Fun Day Explores “The Science and Beauty of Crystals”

**Robbi Longbrake**  
news@bellefourchebeacon.com

BELLE FOURCHE—An action-packed, fun-filled Family Fun Day discovering “The Science and Beauty of Crystals” was held at the Tri-State Museum on the afternoon of April 19.

The turnout was robust, with 34 people showing up to learn about crystals. The afternoon began with a video explaining just what a crystal is—solid material where the atoms gather together and create a neat, organized structure. Some examples were given: diamonds, salt, pencil lead (graphite) and amethyst. In other materials like plastic and concrete, the atoms are just jumbled up, not in a special order.

Following the video, Jean Maher, Assistant Director, explained to the attendees the craft they were going to do. She distributed handouts and take-home packets. The first project was to discover what is inside of a geode. Everyone lined up to get his or her own geode and a Ziploc bag.

Then the activity moved outdoors, where Jada Udager, Collections Archivist, was waiting to help each person crack open his or her geode



(L) Working on making a picture with the crystals from the geodes. (R) After the geodes are cracked open, they reveal shiny crystals, sharing her crystals with Jean. Longbrake photos

and discover the crystals inside. After placing their rock inside the Ziploc bag, they next used a hammer to crack open the rock, discovering beautiful crystals inside. A few of the rocks wouldn't crack open; the solid ones are called nodules and are filled with quartz. They simply turned them in for a new hollow one that would break open much easier.

After the crystals were exposed, the kids and adults went back inside the museum to complete their craft projects. They were to draw anything they wanted on black paper and then glue crystals to the outline to make a shiny, beautiful picture.

Grandmas, aunts and moms pitched in to help the younger kids complete the project,



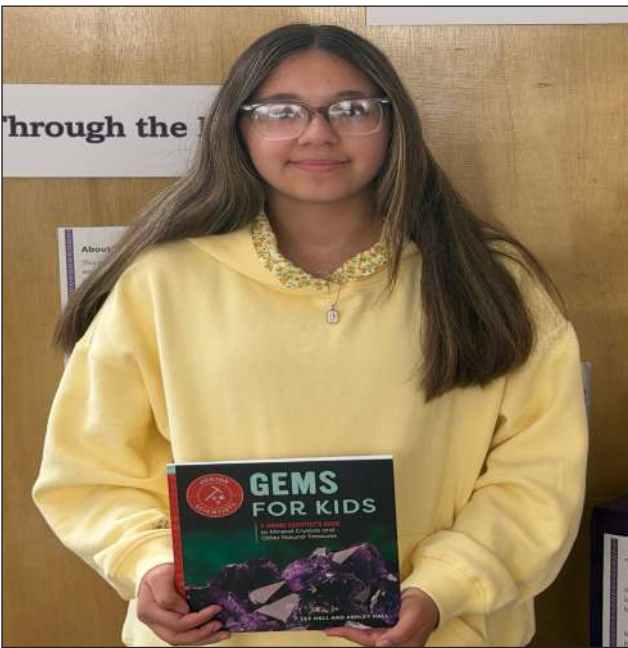
adding to the family fun atmosphere.

Lemonade, cupcakes, cookies and taffy were all available to enjoy. For a special treat, Udager handed out small cups of rock candy, made by Red Onion Marketplace, for the kids to enjoy.

All kids in attendance are eligible to win a book each month. This month, the book Gems for

Kids by Lee Hall and Ashley Hall was given away. The lucky winner was Dinah Ramos.

The Tri-State Museum offers Family Fun Days on the third Sunday of every month. The next one will be about Birds and Bird Feeders on May 17, 2026, beginning at 2 p.m. It is free to those who have a membership and \$2 for everyone else.



(Clockwise from Above Left) The Tri-State Museum gives away one book at each Family Fun Day. April's winner is Dinah Ramos; Jean Maher, Assistant Director, gives participants handouts and explains the project they will be doing; Family Fun Day participants had to crack open their geodes with a hammer to reveal the crystals inside; Jada Udager, Collections Archivist, helps crack open the geodes; Creating a heart with her crystals. Longbrake photos



## Retirement Party from A1

job. The retirees have six children and 14 grandchildren and are looking forward to spending time with them.

One of their first trips will be exploring Route 66, beginning in Chicago and following it to the end.



(AL) Stacey Raisanen with the new general manager of the AmericInn, Denver Wilson. (AR) One of the guests of honor, Stacey Raisanen, greets a special attendee. (BL) The Branding Iron Steakhouse prepared delicious food for the celebration. (BR) One of the guests of honor, Greg Raisanen, visits with friends. Longbrake photos



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Scott Crowser ~ Fieldman: 605-645-2654

Brooke Tupper ~ Office Mgr. 605-642-2200  
Doug Dietterle ~ Auctioneer 605-788-2963

Ray Pepin ~ Fieldman: 605-892-5072

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

## Cattle Report - Friday, April 17, 2026

Just Under 1000 Hd Today - Market Is Still On Fire!

### Baker Lemar Angus Bull Sale Results

Ave On 39 Bulls	\$5795
Ave On Top 4 Bulls	\$8128
Ave On Top 11 Bulls	\$7727
Ave On 12 Reg Hfns	\$4500

Next Sale - April 24th - Pair & Bred Cow Special - 10 AM  
1:00 Pm - Jordan Cattle Bull Sale

Thank you for Marketing with St Onge Livestock!

### Feeder Cattle

Bechand, Benny R, Sturgis SD	22	Bk	Hfr	615	\$397.00
Bimmer, Hilda, Biddle MT	10	Hfr	Hfr	707	\$331.00
Colgan, Thomas C, Hermosa SD	8	Bk	Hfr	492	\$449.00
H-C Feeders, Rozet WY	25	Bk	Hfr	580	\$417.00
Hillsview Ranch, Sturgis SD	2	Bk	Bull	907	\$312.50
Hillsview Ranch, Sturgis SD	1	Bk	Bull	785	\$220.00
Kyar Ranch Trust, Upton WY	36	Bk	Hfr	618	\$394.00
Semlek Ranch Resources, LLC, Moorcroft WY	85	Bk	Str	667	\$471.50
Semlek Ranch Resources, LLC, Moorcroft WY	85	Bk	Str	664	\$471.50
Semlek Ranch Resources, LLC, Moorcroft WY	21	Bk	Str	584	\$512.50
Semlek Ranch Resources, LLC, Moorcroft WY	59	Bk	Hfr	584	\$407.50
Semlek Ranch Resources, LLC, Moorcroft WY	11	Bk	Hfr	518	\$442.50

### Weigh Up Cows

Baker, Gary Or Nancy, Hermosa SD	3	Bk	Hfr	1103	\$292.50
Baker, Gary Or Nancy, Hermosa SD	1	Bk	Owette	1030	\$227.50
Baker, Gary Or Nancy, Hermosa SD	2	Bk	Cow	1312	\$180.00
Berger, Kate, Menoken ND	1	Bk	Hfr	985	\$280.00
Blair Bros LLC, Vale SD	3	Bk	Hfr	1196	\$270.00
Blair Bros LLC, Vale SD	21	Bk	Str	584	\$512.50
Blair Bros LLC, Vale SD	1	Bk	Owette	1310	\$232.50
Blair Bros LLC, Vale SD	2	Bk	Cow	1492	\$184.50
Bimmer, Hilda, Biddle MT	1	Hfr	Owette	880	\$250.00
Bimmer, Hilda, Biddle MT	2	Hfr	Owette	875	\$250.00
Bimmer, Hilda, Biddle MT	1	Hfr	Owette	685	\$220.00
Bimmer, Hilda, Biddle MT	1	Hfr	Cow	1140	\$185.00
Bimmer, Hilda, Biddle MT	1	Bld	Cow	1310	\$183.00
Bruch Ranch LLC, Sturgis SD	2	Bk	Cow	1382	\$183.50
Bruch, Bruce, Sturgis SD	1	Bk	Cow	1375	\$181.00
Cahoon, Jeanette Or Dan, Sonnette MT	1	Bk	Owette	1265	\$230.00
Cammack, Randy Or Mary Ellen, Sturgis SD	1	Red	Hfr	1130	\$272.50
Cammack, Randy Or Mary Ellen, Sturgis SD	1	Bld	Owette	1065	\$260.00
Courtney Ranch Inc, Alzada MT	1	Bld	Cow	1435	\$182.00
Cuka, Gerard, Belle Fourche SD	1	Bk	Owette	1075	\$253.00
Cuka, Gerard, Belle Fourche SD	3	Bk	Owette	1105	\$232.50
E & K Feeders Inc, Sturgis SD	6	Bk	Hfr	883	\$305.00
Edwards, Linda, Gillette WY	1	Bk	Hfr	1140	\$292.50
Elmore Cattle Co, Gillette WY	2	Bk	Owette	1270	\$242.50
Elmore Cattle Co, Gillette WY	2	Bk	Owette	1240	\$242.50
Elmore Cattle Co, Gillette WY	3	Bk	Owette	1346	\$186.00
Elmore Cattle Co, Gillette WY	1	Bk	Cow	1445	\$183.00
Elmore Cattle Co, Gillette WY	1	Bk	Cow	1230	\$182.00
Geis Ranch LLC, Gillette WY	3	BR	Cow	1348	\$182.50
Gravatt, Chase, Rapid City SD	1	Bk	Cow	1545	\$190.00
Heier, Mer J, Prairie City SD	3	Bld	Cow	1351	\$183.00
Humbrecht, John, Camp Crook SD	5	Bld	Hfr	1018	\$285.00
Humbrecht, John, Camp Crook SD	2	Bk	Owette	1155	\$232.50
Humbrecht, John, Camp Crook SD	2	Bk	Owette	1320	\$210.00
Humbrecht, John, Camp Crook SD	1	Char	Cow	1155	\$185.00
Jackson, Rob, Hermosa SD	1	Bk	Hfr	1010	\$290.00
Ketelsen, Cole, Sturgis SD	1	Bk	Hfr	825	\$267.50
Ketelsen, Cole, Sturgis SD	2	Bk	Cow	1475	\$182.50
Lambert, Bill & Or Marcia, Osage WY	3	Red	Hfr	986	\$286.00
Lambert, Bill & Or Marcia, Osage WY	2	Red	Hfr	927	\$282.50
Lambert, Bill & Or Marcia, Osage WY	1	Red	Hfr	1080	\$270.00
Lambert, Bill & Or Marcia, Osage WY	2	Owette	1305	\$186.00	
Lambert, Bill & Or Marcia, Osage WY	1	Cow	1750	\$180.00	
Lindblom, Brad, Hermosa SD	2	Bk	Hfr	915	\$337.50
Lindblom, Brad, Hermosa SD	2	Bk	Hfr	802	\$310.00
Lindblom, Brad, Hermosa SD	1	Bk	Hfr	995	\$280.00
Lindblom, Brad, Hermosa SD	2	Bk	Owette	1167	\$265.00
Lindblom, David Or Starla, Rapid City SD	3	Bk	Hfr	963	\$290.00
Lindblom, David Or Starla, Rapid City SD	1	Bk	Owette	1235	\$250.00
Lindblom, David Or Starla, Rapid City SD	1	Bk	Owette	1310	\$233.00
Lindblom, David Or Starla, Rapid City SD	3	Bk	Cow	1386	\$182.00
Lorenz, Tyrell Or Serena, Sturgis SD	2	Bk	Hfr	1027	\$312.50
Madsen, Jim, Volborg MT	1	Bk	Owette	1445	\$186.00
Madsen, Jim, Volborg MT	3	Bk	Cow	1440	\$182.50
Madsen, Jim, Volborg MT	1	Bk	Cow	1160	\$180.00
Materi Revocable Trust, Randal & Wanda, Weston	1	Bk	Owette	1325	\$186.00
Mckittrick Ranch, Savage MT	1	Bk	Hfr	955	\$297.50
Moe Farm & Ranch Inc, Spearfish SD	1	Bk	Cow	1370	\$184.00
Moe Farm & Ranch Inc, Spearfish SD	1	Bk	Cow	1210	\$183.00
Nickels, Lloyd, Hermosa SD	1	Bk	Cow	1635	\$177.50
Peterson, Jon, Belle Fourche SD	1	Bk	Owette	1220	\$247.50
Peterson, Jon, Belle Fourche SD	1	Bk	Owette	1130	\$215.00
Peterson, Steve, Lebanon Ks	2	Bk	Cow	1457	\$183.50
Peterson, Steve, Lebanon Ks	2	Bk	Cow	1662	\$182.50
Peterson, Steve, Lebanon Ks	1	Bk	Cow	1460	\$182.50
Pleasant Valley Cattle Co Inc, Sturgis SD	5	Bk	Hfr	1026	\$292.00
Popma, Micah & Kyle, Newcastle WY	1	Bk	Hfr	875	\$285.00
Popma, Micah & Kyle, Newcastle WY	3	Bk	Cow	1553	\$185.00
Popma, Micah & Kyle, Newcastle WY	1	Bk	Cow	1360	\$182.50
Rathbun, Tony, Sundance WY	2	Bk	Owette	1260	\$237.50
Rathbun, Tony, Sundance WY	3	Bk	Owette	1381	\$191.00
Rathbun, Tony, Sundance WY	5	Bk	Cow	1321	\$177.50
Schloredt Enterprises, Sundance WY	1	Bld	Cow	1615	\$182.00
Schuchard, Eric Or Amanda, Prairie City SD	1	Oth	Cow	1440	\$183.00
Schuchard, Eric Or Amanda, Prairie City SD	4	Bk	Cow	1433	\$180.00
Semlek Ranch Resources, LLC, Moorcroft WY	1	Bk	Hfr	1145	\$275.00

Shannon Ranch LLC, Sonnette MT	1	Bk	Cow	1455	\$177.00
Sigman, Bryce Or Sandra, Sturgis SD	1	Bk	Cow	1445	\$182.50
Sleep Ranches LLC, Spearfish SD	6	Bk	Hfr	1001	\$301.00
Sleep Ranches LLC, Spearfish SD	3	Owette	1226	\$235.00	
Sleep Ranches LLC, Spearfish SD	1	Cow	1505	\$185.00	
Sletten, Nick, Reduse WY	1	Bk	Hfr	825	\$307.50
Snyder Cattle Co LLC, Piedmont SD	4	Hfr	1107	\$287.00	
Snyder Cattle Co LLC, Piedmont SD	2	Hfr	1057	\$287.00	
Snyder Cattle Co LLC, Piedmont SD	3	Bk	Owette	1250	\$245.00
Snyder Cattle Co LLC, Piedmont SD	2	Bk	Owette	1387	\$210.00
Snyder Cattle Co LLC, Piedmont SD	2	Bld	Cow	1605	\$182.50
Sprague, Dale Or Ruth Ann, Mud Butte SD	1	Bk	Cow	1540	\$183.50
Steffes, Darrell, Vale SD	1	Bk	Owette	1375	\$227.50
Thompson, Kyla, Whitewood SD	2	Bld	Cow	1455	\$183.50
Tupper, Justin Or Brooke, St Onge SD	1	Bk	Cow	1155	\$181.00
Tysdal Land & Cattle Co, Newcastle WY	1	Bk	Owette	1250	\$262.50
Tysdal Land & Cattle Co, Newcastle WY	2	Bk	Cow	1470	\$181.50
Unir, Cage, Hermosa SD	2	Red	Hfr	832	\$315.00
Vavra, Linda, Nisland SD	1	Bk	Cow	1335	\$181.50
Vavruska, Ryan, Spearfish SD	1	Bk	Owette	1135	\$260.00
Wulff, Justin, Owanka SD	2	Bld	Hfr	1080	\$290.00
Wulff, Justin, Owanka SD	1	Bk	Hfr	1075	\$290.00

### Weigh Up Bulls

Edwards, Linda, Gillette WY	1	Bk	Bull	2130	\$195.00
Eaton, Wayne, St Onge SD	1	Bk	Bull	2035	\$207.50
Robertson, Tyler Or Tiffany, Hermosa SD	2	Bk	Bull	2002	\$210.00
Lawrence, Justin, Alzada MT	1	Bk	Bull	1990	\$226.00
J J Smeernk Ranch LLC, Newell SD	1	Bk	Bull	1935	\$220.00
Sprague, Dale Or Ruth Ann, Mud Butte SD	1	Bk	Bull	1875	\$190.00
Pierson, Jeri Ann, Hulet WY	1	Bk	Bull	1850	\$200.00
Graham MT Ranch Inc, Broadus MT	1	Bk	Bull	1845	\$222.50
Lawrence, Edward, Alzada MT	2	Bk	Bull	1810	\$227.50
Sprague, Dale Or Ruth Ann, Mud Butte SD	1	Bk	Bull	1750	\$195.00
Brown, Kyle Or Shannon, Sturgis SD	1	Bk	Bull	1735	\$197.50
Robertson, Tyler Or Tiffany, Hermosa SD	1	Bk	Bull	1730	\$187.50
Robertson, Tyler Or Tiffany, Hermosa SD	1	Bk	Bull	1730	\$212.50
Maycock, Mitch, Gillette WY	1	Bk	Bull	1685	\$188.50
Lawrence, Edward, Alzada MT	2	Bk	Bull	1682	\$222.50
Notli, Jae, Otter MT	1	Bk	Bull	1645	\$197.50
Hoffman, Matt Or Jana, St Onge SD	1	Bk	Bull	1625	\$192.00
Pleasant Valley Cattle Co Inc, Sturgis SD	2	Bk	Bull	1622	\$207.50
Graham MT Ranch Inc, Broadus MT	1	Bk	Bull	1475	\$184.00
Yernington Ranch LLC, Sundance WY	1	Bk	Bull	1465	\$230.00
Graham MT Ranch Inc, Broadus MT	1	Bk	Bull	1450	\$193.00
Pleasant Valley Cattle Co Inc, Sturgis SD	1	Bk	Bull	1310	\$190.00
Brown, Steve Or Kathy, Sturgis SD	1	Bk	Bull	1215	\$207.50
Brown, Kyle Or Shannon, Sturgis SD	1	Bk	Bull	1100	\$227.50
King, Pat, Aladdin WY	1	Bk	Bull	1095	\$240.00
Kammerer, Matt Or April, Rapid City SD	1	Bk	Bull	1095	\$275.00
Cammack, Randy Or Mary Ellen, Sturgis SD	1	Hfr	Bull	1940	\$202.50
Hillsview Ranch, Sturgis SD	1	Hfr	Bull	1020	\$265.00
Aga, Kevin, Sturgis SD	1	Red	Bull	2365	\$190.00
Kolka Livestock, Olive Mt	1	Red	Bull	2085	\$227.00
Kolka Livestock, Olive Mt	1	Red	Bull	1800	\$217.50
Richards, Kori Or Ronnie, Olive Mt	1	Red	Bull	1300	\$191.00

## Friday, April 24, 2026

Pair & Bred Cow Special & Jordan Cattle Co Bull Sale

10:00 AM - Weigh Ups

12:00 Noon - Feeder Cattle Followed By Bred Cows

1:00 PM - Jordan Cattle Sim-Angus & Angus Bull Sale

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

### Pairs

Clarys Ranch - 24 Bk Short Term Cows W/ Bk Calves At Side

Pearson Ranch Trust - 7 Bk Bldy F-1 2 Yr Old Cows W/ Bk Calves At Side - Worked

### Bred Cows

Geier Rnch - 26 Bk Hfns - Bred Bk - Calving Now For 45 Days Replacement Hfns

Steve Adami - 110 Red Hfns - 725-850# - Bt, Pc, Bv

Leon Minor - 50 Bk Hfns - 750-825# - Bt, Pc, Bv

Plus More By Sale Time!

## 2026 CATTLE SALES

- 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

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FAX: 605-456-2436

Barney Barnes Sheep Yards  
Mgr. - 605-641-2333

Fieldman: Gilbert Wood  
605-456-2400  
605-641-7100

Auctioneer: Casey Humble  
605-490-9829

Fieldman: Dustin Vining  
605-354-9966

## Sheep Report - Thursday, April 16, 2026

Lambs Sold Steady To A Little Higher  
Slaughter Ewes Sold Steady

Next Sale - April 23, 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!

### Slaughter Ewes

Allen Ranch, Hot Springs SD	5	K Ewe	180	\$133.00
Considine, Terry & Jeff, Broadus MT	3	K Ewe	196	\$145.00
Hansen, Sam, Bowman ND	12	K Ewe	145	\$145.00
Harmon, Custis, Newell SD	6	K Ewe	154	\$145.00
Harmon, Custis, Newell SD	7	K Ewe	141	\$110.00
Kimsey Ranch, Moorcroft WY	16	K Ewe	130	\$110.00
Lewis, Stan, Nisland SD	12	K Ewe	227	\$113.00
Owens Land & Livestock, Casper WY	5	K Ewe	178	\$133.

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Case Disk Chisel 12' with 4" spikes	CIH 4900 Cultivator 40' 5 Bar Harrow	NH SF115 90' Boom, 1500 Gal Raven Control	Woods 3180 15'

# Butte County EQUIPMENT

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Aaron: 605-645-0422 • Austin: 605-218-3359  
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...and other wonderments.



Mick Harrison

### "Cowboy Communion" Oil



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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

**100 years ago**  
*Northwest Post*  
 April 29, 1926

**Brief Happenings** Ultrick Erickson wrecked the cluster lamp post near the Brooker store last Sunday afternoon, while driving in from Spearfish. Mr. Erickson intended to turn east on Railroad avenue, but a rapidly approaching car on that thoroughfare caused him to change his mind quickly, and in making the turn onto State street, he miscalculated the position of the lamp post. The iron post was broken off squarely and all of the globes and lights reduced to shattered glass, while Ultrick's Buick car emerged from the wreck with a demolished radiator.

**INTER-CLASS TRACK MEET** Last Saturday afternoon the High School inter-class track meet was held at the Tri-State Round-Up grounds. The Seniors won with 75 points, while the Junior team had 45 points when the meet was over. Superintendent Conner acted as starter. Several of the Seniors were the outstanding stars of the meet. Tracy was high point man with 17 1/2 while both Bevans and Leslie won 16 1/2 points. Widdoss with 13 points ranked highest for the junior team. Due to the strong wind and a slow track, or perhaps to the overestimation of ability, the time and distances for the different events were not as good as expected.

**City Water at Cemetery** The city water mains have been extended to Pine Slope cemetery, and an abundance of water will be available at that place on and after Mary 1. This is a much needed improvement and will doubtless result in the cemetery being greatly beautified by the planting of more trees, grass, flowers and shrubbery, and otherwise improving the numerous lots. Many people who have deferred properly enclosing their lots with concrete walls will not have the work done, as the graves of departed ones may now be kept green with plenty of water to help the growth of nature's decorations.

**75 years ago**  
*The Belle Fourche Daily Post*  
 April 11, 1951

**MacArthur Is Fired; Ridgway Takes Job** General MacArthur has been relieved of his command by President Truman. It is fundamental that "military commanders follow orders," said the president. He made the announcement early this morning to coincide with the time his orders will be transferred to General MacArthur in Tokyo. The orders were transmitted thru regular military channels. Lt.-Gen. Matthew Ridgway, the Eighth Army commander, has been appointed to replace MacArthur. Lt.-Gen James Van Fleet will become commander of the Eighth army. In his message to MacArthur, the president told the general to turn his command over to Ridgway "at once" and then travel to "such place as you select." MacArthur was discharged with these words: "With deep regret, I have concluded that General of the Armu Douglas MacArthur is unable to give his whole-hearted support to the policies of the United States government, and of the United Nations, in matters pertaining to his official duties." In view of his responsibilities under the American constitution and the United Nations, the president said, he was required to "make a change of command in the Far East." The president relieved MacArthur following extensive controversy relating to the use of Chinese nationalist troops. Use of those troops is in conflict with policies previously announced by Truman.

**TRUMAN ASKS FREEZE ON PARITY; STRONGER PRICE CONTROLS** President Truman has asked congress to freeze farm parity and pass stronger price control regulations. In a long message to the house and senate, the president also promised to consider using "limited food subsidies" in the future. Those are the major points in his recommendations for extending and strengthening the defense production act under

which controls are operated. The president's new economic program is embodied in seven basic recommendations. They are 1. Extend the life of the defense production act for two years. 2. Authorize the government to build and operate defense plants. 3. Permit the use of subsidies where necessary to boost essential production by high-cost producers without increasing prices. This would apply largely to certain metals. 4. Tighter credit controls over housing and regulation of speculative commodities trading. 5. Allow the parity price for each farm commodity as of the beginning of its marketing season to be used for price control purposes throughout the marketing season. The prohibition against freeing prices below parity would be continued, but this would prevent any rise in the parity figure during the year. 6. Stronger price control enforcement. 7. "Effective control" over residential housing.

**LOEBE IS NAMED LEGION COMMANDER** W. F. Loebe was elected commander of the Miller-Magee post of the American Legion Wednesday night, succeeding Earl Follum. Also selected were Calvin C. Wahl, as first vice commander; James Magee, second vice commander; Carroll Malvin, finance officer; Wayne Woodall, chaplain; J. F. Koller, historian; Elmer R. Hill, service officer; and Robert Freemole, sergeant at arms.

**50 years ago**  
*Belle Fourche Daily Post*  
 April 27, 1976  
**Wool Payments Top Half-Million in Butte County** Over a half million dollars in incentive payment checks for 1975 wool has been mailed to Butte County wool growers this month, according to the Butte-Lawrence county ASC office report. Total payment to Butte county producers was \$589,811. Lawrence county producers received \$21,837. The payment rate for shorn wool was 61.1% of the net sales receipts, less .5 cents per pound for promotion fund deductions. The unshorn lab payment was \$1.09 per hundred live-weight, less 7.5 cents per hundred for the promotion fund deduction. Money for the wool incentive payments is obtained from the tariff on imported wool. The national average price for wool sold in 1975 was 44.7 cent.

**Eliason Wins in Weekend Meets** Jay Eliason continued to dominate the discus competition in the area last week-end, winning events at the Custer invitational and at the Black Hills Relays at Spearfish. Eliason won first at Custer with a throw of 147' 5". Francis Coyle took the long jump with 19' 4" Eliason was fourth in the triple jump with 38' 5". Curt Osters was fifth in the triple jump with 37' 5".

*Announcement:*  
 To Our Many Customers and Friends  
 We have closed our shop,  
 sold our equipment and retired.  
 We wish to take this opportunity to thank you for your wonderful patronage over these many years. Doing business with you has been a pleasure and we sincerely appreciated this association.  
 May all of you have much success in the future.  
 Sincerely,  
 Richard and Virginia Hall  
 (Hallcraft Printers)

(Above) 1976 Announcement of the closing of Hallcraft Printers. (Below) Downtown with Brooker Grocery store where the lamp was destroyed in 1926.



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June 18	Camp Comfort
June 25	Dakota Country
July 2	Williams & Wright
July 9	Jessica Loobey
July 16	Brandon Jones
July 23	Wilt Brothers
July 30	Tim Zach Band
August 6	JJ Kent w/ Aces & 8's

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		1	2	3
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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	

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**Market Report - Thursday, April 16, 2026**  
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FEEDER CATTLE	HD	DESC	WT	BID	S/HEAD
Travis Loehding, Ekalaka MT	72	Black-Yrimg Str	754	413.75	\$3,119.50
	71	Black-Yrimg Str	764	413.75	\$3,161.69
	85	Black-Yrimg Str	660	460.50	\$3,038.48
George & Jean Etchemendy, Douglas WY	70	Black-Yrimg Str	782	408.00	\$3,191.14
	70	Black-Yrimg Str	780	408.00	\$3,180.94
	26	Black-Yrimg Str	660	456.00	\$3,011.35
Rafter Diamond Lip, Buffalo SD	70	Black-Yrimg Hfr	838	410.00	\$3,434.04
	77	Black-Yrimg Hfr	733	382.50	\$2,803.92
Consignment From MT	46	Black-Yrimg Hfr	598	420.00	\$2,513.60
Ondrizek & Fligge, Upton WY	54	Black-Yrimg Hfr	546	449.00	\$2,450.79
Donald E & Donna E Adamson, Anvada WY	66	Black-Yrimg Str	758	411.50	\$3,118.98
	12	Red-Yrimg Str	742	399.00	\$2,960.91
	34	Blk/Bwf-Yrimg Hfr	697	380.00	\$2,847.70
	15	Rd/Blk-Yrimg Hfr	631	397.00	\$2,506.39
Kuhbacher Ranch Inc, Moorcroft WY	77	Black-Str	637	462.00	\$2,940.90
	28	Black-Str	501	531.00	\$2,662.58
	75	Black-Hfr	624	390.00	\$2,433.60
	51	Black-Hfr	499	492.00	\$2,454.21
Frank Mehling, Baker MT	44	Blk/Bwf-Yrimg Hfr	722	376.00	\$2,714.89
Brian & Hallie Budmayr, Belle Fourche SD	21	Blk/Bwf-Yrimg Hfr	693	385.00	\$2,666.58
Doug Bonseil, Ekalaka MT	42	Char/Red-Yrimg Hfr	534	464.00	\$2,478.53
Travis Or Julie Hurst, Buffalo SD	37	Black-Yrimg Str	601	487.00	\$2,927.26
	13	Blk/Bwf-Yrimg Str	533	463.00	\$2,468.14
Stark Ickes, Miles City MT	11	Black-Yrimg Hfr	705	377.00	\$2,659.56
	21	Black-Yrimg Hfr	693	369.00	\$2,556.64
	14	Black-Str	686	373.00	\$2,560.37
T Milliron Livestock Llc, Rozet WY	12	Black-Yrimg Hfr	654	407.00	\$2,662.45
Webb Livestock Co Llc, Malta MT	57	Black-Yrimg Hfr	642	406.00	\$2,604.81
	23	Black-Yrimg Hfr	571	439.00	\$2,508.02
Ken Rohrer, Volborg MT	19	Black-Yrimg Hfr	768	352.00	\$2,702.98
Spur Land & Livestock Llc, Newcastle WY	9	Black-Str	519	537.00	\$2,786.43
	3	Black-Str	475	547.50	\$2,600.62
52 Ranch Inc, Glendive MT	20	Blk/Bwf-Yrimg Hfr	618	420.00	\$2,595.60
Todd Anderson, Ludlow SD	9	Blk/Bwf-Yrimg Str	706	385.00	\$2,716.38
Roby Clyde, MT	74	Black-Yrimg Hfr	732	365.50	\$2,674.57
	29	Blk/Rd/Ch-Yrimg Hfr	734	359.00	\$2,636.79
	40	Black-Yrimg Hfr	607	393.00	\$2,386.49
<b>WEIGH-UPS</b>					
TI Burch Ranch Llc, Colony WY	34	Black-Cow	1627	186.00	\$3,026.87
	13	Black-Cow	1583	186.00	\$2,944.52
	13	Black-Cow	1387	191.50	\$2,656.69
Rafter Diamond Lip, Buffalo SD	7	Black-Cow	1501	190.00	\$2,852.71
	2	Black-Cow	1385	195.00	\$2,700.75
	1	Black-Cow	1525	189.00	\$2,882.25
	2	Black-Cow	1178	180.00	\$2,119.50
James O. Or Rhoda McDonald, Hulet WY	1	Black-Cow	1315	193.00	\$2,537.95
	1	Black-Cow	1375	193.00	\$2,653.75
	1	Black-Cow	1245	196.00	\$2,440.20
	1	Black-Hfr	1070	303.00	\$3,242.10
	1	Black-Hfr	1110	302.50	\$3,357.75
	1	Black-Cow	1295	196.00	\$2,538.20
Iron Mountain Cattle Co, Belle Fourche SD	1	Black-Cow	1465	194.00	\$2,842.10
Michael & Deanna Gauthier, Rozet WY	1	Black-Cow	1285	240.00	\$3,084.00
Winterholer Ranch Llc, Sheridan WY	1	Black-Cow	1335	192.00	\$2,563.20
	1	Bwf-Cow	1290	193.00	\$2,489.70
	1	Bwf-Cow	1430	199.00	\$2,845.70
	1	Black-Cow	1205	272.50	\$3,283.62

Vance & Tess Steedley, Sundance WY	1	Black-Cow	1440	190.00	\$2,736.00
	1	Bwf-Cow	1210	193.00	\$2,335.30
	1	Black-Cow	1415	191.00	\$2,702.65
Tim Tooke, Ekalaka MT	1	Black-Hfr	980	321.00	\$3,145.80
Perino Ranch, Newcastle WY	1	Bwf-Hfr	950	320.00	\$3,040.00
	1	Bwf-Hfr	1080	302.50	\$3,267.00
Todd Or Nancy Collins, Sturgis SD	1	Black-Cow	1525	184.00	\$2,806.00
J-Six SD Ops, Vale SD	2	Black-Cow	1335	232.50	\$3,103.87
Kyle & Shelly West, Oshoto WY	18	Blk/Bwf-Hfr	853	348.00	\$2,967.66
Logan & Ally West, Moorcroft WY	1	Black-Cow	1220	217.50	\$2,653.50
	1	Black-Cow	1285	222.50	\$2,859.12
T Milliron Livestock Llc, Rozet WY	4	Black-Cow	1293	196.00	\$2,533.30
	2	Black-Cow	1415	191.00	\$2,702.65
	2	Black-Hfr	1045	312.00	\$3,260.40
	2	Black-Cow	1145	265.00	\$3,034.25
Danny Lanning, Alzada MT	2	Red-Cow	1355	195.50	\$2,649.02
	3	Red-Cow	1300	213.00	\$2,769.00
Bryce Sigman, Sturgis SD	2	Black-Hfr	983	310.00	\$3,045.75
	3	Black-Hfr	1085	310.00	\$3,363.50
Jw & Joey Moore, Sundance WY	3	Blk/Bwf-Cow	1260	257.50	\$3,244.50
Monte Joe Miller, Sundance WY	1	Black-Cow	1265	191.00	\$2,416.15
Taft Ranch, Upton WY	1	Bwf-Cow	1355	192.00	\$2,801.60
Charles & Rosalie Tennis, Vale SD	5	Blk/Bwf-Cow	1602	185.00	\$2,963.70
	1	Bwf-Cow	1270	192.00	\$2,438.40
Travis Loehding, Ekalaka MT	1	Black-Hfr	930	330.00	\$3,069.00
	1	Black-Hfr	1040	312.50	\$3,250.00
Steven Schuldes, Nisland SD	1	Black-Cow	1265	190.00	\$2,403.50
Lacy J Or Jeremy Schneider, Ludlow SD	1	Black-Hfr	1040	314.00	\$3,265.60
	1	Black-Hfr	985	327.00	\$3,220.95
Kuhbacher Ranch Inc, Moorcroft WY	8	Black-Cow	1239	253.00	\$3,134.03
	7	Black-Cow	1316	196.00	\$2,578.80
<b>BULLS</b>					
Winterholer Ranch Llc, Sheridan WY	1	Black-Bull Drug Free	1995	222.50	\$4,438.87
	1	Black-Bull Drug Free	2510	225.00	\$5,647.50
Matt Or Donna Perino, Newcastle WY	1	Black-Bull Drug Free	1875	217.50	\$4,078.12
	1	Char-Bull Drug Free	1745	225.00	\$3,926.25
Tom Coolahan, Hermosa SD	1	Black-Bull Drug Free	1965	217.50	\$4,273.87
	1	Black-Bull Drug Free	1710	222.50	\$3,804.75
Doyle Or Lorie Dejong, Box Elder SD	1	Black-Bull Drug Free	1815	230.00	\$4,174.50

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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

**UPCOMING SALE SCHEDULE**

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

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**Richelle Bruch Announces Mayoral Candidacy in Sturgis**

STURGIS—Hey Sturgis! I am Richelle Bruch and I am running for Mayor of this city I love.

I have called Sturgis home for most of my life. I came back for good in 2010 because there is nowhere else I belong. Since then I have spent every year showing up for this community; not because anyone asked me to, but because Sturgis is everything to me.

I am a mom of four and a grandmother of three; all of whom are growing up right here in these schools, on these streets, and on these trails. I have coached your kids, fought for your small businesses, built nonprofits, led the Chamber, served in city government, and run every trail this community has to offer.

I have been recognized as the City of Sturgis Volunteer of the Year, the Chamber Volunteer of the Year, and named one of 10 Inspiring Women in the Black Hills — not because I was chasing titles, but because I genuinely cannot stop showing up for this place.

I am running for Mayor because Sturgis deserves better than what it has had. It deserves leadership built on three things:

**COLLABORATION** — A government that listens to every resident, unifies city council with the community, and makes decisions for all of us.

**ECONOMIC GROWTH** — Higher paying jobs, thriving small businesses, and an economy that works for every Sturgis family every single week of the year.



**COMMUNITY** — Safe streets, strong youth programs, and a quality of life so good that our kids and grandkids choose to stay and build their lives right here.

I am not a politician. I am your neighbor. I am the person who has been sitting at your community tables, coaching on your fields, running your trails, and fighting for your businesses for years.

And now I am asking for the chance to lead this city the same way I have always served it;

honestly, collaboratively, and with everything I have got.

Sturgis, you have given me everything. Now I am asking for the chance to give it back.

June 2nd. Let's move forward. Together.

**Bruch for Mayor**

Collaboration. Community. Moving Sturgis Forward.

#BruchForMayor  
#RichelleForSturgis  
#SturgisSD #June2nd

**Jeff Morford Joins First Interstate Bank as Community Branch Manager**

BELLE FOURCHE, S.D.—April 21, 2026—Jeff Morford has joined First Interstate Bank as a Community Branch Manager. In this role, Morford is responsible for developing and maintaining client relationships utilizing the full spectrum of banking services.

Morford has 37 years of experience in the financial industry, previously serving in various community banking and loan servicing roles at several banks, including FMS Bank, Morgan Federal Bank, Community First National Bank, and First Security Bank. He holds a Bachelor of Science in business administration from Black Hills State University and completed the Graduate School of Banking at the University of Colorado where he also earned an Executive Leadership certification.

"I am excited to support our employees, build strong relationships with our clients, and continue to serve local businesses," Morford said.

Morford has dedicated his spare time in several volunteer roles such as Council Member for the City of Fort Morgan, Board Member for Northeastern



Colorado Revolving Loan Fund and Fort Morgan Volunteer Fire Department, and President and Director of Fort Morgan Community Hospital Foundation and Fort Morgan Chamber of Commerce. He was also a recipient of the American Legion Public Service Award. Outside of work and volunteering, he enjoys riding his motorcycle, working in the yard, and spending time outdoors fishing and hunting. Morford can be reached at jeff.morford@fib.com.

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June 27<sup>th</sup>  
9AM SHOTGUN START  
REGISTRATION @ 8:00AM

9-HOLE TOURNAMENT  
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# Area Church Schedules

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

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

**CHURCH OF JESUS CHRIST OF LATTER DAY SAINTS**  
1105 Todd St.  
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: ebcfbf.org

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

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

**FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH**  
901 Laurel St. Whitewood  
(605)-920-1959  
Reverend Jill 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  
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**LANDMARK MISSIONARY BAPTIST CHURCH**  
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Sunday: 10 a.m. worship service

**NEW COVENANT PCA**  
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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  
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Sunday School: 11 a.m.  
Worship Nursery available  
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Sabbath School: 9:30am  
Worship Service: 10:45am  
Bible Study-Tuesday: 6:00pm

**SPEARFISH UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST (CONGREGATIONAL)**  
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Pastor Randy Hedge  
605-642-8253

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Rev. Mike Weaver  
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the school year.  
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**ST. ONGE UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST**  
Sunday School and Worship  
at 8:30 a.m.  
www.bfsoucc.org

**ST. PAUL CATHOLIC CHURCH**  
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Father Kevin Achbach, Pastor  
Father Max Vetch, Pastor  
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Daily Mass: Tues. & Thurs. 12:15 p.m.  
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892-4630 or 892-4389  
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Sunday: 10 a.m. Worship  
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Wednesday: September - May  
6:30 p.m. Adult Bible Study  
Kidz Alive (Kindergarten - 6th Grade)

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BELLE FOURCHE COUNTRY CLUB

## TOURNAMENT LINE-UP 2026

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No Deposit Needed

<b>Early Bird</b>	<b>April</b> 25th-26th	<b>3 Person Scramble</b> \$ 185 PER PERSON
<b>Women's Open</b>	<b>June</b> 13th	<b>2 Person Scramble</b> \$ 160 PER TEAM
<b>Member Guest</b>	<b>July 31st- Aug 2nd</b>	<b>2 Person Chicago</b> \$ 220 PER PERSON SKINS & DUCES INCLUDED
<b>Club Championship</b>	<b>August</b> 23th	<b>Individual</b> \$ 60 PER PERSON SKINS & DUCES INCLUDED
<b>Couples Tournament</b>	<b>September</b> 6th	<b>2 Person Campman</b> \$ 150 PER COUPLE \$180 PER COUPLE ← MEMBER ← NON-MEMBER
<b>Triple Crown</b>	<b>September</b> 19th-20th	<b>2 Person Teams</b> \$ 180 PER PERSON 3 DIFFERENT FORMATS

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**A PROVEN LEADER WITH DEEP ROOTS**

Born and raised in Belle Fourche, Larry comes from a family with more than 100 years in the community.

A civil engineer, general contractor and business owner, Larry earned recognition and a commendation from the U.S. Air Force for his contributions to the B-1 Bomber Program at Ellsworth AFB. His business was named as one of America's fastest growing businesses.

He has served more than 40 years in education, community leadership and economic development, including roles with the South Dakota School of Mines Foundation, Belle Fourche Economic Development Corporation, Belle Fourche City Council and Belle Fourche Planning & Zoning Commission.

**A COMMITMENT TO DISTRICT 28B AND WESTERN SOUTH DAKOTA**

South Dakota works best when government is rooted in real experience, fiscal responsibility, and respect for local communities. Larry brings practical, solutions-focused leadership to represent our community in Pierre.

**PRIORITIES FOR DISTRICT 28B**

- Supporting Agriculture
- Property Tax Relief
- Quality Economic Growth
- Transportation Infrastructure
- Public Safety and Cybercrime
- Education Excellence

Larry believes effective representation starts with listening. He is committed to accessibility, careful analysis, and long-term vision for South Dakota and the next generation.

**VOTE JUNE 2 - LARRY SCHMALTZ**

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

### Clock Is Running: Your Business Can't Afford to Ignore AI

Martha had run her hardware store for twenty-two years. She knew customers by name, kept meticulous handwritten inventory logs, and prided herself on ordering the right stock before anyone else in town knew it was needed. She was good at her job. She was a success. One spring, a regional chain opened down the highway. They offered same-day inventory searches, automated restock alerts, and personalized promotions sent directly to customers' phones. They weren't smarter than Martha. They weren't better at the hardware business. They just had tools she didn't. In eighteen months, Martha's foot traffic had dropped by a third.



\$500 and \$2,000 every single month in operational costs. Meanwhile, 66% of small business owners believe adopting AI is now essential for staying competitive. The businesses not yet using it are increasingly the minority—and a shrinking one.

Here is the most common thing said by people who haven't started yet: "I'm not a tech person." The research tells a different story. The number one barrier to AI adoption among the smallest businesses isn't cost, and it isn't complexity—it is the belief that AI simply doesn't apply to their business. That is wrong 100% of the time.

AI isn't about programming or code; it is about conversation. Tools like ChatGPT, Claude, and Google Gemini allow you to type a plain English question and get a useful, intelligent answer in seconds. You can ask it to draft a marketing email. You can ask it to summarize a long contract. You can ask it to create a week's worth of social media posts for your business, or brainstorm ideas for your next sale, or explain a complicated tax form in plain language. It is like having a tireless, knowledgeable assistant around the clock who never needs a lunch break or charge overtime. The learning curve is gentle. If you can send a text message, you can begin using AI.

First, start with writing tasks. AI is extraordinary at helping draft, edit, and improve written content. Customer emails, website copy, job postings, newsletters, and thank-you notes are all fair game. Open a free account at ChatGPT.com or Claude.ai and simply describe what you need. The result won't be perfect, but it will be a strong draft that saves you an hour.

Second, use it for answers and

research. Instead of spending twenty minutes searching the internet for information, ask an AI directly. Need to know the best way to handle a customer complaint? Curious about local permit requirements? Want a quick breakdown of your industry's trends? Ask. AI can synthesize information and give you a clear starting point in under a minute.

Third, explore automation for repetitive tasks. Many small business tools—scheduling software, email platforms, point-of-sale systems—now include built-in AI features. Turn them on. Let the software do the routine work while you focus on what only a human can do: building relationships, making judgment calls, and serving your community.

Here is the hard truth no one wants to hear: the businesses that are learning AI right now are accumulating a significant competitive advantage every single week. They are getting faster. They are lowering costs. They are reaching more customers with less effort. That gap widens with every month of delay. Technology historically favors early movers. Those who learned to build websites in the late 1990s when everyone else laughed at the idea now run thriving online businesses. Those who adopted social media marketing before their competitors captured audiences that proved nearly impossible to win back. AI is that same inflection point—except it is moving faster than either of those shifts did.

You need not hire a consultant or take a class. Spend one Saturday afternoon experimenting and two weeks of small daily practice. It will be the best business decision you ever make. The clock is running. The question is not whether AI will change your industry. It already is. The only question left is whether you will be the one who gets ahead of it, or the one who spends years catching up. Start this week. Start today. Start with one question typed into a free tool. The first step is always the hardest—and it has never been easier to take.

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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 19, 2026 by Karen Odell

We had our weekly snowstorm again this week at Capitol and on Tie Creek.



This time there was about seven or eight inches of snow left standing, while some of the moisture had already soaked in. That snow was heavy enough to bring tree branches nearly to the ground, but most had melted in one day. The grass is green and growing, and the calves are multiplying.

Erma Albert had her doctor's appointment on Tuesday in Rapid City to have some tests done. They came home after the appointment. They are enjoying having daughter, Heather, and her husband visiting. Their little grand-daughter is keeping everyone entertained and busy. Dick attended the Senior Citizen

Dinner on Friday, and brought a plate of food home for Erma. On Sunday, Dick went to church at the Catholic church. There was an Alter Society Meeting afterward, and then Father Lee stopped by to serve Communion for Erma. Heather's family had lunch at Saloon Number Three, and brought home food for Erma, too.

Alvin and Marlee Cordell went to Belle Fourche for the memorial service for Marilyn Freimark, on Tuesday. The track meets had been canceled, this week. On Friday, Alvin went to Ekalaka to pick up some barley seed from Lucas Waterland. The snow storm had extended to the Bell Tower Hall, but Alvin didn't see much snow at Ekalaka. The moisture is still coming and it might be a good year for planting. Marlee went to Belle Fourche on Friday, and brought home some baby chicks. That will keep her busy. On Saturday evening,

Alvin and Marlee met Terry and Laurie Goehring in Camp Crook, and they had supper together to the Corner Bar. Alvin and Marlee went to church at the Methodist Church in Camp Crook, on Sunday. Then they were invited to Dean and Mary Tarter's for dinner. Jerry and Betty Miller had also come for dinner at Dean and Mary's, so they all had a good visit. Calving is winding down at Cordell's.

Doug and Julia Davis are still in the midst of calving at their place. The alarm clock is still set for the middle of the night, so Doug can go out and Julia can worry until he's back again. On Saturday, Doug and Julia went to Belle Fourche to help celebrate grandson, Oliver Davis's, birthday. The is three years old already. Time seems to just fly by.

Bryce, Dawn, Brandon, and Ashley Padden are still busy with calving. The track meets,

this week, were canceled, but there was still plenty of activity. The Buffalo students competed in Academic Olympics at Bison, and Brylen came home with four trophies. He had earned one first, and three second place wins. Ashley took Kanyon to Des Moines, Iowa for wrestling. Kanyon was on one of the two South Dakota teams that went to the competition. Kanyon's team was called "South Dakota Fire". It was a good name, because Kanyon won all of her matches, and earned lots of awards, including a beautiful ring. While this was going on, Kamry was at Houston, Texas for basketball competitions. Their team won four of their five games. Back home, Brandon and Dorothy got to watch Kanyon's wrestling on the TV. All the kids had to hurry back to be in Brookings on Monday for the South Dakota State FFA competitions. The snow hasn't seemed to slow things down a bit. Even the cows at home were just waiting so they

could have their calves during a snowstorm.

Karen Odell enjoyed the snowstorm and just stayed inside. The snow was piled high on the outside table and chairs, and the tree branches hung low with hug piles of snow. She visited with Anna LaBree, her cousin, Ralph Anderson, and friend, Bill Foulkes. On Sunday, Karen went to church at the Methodist Church in Camp Crook. Alan Loken had come to present the sermon, and he stopped in Belle Fourche to bring a friend along to lead the singing. He also sang a solo, and his singing was so beautiful that they asked for another song at the end of the service. The ladies served coffee and snacks after the service. Sunday was such a beautiful day, that after coming home from church Karen just sat outside and enjoyed the sun.

Some people are worried when they don't understand the Scripture they are reading, but more people are worried when they do.

PRESSED BETWEEN THE PAGES

by DeAnn (Wolkow) Kruempel



"We sure don't need that in a tire." Dad bent down to pick up a slightly bent nail in the dirt next to the old building we called the shop. I scanned the area and spotted several more. One was rusty, but the others seemed to be in decent condition. He took the nails into the shop and dropped them into an old paint bucket.

Days later I was checking my favorite farm spots and thinking I should find out what Dad was doing. I heard noises coming from the open barn doors. The sounds of pounding on wood mixed with loud, high-pitched creaking. After each "creak," followed a final "pop." I beelined to the barn to find what all that racket was about. Dad, Donald and Delmer were taking apart a wooden hog crate. They pounded on the two-by-fours to sepa-

"Hit the Nail on the Head"

rate the boards, then wedged their hammer claws under each nail head to pry it out, causing the "creak and pop."

Dad spotted me. "DeAnn, go see if Mom has an empty coffee can we can use. Then you can help." A few minutes later I was back. The guys had tossed the extricated nails into a small pile. I picked them up, loving the clunking sound as they hit the bottom of the can. When the crate was disassembled, the boys hauled out the boards and I followed Dad to the shop, clutching the coffee can.

"You can straighten these nails so we can use them again," Dad's eyes twinkled. I set the can down next to a cement block outside the shop. Dad brought out the old paint can. We both knelt down next to the block. Dad showed me how to gently tap the bend on each nail to straighten it. I felt proud as he handed me his hammer and I proceeded to work on un-kinking those

nails. To set the record straight, nails have a riveting history. The ancient Egyptians carved pegs of hardwood and used them to join pieces of wood. A few thousand years later, blacksmiths forged nails out of "nailrod" made of wrought iron rods. The smithy heated the iron to yellow-hot in a forge. He then hammered a length of rod to create a tapered point, shoulder and head. Pounding out one at

a time, it took a lot of work to make a few nails. Centuries went by and American manufacturers easily produced tons of nails in every length and type and there were plenty to go around.

But then two world wars demanded every scrap of metal for tanks, airplanes and guns for our soldiers. Nails and most things made of metal were rationed. Straightening and re-using every possible nail became a necessity.

But, by the time I was following Dad around on the farm, nails were inexpensive and plentiful. The folks had farmed through good years and could well afford new nails. Why then

did Dad teach his youngsters to straighten and reuse nails? Why did we take the time and effort to tap bends out of nail by nail?

Was it because of their history, their times of scarcity? Or did our father want to convey straight life lessons to his children? Thriftiness? The value of not wasting anything? Did Dad believe that giving us such a mundane task was building patience and character and a sense of belonging? Yes, I think he knew what he was doing all along. I think he hit the nail on the head!

**PROTECTING YOU**  
through the stages of life

Thursday  
April 30th  
12 PM  
1405 5<sup>th</sup> Ave

For businesses and families

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

The Fayville Agency (Globe Life) Edward Jones & more!

Jennifer Tomac is Western South Dakota's first and only Certified Elder Law attorney. She is passionate about education - specifically regarding Estate Planning possibilities

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**RABIES VACCINATION CLINIC**

**SATURDAY MAY 2, 2026**  
**8AM - 12PM**

LOCATED AT:  
Belle Fourche Veterinary Clinic  
406 Summit Street  
Belle Fourche, SD

**\*COST:**  
**\$10** Rabies Vaccine  
**\*CASH ONLY**

**No appointment needed!**  
Some of the proceeds will be donated to Hobas Healing Heart

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

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

**SUBSCRIBE TO THE BEACON \$52**  
[www.bellefourchebeacon.com](http://www.bellefourchebeacon.com)  
**PO Box 576 Belle Fourche, SD 57717**



### Roots #2 (from Archives) "Elementary School Reflections"

Meg English

news@bellefourchebeacon.com



A while back, I was honored to serve as a long-term substitute at South Park

skills. "Elementary school", the common nomenclature is typically K- 4th or 5th grade. I attended "grade" school during the 1960s. Grade school referred to grades K-6, all under one roof. My grandmother attended "grammar" school in the early 1900s.

Somehow it was colder in those days especially east river. I remember shivering outside with my girlfriends on windy winter mornings in our short skirts and knee socks. We were not permitted to enter the building before the official bell. There was a dress code. We girls were only allowed to wear "trousers" under our dresses for warmth, but by 4th grade we were far too self-conscious. We were permitted to invite frost bite instead.

Our principal, a former marine was a tall, stern man with a military crew cut, He had a mysterious missing thumb on one hand. An intimidating overseer, he provoked anxiety and fear.

Our teachers were generally women of middle age with strong convictions, teaching

styles, and proven sanctions for eliciting good behavior and hard work from their pupils. They were not exuberant, friendly, and they were certainly not affectionate or demonstrative. Our teachers wore tweed skirts, sensible shoes, and chalk dust. A few young men drifted into the profession, soon to be drawn away to more lucrative professions.

Technology in the classroom meant a program called TV science. We watched a male science teacher in a white lab coat on a television screen at the front of the classroom for thirty minutes twice a week. Despite the black and white picture, the very small TV monitor at the front of the room, and the frequently, fuzzy reception, I liked TV science. The instructor knew a lot about science, and I learned from the demonstrations and his easy conversational manner. I'm sure it helped that he did not have an active face to face classroom to manage.

Our report cards were hand recorded and marked in script.

Breakfast was not served at schools and there was no free or reduced lunch.

Curriculum included language arts, math, social studies, science, physical education and a smattering of music and art. One interesting social-studies lesson I remember is watching Richard Nixon's inaugural address in 1969 on a tiny TV screen in the

school gymnasium. We were all seated on metal folding chairs for the occasion. I was extremely uncomfortable, probably because I was coming down with mumps, and the experience although memorable was not illuminating.

As a substitute at South Park Elementary, I met with all 426 children twice a week. During those weeks I sang most of every day, provided advice on the best way to eliminate a loose tooth, nurtured egos, encouraged positive behavior, applied band-aids, and administered and received hugs. I tried, somewhat unsuccessfully to learn and remember everyone's name.

I employed a small plush gray elephant called Ellie to accompany me to school as a mascot. The children liked having her "listen" to our singing and Ellie helped me too. In fact, it was Ellie, the proverbial elephant in the room who always reminded me to look at the classroom from a small person's perspective.

The discrete skill sets elementary teachers practice daily represents a complex didactic paradigm that should not be minimized or overlooked.

In addition to the expected litany of duties teachers must wear many additional hats these days. Here is a short list: Teachers are subject area specialists, they are counselors,

data analysts, material managers and scholars. They research curriculum trends, best teaching practices, and make decisions about an endless array of curriculum. Teachers are also event organizers, behavior specialists, behavior management clinicians, sociologists, and interpreters. They are custodians, first responders, and of course psychics who magically know everything.

Traditionally, American public schools have maintained their identity as egalitarian institutions meant to serve all children regardless of race, ideology. American public schools seem to be working hard to level the playing field to the greatest extent possible.

At South Park Elementary School children seem to be more valued than they were when I attended grade school. The main difference is that professional educators seem to really like the kids. They are far more demonstrative and approachable than teachers I remember. Maybe that's just a personal perception, but one that makes me feel positive. The school children seem happier too.



**PROTECTING YOU** through the stages of life

Thursday April 30th 12PM

1405 5<sup>th</sup> Ave

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**TOMAC & TOMAC**

**Coffee with a Cop & City Administrator**

May 1st 8:30 - 9:30am

**Belle Silver Lining**

828 Kingsbury St, Belle Fourche, SD

Join us for a friendly conversation with Chief Cherveny and City Administrator Lafayette. Ask questions about the new police department building, discuss law enforcement issues in the community, city projects or just enjoy a cup of coffee and a caramel roll.

**Lawrence (Larry) SCHMALTZ**

Candidate for SD House of Representatives - 28B

www.larryfords.us

larry@larryfords.us

FAITH, FAMILY, FREEDOM • PLEASE VOTE JUNE 2

**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 May meeting schedule: The Monday editing meeting is Monday, May 4, from 2-4 PM. The regular May meeting is Saturday, May 23 from 10 AM to Noon. All writers are invited to attend! Meetings are held at the Belle Fourche Public Library.

**Belle Fourche Recreation Center**  
Notes from Belle Fourche Rec Center Aquatics Manager: As always, please reach out of you have any questions, comments, or concerns! My email is listed below 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

**Tri-State Museum**  
**Tri-State Museum opens Rocks and Minerals mini exhibit**  
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.  
**Tri-State Museum to present play "Dancin' Daughters of Diamond City"**  
The Tri-State Performers, the youth theatre troupe of the Tri-State Museum and Visitor Center, will present the western comedy, "Dancin' Daughters of Diamond City" on April 24th at 7 p.m. and April 25th at 2 p.m.  
The play is an Old West version of the fairytale "The Dancing Princess." A miner named Mineral Marge is baffled by the fact that her many daughters disappear at night and are too tired to work Marge's mine each day. She hires several dubious characters to get to the bottom of the mystery until someone finally does.  
The play has a cast of 14 girls. Its running time is about 45 minutes and is suitable for families. Admission is \$2 per person or free with museum membership.  
**Tri-State Museum's May 2nd First Saturday Brunch is about the SD Air and Space Museum**  
The Tri-State Museum and Visitor Center will have a First Saturday Brunch on May 2 featuring Jeanie Kirkpatrick. She is the director of the South Dakota Air and Space Museum and will relate the museum's mission, events, and programming.  
Brunch is at 10 a.m. and is \$5 per person or free to museum members. The presentation at 10:30 is free to all. Reservations are required-whether for the brunch/presentation or just the presentation. Call 605-723-1200 to make a reservation and if you must cancel, please call to say so as the museum often has a waiting list for brunches.

**Northern Hills CASA**  
April is Child Abuse Prevention Month. Learn more about how CASA protects children at a local Cup O' CASA event.  
**April 23 Community Cup O'CASA; Wild Magnolia; Belle Fourche 9-10 AM**

**THE DAKOTA SCOUT**

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

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Jonathan Ellis & Joe Sneve



### Superintendent's Corner

R. Orion Thompson

As we move deeper into spring, there is a great deal of positive energy flowing through the Belle Fourche School District. Our buildings are truly buzzing with activity, and it is one of those times of year when you can feel the momentum of a strong school community.

State testing is officially underway across our District. This is an important time for our students and staff, as it provides an opportunity to demonstrate the growth and learning that has taken place throughout the year. We are proud of the effort our students continue to show, and we encourage them to stay focused and give their best each day.

Outside the classroom, spring activities are in full swing, and our Broncs are representing Belle Fourche with pride in every arena. From the field to the stage, our students continue to shine. Our athletic teams are competing hard, while our band and choir programs have been outstanding showcasing the talent, dedication, and countless hours of preparation that often go unseen. In addition, our students involved in plays, performances, FFA, and other extracurricular activities continue to make us proud. These experiences are a vital part of what makes our School District special.

We also recently celebrated

a wonderful prom, an evening filled with excitement, memories, and Bronc pride. Events like these remind us how important the full school experience is for our students and the lasting memories created along the way.

Looking ahead, summer will be a very busy time for our District. We have several important upgrades planned for both the High School and Middle School buildings. These improvements are part of our continued commitment to providing safe, modern, and high-quality learning environments for our students and staff. Our buildings and grounds team is already hard at work preparing for a productive summer season.

We also want to share an important transition within our District leadership. After an incredible 35 year career with Belle Fourche School District, our business manager will be stepping away from her role. Her dedication, professionalism, and unwavering commitment to Belle Fourche have left a lasting impact. She truly "bleeds purple," and we are deeply grateful for everything she has given to this District over nearly four decades. While it is difficult to see her go, we are excited to welcome a new business manager next year and look forward to the continued strength of our team.

At the same time, we are beginning to look ahead to the future by welcoming our youngest

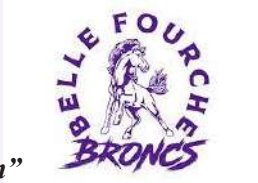
learners. Kindergarten enrollment for the upcoming school year is underway, and it has been a joy to see the bright eyes, energy, and excitement of our incoming students. These moments serve as a powerful reminder of why we do this work each day.

As we enter the final stretch of the school year, I want to emphasize the importance of finishing strong. Attendance matters every day. Being present, engaged, and committed is not just about school; it is practice for the real world. The habits our students build now showing up, being prepared, and giving consistent effort will carry forward into their futures.

Finally, I want to speak directly to the importance of partnership. Our teachers, coaches, advisors, and staff work incredibly hard to support our students, and they need the support of families and the community. We must be on the same team. When we stand together supporting one another, reinforcing expectations, and focusing on what is best for kids, we create the strongest possible environment for success.

Let's continue to move forward together. Let's support our students, our staff, and one another. And most importantly, let's get back to "bleeding purple" as one unified Belle Fourche community. Finish strong, Broncs.

It's a Great Day to Be a Bronc!



R. Orion Thompson, Ed.S  
Superintendent of Schools

Belle Fourche School District 9-1  
2305 13th Avenue, Belle Fourche, SD 57717  
605-723-3355 ext. 1

"Be yourself, unless you can be Batman then....always be Batman"

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



**April**  
22<sup>nd</sup> - 12PM Social Security Webinar @ Belle Silver Lining, 4:30PM Chamber Mixer @ Alley Fitness  
23<sup>rd</sup> - CASA at Wild Magnolia from 9-10  
25<sup>th</sup> - Lincoln Day Dinner  
26<sup>th</sup> - Hobo Healing Event

**May**  
1<sup>st</sup> - 8:30AM- 9:30 Coffee with a Cop @ Belle Silver Lining

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





**Lawrence (Larry) SCHMALTZ**  
Candidate for SD House of Representatives - 28B  
www.larryfordsd.us  
larry@larryfordsd.us  
FAITH, FAMILY, FREEDOM • PLEASE VOTE JUNE 2

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 Castello and Adrienne 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 16, 2026  
Chaska Arts Center at Malipyo Lila  
Pine Ridge, SD 57770  
Reception Thursday April 23, 2026 4-7p

### 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
<b>4/18 - Saturday</b>	<b>Center of the Nation Invite (Belle)</b>	<b>Home</b>	<b>8:00 am</b>
4/21 - Tuesday	Rapid City JV Invite (O'Harra)	Away	11:00 am
4/23 - Thursday	Custer Invite	Away	9:00 am
<b>4/28 - Tuesday</b>	<b>Northern Hills Invite (Belle)</b>	<b>Home</b>	<b>8:00 am</b>
			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
<b>5/28-30</b>	<b>State A - Sioux Falls</b>	<b>Away</b>	<b>TBA</b>

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
<b>4/17 - Friday</b>	<b>Belle Fourche Invite</b>	<b>Home</b>	<b>9:00 am</b>
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

#### JOB OPPORTUNITY ANNOUNCEMENT

#### BUTTE COUNTY HIGHWAY DEPARTMENT

The Butte County Highway Department currently has an opening for a full-time Equipment Operator. Great wage starting at \$24.54/hour and excellent benefit package. No matter the weather-guaranteed work.

An Equipment Operator will be required to operate light and heavy highway equipment and perform maintenance and repairs on county roads and bridges. Some heavy lifting is required. Job duties include working outdoors in inclement weather. Other duties exclusive to the position will 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 5<sup>th</sup> Avenue, Belle Fourche, SD. An application can be requested by calling 605-892-4485.

Please send resume and application to:

Butte Co Hwy Dept.  
% Hiring Manager  
117 5<sup>th</sup> Ave  
Belle Fourche, SD 57717

The position will remain open until it is filled.

Butte County is an equal opportunity, affirmative action employer.

### 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.



**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 5<sup>th</sup> 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 5<sup>th</sup> Ave  
Belle Fourche, SD 57717

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

**JOB OPPORTUNITY ANNOUNCEMENT  
BUTTE COUNTY HIGHWAY DEPARTMENT**

The Butte County Highway Department currently has an opening for a full-time Equipment Operator. Great wage starting at \$35.03/hour (after probationary period) and excellent benefit package.

Responsible for planning, organizing, and directing all activities and staff involved in the county's road construction and maintenance operations to ensure the safety and usability of public roads. Direct and oversee a comprehensive, long-range maintenance and improvement plan for the county's transportation network, encompassing roads, drainage structures, and right-of-ways. The Highway Superintendent will have knowledge of budgeting and all reporting to SD DOT. The Highway Superintendent will be the W&P Supervisor. Other duties exclusive to the position will 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 5:00 PM at the Butte County Highway Administration office located at 117 5<sup>th</sup> Avenue, Belle Fourche, SD. An application can be requested by calling 605-892-4485.

Please send resume and application to:

Butte Co Hwy Dept.  
% Hiring Manager  
117 5<sup>th</sup> 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 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 9:30 A.M. in Butte County Courtroom which is in the Butte County Courthouse Building at 839 5<sup>th</sup> Avenue, Belle Fourche, SD in said County on **Tuesday, the 28<sup>th</sup> 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 5<sup>th</sup> Avenue, Belle Fourche, SD, 57717 no later than April 21<sup>st</sup>, 2026.

Respectfully submitted,  
Annie Capp  
Butte County Auditor

Published April 17<sup>th</sup>, 2025 & April 24<sup>th</sup>, 2026

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

**NOTICE OF MEETING OF COUNTY EQUALIZATION BOARD**

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**BELLE FOURCHE SCHOOL BUS PATRONS  
INVITED TO MEETING**

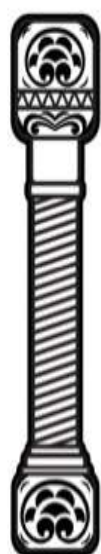
The transportation committee of the Belle Fourche School Board has announced that there will be a bussing meeting in the **ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICES of the BELLE FOURCHE SCHOOL DISTRICT 2305 13<sup>th</sup> Avenue (southend of Middle School) • 5:30 p.m. • Tuesday, May 5, 2026**

The purpose of the meeting is to discuss the bus routes for the upcoming school year. Those patrons of the Belle Fourche School District who are interested in possible changes in the bus routes are urged to attend.

**NOTICE OF CORRECTION:** Per the Butte County Auditor please note that the NOTICE OF MEETING OF COUNTY EQUALIZATION BOARD published 17Apr2026 had the incorrect start time. The time the Butte County Commissioners will meet in the Butte County Courtroom is 9:30 AM, not 1:00 PM.

Respectfully submitted,  
Annie Capp  
Butte County Auditor

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## Newell Lions Club Hosts Pancake Supper Fundraiser

**Robbi Longbrake**  
news@bellefourchebeacon.com

NEWELL—Good food for a good cause was served up at the Newell Lions Club Pancake Supper on April 17. In exchange for a freewill donation, one could enjoy all-you-can-eat pancakes, sausage, eggs, biscuits and gravy.

The Newell area community showed up to support the Lions Club and help them raise money to support a variety of local community causes.

The Newell Lions Club awards a college scholarship to a Newell High School graduate, offers eye screenings and glasses, assists with summer camp costs, supports medical crisis funds, collects tickets at school sporting events and maintains the beautification of the Newell community.

Club President Judy Heisler shared, “tonight’s fundraiser will go toward helping with scholarships, so we don’t get low on money. It’ll be a \$400 scholarship for somebody at Newell High School.”

Now that it is springtime, the Lions Club will be busy taking care of the public areas around Newell. “We have a flower garden and we plant trees and water the trees in the cemetery,” shared John Heisler, Vice President. Judy added, “Yes, we will plant more trees and get all the flowers—and take care of the benches that are in there—so we need money to support that too.”



**Supper Cont'd D4**

The welcome table inviting people in to get pancakes, take donations and answer questions! Longbrake photo

## Glamour and Style Shine at Newell High School Junior Prom

**Robbi Longbrake**  
news@bellefourchebeacon.com

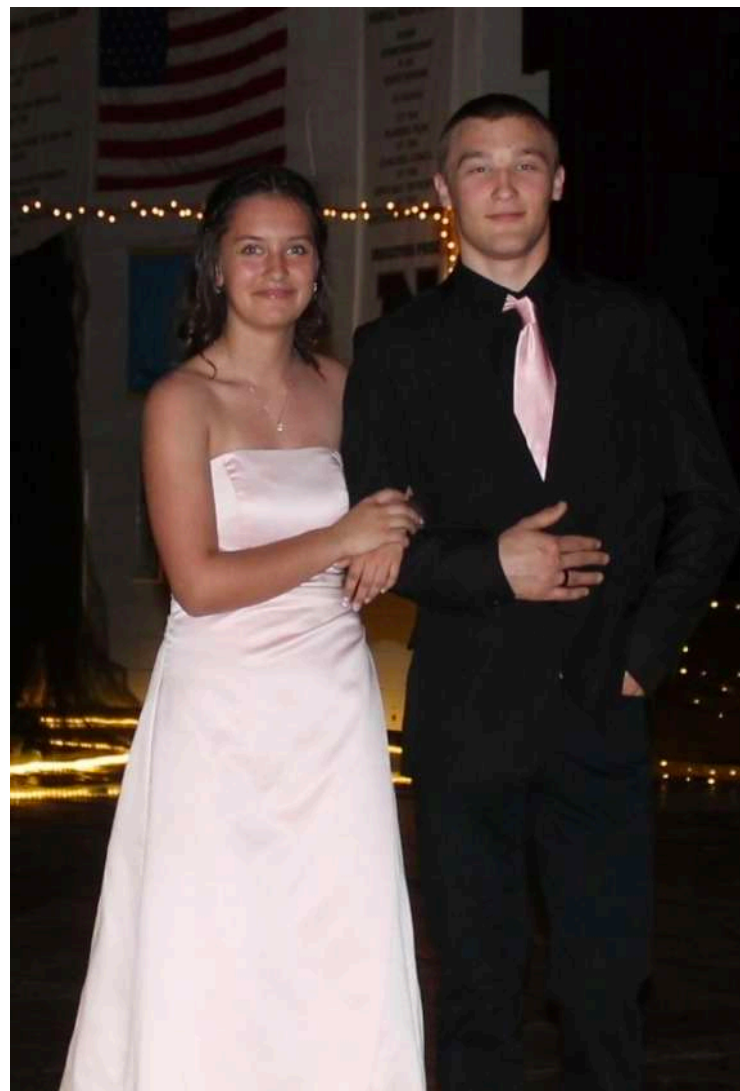
NEWELL—One of the highlights of every school year is Junior Prom. The students at Newell High School celebrated the yearly formal all dressed up in glamorous gowns and sharp tuxedos for an unforgettable evening.

On Friday evening, April 17, the junior class transformed the Austin Auditorium into an Evening on the Bayou.

The Grand March, beginning at 7 p.m., was an opportunity for all the participants and their dates to be introduced and walk through the Bayou showing off their finest prom attire and evening wear.

From light pinks to bright purples and deep navy and reds, the gals were gorgeous. Donning tuxedos, suits and ties or bow ties, the gentlemen did not disappoint. Suits and dresses were topped off with brightly colored corsages and boutonnières.

Reigning over the evening were the 2026 Prom royalty, King Orrin Youngberg and Queen MKenzie McTaggart.



(Top L) Newell High School 2026 Prom Royalty, King Orrin Youngberg and Queen MKenzie McTaggart. (Top R and B) Photos of couples walking in the Grand March. Courtesy photos

### Newell Health Clinic



is accepting new patients!

located in the **Newell Evangelical Church**  
on 8<sup>th</sup> 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**



**MyCatholicDoctor**





# Grand River Roundup



**Betty Olson**

news@bellefourchebeacon.com

Sadly, we lost a good friend last Monday. Corinne Erickson called me that morning to let me know that Duane Harris had passed away in Bismarck.

Duane Harris, 71, of rural Perkins County, passed away at St. Alexius Medical Center in Bismarck on April 13. Celebration of Duane's life was Monday, April 20, at Calvary Lutheran Church in Lemmon with burial at the Harris Family Ranch Cemetery, south of White Butte.

Carol A. Ziebarth, 87, of Bowman, ND passed away on Thursday, April 16th, at the Southwest Healthcare long term center in Bowman. Funeral Services for Carol were on Wednesday, April 22, at the Peace Lutheran Church in Scranton.

These families have our sympathy.

Amanda was over helping at the lambing shed Monday afternoon so I went down to Reva to get Beau and Han-

nah Doll, and Copper, Knox and River Lu off the school bus, which is always fun.

Ladies Aid was at Slim Buttes Lutheran Tuesday afternoon but just Amy Johnson, Patsy Wilkinson, Teddi Carlson and me were only able to be there because there were so many other things going on that day. Amy Johnson hosted the meeting and gave the lesson and she brought her cute little girls with her. I went over to the lambing shed when I got home to help Missy a little bit with the chores. There was a ZOOM call with SDPRLCA that evening and the topic was the SD Citizens for Liberty Score Card with Tonchi Weaver.

Reub and I went to Hettinger on Wednesday to get a bunch of raised bed organic top soil at Runnings to put in two of my raised bad gardens. We stopped in Reeder on the way home to have coffee with the Prairie Pioneers and visit with our friends.

It was a nice warm day on

Thursday with the temperature of 64 degrees and no wind. Reub unloaded all 20 bags of that top soil into the first two raised beds and then tilled them up after I put a lot of old coffee grounds and smashed egg shells on top of the soil he had put into them. After he gets the other two raised beds tilled, I'll have to get the seeds planted. Louise Jensen came down that day to see a couple little black lambs they had up at the lambing shed and then she went to Buffalo to watch the Father-Daughter dance for the K-5 at the school that evening. I got to go down to Reva to get Beau Doll and Knox off the school bus because they were coming to the ranch to help at the lambing shed while the rest of their parents and sisters were in Buffalo for the dance.

I had a SD Coalition of Counties Zoom call Thursday evening to listen to Rep. Peri Pourier, who is a Republican Candidate for the Public Utility Commission and I was really impressed. Peri grew up on the Pine Ridge Indian Reservation, she served in the Navy and in the South Dakota legislature in District 27, is married with two children and is very intelligent. She is also a Christian and quoted Ezekiel 22:30 as her favorite Bible verse.

We had four inches of heavy wet snow on the ground when we woke up Friday morning, so Reub wasn't able to till the

other two raised bed gardens but we're really thankful for the moisture. The wind blew pretty hard all day, but with a temperature of 37 degrees most of the snow melted before dark.

It was cold and windy on Saturday, but it felt pretty good when I went up to help Missy and Taz in the lambing shed by watering all the ewes in the north shed and there is a pair of coal black twin lambs over in that shed that are just adorable. They reminded me of a poem I learned when I was a little kid that started out "Baa baa black sheep, have you any wool?"

My birthday was on Sunday and the congregation sang Happy Birthday to Scot Besler and me during the church that morning and then Sam Marty invited Reub and I to go over to the Reva Store with him and Bob Tenold so Sam could buy me some of the delicious soft ice cream that Vince has there for my birthday. TaTania Verhulst, Hannah White and Cody Gerbracht also had birthdays that day and Cody is recovering from heart surgery so we wish them all Happy Birthday too! When I got to be 29 years old, I used to stay right at that age until our son Casey turned 29 and he thought that was pretty silly of me to be the same age as my son, so I told him I'd go to 39 and that was as far as I was going to go. I was 39 for a lot of years, but I've finally

got old enough to brag about my age so I'm letting you all know that I have now turned 80 years old. I just thank God I've managed to live this long!

Pastor Henry Mohagen had printed this in the church bulletin on Sunday: Faith, courage, and prayer birthed our great nation and guided America through 250 years of wars, natural disasters, and national crisis. Prayer is a freedom guaranteed to us by our Constitution and a God-given right to all humanity. The opportunity to pray is a privilege, honor and sacred duty.



## Then and Now in Newell

### "Looking Forward to our Past"

**April 13, 1916**

There will be a big dollar dance at the Theatorium next Saturday evening after the picture show. Supper for the big dance will be served at the Lynch & Powers Café. 50 cents per plate.

Wayne Whitlock and Cornelius Cole are stocking up their farms west of Newell in the Arpan vicinity with some fine registered stock. They have bought from Welch of spearfish, a 300-pound registered Percheron stallion, formerly owned by D. R. Evans. They have also bought from George A. Lane, of Nisland, a fine littler of registered Duroc pigs, one week old, paying \$8 a piece for them. These men are getting started off on the right foot. They know the difference between the value of scrubs and full-blooded stock.

The occurrence of 3 forest fires on the Harney Forest in the Black Hills region of South Dakota during the latter part of March, necessitated the placing of a guard for patrol duty at the Harney Peak Lookout Observatory.

**April 15, 1926**

A party of Northwestern surveyors are here and commenced running lines today on the proposed railroad spur to the Vale community. There are 4 men in the party, and it is understood they are starting work at a point on the main line just this side of Owl Creek. This indicates the company is considering the feasibility of a spur entirely on the north side, with a terminus on the north side of the river, opposite of the Town of Vale.

C. H. Rickards, local manager of the Squire-Dingee Pickle Company, has gone to

Crawford, Nebraska, accompanied by contractor Vernon Wilson for the purpose of wrecking the cucumber vats at that place and shipping them to Butte County where they will be installed at Belle Fourche, Nisland, Newell and Vale.

On complaint of Ry Wilkinson, in Judge Goff's court this morning Ole Hegglund and was fined \$10 and costs for assault and battery. The fuss arose over some of the Smiley sheep, in charge of Mr. Hegglund, continuously trespass onto the Wilkinson place.

**April 16, 1936**

Last year the Newell Community Club operated on the securing of evergreen trees from the Black Hills for free distribution to residents here. The plan was a success and about 200 trees were planted in the city. This year Beyer Aune, Superintendent of the Experiment Farm, has again offered to supervise the work of getting the trees and plans now are to have these in Newell about the middle of next week. Anyone wishing for some planting can secure them without cost.

A move is underway in Vale Township to abolish the Township and form an incorporated town, according to a petition which has been in circulation there during the past week. Glen H. Shaw, Sturgis surveyor and T. R. Meyer, Belle Fourche, recently made a check to restore boundaries of the original survey of the town.

Bratton's Mercantile Company has prom and banquet dresses. They are the "best ever" this year. Highly styled, these dainty frocks are made in soft crepe, taffeta and crisp silk organza

by Linda Velder

in all pastel shades. Sizes range from 14 to 20 at \$5.75.

**April 11, 1946**

A contract has been signed calling for importation of 650 Mexican Nationals as farm laborers here, according to Stanley Lyman, W F A Representative of the local farm labor office, who returned Sunday from a meeting of state labor officials at Huron.

Lost Sunday between Belle Fourche and Newell, small boy's white sailor trousers, a long white dress and slip, 2 green and white curtains. If found, please return to Mrs. Jerry Kuchera at Belle Fourche Post or Newell Irrigator office.

First new 1946 model car to go on display in Newell was received by Hedrick Sales Company, on Wednesday of this week. It is a Ford Tudor Super Deluxe model direct from the Omaha District office. Additional cars are expected from time to time, owner Ralph Hedrick has explained, with the Newell quota being increased gradually as the Ford plant is brought into full production.

Mrs. Arne Lund, elementary teacher in Newell Schools, suffered a painful accident Wednesday morning when she ran a 3/4 inch sliver of hard wood into one of her thumbs. Dr. Clark removed the piece and treated the injured member. She was able to return to her teaching duties.

**April 19, 1956**

The Annual meeting of the Newell Cemetery Association will be held next Monday evening, April 30 at 8:00 PM at the Newell City Hall, it was announced by sextant, Mrs. Ole Soma. All members of the association, lot owners and others interested in the



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maintenance or improvement of the cemetery are urged to attend.

Mrs. Anna Marie Dumler received newspaper clippings and pictures from relatives in Wisconsin, of the tornado which struck there recently. Several lives were lost, many injured and thousands of dollars of damage was done. Members of her family live 35 miles from Berlin, where the greatest devastation occurred.

Due to the recent illness of Oscar Gorsett, a wonderful example of community spirit and regard for fellow men, took place last week. Neighbors gathered at the Gorsett farm to put in his spring crop. Those who helped were Bob Schulke, Floyd McGillivray, Jimmy and Joe McTighe, Vernon Fairbanks, Arnold Bell, Iver Thinklestad, Fred Hampton, Shirley, Earl, Art and Ronald Miller, Jerry Hensely, Merle Whitford, all Mud Butte and Maurine volunteers. At noon a good hot lunch was served by Mrs. Vernon Fairbanks and Mrs. Donald McGillivray.

**April 21, 1966**

A beautiful wedding ceremony was performed Saturday at 10:00 AM in St. Mary's Catholic Church when Miss Karen A. Lyons became the bride of Wilford Gapp of Walhalla, N.D. The church altar was banked with Easter lilies with large

blue bows. The bride is the daughter of Mrs. Teresa Lyons of Newell and groom is the son of Mrs. Josephine Gapp of Walhalla. The double ring ceremony was performed by Rev. Frank B. Vallo. The bride was given in marriage by her Uncle, Capt. O'Dean Ballmes of Alexandria, L. A. Traditional wedding music was played by Mrs. Don Hafner and accompanied soloist Mrs. Felix Silvernagle. A reception was held in the church hall with Band 4 as hostesses. After a wedding trip to Colorado, the couple will make their home at Walhalla.

FREE, limited offer! A dinette or easy chair with the purchase of a 1966 combination refrigerator-freezer. Inquire at Fizzer's Furniture, Cletus (Fizzer) Huber, proprietor.

Interesting fact: the sloth, one of the slowest of all animals, eats so slowly that before he has finished one meal, it is time for the next.

Sears Sentel of Sonora, Texas, arrived by plane at Rapid City on Tuesday and spent some time at their ranch on the Moreau River managed by Mr. & Mrs. Roy Vansickle. He returned home Saturday. Mrs. Vansickle and Mrs. Howard Conden took Jim, Bob and Kerry to the Y C L convention at Belle Fourche that day.



(L) Laying the railroad spur to Vale. (R) Wedding photo of Karen Lyons and Winfred Gapp on their wedding day.



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

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

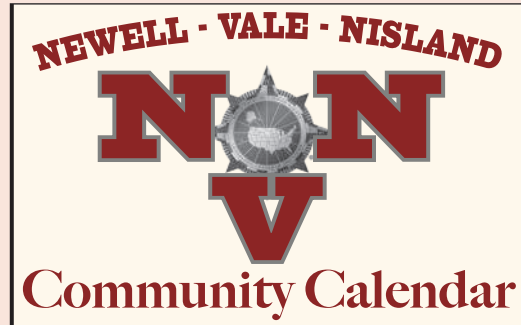
**Feeding South Dakota**  
Second Thursday every month,  
1:30 p.m.

**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

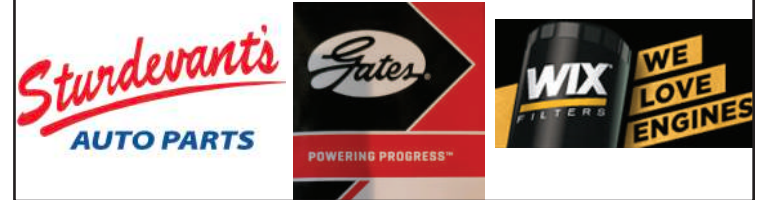


### Newell Service Center

101 4th Street- Phone 605-456-3455



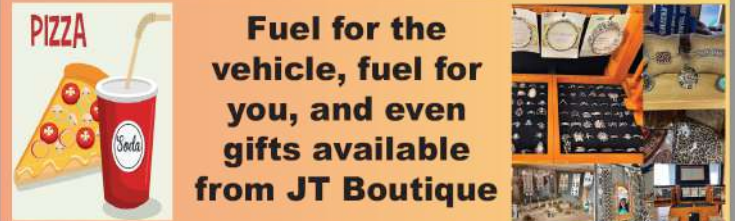
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**Newell Hardware & Supply**  
**320 Girard - Newell SD**  
**605-456-2312**  
Open Mon-Sat 7:30 AM-5:30 PM/Sundays 11 AM-3 PM

### 212/79 Service Center



**Fuel for the vehicle, fuel for you, and even gifts available from JT Boutique**  
121 South Dartmouth Newell, SD  
605-456-0133

106 8th Street P: 605-456-1321  
F: 605-456-1621

### VIP Agency

**Auto, Home, Farm, Commercial**

PO Box 426  
Newell, SD 57760  
[VIPAgency@sdplains.com](mailto:VIPAgency@sdplains.com)

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

Salad Bar available. Menu is always subject to change!



## Narcan Boxes Available in Newell

Betty Bruner

news@bellefourchebeacon.com

NVN—Recently the necessity of having Nalox (Narcan) Box-Overdose Emergency Kits available to the general public in the Newell area prompted several area businesses and city offices to install the kits.

The WIT Coalition, along with the aid of West River Prevention, placed several of these kits in the Newell and Nisland area.

There are wall-mounted kits at the following places:

First National Bank in Newell, located outside the lobby area which is open 24 hours a day

Hitch 'N Post Market

Newell City Bar

Newell City Office (a travel kit is also with the maintenance manager)

Newell Golf Course

Newell School

Newell Evangelical Church

The Newell Evangelical

Church has had one they had received from the Newell Ambulance.

Travel packages were handed out at a meeting in March and also given to the following:

Newell School Kitchen  
First National Banks in Lead, Rapid City, and Sturgis, SD

Star of the Sea Health Clinic, Newell

Belle Fourche Irrigation District

Newell Christian Fellowship Church

High Plains Restaurant

Nisland Farm Fresh Market

Butte Lawrence County Fair Board

Butte/Lawrence County Extension Office

Naloxone (Narcan) is a safe easy-to-use medication that reverses opioid overdoses, including those caused by fentanyl, heroin, and prescription opioids. It works by blocking the effects of opioids in the brain, restoring

normal breathing within minutes. Naloxone has no potential for abuse or addiction. It does not produce a high and is safe even if accidentally administered.

According to the CDC, South Dakota was one of only two state with rising overdose deaths in 2024. The state saw 88 fatal overdoses. As overdoses continue to climb in South Dakota, access to naloxone is more critical than ever.

Each kit contains two doses of naloxone as a nasal spray. Studies show that access to naloxone does not increase drug use and actually encourages treatment.

To learn more or get involved check out the website: emilyshope.charity.



**NALOXONE SAVES LIVES**

Naloxone (NARCAN®) is an Opioid Reversal Medication

Take a kit. Be prepared.



MORE INFORMATION

\*Store at room temperature\*

YOU ARE NOT ALONE, HELP IS AVAILABLE.



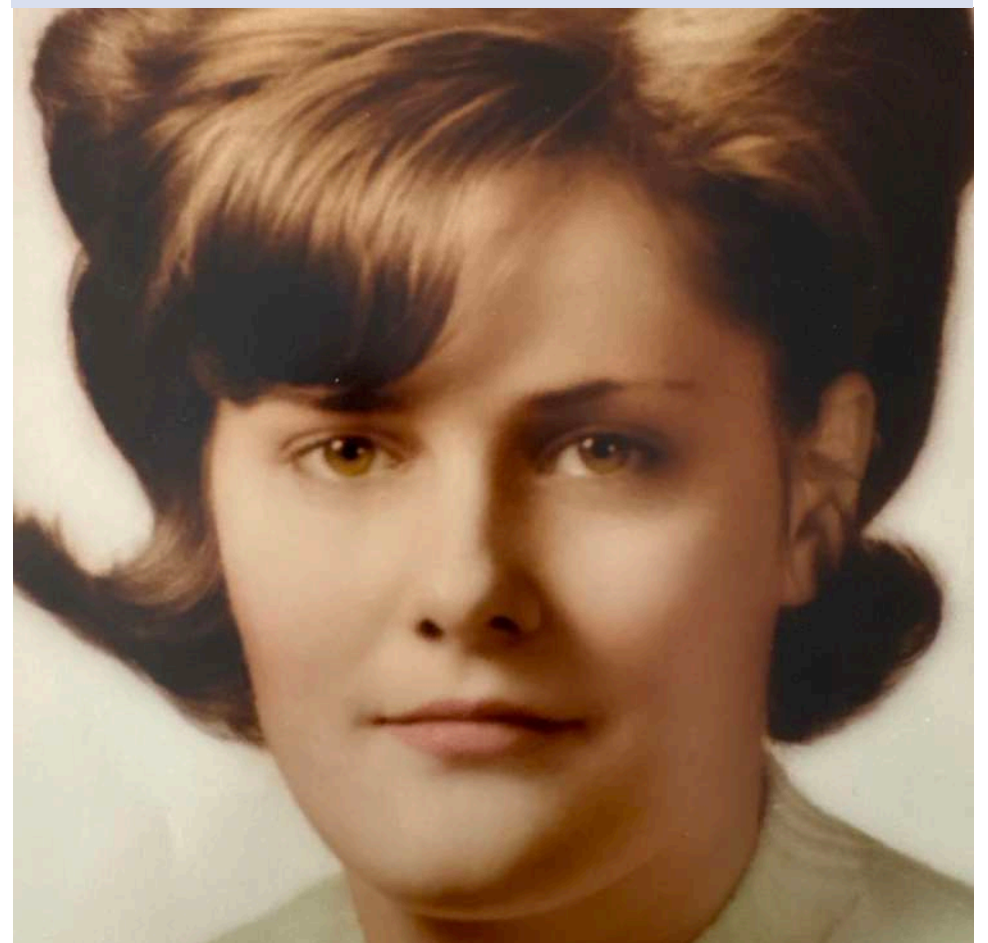
## Pancake Supper Photos

(Top L) Part of the Lions Club fundraiser included a **silent auction**. (TR) Area community members enjoy each other's company as well as pancakes. (Bottom L) The opportunity to purchase baked goods to benefit the Lions Club was also available. (BR) **Lions Club President Judy Heisler** and **Elaine Hewson** serve up pancakes and eggs! *Longbrake photos*



## 80th Birthday Open House

Family and friends are invited to celebrate Darlene Stapp's 80th birthday at an open house on Saturday, May 9, from 1:00 to 3:00 p.m. at Newell Christian Fellowship, 308 4th St., Newell, SD. Please join us in honoring Darlene and helping celebrate this special milestone.



## 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:**

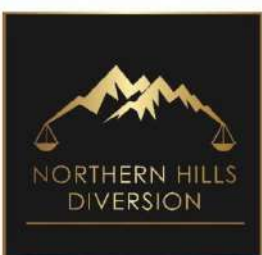
**Newell Christian Fellowship Community Hall**

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