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Primary Election Yields Clear Winners, Sets Up Governor's Runoff

Robbi Longbrake
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Butte County voters weigh in on state and local races, approve data center measure
Polls closed at 7 p.m. June 2, setting the stage for a long night of vote counting across South Dakota. By 12:30 a.m. June 3, 89.9 percent of the vote had been counted statewide as several highly contested races began to take shape.

There are 497,046 registered voters in South Dakota, and 171,729 of them cast a vote in the statewide primary election, with turnout at just under 35 percent. With 99 percent of the vote in, the results are unofficial.

A few of the races were called early in the evening. Mike Rounds was the projected winner for the Republican United States Senate seat. He won over opponent Justin McNeal, receiving 76 percent of the vote. In Butte County, Rounds won every one of the 18 precincts.

On the United States Representative Republican ticket, Marty Jackley will move on to the general election. He beat out his opponent, James Bialota, by getting 79 percent of the votes cast. Jackley also won every one of the 18 precincts in Butte County.

In the South Dakota governor's race, Larry Rhoden, Jon Hansen, Dusty Johnson and Toby Doeden all put up a good fight. Out of 136,485 total votes cast for governor, Doeden received the highest amount, 41,791 (31%). Rhoden was the next-highest vote-getter with 34,379 (25%). Johnson was third with 31,925 (23%) votes and Hansen was fourth, receiving 28,390 (21%) total.



Poll workers in Newell keep busy checking IDs and handing out ballots for the primary election. Longbrake photo

Since no candidate in the governor's race received at least 35 percent of the vote, as required by law, Doeden and Rhoden will face off in a runoff election. The runoff must be held within eight weeks and should be scheduled for July 28.

The voters of Butte County cast 2,209 votes for governor and chose Rhoden with 33 percent and 748 votes. Doeden came in next with 30 percent of the vote, or 680 votes. A total of 453, or 20 percent of Butte County voters, picked Hansen and 328, or 14 percent, chose Johnson.

Looking at races closer to home, Butte County voters

had a full ballot. In addition to casting votes for statewide races, they also had to vote on an initiated measure, a state senator and state representative, county commissioner and school board race.

In Butte County, there are 6,983 registered voters. Of those, 2,627 cast ballots in the election. Just about 38 percent of the local electorate turned out to have a say in state, county and local races and issues.

Everyone, Democrat and Republican, had the opportunity to vote on Initiated Measure A: Resolution to Create an Ordinance to Prohibit Data Centers in Butte County. The

yes vote won overwhelmingly. Out of the 2,569 votes cast on the measure, 2,005 were for yes, while no received 564 votes. The issue now moves to the Butte County Commissioners, where they will have to create the ordinance to prohibit data centers in the county.

There are 17,416 registered voters in District 28. Running to represent the local area on the state level in District 28, Sam Marty, the incumbent, ran against Ryan Maher. Marty ended up the districtwide winner, getting 2,095 votes while Maher got 1,950. In addition, Marty was the clear favorite in Butte County,

sweeping every one of the 18 precincts and receiving 1,220 of the 2,016 votes cast.

State Representative District 28B has 9,244 registered voters. Incumbent Travis Ismay ran against Lawrence Schmaltz. Ismay was the winner of District 28B, receiving 1,597 votes to Schmaltz's 1,313 votes. Butte County voters were mixed on who they wanted, as the race here was close. Out of 2,125 Butte County ballots, Ismay won 1,084 and Schmaltz got 1,041.

The only Butte County commissioner race that had

Election Day Contd. A8

Officers Answer a Different Kind of Call

Robbi Longbrake
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BELLE FOURCHE—A faint meow coming from beneath the hood of a vehicle set the stage for an unusual rescue in downtown Belle Fourche on May 29. Thanks to the quick response of local police officers, a trapped kitten was safely brought to freedom.

Brandy Hoopingarner and Linda Dreiske spent a few hours in downtown Belle Fourche enjoying the Wine Up on State Street event. When it came time to leave, they heard something strange coming from the car. "We heard him crying, so we called the cops," explained Hoopingarner.

Officers Duprel and Bell answered the call. They pulled up in the alley on State Street and heard the faint cat meow-

ing coming from inside the car motor. Duprel took off his vest and got to work! He crawled up on top of the motor area of the red SUV and then he had to crawl under the vehicle too. After a few moments, he came up with a tiny gray baby kitty. The small crowd that gathered cheered!

"They called and said they had a cat stuck in their car—in the motor compartment of their car," explained Duprel. "I showed up, I heard them yelling. I climbed on top of the motor, reached in, got a hold of it once and it pulled away from me, and then it crawled into a different area and so I crawled under the car and grabbed its back legs, wormed him out—got him out!"

Dreiske took the kitty from Duprel and fell in love immediately. "Oh, she's gonna be beautiful," she said. She asked officers if she could take the kitty home with her and they responded yes!

"I'm gonna name her Buzz Kill," joked Dreiske. They had just left the Wine Up event after enjoying all of the different wine and snacks and were in a joyous mood, and then the kitty drama changed that!

While this isn't the typical call the police receive, the two officers that showed up did a great job of handling the situation. "A cat stuck in a motor is pretty unusual—we do handle a lot of animal-related calls, like dogs-at-large and cats-at-large calls—this one's a new one," shared Duprel.



Linda Dreiske, Officer Duprel and Officer Bell with a tiny gray kitten rescued from a vehicle engine compartment. Longbrake photo



Ride or Die Brotherhood makes a presentation of \$412 in cash and collected boxes of food to Chuck Aurand with Compassion Cupboard at the Circle Lounge. Longbrake photo



Jaylee Hanvelt, national secretary, presents \$412 and boxes full of food to the Compassion Cupboard at the Circle Lounge.

Local Fundraiser Supports Compassion Cupboard

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BELLE FOURCHE—In a small town, taking care of each other often shows up in simple but meaningful ways. That spirit was on display May 29 when the Ride or Die Brotherhood and the Circle Lounge came together to present both food collected and money raised to the Compassion Cupboard.

For the presentation, Pastor Chuck Aurand with the Congregational church, was on hand to accept the donations on behalf of the Compassion Cupboard. "Well, this means the world to us, it means somebody cares—that's huge," he said. "We go through cycles where we run out of things like beans, right now, we're really low on beans. We had to go out and buy cereal because we were totally out."

The Compassion Cupboard

is open Tuesdays, 9 a.m. to noon, and Thursdays, 2 p.m. to 6 p.m. Aurand shared, "Anybody that's a member of the county can come in and receive food."

Beginning Friday, April 3rd, Ride or Die Brotherhood held a Queen of Hearts fundraiser at the Circle Lounge. The event went on for six weeks before there was a winner. "Ride or Die Brotherhood would like to thank everyone who came out to support the Queen of Hearts raffle. Together we raised \$412 for the Compassion Cupboard," explained Jaylee Hanvelt, national secretary. "30 percent of the earnings from that event went to the Compassion Cupboard."

After there was a winner to the Queen of Hearts game, the Circle Lounge put out a call for donations of food to be dropped off at

their location. Their patrons brought in items that the Compassion Cupboard was in need of, like pork and beans, canned beans, cereal, flour, sugar, and canned fruit.

"We would like to thank the Circle Bar for hosting this event," said Hanvelt. "Everyone involved has worked together to offer a food donation as well. Please remember that this organization runs solely on donations—so if you find yourself in a fortunate situation, please try to give back to this amazing community that always looks out for others. We hope that today's offerings help."

The two groups plan on having an even bigger Queen of Hearts fundraiser in the fall. Watch for upcoming details.

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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.

Taking the time to make advanced funeral or cremation planning is a caring and responsible thing to do. Planning now, while we have the time to consider every option, can remove significant amount of the emotional and financial stress that every family must eventually face.

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Hal Jewett, 76

Hal Jewett, age 76 of Belle Fourche, died Saturday May 30, 2026 at the Fort Meade VA Medical Center in Sturgis.

A Celebration of Life Service will be held 11am Thursday, June 11, 2026 at the Connection Church in Belle Fourche. Inurnment will take place at Black Hills National Cemetery with Military Honors provided by the Belle Fourche Veterans Honor Guard. Visitation will be held Wednesday June 10th from 6pm to 8pm at Leverington Funeral Home of the Northern Hills in Belle Fourche. Friends may leave written condolences online, view a video tribute, and watch the funeral at: www.LeveringtonFH.com



Hal was born December 31, 1949 in Billings, Montana. He was the son of Gwyn Sr. and Jessie (Fletcher) Jewett. Hal grew up on the family ranch near Isabel, where he graduated from high school in 1968. Hal attended Black Hills State University for 1 1/2 years. During the Vietnam War, Hal served his country in the U.S. Army from February of 1970 to August of 1971. Hal was united in marriage to Tammy Goldade on November 6, 1976. To this union two children were born: Ryan, and Todd.

Hal ranched until the early 1980's and then he entered the grain elevator industry. For many years, Hal managed grain elevators until he retired. In his younger years, Hal enjoyed breaking horses and roping with his friends. Hunting and fishing with his boys was something special and in his later years he loved to go camping with friends and family. Hal was proud of his family and he loved his grandchildren so much. He will be greatly missed.

Hal is survived by his wife, Tammy of Belle Fourche; sons, Ryan of Sioux Falls; Todd (CJ) of Newcastle WY; grandchildren, Zacoy and Rya; sisters, Nina (Armin) Finkbeiner of Belle Fourche, Sheryl (Doug) Hogan of Rapid City; mother-in-law, Jean Tehle of Timber Lake SD; and nieces and nephews. He was preceded in death by his parent Gwyn and Jessie; and father-in-law, Tayfield Goldade.

Charlotte Ann Dougherty, 75

Charlotte Ann Dougherty met her Lord peacefully on May 28, 2026. Charlotte was born April 7, 1951 in Seattle, WA, one of four children born to Robert and Margaret Stinson. She grew up in Seattle and attended Catholic schools there, graduating from Bishop Blanchet High School in 1969. She attended Shoreline Community College and the University of Washington, graduating with a bachelor's degree in accounting. In 1974 she married William Dougherty. The couple had one child, a daughter, Kerry.



After working in several positions in the Seattle area, her professional career began when she joined the information systems group at SAFECO Insurance Company in Seattle in 1985 where she would work for the next nine years.

In 1994, she married Gary Fladmoe. The marriage took her to the east coast where her husband was employed. They would reside in West Milford, NJ for the next twenty years. After a year working as a consultant with IBM, she took a position in information systems with global insurance giant AIG where she would work until her retirement in 2018.

Her husband, Gary, had retired in 1993. Several years prior, the couple had purchased property in Belle Fourche, SD, her husband's birth place and hometown, to build a home for their retirement. The home was finished and ready for occupancy in August of 2014, and the couple moved to South Dakota and took up residence.

Upon becoming a South Dakotan, Charlotte quickly became involved in things in her new community. During her time in Belle Fourche, she served on the boards of the Tri-State Museum and Visitor Center, the Matthews Opera House in Spearfish, and the Belle Fourche Arts Council. She loved writing, especially for the theater, and became a successful playwright, director, and actress. She wrote several one-act plays that were staged as part of the Theater on the Run in Spearfish, and wrote a full-length mystery play that was staged as the single production for the tenth anniversary of Theater on the Run in 2021. Prior to her death, she had just finished another mystery for the fifteenth anniversary of that event this year.

She is survived by her husband, Gary, a step-daughter, Shannon Sellers in Dallas, TX, two brothers, John Stinson in Ennis, MT and Tom Stinson in East Wenatchee, WA, as well as four grandchildren and three great-grandchildren. She was preceded in death by her parents, her first husband, William Dougherty, her daughter, Kerry, and a brother, Joel Stinson.

Visitation will be Sunday, June 7th from 6:00 to 8:00 pm at Kline Funeral Chapel in Belle Fourche. Mass of Christian Burial will be Monday, June 8th at 10:30 am at St. Paul Catholic Church in Belle Fourche. Interment will be at Pine Slope Cemetery in Belle Fourche

The funeral will be livestreamed and can be viewed on Charlotte's obituary page at klinefuneralchapel.com

The family has asked that in lieu of flowers or gifts, contributions to the American Cancer Society in Charlotte's memory would be greatly appreciated.

Arrangements are under the care of Kline Funeral Chapel of Belle Fourche. An online guest book and video tribute is available at klinefuneralchapel.com

Mary Lou Larive, 98

Mary Lou Larive, age 98 of Belle Fourche, went home to heaven on Tuesday, January 27, 2026 at the Rolling Hills Healthcare Center in Belle Fourche, with her loving family by her side.



A Celebration of Life Service will be held 10am Saturday, June 6, 2026 at Leverington Funeral Home of the Northern Hills in Belle Fourche. Inurnment will take place in the Rosehill Cemetery in Spearfish. Friends may leave written condolences and view a video tribute online at: www.LeveringtonFH.com

Mary Lou Solaas was born October 14, 1927 to Martin and Anna (Maher) Solaas at their home in Colome SD. She was the fourth and the only girl of five children, and she grew up in various areas of the Black Hills. Mary Lou greatly loved her four brothers, her brothers-in-law, her sisters-in-law, and her many nieces and nephews that she counted as her own.

While living in Spearfish she met Robert Larive. They were united in marriage on January 19, 1946. She made her own wedding dress and reported it was warm enough for shirt sleeves that day in January. Robert and Mary Lou lived and worked on various dairies in the northern hills area, as well as were employed at trucking jobs, all the while raising their growing family. Seven children were born: James, Connie, Gary, Paulette, Carolyn, Larry, and Mary Beth

In 1968 Mary Lou and Robert moved their family to the Kankakee, IL area to pursue better employment opportunities. Robert worked as a welder, while Mary Lou enjoyed being a maternity and surgical aid at a local hospital. She made dear life-long friends while working at the hospital. In

1975, Mary Lou and Robert moved back to the Black Hills where Robert again worked for dairies and ranches until his retirement, while Mary Lou and her good friend Alice owned and operated an upholstery business, as well as her other adventures during those years caring for the elderly and babysitting precious little people.

Some of her other joys were sewing, crocheting, and teaching others to sew or crochet. Using those gifts, Mary Lou was always making gifts or completing alterations for her kids, grandkids, great grandkids, and her dear friends. Many keepsakes of her artistry will always be held dear.

Mary Lou loved sharing her love for the Lord. She rarely missed an opportunity to pray with and to love on folks who needed it. She loved blessing others and was eager to give her time and resources to help others. She greatly loved her family and always said that her children, grandchildren, and great grandchildren were her greatest joys in life. Mary Lou lived very independently in her own apartment, even at the age of 98. Just this past month, due to an illness, she moved into the Rolling Hills Healthcare Center. The family is extremely grateful to the wonderful staff for the tender care Mary Lou received during her short stay.

Mary Lou is survived by her children: Gary (Kelly Brimhall) of Rapid City, Larry (Debbie) of Bradley, IL, Carolyn (Daryl) Grusing of Belle Fourche, and Mary Beth (Alan) Kindsfater of Belle Fourche; 17 grandchildren; and many great and great great grandchildren.

She was preceded in death by her husband Robert, daughters Paulette and Connie; Son James; and her four brothers.

Sawyer Allen Eck, 15

Sawyer Allen Eck was born November 25, 2010 in Cody, Wyoming. He was the loving son of Colton and Mallory (Cruz) Eck. Sawyer just finished his freshman year at the Belle Fourche High School. It didn't take much time to figure out that Sawyer was a natural born athlete. Basketball and football were sports that he was always working on in his off-time. The Denver Broncos were his favorite NFL team and the Minnesota Timberwolves were his favorite NBA team.



Sawyer loved the outdoors. Whether he was outside shooting hoops, or fishing, he loved being in the fresh air. He also loved video games as most teenagers do. Sawyer had an outgoing personality. To know him was to love him. He was friendly and kind to people, even people just passing by would get a wave out of Sawyer. Relationships in his life were important to him. For the past year he enjoyed his dating relationship with Railynn Strickland and her family as well. Of course his family relationships were vital to him. His sister Reagan was dear to him, and he loved his mom and dad so much.

Sawyer went home to heaven at the age of 15 on Friday, May 29, 2026 following a tragic event at the Orman Dam near Belle Fourche. He is survived by his parents, Colton and Mallory; his sister, Reagan; maternal grandparents, Robert and Rodni Cruz of Labelle FL, paternal grandparents, Monte and Christine Eck of Powell WY; maternal great grandmother, Carmen Torres of FL; paternal great grandmother, Eleanor Hofer of Laurel MT; aunts and uncles, Ashley (Cody) Rose of Powell WY, Kayla (Randy) Rosato of Spearfish SD, Roberto (Amanda) Cruz of Labelle FL, Max (Tyra) Cruz of Mammoth WY, Charlie Cruz of Labelle FL, and Carley Cruz of Labelle FL.

The memorial service will be held 10:30am Friday, June 5, 2026 at the Connection Church in Belle Fourche. Visitation will be held 5 to 7pm Thursday, at Leverington Funeral Home of the Northern Hills in Belle Fourche.

The memorial service will be available to view (after the service is completed) from Sawyer's obituary page, located on the funeral home's website: www.LeveringtonFH.com

Jack William Hunter, 83

Jack William Hunter age 83, of Belle Fourche died May 27, 2026 at his home following a short battle with cancer.



Jack was born in Detroit, MI on April 6, 1943 to Marion and Mildred Hunter. Jack met the lady of his dreams, DeeAnn, while in Denver, CO and later married July 31, 1971 in Denver. To this marriage Tammy was born October 1973, Jason was born August 1976 and Jeff was born January 1981. The family moved to Staples, MN in September 1981 and Kim was born May 1982. While in Minnesota Jack worked for 3M where he made a career and retired from there. After retirement Jack and DeeAnn moved to Belle Fourche, SD to enjoy the rest of their lives. While in Belle Fourche Jack worked part time in Deadwood, and for the City of Belle Fourche. Jack enjoyed putting together his Legos and doing puzzles to pass time.

Grateful for sharing his life are his children Tammy Dahlvang of Summerset, SD, Jason (Cindy) Hunter of Lansdale, PA, Jeff (Tala) Hunter of Kewaunee, WI and Kimberly Jones (Ryan Stedillie) of Belle Fourche, SD; grandchildren Seth (Mariah) Dahlvang of Belle Fourche, Marissa Dahlvang of Lead, Taylor Hunter of Seattle, WA, Ash Jones of Belle Fourche, Steven Hancock of Belle Fourche and great granddaughter Saylor Dahlvang (Seth and Mariah) and his dog Buddy. He was preceded in death by his parents and wife DeeAnn.

The family gives a special thank you to his hospice care team!

Burial will take place at the Johnsonville Lutheran Cemetery in Lucan, Minnesota on Wednesday, June 3, 2026 at 10:30 am. Jack will be laid to rest next to his wife DeeAnn.

Arrangements are under the care of Kline Funeral Chapel of Belle Fourche. An online guest book is available at klinefuneralchapel.com

Romans 12:18

If it is possible, as far as it depends on you, live at peace with everyone.

State Street Toasts the Start of Summer

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BELLE FOURCHE—Businesses in downtown Belle Fourche were open late to provide a special evening of shopping, wine pairing and camaraderie. Merchants from across Belle Fourche partnered with State Street shops to come together and treat area residents to a memorable night at the second Wine Up on State Street—Spring Into Summer—on May 29.

As visitors walked up and down State Street, Wine Up on State Street signs invited them into the businesses that were open and participating in the event. Crowds of people could be seen walking from place to place throughout the evening.

Inside each store, businesses had tables set up with wine samples and tasty treats to pair with the drinks. Each business selected the wine it offered and the food to accompany it.

Some stores hosted business owners who wanted to participate in the event, but whose businesses were located farther away from State Street. For example, when visitors walked into Pasque Ladies Fashion, they not only sampled wine and food pairings curated by the shop, but were also greeted by Dinosaurs of the Hell Creek Museum and SME Treats, each with its own wine and food offerings.

A total of 26 businesses participated in the event. To help attendees find their way, event planners created a State Street map showing the locations of all participating businesses. A wine journal was also created to guide attendees along their tasting journey and give them a way to keep track of the flavors they enjoyed.

There was every kind of wine imaginable, and probably some attendees did not even know they would like. There was Moscato, Char-

donnay, Sauvignon Blanc, Pinot Grigio, Riesling and everything in between. From dry to sweet to bubbly, there was something for everyone to enjoy.

Tickets went on sale May 9 for \$25 and increased to \$30 after May 22. Tote bags were given to the first 50 people who purchased tickets.

Businesses that participated included Pete's Clothing, Pasque Ladies Fashions, Dinosaurs of the Hell Creek Museum, SME Treats, Cowboys TOO!, Redwater Meats, Circle Lounge, Hair Gallery, Prairie Hills Pharmacy, 612 Emporium, Moxie Marketing, Quality Quick Print, Love That Shoppe, Elizabeth Ann's Bridal, Black Hills Curio Co., Anke's Bakery, Hitching Post Tap House, Pearson Block Candy Shop, Pearson Block Hous, Red Onion Marketplace, Belle Flowers + Co., Gentle Touch Chiropractic, Sowers Dry Cleaners and Posy Palace.



Iris Gaaskjolen serves free lemonade to those passing by Pearson Block Hous. Longbrake photo



Found inside Belle Flowers + Co., Gentle Touch Chiropractic offered Breaking Bread Pet Nat wine. Longbrake photo

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Pete's Clothing and Hodge Bootery paired sangria with a variety of pinwheels. Longbrake photo



The Hitching Post Tap House offered samples of Sunset & Sea paired with spicy and sweet crostinis. Longbrake photo

Belle Jackpot Association Underway for Another Summer

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BELLE FOURCHE—A summer staple for area youth, the Belle Jackpot Association is in full swing for another season. The volunteer-run association has been providing fun rodeo competition for around 33 years.

May jackpot dates were held on Thursdays—May 7, 21 and 28. In June, the schedule shifts to Wednesdays, June 3 and 10. Rain dates will be determined if needed.

The Belle Jackpot Association is dedicated to bringing youth rodeo to the local area. The organization offers four designated age divisions along with an open division for goat tying, calf roping and breakaway roping. The age groups are 0-6, 7-10, 11-14 and 15-18. Events offered include goat tying, goat tail untying, barrel racing, pole bending, tie-down roping, breakaway roping, dummy roping and team roping

to help kids hone their rodeo skills.

The events are designed to give rodeo athletes a place to practice in a laid-back setting, but with good competition, while preparing for the upcoming season of high school rodeos, junior high rodeos, Little Britches Rodeos and 4-H rodeos.

The rodeo series is a popular draw for local contestants, with 100 or more youth entered each week. All entries are taken online and close the morning of the event, and fees are collected via Venmo or PayPal, keeping everything running smoothly.

The Belle Jackpot Association relies on sponsors, parents and community members to help make the jackpots run smoothly. Volunteers are needed to help with taking entries, announcing for each arena, posting the draw, supplying the stock, opening gates, preparing the ground, setting

poles and barrels, holding goats, running the roping chute, timing, bookkeeping, prize payout and much more.

There are three designated areas for different events. Beginning at 4 p.m., the dummy roping and goat tail untying are held under the covered stand by the office. The horse events are divided between the east and west arenas, with both starting at 5 p.m.

Follow Belle Jackpot Association on Facebook for updates.



In the 11-14 age division of pole bending, Kinley Baldwin turns the end pole. Longbrake photo

Broncs Place at State

Kandi Tonsager

news@bellefourchebeacon.com

A number of Bronc track and field athletes punched their ticket to the state competition in Sioux Falls May 28-30th earning outstanding accomplishments all the way around. A stand out performer of the weekend was Rhys Pearson who ran the 3200, 1600, 800, and was the anchor in the sprint medley relay, running another 800 in it. She placed in every single one of them!

Coach Wattier states, "Rhys started us off by anchoring the medley to a school record of 4:12.06 and a 6th place finish! On Friday she placed 5th in the 3200m run with a time of 11:21.77! Later that same day she placed 6th in the 800 running a blistering 2:16.94! To cap it all off, Saturday Rhys SMASHED the school record in the 1600 by 12 seconds! She ran a time of 5:07.15 placing her 6th overall!"

Another stand out performance of the weekend was by Ansley O'Brien who competed in multiple events including the 100m hurdles, high jump and the 4x100 and 4x200 meter relay teams which all earned podium places as well. Coach Wattier states, "Ansley O'Brien ran an awesome PR of 15.13 in the 100m hurdles on Thursday to advance to finals on Saturday. The top 4 girls were all within .02 seconds of each other! Saturday Ansley did it again and ran another PR of 14.93 seconds! This betters her school record and placed her 3rd overall!!! Way to go Ansley! She then made the podium a 2nd time tying with two other girls for 8th place in the high jump! She was also

kind enough to let the two others stand in front of her on the podium making it tough to get a picture!"

The girls 4x100m Relay capped off an impressive year with a 2nd place finish! Wattier shares, "In prelims the quartet of Jaz Olson, Ansley O'Brien, Mikka Dunavant, and Mya Nowowiejski matched our current school record of 50.13. Saturday they ran their 2nd fastest time of the season of 50.17, but more importantly placed 2nd scoring 8 important points for the team!"

The girls 4x200m relay of Jaz Olson, Ansley O'Brien, Berklee Nore, and Mya Nowowiejski had a great Championship Saturday running their two best times of the year in prelims and finals, just missing the school record in prelims. They qualified 4th in prelims, and ended up winning silver medals as state runner ups.

To cap off an already great weekend the girls team finished 6th overall!

"This was truly a team effort. As a team we placed in 8 different events!" exclaims Coach Wattier.

For the boys, Gabe Raba finished off an awesome season in the discus. Coach Wattier notes, "He had a toss of 151' 5" which placed him 5th overall! I'm excited to see what he has in store for next year!" Gabe threw 42' 11.75" in the shot put for a 21st place finish.

Gavin Pearson ran a huge PR of 50.55 in the 400m in prelims on Friday! "He ran a great race against a stacked heat today and placed 7th overall!! Gavin is the first Bronc to run a sub 51 second 400 in the last 20 years!" boasts Coach Wattier.

Joseph McLennon had a great weekend in throwing events, throwing 45' 4.25" for a 14th place finish in shot put and 134' 05" for a 14th place finish in discus.

In addition to these accomplishments, the boys 4x200 relay team of, Slater Humbracht, Raif Parmeter, Tegan Fredrickson, and Caeyn Howard ran a 1:36.11 for a personal best time and a 22nd place finish. The 4x400 relay team of, Gavin Pearson, Slater Humbracht, Raif Parmeter, and Caeyn Howard ran a 3:34.14 for a 14th place finish in the prelims, and the 4x800 relay team of Caeyn Howard, Griffen Biehl, Clifford Torberson, and Nathan Hudson ran a 9:05.69 for a personal best time and 22 place finish. For the Lady Broncs, Mya Nowowiejski ran the 200 meter dash with a time of 26:48 for a 12th place finish, Mikka Dunavant competed in the triple jump with a jump of 32' flat edging her way into the top 20, the 4x400 relay team of Jazlyn Olson, Emersyn Carmichael, Mikka Dunavant, and Berklee Nore ran a 4:21.69 for a personal best time and a top 20 finish at #20, the 4x800 relay team of Emersyn Carmichael, Misty Drieling, Isabela Torberson, Layla Drieling ran a 10:57.94 for a personal best time and a 21st place finish, and the sprint medley relay team of Jazlyn Olson, Berklee Nore, Mya Nowowiejski, Rhys Pearson ran a time of 4:12.06 a personal best for a 6th place finish. Aiden Keil and Berklee Nore also competed in high jump events.

The Broncs had a great season and came home with multiple awards to showcase for their hard work and effort. Congratulations Broncs!



4x200 Runner Up silver medalists. Tonsager photo



4x400 relay boys. Tonsager photo



Ansley, high jump. Tonsager photo



Broncs showing off some hardware at the end of the state meet. Tonsager photo



Left: Caeyn Howard in a flock of runners. Center: Gavin Pearson in relay. Right: Slater Humbracht takes off. Tonsager photos

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11th Annual Rec Center Track & Field Meet

The Belle Fourche Rec Center hosted its 11th annual Track & Field meet for K-6th grade kids. Seventy kids competed, with 53 of them participating in three days of group practices prior to the meet. The purpose of the program is to give the kids an introduction to track and field, improve fitness and provide physical activity in a fun environment.

The meet was held on Tuesday, May 26 @ 5:30 pm. Participants could choose up to 3-events, which included a softball throw, standing long jump, 50m, 100m, 200m, 400m, 800m, and 1600m run. The meet concluded with a fun 4x100m relay. The BF Rec Center Programming Team and a half dozen volunteers were involved in this annual event. Event pictures courtesy of Plain Jane Photo and Video.



Good Luck

TO ALL
BRONC
ATHLETES



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Left: Joseph McLennon throwing. Right: Mya Nowowiejski Tonsager photos



Left: Nathan Hudson. Right: Rhys Pearson, mid-pack. Tonsager photos



Ansley O'Brien and Jaz Olson competing in race Tonsager photo

BF Rec Center Kids Track & Field Results

2026

Standing Long Jump			
Kindergarten Boys		Kindergarten Girls	
1 st Micah Enos	4'2 1/2"	1 st Adlee Fox	4'9 1/2"
2 nd Nayzen Floyd	4'0"	2 nd Anya Frederickson	4'7 3/4"
3 rd Memphis Ramirez	3'7 1/4"	3 rd Mercy Enos	4'2 3/4"
4 th Riggs Jensen	3'6 1/4"	4 th Dalayia Feist	4'2"
		5 th Kali Olsen	3'11 3/4"
		6 th Alia Frederickson	3'8 3/4"
		7 th Jaimie Hunter	3'8 3/4"
		8 th Laina Thaler	3'8"
		9 th Harper Randolph	3'2 1/2"
1st/2nd Boys		1st/2nd Girls	
1 st August Thaler	5'5"	1 st Alora Thompson	4'9"
2 nd Finley Horman	5'2 1/2"	2 nd Adley McPherson	4'8 3/4"
3 rd Rhoan Burke	5' 1/4"	3 rd Anna Enos	4'8"
4 th Levi Kirksey	4'11"	4 th Clara Blair	3'11 1/2"
5 th Buck Kling	4'9 1/4"	5 th Angeta Elendorf	3'11"
6 th Alijah McPherson	4'4"	6 th Harper Gelb	3'7"
7 th Cooper Mathews	4' 1/4"	7 th Adilyn Grastie	3'6 1/2"
8 th Sterling Abraham	3'8 1/2"	8 th Louisa Sprigler	3'5 1/4"
9 th Lincoln Somervold	3'4 1/4"	9 th Carissa Robinson	3'5"
10 th Ridge Thompson	2'11 1/4"		
2nd/4th Boys		3rd/4th Girls	
1 st Riddik Randolph	5'9 1/4"	1 st Quinn Enos	6'6 1/4"
2 nd Jude Schulze	4'5 1/2"	2 nd Ivy Enos	5'8 1/4"
3 rd Andrew Thompson	4'5 1/2"	3 rd Remi Jensen	5'2 3/4"
		4 th Avery Carmichael	5'2 1/2"
		5 th Rozley Burke	4'10"
		6 th Isla Fox	4'7 1/4"
		7 th Ellis Jensen	4'6 1/2"
		8 th Mercy Larive	4'3 1/2"
5th Boys		5th-6th Girls	
1 st Braxton Randolph	6'2 1/2"	1 st Ainsley Schmetzer	7' 3/4"
2 nd Simon McKenney	5'10 3/4"	2 nd Rylee Woodroof	6'7 1/2"

A Career of Caring Comes to a Close for Teresa Aspen

Robbi Longbrake
news@bellefourchebeacon.com

BELLE FOURCHE—The waiting area was overflowing at Nehl Dental on May 28, but not for patients waiting to be seen. No, this day it was busy for a very different reason. Family, friends and patients cared for over the years flocked to the lobby to celebrate Teresa Aspen's 30 years at Nehl as she prepared to retire.

Working as a dental assistant for the past 46 years, 30 at Nehl and 16 years before moving over to Nehl, Aspen has seen a lot of changes through the years.

The biggest change she has seen over her career has been the advancement of technology. "Barb and I...used to joke that we thought we were uptown because we had an electric typewriter," she said. "Then we got an answering machine—we're really uptown! We got rid of the old mimeograph-type paper and got an actual copy machine and now we're doing just so many things—scanning, our own milling of crowns and everything in office and digital X-rays!"

Aspen wasn't quite prepared for the technology changes to come over her 46 years, but she adapted pretty easily. "They talk about things at dental meetings and then you'd see just these crazy changes—both offices that I worked at have always been very progressive about the technology," she said.

Even through all of the interesting technological changes, Aspen's favorite part continues to be her patients. "The people have always remained very nice," she shared.

Retirement comes around the same time Aspen is set to become a grandma for the first time and she can't wait!

"We're gonna be getting a new grandchild here very shortly, in Minnesota—our first! And then I have a mother that lives about eight hours away, too, so I'll be spending a bit more time visiting them," she said.

Aspen expects that retiring this time of year will make the transition a little easier. "I went part time last June, so I kind of eased into it, and then I'll be done at the end of this month—you know it'll be a little different, but it's summertime, it's easy to find things to do outside, you know," she explained.

Traveling to see her daughter, first grandchild, mom and siblings are all part of Aspen's plans. So is spending more time with her husband Brian. They met during high school in Spearfish and graduated 50 years ago this year. "We were in the same class...so we've been together since 1973! We got married in 1980—we've been married almost 46 years," she shared.

As Aspen reflects on her career, she is very thankful. "I've been very fortunate to work for great dentists my entire career in dentistry, and this is a great place to work, they do exceptional work! I've had great bosses and great co-workers and great patients—that's what I'm really gonna miss all of the patients—nice patients."



Teresa Aspen retires from Nehl Dental after 30 years. Longbrake photo



Left: Signs outside Nehl Dental encouraged those driving by to honk for Teresa. Above: The lobby area of Nehl Dental was filled with those wanting to wish Teresa Aspen a happy retirement. Longbrake photos

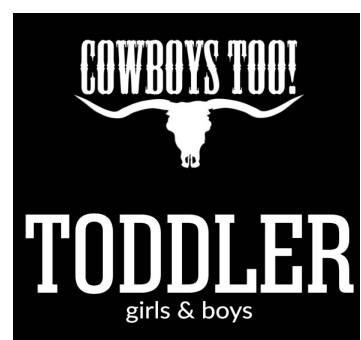


Butte County Farmers Union Day Camp

BELLE FOURCHE—Farmers Union hosted a day camp in Belle Fourche, on May 29th. Youth spent the afternoon focused on learning more about the history of cooperatives through games and interactive lessons. Time was spent playing games, making crafts, and learning about our food system. Campers learned the importance of producers in our food system and were able to identify the path it takes to get from the field to shelf. Campers were all given a tea towel to decorate with the Farmers Union logo and fruit, vegetable, and farm animal stamps as this year's craft. All campers received a T-shirt. Special thanks to CHS and Farmers Union for supplying T-shirts and funding. Thank you to all the campers who came out to join us! For more information on youth activities visit: <http://www.sdfu.org/education/youth-programs-youth-camps>.



Left: Noah W. Right: Lucy R.



Show Up

by Belle LaVenue



Summer is here & all the FINE ARTS SUMMER FUN!

STARTING NEXT WEEK! The YOUTH THEATER CAMP sponsored by Belle Fourche Area Community Theater & the BFMS SUMMER JAM PROGRAM June 9-16 & 20-23. Students in grades 5th to 9th are encouraged to sign up with JAM for their spot in the camp! Email middramset26@gmail.com for more information or to sign up. There is no cost for the camp.

BFACT has cast their Summer Production: Minnesela, a Comedy of Western Proportions. Do you have a friend or family member in the cast? Check out this talented group: Emma Williams: Emma Tinsley; Tom Bragg: Tyler Schone; Sheriff Dave Hoffman: Chris Lenning; Miss Tilly: Kelsey Gronlund; Livvy Miller: Nyomi Woltkamp; Sister Beatrice: Kelly Woltkamp; Dickerson: Carston Sechser; Curly Bill Tate: Geno Pesicka; Potato Creek Pete: Jonathan Tinsley; Mayor Randolph Borgstrom: Colin Hanzlik; Bertha Borgstrom: Sheila West; Lena Hollander: Bella Welles; Hilda Klugenberg: Crystal Woods; Gabby: Don Przybylsk; Martha Mae/Ma Miller: Ember Olson; Sally/Calamity Alice: Kaya Pesicka; Lucy: Lilith Fay; Lacy: Madison Dalton; Crooked Nose Jack: Hunter Cazar; Jake the Bartender/Little Stewie Brown: Daniel Eddy; Pa Miller/The Outlaw Goldy Burke: Cade Pearson; Poker Jake/Driftwood Bodine: Easton Soriano.

Hometown Thursdays starts this week! All summer long - every Thursday evening from 6-9 PM at the Tri-State Museum & Visitors Center. See the fine arts schedule below for the 10 dates & bands.

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!

- June 4, Hometown Thursdays, 6-9 PM: Stereo Trip
- June 11, Hometown Thursdays, 6-9 PM: Tyler Bills
- June 18, Hometown Thursdays, 6-9 PM: Camp Comfort
- June 25, Hometown Thursdays, 6-9 PM: Dakota Country
- July 2, Hometown Thursdays, 6-9 PM: Williams and Wright
- July 9, Hometown Thursdays, 6-9 PM: Jessica Loobey
- July 16, Hometown Thursdays, 6-9 PM: Brandon Jones
- July 23, Hometown Thursdays, 6-9 PM: Wilt Brothers
- July 24-26, 7 PM: BFACT Production: MINNESELA
- July 30, Hometown Thursdays, 6-9 PM: Tim Zach Band
- August 6, Hometown Thursdays, 6-9 PM: JJ Kent w Aces and 8s

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

Students of the Month



Back row left to right: Brylee Barrera, Summer Lureen, Maximus Keyser, Alexander Bush and Gracie Hunter
Front row left to right: Loxley Rempfer, Violet Schuh, Navy Heidegger (not pictured Haylei Udager)



Lucas Fickbohm.

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

Senior "A" Honor Roll: Ysabelle Angeles, Griffin Biehl, Tiril Brattas, Joshua Brill, Riley Dighton, Tegan Fredericksen, Reagan Hatling, Trinity Hostetter, Emma Juelfs, Leah Lambert, Aurora Larive, Denali Larson, Journee Littleton, Justus Marshall, Joseph McLennan, Atlee Olson, Jazlyn Olson, Raif Parmeter, Gavin Pearson, Dylan Park, Syd Pelster, Danielle Vetter, Nicholas Vetter, Kate Williamson

Junior "A" Honor Roll: Khloe Barber, Denali Biegert, Koby Bowden, Mya Bush, Tacen Carr, Lennon Clarkson, Madison Dalton, Angela Derschan, Misty Drieling, Brook Garman, Zachary Gerbracht, Iva Hale, Sara Keetley, Kora Knapp, Paxton Luong, Jobie Manke, Riley Okeson, Gabriel Raba, Ellio Schrede, Derek Scott, Austey Stiefvater, Olivia Sutter, Clifford Torberson, Addilyn

Vansickle, Aurora Voyles, Ian Voyles, Trevor Welles, Kale Williams, Kaylyn Wolf

Sophomore "A" Honor Roll: Jaxon Bach, Kate Blair, Brahnsen Brink, LuKayzee Brink, Liah Castro-Bazurto, Chloe Crowser, Mikka Dunavant, Ivanna Gonzalez-Bazurto, Jaye Hollow-Horn, Evan Jackson, Jack Johnson, Jaxon Kirksey, Birk Kraft, Macy Krautschun, Hadley Kudlock, Kailynn Lang, Kavin Linch, Joshua Main, Peyton Manke, Tatum Martin, Hailey Millett, Emma Nehl, Tenley Neuharth, Iris Niemen, Mya Nowowiejski, Jozelin Palmer, Rhys Pearson, Jasine Reason, Abigail Schmidt, Charleigh Silvernagel, Alexa Stone, Aolani Stone, Kaeli Thompson, Kloie Udager, Dante White, Turner Williams, Dave Williamson, Chelse Zinke

Freshman "A" Honor Roll: Reven Audiss, Fara Bricker, Lissy Broderon, Ella Bryan, William Cudmore,

Kasey Dobesh, Nathan Erhart, Owen Hatling, Mackenzie Huston, Sadee Keil, Rhyann Knapp, Rose LaFayette, Aaliyah Lennon, Sedona Marshall, Kalani Meyers, Elizabeth Moore, Jess Pinkerton, McKenzie Rans, Raina Reder, Payton Richardson, Jaylea Scoggin, Saxton Stiefvater, Rebecca Stumpf, Mariah Tanninen, Jaxsen Tucker, Lyla Vanderboom, Madisyn VanSickle

Senior "B" Honor Roll: Aaron Ager, Avey Atkins, Nathan Bowers, Spencer Bush, Caleb Dosch, Cierra Erhart, Jacer Gross, Adelae Grusing, John Hale, Urijah Hamilton, Adeline Hayes, Tucker Hughes, Slater Humbracht, Riley Hunt, Emmit Lipp, Marek Manke, Merik McNeese, Trigg Olson, Andrew Pruitt, Corbin Rowe, Rylan Stedillie, Stephen Stein, Julie Swanson, Oden Walding, Lukas Warmbrunn, Sern Weishaar

Junior "B" Honor Roll: Elsie Adams, Carmen Beguin, Edward Blair, Lann Broderon, Madisyn Carson, Conner Crowser, Sierra Feickert, Tace Hartman, Jackson Jensen, Prosper Knappen, Deegan Lunders, Clay Mackaben, Mercedes Madison, Annika McNeese, Jory Olson, Vivienne Riesland, Casen Schmidt, Lynley Seaman, Lindsey Selzler, Ember Shannon, Clayton Tanninen, Slone Weishaar, Logan Wilfert, Ryan Wood

Sophomore "B" Honor Roll: Nathan Anderson, Kaydance Bailey, Alice Biden, Abbey Clendening, Mollie Collins, Cooper Conry, Audrianna Dingmon,

Johnny Estrada, McKenzie Ewalt, LouElla Gleason, Micaylah Harwood, Colt Humbracht, Kaylie Ivester, Jaedyn Jones, Jeffery Lafontaine, Parker Lee, Dyllon Pea, Raelynn Rowe, Gabriel Schaefer, Trey Shannon, Caden Swaney, Teagan Tompkins

Freshman "B" Honor Roll: Alexis Allart, Presley Conry, Andrew Coyle, Avery Coyle, Oakley Curtis, Delilah Daniels, Cameron DuBray, Marcus Fetty, Kylie Frisbie, Rylan Gross, Ainsley Jewett, Connor Kukla, Ellie Kukuchka, Aubrey Long, Ashtyn Norlin, Ansley O'Brien, Hope Ogaard, Neeko Piekkola, Braiden Wallace, Bella Wells, Rilyn Williams

New Listings!

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Explore the world of theatre through: Acting & Improvisation, Voice & Character Work, Movement & Stage Presence, Set, Props & Costume Design, Lights & Sound, Auditions & Performance Skills.

WEEK ONE: EXPLORATION WEEK — BREADTH OVER DEPTH
Every student rotates through high-energy workshops led by local Community Theatre experts. Students rotate through four different workshop pairings — one pair per day — so every camper samples eight workshops before Week 2 begins. Each day introduces a new concept of theater.

WEEK TWO: CREATION WEEK — DEEP DIVE AND BUILD THE SHOWCASE
Students choose a track to specialize in and work together to build, create, and perform an original showcase. Each group rehearses and creates something to present at Friday night's Showcase.

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From A1 Election Day

at least two candidates on the ballot was for District 1. Doug Larson took on Cory Tolley for the vacancy. Larson will be the next District 1 county commissioner as he won the race, 416 to 132.

Butte County candidates running unopposed and therefore automatically winning their seats are: County Auditor Annie Capp; Sheriff Fred Lamphere; County Commissioner, District 3, Chad Erk; and County Commissioner, District 5, Jason Kari.

The Newell School Board saw two candidates running for one two-year term. The incumbent, Todd Youngberg, a 12-year school board member, took on first-time candidate Kurt Hocking. A total of 589 ballots were cast in the local

election. Hocking came out ahead, winning 330 votes over 259 cast for Youngberg.

Polling places were open from 7 a.m. to 7 p.m. Voters were greeted with a sign explaining the new law (SDCL 12-18-6.1) requiring proof of identification. There was specific photo identification that must be used, including: a South Dakota driver's license or non-driver ID card, U.S. government photo ID (a passport is acceptable), U.S. Armed Forces ID, current student photo identification card from a South Dakota high school or South Dakota accredited institution of higher education or Tribal photo ID. Additionally, if you didn't have a photo ID, you could sign a personal identification affidavit and be allowed to vote a regular ballot.



Service Station Gets Patriotic Makeover from Volunteers

Robbi Longbrake news@bellefourchebeacon.com

BELLE FOURCHE—What was once a weathered and overgrown service station across from the Butte County Courthouse is now a patriotic display of red, white and blue, thanks to a team of United Way volunteers.

On Saturday, May 23, the volunteer crew spent the day cleaning up and removing all the junk from the property. They picked up old branches, gathered garbage, and cut down all the weeds that were taking over the place. Troy Green Jr. picked up the scrap metal.

On Friday, May 29, the hardworking group went to work on beautifying the property. In honor of the 250th birthday of America, the volunteers painted the old worn walls, curbs, and doors in a vibrant blue color, and the brick planters were painted in a red, white, and blue theme. Dakota Lumber donated the supplies for the project.

After the planters were cleaned and painted in a patriotic finish, they were filled with flowers.

Those who came together and gave their time on the project include Suzanne Campbell, Larry Schmaltz, Bob Bachman, Renee Bachman, Hope Cohn, Vernon Talkington, Kathy Hogen, Chuck Lawless, Bonnie Lawless, David Prozeller, Nikki Hoyme, and Clint Haffner.

Rainstorms showed up during their working weekend, so they had to postpone the last few finishing touches to an upcoming weekend, but no one was complaining, just thankful for the much-needed moisture.



United Way volunteers who helped clean up the old service station on Fifth Avenue are, from left, Clint Haffner, Bonnie Lawless, Chuck Lawless, Nikki Hoyme, Kathy Hogen, Suzanne Campbell, Renee Bachman, Larry Schmaltz, Bob Bachman and Hope Cohn.



Above: A flower planter before it was cleaned and painted. Below: Debris present in the area before cleanup began.



The service station before volunteers began painting and cleaning. Longbrake photos





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Tyler Escott ~ Fieldman: 406-853-5690

Scott Crowser ~ Fieldman: 605-645-2654

JL Driskill ~ Fieldman: 307-660-5422

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

Cattle Report - Friday, May 29, 2026

Just Under 2000 HD Today Weigh Up Cows & Bulls Were Fully Steady

Next Sale - June 5, 2026 - Regular Sale - 9:00 AM

Thank you for Marketing with St Onge Livestock!

Feeder Cattle

Table with columns: Name, Sex/Age, Weight, Price. Includes entries like Bauer, Bradley Or Rhonda, Union Center SD...

Bred Cows - Sold By The Head

Table with columns: Name, Sex/Age, Weight, Price. Includes Semlek Ranch Resources, LLC, Moorcroft WY...

Pairs - Sold By The Pair

Table with columns: Name, Sex/Age, Weight, Price. Includes Fulton Ranch LLC, Broadus MT...

Weigh Up Cows

Table with columns: Name, Sex/Age, Weight, Price. Includes 969 Ranch, Broadus MT...

Main livestock auction list with columns: Name, Sex/Age, Weight, Price. Includes Moore, Eric, Miles City MT; Moore, Matthew or Wendy, Gillette WY; Nixon, Reni, Alzada MT...

Weigh Up Bulls

Table with columns: Name, Sex/Age, Weight, Price. Includes Andersen, Myron, Whitehead SD; Lockwood, Ed, Volborg MT; Morella, Mike, Centennial CO...

Friday, June 5, 2026

Weigh Up Cow & Bull Special

9:00 AM - Weigh Ups

12:00 Noon - Feeder Cattle Followed By Bred Cows

World Livestock Auctioneer Championship (WLAC)

June 17-20, 2026

June 18 - 6:00 p.m. - 9:00 p.m. - St Onge Livestock BBQ & Contestant Draw at Spur Creek Saloon & Ranch, Newell, SD

June 20 - 8:00 AM - WLAC Competition Selling All Classes Of Cattle

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Barney Barnes Sheep Yards Mgr. - 605-641-2333 Auctioneer: Casey Humble 605-490-9829

Fieldman: Gilbert Wood 605-456-2400 605-641-7100 Fieldman: Dustin Vining 605-354-9966

Sheep Report - Thursday, May 28, 2026

Good Run Of Light Lambs In The Offering & They Sold Better Than Expected Slaughter Ewes Sold Steady

Next Sale - June 4, 2026 - Regular Sheep Sale - Selling All Classes Of Sheep & Goats - Start Time 1:00 PM

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

Feeder Lambs

Table with columns: Name, Sex/Age, Weight, Price. Includes Anderson, Bernie, Dupree SD; Anderson, Bernie, Dupree SD; Gilroy, Robert, Rozet WY...

Replacement Ewes - Sold By The Head

Table with columns: Name, Sex/Age, Weight, Price. Includes Blue Gates Services, Gillette WY...

Slaughter Ewes

Table with columns: Name, Sex/Age, Weight, Price. Includes Borntreger, David, Forsyth MT; Innes Ranch, Gillette WY; Pittman, Marissa, Belle Fourche Sd...

Table with columns: Name, Sex/Age, Weight, Price. Includes Borntreger, David, Forsyth MT; Innes Ranch, Gillette WY; Pittman, Marissa, Belle Fourche Sd...

NEWELL SHEEP YARDS

June 4, 2026

Regular Sheep Sale

1:00 PM

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

Watch Our Sales Live On Cattleusa!

2026 SHEEP SALES

- June 11th - Feeder Lamb Special - Selling All Classes Of Sheep & Goats
June 18th - Regular Sale - Selling All Classes Of Sheep & Goats
June 25th - Feeder Lamb Special - Selling All Classes Of Sheep & Goats
July 2nd - No Sale - Celebrate Our Country's 250th Birthday!
July 9th - Feeder Lamb Special - Selling All Classes Of Sheep & Goats
July 16th - Regular Sale - Selling All Classes Of Sheep & Goats
July 23rd - Feeder Lamb Special - Selling All Classes Of Sheep & Goats
July 30th - Regular Sale - Selling All Classes Of Sheep & Goats
August 6th - Feeder Lamb Special - Selling All Classes Of Sheep & Goats
August 13th - No Sale Due To The Sturgis Bike Rally
August 20th - Feeder Lamb Special - Selling All Classes Of Sheep & Goats
August 27th - Regular Sale - Selling All Classes Of Sheep & Goats
September 3rd - Feeder Lamb Special - Selling All Classes Of Sheep & Goats
September 10th - Feeder Lamb Special - Selling All Classes Of Sheep & Goats
September 17th - Annual Replacement Ewe, Ewe Lamb & Feeder Lamb Special - Selling All Classes Of Sheep & Goats - 10 AM Start
September 24th - Feeder Lamb Special - Selling All Classes Of Sheep & Goats
October 1st - Replacement Ewe & Feeder Lamb Special - Selling All Classes Of Sheep & Goats
October 8th - Feeder Lamb Special - Selling All Classes Of Sheep & Goats
October 15th - Replacement Ewe & Feeder Lamb Special - Selling All Classes Of Sheep & Goats
October 22nd - Feeder Lamb Special - Selling All Classes Of Sheep & Goats
October 29th - Replacement Ewe Special - Selling All Classes Of Sheep & Goats
November 5th - Feeder Lamb Special - Selling All Classes Of Sheep & Goats
November 12th - Regular Sheep Sale - Selling All Classes Of Sheep & Goats
November 19th - Replacement Ewe & Feeder Lamb Special - Selling All Classes Of Sheep & Goats
November 26th - No Sale - Happy Thanksgiving!
December 3rd - Regular Sheep Sale - Selling All Classes Of Sheep & Goats
December 10th - Replacement Ewe & Feeder Lamb Special - Selling All Classes Of Sheep & Goats
December 17th - Regular Sheep Sale - Selling All Classes Of Sheep & Goats - Last Sale Of 2026!

2026 CATTLE SALES

June 12th - Regular Sale - Selling All Classes Of Cattle Saturday, June 20th - World Livestock Auctioneer Contest - Selling All Classes Of Cattle

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

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

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Local.

Looking Back in Belle

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



by Mary Buchholz

136 years ago
Queen City Mail
August 3, 1891
THE WEEK'S PERSONALS
G. C. Favorite and A. W. Avery went down to the stock pens at Belle Fourche this afternoon to attend to shipping cattle for H. G. Weave. They expect to send out the first train load of cattle tonight. Mr. Avery will go with the train. Belle Fourche Bee Notes F. J. Van Horn has been engaged the coming year to run the big flour-mill in this city. Mr. Van Horn is a first-class miller and will place our mill in the front rank from the commencement. He has purchased a lot and will build a residence immediately, intending to take up his permanent residence in this city. He will build adjoining the property of D. L. Hawkins. The Spearfish Lumber company has been putting some lumber in this town for several parties, and will hereafter make a specialty of Belle Fourche business.

ited This Area Occasionally Before 1876 by D. R. Evans
Up to 1883 what is now Butte county was under the jurisdiction of Lawrence county, although there was little law or organization north of the Belle Fourche river. Prior to 1876 there were no settlers in any of this territory although it was visited occasionally by trappers working for the American Fur Company of St. Louise, Mo., and the Hudson Bay Company. There is an authentic account of James Beckman, alias "Ducks", having camped at the site of the present town of Belle Fourche in the years 1954 and 1956. The earnest settlers were on Redwater. William Harris squatted on the present Evans ranch. William Twornbley, also called "Buffalo Bill," and John Spaulding, "Buckskin Johnnie," on the Jones ranch and later John McClure and Conrad Berg located lower down the river. Practically all of locer Redwater was settled by the year 1880. William Grimmett and Joseph Wickert were the first settlers on the Belle Fourche river west of the present town. North of the river there were several ranches located, and during the first half of the '80's many thousands of cattle had been turned loose on the range, and the whole territory north to the Northern Pacific and west to Powder river was organized into round-up districts and was worked thoroughly. Up to the year 1881 there was no town located in what is now Butte county. During that year A. A. Chauteau and D. T. Harrison located town of Minnesela. C. Cardinal, of St. Onge, and Harry Leonard hauled the first loads of lumber from the Hills. In the election of 1882, A. A. Chauteau, a democrat, and E. M. Bowman, a republican, both lawyers and having offices in Deadwood, were among those elected from Lawrence county to the territorial council which was to meet at Yankton the capital of Dakota Territory, in January 1883. In the meantime, Bowman had become interested in Minnesela and there gentlemen were instrumental in having Butte county organized during the session. It was named from the numerous buttes which appear in the county mainly those around Nisland and south of the river Owl Butte, Castle Rock, Two Top and various others. There

was an election of population held in July, 1883, there being 150 votes cast, nearly all of them in favor of creating the new county. Minnesela was named county seat; there was only one other contender for the honor, Prairie City, located about one mile from the present site of Nisland, on the south side of the river.

50 years ago
Belle Fourche Bee
May 28, 1976

Avenue of Flags New Memorial Day Feature The setting for Memorial Day services sponsored by local veterans' organizations was the new Avenue of Flags. This is the series of smaller flags on either side of the permanent flag pole on Memorial Hill in Pine slope cemetery. Flags for the "Avenue of Flags" are donated by relatives of deceased veterans. There are 10 such flags Monday. Flags have been donated in honor of Everett Shevling, Robert S. Baird, Ted Tesseness, Kenneth Bervans, John Siefert, Julius Gaver, Rawl Robinson, John Scholl, Lyle Miller and Hallis Hegge. This is a continuing programs and as more flags are donated, they will be added to the "Avenue" to extend the line flags down the hill. About 200 people were on hand for Monday morning's services. Alvin Parks, past commander of district 12 of the American Legion extended the welcome and served as master of ceremonies. Diane Leger sand the national anthem and Rev. Kenneth Dunn gave the invocation. Wreaths presentation were made by Lucille Kaiser for the American Legion Auxiliary, Barbara Bentz for the AMVETS Auxiliary, Bob Helmer for the American Legion, Alfred Barbour for the AMVETS, Jim Anderson, Sturgis, for the Disabled American Veterans; Dave Heinbaugh for the local Masonic Ledge and Leo Niemann for the 100F lodge. Rev. Sam Cusing delivered the Memorial Day address. The National Guard firing squad made the traditional statue and Taps was played by Michael Calfich and Alan Kindsfater.

100 years ago
Northwest Bee
June 3, 1926
1926 CLASS LARGEST IN HISTORY Twenty-Six Graduates From Belle Fourche High School This Year The annual high school commencement exercises of the Belle Fourche high school will be held tonight Thursday at the Legion hall. The graduating class this year will be the largest which has ever gone forth from the Belle Fourche high school, there being twenty-eight members of the class of 1926; the largest class heretofore graduated has been twenty-two. The address will be delivered by the Hon. Alvin Waggoner of Philip, S. D., vice president of the state regents of education. Music for the exercise will be furnished by the High School Girls glee club, the Boys' Trio, and a piano number by Wilhelmina Penfold. There will be six scholarships and prizes awarded this year, four of these being scholarships give by the State Colleges, and the other two being prizes give by local parties or organizations for individual student merit.

75 years ago
The Belle Fourche Bee
May 21, 1951
60th Anniversary Edition
1981-1951 Hudson Bay, American Fur trappers Vis-

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THE
DAKOTA SCOUT

The Belle Fourche BEE

BELLE FOURCHE, S. D. TIMES VOL. 77 BEE VOL. 85
NUMBER 22
FRIDAY, MAY 28, 1976

Senior Volunteers are Honored Here




SEVENTY persons were on hand Tuesday evening when members of the RSVP (Retired Senior Volunteers Program) were honored for their activities in Belle Fourche. There are 32 persons in the volunteer program, which is a part of the Spearfish RSVP station. Among their activities are the "Meals on Wheels" program which delivers hot meals to senior citizens in their homes. The RSVP group will also be in charge of the Johnny Spaulding cabin this summer. A.H. Mortenson is director of the local program and J.B. Smith is director of the Spearfish station. Guest speakers included Myrl Hanson, state director of the National Association of Retired Persons, Spearfish, and Supt. Joe Keegan of Belle Fourche, who pointed out that the seniors are a "great untapped resource." Top: A few of the crowd gathered at the Lutheran Church for Tuesday's event. Below left: J.B. Smith, Spearfish, master of ceremonies. Below right: A.H. Mortenson, who directs the local RSVP program and was in charge of arrangements for Tuesday's event.

(Photography Unlimited Photo by Jack McKean)

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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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	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI
2026	27	28	29	30	1
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	Pork Roast Cheesy Potatoes Honey carrots Roll	
4	5	6	7	8	
Chicken & Rice Casserole with Steamed Broccoli Roll	Meatloaf & Gravy Baked Potato & Carrots Roll	Goulash with Cornbread Mixed Veggies Salad	Roasted Turkey Mashed Potato / Gravy Green Beans Roll	Chicken Sandwich Red Potato salad Peas	
11	12	13	14	15	
Roast Beef with Gravy Mashed Potato Green Beans Roll	Pork Loin with Rice Dressing & Gravy Peas & Carrot Roll	Ham & Bean Soup Grilled Cheese Sandwich Salad	Beef Spaghetti Dinner Salad Garlic Sticks	Parmesan Chicken Over Pasta Dinner Salad Garlic Stick	
18	19	20	21	22	
Hot Turkey Sandwich Mashed Potato/ Gravy Green Beans	Beef Indian Taco Refried Beans Salad Chips	Sweet & Sour Pork over White Rice Asian Veggies	Meatloaf & Gravy Mashed Potato Green Beans Roll	Chicken Cordon Bleu Sweet Potato Mixed Veggies	
25	26	27	28	29	
Baked Chicken Roasted Reds Carrots Roll	Ham & Rice Casserole Cheesy Brussel sprout Dinner Roll	Swiss Steak Roasted Potato & Carrots Roll	Chili Cheese Dogs Steak Fries Dinner Salad	Hamburger Casserole Tater tots Dinner Salad Roll	

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

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Market Report - Thursday, May 28th, 2026

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PAIRS	HD	DESC	WT	BID	\$/HEAD
Sams Livestock, Weston WY	25	Black-Pair	1101	5000.00	\$5,000.00
Gene Roberts, Moorcroft WY	28	Blk/Bwf-Pair	1599	4550.00	\$4,550.00
	14	Red/Rwf-Pair	1653	4450.00	\$4,450.00
Phillip/Linda Vandervoort, Piedmont SD	11	Black-Pair	1746	4525.00	\$4,525.00
Reed/Jamie Vandervoort, Piedmont SD	12	Blk/Bwf-Pair	1606	4350.00	\$4,350.00
Ronda Cordell, Camp Crook SD	13	Black-Pair	1565	4325.00	\$4,325.00
	2	Black-Pair	1153	4300.00	\$4,300.00
Matt Or Donna Perino, Newcastle WY	5	Black-Pair	1236	4200.00	\$4,200.00
Evelyn Hunsaker Revocable, Hermosa SD	8	Blk/Bwf-Pair	1649	4350.00	\$4,350.00
Troy Anstine, Rapid City SD	7	Blk/Bwf-Pair	1536	4050.00	\$4,050.00
FEEDERS					
McDonald Ranch Inc, Aladdin WY	42	Black-Yrimg Str	837	370.50	\$3,101.61
Matt Or Donna Perino, Newcastle WY	72	Blk/Bwf-Yrimg Hfr	705	391.00	\$2,757.63
	47	Blk/Rd/Ch-Yrimg Hfr	722	387.50	\$2,797.83
	19	Blk/Rd/Ch-Yrimg Hfr	615	404.00	\$2,484.60
Jim Or Lisa Darlington, Newcastle WY	27	Blk/Bwf-Yrimg Str	845	368.50	\$3,115.18
	19	Blk/Bwf-Yrimg Hfr	802	347.00	\$2,783.30
Todd Barkley, Baker MT	33	Black-Yrimg Str	674	410.00	\$2,762.53
Dale & Carmel Hansen, Banner WY	15	Black-Yrimg Hfr	669	392.00	\$2,623.78
	14	Black-Yrimg Hfr	720	392.00	\$2,823.80
Laughery Ranch LLC, Ekalaka MT	30	Black-Yrimg Str	735	404.00	\$2,969.40
Leroy Schallenberger, Ekalaka MT	39	Blk/Bwf-Yrimg Hfr	662	397.00	\$2,627.32
Tom Hayes, Alzada MT	20	Black-Yrimg Str	685	404.00	\$2,765.38
Leroy & Kay Rene Jones, Rozet WY	15	Herf-Yrimg Hfr	738	358.00	\$2,640.84
WEIGH UPS					
6 Creeks Farm, Ekalaka MT	1	Black-Cow	1240	217.50	\$2,697.00
	1	Black-Cow	1345	198.00	\$2,663.10
	7	Black-Cow	1521	188.00	\$2,860.28
Evertt Kraft, Upton WY	1	Black-Cow	1320	199.00	\$2,626.80
Owen Rumph, Biddle MT	3	Black-Cow	1323	201.00	\$2,659.90
Leroy & Kay Rene Jones, Rozet WY	6	Herf-Cow	1207	215.00	\$2,594.33
Tim & Gayline Fortner, Broadus MT	7	Black-Cow	1396	191.50	\$2,674.16
	3	Black-Cow	1270	195.00	\$2,476.50
Lloyd Davis, Osage WY	1	Black-Cow	1070	225.00	\$2,407.50
	1	Black-Cow	1415	186.00	\$2,631.90
Snook Land & Lvstk. LLC, Sundance WY	7	Black-Hfrt	984	307.50	\$3,026.67
	1	Black-Cow	1435	189.00	\$2,712.15
Lee & Linda Elliott, Newcastle WY	8	Rd/Blk-Cow	1479	187.50	\$2,772.65
Austin T Risty, Reva SD	4	Black-Cow	1321	201.00	\$2,655.71
Tim Moirney, Alzada MT	1	Black-Cow	1265	237.50	\$3,004.37
	1	Black-Cow	1025	267.50	\$2,741.87
Myron Johnston, Hammond MT	1	Black-Cow	1245	232.50	\$2,894.62
Charles Belch, Upton WY	1	Black-Cow	1430	188.50	\$2,895.55
	1	Black-Cow	1640	186.00	\$3,060.40
	1	Black-Cow	1650	186.00	\$3,069.00
Bryan Tarter, Ashland MT	1	Black-Cow	1265	215.00	\$2,719.75
	2	Black-Cow	1078	255.00	\$2,747.62
Tenke Livestock LLC, Sundance WY	3	Black-Cow	1217	215.00	\$2,615.83
Dave Moline, Aladdin WY	1	Bwf-Cow	1535	187.00	\$2,870.45
Todd Barkley, Baker MT	1	Black-Hfrt	1010	307.50	\$3,105.75
	1	Black-Hfrt	1020	307.50	\$3,136.50
Dave Mader, Biddle MT	1	Black-Cow	1255	237.50	\$2,980.62
Norman Sams, Weston WY	1	Black-Hfrt	980	320.00	\$3,136.00
	2	Black-Cow	1400	188.00	\$2,632.00
Lary & Deanna Steele, Sundance WY	1	Black-Cow	1245	195.00	\$2,427.75
Wagner Trust, Moorcroft WY	4	Black-Cow	1114	245.00	\$2,728.68
	1	Black-Hfrt	920	320.00	\$2,944.00
	1	Black-Cow	1380	194.00	\$2,677.20
Jay Brownfield, Hammond MT	1	Black-Cow	1330	193.00	\$2,566.90

Brownfield Ranch Inc, Hammond MT	1	Rwf-Cow	1595	187.00	\$2,982.65
Dean & Mary Tarter, Camp Crook SD	9	Red-Cow	1606	187.00	\$3,003.42
Otto & Demarest Schlosser, Hulet WY	2	Bwf-Cow	1423	187.00	\$2,660.07
	1	Black-Cow	1695	187.00	\$3,169.65
Monte Smith, Faith SD	1	Bwf-Cow	1325	191.00	\$2,530.75
Galil Ranch Inc, Broadus MT	12	Blk/Bwf-Cow	1298	196.00	\$2,543.91
	10	Black-Cow	1114	234.00	\$2,605.59
	9	Black-Cow	1194	183.00	\$2,184.81
	2	Black-Cow	1013	219.00	\$2,217.37
Jason King, Hammond MT	3	Blk/Bwf-Cow	1258	193.00	\$2,428.58
	6	Blk/Bwf-Cow	1183	197.00	\$2,329.52
	6	Black-Hfrt	994	306.00	\$3,042.15
Diamond Hook Ranch Inc, Ashland MT	10	Black-Cow	1542	188.00	\$2,898.02
	1	Black-Cow	1230	196.00	\$2,410.80
Richard Jesse, Broadus MT	2	Black-Cow	1375	190.00	\$2,612.50
Paul Or Nancy Brence, Ekalaka MT	2	Black-Cow	1358	192.50	\$2,613.18
	1	Black-Cow	1565	188.00	\$2,942.20
John Or Mike Riley, Volborg MT	5	Black-Cow	1448	190.50	\$2,758.44
Chad Mackaben, Belle Fourche SD	5	Black-Cow	1301	193.50	\$2,517.43
	1	Black-Cow	1430	188.00	\$2,688.40
	1	Black-Cow	1470	187.50	\$2,756.25
Kari Kittelmann, Ekalaka MT	3	Black-Cow	1372	191.00	\$2,619.88
Scott Kittelmann, Ekalaka MT	4	Black-Cow	1374	191.50	\$2,630.73
Mallett Cattle Co, Powderville MT	4	Black-Cow	1343	194.00	\$2,604.45
Saunders Land & Lvstk Co, Gillette WY	6	Rd/Blk-Cow	1385	196.00	\$2,714.60
	5	Rd/Blk-Cow	1615	187.50	\$3,028.12
Justin & Heather Edwards, Wright WY	6	Black-Cow	1375	190.50	\$2,619.37
	3	Black-Cow	1298	194.50	\$2,525.25
Kyle & Shelly West, Oshoto WY	3	Black-Cow	1515	188.00	\$2,848.20
	2	Black-Cow	1203	194.00	\$2,332.85
	2	Black-Cow	1363	192.00	\$2,616.00
Rafter Diamond Lip, Buffalo SD	3	Black-Cow	1570	187.50	\$2,943.75
Home Creek Cattle Co, Ashland MT	5	Black-Cow	1474	188.00	\$2,771.12
BULLS					
Dinosaur Cattle LLC, Missoula MT	1	Black-Bull Df	2275	225.00	\$5,118.75
Clark Blake, Belle Fourche SD	2	Black-Bull Df	2055	217.50	\$4,489.62
Shane Finn, Nisland SD	1	Red-Bull	2350	215.00	\$5,052.50
Haier Enterprise Inc, Spearfish SD	1	Black-Bull Df	2070	223.50	\$4,626.45
Daniel N Stearns, Edgemont SD	1	Herf-Bull Df	1950	208.00	\$4,056.00
Mecaha Cattle Co, Belle Fourche SD	1	Black-Bull Df	1980	211.00	\$4,177.80

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JUNE 4, 2026

WUPS @ 9AM MT & PAIRS/FEEDERS @ 12PM MT

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JUNE 11, 2026

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& HORSE SALE TO FOLLOW

ATTENTION ON-LINE BUYERS

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

UPCOMING SALE SCHEDULE

June 4, 2026.....PAIR & FEEDER CATTLE SPECIAL - SELLING ALL CLASSES

.....- WUPS @ 9AM MT & PAIRS/FEEDERS @ 12PM MT

June 11, 2026.....PAIR & FEEDER CATTLE SPECIAL - SELLING ALL CLASSES

.....- WUPS @ 9AM MT & PAIRS/FEEDERS @ 12PM MT

June 18, 2026.....PAIR & FEEDER CATTLE SPECIAL - SELLING ALL CLASSES

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CATALOG: MAY 29, 2026, 5:00PM MT
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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



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REGISTRATION @ 8:00AM

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Belle Fourche Veteran Honored on Midwest Honor Flight to Washington, D.C.

BELLE FOURCHE—For Dave Raber, a U.S. Navy veteran who grew up in Belle Fourche, S.D., a recent Midwest Honor Flight to Washington, D.C., became far more than a sightseeing trip. It was a powerful day of remembrance, gratitude, and recognition for military veterans who served their country decades ago.

On May 19, Raber joined 82 other veterans from South Dakota, Northwest Iowa, Northeast Nebraska, and Southwest Minnesota on Midwest Honor Flight Mission 30. The nonprofit organization transports veterans to the nation's capital free of charge so they can visit the national memorials dedicated to America's military service members and the sacrifices they all made.

The timing felt especially meaningful as the United States celebrates its 250th anniversary.

"The whole Honor Flight experience helped to wiped out the bad memories I had from coming home from war all those years ago," Raber said.

Mission 30 included 74 Vietnam veterans, five Korean War veterans, and four peacetime veterans. Raber's son, Barry, who was born while his father was at war in Vietnam, accompanied his father on the one-day trip.

The day of the tour began long before sunrise. Veterans gathered in Sioux Falls to sing "The Star-Spangled Banner" at 4:20 a.m. before boarding a chartered JetBlue aircraft for Washington, D.C. A dedicated team of volunteers assisted the veterans every step of the way.

"There had to be close to 100 volunteers helping throughout the trip," Barry Raber noted. "There were volunteers on the buses, a medical team, people helping with wheelchairs and mobility, handing out food and water. Everything was extremely well organized."

Dave described the experience simply: "It was first-cabin all the way."

During their whirlwind tour of our nation's capital, the group visited seven major national memorial sites: Arlington National Cemetery, the Vietnam Veterans Memorial, the Korean War Memorial, the World War II Memorial, the Navy Memorial, the Air Force Memorial, and the U.S. Marine Corps Memorial, also known as the Iwo Jima Memorial.

For Raber, Arlington National Cemetery left the deepest

impression.

"The changing of the guard at the Tomb of the Unknown Soldier was the highlight for me," he said. "The soldiers who performed it were incredibly well trained and moved with extreme precision. You could tell how much respect they had for what the memorial represents."

Barry said seeing Arlington National Cemetery for the first time helped him grasp the scale of military sacrifice in our country.

"I never realized how massive it was," he said. "There are more than 400,000 people buried there, and they perform 30 military funerals a day."

The veterans also had an opportunity to meet with South Dakota's congressional delegation during their visit to Washington. U.S. Senator John Thune and U.S. Representative Dusty Johnson took time from their busy week in session to greet the veterans and thank them personally for their service.

At the Iwo Jima Memorial, the veterans gathered for a group photo beneath the towering bronze sculpture depicting Marines raising the American flag over Iwo Jima during World War II.

Raber, who served in Vietnam during 1967 and 1968, said seeing the memorials in person carried a special emotional weight.

"These monuments honor people who sacrificed so much for the country," he said. "Being there and seeing them up close gives you a completely different appreciation."

Raber served as the only commissioned officer assigned to a Patrol Boat Riverine unit during the Vietnam War. He survived the Tet Offensive and helped lead Navy psychological operations efforts during the conflict.

In 2025, he documented his experiences in a wartime memoir, From Variety Show to Vietnam. During the Honor Flight, he handed out signed copies of the book to fellow veterans, volunteers, and even flight attendants.

The trip also included many memorable moments designed to recognize the veterans' service. The night before the flight, veterans and families attended a banquet at the Sanford Event Barn in Sioux Falls. During the return flight home, each veteran received "Mail Call," a packet of letters and cards

from family members, friends, schoolchildren, and elected officials.

"I received nearly 50 letters," Raber said. "Some were from family and friends. Some were from local school kids who included drawings and thank-you notes."

When weather delayed the group's return flight from Reagan National Airport, volunteers entertained the veterans by singing patriotic songs, including "God Bless the USA."

Once they got back to Sioux Falls, Operation Welcome Home was in full swing. The final moments of the Honor Flight wowed the veterans yet again, as about 1,000 local citizens showed up to welcome them home with flags and handmade signs and a bagpipe band playing.

"I must've shaken hands with 500 people, who each said, 'Thank you for your service.' They let us know how much they appreciate what we sacrificed," Raber said. "It was overwhelming."

Founded in 2017, Midwest Honor Flight is part of the national Honor Flight Network, which operates through more than 130 regional hubs across the country. Flights are funded entirely through donations, allowing veterans to participate at no cost.

Because of high demand, veterans often wait years for the opportunity. Raber's niece, Tracey Steinbach, submitted his application nearly two years ago.

Although he initially hesitated because of the long schedule and extensive travel, Raber now strongly encourages other veterans to participate if given the chance.

"If you have the opportunity to go, you should," he said. "The volunteers take such good care of you, and seeing those memorials in person is something you'll never forget."

"The whole experience will make you proud of being a U.S. citizen."



Barry, Dave, and Senate Majority Leader John Thune. Courtesy photo



JUNE CHAMBER MIXER

SPEARFISH SASQUATCH

Friday- June 19th
Starting at 6 PM
Fireworks After Game

Belle Fourche CHAMBER OF COMMERCE

COWBOYS TOO!

SPORT COATS

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.
10913 Sourdough Road, Belle Fourche
website: ebcfbf.org

FIRST BAPTIST

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

FIRST CONGREGATIONAL UCC

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

FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

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

Pastor Sheri Fadley
1804 7th Ave. Belle Fourche
605-892-2405
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Sunday School 9:30 am
Small Groups & Studies
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723-1092
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642-1122
Luke Bluhm, Pastor
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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

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Belle Fourche Rec Center
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605 569-3057
Sermons: fightintheshade

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and on Facebook.
Pastor Randy Hedge
605-642-8253

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The Rev. Sandy Williams, Priests Deacon
Rev. Mike Weaver
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Watch our Sunday service
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www.bfsoucc.org

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Father Max Vetch, Pastor
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Daily Mass: Tues. & Thurs. 12:15 p.m.
Confessions available one hour
before all Masses

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Pastor Rick and Diane Brennan
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Kidz Church Immediately Following
Wednesday: September - May
6:30 p.m. Adult Bible Study
Kidz Alive (Kindergarten - 6th Grade)

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TOURNAMENT LINE-UP 2026

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Member Guest	July 31st- Aug 2nd	2 Person Chicago \$ 220 PER PERSON SKINS & DUCES INCLUDED
Club Championship	August 23th	Individual \$ 60 PER PERSON SKINS & DUCES INCLUDED
Couples Tournament	September 6th	2 Person Campman \$ 150 PER COUPLE → MEMBER \$180 PER COUPLE → NON MEMBER
HORSE RACE TO END Triple Crown	September 19th-20th	2 Person Teams \$ 180 PER PERSON 3 DIFFERENT FORMATS

https://www.bellefourchecountryclub.com/tournaments/ 605-892-3472

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America 250

TUESDAY, JUNE 16 6:00 PM Free Admission

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By John Newby "Building Main Street, not Wall Street"
"Herd Mentality Builds or Buries Communities"

Jim Hightower once said, "The opposite of courage is not cowardice, it is conformity. Even a dead fish can go with the flow." I have spent a lot of years watching communities fight for their own futures, and I have come to a conclusion that most civic leaders are not ready to hear. The herd mentality is not a personal flaw, a leadership failure, or a temporary phase. It is a force of nature. It is the single most powerful social current running through every community in America, and it does not care whether your town survives or disappears. What matters is one question: which direction is your herd moving?



away from it.

I have witnessed this play out in real communities with my own eyes. One mayor I know decided to streetscape a single block of a neglected downtown. Nothing dramatic, no grand announcement, just sidewalks, lighting, and a little landscaping. The following year, he did a second block. The year after that, a third. By year three, something unexpected happened. Private money began appearing in those empty storefronts. Investors who had sat on the sidelines for years started calling. The herd had spotted a signal, and the signal said this town is moving forward. What started as a modest public investment became a full downtown transformation because the herd mentality, so long the enemy, had switched sides.

That is a winning community understanding the assignment. They did not wait for unanimous agreement. They did not commission another study. They did not slow down once private money appeared, thinking their job was done. They doubled down. They kept the signal strong. They gave the herd nothing to doubt and nowhere else to go. Eight years later, that downtown is unrecognizable compared to what it was.

Now flip the picture and look at a losing community. Losing communities have shelves lined with planning reports no one implements. They launch initiatives with great fanfare and abandon them when resistance appears. They delay funding decisions for months while arguing over minor details, and by

the time they act, the moment has passed. They prioritize who is first in line rather than what creates the fastest visible impact. They mistake motion for momentum and meetings for progress. The herd watches all of this, reads the signal clearly, and begins moving toward the exits.

The cruelest part is that losing communities rarely understand what signal they are sending. They believe they are being careful, responsible, deliberate. What the herd sees is hesitation, and hesitation in community development is contagious. One business decides not to open. Another investor takes their capital somewhere else. A talented young family chooses a different town. Each departure confirms the signal, and the herd accelerates in the wrong direction.

Here is what gives me genuine hope. The herd can be turned. The communities I have watched transform themselves were not always winning communities. Many of them had years of losing behind them before a small group of people refused to accept that as the permanent story. They stopped waiting for consensus and started creating visible progress. They made the signal unmistakable. The herd noticed, and it followed.

Your community has a herd. It is moving right now. The most important thing you can do this week is figure out which direction it is heading and whether the people in your local leadership circle have the courage to redirect it. Start a conversation with your mayor, your chamber director, or your city council member. Ask them what visible, tangible project is underway right now that sends an undeniable signal of forward momentum. If they cannot answer that question quickly and confidently, you already know which way your herd is walking.

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Jonathan Ellis & Joe Sneve

Central Meade County News

By Larry Rhoden



Central Meade County is rejoicing after we receive will over 2 inches of rain over the weekend. The hills are a beautiful green highlight here and there with yellow clover.

Graduations have mostly ceased while birthday celebrations and new births still occur. Friends and neighbors will be pulling out the haying equipment soon to make sure they are in working order. This rain we had gives that insurance that grazing may possibly be very good for a while.

If you know Jack Seller, you may want to wish him a very happy birthday! He turns 90 years old and continues to attend church and stay active.

June Mickelson is turning 99 years old soon. There will be a birthday celebration on Saturday, June 13th from 2:00 – 4:00 pm at the White Owl Hall for those who would like to celebrate with her.

Larry and Sandy Rhoden have been able to spend evenings at home for the past several days. They have been covering a lot of ground by attending events like the 4-H High School Rodeo in Wall, Extreme bull riding in Sturgis, and many more events in order to touch base with people.

Election Day, slated for Tuesday June 2, will hopefully give South Dakota residents a break from the

many hard fought campaigns. Folks have been

filing tagboard flyers in their garbage cans for weeks now. Many are praying for the elections to go well. Governor Rhoden's main goal throughout the time he has been Governor has been about 'civility' and finding ways to work together. He's been able to do that these last 16 months as Governor. Hopefully, we can get back to that after this primary election is over.

While details will follow, Larry and Sandy Rhoden became grandparents to their 9th grandbaby, born on Monday morning. Regardless of Tuesday's election, they will be celebrating their new little blessing this week.

For those interested in Cedar Canyon Bible Camp one can contact Bill Meirose or Kristen Smiley for more information.



Eagle Landing Ticket Promo
June 6th 9AM-12PM



At Grossenburg Implement in Belle Fourche

Capitol News
May 31, 2026
by Karen Odell

The week at Capitol, and on Tie Creek, began very dry. Many were getting nervous,



because dams were dry, and grass was getting crisp. Fire danger was rising, and we were all praying for rain.

Well, God did hear us, and sent a downpour on Saturday, and early Sunday. It was a good downpour, and helped the countryside all around.

Alvin Cordell rode along with Wade and Ashley Pearson to the South Dakota state track meet in Sioux Falls, on Thursday. Grandson, Gavin Pearson, earned his best time for the season in the 400, and earned a 7th place spot on the podium. Their granddaughter Rhys, got to compete in three individual events, and also, one relay. She placed in all

four events, and broke the Belle Fourche school record in the 1600. What a great job. They came home in the rain, on Saturday. By morning they had gotten over two inches of rain. Bobby Cordell had gotten over three inches of rain, Clark Blake had about three and a half inches and Moncur's had about four inches. It was a good weekend, all around.

Lynn Gustafson had a great visit in Alabama, with family, for a couple of weeks. It was warmer there, but nice weather. It was so great to visit with, and see, friends and family. Bruce picked her up at the airport, on Saturday. On Sunday, they both went to church at Ludlow, for the church parish services.

Doug and Julia Davis planned for branding on Saturday, but ended up pulling a well all day on Friday, so moved the branding back a day until Sunday. Then on Saturday, came the big

rains, turning corrals into mud and filling dams. It was great to see the rain, but that made them decide to call off the branding again. Next Sunday will be Oliver Davis's baptism, so that won't work either. Many of their branding help can only come on weekends, so maybe they will have to cut down into small bunches. Anyway, the rain was wonderful, putting smiles back on people's faces.

On Monday, Dawn and Dorothy Padden took flowers to place on graves in Ekalaka. They enjoyed the Memorial Service there. Dawn Padden rode along to the South Dakota state track meet in Sioux Falls, this week. BJ's family went, and Brandon drove the bus for the team. Dorothy Padden got to watch most of the events online on her TV. Grandson, Cade Olmsted, earned third place in the javelin for a place on the po-

dium. He is a student at Rapid City Stevens. From Sioux Falls, Dawn went on to the South Dakota state golf tournament. She will have some great pictures of these events. The golf tournament lasts into the beginning of next week.

This week, Karen Odell was busy with mowing in the mornings. On Tuesday, she took mail to the post office, and got groceries at Wolffy's in Camp Crook. On Wednesday, Karen visited with Ronda Cordell. Ronda drove down to Karen's mailbox to put in Karen's mail, that had been left in Ronda's box. She drove to Buffalo, on Thursday, to get gas for her car and mower. With school out in South Dakota, her granddaughter and grandson, Kenna and Carson Odell, began summer jobs at the Corn Palace. Kellan Odell began summer work at Cromer's Plumbing. Jeff and Amanda Odell now have a big yard with trees and garden, so they are very busy in their free

time. Kyia Odell still has her voice music lessons on Saturday, and summer club volleyball will begin soon. On the west coast, Micki, Jesse, and Murphy are still in school until the middle of June. They will not have to start back until after Labor Day in the fall. Now that Karen has stored some gas for her mower, she may not have to use it for a while. It had been very dry, and the grass was getting crisp, but on Saturday, she got two inches of rain that was soaked up quickly, then left puddles and filled some dams. It absolutely poured in the night, but the rain was wonderful.

The remote only becomes visible when your favorite show has just ended.

PRESSED BETWEEN THE PAGES #36

by DeAnn (Wolkow) Kruempel

"When Life Gives You Storms"



It began slowly. Three successive clunks on the roof.

Then a few more until soon the pounding noise came in deafening waves that matched the howl of the wind through the trees. Through my window, I watched the ice marbles hit the ground and bounce before settling among the fading red tulips. Memories pressed between the pages of my mind opened and I recalled hailstorms from our growing up years on the farm.

A devastating storm came in July, 1967. The warm, sunny afternoon gave no warning of the massive destruction to come. The sky darkened as though a curtain

had been pulled over the sun. The ominous black cloud slithered over the land, leaving its mark. Misshapen ice chunks as big as golf balls hammered the earth, leaving four-inch drifts of demolition. In minutes rows of shiny green plants reaching for the sun were pounded into short naked stubs.

Delmer, unaware of the storm, had driven to De Smet where he was to play in a Legion game. A few minutes after he arrived at the baseball field, his Erwin teammates showed up. "Delmer, a hailstorm just ripped through our area. Looked like your farm was hailed out."

When Delmer went home that night, he wondered if our farm could survive such a loss. The livestock depended on the crops for feed and

bedding. The grains provided food as well as income; excess was sold or stored for later when prices rose. Our lives relied on the strong, green plants that thrived in that once-prairie soil. In my brother's mind was our father's heartfelt description of the demise of his father's farm when the drought obliterated crops year after year in the thirties.

Dad saw the worry in his young son's eyes as he sat next to him that night. After the storm, Dad had driven around the sections, assessing the damage of each field. Already, he had a plan. "We can replant the worst fields. It's not too late for a crop of millet. We can grind it and feed it to the hogs." Delmer's worries dropped a couple notches. Dad went on: "I think some of the

corn will recover. It won't make much corn, but we can cut it for silage for the cattle."

Proud of Delmer's maturity, our father assured him that our farm would survive. The man knew that storms were part of life. He was determined to make the best of it, not only because the family depended on it, but because of the lessons it would teach his children.

Earlier that day after the storm, I sat next to our father as he drove down the gravel roads surrounding the fields. Pickup windows rolled down, the sour smell of perishing green life wormed its way in to taunt us. My 12-year-old brain processed the devastation.

Dad's silence worried me more than anything. I stared out the window, then turned to him. I willed him to say something. I needed to know that everything would be ok. He must have read my thoughts, for that understanding twinkle flashed in

his eyes. Likely, he figured I was too young to worry about losing the farm. He talked. We would be all right. He explained that this is why we have livestock; farmers know not to put all their eggs in one basket. Storms happen. That's the way life is. We go on. By the time we drove back into the yard I felt better. I hoped my dad did, too.

Dorothy remembers a storm years before, when Delmer and I were little. The family watched from the kitchen windows as marble-size hail poured from the sky. In minutes, the yard was covered in white. When the storm had blown over, everyone headed outside. Dad's eyes met Mom's with a knowing grin. "Let's get this hail into buckets. We'll make ice cream!"

The same life lesson, only under happier circumstances: When life gives you hail—make ice cream!

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ON THE RIVER WALK

BELLE FOURCHE REC CENTER

Friday, June 5

@ 7:00 pm

Starts on State St. @ Rail Park

Check-In: 6:30-7:00 pm

Walk or Run ~ You choose your distance of 1.9 - 2.75 miles.

Kids \$5 - Adults \$10 **Event Shirts additional \$10**

Contact Tessa for more info @ 605.892.2467 or tessa@bellefourche.org

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Roots #64 "Harlene Hill"

Meg English news@bellefourchebeacon.com



Recently, I visited with Harlene Hill. We had much to talk about. Harlene has walked on the Great Wall of China. She has travelled extensively in Europe. In her 50s she followed through on an interest in skydiving.

Harlene also plays the piano, but not so much now with the arthritis that has crept into her fingers.

She described her exhilarating skydiving experience. "The big jolt is when the chute opens. That was harder than the landing." She explained, "There was someone who stays with you during the jump and tells you when to pull the cord."

Harlene has not been skydiving since, nor does she want to remarry. "I've been a widow for ten years. Every silly decision is yours. Should I drive today or not? It's OK to be in charge."

For most of her adult life, Harlene has resided in Belle Fourche. She and her husband, LeRoy Hill raised their four children here. After 28 years of teaching elementary school children, Harlene retired in 2022. She continues to serve as a dedicated volunteer at South Park Elementary School.

Last spring The Belle Fourche Education Association presented Harlene with the honorary annual accolade, Friends of Education Award. The award is presented to an outstanding supporter of education in Belle Fourche.

Harlene has witnessed some monumental changes in Education.

As a teacher Harlene recalled, having to remove the piano in her kindergarten classroom to make room for an Apple IIe computer bank. The Apple IIe is an early personal computer made by Apple, released in January, 1983. The 'e' in the name stands for 'enhanced'.

Harlen's home is spacious, but modest and uncluttered. "Everything I have here means something." She commented. And indeed, everything in Harlene's home is symbolic of what is meaningful to her. Each item, and every furnishing represents respect for friendships, family, community, changing times, and public service. These were among the recurring themes in our conversation.

Respectability leads to stability. Harlene has some ideas about how respectability and stability are necessary components in education. She offered an analogy to the three-legged stool as a traditional symbol to explain what makes education as an institution thrive.

One leg of the stool represents the church, another home and the third is a community's school. The larger institution of education must rely on all three legs to be fully functional.

As a teacher, Harlene has respect for the teaching profession as well as the three "legs" that come together to make effective schooling possible. Harlene was a member and president of the local BF Education Association. She continues to be an advocate for the teaching profession.

"This is not the best of times." She mused thoughtfully. "Rules and good manners have become so confused. I grew up in easier times"

Harlene Sharpe was the oldest in a family of six. She attended school in Oacoma through the 8th grade, near the family ranch.

Harlene attended high school 'east river' in nearby Chamberlain. She earned top grades and learned quickly. She described herself as a "fairly good student" in high school although was "perhaps unchallenged".

As a high school student, Harlene had a job. She was a window dresser at the J.C. Pennys store in Chamberlain. Window dressers arrange displays of goods in shop windows or within a shop itself. Working is a store such as Pennys was coveted work especially for a teenager. One perk of the job was a 20% discount on clothes, a significant benefit to a high school student in Harlene's time. "We took good care of our clothes in those days." She commented.

"We checked in merchandise. There were big boxes to be unpacked." Harlene recalls that all purchases had to be wrapped in paper. Plastic shopping bags were not in use in those days.

J.C. Pennys stores had a reputation for offering department store shopping to customers in rural communities throughout the mid 1900s. Many small towns boasted a main street J.C. Pennys store recognizable by the yellow and black tile facade. The stores were almost always the same.

By today's standards, the storefronts were narrow, but the interiors were laid out for easy shopping. A clear interior pathway down the center divided the departments and provided easy access to departments in the back of the store. Goods in each department were well organized and attractively displayed.

Hardwood floors, high tin stamped ceilings provided an appealing setting for shoppers. In many early J. C. Penney stores a rear balcony, was visible upon entering the store.

The description of the balcony led Harlene to describe another curious, but often forgotten feature of the early department stores. J.C. Penney stores handled transactions on a cash only basis. Money was not stored or collected on the sales floor. Rather, when a customer paid for a purchase, a salesclerk would take the customer's money, place it in a closed container with a bill of sale, then send it via a wire "zip line" to the balcony by pulling on a rope. In the balcony, another salesclerk would return the change with a receipt, but the cash would always be kept in the balcony.

While Harlene was in high school the water in Lake Francis Case began to rise and there was need for a new bridge to Chamberlain and Oacoma across the Missouri River.

While the new bridge was under construction, a temporary pontoon bridge was built so cars and pedestrians could travel back and forth.

A pontoon bridge is a 'floating bridge' with floats that support a road deck for pedestrian and vehicle travel. The buoyancy of the supports limits the maximum load that they can carry. Whenever a car drove over this amazing bridge, the road would bend with the water. Harlene recalls that her younger sister was afraid each time they drove across the Pontoon bridge. According to a social media account of driving on a pontoon bridge, "The ripples caused by the passing cars are amazing. It's like surfing on water and it's an exhilarating experience that you'll never forget." (https://www.instagram.com/gokhanoutdoors/)

Harlene still has a best friend from high school. "Everyone should have a seventy-year best friend." She declared. Harlene's seventy-year best friend is Sandra Addie. Harlene and Sandra have been friends since they attended high school. Perhaps these were more idyllic times.

Many aspects of life for Harlene may have been determined by a set of societal

rules, that are not the same today. Life has never been easy then or now. Sadly, Harlene's mother passed away in her forties. Harlene, the eldest was in her 20s, but this was a hard time for her father who was left alone with six children and a ranch. He soon remarried, but by this time Harlene was in college.

Drawn to the Black Hills, Harlene transitioned to Spearfish to attend Black Hills Teaching College.

While studying to become a teacher, Harlene participated in debate and it was here that she met her future husband, LeRoy Hill. Leroy was a Korean War veteran working on undergraduate degrees in business and. LeRoy wanted to be a lawyer.

Harlene and LeRoy were soon married. They moved to Vermillion when LeRoy was admitted to law school. Harlene finished her teaching degree and LeRoy began an illustrious career.

For a time, LeRoy practiced law in Lyman County with Harlene's uncle and former South Dakota State Governor, M.Q. Sharpe. Sharpe served as governor from 1943-1947 and encouraged LeRoy to run for public office. "It was a more mellow time." Harlene said with reflection. "Both Democrats and Republicans wanted LeRoy to run."

Following M.Q. Sharpe's death, LeRoy and Harlene made their way to Belle Fourche in 1962. LeRoy passed away in 2015. He left behind a legacy of community service and compassion for others.

Harlene who has always liked to read, discuss books, and travel continues to live a full life with many friends and interests. Harlene is a member of the Inquiry Club, a long-time Belle Fourche book club. In the early days, there were 10-12 original members. At that time, the members bought a book at the beginning of the year. Throughout the course of the year the books were exchanged with other members. "It was a great system." Harlene noted. None of the original members are still

alive, but today, the Inquiry Club also supports local writers and are always present at local public literary presentations.

Harlene still has a landline. However, she is more likely to use her cell phone or her computer when participating in weekly group chats with her four children. "We Zoom on weekends, all five of us. We keep up with one another. Our schedule varies, but it's often on Sunday."

Harlene's four children live distantly but are very much a part of her daily life via telephone internet. All are educated professionals "with busy schedules" Harlene added.

Harlene and the kids reflect on history. We were making progress as a country, she said referring to civil rights. "We elected a black president and thought we could all relax.

These days, almost every family has a brown faced member of the family.

I think we're healing from racism, but we really need to keep an open mind."

Harlene and her three remaining siblings also Zoom on a predictable weekly schedule.

Two brothers have since passed. She explained a philosophy of teaching, "You have to love the kids."

She reflected on her own family when discussing the difference between families today and in the past. After Harlen's mother passed away, "Dad married three times."

She said. "The first two died, with him as their caretaker, the third one cleaned him out financially." Sadly, in the end Harlene's father took his own life in the end. "It's not hard to understand." She said soberly.

Harlene and her kids sometimes reflect on family history and the demise of the family ranch. "She did us a favor." They say referring to the third wife. "Now we have nothing to fight over."

Reflecting on her own family, past and present, her conversations with her children reminded Harlene how families have changed today. "People do not treasure their children. There is more poverty today. There is a lack of rules, moral rules. I feel there is inequality in schools. Some are not as good as others, and all kids are not receiving a good education." She said.

As our conversation ended, Harlene encouraged me to join her and her 70-year friend Sandra Addie on an outing. They were going out to the Branding Iron to listen to country music classics performed by local musicians, a regular Tuesday evening event. "Of course, in the old days, we would never have gone to a bar by ourselves, unescorted by a boyfriend of husband. She laughed, a reminder that although times have changed, not all the changes are bad.



Belle Fourche Beacon 'Happenings' and News Bytes Calendar. The Beacon Happenings Calendar is public service listing of meetings, events, and things to do in and around Belle Fourche. Happenings announcements may be sent to: news@bellefourchebeacon.com Deadline is Friday before 5pm.

Belle Fourche Writers June meeting schedule: The editing meeting is Monday, July 6 from 2-4 PM. The regular June meeting is Saturday, June 20 from 10 AM to Noon. 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. Classes Summer Recreation Activities Schedule Calendar - See adjacent posters details! Water-walking - This class is held every Monday, Wednesday, and Friday from 7:30 - 8:15 am. Silver Splash - This class is held every Tuesday and Thursday from 11:30 - 12:15 pm. Aquafit - We will hold Aquafit every Monday and Wednesday night from 6:30 - 7:15 pm. Tri-State Museum Museum opens mini exhibit on postage stamps - The Tri-State Museum and Visitor Center in Belle Fourche will open a new mini exhibit on Saturday, June 27 entitled "History of Postage Stamps." Tri-State Museum holds Family Fun Day on June 21 entitled "Light and Color" - The event will include a fun science video about light and how different wavelengths of light waves appear as different colors. Tri-State Museum holds "Ocean Day and Water Play" Event - The Tri-State Museum and Visitor Center will hold an event for kids entitled "Ocean Day and Water Play," on Tuesday, June 16.

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. 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. www.thedakotascout.com • www.facebook.com/TheDakotaScout Jonathan Ellis & Joe Sneve



BF Rec Center Summer Parks & Rec Activities 2026

GOALS:

- To promote our local parks and the outdoors.
- To promote health and wellness in our community.
- To promote socialization with friends, make new friends, and interact with your community.
- To give kids ideas on activities they can continue doing all summer, with fun giveaways to help!



This program will incorporate all of our beautiful parks. Enjoy a park that you haven't been to before, or not in a long time!

We have giveaways and snacks too!

Please Note: This is not a childcare program. Ages 7 and under must be supervised by someone at least 12 years of age. Applicable BFRC rules/policies apply. A summer waiver must be on file in order to participate. All activities are weather permitting.

HOW TO PARTICIPATE:

- 1-Parents: Complete your child's Summer Waiver at the Rec Center or at the park prior to an activity. (Waiver is valid for all of the summer activities.)
- 2-Pick up your monthly calendar. Available at the Rec, on Facebook @BFRecCenter, Instagram or our website www.bellefourcherec.com.
- 3-Park Activities are FREE. Rec Center activities require a membership or day pass. (Youth \$4 ~ Senior \$5 ~ Adult \$6 ~ Group of 2 \$10 ~ Family \$20)
- 4-Tell your friends and have fun!

Questions? Contact us @ 605-892-2467.

WHERE ARE THE PARKS?

PARK	STREET	LANDMARKS
Highland Park	National St.	Next to the Rec Center
Jones Park	11 th Ave.	Splash Pad
Herrmann Park	8 th Ave.	Circular Walking Path/Bowman Hall/Police Dept.
Weyler Park	7 th Ave.	Dog Park/Near Lynn's Dakotamart
Eagle Park	Elkhorn St.	Along Belle Fourche River
Thomas C. Gay	N. 8 th Ave.	North Park School/Kindergarten
Rail Park	State St.	Main Street/By Belle Flowers & Gifts
Robb Park	State St.	Main Street/Next to Upper Level Fitness
River Walk/Disc Golf Course	State St. & More!	Tri State Museum/Center of the Nation Monument



GIVEAWAYS: Must be present to win!

Disc Golf Frisbees, Kickball, Pickleball Paddle & Ball Set, Wiffleball Set, Water Balloons, Basketball, Sidewalk Chalk, Art Supplies and more!

Deep Stretch Class

Thursdays in June
10:30-11:30am

- Slow paced, floor based class for ALL levels!
- Increase flexibility and mobility
- Muscle Recovery
- Longer holds to calm the nervous system and allow muscles to fully relax

Members ~ Free
Nonmembers ~ Adults \$6 ~ Seniors \$5 ~ Youth (14+) \$4

Taught by new instructor Michele Lane!

Contact Tessa for more info at 605-892-2467

SUMMER 2026

YOUTH STRENGTH & CARDIO

REGISTRATION NOW OPEN!

- GIRLS & BOYS (GRADES 6TH-9TH)
- JUNE 1,3,5,8,10 1:00-2:30PM
JULY 13,15,1,20,22 1:00-2:30 PM
- LEARN SAFE USE OF CARDIO & WEIGHT MACHINES.
- MEMBERS \$50
NONMEMBERS \$60

SPACE IS LIMITED!
SIGN UP TODAY!

QUESTIONS? CONTACT TESSA 605-892-2467

Summer Parks & Rec Activities June 2026

1111 National St ~ Belle Fourche ~ www.bellefourcherec.com ~ tessa@bellefourche.org ~ 605-892-2467

Parks Activities are FREE!
Rec Center Activities are FREE for Members and require a Day Pass for Nonmembers.
(Students \$4 ~ Seniors \$5 ~ Adults \$6 ~ Group of 2 \$10 ~ Family \$20)
Sign your Summer Activities Waiver and then attend any activities on the calendar-No Preregistration Required.
Watch Facebook and our website for any weather related changes/cancellations.

Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri
1 Giant Kickball 2:00-4:00 pm (Herrmann)	2 Sand Volleyball 10:30 am-12:30 pm (Highland)	3 Pool Fun & Games 2:00-4:00pm (Rec Center)	4 Storytime Yoga 10:30-11:30 am (Library Lawn)	5 Dodgeball 2:00-4:00pm (Rec Center)
8 Wiffleball 2:00-4:00 pm (Jones)	9 Gaga Ball 10:30 am-12:30 pm (Roundup Grounds)	10 Obstacle Course 2:00-4:00pm (Rec Center)	11 Storytime Yoga 10:30-11:30 am (Library Lawn)	12 Pool Patio Games 2:00-4:00pm (Rec Center)
15 Badminton 2:00-4:00 pm (Highland)	16 Bike & Books 10:30 am-12:30 pm (Herrmann)	17 Pickleball 2:00-4:00pm (Rec Center)	18 Storytime Yoga 10:30-11:30 am (Library Lawn)	19 Canvas Painting 2:00-4:00 pm (Rec Center)
22 Read in the Park 2:00-4:00 pm (Herrmann)	23 3v3 Basketball 10:30 am-12:30 pm (Highland)	24 Dance Party 2:00-4:00pm (Rec Center)	25 Storytime Yoga 10:30-11:30 am (Library Lawn)	26 Tie-Dye Shirts* 2:00-4:00 pm (Rec Center)
29 Splash with Us 2:00-4:00 pm (Jones)	30 Sidewalk Chalk 10:30 am-12:30 pm (Weyler)	HOW TO PARTICIPATE/RULES: 1-Complete your child's Summer Waiver at the Rec Center or at the park prior to an activity. 2-All ages are welcome. Ages 7 and under must be supervised by someone age 12 or older. 3-Outdoor activities are weather permitting. 4-We have giveaways and snacks too! Tell your friends and have a fun summer! *Bring a white t-shirt for tie-dye on June 26.		



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

Notice is hereby given that the Board of Butte County Commissioners will meet in the Courtroom at the Butte County Courthouse, which is located at 839 5th Avenue, Belle Fourche, SD, 57717 on Tuesday, June 16th, 2026, at 6:15 PM. to consider a special event retail (on-sale) liquor license.

Said applicant is as follows:

Retail (on-sale) Liquor Special Event License:

Table with 2 columns: APPLICANT (High Plains Restaurant, 105 Dartmouth Ave, Newell, SD 57760) and TYPE OF LICENSE (Retail (on-sale) Liquor, Special Event Retail Liquor, Wedding August 22-23, 2026)

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

Dated at Belle Fourche, SD, this 27th day of May 2026. /s/ Annie Capp, Butte County Auditor

NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING ON APPLICATION FOR VARIANCE

1. Notice is hereby given that the Butte County Board of Adjustments will hold a public hearing on June 16, 2026, at 5:35 PM. in the Commission Room at the Butte County Courthouse located at 839 5th Avenue, Belle Fourche, South Dakota. The purpose of the public hearing is to consider an application for a variance from Owner: VARIANCE REQUEST; OWNER: OLSON, DUANE & LAURIE; OLSON, WILLIAM AND MICHELA; FREED, SHARONK & DENNIS ; LOTS 1R, 2R, 3R, 4 & 5 OF BELLE RIVER SUBDIVISION FORMERLY LOTS 1, 2, & 3 OF BELLE RIVER ; SUBDIVISION OF TRACT A AND A PORTION OF THE NW4SE4 AND A PORTION OF THE NE4SE4 OF SECTION 32 AND THE W2 OF SECTION 33, T9N, R3E, B.H.M BUTTE COUNTY, SOUTH DAKOTA

The Board of Adjustments invites all interested people to attend and offer comments. Those interested persons not able to attend are invited and encouraged to send written comments, prior to the hearing, to the Butte County Auditor, at 117 5th Avenue, Belle Fourche, SD 57717.

As directed by the Butte County Board of Adjustments

Dated this 1st Day of June, 2026

Annie Capp; Butte County Auditor

Published: Friday, June 5th and Friday, June 12th, 2026



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Belle Fourche Riverfest advertisement featuring food trucks, social garden, vendors, duck races, kid zone, and music on Saturday, June 6th at Tri-State Museum 10AM-2PM. Includes logos for Black Hills Energy, IDIC, Northern Hills, RCS, Kieffer Sanitation, 605 Media and Entertainment, and Monument Health.

Upcoming events for June: Hometown Thursday 6PM, River Run 7PM, June 6th Annual Riverfest Event 10AM-2PM @ Tri State Museum, Fire Department Open House 9AM-3PM, Eagle Landing 9AM-12PM @ Grossenburg, CASA 40 Year Celebration, Music Trivia @ Outlaw, 9AM Social Media Class @ Chamber. Includes Belle Fourche Chamber of Commerce logo.

BF Rec Group Fitness June 2026 calendar table with columns for Mon, Tue, Wed, Thu, Fri and rows for dates 1-30. Lists activities like Strength & Stretch, SilverSneakers, Water Walking, and Yoga.

The Valley Irrigator

Wed. June 3, 2026

Serving Newell, Vale and Nisland Communities

Hocking Greenhouse Offers Variety of Plants for Gardeners



The Veterans Honor Guard performs a rifle volley. Longbrake photo

Robbi Longbrake

news@bellefourchebeacon.com

NEWELL—Garden enthusiasts might enjoy exploring all of the offerings at Hocking Greenhouse, located just outside Newell. This quaint plant nursery opened for the season in early May.

Their first greenhouse began as a way to honor Sherry Hocking's mother's love of plants.

"We started with that small greenhouse and brought in some things that kind of started it for me—something my mom always loved was flowers, and then some people were asking us for things, so we brought stuff in out of Custer," explained Sherry.

"It kind of took off during COVID, really. A lot of people during COVID, they couldn't go anywhere, and they wanted to plant a garden and have their garden."

And then three years ago, Sherry and Kirk Hocking, owners, partnered with Ymker Greenhouse out of Armour, SD. The company brings out and sets up the greenhouse, and Kirk and Sherry order the plants and supplies and take care of delivering them to the public.

The Hockings are figuring out the green thumb life, and learning as they go. "So all of the plants are from them, they're a grower out of Armour, and they sell me kits—A through Z, like

26 kits to choose from, and so I pick what I want," explained Sherry.

When the Hockings buy a kit, it usually contains a variety of plants. So if they want to get in watermelon, they may also get in a vegetable that isn't as popular. "When you get these kits, you're stuck ... I had somebody reach out and want watermelon, and so I thought, okay, well, I'll try it, and it was cucumbers, watermelon, cantaloupe, squash, zucchini, all kinds of that stuff. Well, I don't know if I'm gonna get rid of (some) it," Sherry said.

Hocking Greenhouse carries annuals and perennials for flower gardens. If you are looking

to grow food, you can find vegetables and herbs. "We have a little bit of everything, we got tomatoes, a lot of vegetables, peppers—I had somebody reach out and wanted herbs, and I brought the herbs in," explained Sherry. They also carry lilies and hostas, a lot of ornamental grasses, filler plants for planters, trees and bushes, annuals like pansies, petunias, begonia and high-quality greenhouse soil, and so much more. If they don't carry it, they can order it for you!

The greenhouse is open Monday through Saturday from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. and Sundays 1 p.m. to 5 p.m. Both of the Hockings are involved with the

Newell Ambulance Service and are at times called away on an emergency. If that is the case, they will return as soon as they can. They are also willing to accommodate other times as needed.

Follow the signs to Hocking Greenhouse, heading west out of Newell on Orman Road and give this place a look, see what they have for you and your garden, whatever kind you may be growing this summer! Sherry said, "we really appreciate people that support local!"



(AL) Follow the signs from Newell to find the greenhouse just outside of town. (AR) Hocking Greenhouse, located outside of Newell. (BL) Sherry Hocking tending to the plants inside Hocking Greenhouse. (BR) The first greenhouse, named after Sherry's mom. Longbrake photos





Grand River Roundup



Betty Olson
news@bellefourchebeacon.com

Our friend Luis Rojas came over from the Simpson Ranch to visit with us last Sunday afternoon and we talked a lot about Jesus and the Bible. It was really fun to visit with him and we hope he comes back soon.

Reub and I went to Hettinger on Monday to decorate the graves of our families at the cemetery in Hettinger and the cemetery in Reeder. We also stopped to have coffee in Reeder with the Prairie Pioneers on the way home.

We lost another old friend: Jim Sparks, age 87, from Spearfish, passed away at the Spearfish Canyon Health Care Center on May 18. Jim is survived by his wife Jeannette, daughter, Michele Hill, and son-in-law, William Hill of Rapid City. Cremation arrangements are under the care of Isburg Crematory of Spearfish.

I got all my tomato plants

planted in one of my raised bed gardens on Tuesday and then got all four of the gardens watered before I was done, which was a lot of work with my painful right leg.

Reub and I went down to Rapid City to the Spine Center on Wednesday to see Dr. Troy Gust and after looking at everything Lesley Kling sent him from the Hettinger clinic he visited with me a while and then said he was going to schedule my surgery soon at the surgical center down there. He said he'd let me know when the surgery will be scheduled. We were going to visit our granddaughter Brinley Powell and her new baby son, but the visit with the doctor lasted too long so we had to get home. We will let her know when the surgery is scheduled so she can come see us then.

I planted most of my flowers on Thursday with Amanda and Copper planting the flowers that Linda Mohagen

gave me in the little flower garden beside our front porch which is too hard for this old lady to get into with my sore leg. Reub was up at our Horse Creek pasture spraying weeds that morning and I got all the flowers and all the vegetable gardens watered before he got home.

It was way too windy for Reub to go spraying weeds at our Horse Creek pasture on Friday and these guys spent the morning Aling some of the cows. I got a couple of calls from nurses about what I was supposed to do before my surgery, but I still haven't heard anything about when the surgery will be so I will be calling down there to see if they have some surgery set up for me. Our daughter Dr. Teri McNelis thought that would be a good idea when she called me on Sunday.

Our son Guy and his youngest son Cass came out from Wyoming to visit us Saturday morning and they had lunch with us before Reub took them over to our east ranch to look at the sheep and Guy's old pickup. Guy brought us a Key Lime pie and a package of popsicles for the little people. Guy and Cass spent the night here and they went to church with us Sunday morning and found lot of friends to visit with. Patsy Wilkinson and Ashley Wilkinson fed us a delicious lunch of goodies

with coffee after church and Guy and Cass stayed to eat the treats and visit with friends before heading back to Rozet, Wyoming. Our choir practiced after church for the Hymn Sing at Beckman Wesleyan Church in Prairie City that evening. With all the wonderful singers at the church that evening, we got to listen to some beautiful Christian songs. There were a lot of people we knew there and some we could even remember their names.

The older I get, the harder it is to remember things, so I'll leave you with this:

A couple in their nineties are both having problems remembering things. During a check-up, the doctor tells them that they're physically okay, but they might want to start writing things down to help them remember. Later that night, while watching TV, the old man gets up from his chair.

"Want anything while I'm in the kitchen?" he asks.

"Will you get me a bowl of ice cream?"

"Sure."

"Don't you think you should write it down so you can remember it?" she asks.

"No, I can remember it."

"Well, I'd like some strawberries on top, too. Maybe you should write it down, so as not to forget it?"

He says, "I can remember that. You want a bowl of ice

cream with strawberries." "I'd also like whipped cream. I'm certain you'll forget that, write it down?" she asks.

Irritated, he says, "I don't need to write it down, I can remember it! Ice cream with strawberries and whipped cream - I got it, for goodness sake!"

Then he toddles into the kitchen. After about 20 minutes, the old man returns from the kitchen and hands his wife a plate of bacon and eggs. She stares at the plate for a moment.

"Where's my toast?"



Then and Now in Newell

"Looking Forward to our Past"

May 25, 1911

The doors of the different cigar stores were draped in mourning this morning, following the order to cut out all dice and card games. The order was issued on complaint of J. J. Jackley, Pierre and the doors to his office were draped in a like manner when he came downtown this morning.

W. S. Swinney the Newell Baker is offering a wedding cake free to the first couple married in Newell who will give him 36 hours' notice of the event. Mr. Swinney promises that it will be at least an \$8 cake and decorated to the finish. He explains that it does not take 36 hours to complete such a cake, but it would depend upon what time he received notice so as not to interfere with other special others or daily baking.

Mrs. O. T. Phillips and children arrived Monday from Fonda, Iowa and are putting up at the Newell Hotel until the condition of the roads will permit them to continue to the homestead near Sulphur. A. E. Longpre was in from Castle Rock yesterday. We didn't inquire how he made the trip but suppose he converted his "Lizzie" into an aeroplane.

May 27, 1926

Louie DeJaeger had a very narrow escape Sunday morning at the Burke's lambing camp in the Hoover Section. When he took hold of the head of a rattle snake. The snake bit his finger, but Louie had the presence of mind to bite his finger open and suck out the poison. Louie then came to Newell where he received further treatment for the wound.

Mrs. Gammons, Vale vicinity, lost several head of her registered sheep by them eating alfalfa. She had had a chance to sell them for a shipment to Russia a few days previous.

The loss is almost irreparable, for registered stuff is very high priced when you come to buy.

The Newell Chess Team of O. R. Mathews, A. Mannick, Anton Eckstrom, E. R. Hill, Clarence Smith and F. E. Miller attended a chess tournament at Belle Fourche Saturday evening. A bunch of Lead experts carried off the honors.

Ray and Harry Coppo of Lead were arrested by State Deputy Arthur Lefors and arraigned before Justice McHugh on the charge of reckless driving and fined \$10 and costs, a total of \$16. The episode took place on the highway between Spearfish and Belle Fourche. Three young ladies from Newell, while driving home after dark, were harassed and delayed by the 2 young fellows in their car. The ladies were repeatedly prevented from passing and at one time came near to ditching their car to avoid a collision.

The young smart-alecks imagined they were having a good time and persisted their tactics of preventing progress of the Newell car. Upon arrival at Belle Fourche, the ladies reported the license number of the car of the tormentors. With the information Deputy Lefors was able to locate the offenders, with the above result.

May 28, 1936

A spotted fever tick, taken from Earl Dare, mechanic at Gardner Bros Garage, was sent by Dr. Clark to the laboratory of the US Public Health Department at Hamilton, Montana for examination. Information received stated that the tick was a male specimen of the Rocky Mountain Wood Tick. Mr. Dare suspected the tick came from the Orman Dam vicinity where he had been fishing. Dr. Clark vaccinated Mr. Dare at the time the tick was removed. Other patients have been treated for tick

by Linda Velder

fever, among them Delmar Cox, Vale, who spent 3 weeks in the Belle Fourche Hospital with the fever. Dr. Clark also reported, he had removed another tick from the neck of a patient yesterday.

The library at the High School will be open during the summer months to students every Wednesday and Saturday, according to announcement made by Supt. G. W. Austin. Librarians will be on duty to keep a check on all books taken out or returned.

Nup Weidner visited Sunday with his brother Jack at the McLennen farm. He reports that they and Francis Cox now have 1000 baby chick to look after. Mr. McLennen had his sheep sheared Monday before returning them out for summer herding. Mr. Adams of Deadwood did the shearing.

May 23, 1946

The State Public Utilities Commission will hold a hearing later this month on an application of the Northwestern Railway for abandonment of its agency at Fruitdale, between Belle Fourche and Newell, Secretary E. F. Norman said today. The rail line would install a custodian or caretaker in place of the Agent.

In an effort to serve thinly populated sections of the country the National Organization of the Methodist Church is preparing a plan to transport ministers by air. The proposal will be inaugurated in western South Dakota and if successful will spread to the western states. Air plane preachers will be stationed at Wall, Faith and Redfield.

Sunday dinner walked into the Carson G. Bill's backyard recently when an 8 pound opossum came in to sample the grape vines. Bill rounded up sweet potatoes and called Van Williams, famous chief and



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invited his friends. The opossum was presumably an import because it was so delicious.

May 31, 1956

Holders and non-holders of passes to the Newell Community Lighted Athletic Field are reminded that the use of such pass is limited strictly to the person to whom same was issued. School, Community friends and Softball Association officials jointly urge that holders check immediately to see that they have proper passes, a check ha been ordered of all passes being used during the current softball season. Such pass or "Booster Cards", it is further noted, will expire at the end of this summer.

Anne Milberg, Velda Lange and Jerry Ann Long attended a Girls' State Tea in Sturgis Sunday afternoon. Mrs. Vera Ribble, State Department President of the American Legion Auxiliary, gave the delegates and alternates instructions on the upcoming session.

Mrs. Keith Swan and sons, Mrs. Neil Dow and children, Mrs. Robert Ball and children of Rapid city and Mrs. Lee Engel were coffee and cake guests Friday afternoon at the home of Mr. & Mrs. Donald Seaman in celebration of the second birthday of their son Randy.

June 9, 1966

Dr. & Mrs. R. D. Johanson, Oscar Edwards, Lorman Lange, Donald Kimball, Gary Fink, Herb Vasknetz, Tom Strachen and Jim Nichols of Newell are among the enrollees scheduled to graduate from the

Dale Carnegie Course being conducted over the past several months at Sturgis. A graduation dinner and exercises were held at a Deadwood cafe Wednesday night. In sessions 13 and 14 of the Course, Don Kimball was named by the class as the best prepared speech champion and Mrs. Johanson as the best impromptu speech champion.

Talks on the Homestake Gold Mine were given by Dan and Bob VanSickle and a demonstration on leather lacing was given by Jim VanSickle at a meeting of the Sage & Cactus 4-H Club Saturday at the Castle Rock-Moreau Hall. The Mason Cemetery was cleaned preceding the meeting, during which time it was decided to make a courtesy sign and sponsor a livestock judging school at George Erk's, June 14th. The next meeting will be June 24, with VanSickles as hosts. David Erk, Kerry VanSickle and Mike Fox will give demonstration.

Otto Evers and Kenneth Oliver have announced they are opening a Second Hand Store in Vale. The owners set up shop at the Otto Evers place and now have a lot of things for sale and will have more every week. Stop in and look at what they have or call 456-2274, they might have what you need. They have an extensive inventory, dozens of small things. Hydraulic jacks can be repaired, they will buy, sell or trade most anything



(L) Librarians; R) Vale second-hand store. Museum Photos

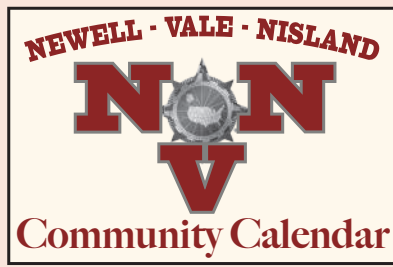
Here's What's Happening in Newell!

Newell Area Economic Group Meeting
June 3 • 6 p.m.
First Wednesday every month

Newell Commission Meeting
June 8 • 5 p.m.
Second Monday every month

School Board Meeting
June 8 • 6 p.m.
Second Monday every month

Feeding SD at Dakota Life Center
June 11 • 2 p.m.–3 p.m.
Second Thursday every month



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