



Belle Fourche Beacon

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Annual Pitchfork Fondue Funds Youth Leadership Opportunities

Robbi Longbrake

news@bellefourchebeacon.com

BELLE FOURCHE—A fun twist on a home-cooked meal was the draw to the annual Pitchfork Fondue. Steak cooked in the old western cowboy tradition of putting steaks on pitchforks and dropping them down into a barrel of boiling oil to create mouth-watering meat, crispy on the outside, soft and tender on the inside.

A nice summer evening featuring the deep-fried steak dinner and entertainment all while supporting area youth was the setting for the 8th Annual Pitchfork Steak Fondue for Youth held on July 15. The event was held under a tent at the Roundup Rodeo Grounds.

Hosted by Redwater Youth Leadership Fund (RYLF) and the Belle Fourche FFA Alumni Association, the event started with a thirty-minute social followed by a sit-down meal, with members of the Belle Fourche High School FFA Chapter serving guests tableside. While the meal was served, two FFA members, Atlee Olson and E.C. Blair, took care of the master of ceremonies duties.

The RYLF was started specifically to help youth. “This is a fundraiser. RYLF was started initially to raise money to send kids to national leadership trips and conferences and leadership opportunities in general—like the Citizenship Washington Focus and the 4-H conference used to all be things



Sydney Baker and Zane Baker give a presentation about their national 4-H shooting sports experiences. Longbrake photo

that the state paid for—if the kids earned the trip, it was paid for. About ten years or so ago, that funding went away, so we started this to fill that gap,” explained Amy Clark, Redwater Youth Leadership Fund board member.

After COVID, many of those opportunities were eliminated altogether. “So now we’re encompassing a broader scope of kids, but we’re still focusing on youth leadership. So if they

earn a national trip through 4-H or FFA, we’re here to help fund—so it’s not out of the kid’s pocket,” shared Clark.

Kids that need help with money to travel or expenses involved in a national competition have to meet one basic requirement. “We require them to work at this event and help out in order to get funds from us,” explained Clark. “This is our only fundraiser that we do all year, and it’s very labor intensive for

like a day and a half—but then we have the funding we need to help the kids all through the year—so we require them to put some skin in the game.”

Since the youth were serving dinners to the tables, this allowed everyone to stay seated and enjoy presentations. “The FFA kids are also doing their Parli Pro presentation and the things that they’re getting ready to take to national competition in October,” said Clark.

“Sydney Baker and Zane Baker are over here talking about their national 4-H shooting sports.”

Sydney Baker has received scholarship money for her travel to the national 4-H shooting sports for the past four years. “It’s in Grand Island, Nebraska. You have to travel. You’re there a week. It can become expensive kind of quickly, so the RYLF helps with ... money. You don’t have to be rich to

Pitchfork Fondue Contd. A6

Belle Fourche Hosts VFW Varsity State Baseball Tournament

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BELLE FOURCHE—Baseball players, coaches, friends and family from communities all across South Dakota converged on Belle Fourche for the 2026 VFW Varsity State Baseball Tournament.

The three-day tournament for the Alpha Division took place July 17-19 at the Belle Fourche Baseball Complex. Six teams from across the state battled for the championship title. The tournament featured regional squads vying for the state title: Belle Fourche Broncos; Mt. Vernon/Plankinton (MVP) Titans; Mobridge Crusaders; Clark, Willow Lake and Hamlin County (Area) Dinosaurs; Warner, Ipswich and Northwestern (WIN) Gators and West Central

Trojans.

The planning for the tournament has been underway for a while. “Last fall, while Jason Lafayette was still board president, we put in a bid to the VFW to possibly host...in early January, they announced that we won the bid,” explained Randy Doran, Head of Baseball Operations. “With that bid that we submitted, we really talked up about all the great things that are going on in Belle Fourche—that the city has done for youth sports.”

Bringing the other top baseball teams to the area gives Belle Fourche a chance to highlight all of the facility upgrades they have been working on. “We’ve got the new lighting structures for all the fields down here. We’ve got this brand new

press box and concessions and restrooms that are now ADA accessible. Plus we got a brand new video board,” shared Doran.

The Baseball Board and community supporters have been working hard to pull everything together before the start of the 2026 VFW Varsity State Tournament. “Fortunately, through that bidding process, we were selected and it’s kind of been a gift and a curse. We’re excited to host, but it’s been stressful these last couple weeks because we wanted everything to be the nicest it can be for these teams coming out here,” explained Doran. “We spent a lot of time working on our infield, we redid our entire mound—got that almost MLB quality with a cou-

VFW Baseball Contd. A5



Belle Fourche Broncos players get ready to play in the state tournament. Longbrake photo

Chamber Mixer Held at E & M Steel Products

Robbi Longbrake

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BELLE FOURCHE—The July Chamber Mixer was hosted by E & M Steel Products on Monday, July 13, beginning at 4:30 p.m. The temperature outside was high, but that didn’t stop other Chamber members from making the trip out to the company to enjoy some networking and visiting with other business members from the area.

E & M Steel Products started out as two friends joining together 17 years ago to make some extra money and has grown into a family-owned, thriving full-time business. “So, it started out with Wayne Eaton and I, we built the company—but it was just a small side job company. We both had full-time jobs,” explained Brad Manke, owner. “It started out as E & M Pipe Sales, and then we turned it into E & M Steel—it was more of a broad range of numerous products.”

Then, two years ago Brad bought out Wayne’s half of the

company and he and his wife Alix run the business together now. “We’ve just been growing it ever since,” said Brad. “We just took a small backyard business and tried to turn it into something bigger.”

And that they did! What started as a side job has grown into a full-time operation serving customers throughout the 200-mile radius of Belle Fourche, including Wyoming, Montana, Nebraska, North Dakota and South Dakota.

The business offers a variety of quality steel products. “We have your fencing supplies, feeders, calf shelters and we do a lot of storage containers. Storage containers are probably 40-50 percent of our business. We do a lot of container mods—build offices out of them. We build break rooms. We’ve actually got a full house that we just got finished that we rent out as an Airbnb,” shared Brad. “We’re on track to do over 500 containers this year.”

Brad prides himself on his

involvement in the business and tries to stay involved in all aspects of it. He explains he is able to keep the prices stable because he is aware of the margins. “In this small area, ranchers want to deal with the owner. They don’t want to deal with the employees—nothing against employees—we can’t do what we do without them. But I mean a handshake, I mean a man’s word. A rancher wants to come in, negotiate, shake your hand, and know the deal is sealed and know it’s good,” said Brad.

In addition to running the business, the couple has five boys, Wally, Vinny, Patrick, Porter and Marek, ranging in ages from 5 to 19. The oldest son works with his mom and dad at E & M Steel.

Those who came out to the Chamber Mixer were treated to PooterMac, a brisket and macaroni and cheese dish catered by PooterQ Barbeque. A variety of cold drinks were available as well as an assortment of desserts. The hosts offered door



Patrick Manke helps Chamber Executive Director Michaela Horn with the Connect and Collect drawing. Longbrake photo

prizes as well.

Chamber of Commerce Executive Director Michaela Horn conducted the Connect and Collect. “We wanted to say a special thank you to Brad and Alix of E & M Steel Products for hosting tonight,” she said. “A special thank you to everyone who made it out in the heat

today!”

New this month was a double drawing. The Chamber did two Connect and Collect drawings, the first one was for the total pot of money, \$420, followed by a second chance drawing for half of the pot if the winner of the first drawing is absent. The

Chamber Mixer Contd. A3



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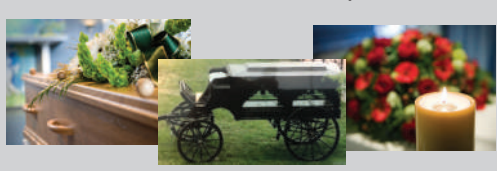
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Most of us intend on "getting around to it someday," but that someday never comes and we leave our family wondering whether or not they did the right thing. **It doesn't have to be like that.** It's not pleasant to be reminded of our own mortality;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

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Rodney Lee Hoffman, 76

Rodney Lee Hoffman, 76, of Belle Fourche, SD, stepped out of this temporal life into his next great adventure in the fellowship of Heaven on Monday, July 13, 2026, at his home near Nisland, SD.

Rod was born July 5, 1950, in New Underwood, SD, the first of five children, to Walter G. and Onalee (Lytle) Hoffman. He attended first grade at a one room school on Corn Creek near Allen, SD. The beginning of his second grade year took him to Wasta, SD, where he stayed with his Lytle grandparents while his family finished their move to the old Ben Hoffman homestead near Creighton, SD. Thereafter, Rod attended Pleasant Ridge School, another one room schoolhouse, through eighth grade. Rod attended Wall High School as well as Rapid City Central and graduated in 1968 from Artesia High School in California. In 1969, Rod attended Western Iowa Tech in Sioux City, Iowa, where he truly began his life-long love of the livestock business.

In 1970 Rod went to work for Crago Hereford Ranches of Belle Fourche, SD. Known for his hard work and fearless risk-taking tendencies, it was no surprise when he jumped at the chance to go "North" where he worked on the Alaskan pipeline from 1976 through 1979. Somewhere on this journey, he developed an affinity for fighting chickens and consequently, spent a period managing and training the best fighting cocks in the world. This venture took him from South Dakota throughout the United States and into the Philippine Islands. A highlight he recently shared of those "wild days" was fighting cocks in the basement of the Hilton Hotel in New York City. Rod married Mary Lou Keil in 1981. They lived and worked around Gillette, WY. during the boom-town era.

By 1985, Rod left for Texas where, unbeknownst to him, he had an appointment with God. This dramatic encounter forever changed him. During this revival period, Rod met Jesus and then Rhonda Carter, in that order. He and Rhonda married on November 23, 1988, in Van, Texas. Rod stepped into Rhonda's life and that of her children, Shannon and Brandy. From that moment on, the children became his—he didn't just take them in, he raised and loved them as his own. Rod taught Shannon and Brandy what it means to work hard, how to hunt and fish, and most importantly, the value of family and loving others well.

During the years in Van, Rod owned and operated Hoffman Construction, a concrete and construction company. While there, Rod was an active church member, raised show cattle, and was an avid supporter of the local FFA chapters. He served as President of the Texas Maine Anjou Cattle Association. One of his fondest memories was at the Fort Worth Stock Show when he and Shannon had the Reserve Grand Champion Maine heifer and then came back and won it with a cow-calf pair.

In the summer of 2009, Rod addressed some health issues and moved home to South Dakota. His dad, Walt, was chuckwagon cooking yet and Rod helped him



serve at many a range branding. By 2010, Rod had the Open Range Cowboy Cooking business in full swing. He went on to cater many weddings and family reunions as well as serving the SD Buckaroo Ride for fifteen years. When asked of his cooking experiences he said, "That Buckaroo bunch became my great friends and they sure taught me Humbolism". (his word).

This many faceted man, was also an avid hunter, taking his first bear on one of his many Alaskan trips. He deer hunted on ranges from SD to NM, MT and TX. Rod was an active participant in many long-range shoots and garnered numerous awards with his eagle eye. Whether as marksman, a durned good cowboy cook, raising cattle, or brand inspecting, he was a top hand. In later years, he enjoyed raising some mighty fine Quarter Horses too.

By Rod's own admittance, he approached every part of life's sojourn with eager and reckless abandon. He gave himself to many passions and his enthusiasm for the unknown adventures kept him on the move. In keeping with his rough and ready cowboy spirit, he took the diagnosis of ALM in stride and rode it like a bad horse into the sunset. Rod loped on over the horizon still whipping and spurring with courage. His family counts it a blessing to have been on this wonderful (and sometimes wild) journey with him.

Rodney was preceded in passing by his parents, Walter and Onalee Hoffman and one brother, J Ben Hoffman.

He is survived by his son, Shannon (Jennifer) Hoffman of Arlington, TX; his daughter Brandy (P.J.) Bailey of Midlothian, TX; Three sisters: Chris (Cliff) Crago of Belle Fourche, SD, Dawn Newland, Colony, WY, Kathy (Ted) Thompson of Whitewood, SD; his four grandchildren, Cassidy and Caroline Hoffman, Ava and Andrew Bailey, all of Texas; numerous adoring nieces and nephews, and a special friend, Sandra Reedy of Bison, SD.

Honorary Pallbearers are, Shannon Hoffman, Cliff Crago, Ted Thompson, Cody Crago, and all of his beloved nephews.

A public Celebration of Life Memorial will be held between 3 and 6 PM on Saturday, July 25th, 2026, at the Branding Iron Steak House in Belle Fourche, SD. A private scattering of the ashes will take place at the family memorial near Wasta, SD at a later date.

By Rod's request, in Lieu of flowers, please consider donations to The Chutes For Charity of Belle Fourche, SD. Cards and remembrances in his name may be sent to: Chris Crago, 18956 Helmer Road, Belle Fourche, SD 57717.

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



Bernice Olivia Hess

Bernice Olivia Hess passed away Friday, July 17, 2026, at her home in Belle Fourche, SD.

Bernice was born May 18, 1937, in Hettinger, ND, to Ole Lysne and Bergetta Ekemo Lysne. She spent her early years on the family farm in the Lodgepole area south of Hettinger. After country school, Bernice attended and graduated from Hettinger High School. She attended business college in Rapid City, SD, before going to Northern State College in Aberdeen, SD, where she earned her teaching certificate.

Bernice married Pete Hess, and they made their home in Lemmon, SD. She was a stay-at-home mom to Lori, Perry, and Barry. When they were older, she took a job in the Lemmon school system. She went on to become a license insurance agent with Lutheran Brotherhood. She thoroughly enjoyed meeting and helping her clients, which created lifelong friendships. After moving to Belle Fourche, SD, she returned to substitute teaching in the Belle Fouche and Sturgis School districts. Running into past students always gave her great joy and great stories. Bernice was always very active in the Calvary Lutheran Church in Lemmon serving as president of the ELCA. She got involved with local elections as an Election Poll worker in Belle Fourche as well.

"Grandma Bernie" adored her grandchildren and great grandchildren! She loved to see them as often as she could. A typical snow day would find her drying snow suits for Brandon and Quillan when they were young so they could get back on the hill by her house, but not without a snack first. She would never miss a grandparent's day with Sami and Lindi during their



elementary years. And if Kris and Tara were having a bad day Grandma Bernie would say "It's time to go shoe shopping."

Bernice was preceded in death by her parents, Ole and Bergetta, husband, Pete, son, Barry, brother, Alan Lysne, and nephew, Jimmy Lysne.

Grateful for sharing her life are her daughter, Lori McNeese (Sherman Crabil), her son, Perry (Andrea "Andi") Hess, her brother, Jim (Paulette) Lysne, her six grandchildren, Brandon McNeese, Quillan (Meg) McNeese, Sami Hess, Lindi Hess, Tara Potter, and Kristina Hess, 14 great grandchildren, one great great grandchild, her nieces and nephews, and her special companion and beloved dog, Charli.

A Visitation will be held Monday, July 27th from 5:00 to 7:00 pm at Kline Funeral Chapel in Belle Fourche.

Funeral services will be held Tuesday, July 28th at 10:30 am at St. James Lutheran Church in Belle Fourche. Interment will follow at Pine Slope Cemetery in Belle Fourche.

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

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



Phyllis Thorson

Visitation will be held 5-7 p.m. Sunday, August 2, 2026 at First Lutheran Church in Philip.

Funeral Services will be held 10:00 a.m. Monday, August 3, 2026 at First Lutheran Church.

Interment will follow at the Masonic Cemetery in Philip. Cards and memorials may be sent to P.O. Box 744 Philip, SD 57567.

Celebration of Life

Peggy Turbiville

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Concert in the Park Moves Indoors for Cool Evening of Jazz



The Green Dolphin Jazz quartet. Longbrake photo(s)

Robbi Longbrake
news@bellefourchebeacon.com

BELLE FOURCHE—The Wednesday evening Belle Fourche Arts Council 2026 Concert in the Park was moved out of the heat and into the cool and comfortable Episcopal Church Hall on July 15. The move was made for the comfort and safety of the musicians and the crowd due to the ongoing heat advisory.

The planned move made for a nice, comfortable atmosphere to enjoy the musical notes of Green Dolphin Jazz. This is the fourth week in the free concert series.

The jazz quartet is from the Northern Hills area. They filled the room with a seamless mix of straight-ahead jazz with a heavy emphasis on mainstream swing and traditional jazz. The band consists of Dr. Christopher Hahn on trumpet, Dr. Janeen Larsen playing piano, Gary Renner on bass guitar and Terry Rathbun on drums.

They played a variety of jazz favorites including “All of Me”—the classic tune is one of the most recorded jazz hits of all time, immortalized by Louis Armstrong, Billie Holiday and Frank Sinatra.

Dr. Hahn took time to introduce and explain the songs the group played. He did it with humor and knowledge and kept the jazz hour moving along. “Next is “Angel Eyes”—which Janeen likes to say—you know Frank Sinatra made that famous—but we kind of say that about every tune we play because he wrote or sang so many tunes over his long career... We do this one a little bit different than he did,” he explained.

The band’s stylistic range was on display with the performance of “Black Orpheus,” a Bossa Nova. “So Black Orpheus was a movie that has, I think, aged relatively well... It takes place during carnival down in in Rio

de Janeiro, and the music that was written for it back in the 60s was really some of the earliest Bossa Nova music that we know, that became so popular in the U.S.,” shared Hahn.

The quartet’s setlist seamlessly bridged continents and eras and kept the crowd entertained.

The Belle Fourche United Church of Christ volunteers crafted ice cream sundaes to cool off the heated crowd for a free-will donation.

Summer is flying by! With the conclusion of this Wednesday performance, there are only two left in the series. Pack your lawn chair and head to Herrmann Park to enjoy live music under the South Dakota sky. On July 22, The Northern Hills Community Band will entertain beginning at 7 p.m. The concerts are free to the public. The final Concert in the Park will feature Belle Fourche High Drumline on July 29.

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Dr. Christopher Hahn of Green Dolphin Jazz shares stories between songs.



Enjoying ice cream and an evening of live jazz.

From A1 **Chamber Mixer** drawing is only open to Chamber members and they must be present to win. If nobody is present for either drawing, the money will roll over to next month’s Chamber Mixer.

The first business drawn was High Plains Restaurant. No one from the business was at the Mixer, so on to the second chance drawing. For the second drawing, Outlaw Bar was picked. Once again, no one from the business was at the Mixer, so the total pot of cash will be available for another drawing next month.

The August Chamber Mixer will be hosted by Buck N’ Broncs Car Wash together with Highmark Credit Union on August 20. Beginning at 4:30 p.m. and running through 6:30 p.m. at the Buck N’ Broncs Car Wash, the public is invited to join.



Clockwise from Above: Networking and spending time with others is what the Mixer is all about!; Patrick Manke helps serve PooterMac at the July Chamber Mixer; Networking at the Mixer. Longbrake photos



Belle Fourche Chamber of Commerce Upcoming Events		
JULY 22, 2026 1:00 PM - 2:00 PM Cribbage or 10 Point Pitch Belle Silver Lining Senior Center, 828 Kingsbury St, Belle Fourche, SD 57717, USA	Fourche, SD 57717, USA	Fourche, SD 57717, USA
JULY 22, 2026 1:00 PM - 2:00 PM Pioneer Breaking Ground	JULY 24, 2026 5:30 PM - 9:00 PM Dinner & a Movie Belle Silver Lining Senior Center, 828 Kingsbury St, Belle Fourche, SD 57717, USA	JULY 26, 2026 5:00 PM - 6:30 PM Free Supper St James Lutheran Church, 1100 Stanley St, Belle Fourche, SD 57717, USA
JULY 22, 2026 7:00 PM - 8:00 PM Northern Hills Community Band Herrmann Park, Belle Fourche, SD 57717, USA	JULY 23, 2026 - JULY 26, 2026 Minnesela Performances	JULY 27, 2026 - AUGUST 1, 2026 Butte Lawrence County Fair
JULY 23, 2026 - JULY 26, 2026 Minnesela Performances	JULY 24, 2026 - JULY 25, 2026 Crazy Days in Belle Fourche	JULY 27, 2026 6:00 PM - 8:00 PM Trap Night Center of the Nation Sportsmans Club, 10606 3v Road, Belle Fourche, SD 57717, USA
JULY 23, 2026 5:30 PM - 7:30 PM Moose Lodge Burger Night	JULY 25, 2026 8:00 AM - 9:00 AM Free Sports Physicals	JULY 27, 2026 - AUGUST 1, 2026 Butte Lawrence County Fair
JULY 23, 2026 6:00 PM - 9:00 PM Hometown Thursdays Tri-State Museum, 415 5th Ave, Belle Fourche, SD 57717, USA	JULY 25, 2026 9:00 AM - 10:00 AM Women's Prayer Walk	JULY 28, 2026 Music trivia at the outlaw
JULY 23, 2026 - JULY 26, 2026 Minnesela Performances	JULY 25, 2026 9:00 AM - 1:00 PM at Red Onion Marketplace	JULY 28, 2026 10:00 AM - 11:00 AM Pinochle Belle Silver Lining Senior Center, 828 Kingsbury St, Belle Fourche, SD 57717, USA
JULY 24, 2026 - JULY 25, 2026 Crazy Days in Belle Fourche	JULY 25, 2026 2:00 PM - 3:00 PM Dart Tournament & Benefit	JULY 28, 2026 6:00 PM - 7:00 PM Range Work Nights Center of the Nation Sportsmans Club, 10606 3v Road, Belle Fourche, SD 57717, USA
JULY 24, 2026 7:30 AM - 10:00 AM Caramel Rolls & Coffee Belle Silver Lining Senior Center, 828 Kingsbury St, Belle	JULY 23, 2026 - JULY 26, 2026 Minnesela Performances	
	JULY 26, 2026 11:00 AM - 12:00 PM Butterfly Wishes and Chocolate Kisses	
	JULY 26, 2026 3:00 PM - 5:00 PM Movie Night Belle Silver Lining Senior Center, 828 Kingsbury St, Belle	

Photos from Hometown Thursday

Photo credits: Robbi Longbrake



The Brandon Jones Band entertains the Hometown Thursdays crowd.



The debut of the new purple Hometown Thursdays tent at the beer garden.



Getting Crazee Cow ice cream to beat the heat.



The Belle Fourche Volunteer Fire Department's new engine.



The turnout is always great at Hometown Thursdays.



From A1 **VFW Baseball**

ple of guys that were helping me with that. I am really thankful for their help and their support and very fortunate to be able to host this tournament out here.”

The state tournament started on Friday with pool play. All six teams played twice and were put into the playoff bracket based on the outcome. The VFW State Tournament began at 10 a.m. Saturday morning.

The Belle Fourche Broncs took on the WIN Gators. Tournament hosts the Belle Fourche Broncs fell to the WIN Gators 10-9 after a hard-fought game. The WIN Gators moved on to play the Mobridge Crusaders at 3 p.m. that afternoon. The Broncs moved to the consolation bracket for play Sunday morning. They beat West Central Varsity 12-2

to secure fifth place. The rest of the VFW State winners are: State Champions: Area Dinos; Runner-Up: Mobridge Crusaders; 3rd Place: MVP Titans; 4th Place: WIN Gators; 5th Place: Belle Fourche Broncs; and 6th Place: West Central Trojans.

Beyond the competition on the field, hosting the state tournament gave Belle Fourche an opportunity to showcase the community and all it has to offer. “We bring five other teams from across the state to come play baseball in Belle Fourche and stay overnight here and the surrounding areas and hopefully have a meal at one of our local restaurants,” said Doran. “We are really excited for this opportunity to showcase what great things we’re doing in our town, and we couldn’t be happier with the support that we’ve had

with volunteers and our Baseball Board to get ready and put this tournament on!”

The VFW State Tournament doesn’t signal the end of the season for the Belle Fourche Broncs Baseball team. Up next, they head to Chamberlain July 21-23 to compete in the Region 7B American Legion Baseball Tournament. “We got a lodge there for the whole team to stay at, kind of right by the river—plenty of room for them to run around and just be kids a little bit, because at the end of the day, they still are—they’re still kids. We still want to have fun, we want to give them opportunities to have fun beyond baseball,” said Doran. “But they also go there knowing that there’s a goal—we want to try and win at regional as well!”

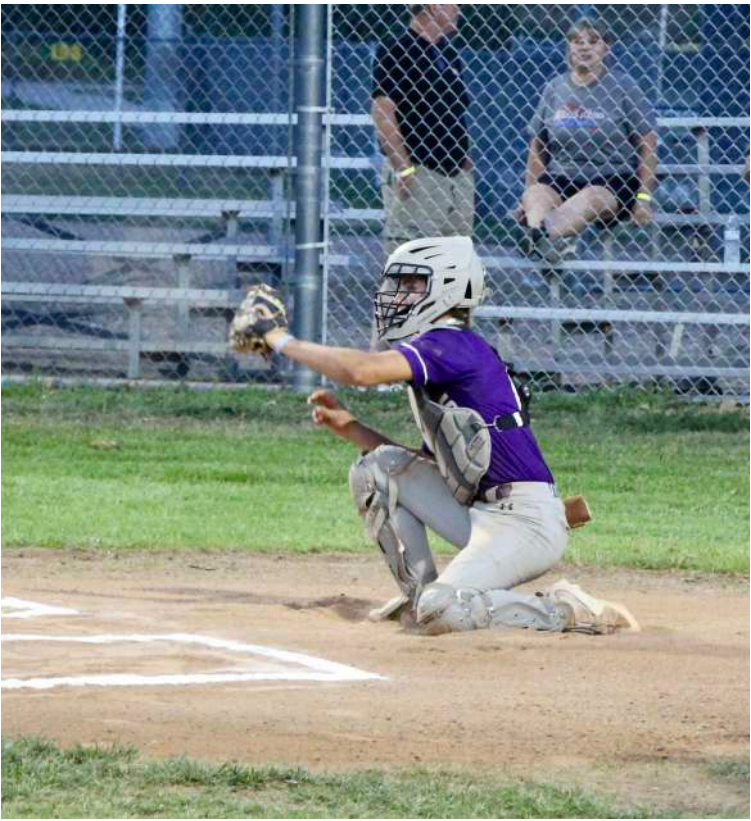
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Belle Fourche Broncs Coach Randy Doran talks to his team before they take the field. Longbrake photo(s)



Belle Fourche Broncs' catcher warms up before the game.



Mobridge Crusaders are the 2026 VFW Varsity State Baseball Tournament Alpha Division Runner-up in Belle Fourche.



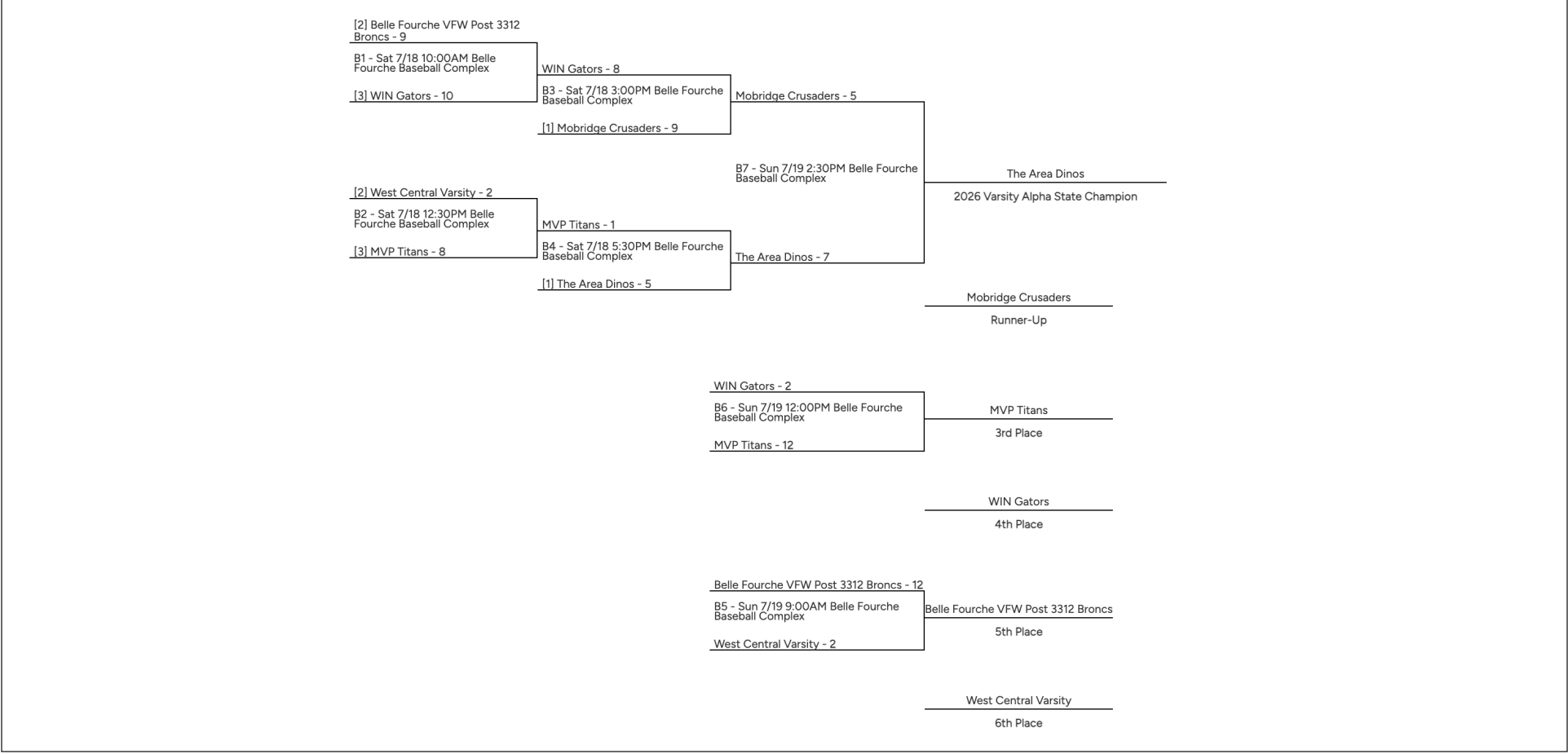
Friends and family traveled from all over the state to Belle Fourche to cheer on their team at the 2026 VFW Varsity State Baseball Tournament, Alpha Division.



Area Dinos from Clark, Willow Lake and Hamlin County are the 2026 VFW Varsity State Baseball Tournament Alpha Division State Champions.



Trophies and medals awaited the top three teams. Below: 2026 VFW Varsity State Baseball Tournament bracket.



From A1 **Pitchfork Fondue**

be able to go,” explained Baker. “There’s really no requirements other than you help out, you come here and help out, you help set up, you help clean up, serve, you do all those things and they make sure that people don’t get left out just because they can’t quite make it.”



Top: Brand boards of sponsorships or memorials are on display at the Pitchfork Fondue venue. **Left:** A Belle Fourche FFA Chapter member serves dinner to each table. **Right:** Belle Fourche FFA Chapter members prepare to serve Pitchfork Fondue steaks. *Longbrake photo(s)*



E.C. Blair and Atlee Olson watch as Aaliyah Lennon gives her Creed speech in preparation for National FFA in October.



Belle Fourche FFA Chapter members serve steak with all the fixings.

Hometown Thursdays Beats the Heat With Music and Community

Robbi Longbrake
news@bellefourchebeacon.com

BELLE FOURCHE—The summer is slipping away almost as quickly as it arrived. This past week already brought the seventh week in the ten-week series of the 2026 Hometown Thursdays Summer Concerts.

Mother Nature has made her presence known this summer as rain has forced the event to move indoors twice and a record heat wave has been in the area, but that has not slowed down the friends, families and neighbors from coming out each week to enjoy all the festivities.

This week, July 16, Brandon Jones Band entertained the crowd. Brandon Jones sings with a strong, powerful voice, and his gritty sound is the hallmark of country music. The band’s setlist included many of the band’s own songs along with modern country covers from the likes of Luke Combs, Chris LeDoux, Chris Stapleton and Blake Shelton

mixed with classics from Johnny Cash and Dwight Yoakam.

Jones did a great job of introducing the audience to the songs he was singing and incorporated humor into his storytelling to keep everyone engaged between songs. The band was sponsored by Pioneer Bank & Trust, Auto Pros and David Pummel & Associates.

Inside the Tri-State Museum, the bouncy house was set up for the kids to enjoy some fun out of the heat and a kids activity corner where kids could create their own monster to represent that it is monstrously hot!

The Hometown Thursdays Board debuted a new bright purple tent displaying their logo for the event, making them easy to find if needed. It also housed the beer garden. There was no group on hand selling 50/50 fundraiser tickets this week.

The Belle Fourche Volunteer Fire Department brought their new bright, shiny red engine for the public to explore. It was quite

a sight with all the lights on and flashing.

Vendors and food trucks lined the park to offer a large variety of food options. Mangled Foods, Asian Eatstreet, Rollin in the Hills, PooterQ, Craze Cow Ice Cream, Pearson Block Candy Shop, Brain Freeze and Kernel’s & Kandies brought delicious food choices for an evening meal or a good snack.

Since 2013, Hometown Thursdays have been bringing musicians to the community for weekly gatherings. The summer concerts draw community members together down by the river to enjoy a fun evening. The event runs every Thursday from 6 p.m. to 9 p.m. Next week, Wilt Brothers will take the stage.

There are only three weeks left in the special summer musical series. The rest of the summer schedule includes July 23, Wilt Brothers; July 30, Tim Zach Band; and August 6, JJ Kent with Aces and 8s.



A popular place to play, you can always find kids rolling down the hill.



Putting the bouncy house inside the events center at the Tri-State Museum allows younger participants to play out of the extreme heat.



The Brandon Jones Band entertains the Hometown Thursdays crowd. Right: Creating a monster was the kids’ activity of the week. Longbrake photo(s)



Show Up!

by Belle LaVenue



Summer means outside music & indoor theater fun! Every Thursday is Hometown Thursday concerts at the CON Visitors Center welcomes all for danceable bands & food. The Arts Council music in Herrmann Park means beautiful evenings through this month, and late July will bring Minnesela to the stage.

MINNESELA UPDATE: THERE WILL BE 4 PERFORMANCES! JULY 23-26.

MINNESELA FUN FACT: The main character is named Emma & the actor portraying her is also an Emma - Emma Tinsley!

Getting to know the show that was born right here in this area, I checked out the BFACT summary of this western comedy at their website: “Originally produced by the Belle Fourche High School in 2010, this beloved show about the ghost town sister town of Belle Fourche tells the story of Emma as she travels from the big city to track down her hero and star of his own book, Tom Bragg, deputy of Minnesela. Tom has his own worries from a woman who wants to be his betrothed and the brother of a man he killed who wants him dead, and the truth of his own story catching up with him. These two collide, as well as many hilarious characters in the once thriving town of... Minnesela!”

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!

- July 22, Concerts in Herrmann Park, 7 PM: Northern Hills Community Band
- July 23, Hometown Thursdays, 6-9 PM: Wilt Brothers
- July 24-26, 7 PM: BFACT Production: MINNESELA
- July 29, Concerts in Herrmann Park, 7 PM: BFHS Drumline
- July 30, Hometown Thursdays, 6-9 PM: Tim Zach Band
- August 6, Hometown Thursdays, 6-9 PM: JJ Kent w Aces and 8s

 belle fourche area
Community Theater



MINNESELA

A COMEDY OF WESTERN PROPORTIONS
BY DEREK & BOB OLSON

DON'T MISS OUT / JULY 23 - 26



2026 Concerts In The Park



JUN 30

USAF ACADEMY BAND
7 PM

BELLE FOURCHE COWBOY BAND

5 PM





JUL 8

DOUGLAS PHILLIPS
7 PM

GREEN DOLPHIN JAZZ

7 PM





JUL 22

NORTHERN HILLS COMMUNITY BAND
7 PM

BELLE FOURCHE HIGH DRUMLINE

7 PM



JUL 1



JUL 15



JUL 29



FREE ENTRY

HERMANN PARK, BELLE FOURCHE, SD
If there is rain relocate to the Rec Center
ICE CREAM AVAILABLE BY DONATION



2026



2026

HOMETOWN THURSDAYS

SUMMER CONCERT SERIES

June 4
June 11
June 18
June 25
July 2
July 9
July 16
July 23
July 30
August 6

Stereo Trip
Tyler Bills
Camp Comfort
Dakota Country
Williams & Wright
Jessica Loobey
Brandon Jones
Wilt Brothers
Tim Zach Band
JJ Kent w/ Aces & 8's

WWW.HOMETOWNTHURSDAYSBF.COM







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4:30PM-6:30PM



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Doug Dieterle ~ Auctioneer 605-788-2963

Ray Pepin ~ Fieldman: 605-892-5072

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

Cattle Report - Friday, July 17, 2026

Just Uner 500 Hd Today
Weigh Up Cow & Bull Were A Little Lower

NEXT SALE - JULY 24th - WEIGH UP COW & BULL SPECIAL - 9 AM

Thank you for Marketing with St Onge Livestock!

WEIGH UP COWS

Baker li, Paul L, Moorcroft WY	1	Blk	Cow	1510	\$185.00
Barbour, Tomi, Gillette WY	1	Blk	Cow	1500	\$187.50
Barbour, Tomi, Gillette WY	1	Blk	Cow	1355	\$187.00
Busenitz, Lewis, Hulet WY	1	Blk	Owette	1360	\$188.00
Cottonwood Creek Cattle, Rozet WY	1	Blk	Owette	1415	\$188.00
Cottonwood Creek Cattle, Rozet WY	1	Blk	Cow	1430	\$186.00
Cottonwood Creek Cattle, Rozet WY	1	Blk	Cow	1330	\$182.00
Dikoff, Amanda, Hermosa SD	1	Bld	Owette	1040	\$190.00
Dikoff, Roger Or Elizabeth, Hermosa SD	1	Bld	Cow	1295	\$177.00
Dikoff, Roger Or Elizabeth, Hermosa SD	1	Blk	Cow	1380	\$175.00
Goodvin, Terry, Hulet WY	3	Blk	Owette	1200	\$219.00
Goodvin, Terry, Hulet WY	1	Blk	Cow	1225	\$187.50
Goodvin, Terry, Hulet WY	2	Bld	Cow	1535	\$178.00
Goodvin, Terry, Hulet WY	1	Blk	Cow	1565	\$175.00
Johnson, Troy, St Onge SD	1	Blk	Owette	1420	\$195.00
Kammerer, Riley & Jimmie, Piedmont SD	1	Bld	Cow	1480	\$175.00
Kammerer, Riley & Jimmie, Piedmont SD	6	Bld	Cow	1605	\$174.50
Knighten, Clarine, Moorcroft WY	1	Red	Owette	1300	\$188.00
Lambert, Will & Kerri, Osage WY	1	Red	Owette	860	\$235.00
Peegee Ranch, Arvada WY	6	Blk	Owette	1402	\$188.50
Peegee Ranch, Arvada WY	1	Blk	Cow	1260	\$185.00
Rbj Ranch West Lc, Sundance WY	1	Blk	Cow	1085	\$186.00
Rbj Ranch West Lc, Sundance WY	1	Blk	Cow	1605	\$178.00
Reno, William E, Gillette WY	2	Blk	Owette	1425	\$190.00
Reno, William E, Gillette WY	6	Blk	Cow	1661	\$184.00
Richendier, Bret & Darlene, Moorcroft WY	2	Bld	Cow	1630	\$175.50
Ritthaler Cattle Co, Upton WY	8	Bld	Owette	1225	\$233.00
Ritthaler Cattle Co, Upton WY	20	Bld	Cow	1494	\$177.50
Ritthaler Cattle Co, Upton WY	5	Blk	Cow	1358	\$177.50
Ritthaler Cattle Co, Upton WY	1	Blk	Cow	1565	\$176.00
Sams Livestock, Weston WY	3	Blk	Owette	1286	\$188.00
Saur, Victor Or Darlene, Gillette WY	1	Blk	Cow	1230	\$186.00
Saur, Victor Or Darlene, Gillette WY	1	Blk	Cow	1135	\$180.00
Schaffer, Ryan, Hammond MT	1	Blk	Cow	1360	\$183.50
Schaffer, Ryan, Hammond MT	1	Bld	Cow	1110	\$178.00
Schaffer, Ryan, Hammond MT	1	Xbrd	Cow	1125	\$176.00
Terry, Glen & Nancy, Gillette WY	1	Blk	Cow	1695	\$176.00
Terry, Glen & Nancy, Gillette WY	1	Blk	Owette	1395	\$189.50
Veal, Ryan, Hulet WY	3	Blk	Owette	1283	\$191.00
Veal, Ryan, Hulet WY	2	Blk	Owette	1327	\$189.50
Wilson, Louise, Alzada MT	1	Blk	Cow	1425	\$181.00
21 Ranch Inc, Sundance WY	1	Herf	Bull	2010	\$197.50
21 Ranch Inc, Sundance WY	1	Herf	Bull	1930	\$200.00
21 Ranch Inc, Sundance WY	6	Herf	Bull	1892	\$197.00
21 Ranch Inc, Sundance WY	3	Herf	Bull	1736	\$190.50
21 Ranch Inc, Sundance WY	1	Herf	Bull	1680	\$192.50
21 Ranch Inc, Sundance WY	1	Herf	Bull	1575	\$190.50
Allison, Carrie, Newcastle WY	1	Blk	Bull	1685	\$205.00
Burleson Rev Trust, James A, Newcastle WY	1	Blk	Bull	1565	\$192.50
Busenitz, Lewis & Cattle, Hulet WY	1	Blk	Bull	1800	\$222.00
Davis, Marlene M, Belle Fourche SD	1	Herf	Bull	2030	\$213.00
Davis Ranches, Belle Fourche SD	2	Herf	Bull	2522	\$202.50
Duprel Livestock, Vale SD	1	Blk	Bull	2395	\$205.00
Duprel Livestock, Vale SD	1	Blk	Bull	1705	\$199.50
Duprel Livestock, Vale SD	1	Blk	Bull	1375	\$212.00
Duprel Livestock, Vale SD	1	Blk	Bull	1240	\$206.00
Fuller Livestock Ltd Liability, Gillette WY	1	Blk	Bull	1780	\$211.00
Grubi, Christopher, Sturgis SD	1	Blk	Bull	1665	\$207.50
Henwood, Robert A Or Lacey M, Belle Fourche SD	1	Red	Bull	1665	\$191.00
Johnson, Troy, St Onge SD	1	Blk	Bull	1405	\$187.00
Johnson, Troy, St Onge SD	1	Blk	Bull	1210	\$205.00

Karrels, Adam, Sturgis SD	1	Blk	Bull	1910	\$217.00
Ketelsen, Kurt Or Judy, Box Elder SD	1	Blk	Bull	1885	\$204.00
Kretschman, Kelby K Or Lacey D, Arvada WY	1	Blk	Bull	2255	\$215.00
Kretschman, Kelby K Or Lacey D, Arvada WY	1	Blk	Bull	2035	\$219.00
Kretschman, Kelby K Or Lacey D, Arvada WY	1	Blk	Bull	1260	\$218.00
Nelson Or Sandra Holcomb, Larry James, Buffalo SD	1	Red	Bull	2465	\$220.00
Nelson Or Sandra Holcomb, Larry James, Buffalo SD	1	Red	Bull	2200	\$217.00
Nelson Or Sandra Holcomb, Larry James, Buffalo SD	1	Red	Bull	2070	\$211.00
Nelson Or Sandra Holcomb, Larry James, Buffalo SD	1	Red	Bull	1965	\$220.00
Neph, Mike, Rozet WY	1	Blk	Bull	1750	\$204.00
Peters Rev Trust, Henry (Toby) Or Connie, Sturgis SD	1	Red	Bull	1895	\$214.00
Tavegie, Todd & Troy, Newcastle WY	1	Blk	Bull	1565	\$185.00
Tetrault Ranch Trust, St Onge SD	1	Red	Bull	2010	\$195.00
Thompson Ranch Inc, Sturgis SD	1	Blk	Bull	1945	\$214.00
Veal, Ryan, Hulet WY	1	Blk	Bull	2255	\$211.00

Friday, July JULY 24, 2026

WEIGH UP SPECIAL

9:00 AM – Weigh Ups

12:00 Noon – Feeder Cattle Followed By Bred Cows

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

2026 CATTLE SALES

July 24th – Weigh Up Cow & Bull Special – Selling All Classes Of Cattle

July 31st – Yrfg & Fall Calf Special – Selling All Classes Of Cattle

August 7th – Yrfg & Fall Calf Special – Selling All Classes Of Cattle

August 14th – No Sale Due To The Sturgis Bike Rally

August 21st – Yearling Special – Selling All Classes Of Cattle

August 28th – Yearling Special – Selling All Classes Of Cattle

September 4th – Yearling Special – Selling All Classes Of Cattle

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

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



St Onge Livestock has a receiving station for the Gillette Area every Thursday. It is on Northern Drive in Gillette. Call Doug Miller at 307-660-0960 to let him know what is coming. You can unload all day every Thursday until 3 pm. You pay receiving station fee of \$3 per head & \$2.50/cwt for trucking. You can also call Justin Tupper at 605-680-0259 & he can let them know your cattle are coming also.

THE BROADUS RECEIVING STATION IS TAKING CATTLE EVERY THURSDAY FOR OUR SALES ON FRIDAY. You can drop your cattle off every Thursday by 3pm. You pay receiving station fee of \$3 per head & \$2.50/cwt for trucking. For more information, call Tyler or Brandy Escott at 406-421-5579 or 406-951-1666 or Justin Tupper at 605-680-0259.

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605-490-9829

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605-641-7100

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605-354-9966

Sheep Report - Thursday, July 16, 2026

Smaller Run Today
Lamb Market Was Steady To \$5 Lower
Slaughter Ewes Sold Steady To \$5 Higher

NEXT SALE - JULY 23, 2026 - FEEDER LAMB SPECIAL - Selling All Classes of Sheep & Goats - START TIME 1:00 PM

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

Slaughter Ewes

Farnsworth Livestock, Rigby ID	6	K Ewe	187	\$139.00
Farnsworth Livestock, Rigby ID	28	K Ewe	164	\$134.00
Farnsworth Livestock, Rigby ID	117	K Ewe	149	\$131.00
Moore, David E, Douglas WY	13	K Ewe	158	\$139.00
Olson, John Or Jennie, Broadus MT	16	K Ewe	193	\$125.00
Askin, Kirk, Broadus MT	90	Lamb	97	\$306.00
Brunner, Jordan, Vale SD	20	Lamb	65	\$315.00
Considine, Terry & Jeff, Broadus MT	59	Lamb	69	\$353.00
Harmon, Custis, Newell SD	75	Lamb	87	\$331.00
High Country Ranches, Moorcroft WY	200	Hair Lamb	56	\$325.00
Paul, Iver Or Everett, Faith SD	46	Lamb	91	\$333.00
Richter, Cathy, Buffalo SD	13	Lamb	70	\$354.00
Tish, Melanie, New Underwood SD	13	Lamb	90	\$324.00

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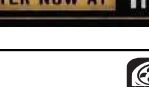


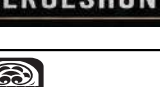




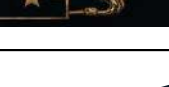












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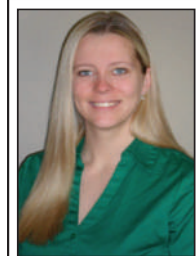
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Looking Back in Belle

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

100 years ago
Northwest Bee
July 22, 1926
CAMPAIGN BOOTS HOME MERCHANTS Their Progressiveness as Community Boosters Are Big Assets to Belle Fourche For almost twenty-four years The Northwest Post has been boosting Belle Fourche merchants, the home town business men. Why? Because Belle Fourche merchants stand by their home town at all times; at all times are willing to lend a helping hand in the support of every home enterprise and because they bank every move that is for the best interest of Belle Fourche and Butte county. But we wonder if the citizens in and about the community realize the work of the home town merchants – of the many things they do for the town and its people, and how much we, as a people, owe to them. Back of every development and uplift are the home town merchants, and usually only the home town merchants, while others “pass the buck” except during beneficial showers. The truth of the matter is home town merchants are selling goods at, or less, than prices elsewhere, and if we will be fair and included additional expenses incurred when trading away – we are bound to admit that it is cheaper to trade at home besides showing a spirit of reciprocity.

Bids Were Too High Bids for the construction of the proposed Masonic Temple in this city were opened Tuesday afternoon, but no action was taken in the matter of letting a contract, as the proposals were all considered too high. There were four bids on general construction, that of I. N. Nelson of Belle Fourche being the lowest, \$15,470.35, which was only \$14.65 lower than Carlson & Co., Sioux Falls. For the electric wiring there were two bids, that of W. J. Tretheway of Belle Fourche being the lowest, \$376.35. Three bids were submitted on heating and plumbing, that of Wycoff & Nobel of Belle Furche being the lowest. Their bid on heating was \$1,175.00, and plumbing \$850.00.. The bids will be referred to the architect in Sioux City, and it is probable that alterations will be made so that the building can be completed within the estimate of \$15,000. The lowest bid offered Tuesday was \$2,677.70 more than that figure.

MONUMENT FOR SETH BULLOCK Proposed to Give Recognition to Man Who Introduced Alfalfa in the Dakotas In this day of monument building, what finer tribute could the agriculture of the Black Hills pay to one of it’s deserving pioneers than to erect such a shaft to the one responsible for the introduction of not only the first alfalfa in the Black Hills, but in the whole of the sate of South Dakota as will, and raise this directly upon the very plot of ground upon which this first seed was sown? Pioneers

are usually in an outstanding class in which nerve and foresight are dominant characterizations. Seth Bullock was by no means an exception, so that this introduction of alfalfa into the Black Hills and at the time (1881) was by no means an accidental circumstance nor a happening of chance, but the direct result of the need of the times and the nerve to try something new that was a success elsewhere under similar conditions. That this venture proved successful the Black Hills world knows today, forty-five years later, without question. He did not know at the time that he was sowing the very first alfalfa seed ever sown on South Dakota soil not in the territory bordering for hundreds of miles. Neither did he have the least idea as to the historic value of this particular little bag of alfalfa seed he brought from Utah. He was prompted by the ral material benefits that were to be derived as winter feed for his stock, and that if it proved as successful with him as where he had seen it elsewhere it would be a wonderful resource to the stockman and farmer. This matter was suggested by the writer to growers of Bullock strain alfalfa some years ago in an effort to create interest and was brought up again in the recent issue of the Dakota Farmer, I verily believe there is no one more deserving of such a monument and of course add much to the interest of those visiting out Hills. “By their deeds, ye shall know them,” but now are you going to know them unless you record their deeds so that all may see?

75 years ago
The Belle Fourche Bee
July 19, 1951

ARTHUR TO REPLACE LAUREN DAVIS ON CITY COUNCIL Mayor O. H. Frost announced yesterday the appointment of Kenneth L. Arthur to the city council to fill the vacancy created by the resignation of second ward alderman Lauren Davis. Arthur’s appointment is subject of the approval of the city council. Davis had completed one year of a two-year term as second ward alderman when he moved out of the second ward and thus automatically dropped from the board. Arthur’s appointment will be effective following council approval until the next election. The new councilman, manager of the Eastern Clay Products Company is well-known, has been active in Chamber of Commerce, Round-Up and other civic activities.

“CANDY” RAN STAKE RACE WITHOUT RIDER O. J. Brownfield of Belle Fourche was a proud manny yesterday. “Candy,” he said, “ran the stake race without a rider for the first time.” “Candy” is a six year-old sorrel horse of which Brownfield is quite proud. The retired rancher has been working with the horse for 18 months now, and yesterday the animal went thru the intricate maneuvers required in the stake race without a hitch. “He may never do



by Mary Buchholz

it again,” said Brownfield, “but he at least did it once.” Brownfield added that the training has “taken a lot of time and money and a train-load of patience.”

People Phyllis Fondy has lived in Belle Fourche since 1941. She was born and spent her early years at Edgerton, Wyo., was graduated from Belle Fourche high school in 1950. Phyllis is working as a stenographer and information clerk at the Chamber of Commerce office this summer. During the winter months she’s a student at South Dakota State College, Brookings.

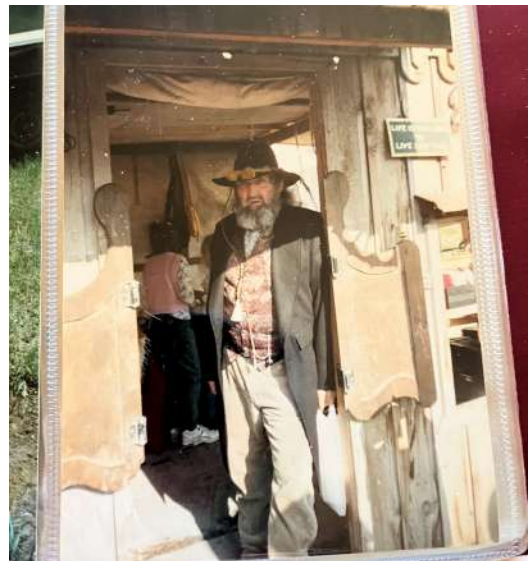
50 years ago
Belle Fourche Bee
July 15, 1976

New Doctor Coming To Belle Soon Dr.E. Colin Smart, Belle Fourche physician, yesterday announced his association with Dr. John O’Sullivan, a surgeon and family practitioner. The two will be in practice at the clinic at the new Belle Fourche Health Care Center. Dr. O’Sullivan and his wife Kathleen and seven children will be arriving in Belle Fourche in about a month from Sidney, Mont., where Dr. O’Sullivan has been in practice the last eight years. The new doctor is a native of Ireland and qualified at the Nation University of Ireland in 1955. He emigrated to Canada and was in hospital and private practice in Saskatoon, Saskatchewan. He became a fellow of the Royal College of Surgeons of Canada, later moved to Pennsylvania where he did four years of surgical residency and became an American Board Certified Surgeon. Before moving to Sidney he was in surgical and family practice at Redfield for two years. Mrs. O’Sullivan is from New Jersey.

National Wool Group Meets at Deadwood The summer executive meeting of the National Wool Growers Association will be held in Deadwood, July 23rd and 24th with headquarters at the Franklin Hotel. The executive committee is composed of presidents and secretaries of member state wool growers associations. The purpose of the meeting will be to discuss matters facing the national association and the sheep industry and determine actions that the association should follow. Social functions of the group will include attendance at the Black Hills Passion Play and a cook-out and visit to Mt. Rushmore on July 23. Area sheep producers are welcome to attend all functions. The American Sheep Producer’s Council awarded Otto Wolfe, sheepman from Piedmont area, the “Silver Ram Award” for leadership in the American Sheep Industry. He was an Honorary Member of the Block and Bridle for his distinguished service to the livestock industry. In 1949 Otto was named Sheepman of the Year for South Dakota.



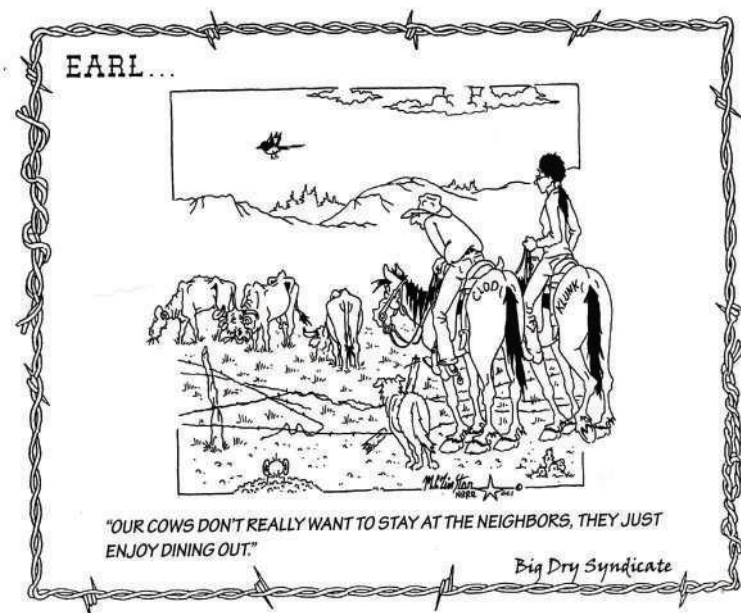
To Wolfe the greatest wishes - Sam Campbell



Top: Belle Fourche Masonic Temple. Left: A herd of Wolfe sheep who grazed in the Black Hills from the 1910’s until they retired from the sheep industry in 1970’s. Right: John Hovorka, who worked for Otto Wolfe for many years.

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2026

2026

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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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2026

JULY

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

MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI
		1 Chicken & Broccoli Alfredo & Pasta Salad, breadstick	2 Baked Ham Scalloped Potato Asparagus & salad, Roll	3 Beef Brisket & Brats Baked Beans & Mac salad, chips
6 Sausage Peppers & Rice Dinner Salad & Roll	7 Chicken Cordon Bleu with Broccoli & Rice Carrots, Roll, Salad	8 Swiss Steak Roasted Potato & Carrots, Salad, Roll	9 Meatloaf with Mashed Potato, Gravy, Green Beans, Roll, Salad	10 Sloppy Joes Baked Beans, Coleslaw, chips
13 Beef Roast with Roasted Potatoes & Carrots Salad, Roll Milk & Fruit	14 Chicken Taco <u>With</u> Black Beans & Corn Spanish Rice	15 Turkey ala king over noodles Mixed Veggies, Biscuits	16 Beefy Mac & Cheese Corn, Salad, Roll	17 Indian Tacos Southwest Salad
20 BBQ Chicken Mac & Cheese Spinach Salad, Roll	21 Chicken Fry Steak Mashed Potato / Gravy Corn, Roll	22 Hawaiian Pork Brown Sugar Yams Brussel sprouts, Roll	23 Meatloaf with Mashed Potato/Gravy, Corn, Salad, Roll	24 Ham or Turkey Sandwich on a Croissant Pasta <u>Salad</u> <u>Chips</u>
27 Chili Cheese Dog Fries & Pea Salad	28 Chicken Fry Steak Mashed Potato / Gravy Green Beans, Salad, Roll	29 Honey Chicken over Rice Creamed Spinach Dinner Salad, Roll	30 Beef Spaghetti Corn and Salad Garlic Toast	31 Cheese Burger Deluxe Fries, Dinner Salad Chips

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4th of July Parade
starts 10:30am at
National & 13th





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Market Report - Thursday, July 16th, 2026
THANK YOU FOR YOUR BUSINESS!

PAIRS	HD	DESC	WT	BID	\$/HEAD
Dan Zimmerschied, Carille WY	33	Black-Pair	1493	5000.00	\$5,000.00
WEIGH-UPS					
James A. Or Diane Hall, Gillette WY	2	Blk/BwF-Cow	1240	208.00	\$2,579.20
1	Black-Cow	1735	155.00	\$2,689.25	
3	Black-Cow	1420	186.00	\$2,641.20	
Brent Gorman, Gillette WY	1	BwF-Cow	1530	184.50	\$2,822.85
1	Black-Cow	1205	180.00	\$2,169.00	
1	Black-Cow	1390	176.00	\$2,446.40	
Bruce Blair, Piedmont SD	1	BwF-Cow	1430	185.50	\$2,652.65
1	Black-Cow	1630	184.00	\$2,999.20	
James A McCoy, Belle Fourche SD	1	Black-Cow	1585	176.50	\$2,797.52
1	BwF-Cow	1675	173.00	\$2,897.75	
1	Black-Cow	1485	172.00	\$2,554.20	
Jay Landers, Hot Springs SD	7	Blk/BwF-Cow	1666	175.00	\$2,915.00
4	Blk/BwF-Cow	1673	178.00	\$2,977.05	
2	Black-Cow	1398	170.00	\$2,375.75	
Janet K Evans, Weston WY	4	Black-Cow	1476	185.00	\$2,731.06
1	Black-Cow	1265	206.00	\$2,605.90	
Dan Zimmerschied, Carille WY	1	Black-Cow	1450	185.00	\$2,682.50
4	Black-Cow	1240	223.00	\$2,765.20	
4	Black-Cow	1431	184.00	\$2,633.50	
1	Black-Cow	1255	185.00	\$2,321.75	
Castleberry Inc, Ekalaka MT	8	HerF-Cow	1491	178.00	\$2,653.31
4	HerF-Hfrt	1061	230.00	\$2,440.87	
BULLS					
Ryan Xz Ranch Llc, Aladdin WY	1	Black-Bull Df	2330	237.00	\$5,522.10
Burke Ranch Llc, Newell SD	1	Black-Bull Df	2220	215.00	\$4,773.00
1	Black-Bull Df	2000	201.00	\$4,020.00	
Harmon Creek Cattle, Ekalaka MT	1	Black-Bull Df	2040	216.00	\$4,406.40
McNenny Ranch Inc, Sturgis SD	1	Char-Bull Df	2175	220.00	\$4,785.00
Jay Landers, Hot Springs SD	1	Black-Bull Df	2220	225.00	\$4,995.00
L Bar 7 Cattle Company, Gillette WY	1	Black-Bull	2140	227.50	\$4,868.50
Jardee Ranch, Ekalaka MT	1	Black-Bull Df	1925	236.00	\$4,543.00
1	Black-Bull Df	1885	229.00	\$4,316.65	
Wolf Ranch Llc, Hulet WY	1	Black-Bull Df	2225	232.00	\$5,162.00

WEIGH-UP SPECIAL - SELLING ALL CLASSES

JULY 23, 2026

WUPS @ 10AM MT

YEARLING & WEIGH-UP SPECIAL - SELLING ALL CLASSES

JULY 30, 2026

WUPS @ 10AM MT & FEEDER CATTLE @ 12PM MT

UPCOMING SALE SCHEDULE

July 23, 2026 WEIGH-UP SPECIAL – SELLING ALL CLASSES – WUPS
..... @ 10AM MT

July 30, 2026 YEARLING & WEIGH-UP SPECIAL – SELLING ALL CLASSES
..... – WUPS @ 9AM MT & FEEDER CATTLE @ 12PM MT

August 6, 2026 WEIGH-UP SPECIAL - SELLING ALL CLASSES

August 13, 2026 NO SALE- HAPPY RALLY WEEK!

August 20, 2026 YEARLING & WEIGH-UP SPECIAL – SELLING ALL CLASSES

August 27, 2026 YEARLING & WEIGH-UP SPECIAL – SELLING ALL CLASSES

September 3, 2026. ANNIVERSARY BBQ SALE – YEARLING & SPRING CALF
..... SPECIAL & WEIGH-UP SPECIAL

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Dave Williams | 406-975-6805

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Tuesday, June 2ND
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Dinner at 5:30PM
Show at 6:15PM

\$37 Adults
\$18 Youth 6-17
5 & Under Free

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\$6.99  Sutter Home 4-Packs	\$19.99  Jose Cuervo Tequila 750mL	\$17.99  Sun Cruiser Tea & Lemonade 4-Packs

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Wednesday July 7th through Tuesday, July 21st



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SUPER 6**
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& Trail Run

Saturday
8.15.2026

6-HOUR RACES START AT 8:00 A.M.
3-HOUR RACES START AT 10:00 A.M.

 **BIG HILL TRAILS; SPEARFISH, SD**

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- INDIVIDUAL (3 OR 6 HOUR)
- TEAMS: 3-HOUR/2 RUNNERS;
6-HOUR/2-4 PARTICIPANTS

BIKE RACE OPTIONS

- 3-HOUR/3-MILE COURSE: INDIVIDUAL OR 2-PERSON
TEAMS (DESIGNED FOR BEGINNER RIDERS)
- 6-HOUR/6-MILE LOOP: INDIVIDUAL OR TEAMS WITH 2-4
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MAY 1 - JULY 31

<https://blackhillsuper6.itsyourrace.com/event.aspx?id=1496>

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Almont, ND

BFVFD Welcomes New Fire Apparatus

Andy Anderson, BFVFD
Special to the Beacon

BELLE FOURCHE—After two years in the making. On Tuesday July 14, 2026, the Belle Fourche Volunteer Fire Department welcomed the arrival of its new Engine 2. A Kenworth T880 cab & Chassis built by Toyne.

It is powered by a 400hp Paccar PX-9 engine w/Allison transmission. We increased the volume of water by 300 gallons for a 1,500gal water capacity with 25-gallon class A foam tank. A 1,250gal Hale pump, 2,100-gallon porta-tank with a rear swivel dump chute.

We welcome in the new and retire from our department the older Engine 2, which was purchased in 2000 from Central

States Pumper, now Rosenbauer. The old 2 was a Chevy cab & chassis with a 250hp Cat 3116, 1,200-gallon capacity tank.

The outgoing Engine 2 will not be retired for long. After a brief retirement the old Engine 2 will go Nisland-Arpan Fire department in Butte County, SD to continue providing fire protection to its new home town and mutual aid support to its neighboring Fire Departments.

If you are interested in becoming a member of the Belle Fourche Volunteer Fire Department or Cadet Program you can download an application from our website at [BFVFD.org](https://bfvfd.org). We meet on Wednesday Evenings at 7 p.m. at the Firehall, located at 605 National St.

Current and former Company 2 members and BFVFD Chiefs. Left to right: Asst Chief Jim Groseclose, Captain Co 5 Andy Anderson former LT Co2, Asst Chief Ted Jietz former Co 2 Captain, Cadet Ashlynn Terhune, Current Lieutenant Ricky Rysavy, Mayor/former Asst Chief Randy Schmidt, Former Captain Wayne Talsma, FF Randi Richards, Former Co 2 Captain/Chief Kip Marshal, FF Jacey Fowler, Former Co2 Captain Mike Johnson, Current Captain Dustin Anderson, Former Co 2 Captain/Asst Chief Matthew Schreder, Chief Aaron Thramer.

Belle Fourche Volunteer Fire Department's new Engine 2.

The Wet-Down: When Fire Departments used horses to pull the Fire Apparatus, upon returning to the station, the firefighters would wash the horses and return them to their stalls. This is where the wet-down comes from. The BFV Fire department sprays the new Engine 2 apparatus with water from the retiring Engine 2 apparatus. It's the official anointing it for service. The former Captain of Company 2, Wayne Talsma and current Captain of Company 2 Dustin Anderson do the wet-down.

Current Company 2 members. Cadet Ashlynn Terhune, LT Ricky Rysavy, Capt. Dustin Anderson, FF Randi Richards, FF Jacey Fowler. *Not pictured:* FF Matthew Lemke, FF Abigail Vissia, Cadet Jasmine R.

The Push-In: Dating back to the 1800s, after firefighters unhitched horses, washed them. The firefighters would manually push the heavy steamers and hose carts into the station. Today, Today, firefighters, city officials, and community members physically push the new rig into the bay. Above, BFVFD retirees, current members and members of the city government push the new Engine 2 into its bay.

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
10913 Sourdough Road
Belle Fourche, SD
Andy Anderson, Pastor
9am Sunday School
10am Sunday Morning Worship
Men's Bible Study 10am Wednesday
Women's Bible Study Tuesday 9am.
Friday Evening Celebrate Recovery
6:30PM
website: ebcbsf.org

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

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

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

10:30 a.m. Children's Sunday School
GLOBAL METHODIST CHURCH
Pastor Sheri Fadley
1804 7th Ave. Belle Fourche
605-892-2405
Worship: Sunday 10:30 am - FB Live
Sunday School 9:30 am
Small Groups & Studies
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BAPTIST CHURCH**
(ABA) - 2.2 miles east on Hwy 34
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642-1122
Luke Bluhm, Pastor
Sunday: 10 a.m. Worship Service

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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 Nieland
(605) 257-2356
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Worship: 10:45 a.m.

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a river, or a rail line that
passes through more than
one county, call the tourism
office in the next county
over and ask whether a joint
marketing push already
exists. Most states, not just
Missouri, have some version
of a cooperative or matching
grant program built for ex-
actly this kind of partnership.
If nobody has started that
conversation yet, you can be

COWBOYS TOO!

TODDLER
girls & boys

By John Newby

"Building Main Street, not Wall Street"

Small Communities Win Bigger When Working Together

A scenic rail line running between St. Louis and Kansas City used to be, in tourism terms, just a way to get from one big city to the other. Then someone built a marketing campaign around every small stop in between, the wineries, the museums, the little downtown festivals that never had a budget to advertise themselves. That line, the Missouri River Runner, picked up a state tourism award for doing what county leaders all need to do. It made the space between the big cities the destination.

When people picture regional cooperation, they often picture the coasts, big state tourism agencies with big budgets. The Midwest has been quietly doing this work too, and doing it well, for towns that most people have never heard of. In western Iowa, Adair and Guthrie counties combined forces years ago under a single regional partnership, and today that partnership promotes more than eighty miles of restored rail trail and a scenic byway that links five small towns, Adair, Casey, Menlo, Stuart, and Dexter, as one continuous experience instead of five separate stops nobody would drive out of their way to see. No single one of those towns could market eighty miles of trail. Together, they can

Here's why these matters. Missouri's tourism division reports the industry generates 21.4 billion dollars in eco-



nomie impact and supports more than 307,000 jobs statewide. That is not money flowing only to St. Louis and Kansas City. It flows to which-ever small towns man-age to get themselves in front of travelers who are already driving through. The state's coop-marketing program is built around that idea directly. It requires the advertising it funds to reach beyond fifty miles of the attraction being promoted, and it explicitly encourages destination marketing organizations to team up across county lines on shared campaigns. The state is not just tolerating regional cooperation. It is writing the rules to reward it.

I think that is the piece a lot of small towns miss. Tourism dollars do not stop at the county line, but marketing budgets usually do. A visitor driving from Kansas City to a lake or a state park does not care which county they are passing through. They care whether there is a reason to stop. If your town's only pitch is your own downtown, you are competing for a fraction of that visitor's attention. If your town's pitch is part of a regional trail, a shared byway, or a joint rail corridor campaign, you are riding along on advertising dollars that reach that same visitor long before they ever cross into your county.

Minnesota's state tourism office runs a similar playbook through its event partnerships, folding smaller river towns

into promotion built around larger regional draws, from a national gravel cycling championship to a major music festival, so that towns that could never buy their own national press get carried along in someone else's spotlight. The pattern repeats across the Midwest because the math repeats. A media buy big enough to reach a traveler three states away costs the same whether it promotes one town or twelve. Twelve towns splitting that cost is a bargain that one town alone will never see.

I want to be honest about the tradeoff. Joining a regional campaign means your town's name shows up smaller, folded into a bigger map or a shared brochure instead of headlining its own. Some local leaders resist that, and I understand why. Nobody wants to feel like their downtown became a footnote on someone else's trail. But the towns along the Missouri River Runner did not disappear into the rail line's brand. Their wineries, their museums, and their festivals got named specifically, riding a campaign built and paid for at a scale no single stop could have funded alone.

This is not really a tourism story. It is a math story. A trail, a byway, or a rail corridor is inherently regional, so its marketing should be too. The towns that understand this are not shrinking by sharing a brand. They are getting access to a marketing budget, a media buy, and a visitor pipeline that would otherwise have skipped them entirely.

Here is what you can do this week. If your town sits along a trail, a scenic route,

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Jonathan Ellis & Joe Sneve

Central Meade County News

By Sandy Rhoden



Well, needless to say the ‘dog days of summer’ are here for a while. Over the week-end temperatures topped 100 degrees and the breeze was quick to begin the drying out process of what moisture we did have. As of Sunday, fields were still showing green but not the lovely colors we were seeing a couple of weeks ago or less. It is definitely time to pray for rain as we continue getting to the hay and some nice stands of crops are still green.

Hopefully, animals have access to shade and water to get through this hot spell. After church services, some

of the Union Center church regulars had lunch at Nellie’s of Enning on Sunday. Harold Delbridge and his wife along with their Stoneville church crew had lunch there as well. Janice Arends and Neoma Richter, Darrell Wilcox and Jack Seller, Jim and JoDee Shaw and sons and daughter in law, all decided to grab lunch at Nellie’s as well. The air conditioning started struggling to keep up with the extreme heat, but it was still comfortable.

Yesterday’s Kids took place at Cedar Canyon Bible Camp on Monday. The kids camps are starting up as well so please pray for safety from the heat and other weather related events that may crop up. Thank you to all who

help cook, counsel and help during those days of camping in tents and working with the many activities throughout the week. The camp is in the Maurine area north of Hwy. 212.

There will be a Lady’s Prayer breakfast this coming Saturday at the church in Union Center at 8:30 am. All ladies are welcome. This would be a great time for young dads to spend some quality time with their children to free up moms in the area.

We were saddened to hear about the passing of David Baranco of Sioux Falls who was a candidate for State Auditor. That position is being held by Rich Sattgast currently. He leaves behind his wife, Catherine, and two young sons. Sandy Rhoden

is a friend of Catherine’s and was able to pay her a visit the evening of his passing. They will do a private family funeral and a Celebration of Life for the public on or around July 29 in Sioux Falls.

As an important reminder, the run-off election for Governor is Tuesday, July 28 at your regular polling places unless notified of change. But, you may go into your county courthouse ‘any business day’ and VOTE before that date. It takes about 30 seconds or less as there are only 2 names on the ballot. It is interesting that the last names are so similar as they rhymn... Rhoden & Doden. Tuesday, July 28 will be the day to end the run-off election.

Stay safe, keep cool.

SEND US YOUR NEWS AND PHOTOS

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Capitol News July 5, 2026 by Karen Odell



Capitol and Tie Creek had a little more rain, this week. On most days, the temperature was pleasant, but Saturday warmed up for the 250th anniversary of

our country. Sunday was extremely hot at around one-hundred degrees. Still the countryside is green, but mosquitoes have finally moved in at most places.

Alvin Cordell had planted a hay field at the Buck place, and Ryan went up to cut it. They got it baled. Then Ryan moved to the Yates place, and they just finished that on Sunday, and brought the tractors home. There will be a little hay at the home place, but the hot weather will soon slow the haying. Maree went to Belle Fourche, on Friday, to join the family, and watch the fireworks. Alvin went down on Saturday, and joined them to watch the parade. There was a little rain on Saturday, but Alvin read 103 degrees on his thermometer, on Sunday. Marlee went to church at the Methodist Church in Camp Crook, on Sunday, and helped serve cookies, cake and coffee to the congregation afterward.

Doug and Julia Davis went to the Winfred Straub funeral in Deadwood, on Tuesday. Then,

on Wednesday, they went to Belle Fourche for the Erma Albert funeral. Kay Latham rode with them down to the funeral. Kay also got to visit at Travis and Amanda Davis’s house. Darwin and John Latham and the kids came down later. They picked Kay up on their way to the carnival, where the kids had a great time. On Thursday, Julia Davis worked at the courthouse in Buffalo. Doug and Julia got four-tenths of an inch of rain on Thursday. The rest of the week was mostly working cattle. They sorted and moved cows, and put out bulls. Saturday and Sunday got so hot that they worked early and late, but not in the heat of the day.

Last week, Ronda Cordell went to the Little Missouri Bible School program. When she left for home from the program, water was running everywhere. There had been a pouring down rain during the program. She had had several showers in the past two weeks that have totaled almost three inches. It has surely helped to keep some green color in the area, but still, sub-soil moisture is nearly non-existent. The continual wind can take some of the blame for that. The little showers have helped bring Ronda’s garden up, and she can actually see her rows, but the weeds are coming, too. Only the squash and cucum-

bers were planted in hills.

Ronda spoke with son, Luke Basler, last weekend. Oren Basler, and the music group he is traveling with, arrived in London, England on June 25th. Luke sent Ronda a link so that she can see some of the pictures of the trip on Facebook. The group went from London to Paris, France; then to Crans-Montana, Switzerland, and were in Germany on Saturday. The buildings are designed with much intricate work. Many streets and court yards are covered with cobblestone or bricks. The music and singing, that the group is doing, is wonderful. Each performance has been videoed. Oren told Luke that there’s no air conditioning there, so the heat has been a little miserable.

Carl Knapp came to Ronda’s last week, to blade and put a crown on her driveway. This week, Tod Dague started hauling gravel on it. Carl came on the Fourth of July to spread the gravel row, so that it would be easier for Tod to finish hauling the last part.

On Friday, Ronda’s lunch guests were Jay and Debra Swedberg, thier daughter, Ann, son-in-law Reggie, two-grandchildren and Debra’s mother Marilyn, from Wyoming. They have spent several days at the Buck Ranch.

On Sunday, Ronda drove to Belle Fourche and on into

Wyoming a few miles to attend a 70’s Class reunion at the home of Jack Kindsfater. There was about a dozen classmates in attendance. The thermometer on Ronda’s car read 102, as she headed home, but the breeze and shade had made it a nice afternoon of visiting.

Karen Odell enjoyed a week of beautiful weather. On Thursday, she made a trip to Buffalo, for business, shopping and lunch at Blossoms ‘n Brew. The Fourth of July was filled with the 250th celebration, and Karen watched on TV and computer, at various places all over the country. She could see celebrations at Medora, ND, Mount Rushmore, SD, Nashville, TN, Washington, DC and more. In the evening, she got to watch her own fireworks display that the Padden family produced to the north of Karen’s house. It was like having her own celebration, and she enjoyed it better without the big crowds, and smoke, and loud

noise. It warmed up that day, and by Sunday it was very hot. Karen went to church at the Methodist Church in Camp Crook, and enjoyed playing piano, this week, for some great patriotic songs. Alan Loken gave the sermon, and a friend had come from the Hills on his motorcycle, and also gave an extra, very interesting speech, before going on north to visit Medora, ND. After the service, everyone enjoyed coffee, cake, and cookies that Mary and Marlee served. In the afternoon, Karen learned that her niece Keely, has a brand new little baby boy, that was born just a day after the big July 4th celebration. His two older sisters will soon be keeping him busy. During the week, Karen visited and texted with her family and friends.

Please keep the Moncur family in your prayers.

It’s true that silence is sometimes the best answer.



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PRESSED BETWEEN THE PAGES #43 “Were They Just Grains of Sand?”

by DeAnn (Wolkow) Kruempel

It never stopped. The relentless force pushed, rolled, pulled. It deposited and dislodged. In wild storms it crashed into boulders, abandoning and stealing chunks of stone. In calm, gentle breezes, the water swirled and churned. The constant movement stirred and battered the rocks and they grew smaller. Years and forces of nature turned the giant boulders into tiny particles of sand.

The above is a condensed version of how the beach was created at the edge of Spirit Lake, near the towns of De Smet, Erwin and Bancroft, South Dakota. The lake is a

natural glacial lake, formed more than 10,000 years ago. Glaciers left behind gigantic blocks of ice that melted, giving birth to Spirit Lake and many others.

Those grains of sand are composed mostly of quartz and feldspar with fragments of calcium carbonate from shells. The glacier may have even left behind bits of dinosaur bones and teeth!

A pile of that wonderful, sparkly sand ended up in a three-by-six-foot wooden frame in our yard—the sandbox. Dad and our older brother Donald, 16 at the time, built the frame of two-by-six boards. Don threw a shovel in the back of the pickup and drove the six miles to Spirit Lake for a load of sand.

It didn’t take Delmer long to find that small

mountain, just waiting to spark the imaginations of a seven-year-old and his little sister. From the house yard, I heard a “brumm, brummm” sound coming from the area of the new sandbox. Delmer was tearing down the mountain! I grabbed my new metal pail and shovel and skipped out the gate.

“Hey, Delmer! Whatcha doin’?”

“Building a road.” He pushed his Tonka Road Grader through the pile, leveling and scraping. “I need to make a road out to my field.”

“Can I play in the sand, too?”

“No.” He punctuated with more “brumming.”

I climbed into the sandbox and started scooping wet sand into

my bucket. I tipped it out and molded it into a castle. Sticks from the grass added spires. Soon a princess and her cats peered from the castle tower. I dug a moat to protect it from invading road builders. Then I watched my brother. He parked the road grader beside the box and used his earth mover to scoop buckets of sand and move them to another corner. He reached for the John Deere tractor, hooked on the plow and “putted” his way down the road he had made to his “field” just west of the box. Delmer lowered the plow lays, made tractor sounds and started turning over a layer of dirt. I suddenly wanted to be a farmer!

“Can I help you in your field?”

“No. Putt-putt-putt...”

I plopped down on the grass by my brother’s field. Delmer showed me how to run the plow, then the rake that really

turned. He combined a wagon load of “oats,” then used the tractor and wagon to pull the load back to the sandbox. I scooped a little sand into the green elevator. We took turns cranking it while it emptied the sand into the peach crate “granary.” He said the castle could stay for a day or so.

That summer and summers after we spent hours in that sandbox, playing and imagining. Was there magic in those grains of sand, created over thousands and thousands of years? Maybe. But I am absolutely certain that there is magic in the memories.

The author’s column appears in a growing number of Midwest newspapers. Kruempel has compiled and published her column stories every year for the last five years. She has also published a historical fiction series, “Promises to Keep.” Her ten books are available on Amazon. Contact Kruempel at deannkruempelauthor@gmail.com.

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Roots #69

“4th of July, Belle Fourche, 2026

Meg English
news@bellefourchebeacon.com



Summer is the best of all seasons, in my opinion. School is out and the long days are wide open for outdoor activities, exploration, and friendships. Clothing is nominal and comfortable.

In summer, there are a lot of things to do in Belle Fourche. There are free open-air concerts, a rec center with a swimming pool and family friendly activities. A few blocks away from the rec center a free splash pad open provides fun and entertainment throughout the summer.

For those who prefer to avoid the water or take a break from the sun, the Belle Fourche Public Library and the Tri-State Museum (also free) have welcoming spaces to read or enjoy activities related to local culture, science, history, paleontology, or whatever interests you. And yes, both the library and the museum are ‘cool’ literally and figuratively.

Summer is as elegant in its visceral simplicity as it is in the freedoms the season offers.

In late June, just before the July Fourth festivities, I paused to snap a photograph of the “Beautiful Fork” where the Red Water and the Belle Fourche rivers converge. In summer, the Beautiful Fork is a most appropriate landmark for Belle Fourche, a small town whose identity

is a combination of pastoral agrarian innocence, personal fortitude, and an almost competitive sense of national identity.

Freedom is an important part of that national identity.

For me, it is perhaps ironic that the Fourth of July, the federal holiday that commemorates America’s identity as a free nation occurs in mid-summer, my favorite ‘freedom’ season.

Freedom is taken very seriously in this little town.

People in Belle Fourche seem to be less reserved and more willing to be themselves during the Fourth of July celebrations. One evening, I watched groups of teenagers at the annual carnival downtown. They meandered in groups more enthusiastic about meeting up with friends they haven’t seen all summer than the carnival activities. Freedom from adult oversight is magically transforming and splendid on a hot summer night when you are 15.

Patriotic freedom is also a theme expressed at the world class rodeo, and other western events at the roundup grounds. The national anthem is typically performed. There is usually a dramatic ceremonial ride involving a flag carrying rider circling the arena at breakneck speed.

One is likely to find some freedom of speech at the rodeo in the form of prayers and religious tributes to the glory of the nation. Sometimes some freedoms overstep the freedoms of others, but such is the nature of freedom of speech as guaranteed in the First Amendment.

Perhaps the greatest variety of freedoms expressed is present at the annual Belle Fourche Fourth of July Parade. There is a good bit of healthy freedom of speech here too. Political candidates present at the parade offer opposing points of view. There are flags and always veneration for flag etiquette.

The freedom to sit outdoors under a cosmic western sky on a warm summer evening to partake in the world class fireworks spectacle is itself a freeing experience. There is no better fireworks display

anywhere in my experience.

Nothing captures the joy of being a participant in such an inspirational display, with people you love, perhaps some of whom you haven’t seen for an eternity and some who you may not see again.

Perhaps the most obvious displays of a passion for freedom were noted during the Belle Fourche parade.

The parade entries are and varied and seemingly infinite. The participants and the painstakingly embellished entries tell who we are. We are men and women, farmers, ranchers, professional,

business owners, and service workers. We work hard, we like to have fun, we are proud to be Americans. We are forthright in our love of country. We respect the military, the flag, and our veterans. We care about people.

Other towns celebrate the Fourth of July, but the intensity and passion for the holiday just isn’t there. I hope that Belle Fourche understand who they are. I hope they will remember who they are when it is time to exercise the freedom to vote. Happy Fourth of July Everyone!



Beautiful Fork. Photo credits: Shay English



Proud to be Americans.



Dressed up for the Fourth of July at the parade!



A very patriotic mascot.



Belle Fourche Beacon

‘Happenings’ and News

Bytes Calendar

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

Belle Fourche Writers

Belle Fourche Writers July meeting schedule: The regular July meeting is **Saturday, July 18** from 10 AM to Noon. All writers are invited to attend! Meetings are held at the Belle Fourche Public Library.

Belle Fourche Recreation Center

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

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. This class involves walking in waist-deep to chest-deep water. Water resistance provides a low-impact, full-body workout that strengthens the core while also improving cardiovascular health.

Silver Splash - This class is held every Tuesday and Thursday from 11:30 - 12:15 pm. Silver Splash is part of our Silver Sneakers program. It involves a series of low-impact workouts with specially designed Boogie Boards. This class is great for core strengthening and for cardiovascular health.

Aquafit - We will hold Aquafit every Monday and Wednesday night from 6:30 - 7:15 pm. This class is higher intensity than what we currently offer. The workouts all involve using either dumbbells or foam weights. The class is designed to target multiple different muscle groups while also strengthening your core. 605-892-2467 bellefourcherec.com

Tri-State Museum - Upcoming Family Fun Day Schedule

July 19 – Bzzzz: Bees. Meet a beekeeper and learn about the bee’s remarkable life.

August 16– Creamy, Delicious Ice Cream. Hear from someone who makes and sells ice cream – and sample some, too.

October 18 – Monster Movies. The old Universal Pictures monsters are now classic Halloween figures. How did it come to be? Find out and make cool monster masks!

November 15 – The History of Birthstones. Twelve stones that mark twelve months. Which is associated with your birth month?

December 20 – A Nutcracker Christmas. How were they invented and how has a holiday ballet made them famous!

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



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!

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



July 27 - August 1 Butte Lawrence County Fair

July 29th - 7PM FREE Concert @ Herrmann Park

July 30th - 5:30PM Burger Night @ Moose Lodge, 6PM Hometown Thursdays

July 31st - 7:30AM Caramel Rolls & Coffee @ Belle Silver Lining

August 3 - 6PM City Council Meeting

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

SHOW DATES: Saturday August 15th 10:00 am to 6:00 pm and Sunday August 16th 10:00 am to 5:00 pm
Sponsored by the new **Dinosaurs of the Hell Creek Museum**
11324 US Highway 212 Belle Fourche near the reservoir!



Check out the Black Hills newest dinosaur attraction and Sturgis's newest event! 25 vendors , selling rocks, minerals, fossils, handmade jewelry, arts and crafts and local South Dakota products. Karaoke contests, musicians and Beer Garden. A fun, locally friendly event on the way home from Sturgis! Only \$10 museum admissions/person all week. Free to check out vendors booths.

Also... Sign up to join a real dinosaur dig on August 12th before the show.

For more information please call: 605-569-9899



Sunrise on State

5th Annual BF Rec Center Walk/Run

Join us for a beautiful walk/run at sunrise starting on State Street in Belle Fourche! Our path starts @ Pioneer Bank, then we move to the River Walk path that circles by the "beautiful fork" in the rivers, which is what Belle Fourche means!



Saturday, August 22nd @ 6:30 AM

REGISTRATION NOW OPEN!
Sign up at the Rec Center today OR at the event on August 22.
Preregister by August 3rd to save \$ and guarantee your shirt size on event day!

CHECK-IN: 6:00-6:30 AM
WHERE: Pioneer Bank on State St. in Belle Fourche
COST: Youth (18 and under) \$5.00 ~ Adults \$10.00 ****After August 3rd: Price increases \$5.00****
ADD EVENT SHIRT: Additional \$10.00
DISTANCE: This route is a CIRCLE. Make as many "LAPS" as you wish.
1 lap = .66 miles ~ 2 laps = 1.32 miles ~ 3 laps = 2 miles ~ OR keep going ☺
Prizes for the most "laps" as well as youngest and oldest participants!

THANK YOU TO
OUR SPONSORS!



FREE

SPORTS PHYSICALS



Belle Fourche Clinic

Saturday, July 25 from 8 a.m. - 12 p.m.

Paperwork must be completed prior to appointment. Non-Symptomatic sports physicals only, no immunizations or wellness exam will be completed at this time.

Call to schedule an appointment. | 605-723-8970

**MONUMENT HEALTH**
www.monument.health

Belle Fourche Chamber Mixer



Thursday August 20th
4:30PM-6:30PM

NOTICE OF RUNOFF PRIMARY ELECTION

Because no candidate for Republican Governor received the required thirty-five percent of the vote in the primary election held on June 2, 2026, a runoff election will be held on Tuesday, July 28, 2026, in each county in the state in all the voting precincts in Butte County.

The election polls will be open from seven a.m. to seven p.m. MST (mountain or central) time on the day of the election.

The polling place in each precinct of this county is as follows:

Belle Fourche Precincts #21, #22, #23, #24, #25, #26, #27, # 28
Belle Fourche Community Hall
Belle Fourche, SD

Fruitdale Precinct # 17
Belle Fourche Community Hall
Belle Fourche, SD

Minnesela Precinct #16
Belle Fourche Community Hall
Belle Fourche, SD

Romans Precinct #11
Belle Fourche Community Hall
Belle Fourche, SD

Orman Precinct #12
American Legion Hall
Nisland, SD

Nisland Precinct #18
American Legion Hall

Nisland, SD

Castle Rock Precinct #06
Newell Community Hall
Newell, SD

Union Precinct # 8
Newell Community Hall
Newell, SD

Horsecreek Precinct # 13
Newell Community Hall
Newell, SD

Newell Independent Precinct # 14
Newell Community Hall
Newell, SD

Newell Precinct #20
Newell Community Hall
Newell, SD

Any voter who needs assistance, pursuant to the Americans with Disabilities Act, may contact the county auditor at (insert phone number) before the election for information on polling place accessibility for people with disabilities.

Annie Capp County Auditor
Butte County

PUBLISH
July 15th, 2026 & July 22nd, 2026

Publish twice at the total approximate cost of _____.

INSTRUCTIONS TO THE VOTERS

VOTING RIGHTS

Any voter who can't mark a ballot because the voter has a physical disability or can't read, may ask any person he or she chooses to help the voter vote.

Any voter may ask for instruction in the proper procedure for voting.

Any voter at the polling place prior to 7:00 p.m. is allowed to cast a ballot.

If your voting rights have been violated, you may call the Butte County Auditor at 605-892-4485, the Secretary of State at 888-703-5328, or the Butte County State's Attorney at 605-892-3337.

Any person who is convicted of a felony on or after July 1, 2012, loses the right to vote. However, any such person may register to vote following the completion of the person's felony sentence.

Any person who is convicted of a felony on or before June 30, 2012, and who receives a sentence of imprisonment to the adult penitentiary system, including a suspended execution of sentence, loses the right to vote. Any such person so sentenced may register to vote following completion of the person's sentence. Further information is available at www.sdsos.gov.

ELECTION CRIMES

Anyone who makes a false statement when voting, tries to vote knowing he or she is not a qualified voter, or tries to vote more than once has committed an election crime.

Respectfully submitted:
Annie Capp, Butte County Auditor

PUBLISH
July 22nd, 2026

Publish once at the total approximate cost of _____.

July 28, 2026

South Dakota

Butte County

RUNOFF ELECTION PUBLICATION BALLOT

INSTRUCTIONS TO THE VOTER:
To vote for a person **FILL IN** the oval (●) next to the name.

Use only a pencil or pen.

If you make a mistake, give the ballot back and get a new one.

DO NOT cast more votes than are allowed in each race.

REP Publication

For Governor
You may vote for one or leave it blank.

☐ Toby Doeden

☐ Larry Rhoden



You Have Big Plans For A New Home.
We Will Make It Happen.

Bundle & Save Money With Our Construction Loan Special

- Special 4.99% APR* available now (with qualified vehicle/personal loan)
- Interest-only payments during the construction phase
- Quick, local decisions from people who live here too
- Excellent personal service from start to finish

Apply online, call, stop by or chat with a member of our Mortgage Team. Or, apply for your Construction Loan online at <https://www.highmarkfcu.com/personal/borrow/mortgage-loans>



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605.892.4631

APR= Current Annual Percentage Rate may change due to loan fees. Rates subject to change without notice. Members with existing vehicle ans qualify for bundling discount. Rate increase to 5.24% APR with no bundled loan. **Mortgage loans are subject to credit approval. embership eligibility is required. A variety of rates and terms are available. Contact us for current rates. Highmark Credit Union is federally sured by the NCUA.
MLS #416700

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

Notice is hereby given that the Board of Butte County Commissioners will meet in the Belle Fourche City Council Chambers at the Belle Fourche City Hall, which is located at 511 6th Avenue, Belle Fourche, SD, 57717 on **Thursday, August 6th, 2026 at 9:45 a.m.** to consider the Retail (on-off sale) Malt Beverage & SD Farm Wine License.

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

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

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

Dated at Belle Fourche, SD, this 30th day of June 2026.
/s/ Annie Capp, Butte County Auditor

Notice of Testing Automatic Tabulating Equipment

Notice is hereby given that the automatic tabulating equipment will be tested to ascertain that it will correctly count the votes for all offices and measures that are to be cast at the Runoff Election held on the 28th day of July 2026.

The test will be conducted on the 23rd day of July 2026 at 10 o'clock a.m. at the Butte County Auditor's Office which is in the Butte County Administrative Building, at 117 5th Avenue, Belle Fourche, SD 57717.

Dated this 5th day of June, 2026.

Annie Capp, Butte County Auditor

SDCL – 12-17B-5

PUBLISH
July 15th, 2026

Publish once at the total approximate cost of _____.

Grass Fire Near Nisland Burns Approximately 20 Acres

Ryder Heitz
news@bellefourchebeacon.com

NISLAND—Firefighters from several area departments responded Monday afternoon, July 13, to a grass and hay-field fire northeast of Nisland that burned approximately 20 acres.

According to Butte County Sheriff Fred Lamphere, the fire was reported around 4 p.m. and is believed to have been sparked by a piece of farm equipment. The fire ignited dry vegetation, crossed U.S. Highway 212, and spread into a nearby hayfield.

Fire departments from Nisland, Newell, Vale, Belle Fourche, Spearfish and Whitewood responded to the scene and worked together to contain the blaze. By Tuesday morning, the fire had been brought under control, though firefighters remained at the scene extinguishing hot spots and several hay bales that continued to burn.

Authorities estimate the fire caused approximately \$10,000 in damage, with the majority of the losses attributed to destroyed hay bales.

No injuries were reported. One individual who report-



Firefighters battle a previous fire in the Newell area on May 28. The Newell Volunteer Fire Department was among six departments that responded Monday, July 13 to a 20-acre grass and hayfield fire near Nisland.

ed the fire was evaluated by emergency medical personnel at the scene but did not require transportation to a hospital.

Sheriff Lamphere reminded residents that current dry conditions continue to create an elevated wildfire risk throughout the area, and even proper-

ly functioning farm equipment can produce sparks capable of igniting dry grass. Lamphere encourages the community to always keep water in vehicles,

and be sure that vehicles are not hot before entering tall grass.

Now

HIRING:

FOOD SERVICE WORKER

PREFER EXPERIENCE PREPARING FOOD

\$

STARTING PAY

\$15.50 /HOUR

GREAT PLACE TO WORK

4-DAY SCHOOL WEEK

JOIN A Team That Matters!

APPLY TODAY!

Newell Health Clinic

is accepting new patients!

located in the Newell Evangelical Church

on 8th street across from the Blue Line Diner.

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

(605) 204-9497

Wellness exams, chronic care management, DOT physicals.

Call today to book your appointment!

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

PatNP.com

MyCatholicDoctor

Celebrate Recovery Support Group is now meeting at

Emmanual Baptist Church

Every Friday at 6:30 pm.

10913 Sourdough Rd.

Come for potluck on the last Friday of each month.

NISLAND - ARPAN

VOLUNTEER FIRE & RESCUE

Auxiliary

19th Annual

Pie Sale

SATURDAY, August 1 10am - Sold Out

NISLAND FIRE HALL

During the Annual Brisket Feed

(see details on the other side)

\$20.00 - Whole Pie

Proceeds go to Nisland - Arpan Fire & Rescue

Supporting Those, Who Protect Us.

Vale Community Club's

BINGO!

Every 2nd Wednesday of the month

until November 11th

6pm at the Vale Hall

\$1 per card

Two Jackpots

Snacks provided

Unique Games

Grand River Roundup



Betty Olson
news@bellefourchebeacon.com

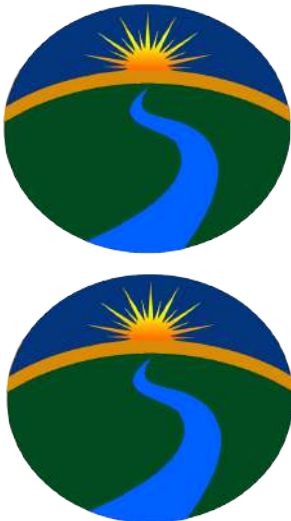
It was really hot last Monday and when Reub and I went to Hettinger to get parts for Casey from Laufer Vermeer and West Plains, it was 105 degrees here. We also got stuff from White Drug where Reub got his squeeze from his cousin Roxie Finck. Missy and I went to Ladies Aid Tuesday morning, went down to the Reva Store over noon and came back to the church for the Cybersecurity training that was given to us by the West River Coop Telephone Company in Bison, which was very interesting and kind of scary. Reub and I went to Hettinger Wednesday morning and ate lunch at the American Legion before going to Scranton to take a tire with the rim on it from the baler to get a new tire from Scranton Equity Truck Shop for Casey and have them put the new tire on the rim for us and load it and the old tire in the back of our pickup. While we were waiting for them to get

that done, Pitch Stadheim came in to the shop and we had a good visit with that nice young man. We stopped in Reeder on the way home to have coffee with the Prairie Pioneers before I took Reub up to John and Phyllis Brown's house so he could bring the weed sprayer that John had fixed for him and haul it home behind Reub's red pickup that he hauled it up there on for John to fix. I don't know what we would do without John Brown there in Reeder to fix anything we have that broke down. Reub followed me home in the red pickup while he was hauling the weed sprayer and I had those two huge tires in the back of my black pickup. Neither one of us could go very fast so we got passed a lot on the highway going home. It was 104 degrees on Thursday and I don't remember ever having this many hot days in a row without any rain at all. I have to water all my gardens and all my flowers every day and I find

everything wilted and dry every morning when I go outside. With all this heat without any rain, the prairies are drying up and turning brown everywhere so we spend a lot of time looking out for fires, which could easily start burning everywhere as hot and dry as it is. Casey and Missy went down to Sturgis that day so Casey could keep his appointment with Stuart Johnson to have his back worked on. When we got up Friday morning there was a haze hanging over everything and we were guessing that it was smoke from those big fires in Canada that's making all the middle of the country and the northeast have to breathe in that smoke, although we didn't smell smoke here. Starla Jenson brought Jace and Kami's boys Keen and Kage down to play with Taz and Amanda's kids that morning and all those little people had a lot of fun together until Grandma Starla took Kage back to Ralph with her, but left Keen here to keep Knox happy to have another boy to play with. Our grandson, Trig and Dakotah Olson live in Buffalo, Wyoming, and they brought little Haze Samuel home to the ranch so we could get to know the cute little bugger. Haze is only 3 months old and he is a cutie! All these great grandkids are sure fun for us old folks to play with! Casey, Taz and Trig and Jarett Jenson went into

Buffalo on Saturday for the "Rope and Stroke" at the Tipperary Arena and the golf course. There were two teams from here: Taz, Casey and Ryan Baier and Trig, Casey and Jarett Jenson. There's another death to report: Eslyn "Essie" (Cooper) Dolajak, age 83, passed away peacefully at home on July 1, surrounded by the love of her family. Essie will be buried surrounded by family on July 24 at 2:00 at the Pine Slope Cemetery in Belle Fourche. A celebration of life for friends and family will be held on September 12, in Buffalo to honor her memory and share in the joy of her remarkable life. Peggy Veal called to let us know that the annual Rancher's Camp meeting will be at the Coal Springs Antique Club south of Meadow Corner on Saturday, July 25, at 6:00pm and Sunday, July 26, starting with Sunday school at 4:00pm, potluck at 5:00, and 6:00 service. Clint Rech is the speaker both days and Greg Hager, an award-winning musician, will be appearing on both days. Everyone is invited. My cousin Joe and Karen Wilkinson were in church Sunday morning just after Joe had surgery in Rapid City to remove what everyone thought was probably a cancerous tumor and they found out that it wasn't cancer at all, thank God! Linda Mohagen and I brought lunch for everyone after church

to eat and have fellowship together. Our grandson Trig and Dakotah Olson brought our little great grandson Haze Samuel to church and they stayed for lunch with everyone before heading back to Buffalo, Wyoming, where they are living now near where Dakotah's grandmother's sister also lives. A lot of people stayed to have coffee and lunch with us and we had a lot of good visits. Pastor Henry Mohagen had this in the church bulletin Sunday morning: When you say, "I'll pray for you," you're holding a piece of someone's burden in your hands. Don't drop it. Lift it. Speak their name to God like you promised. Someone's waiting on the strength only your prayer can release.



Then and Now in Newell

"Looking Forward to our Past"

July 13, 1916
J. J. Brown of Sturgis was in Newell yesterday morning and leased an acre of ground on the southeast corner of H. J. Christian's 40 on which he proposes to build a flour mill. Mr. Brown stated that actual building operations would start about the first of the month. The capacity of the mill would be 30 barrels per day. Here's success to the new enterprise. The Newell Gun Club seems very enthusiastic, we were informed that its chief organizer spent the greater part of last evening "hunting snipes" on Horse Creek. A violent wind and rain-storm struck this section Monday afternoon and laid down some of the small grain crops, but hardly enough that it will not recover. **July 15, 1926**
The Experiment Farm Picnic Committee received notice yesterday that A. M. Ginn, Manager of the Great Western Sugar Factory at Scottsbluff, Nebraska, and Mr. Roach, Manager of the Company's factory at Sterling, Colorado are coming to Newell to attend the Farm Picnic. A private coach is expected tomorrow over the Northwestern with a number of railway officials to attend the project conference and the picnic festivities. Friday evening at 6:30 sharp, dinner will be served at the Sweet Shop for Dr. Elwood Mead and the other government representatives, railroad and sugar company officials who are here as guests of the Farm Picnic Committee. The Newell Community Club is sponsoring the dinner, and all businessmen are invited to attend. The work of replacing the markers on the recently designated National Highways by the State Highway Department, to replace the markers of state trunk highways, is

now in progress in South Dakota. State trunk Highway 22 is now US Highway 212 from the Missouri River through Newell to Montana. C. W. Munroe, accompanied by his wife and his father, left last Saturday for a week's outing trip to Wyoming and Montana. They plan to visit the Custer Battlefield site on the Little Big Horn and other places of interest enroute. Sturgis Clerk of Court Munford issued a marriage license to Harley Shevling of Nisland and Miss Iona McKillips of Vale. Miss Iona and Mr. Shevling were entered in marriage at the home of her parents of 9-Mile, July 10, the Rev Carrol D. Erskin performed the ceremony in the presence of the immediate family. The happy couple left for a short trip through the Hills, after which they will be at home to their friends in Nisland. **July 16, 1936**
W. S. Gordon, Chief Investigating Division of the State Justice Department, termed "a growing gypsy menace" in South Dakota and suggested that local officers make South Dakota "unattractive to them". It would be of interest if locals, tourists, Justice Department Agents and Peace Officers would stop gypsies, go through their cars, harass them as much as possible to make our state unattractive to them. Gypsies are of no benefit to our state and are undesirable. These gypsies annoy tourists and housewives; they beg for food and are plainly vagrants. They steal and carry off lawn mowers, garden hoses, implements, rob cloths of lines, steal gasoline and tires. E. Moutka announced they have taken over the famous Certainteed line of house, barn and inside paints and varnishes at reasonable prices. Also, last notice that, they still have a few fine patterns

by Linda Velder

of 9x12 linoleum rugs at \$5.48. Buy now while there is a good assortment to pick from. Joe Weidner has returned to this vicinity after spending several months with home folks at Miller, South Dakota. He reports that the drought and grasshoppers have cleaned up everything in that vicinity. Mrs. Jenny VanLoan entertained Sunday dinner at her Willow Creek home, the following: Mrs. Jack Riggs & daughter of Stockton, Calif, Mr. & Mrs. B. F. Richards & son, Mrs. Ella A. Richards, Clarence Newhuter & Cliff and Leonard Johnson. After dinner the Johnson boys entertained the group with their music talents. **July 11, 1946**
A 15-pound wall-eyed pike, probably the biggest ever caught at Orman Dam, was caught by Toots Hall of Deadwood. Fishing with Stew Donovits within 75 yards of the shore, Hall secured the prize catch from Pike's Fisherman's Paradise after a 25-minute struggle. Witnessed by anxious fishermen and tourists, who had gathered around while the giant wall-eyed pike was landed and put on the scale. Jerry Kuchera announced the sale of the Miller Cabin Camp in Belle Fourche to M. H. Collins of Powell, Wyoming effective July 1. Kuchera remodeled the cabins at the camp site purchasing them from Miller several months ago. He has announced no future plans but expressed his desire to move back to Newell. Frank Doud of Fairpoint received a severe cut on his hand while working with barbed wire fence Thursday. He came to the Doctor for treatment. Bob Richards, Jr. also suffered a painful cut Monday when he ran his bicycle into a barbed wire

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fence, cutting his left arm. It required 14 stitches to close the wound. **July 19, 1956**
On Thursday bight July 19, colored pictures of Eskimo Mission work will be shown in the First Lutheran Church at Newell by Rev N. Hegland from Teller, Alaska. Rev Hegland, a former pastor in Newell, will lecture and show pictures where he flies a plane in his mission work in remote Alaska, as he did while in Newell. Lunch and fellowship will be held in the church parlors after the picture showing so friends will have a chance to visit with the Hegland's. Everybody is most welcome. During the past several weeks several incidents of dogs biting people have occurred in the city. One such incident occurred last week in the City Park, where a young girl was bitten seriously enough to require medical attention. So as the safest thing to do is to have the family dog vaccinated for rabies once a year. It only costs \$2. and it may save someone's life and not to mention the dog. And if someone is bitten by a dog and it cannot be proven beyond a doubt it has had a rabies shot during the past year, it may need to be destroyed. Among those from Newell who attended the 50th Anniversary Celebration and picnic at Devil's Tower Sunday were Mr. & Mrs. A. O. Amunson & Darryle, Marcella Schroeder and Mr. & Mrs.

Andrew Syverts. **July 28, 1966**
Albert M. Parker, Commission of Department of Motor Vehicles stated effective July 1, those applicants between ages 14 and 20 must present a certified copy of their birth certificate and submit a 1¼ x1¼ photo, bearing their facial likeness of the person applying to the driver's license examiner before they will be permitted to make an application for a Driver's License. In all cases the photo shall be permanently affixed to the back of the driver's license by the Department of Motor Vehicles. The staff and employees of the Newell US Field Station and their families and guests enjoyed their Annual Picnic Friday evening in the Sturgis City Park. About 60 guests were in attendance. When Emil Gurwell Post of American Legion Auxiliary met at the hall Tuesday evening, President Mrs. Matt Sorenson presided, Chaplain Mrs. Robert Grant led opening devotions and Mrs. Fred Timm accompanied the group in singing "God Bless America" and "God of Our Fathers". Plans were made for serving dinner to Ft. Meade veterans attending the Butte County Fair on the first day of the Fair. Members who worked at Ft. Meade Hospital were given certificates; Naomi Siefert, Dora Sorensen and Carrie Wood. Hostess for the meeting, Mrs. Grant, served lunch at the close of the meeting.



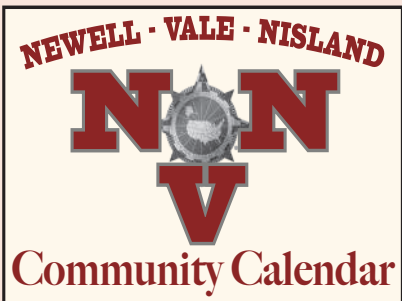
(L) 1916; Mr. Brown attempted to set up a flour mill in Newell, but since there was no good source of water, it did not move forward. (R) 1966, At annual Experiment Farm Picnic: Front Row: Carl Orwick, Andrew Syverts, Dr. James Thomas and Leo Wallioth. Back Row: Earl Kumpula, Alfred Barber, Marie Nissen, Neil Dimick and Joseph Bonnemann. Museum photos

Here’s What’s Happening in Newell!

Pie Day
July 28 • 10 a.m.–3 p.m.
NVN Center

Newell Area Economic Group Meeting
August 5 • 6 p.m.
City Hall

Feeding SD at Dakota Life Center
August 13 • 2 p.m.–3 p.m.
Second Thursday every month



Newell Service Center
101 4th Street- Phone 605-456-3455



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Wellness exams, chronic care management, DOT physicals.

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