



Belle Fourche Beacon

PROVIDING LOCAL NEWS FOR BELLE FOURCHE, BUTTE COUNTY and the TRI-STATE TRADE AREA
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Belle Fourche, SD Wednesday • October 14, 2026

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Murder Is On The Menu For Chutes For Charity

Robbi Longbrake
news@bellefourchebeacon.com

BELLE FOURCHE—Murder is coming to Belle Fourche this Saturday, October 17, and even the mayor is involved! But don't call the police just yet. It's all part of Chutes for Charity's first murder mystery fundraiser. There will be many familiar faces taking on very unfamiliar roles for an evening of entertainment, all for a good cause.

Bordello of the Damned Murder Mystery is an interactive program where you won't just watch the mystery unfold—you get to be part of the tale. The story takes place in 1880s Deadwood, and everyone is encouraged to dress in period attire. The event takes place at the Belle Fourche Community Hall.

Organizers have scheduled a full night of entertainment. The evening begins at 5 p.m. with a social hour and a brown bag bar, with a sit-down steak dinner beginning at 6 p.m. The Branding Iron Steakhouse will be catering the event. "Our actors will finish up eating, they'll go to the back and our narrator will come out as everyone's finishing eating. They'll do the murder mystery—and it's just casual—it's not on the stage or anything. The actors are walking amongst the people, and we're asking people to, if they're interested, to dress in



The cast of *Bordello of the Damned Murder Mystery*. Back row, from left: Bill Hennessey, Colin Hanzli, Randy Schmidt and Cody Crago. Front row, from left: Joan Gerkin, Cheryl Westland, Dawn Newland and Michelle Evans. Hunter Anderson photo

appropriate attire for the 1880s Deadwood brothel era," explained Denise Adams, Chutes for Charity.

The audience is encouraged to be involved. "It's interactive, so they get to ask questions. If they have a question about a clue or why did that person say this? It's all interactive," said

Adams. If you end up solving the case? There are prizes!

The evening ends with a live auction and the conclusion of the silent auction. Both auctions are filled with items donated by local businesses and supporters.

Individual tickets and tables are still available for \$70 in advance or \$80 at the door. The

tables seat eight for \$525. And while it will be a fun evening full of laughter and camaraderie, it is all to raise money for charity. This is the main fundraiser for the Black Hills Roundup charity arm, Chutes for Charity. "But that doesn't mean that it's all rodeo or anything like that—we're the

charitable organization of the Black Hills Roundup. We help families regionally... after a life changing event," explained Adams.

Chutes for Charity is dedicated to helping families and individuals rebuild after traumatic events. "So we've helped

Murder Mystery Contd. A3

Annual Pancake Feed Fuels Fire Department



Belle Fourche Volunteer Fire Department serving up pancakes. Longbrake photo

Robbi Longbrake
news@bellefourchebeacon.com

BELLE FOURCHE—On the morning of Oct. 11, the Belle Fourche Volunteer Fire Department was tending to something other than a fire—a hot grill! For a few hours, anyway, the firefighters traded fire hoses for pancake batter and fed over 400 hungry supporters who turned out to help fill the boot during the department's annual pancake feed.

The pancake feed is the fire department's largest fundraising event for the year. "This takes some planning, we have a committee that works on it. The biggest thing is getting all of the ingredients—we have enough manpower, obviously! Everybody chips in and it's our main fundraiser for the year," explained Rik Bartels, fire chief.

The Belle Fourche Moose Lodge provided the facilities for the event. Firefighters grilled pancakes and sausage right out back behind the building while other firefighters made up plates of food and served the public. Pancakes with eggs and sausage were on the menu. Breakfast

was served from 8 a.m. through 1 p.m. for a free-will offering.

The pancake feed is held annually on the first Sunday following Fire Prevention Week. This year, that ran from October 4 through 10. The event is a community staple that has been going on for so long, no one could reliably provide a start date. Bartels said, "Oh man, a long time!" Don Ward, president of the Belle Fourche Volunteer Fire Department, has been with the department for 33 years and said the pancake feed has been going on for as long as he can remember. "At least 33 years, but probably more like 50 years," he shared.

Throughout all of the years, the community continues to show up for the firefighters. "The community support is outstanding and it always is—we always have a really good turnout," said Bartels.

The Volunteer Fire Department currently has 38 firefighters. They have room for 43 on their roster. They are always recruiting. "If you're interested in becoming a firefighter, let

Pancake Feed Contd. A4

Runnings Ladies Night Helps Tackle Cancer

Robbi Longbrake
news@bellefourchebeacon.com

BELLE FOURCHE—Raising awareness of breast cancer and funds to support those affected by it has become an annual tradition at Runnings. This year, they continued that effort by inviting women out for an evening to help tackle cancer at the annual Ladies Night event on Oct. 7.

Pink buckets with the words Tackle Cancer around a football on one side and a pink football jersey on the other helped the retailer raise money for local cancer charities in the communities they serve.

Anyone could purchase a bucket for \$4.99 and, in return, receive 20 percent off clothing and footwear and 10 percent off most everything else that fit in the bucket. Half of the money from the bucket sales went to a local charity. Once again, the Belle Fourche store picked the Black Hills Roundup Tough Enough to Wear Pink to receive

the donations.

Pink balloons, pink buckets and pink tablecloths were spread throughout the store; each table featured some kind of treat to try or raffle to enter. Many prizes were given away at the store, including boots, pet food and a Milwaukee 100-Piece SHOCKWAVE Bit Set with PACKOUT Case. Runnings also held company-wide drawings for YETI prize packages and gift cards, with participants entering online. Black Hills Roundup volunteers manned the welcome table, answered questions and directed traffic through the store.

The Belle Fourche Runnings goes all out to make the evening a real celebration with the entire night dedicated to women. In addition to the bucket sales, additional fundraising efforts included a 50/50 raffle, a silent auction and a chili cook-off. "So every Runnings store does the bucket sale, and Runnings

Ladies Night Contd. A5



Pink could be found everywhere during Ladies Night, including checkout. Longbrake photo

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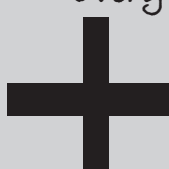


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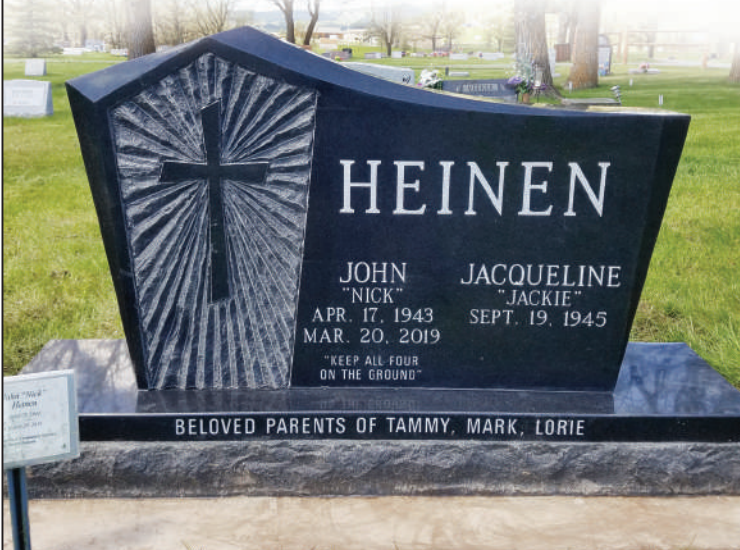
Most of us intend on "getting around to it someday," but that someday never comes and we leave our family wondering whether or not they did the right thing. **It doesn't have to be like that.** It's not pleasant to be reminded of our own mortality; we can laugh, cry, or do a little of both. Regardless 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.

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

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Wayne Ralph Bratcher, 95

Lt. Colonel Wayne Ralph Bratcher, 95, of Belle Fourche, South Dakota, passed away peacefully on October 12, 2026, following a brief illness.

Born July 4, 1931, near Canyon, Texas, Wayne grew up in Oklahoma and Texas and graduated from Pleasant Grove High School in 1948. He earned a Bachelor of Business Administration degree from Southern Methodist University in 1952 before entering the United States Air Force in 1953. After completing the Aviation Cadet Program, he received his pilot wings and commission in 1954.

While in flight training, Wayne met Ann, the love of his life. They married on September 3, 1955, and shared 57 years together until her passing in 2012. During a distinguished 29-year Air Force career, Wayne served as an aircraft commander, instructor pilot, maintenance officer, and squadron commander. His assignments included Louisiana, Newfoundland, Texas, South Dakota, and a tour in Thailand. He retired from the Air Force in December 1982 with the rank of Lieutenant Colonel.

After retirement, Wayne and Ann settled in western South Dakota, where they devoted themselves to horses, youth programs, and community service. Wayne was active with the Ellsworth Air Force Base Riding Stables, Pennington County 4-H, the Nomads 4-H Club, the South Dakota 4-H Horse Committee, the Central States Fair Board, and the Pennington County Extension Board. In 1992, he was honored as South Dakota Horseman of the Year. In 1995, Wayne and Ann fulfilled a lifelong dream by establishing a Quarter Horse ranch near Belle Fourche. He also remained active with the Veterans of Foreign Wars, helping provide military honors for fellow veterans.

Wayne will be remembered for his love of family, country, horses, and helping others. His quiet generosity, strong work ethic, and com-



mitment to mentoring young people left a lasting impact on countless lives.

Wayne is survived by his children: Jim (Theresa) Bratcher, Bob (Jen) Bratcher, Nancy (Dale) Clark, and Betsy (Forrest) Chapman; ten grandchildren: Jacque, Gavin (Hannah), Christina (Douglas), Austin (Deborah), Jody (Nick), Aaron (Emily), Ben (Allie), Emma (Alex), Summer (James), Justice; Great-Grandkids: Daymion, Devin, Christian, Kenla, Logan, Mila, Gage, Kylee, Dakota, Luna, and Scarlet. He is also survived by niece Karen (Lynn) King, her children and his niece Gail's husband Stretch TeBeest and their children. He was preceded in death by his wife, Ann; infant daughters Ann and Mary; his sister Arlene and brother-in-law Richard Furrh; niece Gail TeBeest, grandson Dakota Bratcher; and great-nephew Kasey King;

His legacy of service, kindness, and devotion to family will be cherished by all who knew him. In lieu of flowers, please donate to the Pennington County 4-H Association, the Belle Fourche Volunteer Fire Department, or a program to support Veterans.

The funeral service will be held 12 noon Tuesday, October 20, 2026 at Leverington Funeral Home of the Northern Hills in Belle Fourche, with Pastor Andy Anderson officiating. Visitation will be held one hour prior to the service. Interment will take place at Black Hills National Cemetery, with military honors provided by the Belle Fourche Veterans Honor Guard. Friends may leave written condolences online and view a video tribute at: www.LeveringtonFH.com



Leverington Funeral Home
of the Northern Hills

Pastor's Perspective

"The Peace That Remains"

John Wesley reflected on the peace that comes from a life of faith, love, and devotion to God. In his sermon, he considered the inward peace that can sustain a believer even amid adversity, suffering, and uncertainty.

Wesley wrote:

"I do not conceive this immediately to refer to that glorious peace which is prepared for him in the presence of God to all eternity; but rather to that which he will enjoy in the present world, before his spirit returns to God that gave it.

"Neither does it seem directly to refer to outward peace, or deliverance from outward trouble; although it is true, many good men, who have been long buffeted by adversity, and troubled on every side, have experienced an entire deliverance from it, and enjoyed a remarkable calm before they went hence. But this seems chiefly to refer to inward peace; even that 'peace of God which passeth all understanding.' Therefore it is no wonder that it cannot be fully and adequately expressed in human language.

"We can only say, it is an unspeakable calmness and serenity of spirit, a tranquillity in the blood of Christ, which keeps the souls of believers, in their latest hour, even as a garrison keeps a city; which keeps not only their hearts, all their passions and affections, but also their minds, all the motions of their understanding and imagination, and all the workings of their reason, in Christ Jesus."

Wesley explained that this peace is not reserved for the final moments of life. Rather, it



may accompany believers throughout their journey, growing stronger as they continue in faith.

"This peace they experienced in a higher or lower degree, (suppose they continued in the faith,) from the time they first found redemption in the blood of Jesus, even the forgiveness of sins. But when they have nearly finished their course, it generally flows as a river, even in such a degree as it had not before entered into their hearts to conceive."

Wesley also emphasized that genuine faith expresses itself through love for others. A Christian life, he wrote, is marked by goodwill toward all people and by humility, meekness, and a willingness to serve. The believer seeks to do good whenever the opportunity arises, making even ordinary actions an expression of devotion to God.

Such peace does not necessarily mean a life without hardship. Wesley acknowledged that outward troubles may remain, yet inward peace can sustain the heart and mind through them. It is a quiet confidence rooted not in favorable circumstances, but in faith.

The message remains relevant today. When uncertainty weighs heavily upon us, we may find ourselves searching for answers, relief, or reassurance. Wesley reminds us that peace is not always found by changing our circumstances. Sometimes it begins with trusting God in the midst of them, continuing in love, and faithfully doing the good that lies before us.

*This Perspective is adapted from a sermon by **John Wesley**.*

Philippians 4:7

"And the peace of God, which passeth all understanding, shall keep your hearts and minds through Christ Jesus."

Prayer for the Week

Heavenly Father, Thank You for being our refuge when life feels uncertain and our source of peace when troubles surround us. Help us to trust You even when we cannot see the way ahead. Quiet our anxious hearts, strengthen our faith, and teach us to extend kindness and compassion to those around us. Amen.

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Help figure out who did it at the **Bordello of the Damned Murder Mystery**. With Randy Schmidt, Colin Hanzli and Cheryl Westland. *Hunter Anderson photo*

From A1 **Murder Mystery**
over 400 families since we started ... Right now, we're just under three-quarters of a million dollars [distributed]," shared Adams.
Anyone seeking assistance can apply to Chutes for Charity for consideration. "We do it through an application process, and then our committee discusses it and rates the application—we help when we can," said Adams.
According to Adams, around 95 percent of their resources have gone to help with medical expenses, although they have helped in a variety of ways, including house fires.
Come join the fun. The murder mystery cast has been working hard to make this an exciting, fun event for everyone! "We've been meeting weekly for three

weeks. ... everybody got their scripts early so they could read through it, get a feel and know how each person relates to their part," explained Adams. "This week we're doing one rehearsal on Monday and two dress rehearsals on Wednesday and Friday. The actors are having so much fun, we have a really good team."
The community members taking part in the murder mystery are Michelle Evans, Cody Crago, Joan Gerkin, Cheryl Westland, Randy Schmidt, Colin Hanzli, Bill Hennessey and Dawn Newland. Bob Morris is the narrator.
This event replaces the annual Wine, Whiskey, and Bourbon Tasting Fundraiser. The price hasn't gone up from that event. "The pricing of our ticket—

we're having a restaurant cater it, so they have to bring their whole restaurant into a new mini kitchen, and they're charging us the very least amount that they can and everything else is basically donated," explained Adams. "So far, I think we have spent less than \$200 total to put the production on, because people are donating their own time, effort, and costumes and everything that we need—so that all the money [raised] can go back into the Chutes coffers."
Support a great local charity that helps our friends and neighbors while having a full evening of entertainment along with a steak supper. Tickets and tables are still available and can be purchased from Cowboys Too! at 506 State St. or at the door.

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October 23rd - 1930s

October 30th - 1940s

November 6th - 1950s/60s

November 13th - 1970s/80s/90s

November 20th - Black Hills Film History



South Dakota Arts Council support is provided with funds from the State of South Dakota, through the Department of Tourism, and the National Endowment for the Arts.



Trouble is a-brewin' at the **Bordello of the Damned Murder Mystery**. Dawn Newland and Joan Gerkin with Cody Crago in the back. *Hunter Anderson photo*



The ladies of the **Bordello of the Damned Murder Mystery**. From left: Dawn Newland, Joan Gerkin, Cheryl Westland and Michelle Evans. *Hunter Anderson photo*



Pancake Feed Contd. from A1

us know. We're always looking because... we get a little bit of a turnover," said Bartels. "So if anybody wants to be a volunteer firefighter they can just come into the main building—someone's there every Wednesday night for sure. Or just get a hold of a firefighter and we can get an application and then you fill that out. We'll interview you and then go from there."

The funds raised from the event aren't earmarked for anything specifically as of yet. "No, not really, but most of the time, it's PPE like fire shelters or updating wildland gear, bunker gear, just fire-fighting stuff—you know, and that stuff's not cheap," said Bartels.



Community members picking up their breakfast. Longbrake photos



Clearing empty plates.



Grilling pancakes out back.



Enjoying breakfast.



Belle Fourche Volunteer Fire Department's trucks lined up outside of the Moose Lodge during the annual pancake feed.

Ladies Night Contd. from A1

the bucket sale, and Runnings provides a certain amount of prizes, and then we talk to different vendors and local shops to get donations for silent auction and door prizes,” explained Abby Williamson, sales associate. “Half of each bucket sale goes to the local Tough Enough to Wear Pink, everything we get from the 50/50 tickets, the chili cook-off, the silent auction goes to the Black Hills Roundup Tough Enough to Wear Pink ladies—It’s just a big fun night!”

New this year was a chili cook-off. Williamson put out a notice asking for participants to cook chili for the event. Local groups, employees and individuals made a pot of chili from the same base provided by the store. Every participant was tasked

with putting their own twist on the Shore Lunch Homestyle Chili mix. “We just wanted to do something different... \$5 a head to taste it and then we’ll split the money between Tough Enough to Wear Pink and the winner,” shared Williamson. “So each chili is based with our soup mix—the chili that we sell—it just showcases how much you can do with a bag of dried chili mix.”

Brenda Whetham, secretary for the Black Hills Roundup Rodeo, really appreciates all of the support the Tough Enough to Wear Pink local chapter has received from Runnings over the years. “We sell the [Black Hills Roundup Tough Enough to Wear Pink] T-shirts here, and then they give us half the proceeds from the buckets, and they give us all of the silent auction money and

all of the 50/50 money, and they sell the t-shirts for us all year long and give us 100 percent—Runnings is wonderful to work with.”

The local cancer charity focuses primarily on breast cancer and helping people in the area. “People just ask us for it [money], and we give out—so far, we’ve had three people ask this year. Every year, if we don’t spend it all, then we give it to the Monument Health Foundation—they’re a Tough Enough to Wear Pink foundation—they help people in Belle Fourche too.”

Runnings has been holding the annual fundraiser for breast cancer since 2011. “It’s a wonderful sale for the community because it’s big money off—but it is just driven towards—let’s fundraise for the Tough Enough to Wear Pink group,” said Williamson.

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Checking out the silent auction items at Ladies Night. Longbrake photos



The Tackle Cancer bucket.



Customers trying the different snacks and drinks available during Ladies Night.



Trying out the different chilis at the chili cook-off.



Brenda Whetham, secretary for the Black Hills Roundup Rodeo, explains how to use the pink buckets.



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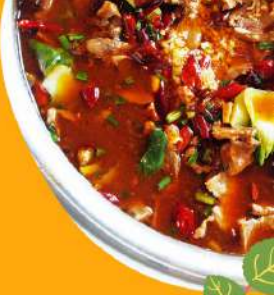
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South Dakota wildlife officials offer hunting license refunds as deer disease reports continue

Joshua Haiar
South Dakota SearchLight

OCTOBER 11—Reports of deer deaths from a viral disease have spiked as hunters take to the fields in South Dakota, and state wildlife officials are reducing some hunting opportunities and offering hunting-license refunds to protect deer numbers.

Epizootic hemorrhagic disease is a viral illness spread by tiny biting midges typically found along muddy shorelines. In South Dakota, the disease primarily impacts white-tailed deer, according to Game, Fish and Parks Senior Wildlife Biologist Byron Buckley.

“Because white-tailed deer generally inhabit the areas where these midges currently are,” he told the Game, Fish and Parks Commission on Thursday in Pierre.

Mule deer, bighorn sheep, elk and pronghorn can also be infected. The department says the disease usually affects deer herds in late summer or early fall. Warm conditions can extend the period when the insects are active, while a hard freeze generally kills them off, bringing a seasonal outbreak to an end.

Buckley said weather strongly influences outbreaks. This year’s outbreak started in July and continued as South Dakota experienced

an unusually warm, dry September with some heavy rain.

Retired Game, Fish and Parks lead biologist George Vandel said those conditions — drier dry periods and wetter wet periods — can create the environment where midges thrive best: muddy areas that are sometimes covered by water and sometimes exposed to the air.

During the commission’s monthly meeting, Buckley said the department now has about 407 reports this year of dead deer due to the illness: 376 suspected cases and 31-lab-confirmed. During the commission’s Sept. 10-11 meeting, the count was 196, he said. Though he said it’s not unusual for a spike in reports to come in during that timeframe.

“So a lot of our reports have come from the month of October,” Buckley said. “Now, that could be because we are seeing the disease a lot more or that there’s just a lot more people on the landscape.”

Waterfowl, grouse, dove and archery deer hunting seasons all began in September.

The number of reported cases for 2026 is slightly higher than the total reported for all of 2025, according to the state’s EHD map, though Buckley described this year’s numbers as roughly comparable to the previous two years.

The state has taken several steps to limit deer hunting in outbreak-affected areas, aiming to give deer populations a better chance to recover. The department removed mentored and youth deer licenses in nine southeastern South Dakota counties where outbreaks have affected deer in the past two years. It also removed 62 unsold licenses, two in McPherson County and 60 in Dewey County. The state changed statewide archery license rules, which previously allowed hunters to take any deer, to buck-only licenses.

Buckley said the department is now offering a further option: Hunters holding deer licenses in 16 counties along the Missouri River corridor can voluntarily return their licenses for a full refund.

Wildlife Division Director Tom Kirschenmann said the department may add counties as more October reports arrive.

“We’re trying to be somewhat strategic about it, but we’re also trying to be proactive about where we offer this up,” Kirschenmann said.

The department asks people to report sick or dead deer via methods listed at gfp.sd.gov/contactus. Buckley said officials enter reports into a system that updates the department’s public online map.

Legend

Epizootic Hemorrhagic Disease (EHD)

EHD Positive



EHD Suspected



Cases County by County



Legend for the SD Game, Fish and Parks public online EHD map shown below. Information current as of October 14, 2026. (South Dakota Game, Fish and Parks)

Show Up!

by Belle LaVenue



It's not too early to take steps to be ready for all the upcoming fun in Belle Fourche through December!

STEP ONE: Check out the upcoming fine arts community events. The Belle Fourche Schools are preparing for fall concerts and the Veterans Day Programs. All the schools have programs on Wednesday, November 11th, and they invite veterans, families, and all the community to celebrate our veterans on this 250th birthday of the United States. There is also a program hosted by the BFMS at the Rolling Hills nursing home. Watch for more information in the next couple of weeks!

STEP TWO: Audition for the BFACT Production of A Suessified Christmas Carol. This show has all the heart of the original story with the addition of Suessified Fun!. Auditions will be held on October 18 at 2pm and October 19 & 22 at 6:30pm in the Rec Center Theater. This show is open to all ages. Children 8 and younger will need a parent or guardian to be present at rehearsal. This show is a flexible size so there are many roles of different sizes. You don't need to bring anything for auditions, just yourself. The show itself will be on December 10 – 13. If you are interested in helping with tech of any kind (lights, sound stage management, set building, etc), please come to auditions. If you have any questions, or are unable to make the audition dates but still want to join the production, feel free to message director@bellefourcheact.com or call 605.645.3255 to arrange a different audition time and date.

STEP THREE: Add OUR calendar to YOUR calendar. Your presence at all the upcoming events is much appreciated, so don't forget to add all these upcoming fine arts events to your calendars!

October 18, Sunday, 2 PM & October 19 & 22, Monday & Thursday, at 6:30 PM, AUDITIONS for BFACT's, A Suessified Christmas Carol
October 26, Monday, 7 PM, BFHS Chorus Concert, BF Rec Center Theater
November 2, Monday, 7 PM, BFHS Band Concert, BF Rec Center Theater
November 11, Wednesday, 9 AM, BFHS Veterans Day Program, BF Rec Center Theater
November 11, Wednesday, 2 PM, BFMS Veterans Day Program, BFMS Gymnasium
November 19-21, Thursday-Saturday, 7 PM BFHS Fall Production: Pick Your Poison by Laura Barbieri
November 30, Monday, 7 PM, BFHS Chorus Concert, BF Rec Center Theater
December 1, Tuesday, 7 PM, BFHS Band Concert, BF Rec Center Theater
December 7, Monday, 6:30 PM BFMS Chorus Concert for 6, 7, & 8th Grades
December 18, Friday, TBD, BF Elementary Concert for K-4th Grades



AUDITIONS

OCT 18 AT 2PM & OCT 19 & 22 AT 6:30PM: BF REC CENTER AUDITORIUM

PICK YOUR POISON

Cast List

Stage Manager Riley Okeson
Assistant Stage Manager TBA
Lights Isabella Evans
Sound Braxxton Reid
Stage Crew Jacob Tonsager, Tayleigh Woodridge, Brux Hartman

Cast A

Alice	Kate Blair
Fifi	Madi Carson
Octavia	Kalani Meyers
Clara	Sonja Cropper
Hector	Trevor Welles
Lord Earnest	Tanner Wright
Doctor Hayes	Logan Willert
Sir Nicholas	Derek Scott
Police Man 1	Avery Mastin
Police Man 2	Ember Shannon

Ensemble/Stage Crew:
Ember Olson, Gracie Harr, April Jackson, Titus Thompson, Madison Dalton, Devyn Perschbacher, Lauralee Dreiske, Olivia Tanska, Aspen Richter, Ainsley Jewett, Bella Welles, Iva Hale, Kaeli Thompson, Tace Hartman, Nathan Erhart, Samuel Savery, Dillon Streeter, Trey Shannon

Cast B

Alice	Bella Welles
Fifi	Iva Hale
Octavia	Kaeli Thompson
Clara	Tace Hartman
Hector	Nathan Erhart
Lord Earnest	Samuel Savery
Doctor Hayes	Dillon Streeter
Sir Nicholas	Trey Shannon
Police Man 1	Avery Mastin
Police Man 2	Ember Shannon

Ensemble/Stage Crew:
Ember Olson, Gracie Harr, April Jackson, Titus Thompson, Madison Dalton, Devyn Perschbacher, Lauralee Dreiske, Olivia Tanska, Aspen Richter, Ainsley Jewett, Kate Blair, Madi Carson, Kalani Meyers, Sonja Cropper, Trevor Welles, Tanner Wright, Logan Willert, Derek Scott

Understudy Cast

Alice	Ember Olson
Fifi	Gracie Harr
Octavia	April Jackson
Clara	Ember Shannon
Hector	Titus Thompson
Lady Ethel	Madison Dalton
Doctor Hayes	Devyn Perschbacher
Sir Nicholas	Avery Mastin
Police Man 1	Lauralee Dreiske
Police Man 2	Olivia Tanska

Ensemble/Stage Crew:
Aspen Richter, Kaeli Thompson, Kalani Meyers, Tace Hartman, Sonja Cropper, Dillon Streeter, Trey Shannon, Tanner Wright, Derek Scott, Ainsley Jewett, Bella Welles, Iva Hale, Kate Blair, Madi Carson, Nathan Erhart, Samuel Savery, Logan Willert, Trevor Welles

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Cody Tupper ~ 605-569-3589

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

Cattle Report - Wednesday, October 7, 2026

1300 Hd Today
Was A Great Market Today!

Thank you for Marketing with St Onge Livestock!

Courtney Ranch Inc, Alzada, MT	86	..Bbld	..Strs	..467	..	\$ 544.00
Courtney Ranch Inc, Alzada, MT	48	..Bbld	..Strs	..581	..	\$ 436.00
Courtney Ranch Inc, Alzada, MT	219	..Bbld	..Strs	..561	..	\$ 460.00
Courtney Ranch Inc, Alzada, MT	116	..Bbld	..Strs	..469	..	\$ 544.00
Courtney Ranch Inc, Alzada, MT	37	..Bbld	..Strs	..384	..	\$ 608.00
Courtney Ranch Inc, Alzada, MT	176	..Bbld	..Hfirs	..514	..	\$ 417.00
Courtney Ranch Inc, Alzada, MT	15	..Bbld	..Hfirs	..494	..	\$ 427.00
Courtney Ranch Inc, Alzada, MT	100	..Bbld	..Hfirs	..489	..	\$ 427.00
Courtney Ranch Inc, Alzada, MT	46	..Bk	..Hfirs	..606	..	\$ 354.00
Courtney Ranch Inc, Alzada, MT	98	..Bk	..Hfirs	..419	..	\$ 489.00
Courtney Ranch Inc, Alzada, MT	15	..Bk	..Hfirs	..364	..	\$ 505.00
Borchgrevink, Matt, Hammond, MT	21	..B/R	..Strs	..598	..	\$ 410.00
Borchgrevink, Matt, Hammond, MT	11	..B/R	..Strs	..500	..	\$ 469.00
Palo, Jim, Newell, SD	20	..B/Ch	..Strs	..486	..	\$ 490.00
Palo, Jim, Newell, SD	18	..B/Ch	..Hfirs	..463	..	\$ 440.00
Roush, Rusty A, Gillette, WY	20	..Bk	..Strs	..403	..	\$ 530.00
SD Consignment	19	..Bbld	..Hfirs	..436	..	\$ 450.00

Cattle Report - Friday, October 9, 2026

Just Under 5500 Hd Today
Market \$\$\$ Higher Again!
Thanks To All Our Consignors & Crew For A Great Day!

NEXT SALES - FRIDAY, OCT 16th - SPRING CALF & YEARLING SPECIAL - 9 AM
SATURDAY, OCT 17th - BRED COW SPECIAL - 9 AM
WEDNESDAY OCT 21st - SPRING CALF SPECIAL - 12:00 NOON

Thank you for Marketing with St Onge Livestock!

YRLGS

Dehaan, Lance, Belgrade, MT	13	..Bbld	..Hfirs	..938	..	\$311.50
Ellsbury Livestock Llc, Sundance, WY	55	..Bk	..Strs	..1110	..	\$275.00
Fruit, Tracy, Broadus, MT	44	..Bk	..Hfirs	..941	..	\$311.00
Jansma Cattle Co, Todd, Rock Rapids, IA	42	..Bbld	..Hfirs	..978	..	\$301.50
Jansma Cattle Co, Todd, Rock Rapids, IA	20	..Bbld	..Hfirs	..954	..	\$255.00
Johnson, Sherri, Deadwood, SD	12	..Bld	..Strs	..759	..	\$350.00
K & D Livestock, Volborg, MT	11	..Bk	..Hfirs	..960	..	\$310.50
Lambert, Bill & Or Marcia, Osage, WY	10	..Red	..Hfirs	..942	..	\$309.00
Lawrence, Justin, Alzada, MT	11	..Bk	..Hfirs	..1031	..	\$290.00
Murnion, Jay, Miles City, MT	21	..Bk	..Hfirs	..1028	..	\$290.50
Robinson, Royce, Sundance, WY	26	..B/R	..Strs	..900	..	\$325.00
Schell Long Pine Ranch, Capitol, MT	11	..Bk	..Strs	..745	..	\$347.00
Walker, Travis, Ekakala, MT	43	..Bk	..Hfirs	..775	..	\$345.00

SPRING CALVES

Bauer, Bradley Or Rhonda, Union Center, SD	81	..Bk	..Strs	..720	..	\$405.00
Bauer, Bradley Or Rhonda, Union Center, SD	62	..Bk	..Strs	..714	..	\$405.00
Bauer, Bradley Or Rhonda, Union Center, SD	79	..Bk	..Strs	..712	..	\$405.00
Bauer, Bradley Or Rhonda, Union Center, SD	109	..B/R	..Strs	..604	..	\$438.00
Bauer, Bradley Or Rhonda, Union Center, SD	39	..Bbld	..Strs	..603	..	\$429.00
Bauer, Bradley Or Rhonda, Union Center, SD	12	..Bbld	..Strs	..487	..	\$497.50
Duprel Livestock, Vale, SD	33	..Bk	..Strs	..497	..	\$512.00
Duprel Livestock, Vale, SD	100	..Bk	..Strs	..605	..	\$436.00
Duprel Livestock, Vale, SD	53	..Bk	..Strs	..616	..	\$426.50
Duprel Livestock, Vale, SD	88	..Bk	..Strs	..693	..	\$414.00
Duprel Livestock, Vale, SD	100	..Bk	..Hfirs	..592	..	\$452.50
Duprel Livestock, Vale, SD	57	..Bk	..Hfirs	..585	..	\$452.50
Duprel Livestock, Vale, SD	60	..Bk	..Hfirs	..674	..	\$435.00
Duprel Livestock, Vale, SD	47	..Bk	..Hfirs	..507	..	\$434.00
Mcfarland, Chris, Rapid City, SD	19	..Bk	..Strs	..511	..	\$486.00
Mcfarland, Chris, Rapid City, SD	57	..Bbld	..Strs	..607	..	\$419.50
Mcfarland, Chris, Rapid City, SD	56	..Bbld	..Strs	..555	..	\$454.00
Bacon, Dan, St Onge, SD	10	..Bk	..Hfirs	..514	..	\$417.50
Baker, Robert K Or Rita B, Buffalo Gap, SD	15	..Bbld	..Strs	..432	..	\$567.00
Baker, Robert K Or Rita B, Buffalo Gap, SD	45	..Bbld	..Strs	..561	..	\$462.00
Baker, Robert K Or Rita B, Buffalo Gap, SD	57	..Bbld	..Hfirs	..542	..	\$422.00
Bishop Land & Livestock, Gillette, WY	22	..B/R	..Strs	..414	..	\$426.00
Bishop Land & Livestock, Gillette, WY	105	..Red	..Strs	..509	..	\$476.00
Bishop Land & Livestock, Gillette, WY	24	..Red	..Hfirs	..384	..	\$482.50
Bishop Land & Livestock, Gillette, WY	95	..Red	..Hfirs	..484	..	\$445.00
Boller Mills Ranch, Gillette, WY	43	..Bk	..Strs	..601	..	\$420.00
Brownfield, Ralph Or Emily, Hammond, MT	22	..Bbld	..Strs	..479	..	\$505.00
Brownfield, Ralph Or Emily, Hammond, MT	89	..Bbld	..Strs	..565	..	\$455.00
Brownfield, Ralph Or Emily, Hammond, MT	14	..Bbld	..Hfirs	..449	..	\$460.00
Brownfield, Ralph Or Emily, Hammond, MT	63	..Bk	..Hfirs	..517	..	\$437.00
Brownfield, Ralph Or Emily, Hammond, MT	36	..Bbld	..Hfirs	..529	..	\$435.00
Conzelman, Bryce Or Jaycee, Sundance, WY	10	..Bk	..Strs	..369	..	\$621.00
Conzelman, Bryce Or Jaycee, Sundance, WY	10	..Bk	..Hfirs	..336	..	\$519.00
Edwards, Dave E, Gillette, WY	17	..Bk	..Strs	..486	..	\$510.00
Ellerton, Terry, Custer, SD	31	..Bk	..Strs	..659	..	\$402.50
Ellerton, Terry, Custer, SD	20	..Bk	..Hfirs	..636	..	\$380.00
Geis, James R, Aladdin, WY	10	..Bbld	..Strs	..396	..	\$605.00
Geis, James R, Aladdin, WY	31	..Bbld	..Strs	..486	..	\$521.00
Geis, James R, Aladdin, WY	10	..Bbld	..Hfirs	..374	..	\$552.50
Geis, James R, Aladdin, WY	21	..Bbld	..Hfirs	..465	..	\$490.00
Geis, James R, Aladdin, WY	32	..Bk	..Strs	..511	..	\$476.00
Gratwohl, Cynthia, Ashland, MT	20	..Bk	..Hfirs	..449	..	\$475.00
Gravatt, Chase, Rapid City, SD	12	..Bbld	..Strs	..633	..	\$405.00
Hins Livestock, Ron, Huron, SD	46	..Bbld	..Hfirs	..596	..	\$387.00
Holland, Sterling Or Victoria, Alzada, MT	11	..B/R	..Strs	..665	..	\$398.00
Hughes, Jeff, Belle Fourche, SD	11	..Bbld	..Strs	..543	..	\$454.00
Kinghorn, Ray, St Onge, SD	14	..Herf	..Strs	..576	..	\$430.00
Kinghorn, Ray, St Onge, SD	21	..Bld	..Strs	..610	..	\$427.50
Konechne, Jim A, Rapid City, SD	22	..Bk	..Strs	..711	..	\$391.50
Konechne, Jim A, Rapid City, SD	23	..Bk	..Hfirs	..616	..	\$390.00
Lazy Hd Llc, St Onge, SD	10	..Bk	..Strs	..609	..	\$415.00
Leininger, Kurt, Miles City, MT	15	..Bk	..Strs	..482	..	\$515.00
Leininger, Kurt, Miles City, MT	13	..Bbld	..Hfirs	..448	..	\$472.50
Lynde, Richard & Judy, Gillette, WY	12	..Bk	..Strs	..425	..	\$525.00
Lynde, Richard & Judy, Gillette, WY	15	..Bbld	..Strs	..550	..	\$452.50
Lynde, Richard & Judy, Gillette, WY	19	..Bbld	..Hfirs	..500	..	\$441.00
Materi, Randal & Wanda, Weston, WY	13	..Bk	..Strs	..633	..	\$416.00
Materi, Randal & Wanda, Weston, WY	10	..Bk	..Hfirs	..614	..	\$384.00
Maul, Robert Or Laura, Gillette, WY	18	..Bk	..Hfirs	..474	..	\$450.00
Melum, Ernie, Capitol, MT	33	..Herf	..Strs	..462	..	\$493.00
Melum, Ernie, Capitol, MT	110	..Herf	..Strs	..548	..	\$467.00
Melum, Ernie, Capitol, MT	68	..Herf	..Hfirs	..480	..	\$431.00
Miller Ranch Inc, St Onge, SD	10	..Bk	..Strs	..500	..	\$483.00
Miller, John, Forsyth, MT	10	..Bk	..Strs	..612	..	\$400.00
Mills, Trent & Kahla, Gillette, WY	101	..Bbld	..Strs	..507	..	\$510.00

Oedekoven, Jason & Dawna Maureen, Nisland, SD	10	..Bbld	..Hfirs	..420	..	\$495.00
Packard Livestock Llc, Arvada, WY	14	..B/R	..Strs	..403	..	\$570.00
Packard Livestock Llc, Arvada, WY	61	..Bk	..Strs	..506	..	\$485.00
Packard Livestock Llc, Arvada, WY	16	..Bk	..Hfirs	..480	..	\$450.00
Perli, Richard Or Sharon, Rapid City, SD	110	..Bk	..Strs	..537	..	\$483.50
Perli, Richard Or Sharon, Rapid City, SD	10	..Bk	..Hfirs	..407	..	\$485.00
Perli, Richard Or Sharon, Rapid City, SD	95	..Bk	..Hfirs	..496	..	\$448.00
Pierson, Travis & Jerri Ann, Hulett, WY	27	..Bk	..Strs	..484	..	\$509.00
Pierson, Travis & Jerri Ann, Hulett, WY	16	..Bk	..Hfirs	..471	..	\$438.00
Pownall Brothers Llc, Gillette, WY	11	..Bk	..Strs	..470	..	\$519.00
Pownall Brothers Llc, Gillette, WY	30	..Bbld	..Strs	..583	..	\$438.00
Pownall Brothers Llc, Gillette, WY	15	..B/R	..Hfirs	..426	..	\$480.00
Pownall Brothers Llc, Gillette, WY	23	..Bbld	..Hfirs	..518	..	\$415.00
Richter, Mike, Whitewood, SD	22	..B/R	..Strs	..462	..	\$520.00
Richter, Mike, Whitewood, SD	78	..Bk	..Strs	..582	..	\$441.00
Richter, Mike, Whitewood, SD	12	..Red	..Hfirs	..380	..	\$530.00
Richter, Mike, Whitewood, SD	37	..B/R	..Hfirs	..525	..	\$412.00
Rourke, Michael Or Lynn, Gillette, WY	53	..B/R	..Strs	..460	..	\$523.00
Rourke, Michael Or Lynn, Gillette, WY	11	..Bk	..Hfirs	..421	..	\$495.00
Ryan Xz Ranch Llc, Aladdin, WY	10	..Bk	..Strs	..463	..	\$540.00
Ryan Xz Ranch Llc, Aladdin, WY	104	..Bk	..Strs	..535	..	\$487.00
Saunders, Mike, Gillette, WY	30	..Bk	..Strs	..614	..	\$400.00
Saunders, Mike, Gillette, WY	31	..Bk	..Hfirs	..571	..	\$381.00
Severson, Brad, Vale, SD	14	..Red	..Strs	..453	..	\$510.00
Severson, Brad, Vale, SD	41	..Red	..Strs	..554	..	\$446.00
Severson, Brad, Vale, SD	17	..Red	..Hfirs	..452	..	\$470.00
Shaykett, Alan, Nisland, SD	23	..Bbld	..Strs	..484	..	\$515.00
Shaykett, Alan, Nisland, SD	98	..Bk	..Strs	..579	..	\$449.00
Sorenson, Michelle, Hermosa, SD	10	..Bbld	..Strs	..681	..	\$379.00

Sorenson, Michelle, Hermosa, SD	20	..Bbld	..Hfirs	..603	..	\$366.50
Tavegie Ranch, Newcastle, WY	13	..Bk	..Strs	..440	..	\$547.50
Tibbetts, Trevor, Box Elder, SD	45	..Bk	..Strs	..430	..	\$575.00
Tibbetts, Trevor, Box Elder, SD	74	..Bbld	..Strs	..550	..	\$475.00
Tibbetts, Trevor, Box Elder, SD	10	..Bbld	..Hfirs	..384	..	\$530.00
Tibbetts, Trevor, Box Elder, SD	25	..Bbld	..Hfirs	..495	..	\$436.00
Twedt, Tom, Ashland, MT	12	..Red	..Strs	..476	..	\$492.00
Twedt, Tom, Ashland, MT	32	..Red	..Strs	..560	..	\$427.00
Twedt, Tom, Ashland, MT	12	..Red	..Hfirs	..508	..	\$407.00
Whitney, Leroy & Bonnie, Newcastle, WY	19	..Bk	..Strs	..425	..	\$565.00
Whitney, Leroy & Bonnie, Newcastle, WY	11	..Bk	..Strs	..503	..	\$480.00
Whitney, Leroy & Bonnie, Newcastle, WY	20	..Bk	..Strs	..502	..	\$480.00
Whitney, Leroy & Bonnie, Newcastle, WY	12	..Bbld	..Hfirs	..371	..	\$552.50
Whitney, Leroy & Bonnie, Newcastle, WY	26	..Bk	..Hfirs	..471	..	\$452.50
Wilson, Blaine & Susan E., Gillette, WY	21	..Bk	..Hfirs	..518	..	\$419.00

OCTOBER 16, 2026

SPRING CALF & YRLG SPECIAL

9:00 AM – YRLGS FOLLOWED BY SPRING CALVES

BT-Branding Time Shots PC-PreCondition Shots DF-Drug Free BV-Bangs Vaccinated

NI- No Implants

CALVES

Kudlock Ranch – 150 Blk Strs – 550-600# - Bt, Pc
- 300 Blk Hfirs – 525-575# - Bt, Pc
Troy Johnson – 300 Blk Strs – 500-600# - Bt Pc, Ni
Jon Aldren – 220 Blk Strs & Hfirs – 500-600# - Bt, Pc, Ni
Joe Gantz – 200 Blk Strs & Hfirs – 550-625# - Bt, Pc, Ni, No Hfirs Kept
Shepperson & Bowe – 200 Blk Strs & Hfirs – 500-525# - Bt
Brad, Rhonda & Casey Bauer – 180 Blk Hfirs – 500-600# - Bt, Pc
Smith Ranch Inc – 180 Blk Strs – 490-550# - Bt
Marlon & Lois Schlup – 100 Blk Strs – 500-550# - Bt, Pc
- 65 Blk Hfirs – 475-500# - Bt, Pc
Marlin Geier – 150 Blk Strs & Hfirs – 450-525# - Bt, Pc
Sd Consignment – 150 Blk & Bldy Strs – 500-600# - Bt, Pc

Justin & Heidi Williams – 145 Char Strs & Hfirs – 450-550# - Bt, Pc
Patten Ranch Co – 145 Mostly Blk Strs – 400-500# - Bt
Simons Ranch – 135 Blk Strs & Hfirs – 500-600# - Bt, Pc, Poured
Justin Rantapaa – 110 Blk & Bldy Strs & Hfirs – 550-625# - Bt, Pc, Ni
Bobby Spellman – 100 Blk Strs – 400-500# - Bt, Ni
April Lane – 100 Blk & Bldy Strs & Hfirs – 500-600# - Bt, Pc, Ni
Will & Denna Lindsey – 100 Blk Strs – 550# - Bt, Pc, Ni
Linda Edwards – 95 Blk Mostly Strs – 400-500# - Bt, Pc
Op Bar Ranch – 95 Herf Strs – 550-625# - Bt, Pc

Mackaben & K-C Ranch – 90 Blk Strs & Hfirs – 450-525# - Bt
Rob, Lacey & Charlie Henwood – 90 Red Strs & Hfirs – 600-650# - Bt, Pc, Ni
Borchgrevink Livestock – 85 Red & Blk Strs & Hfirs – 500-550# - Bt, Pc, Ni
T Qtr Circle Ranch – 75 Char & Blk Strs & Hfirs – 400-475# - Bt, Pc
Wayne & Dixie Garman – 70 Blk Strs & Hfirs – 550-600# - Bt, Pc, Ni
Chuck Grieves -70 Blk Strs & Hfirs – 550-625# - Bt, Pc, Ni
Behrens Ranch – 60 Blk Mostly Strs – 450-500# - Bt, Pc, Poured
K-C Ranch – 60 Blk & Red Strs – 50

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Mick Harrison

“Cowboy Life” illustration
Pen & ink



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Local.

Looking Back in Belle by Mary Buchholz



-- 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 and are from the Belle Fourche History published in 1988, pages 32

100 years Northwest Bee October 22, 1926 CHANGE AT BAKERY
 Tuesday of this week Leo Broadley disposed of his interest in the Model Bakery and Grocery to his partner, A. F. Botkin, giving possession that day. Mr. Botkin will continue both the bakery and grocery under the same name. Mr. Broadley has not definitely decided on what he will do but has an attractive offer at Pierre, S. D. and may decide to go there, although he dislikes to leave the Hills.

STYLE SHOW The style show put on at the Iris theatre Wednesday evening of last week under the direction of Manager York of the Golden Rule store gave the ladies of Belle Fourche an opportunity of seeing what's what in milady's wardrobe this season. Evening gowns, street dresses, coats, hats and shoes were shown on living models, the models being Belle Fourche young ladies. Two of the evening gowns shown were those worn by Mae Murray of moving picture fame at the style show at Hollywood recently. The street dresses and coats, with two or three exceptions were from the stock carried at the Golden Rule store. The hats and shoes were all from the Golden Rule stock.

STATE'S ASSESSED VALUATION Valuation of Property Subject to General Property Tazes in Over One Billion Dollars The assessed valuation of property subject of general property taxes is given by the U. S. department of commerce bureau of census as \$1,876,112.00 in South Dakota for the fiscal year ending with the advent of 1926. Complete financial statistics of state government are offered in the federal report, which contains such items as assessed valuation and tax levies, revenue receipts, indebtedness, net debt and federal expenditures. Other states groped with South Dakota, exhibit the following valuations: Minnesota, \$2,237,576,000, Iowa, \$, 710,784,000; Missouri \$4,613,899,000; North Dakota \$1,907,883,000; Nebraska \$3,189,188,000; Kansas \$3,559,426,000. The total general property tax levy for 1925 for South Dakota was \$4,428,000 according to figures given. All revenue receipts totaled \$15,910,000.

FUNERAL OF C. H. WILSON Funeral service for C. H. Wison, the well-known Harding county stockman, was held Thursday afternoon of last week at the church at Harding, and burial was in the cemetery at that place. Rev. D. W. Tracey of Belle Fourche preached the sermon, and the burial was conducted by the K. P. lodge of Belle Fourche, of which Mr. Wilson was a member. The active pall bearers were Albert Penn, Jerry Gleason, Wm. Clanton, has Plunkett, Geo. Penne and M. A. Jacobs. The honorary pall bearers, W. H. Burkholder, C. S. Small, W.H. Lancaster, B. L. Kirkham, D.R. Evans, T. F. Harris. The funeral was one of the most largely attended ever held in that part of the country, between six and seven hundred people being present, and over one hundred cars followed the casket to its last resting place. The popularity of this man and the esteem in which he was held wherever known, was attested by those who came from long distances to pay their last respects. A further evidence was shown by the large number of beautiful flowers which covered the casket at the service, held outside the church, as the building was not large enough to accommodate the large number who attended. Charles Henry Wilson was born December 30, 1876, at North Acton, Mass. He came to the Black Hills in 1879, and went to Harding county in 1893. In June, 1902, he was untied in marriage to Miss Florence Cooper, to which union two sons were born, Harold, age 17, and Arthur, age 12. He is survived by his wife, two sons, two brothers, Fred. W., of Bufalo, S. D. and Robert, of Black River, N.Y. Sixteen cars went from Belle Fourche to attend the funeral.

75 years ago Belle Fourche Bee October 13, 1951 Rush Completion of Keyhole Dam Special to the Bee Work on Keyhole dam on the Belle Fourche river near Moorcroft, Wyo., is being rushed toward completion by the contractors. At the end of September the structure was 69.3 per cent completed with only 51.9 per cent of the allotted time used. The contractor, Kinsley Moore Construction company of Douglas, Wyo., hopes to have the main features of the dam finished by this December 31.

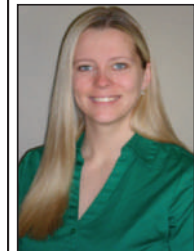
The concrete spillway structure is almost finished and relocation of a county road is 42.5 per cent completed.

The U. S. highway 14 relocation is 11.3 per cent finished and clearing of brush and trees from the reservoir area has gotten under way. Keyhole dam, when full, will impound 200,000 acre feet of conservation storage, with 140,000 acre feet of water for flood control. The whole unit, consisting of Keyhole dam and reservoir, will be a multipurpose feature in the Missouri river basin project. The unit will provide flood protection along the Belle Fourch river in Wyoming and South Dakota; a supplemental water supply for the 56,000 irrigated acres of the existing Belle Fourche project and a possible source of municipal water for the city of Belle Fourche.

Land Sale Brings High Price of \$35 An Acre A high of \$35 an acre was paid for an 80-acre tract of school land at the court house under the supervision of the state department of school and public lands. This tract, located in the Snoma locality, was bid in by Helen M. Christenson of Belle Fourche. Twenty-three tracts, totaling 1,840 acres, and two lots in the city of Newell were sold. The total sales for the day brought \$30,480 for the farm tracts and \$200 for the two lots in Newell. Average price per acre was \$16.55, while the average appraised value, set by the state department, was \$12.50. The two lots in Newell appraised at \$20 each, were sold at \$100 each. County Auditor Carl Wesner stated that 20 of the tracts are located in the non-irrigated part of the county the other three being partly irrigated and agricultural land. Tuesday's sale disposed of all public and school lands in the county.

50 years ago Belle Fourche Daily Post – October 22, 1976 63 Gather for Half Century Meet

The Black Hills Half Century Club held their annual banquet Sunday with 63 members and quests attending from Belle Fourche, Sturgis, Rapid City, Spearfish, Newell, Nisland and as far away as Duluth, Minn. The annual event was held at the Moose Hall with the Women of the Moose serving the dinner. Mrs. Estella Jacobsen, president of the club, opened



Erin L. Melling
 Attorney at Law
 Licensed in SD, ND, and MT



MELLING & ROSELAND
Law, PC



Aaron W. Roseland
 Attorney at Law
 Licensed in SD and ND

South Dakota Office:
 1409 5th Ave.
 Belle Fourche, SD 57717
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 602 Adams Ave., Suite 1
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the meeting with a prayer. Mrs. Gladys Kehrberg had charge of afternoon program. Numbers included a reading by Mrs. Kehrberg, two guitar and vocal selections by Dale Couch and his son Steve. Andrea Drole and Susan Reando played piano and guitar duets with Miss Reando performing the vocals for the numbers. Dee Widdoss played two piano solos.

Chamber Seeks Opinion on Belle Parking Meters Parking meters – a point of controversy when they were installed and a source of some grumbling off and on since – are back in the news in Belle Fourche. Chamber of Commerce President Gale Ballenger said Thursday that the public is being invited to a Chamber dinner meeting at the Belle Fourche Country Club Tuesday night. At that time Alderman Bill Schmidt and Alderman Harvey Greenfield are expected to be on hand to

talk about the parking meters and explain proposals that have been made. Ballenger said city council members have been discussing the possibility of removing the meters on a six-month trial basis (which they have authority to do). However, the council committee wanted the reaction of the Chamber to the suggestion that the meters be removed. The Chamber president said it appeared that the best way to get public input on the suggestion is to have a meeting where the pros and cons can be freely discussed and the information passed on to the council. The city's 1977 appropriation's ordinance estimates revenue for 1977 from the parking meters at \$16,500. There is considerable expense in maintaining the meters, however. Ballenger says so far as he has been able to determine the city may net about \$1000 annually from the meters.



Art of Tipperary In 2006, Alvin Cordell who ranches near Camp Crook, commissioned Mick B. Harrison to paint a watercolor scenes of Ed Marty's ride on the street opf Camp Crook in 1915. It is titled "Tipperary's Genesis. Painting is at the Tri-State Museum



(Left) Charles Wilson died in 1926 was the rodeo contractor for the Belle Fourche Round-up from the first production in 1918 until he died. He owned both Tipperary and another famous buckking horse Tip Top. (Below) Keyhole dam was finished in 1951, during our current draught the dam is 41 per cent filled.





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		BRETT LOUGHLIN - 605-210-0615 MIKE GREENOUGH - 307-620-2597 BEN GREENOUGH - 307-620-5553		SHANE MOKE - 605-641-7961 TYLER GAER - 605-222-9513 JOHN HENRY BEARDSLEY - 406-853-4938	
				SCOTT ANDERSON - 406-351-1844 TREVOR GARMAN - 605-892-5972 BRIAN SCHMIDT - 605-569-0114 KYLE HODGSKISS - 406-781-2846	

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Market Report - Thursday, October 8th, 2026
THANK YOU FOR YOUR BUSINESS!

CALVES	QTY	DESC	AVGWT	BID	\$/HEAD
Mcdonald Ranch Inc, Aladdin WY	97	Blk/Bwf-Str Pc Bt	561	469.00	\$2,629.30
	98	Blk/Bwf-Str Pc Bt	556	469.00	\$2,606.06
	77	Blk/Bwf-Str Pc Bt	480	515.00	\$2,471.33
	94	Blk/Bwf-Hfr Pc Bt	514	433.50	\$2,229.75
	93	Blk/Bwf-Hfr Pc Bt	516	433.50	\$2,236.72
	30	Blk/Bwf-Hfr Pc Bt	434	475.00	\$2,059.12
Andrew Cathey, Hammond MT	98	Black-Str Pc	586	446.00	\$2,611.37
	102	Black-Str Pc	520	505.00	\$2,625.25
Darrell Or Jeanne Ennen,					
Rapid City SD	49	Black-Str Pc Bt	584	438.00	\$2,558.27
	54	Black-Hfr Pc Bt	548	411.00	\$2,251.36
Cory R Peterson, Upton WY	68	Black-Str Pc Bt	503	504.00	\$2,535.56
	21	Black-Str Pc Bt	381	649.00	\$2,470.83
	63	Black-Hfr Pc Bt	482	450.00	\$2,167.14
Clint Krambeck, Spearfish SD	19	Black-Hfr Pc Bt	393	505.00	\$1,986.77
	29	Black-Str Pc Bt	529	485.00	\$2,563.81
	47	Black-Hfr Pc Bt	517	427.00	\$2,208.13
Everett Kraft, Upton WY	56	Black-Str Pc Bt	563	463.00	\$2,604.37
	46	Black-Hfr Pc Bt	546	422.00	\$2,302.19
Dave & Lynette Donahey, Capitol MT	38	Black-Str Pc Bt	463	528.00	\$2,444.08
	13	Black-Str Pc Bt	386	605.00	\$2,333.90
	52	Black-Hfr Pc Bt	453	461.00	\$2,090.01
	11	Black-Hfr Pc Bt	354	519.00	\$1,835.37
Curren Ranch, Aladdin WY	72	Red/Rwf-Str Pc Bt	480	517.00	\$2,480.52
	17	Red-Str Pc Bt	399	590.00	\$2,353.05
Wickwire Livestock, Aladdin WY	84	Red-Str Pc Bt	561	443.50	\$2,487.29
	9	Red-Str Pc Bt	457	532.50	\$2,431.75
Jake Or Matt Disney, Sundance WY	70	Red/Rwf-Str Pc Bt	512	488.00	\$2,497.51
	34	Red/Rwf-Hfr Pc Bt	512	419.00	\$2,143.67
Dustin Or Tess Irgens, Ryegate MT	43	Black-Str Pc Bt	458	535.00	\$2,448.55
	10	Black-Str Pc Bt	363	649.00	\$2,355.87
	39	Black-Hfr Pc Bt	462	440.00	\$2,031.89
	16	Black-Hfr Pc Bt	335	542.50	\$1,815.67
Patton Land & Cattle, Newcastle WY	34	Blk/Bwf-Str Pc Bt	630	412.00	\$2,597.41
	32	Blk/Bwf-Hfr Pc Bt	573	392.50	\$2,250.12
George Sparks, Ismay MT	62	Blk/Bwf-Str Pc Bt	523	473.00	\$2,473.33
	20	Blk/Bwf-Str Pc Bt	436	547.50	\$2,385.73
Ivn Cattle Co Lic, Newcastle WY	84	Black-Str Pc Bt	615	420.00	\$2,587.57
	12	Black-Str Pc Bt	415	575.00	\$2,388.64
	18	Black-Hfr Pc Bt	512	395.00	\$2,023.27
Duane Talcott, Hammond MT	18	Black-Str Pc Bt	465	530.00	\$2,463.02
	17	Black-Hfr Pc Bt	442	474.00	\$2,095.35
Jim Or Lisa Darlington,					
Newcastle WY	23	Blk/Bwf-Str Pc Bt	502	502.00	\$2,519.82
	28	Blk/Bwf-Hfr Pc Bt	494	427.00	\$2,109.07
Lacy J Or Jeremy Schneider,					
Ludlow SD	21	Black-Str Pc Bt	550	428.00	\$2,356.03
	13	Black-Hfr Pc Bt	498	352.50	\$1,757.07
Matt Or Donna Perino,					
Newcastle WY	75	Bk/Rdl/Ch-Str Bt	518	453.00	\$2,345.33
	51	Blk/Bwf-Str Pc Bt	514	466.00	\$2,397.15
Mill Iron 4 Ranch Trust,					
Newcastle WY	10	Blk/Bwf-Str Pc Bt	612	394.00	\$2,409.31
	11	Blk/Bwf-Hfr Pc Bt	538	395.00	\$2,125.81
Tony & Laurie Farella, Newcastle WY	31	Blk/Bwf-Str Pc Bt	581	420.00	\$2,440.74
	26	Black-Hfr Pc	530	415.00	\$2,197.90
Troy Harrington, Miles City MT	31	Black-Str Pc Bt	553	459.00	\$2,537.82
	10	Black-Str Pc Bt	463	525.00	\$2,428.12
	32	Black-Hfr Pc Bt	494	421.00	\$2,081.31
Brett Crowser, Belle Fourche SD	34	Black-Str Pc Bt	515	487.00	\$2,508.05
George & Jean Elchemendy,					
Douglas WY	52	Black-Str Bt	534	465.00	\$2,482.83
	18	Black-Hfr Bt	486	412.50	\$2,006.35
Ht Bar Ranch, Broadus MT	15	Black-Str Pc	609	425.00	\$2,589.66
	13	Black-Hfr Pc	604	384.00	\$2,320.24
Ls Livestock Lic, Buffalo WY	34	Black-Str Pc Bt	527	489.00	\$2,577.31
	12	Black-Hfr Pc Bt	500	439.00	\$2,193.17
Darrell Or Shaunee Groth,					
Aladdin WY	29	Black-Str Pc Bt	550	461.00	\$2,537.08
	25	Black-Hfr Pc Bt	492	457.50	\$2,250.90
Statham Real Estate Lic,					
Sundance WY	91	Blk/Bwf-Str Pc Bt	558	460.00	\$2,565.13
	50	Blk/Bwf-Str Pc Bt	548	460.00	\$2,521.72
	97	Blk/Bwf-Str Pc Bt	469	522.00	\$2,450.17
	10	Black-Str Pc Bt	324	670.00	\$2,170.80

Leroy & Kay Rene Jones, Rozet WY	61	Herf-Str Bt	451	521.00	\$2,347.91
	32	Herf-Hfr Pc	420	477.50	\$2,006.24
Clinton & Amy Jones, Rozet WY	32	Xbrd-Str Bt	464	467.50	\$2,170.22
	14	Xbrd-Str Bt	388	475.00	\$1,840.62
	11	Xbrd-Hfr Bt	334	440.00	\$1,470.00
Brook Burris, Rozet WY	18	Blk/Bwf-Str Bt	523	425.00	\$2,222.98
Tom Or Eileen Nistler, Upton WY	15	Blk/Bwf-Hfr Bt	482	395.00	\$1,903.90
Levi & Lindsay Conry, St Onge SD	8	Blk/Bwf-Str Bt	484	493.00	\$2,384.88
	7	Blk/Bwf-Str Bt	532	493.00	\$2,623.46
	21	Black-Hfr Bt	491	420.00	\$2,064.00
Warren & Greta Crawford,					
Sundance WY	48	Black-Hfr Pc Bt	424	485.00	\$2,054.68
Tom Or Eileen Nistler, Upton WY	15	Black-Str	613	410.00	\$2,511.93
	24	Black-Hfr	587	384.00	\$2,252.80
Bear Skull Cattle Company,					
Biddle MT	24	Blk/Bwf-Str Pc	499	502.00	\$2,506.86
	34	Black-Hfr Pc	485	426.00	\$2,065.47
YEARLINGS					
Ryan Or Kelcee Vroman, Buffalo SD	32	Blk/Bwf-Yrig Hfr	940	310.50	\$2,918.70
	25	Blk/Bwf-Yrig Hfr	947	310.00	\$2,935.08
Tj Livestock, Weston WY	17	Black-Yrig Str	909	323.00	\$2,935.50
Dave & Chase Hayden, Baker MT	24	Black-Yrig Hfr	843	336.00	\$2,833.60
Travis Or Julie Hurst, Buffalo SD	23	Black-Yrig Hfr	871	312.50	\$2,722.82
Padden Land & Cattle,					
Camp Crook SD	12	Black-Yrig Hfr	954	308.00	\$2,937.55

BRED COW & WEIGH-UP SPECIAL
OCTOBER 16, 2026
WUPS @ 8AM MT, & BREDS TO FOLLOW

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UPCOMING SALE SCHEDULE	
October 15, 2026	SPRING CALF SPECIAL
October 16, 2026	BRED COW & WEIGH-UP SPECIAL
October 22, 2026	SPRING CALF SPECIAL
October 23, 2026	WEIGH-UP SPECIAL
October 29, 2026	SPRING CALF SPECIAL
October 30, 2026	BRED COW & WEIGH-UP SPECIAL
November 5, 2026	CALF SPECIAL
November 6, 2026	WEIGH-UP SPECIAL
November 12, 2026	CALF SPECIAL
November 13, 2026	BRED COW & WEIGH-UP SPECIAL
November 19, 2026	CALF SPECIAL
November 20, 2026	WEIGH-UP SPECIAL
November 23, 2026	MONDAY ANNUAL THANKSGIVING SALE- COW & BRED HFR SPECIAL

SPRING CALF SPECIAL
OCTOBER 15, 2026
YEARLINGS @ 8AM MT, & CALVES TO FOLLOW

CALVES KEITH RANCH -MT 400 MOSTLY BLK MXD CLVS 500-550#, BT,PC LACY WILLIAMS -MT 370 F1 BLDY MXD CLVS 500-600#, BT,PC,NI,NO HFRS KEPT WINKLER RANCH -SD 320 BLK MXD CLVS, 425-550# BT,PC,NI,NO HFRS KEPT RILEY RANCH -SD 270 BLK MXD CLVS 525-550#, PC,NI,POURED RAFTER DIAMOND -SD 270 BLK HFRS, 575-600# PC,NI,POURED,NOT BRANDED LANDA RANCH -MT 225 BLK/BWF MXD CLVS 500-550#, PC,NI,POURED JOE & JANE BURKE -SD 220 BLK STR CLVS 550-600#, BT,PC,NI,POURED DAWN & LESTER AYE -MT 200 COLORED MXD CLVS 600-650#, BT,PC,NI,POURED TROY LYNCH & PAT LYNCH ESTATE -WY 200 BLK MXD CLVS 500-575#, BT,PC,NI MATTHEW STIEGELMEIER -WY 200 BLK MXD CLVS, 400-500# BT,NI,KNIFE CUT TOM & TOMI BARBOUR -WY 170 BLK MXD CLVS 500-550#, BT,PC,NI KURT COLLINS -MT 150 BLK STR CLVS 610-630#, BT,PC,POURED BRIAN & LESLEY PARK -WY 145 BLK MXD CLVS, 500-550# BT,PC,NI,POURED,NO HFRS KEPT,HFRS NOT BRANDED HAIR ENTERPRISE -WY 140 BLK STR CLVS 600#, BT,PC,NI,POURED AVERY & GRAHAM -WY 125 BLK STR CLVS, 525# PC,NI,FULL MINERAL PROGRAM CADWELL RANCH -MT 120 BLK MXD CLVS 475-500#, BT,PC,NI TOM & BARRY BLAIR -MT 120 BLK/BWF MXD CLVS 450-500#, PC,NI WES & LISA STEPPLE -MT 120 BLK MXD CLVS 400-500#, BT,PC,NI JOHN MANNETTER -WY 115 BLK MXD CLVS 400-500#, BT,PC,NI GLADSON FAMILY TRUST -WY 110 BLK STR CLVS 620#, BT ROBERT ARPAN -MT 100 BLK MXD CLVS 475-550#, BT,PC,NI TWO TONE CATTLE CO -SD 100 BLK STR CLVS 600-650#, BT,PC,KNIFE CUT ROSS GARMAN FAMILY -WY 100 BLK MXD CLVS 500-550#, BT,PC	TYLER MEDEARIS -MT 95 BLK MXD CLVS 500-550#, BT,PC,NI,POURED DARRELL HOHN-SD 90 BLK MXD CLVS, 550-600# BT,PC,NI,POURED,CAKE BROKE TOM ANDREWS -MT 85 BLK/RED MXD CLVS 400-500#, BT,PC,NI JOHNSON SHEEP & CATTLE -SD 80 BLK MXD CLVS 450-475#, PC,NI PATTEN CATTLE CO -MT 80 BLK MXD CLVS 500-550#, BT,POURED TOM BOWEN -SD 75 BLK MXD CLVS 400-500#, BT,PC,NI BAR 69 ANGUS -SD 75 BLK MXD CLVS 550-600#, BT,PC,NI,POURED JESSE & NASTELL DEAN -WY 60 BLK STR CLVS 550-600#, BT,PC,NI JOHN VASSAR -SD 60 BLK MXD CLVS 500#, BT,PC TROY & MARY GLADSON -WY 53 BLK MXD CLVS 620#, BT JOE BREDDING -MT 50 BLK/BWF MXD CLVS 600-650#, PC,NI,POURED LANCE MARSHALL -WY 45 BLK/BWF MXD CLVS 500#, BT,PC,NI WILL & ANN GERGEN -MT 40 BLK STR CLVS 500-525#, BT,PC,NI JOHN BOETKER -SD 40 BLK MXD CLVS, 600# BT,PC,NI,FULL MINERAL PROGRAM MCKEE PROPERTIES -SD 26 BLK STR CLVS 675-700#, BT,PC,NI,POURED CN CATTLE CO -SD 25 BLK MXD CLVS, 500-600# BT,PC,NI,KNIFE CUT TREY HORMAN-SD 25 BLK MXD CLVS 575-625#, BT,PC,NI SAMUEL MILLER -WY 20 BLK MXD CLVS 450-600#, BT,PC KATE CROWLEY -SD 15 BLK MXD CLVS 500-600#, BT,PC,NI,POURED DOUG PERSCHE-SD 14 BLK MXD CLVS 450-550#, BT,PC,NI DOUG QUARVE -SD 13 BLK MXD CLVS 650#, BT,PC,NI,POURED YEARLINGS GREG WILLIAMS -MT 75 BLK STRS, 950# BROWN RANCH LLP -MT 8 BLK STRS, 1500-1600#
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RECEIVING STATIONS

Broadus,MT Travis Linch 605-892-5951 Ekalaka,MT Travis Linch 605-892-5951 Dave Williams 406-975-6805	Forsyth,MT Scott Anderson 406-351-1844 Jordan,MT Jason Bollinger 406-690-8344 Wyoming Mike Greenough 307-620-2597
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Upcoming events,
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Oct 14 - 12PM SDSU Presentation @ Grap's Burgers

Oct 15 - 10AM Christmas Fair in Newell, 6PM Chamber Chili Challenge

Oct 16 - 4PM Angel Store, 5PM Retirement party for Cindy Riley @ Rec Center, 6PM Football game

Oct 17 - Craft fair in Vale

Oct 18 - 2PM Family Fun Day @ Museum

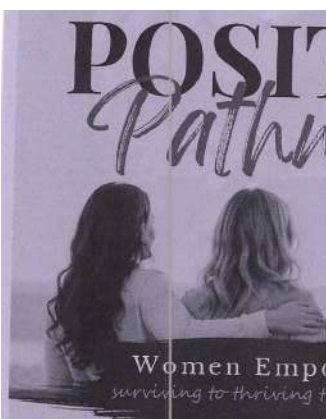
For more events visit our event calendar at bellefourchechamber.org



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A graphic with a blue background on the left and white on the right. The blue section contains the RRP logo (Quality Quick Print) and logos for partner brands Midstates and Panther. The white section contains the text "YOUR BRAND. ON ANYTHING. ANYWHERE." in bold blue letters.

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UPCOMING SESSIONS

1	BUILDING TRUST September 10, 2026
2	SELF-EXPLORATION & IDENTITY September 24, 2026
3	OVERCOMING OBSTACLES October 8, 2026
4	BUILDING CONFIDENCE October 22, 2026
5	CULTIVATING SUPPORTIVE RELATIONSHIPS November 5, 2026
6	CREATING ACTION PLANS November 19, 2026

When & Where

LOCATION: The Living Room
810 N Yale St. Spearfish, SD

TIME: 5:30 - 6:30 PM

FREQUENCY: 2x per month
on Thursdays

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Area Church Schedules

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

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

**CHURCH OF JESUS CHRIST
OF LATTER DAY SAINTS**
1105 Todd St.
Rick McCartney, Bishop
Sunday: 10 a.m. Sacrament Meeting
Sunday School:
1st & 3rd Sundays, 11 a.m.
Priesthood Meeting, Relief Society,
Young Men and Young Women:
11 a.m. 2nd & 4th Sundays

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

EMMANUEL BAPTIST
10913 Sourdough Road
Belle Fourche, SD
Andy Anderson, Pastor
9am Sunday School
10am Sunday Morning Worship
Men's Bible Study 10am Wednesday
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By John Newby

“Building Main Street, not Wall Street”

Your Neighbor Is Not Your Enemy

In the summer of 1768, a Pennsylvania lawyer named John Dickinson published a song in the Boston Gazette. Colonists sang it at meetings, dinners and celebrations up and down the coast, and one line from it has outlived almost everything else written that year: “By uniting we stand, by dividing we fall.”

Dickinson wrote those words for addressing thirteen quarreling colonies facing common problems. I believe that over 250 years later, they still belong on the wall of every city hall, chamber office and coffee shop on Main Street. Because in today’s world in which we live, somebody is making a lot of money keeping us apart.

Let’s begin with the phone in your pocket. A team of researchers studied more than 2.7 million posts on Facebook and Twitter from news outlets and members of Congress. Posts about the other political side were shared about twice as often as posts about one’s own side. Every single word aimed at the other team raised the odds of a share by 67 percent. That language also strongly predicted angry reactions. Today those same tactics are used to divide communities.

That is not an accident. In 2020, reporters uncovered an internal Facebook presentation from 2018 warning that the company’s algorithms “exploit the human brain’s attraction to divisiveness.” It cautioned that, left unchecked, the platform would keep serving up more divisive content to hold our attention. Facebook disputed that reporting. But anyone who has watched a hometown community page knows the pattern. The ribbon cutting gets a dozen



likes. The argument over the new stop sign gets four hundred comments. Good news rarely goes viral. It doesn’t make anybody mad enough to click.

But I won’t lay all of this at the feet of Silicon Valley. The country itself has pulled apart. Pew Research found this spring that more than nine in ten Democrats and Republicans alike view the other party unfavorably. Here’s what gives me hope. In another Pew survey, wide majorities in both parties said it was important for the other side’s leaders to compromise. Fewer than half said the same about their own side. We all want unity. We just want the other fellow to go first.

Our community is where that can change, and it matters for reasons that go well beyond feeling good.

First, trust still lives close to home. Gallup has found that about two thirds of Americans trust their local government to handle local problems, compared with roughly a third who trust Congress. Republicans and Democrats give local government similar marks. That trust is a valuable asset, and it is ours to protect or squander.

Second, connected communities survive hard times. Political scientist Daniel Aldrich studied recovery after disasters from Japan to New Orleans. He found that the deciding factor wasn’t the size of the damage or the amount of aid. It was the depth of the ties among neighbors. Places with strong networks moved help where it was needed and kept people from leaving. Floods, plant closings and tornadoes don’t check anyone’s voter registration.

Third, isolation is making us

sick. The Surgeon General’s 2023 advisory reported that about half of American adults had experienced loneliness, and that lacking social connection is as harmful as smoking up to 15 cigarettes a day. Every time we write off a neighbor over a yard sign, we cut one more thread that holds us together.

And then there is the local economy. Ask yourself when a divided town last landed a new employer, passed a school bond or kept its volunteer fire department fully staffed. Those wins take a whole community pulling the same direction.

None of this means we must agree on everything. Dickinson’s colonies argued constantly. Unity isn’t sameness. It is deciding that the boat we are all in matters more than which side of it we row from. When water rises, it rises for everybody. Your town has a choice that no algorithm, cable news host or national campaign can make for it. We can let the outrage machine set the agenda at the school board, the county commission and the diner counter, or we can decide that here, at least, neighbors come first.

So here is my challenge this week. Find one piece of good news about your community, a new business, a student who earned an award, a volunteer who quietly showed up, and share it where the arguments usually live. Then go one step further. Call or have coffee with one neighbor you know votes differently than you do and talk about something you both want for your town..

We stand together, or we fall apart. The algorithm doesn’t get a vote. We do.

John A. Newby, a Chamber CEO, Publisher & Media Executive, Business Owner, Consultant & International Speaker is the author of the “Building Main Street, Not Wall Street” a column dedicated to helping local businesses & communities build stronger foundations allowing them to thrive in a world where local is lost to Wall Street interests. His email is john@truly-local.org

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BY UNITING WE STAND, BY DIVIDING WE FALL

United We Stand on Main Street

What pulls communities apart, and why working together still wins

WHAT DIVIDES US +67% Higher odds a post gets shared for each word attacking the other political side	9 in 10 Democrats and Republicans who view the other party unfavorably
WHY WE NEED EACH OTHER 67% vs 32% Americans who trust local government vs. those who trust Congress	15 Cigarettes a day: how harmful the Surgeon General says social isolation can be

This week: Share one piece of good news about your town, and have coffee with a neighbor who votes differently than you do.

Sources: Rathje et al., PNAS (2021); Pew Research Center (May 2026); Gallup (2023); U.S. Surgeon General's Advisory on Loneliness and Isolation (2023).

BUILDING MAIN STREET, NOT WALL STREET



Central Meade County News

By Sandy Rhoden October 11, 2026



After a warm week with temperatures into the upper 80s, Sunday gave us a cool day in the 50s with a high of 60 degrees. It appears that our warm summer days may be over. Something exceptional that happened that Lane Cammack

of Stoneville and Laura Colb of Spearfish were united in marriage on Monday. They had an unannounced private ceremony on a ranch near Spearfish with Bill Meirose officiating. Folks are happy for the newlyweds and they made their first appearance in church on Sunday in Union Center. Larry and Sandy Rhoden

drove home from Sioux Falls on Saturday night after a full day of being in the Dakota State University parade in Madison. They were driven by family members from Sioux Falls in a red Corvette with sister from Madison adding a matching red pickup. They were treated to lunch there in the Miles Beacom complex that followed with tail gating and reacquainting with old classmates. They drove to Sioux Falls for a wedding and returned home

late on Saturday night. Thursday's Rural Neighbors was well attended last week as they served guests a noon meal and entertainment. Theresa Hanzlik and Shirley Baker sang and Edna Smith played the piano. The fellowship room was decorated with a beautiful fall theme. Henrietta McNenny brought center pieces for the finishing touches. Lorie Hausmann provided a lunch for some family and friends after church on Sunday in the fellowship hall.

Bob Barry joined them as Yvonne is in Idaho with her brothers. Tristen and Kalen Rhoden and family spent the afternoon at the Larry Rhoden Ranch to catch up and move some machinery. The first of the seasonal holidays in October, November and December is on October, 31, Halloween. It is on a Saturday this year. Daylight savings time ends on Sunday, November 1 so clocks will be moved backward 1 hour that night.



Capitol News Karen Odell

We've had a few more hot days at Capitol and on Tie Creek, but the forecasts predict that it will cool down again next week. Ronda Cordell sends a big ,Thanks' to the Carter Charter, who has hauled her to most of her doctor's appointments, after her daughter, Cristen Westling, had to go for her surgery in mid-September. Ronda had had knee replacement surgery two months ago. She also thanks, both Jake Reynolds and her son, Clint, for rides to ER's. She is praying that the rides are less needed as the days go by. This week, on Monday and Thursday, she had appointments to physical therapy, chiropractor and Dr. Little. Curt and Carsen Zolnoski, and Adam Odland, came out to the ranch from Rapid City, on Tuesday. They got corrals ready at the Desert, so they could ultrasound a group of cows, and wean the calves. Ronda had the help of Scoggins' Vet, Dave and Diane Adams, Jake Reynolds, and the Rapid City guys, and the cows were in the corrals and done

by ten o'clock. Tod Dague showed up just in time for an early lunch. Then, he hauled the calves back home. When Curt and the boys headed home, they also dropped off a couple of dries, and four others, at the sale barn on the way. The cattle music there at home has pretty much diminished, as of Saturday. Ronda brought the sprinkler out to settle the dust. Two of Ronda's black and white dogs are only allowed to go to the corral with her. They walk through, checking the calves, several times a day. Jayda Westling and Taylor Stuen came from Rapid City, on Saturday, in hopes of calling coyotes. The wind was of no assistance in doing that; nor was the mist and breeze on Sunday. They made a quick trip to Ekala-ka, and ate a late lunch with Ronda when they returned. Zack Phillips stopped by at Ronda's for a visit, on Sunday afternoon. Curt Zolnoski called. He will be leaving, on Monday, to go first to Cheyenne, Wyoming, to stay over at his dad, Lynn Zolnoski's. Then he will continue on to Thornton, Colorado, for doctor appointments, during

this coming week. Alvin and Marlee Cordell had hunters all of this week. Marlee went to Buffalo to watch the last high school football game of the season, on Monday. Alvin has been kept busy guiding hunters. Things have gotten dry again. On Sunday, there was a little drizzle, but we could use much more moisture. Last Saturday, Bruce and Lynn Gustafson went to the Camp Crook Fireman's Supper. They both have had doctor's appointments in the Hills, this week. They had gotten to see visitors out at the ranch. One wife was originally from Tokyo. Last month, Bruce and Lynn went to Idaho for a three-day wedding. Jim's daughter was married there. The first day was for greeting. The second day was the wedding, and the third day was a picnic. Maybe that means the marriage will last three times longer. Bruce and Lynn came back by way of Douglas, Wyoming, and stopped to visit George and Nancy Yarborough. This Sunday, Bruce and Lynn attended church at the Little Missouri Church.

Doug and Julia Davis went to Belle Fourche, on Thursday, where they stopped to pick-up Alfreda. They went on to the cross-country meet at Heart Ranch. Grandsons, Keaton and Kellan Davis, were both competing in the event. Keaton, an eighth-grader (already) finished in ninth place among about 60 competitors. Kellan, a sixth grader, placed in the top 30 of about 60 competitors. On Saturday, Doug and Julia spent the day giving fall shots to their calves. Their boys' families came out from Belle Fourche to help. John Hanson and Mattie Buck came to help, too, and it was good help for a big day of work. Dawn and Dorothy Padden went to Buffalo, on Thursday, to watch the volleyball games. Dawn got some good pictures of the players during the games. When they came home, Dorothy stayed at Bryce and Dawn's to join in a wonderful supper of fish, along with many other dishes. Bryce and Dawn had visiting friends from eastern South Dakota, who had come out to visit and hunt, and they brought along a good quantity of fish from back east. They know exactly how to

fillet the fish, and pack them, so that they are truly delicious for baking when they get here. Dawn went to the Friday football game in Buffalo, and got more actions pictures of the boys. She even got all of those pictures processed on Sunday, so she is ready for taking pictures at next week's sports events. She keeps busy. Karen Odell had lots of company during the past couple of weeks. Mollie Odell flew out from Minnesota during one weekend, and did lots of work for Karen. Charlene Rosencranz visited one day, while Mollie was here. The next weekend Cody, Kylie and Jeff Odell came out to the ranch to help do some work, and Chancey Odell visited, too. Micki and Murphy came, on Friday, from Tacoma. Then on Monday, everyone went to Mitchell, where Jeff stayed one day, and Micki and Murphy stayed two more days. If anyone is interested in writing the Capitol News, this winter, please let Karen know at ckodell@sdplains.com. The sun shines on the just and the unjust; but just a little brighter on the just, and just a little dimmer on the unjust, so that most times your intuition just notices the difference.

PRESSED BETWEEN THE PAGES #54

by DeAnn (Wolkow) Kruempel



When Tricks Changed to Treats "Dad, is it okay if I go trick-or-treating tonight?" It was Halloween and I had it all planned. I would scare up some kind of costume, maybe my cowgirl hat and Delmer's holster and toy pistol, and walk up the road to the neighbor's. Likely I would skip home with a bucket of candy. Dad frowned, obviously appalled that I would even ask such a thing. "No kid of mine is going to go out begging. We can afford to buy our own candy.

When Tricks Changed to Treats

And you never ever threaten any kind of prank!" Dad grew up in the 1930s, an era when Halloween celebrating consisted of more tricks than treats. Young tricksters spent the night carousing. The next day they would brag to their friends about the outhouses they had tipped or the windows they had broken. By the time I came along and was old enough to go trick-or-treating, pranks were fewer and less destructive. Halloween became a true national event in the 1950s when youngsters in costume went door-to-door. They were usually awarded with candy or homemade treats that filled buckets or bags. But the origins of

Halloween traditions are hauntingly dark. In medieval times, poor people went door-to-door begging for "soul" cakes. In Celtic countries, people carved scary faces into turnips or potatoes to ward off spirits. Immigrants brought old customs to American in the 1800s. By the 1930s, vandalism became prevalent. Communities began giving out candy or encouraging innocent games to stop destructive tricks. As the festival that would become Halloween evolved in Europe, several Christian popes replaced the "pagan" observances with religious events. All Souls' Day was proclaimed a time for the living to pray for the souls

of the dead. All Saints' Day honored the saints on November 1. Thus, October 31 was All Hallows Eve, later known as Halloween. Halloween in America evolved through the generations. Outhouses became safe. (Ours was built by the Works Progress Administration and had a cement foundation. Dad used to tell a story of pranksters tipping an outhouse when a guy was inside. Likely, our father didn't want to take any chances!) Today pumpkins instead of turnips are carved for fun and beauty. Parades and parties prevail. Millions of Americans celebrate the holiday, spending over \$9 billion every year. Candy companies and costume retailers rejoice! Pressed between the pages of my mind is my father's reaction to my

trick-or-treating request. He remembered the times of vandalism and wanted to assure that his children had no part in such activities. His strong work ethic did not allow charity or "begging." And he passed those standards on to his offspring. I wasn't terribly devastated that fall day when I was not allowed to go trick-or-treating, especially when Mom said, "DeAnn, come and help me make popcorn balls!" 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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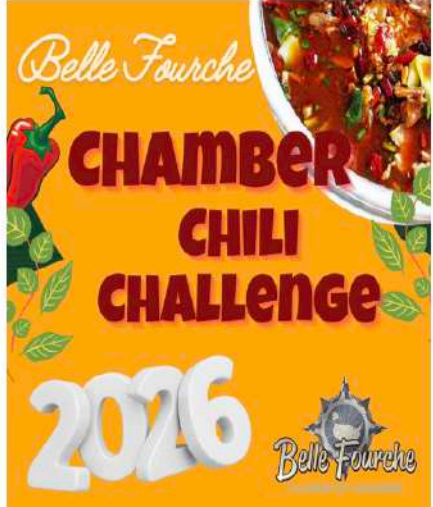
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Roots #80

The Saber Tooth Tiger Curriculum and the Continuing Debate

Meg English

news@bellefourchebeacon.com



The Saber-Tooth Curriculum is a satire by Harold R. W. Benjamin. Published in 1939.

The Saber-Tooth Curriculum is a must read for teachers, administrators and anyone who has ever wondered what goes on in schools. As such, it is a quick read, and is quite entertaining.

The book's central question is: what should schools teach when the world around students keeps changing? It is a timely theme.

As far as I know the Saber Tooth Curriculum has never appeared on banned or challenged book lists, but the question of what schools should teach continues to inspire controversy.

The book follows the lectures of Dr. Abner J Peddiwell, a fictitious expert on Stone Age curriculum.

Dr. Peddiwell describes a Stone Age community where an intelligent man named New-Fist creates a practical new curriculum for his own children. The courses include, "Fish

Grabbing with Bare Hands", "Woolly-Horse Clubbing", and "Saber-Tooth Tiger-Chasing with Fire". The children like the lessons and the community prospers.

The intended skills are very useful in a prehistoric setting, that is, until the climate changes, lakes dry up, and saber-tooth tigers move elsewhere.

In his professorial narrative, Dr. Peddiwell laments against stone age traditionalists who continue to insist that the great ideas embedded in these courses should be preserved because they 'helped build the mind'. He questions the wisdom of those who cannot acknowledge the need for change.

The argument continues. What should schools teach when the world around students keeps changing?

Curriculum has long been controversial in American schools.

In 1779, Benjamin Franklin's "Proposals Related to Education of Youth in Pennsylvania" raised the question of what literacy should mean. Should literacy refer to academic knowledge alone, or should it also include knowledge useful for one's health, work, civic life, and overall quality of life?

Thomas Jefferson made a related argument: education should prepare citizens capable of sustaining a democracy.

Without an educated public, he warned, self-government could not endure.

Jefferson's warning still resonates today. It raises questions that run through every curriculum debate: should education primarily serve the individual, the community, or both? And what knowledge should a person possess in order to be considered literate?

Times change, but the questions remain. In the nineteenth century, immigration and industrialization reshaped the civic mission of public education. Americans increasingly expected schools to prepare children not only for work, but for participation in civic life.

In the 1830s and 1840s the common school movement emerged under the leadership of Horace Mann.

Mann argued that education was essential to a healthy republic. Schools, he believed should serve all children, offer a shared curriculum, and help rebuild the moral habits needed for social stability.

The common school movement promoted publicly supported schools open to children from different social backgrounds. Private and church schools continued to exist, but Mann and his supporters argued that public funds should support schools designed for the common

good

This civic mission also had an assimilationist purpose: public schools were expected to help immigrant children learn language, customs, and civic expectations of American democracy.

Not everyone welcomed this vision.

Many Irish Catholics objected to the Protestant influence in public schools and responded by building parochial schools shaped by their own religious and cultural priorities.

The common school model fit elementary education more easily than it fit the expanding high school. As secondary schools diversified the question of what graduates should know became harder to answer. That question still lies at the center of curriculum debates. Should schools emphasize preparation for meaningful work, informed citizenship, personal growth, academic knowledge, or some balance among all four?

For many Americans today, schools are expected to give students knowledge and skills that improve their lives while also strengthening the community. Public education has therefore carried both individual and communal purposes: it is meant to help each child flourish and to sustain the shared life of a democracy.

More recently, curriculum

scholars have described the goals of education in four broad categories: social, vocational, personal, and academic.

Each goal makes sense, but each also competes with time and attention within the school day. That is why curriculum change is so difficult.

There is always more to learn than schools have time to teach. As technology changes the way people read, write, work, and communicate, educators must decide what should remain, what should be revised, and what should be set aside.

Should handwriting still matter? Algebra? Public speaking? Art and music in the age of artificial intelligence?

In other words, what does it mean to be literate today?

The Saber-Tooth Curriculum asks why communities continue to defend lessons that no longer fit their world. It is a good question, and it is tempting to discard anything that appears outdated.

Yet, Professor Peddiwell's satire also invites caution. Some older practices may cultivate habits of attention, memory, expression or shared culture that remain valuable even when their practical use changes.

As educators rethink literacy and the purposes of universal education, they should be careful not to throw the baby out with the bathwater.

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15-MINUTE SESSIONS

FALL & CHRISTMAS BACKGROUNDS

3 PHOTOS: \$50 MONEY GOES TO LOCAL CHARITIES

FAMILY PICTURE DAY

SATURDAY, OCT 3 9 AM - 5 PM

BLACK HILLS ROUNDUP GROUNDS

TO SCHEDULE CALL: TRI-STATE MUSEUM 605.723.1200

Belle Fourche Community Hall

October 17, 2026

Bordello of the Damned

MURDER MYSTERY



5:00pm Social

6:00pm Dinner



Steak dinner provided by Branding Iron



Live & Silent Auction



Interactive MURDER Case! Can you solve the crime?



\$70 per person (advanced tickets)

\$80 per person at the door

\$525 a table of 8

CONTACT

Bev:(605)210-1406

Denise:(605)892-5445



HALLOWEEN

September 1, 2026

Dear Local Business/Organization,

The Belle Fourche Rec Center is planning our annual Halloween Spooktacular to be held on Saturday, October 31st. We are seeking your help to provide trick or treat booths for the kids of our community. This is a FREE event taking place from 5:00-7:30 pm in the Rec Center gymnasium. This is a big event for our community with over 600 kids attending each year!

We are asking your business/organization to join us for 2.5 hours of fun, games and great costumes! We will provide you with a table, chairs, and table covering. Bring candy/party favors for the kids and promote your business/group. If you wish, you may bring flyers, more table décor and hang a banner.

Booth participants may set up their table between Noon-4:30 pm on October 31st. Please contact us by October 24th to reserve your booth.

If you are unable to attend, we can still use your help with a cash donation, candy, or prizes for the costume contest. If you are able to help in any way, please contact Tessa at tessa@bellefourche.org or 605-892-2467. Donations can be dropped off or sent to the BF Rec Center at 1111 National Street.

We thank you for your consideration and support!

Tessa Anderson-Voyles
Program Coordinator





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 June meeting schedule: The regular meeting is *Saturday October 17* 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

Water-walking - This class is held every Monday, Wednesday, and Friday from 7:30 - 8:15 am. This class involves walking in waist-deep to chest-deep water. Water resistance provides a low-impact, full-body workout that strengthens the core while also improving cardiovascular health.

Silver Splash - This class is held every Tuesday and Thursday from 11:30 - 12:15 pm.

Silver Splash is part of our Silver Sneakers program. It involves a series of low-impact workouts with specially designed Boogie Boards. This class is great for core strengthening and for cardiovascular health.

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

Tri-State Museum

Tri-State Museum holds October 18 Family Fun Day entitled “Monster Movies”

The Tri-State Museum and Visitor Center will hold a Sunday, October 18 from 2-4 p.m. Family Fun Day entitled “Monster Movies.”

The event will include a video about Universal Pictures which became famous for its classic monster movies and the surprising reason the studio turned to making these films. There will be a craft to make masks for the classic characters of Frankenstein, Bride of Frankenstein, Dracula, Wolfman, the Mummy, and the Creature from the Black Lagoon.

There will be a drawing for the book, “History of Monster Movies,” and there will also be take-home workbooks for all. Refreshments will be served, and those who attend can also visit the Haunted Spaulding Cabin. Families may wear costumes if they’d like to do so.

Admission to the event is \$2 per person or free with museum membership. Reservations are helpful; call 605-723-1200. The Tri-State Museum and Visitor Center is located at 415 Fifth Avenue in Belle Fourche.

Tri-State Museum will perform “Legend of Eerie Hollow” Pumpkinfest Day October 24th

The production is a reworking of Washington Irving’s classic “Legend of Sleepy Hollow,” moved to the 19th century western South Dakota. The story of a schoolteacher come to town, ghost stories and a Headless Horseman is retained, but female roles are stronger and there is a greater element of mystery and the supernatural.

Performances will take place twice on Saturday, October 24th, during the 10th annual Pumpkinfest.

For more information, please call 605-723-1200.

Museum mini exhibit on postage stamps

The Tri-State Museum and Visitor Center in Belle Fourche will open a new mini exhibit entitled “History of Postage Stamps.”

The exhibit will include storyboards and photos, a free take-home workbook and a book to read and a touchscreen quiz. A stamp enthusiast’s stamp collection will also be on display and a basket of loose stamps will be available for those who might want to pick one out for themselves.



Bordello of the Damned

MURDER MYSTERY

\$70 per person

\$80 at the door

\$525 Table of 8

Steak Dinner

Cash Bar

Live & Silent Auction

A fundraiser for...

HELP and HOPE

For our NEIGHBORS

In the Northern Black Hills Area



Saturday, October 17th

5:00 PM Social

6:00 PM Dinnner

Belle Fourche Community Hall



Kellen Willert appointed as Fourth Judicial Circuit

SIOUX FALLS (Dakota News Now) - Governor Larry Rhoden announced on Thursday that Kellen B. Willert has been appointed as circuit judge in the Fourth Judicial Circuit. “Kellen has been a devoted student of the law and is a perfect fit to serve as a judge,” said Rhoden. “His life experience, military service, and commitment to family will help him apply the law with fairness, accountability, and compassion. I am confident that Kellen will be an asset to the Fourth

Judicial Circuit.” Willert brings a wide range of legal experience to the bench, with a background spanning estate planning, municipal law, complex litigation, and military law. He graduated cum laude from South Dakota State University before earning his Juris Doctor with honors from the University of South Dakota School of Law. He went on to serve as a law clerk for the Fifth Judicial Circuit before entering private practice in Belle Fourche. “I am humbled, honored, and

grateful for Governor Rhoden placing his trust in me to serve in this position,” said Willert. “While I am sad to close the private practice chapter of my life and leave those who have mentored and supported me for many years, I look forward to this next chapter serving the citizens of the Fourth Judicial Circuit in this role. I will strive to impartially uphold the law with integrity and fairness.” Beyond the courtroom, Willert serves his state and country as a Lieutenant Colonel in the South Dakota Army National Guard.



New Fourth Circuit Court Judge **Kellen Willert**

CDC Numbers in Butte, Meade, & Lawrence Show Mental Health Struggles

Brookings Beacon

Special to the Beacon

About 8,400 adults in Butte, Meade and Lawrence counties spent half of last month struggling with their mental health. About 8,400 adults across Butte, Meade and Lawrence counties say their mental health was not good on at least 14 of the past 30 days, according to the newest county estimates from the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention. That’s 15.0% of the three counties’ adults. Meade County is at 15.8%, about 3,900 adults, Butte County is at 15.7%, about 1,300, and Lawrence County is at 14.0%, about 3,300.

All three are well above where they were before the pandemic, when the CDC put Butte County at 11.9%, Meade County at 10.9% and Lawrence County at 10.8%. Every county in South Dakota is higher now. In Belle Fourche, the rate is 16.3%, about 690 adults. It’s 15.8% in Sturgis, 15.3% in Lead, 15.0% in Spearfish and 13.6% in Deadwood. The CDC calls this frequent mental distress. It isn’t a diagnosis. It describes people who have spent half the month or more dealing with stress, worry or low mood, most of them still going to work, paying the bills and looking after their families. The numbers come from residents’ own answers to the CDC’s national health survey, modeled down to the county and town level. The same CDC data shows 31.2% of Butte County adults sleep less than seven hours a night and 27.7% get no physical activity outside of work, two of

the habits that tend to slip first when someone is struggling. About one in five Butte County adults, 21.3%, have been told by a doctor or other health professional that they have depression. Help can be harder to find in Butte County, which has one mental health provider for every 1,361 residents, against one for every 384 across South Dakota, according to County Health Rankings & Roadmaps. Olander Earthworks, a Portland, Oregon, company that makes screen-free products and researches how adults handle stress, surveyed 121 mental health and allied practitioners about what helps. Of those, 82% said adults have fewer chances than they used to for unstructured, screen-free activity, and 69% of those who use hands-on activities with clients said people talk more openly once they get going. As one practitioner put it, “Having something to do with their hands made it easier to talk.” The survey is small, so it reflects those practitioners, not the whole field. The full study is at <https://www.olanderearthworks.com/blogs/research-studies-surveys/why-a-simple-task-gets-adults-talking-a-study-of-screen-free-creative-activity> In the Northern Hills, that can look like a walk along the Belle Fourche River or the Mickelson Trail, a class at a community center or a standing coffee with a friend. It won’t replace professional care, but it can help people start talking. Anyone in crisis can call or text 988, the Suicide and Crisis Lifeline, at any time.

Butte, Meade and Lawrence counties, South Dakota: adult mental distress				
The three counties and the main towns in each. All three are up from before the pandemic, when Butte was at 11.9%, Meade at 10.9% and Lawrence at 10.8%.				
Area	Adults with frequent mental distress	Share of adults	Sleep under 7 hours	No physical activity outside work
Butte County	about 1,300	15.7%	31.2%	27.7%
Meade County	about 3,900	15.8%	27.9%	21.4%
Lawrence County	about 3,300	14.0%	28.8%	23.5%
All three counties	about 8,400	15.0%		
Belle Fourche (Butte Co.)	about 690	16.3%	31.2%	28.0%
Nisland (Butte Co.)	about 20	16.2%	32.7%	29.0%
Newell (Butte Co.)	about 70	15.9%	32.8%	30.3%
Vale (Butte Co.)	about 20	15.5%	31.9%	30.3%
Summerset (Meade Co.)	about 340	16.5%	28.8%	20.2%
Sturgis (Meade Co.)	about 870	15.8%	27.9%	25.4%
Piedmont (Meade Co.)	about 110	14.9%	27.3%	20.9%
Lead (Lawrence Co.)	about 350	15.3%	30.5%	25.3%
Spearfish (Lawrence Co.)	about 1,500	15.0%	28.0%	22.1%
Central City (Lawrence Co.)	about 10	14.7%	32.0%	31.1%
Whitewood (Lawrence Co.)	about 100	13.8%	28.7%	20.8%
Deadwood (Lawrence Co.)	about 140	13.6%	28.6%	26.6%
Frequent mental distress means 14 or more days in the past 30 when a person's mental health was not good. Town figures are the CDC's model-based estimates for each area. Headcounts are the CDC share applied to each area's adult population and rounded.				
Sources Mental distress, sleep and physical activity: CDC PLACES, 2025 release, county, city and ZIP code estimates (data.cdc.gov, PLACES: Local Data for Better Health). Compiled for Olander Earthworks: https://www.olanderearthworks.com/blogs/research-studies-surveys/why-a-simple-task-gets-adults-talking-a-study-of-screen-free-creative-activity				

Sgt Colton Levi Derr Foundation

Combat veteran Benjamin Sledge to headline Gallantly Forward Gala
Veterans and active-duty military attend free at the October 17 event in Rapid City

RAPID CITY, S.D. — The Sergeant Colton Levi Derr Foundation will welcome Bronze Star and Purple Heart recipient Benjamin Sledge as the featured speaker at its 13th Annual Gallantly Forward Gala on Saturday, October 17, 2026, at The Monument’s LaCroix Hall in Rapid City. The evening will bring together veterans, military families, and community members to support the Foundation’s mission to prevent veteran suicide. Thanks to community support, veterans and active-duty military attend for free. General admission for other guests is \$40. Doors open at 5 p.m., and the program begins at 5:45 p.m. Business attire is recommended. Sledge is a wounded combat veteran of Iraq and Afghanistan and author of

the award-winning memoir Where Cowards Go to Die. His wartime experiences, struggles to readjust, and subsequent work in mental health connect directly with the Foundation’s mission. Sgt. Colton Levi Derr completed more than 500 combat missions in Iraq and Afghanistan. Known as “Delta Derr” for his toughness, he privately struggled with PTSD and died by suicide on April 28, 2012, at age 24. Established in his memory, the Foundation serves veterans through advocacy, assistance, and public awareness. “Our family lives with the loss of Colton every day. One veteran lost to suicide is one too many. We carry his mission forward by helping the public understand that coming home doesn’t mean the battle is over.

This gala brings our community together to support our veterans, listen without judgment, and remind every struggling soul: you matter, and you don’t have to fight alone,” said Jerry W. Derr, Colton’s father. The evening features dinner, silent and live auctions, and entertainment by The Starfellows. Attend, sponsor a veteran, donate an auction item, or contribute. Your support helps carry Colton’s mission forward. Reserve tickets, including complimentary admission for veterans and active-duty military, at www.sergeantderrfoundation.org or call 605-545-2505. MEDIA CONTACT: Jerry W. Derr | SergeantColtonLeviDerrFoundation@sergeantderrfoundation.org 605-545-2505 | gallantlyforward@sergeantderrfoundation.org



EXPERIENCE THE EERIE ATMOSPHERE
DURING THE HAUNTED MUSEUM NIGHTS AT
Dinosaurs of the Hell Creek Museum
OCTOBER 28–31, 2026



Dinosaurs of the Hell Creek Museum
11324 HWY 212 Belle Fourche, SD
605.569.9899



★ Meet n' Greet ★



HEATHER BAXTER

SECRETARY OF STATE CANDIDATE

 Thursday, October 8, 2026
6-8 PM

MELISSA HULL

STATE TREASURER CANDIDATE

 Branding Iron
19079 US-85, Belle Fourche, SD

Sponsored by Butte County Republican Party



Afternoon Tea for Artemis House

Join us for an indulgent afternoon of soothing music, fine teas, and sweet delights to benefit the Artemis House Shelter

October 24, 2026

Tickets \$50

1:30-3:30 PM

United Methodist Church
845 N 5th St Spearfish

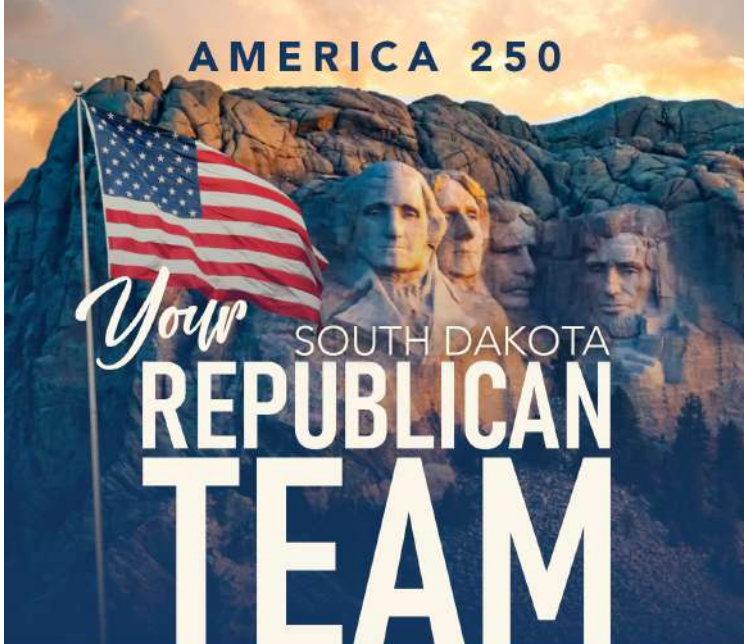
musical guests
silent auction
hat and tablescapе contests



Raising funds for women and children experiencing violence



AMERICA 250



Your SOUTH DAKOTA REPUBLICAN TEAM

U.S. SENATE MIKE ROUNDS	U.S. HOUSE MARTY JACKLEY
GOVERNOR LARRY RHODEN	LT. GOVERNOR TONY VENHUIZEN
ATTORNEY GENERAL LANCE RUSSELL	SECRETARY OF STATE HEATHER BAXTER
STATE TREASURER MELISSA HULL	STATE AUDITOR CATHERINE BARRANCO
PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSIONER DON HAGGAR	SCHOOL & PUBLIC LANDS COMMISSIONER BROCK GREENFIELD



YOUR SENATE & HOUSE DISTRICT

D28B House - TRAVIS ISMAY
D28 Senate - SAM MARTY

VOTE EARLY BEFORE NOV 3RD

PAID FOR BY SDGOP

Butte County Highway Department declared this item surplus.

The Board of Butte County Commissioners, Belle Fourche, South Dakota will receive sealed BIDS until 11:00 A.M. MST on Wednesday October 14, 2026. For a 2007 Peterbilt truck.

Bids will be opened 9:35 AM on Thursday October 15, 2026 in the commission meeting at City Hall, 511 6th Ave, Belle Fourche SD.

Open for sealed bids

2007 Peterbilt truck

Vin 1XP-5DB9X-8-7D674176

Cat C-15

18 speed

70" Unibilt sleeper

669,768 miles

Truck does have a SD salvage title, it has been repaired and is in good running condition.

The Board of Butte County Commissioners reserves the right to accept or reject any or all Bids. To waive any informalities in the Bid received and to accept the Bid that is the the advantage of and in the best interest of Butte County.

Truck can be seen at 11163 Valley 1 road, Belle Fourche SD. For more information call 605-892-4414

FREE EARLY CHILDHOOD SCREENING

The Belle Fourche School District in collaboration with SD Birth to Three and Badlands Prenatal to Five Head Start Invites you to attend a free community developmental screening.

- ✓ Children ages Birth to Age 5
- ✓ North Park Elementary Early Childhood room
- ✓ Friday October 23rd 2026
- ✓ 12:30pm- 2:30pm

PLEASE CALL FOR AN APPOINTMENT

(605) 723-9139



EXPERIENCE THE EERIE ATMOSPHERE DURING THE HAUNTED MUSEUM NIGHTS AT Dinosaurs of the Hell Creek Museum

OCTOBER 28-31, 2026



Dinosaurs of the Hell Creek Museum

11324 HWY 212 Belle Fourche, SD

605.569.9899



Quilters Gather For First Fall Retreat



Rita Duck holds her completed quilt portion to the finished quilt to see how it looks. Longbrake photo

Robbi Longbrake
news@bellefourchebeacon.com

NEWELL—Beautiful shades of yellow, blue, purple and turquoise fabric filled the NVN Senior Center as busy quilters gathered for the Quilt Bank’s first fall quilting retreat Oct. 9-11. Participants traveled from all over the area to work on quilting projects, including the featured Star Dancer Quilt.

Those working on the Star Dancer quilt selected coordinating colors and carefully cut, pressed and stitched fabrics together, creating their own unique interpretations. Others worked on projects they brought from home. “There is a featured pattern, and then some of them are working on their

own projects... they’re not doing the class, but they bring in their stuff, and there’s a lot of stitching and then there’s camaraderie that goes with it,” explained Pandi Pittman, Quilt Bank owner.

Sixteen participants gathered for the three-day quilting retreat, traveling from around the region, including Pierre, Rapid City, Dupree, Faith, Belle Fourche and Moorcroft, Wyoming. “My sister was blown away how people would spend money to go somewhere and work on a project they can do at home,” shared Pittman. “But it’s the camaraderie that’s important when it comes to a retreat because you can get ideas and find out things that you didn’t know—and so it’s been good!”

Pittman instructed the quilters on the steps needed to put the quilt together. “I just walk around and see where everybody is on their project and instruct them on the next step. I really haven’t set it up for a lecture type setting—it’s kind of at your own pace,” she said.

Quilters of all different levels participated in the weekend, from beginners to those more experienced. “Well, you got Kim Ford over there, who is working on her... second quilt project. There are some that are advanced and doing a lot of this on their own with just a few questions being answered and this one here—she’s way ahead of the group,” shared Pittman.

Rita Duck traveled to the retreat from Faith. She had just recently started quilting and is working on her second quilt. She shared that she loves the Star Dancer Quilt. “This is for my grandson—I’m doing the same quilt for all 11 of my grandkids—when they graduate.”

Breakfast, lunch and supper were all served onsite, plus snacks and refreshments were available throughout the day. Most out-of-town participants stayed at either Spur Creek Lodge or at the other local motel in Newell.

If you are interested in learning how to quilt, the Quilt Bank offers classes throughout the year in the onsite classroom. “Well, I’m going to start working on custom-

ized quilt classes...that’s the direction I’m headed next—you tell me what you want, we schedule it, and we go with it, in the classroom we’ll hold anywhere from one to four people,” explained Pittman.

The Quilt Bank specializes in natural rural fabrics featuring farm, ranch and western wildlife themes. The store also carries a variety of sewing notions. Pittman offers sewing machine repair and longarm quilting services. Hours are Monday through Friday from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. and Saturday from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m.

Quilt Bank’s next retreat is scheduled for April 30 to May 2, with plans to have both a spring and fall retreat every year.



Putting the pieces together. Longbrake photos



Lynette Culver holds up her completed pieces.



Carolyn Brooks cuts her fabric.



Kim Ford works on her quilt at the sewing machine.

Grand River Roundup



Betty Olson
news@bellefourchebeacon.com

I called Linsdey Clark last Sunday afternoon to let her know that I had sent her a picture of an article in the old Stool Perkins County Leader newspaper that was written in February 4, 1910, about Richard Anderson when he was working in a coal mine near Coal Springs and ran across a large stone. After he had it examined it proved to be a large diamond and Mr. Anderson was offered \$20,000 for the diamond.

The old town of Stool no longer exists and, although I knew a lot about Stool I never knew it had a newspaper. When my father Bryce White got out of World War Two in 1945, he used his Army money to buy some land two miles north of Stool from my mother Lila (Wilkinson) White's Uncle

Sam Smith to start the town of Prairie City because the highway that went through Stool was going to be moved two miles north right along where Dad started the new town of Prairie City. He built the house we lived in and the café that his sister Claire John ran after he opened it. When I was four years old, my dad used to give me 50 cents to walk two miles down to Stool to buy him a pack of cigarettes and a jug of milk. Everyone who lived in Stool didn't own the land they lived on, but they rented it from a Jewish man Ben Stool who owned the land. After Dad started Prairie City, everyone that lived in Stool bought some land from him and everyone that lived in the town of Stool and all the businesses in Stool moved north to Prairie City where they could own the land they lived on.

The guys shipped the steer

calves to sell at the livestock auction in Faith on Monday. Ron, Jace and Keen Jenson, Bill Holt, Clint Doll, Trey Tetrault, Hughie Ulberg and Copper, Knox and River Lu helped Casey and Taz gather the cows and sort off the steers. Casey and Hughie Ulberg hauled the steers down to Faith to sell. We sure have good neighbors to help us out when we need them.

Reub and I went to the New Hope Worship Center in Lemmon on Tuesday evening for the Pastor Appreciation Banquet and a nice crowd of Gideons, the Gideon Auxiliary and a lot of Pastors gathered for the supper and to listen to the Christian speakers. Pastor Henry and Linda Mohagen are still working up in Alaska and Pastor Phil and Vicki Hahn weren't there because Phil just had a knee replaced, but even without them, it was a really nice evening.

I goofed up again, after my classmate Larry Heupel passed away I called him Leonard Heupel's brother but he's Leonard's cousin. Sorry about that.

Reub and I went to Hettinger on Wednesday, October 7, to get stuff from Runnings and White Drug where Reub got his squeeze from his cousin Roxie Finck. We stopped in Reeder on the way home to have coffee

with the Prairie Pioneers and I left a bunch of beets there for Barb Wood that I forgot to take up to her last week. Cori Perri is going to get them to Barb when she gets home. Three years ago, on October 7th was the single most deadly day for the Jewish people since the holocaust. 1,200 Jewish people were slaughtered by terrorists, and 251 taken hostage—dozens of them for hundreds of days. We have to remember that while the Islamists are moving into our country like the new mayor Mamdani in New York City, they believe that they have to kill everyone who isn't a Muslim to make it to their "heaven".

Reub and I went to Prairie City Thursday morning to visit with Pastor Brad and Jennifer Burkhalter and I took a bunch of beets down to give to Jennifer. When we got ready to head for home, Jennifer sent a bunch of pumpkins home with us for our great grandkids that live next door. I love going to Prairie City where I grew up but, just like everything else, it sure has changed a lot since I was a little kid.

Reub went spraying weeds up at our Horse Creek pasture for the last time this year on Friday. When he used up all his spray, he loaded his sprayer on the flatbed and hauled it home

for the winter. He didn't get home for lunch until 4:30 that afternoon.

Missy was painting their house and after I took some stuff over to her Friday morning, I helped hold the ladder so she could reach the top of the walls. She was having trouble with the paint sprayer so Reub came over to help her so she finally got it all painted and it really looks nice. I called our grandson Dathan, Sage and Alaina's son, to wish him a happy 10th birthday. It sure seems like kids grow up a lot faster than they used to!

Lots of family birthdays this week. Our grandson Cade, Guy and Megan's son, turned 26 on Sunday and our son Thad turned 59 on Sunday so I called both of them to wish them Happy Birthday. It was also Reub's late cousin Sandy Bill Matson's birthday that day and we wish he was still here with us. Pastor Henry and Linda Mohagen are still up in Alaska so Casey opened the church service and Pastor Tom Davis from Hettinger gave a really nice sermon for us at Slim Buttes Lutheran Sunday morning. Thanks Tom!

Then and Now in Newell

“Looking Forward to our Past”

October 5, 1916

Infantile paralysis is so nearly stamped out, that the quarantine restrictions have been lifted. The authorities will not require a report on children under 10 living in or leaving the state.

The physical geography class at the Horse Creek School added to their equipment an aneroid barometer, a thermometer, a large hanging globe, a set of 4-inch globes, a set of protractors and 6 sets of compasses and dividers. The school exhibit at Nisland School, attended by students, wished to see how the work of other pupils compares with theirs. All enjoyed the afternoon.

Have your hides tanned and made into coats, robes, harness leather, etc. at J. H. Christian's Store. Buy a nice Royal Tailored suit or over coat also at Christian's, your satisfaction is always guaranteed.

October 7, 1926

Automobiles are so plentiful along the highway that it is possible to "hike" as far as 200 miles in a day. The auto who strikes a victim upon the highway and then fleas should be rated under the law as a murderer and delt with as such if apprehended.

The Oliver Price feed barn is no more, the building has been completely razed, and Mr. Price is disposing of all the material except the parts which can be used in the construction of his proposed new filling station. Kraning & Selvala this week took over from O. Price the passenger bus franchise between town and the depot.

A motor service will be provided for all trains entering or departing. For appointments call Kranning residence, phone No. 26.

Manager George Smith of the Newell Telephone Exchange has installed a brand new and modern style phone booth in the local office available for public use.

October 8, 1936

On the gridiron, Newell High School defeated Rapid City's second team last Friday with a score of 26 to 6 at Rapid City. Newell was superior to the Rapid City team. Edwin Jukkola scored 3 touchdowns, and Harlan Maass scored 2 touchdowns, Bill Taft, Leo Ahonen and D. Horton starred in line for Newell while Melvin Brennamann played a great game at blocking and backing up the line. This Friday, Newell is scheduled to play the strong Sundance High team at Sundance, Wyoming.

The community was saddened to hear Mrs. Nancy (Bratton) Sooter had suffered a stroke Thursday. A physician from Rapid City was called, who arrived by plane to consult on the case, but little hope was held out. The Sooter and Bratton families came to the Newell Community 1909 and resided on the farm just south of the Experiment Farm. Nancy is survived by daughters, Mrs. J. W. Scott, Mrs. O. J. Soma and Mrs. J. J. Theno and brother N. M. Bratton, all of Newell. She will be buried in the Newell Cemetery, Widdoss Funeral Home of Newell making the arrangements. Pallbearers are to be Beyer Aune, M. E. Kiser,

by Linda Velder

David Richards, Bert Jenks, D. J. Hull and Ed Breidenbach. W. J. Burk, Billings, Montana, District Counsel for Bureau of Reclamation was a visitor at the Newell Project office this week. Mr. Burk was investigating the circumstances surrounding the accidental death of the Stoppel boy, near Nisland, a few weeks ago. The boy and a friend were playing around a government tractor.

October 3, 1946

Two Railroad men are to be retired on their Newell runs. Both men are employees of Chicago & Northwestern. Art Wilson, well known conductor, will make his last official trip on the run from Rapid City to Newell. Engineer E. Barr who is scheduled to make his last day on a Northwestern locomotive on Rapid City-Deadwood-Newell run on the same time schedule. He is 72 and has worked for C&NW for more than 50 years.

Dinner guests at the Marcus Erickson home were Mrs. Alex Carswell and son Larry, Mrs. Fred Dusek and daughter, Mrs. Orin Tysdal, Mrs. Byron Schipke and daughters and Mr. & Mrs. Jack Hill. A very pleasant afternoon was spent. Mr. & Mrs. Hill left for their home in Washington after 10 days with neighbors and friends here.

Sealed Bids will be received by the City of Newell until October 14, at 8:00 PM for the following described property: 1 frame building size 18x24, located in the rear of Lot 6 of Block 45 occupied by as a Newell storage building. City reserves the right to reject any or all bids. Contact G. Martin



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Berg, City Auditor for details.

October 11, 1956

N. M. Bratton, 87, pioneer merchant of Newell, passed away October 10 at his home. Bratton was well known in the Newell area, moved to Newell area 1908, homesteaded near the US Experiment Farm, operated a general store, first Newell Postmaster and later established the N. M. Bratton Mercantile and was active in building the city of Newell.

Jerry Kuchera, bulk oil dealer, reported when he returned from the Lawrence Jordan farm, along Horse Creek south of town, with the best bargain he ever got. It was an 8-inch carrot given by one of Jordan's sons in exchange for some candy suckers. The carrot measured 12 inches in circumference, weighed 2 pounds and was solid clear though. He will enjoy some mighty fine eating.

Mrs. J. Oscar Fenton President of Nisland PTA, Mrs. Orin Mutchler, Newell PTA President, Mrs. Donald Donahey, Vale PTA President and Mrs. Ed Breidenbach District PTA Representative, attended the District Convention held in Faith Saturday. Several important issues were discussed and hope to implement in our schools.

October 20, 1966

Indian Summer Savings at Kelley's Super Value this week: chuck blade cut roast 49 cents per pound; turkeys 39 cents per pound; shrimp steak \$1.36 package (24 count); bananas 2 pounds 29 cents; oysters 98 cents a tin; coffee 2 pound can \$1.25; and basic salad dressing 49 cents a 32-ounce quart jar.

For complete auction service anywhere, call a team of leading auctioneers. In the Tri-state area professionals are Francis Haley, Dale McPherson, W. J. Kirkpatrick, Ralph (Butch) Tysdal and Boyd Larson. Write or call collect for complete information.

Mrs. Pauline Malcolm, who has been affiliated with the Newell School system since 1950, resigned her position as business manager-clerk at the regular Board of Education meeting. Mrs. Malcolm reported she is retiring under advice of her physician. She will be sincerely missed by the board, members of faculty and the students who have come to know her by their daily association with her in the business office. The Newell District regretfully accepted her resignation and extended their thanks and appreciation for her many years of dedication service.



DAKOTA AUCTIONEERS Association met to ease the burden of conducting the Western Livestock Show sale Saturday night. At microphone are Francis Haley, Whitewood, (left) C. C. Rinehart, Rapid City. Standing (left to right) are Boyd Larson, Spearfish; Darrell Martin, Rapid City; Fred McFarland, Sturgis; Ralph Tysdal, Spearfish; Billy White, New Underwood; W. J. Kirkpatrick, Alva, Wyo.; Dale McPherson, Sturgis; Ed Breidenbach, Silver City; Jack Churchill, Hermiston. (Journal Photo)



(L) 1963 SD Auction Team. (R)1936 Football Squad. Back Row: Edward Brodsky, Edwin Jukkola,Rodney Winkler, David Richards, Leo Ahonen, Harlan Maass, Bill Taft, Coach C.C. Campbell. Front Row: Kermit Flodden, Melvin Brennamann, Dan Wiest, Sid Soma, Morris Hafner, Ernest Carlsen, D. Horton , Scott Christopherson, Oscar Edwards. Museum photos

Here's What's Happening in Newell!

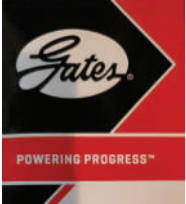


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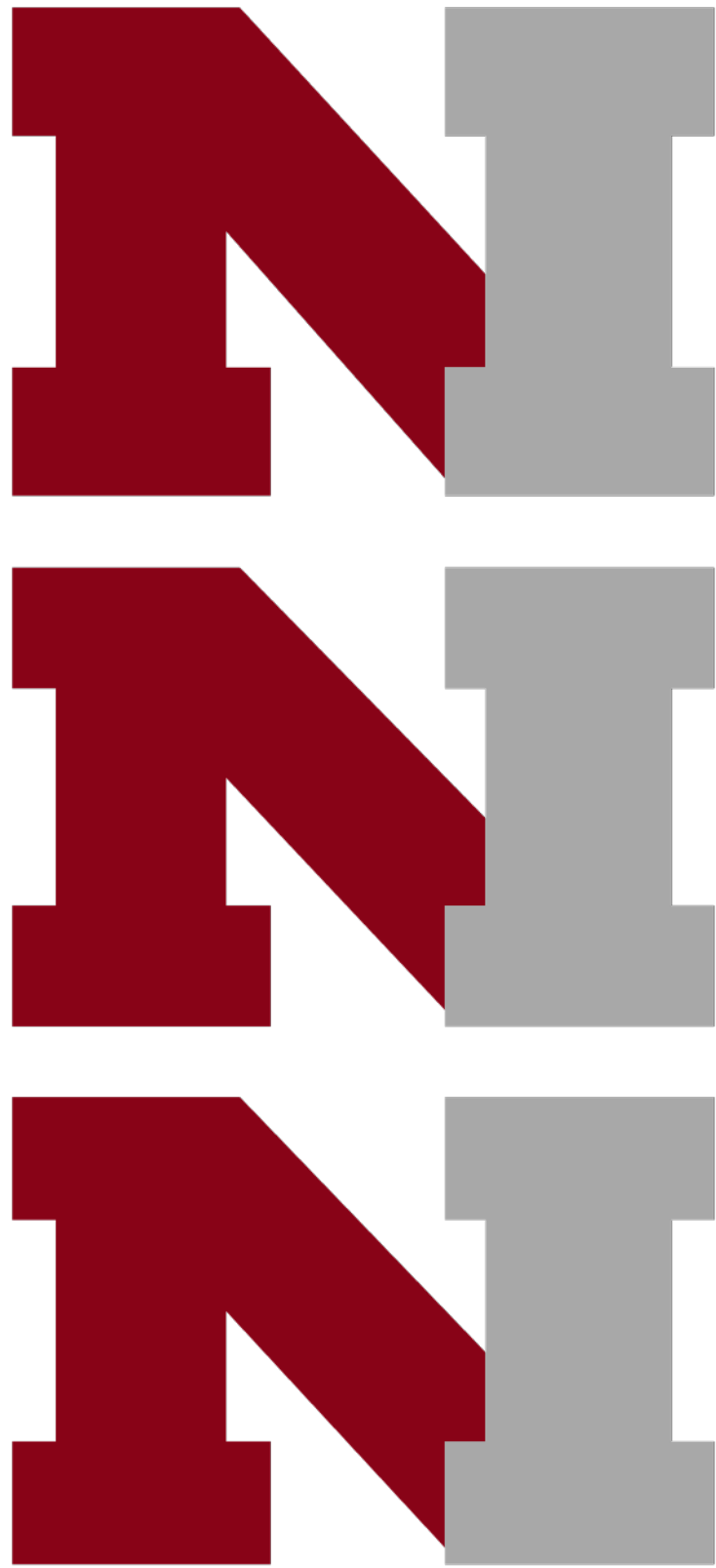
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