



Papa Luigi holds Dancing with the Stars competition.

Page 1B



Heartland hoopsters participate in 3-class shoot-out.

Page 6



Today
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Low: 30
Wintry mix

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PLAINSMAN



Wednesday, April 1, 2026 — 141st Year — No. 25

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Huron, South Dakota — \$1.00

City holds two work sessions

BY BENJAMIN CHASE OF THE PLAINSMAN

HURON — The Huron City Commission participated in two work sessions after a brief business meeting on Monday evening.

The first work session was an update from the downtown Huron committee. Members from the group discussed working on a theme emphasizing the uniqueness of the train roundhouse in Huron and branding the downtown area as the “roundhouse district” in advertising and event planning.

The discussion led into a discussion on plans for Independence Day weekend, with a second “Dusting Off Dakota” event along with multiple events to celebrate the nation’s 250th birthday happening around town.

The second work session highlighted work that a committee has done to evaluate the current form of government that the city of Huron

CITY — PAGE 3

Legislators discuss 2026 session in final coffee

BY BENJAMIN CHASE OF THE PLAINSMAN

HURON — With only Monday’s “veto day” remaining in the session, District 22 legislators met with the public on Saturday, March 28, at the commission room at City Hall.

Sen. Brandon Wipf opened the day by talking about the school lunch bill that was signed by Gov. Larry Rhoden on Friday. He stated that he was told by many that the bill wouldn’t get through the legislature, and he was very pleased to see it pass through and also to get the governor’s signature. That bill directs the state to reimburse schools for the cost of free and reduced-cost meals served in the district, not all school lunch, but just those who qualify for income-based reduction in cost.

Rep. Lana Greenfield outlined her week to explain that she and other legislators are still quite busy, even



BENJAMIN CHASE/PLAINSMAN

From left to right, Senator Brandon Wipf, moderator Michael Held, Representative Lana Greenfield, and Representative Kevin Van Diepen address the crowd during Saturday’s final coffee with the legislators.

though the session is done.

Rep. Kevin Van Diepen agreed that he has also been quite busy, though he has enjoyed getting back to “normal” life, driving the school bus, and visiting with grandchildren.

The first question from the audience regarded Rep. Greenfield’s bill regarding youth mental health. She was congratulated for passing that bill, but also noted that mental health, especially for youth, has been defunded in recent years by the legislature, and

the question was asked if there would be appetite in the legislature to consider further funding increases for youth mental health in upcoming legislative sessions.

All three stated that the appetite would be there, but it’d be a matter of whether the funds are there. Rep. Van Diepen mentioned that the change in attitude in Pierre toward youth mental health was really kick-started by juvenile justice changes that were directed from Pierre to law enforcement and the justice system.

The legislators were then asked about the two property tax bills that were both passed and signed. Rep. Van Diepen explained why he voted against both bills, as they were significantly slanted toward heavily populated areas. Greenfield and Wipf both agreed that the bills were flawed, but both also expressed that this should move the legislature off the issue, at least in the short-term.

Charlie Bragg, a Huron High School student, asked the legislators what can be done

COFFEE — PAGE 3

County discusses opioid funds

BY BENJAMIN CHASE OF THE PLAINSMAN

HURON — An extended discussion on the timing of opioid settlement distributions and organizations and departments that could utilize those funds was a large part of Tuesday morning’s Beadle County Commission meeting.

After the discussion, the commissioners voted to distribute funds to the Hope House, to drug court, and to court services.

Commissioners opened the meeting talking about the burn ban, instituted Monday by area fire departments.

Highway superintendent Jason Fritzsche presented the purchase of a T86 T4 Bobcat compact track loader from Premier Equipment. He also discussed declaring the current skid steer loader as surplus for purpose of future sale. These were both approved by the commission.

He also talked with the commission about the changes in CDL requirements.

The commission ap-

COUNTY — PAGE 3

Accident blocks Dakota Avenue



MIKE CARROLL/PLAINSMAN

An accident Monday evening blocked the intersection at Dakota Ave. S. and Third St. Multiple emergency response units responded to the accident.

Looking forward to spring



Despite the impending snow this week, Saturday and Sunday brought feelings of warm spring sunshine at the annual KOKK Outdoor Show at the Nordby Exhibit Hall.

Photos by Mike Carroll/Plainsman



On the hunt for some eggs



MIKE CARROLL/PLAINSMAN

Colorful eggs adorned the grounds of Faith Alive Church in Huron on Saturday. Youth enjoyed collecting them almost as much as discovering what treasures were inside!

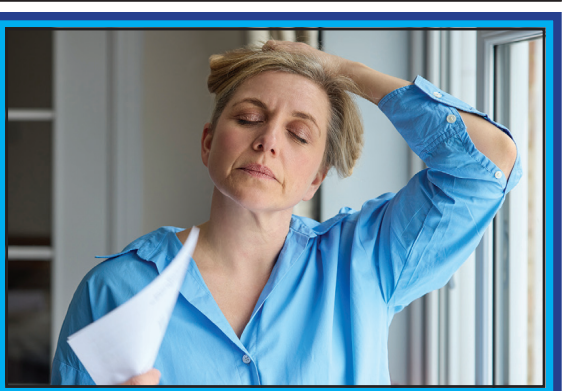


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OBITUARIES

POLICE LOG

Ruth Thompson

HURON — Ruth Thompson, age 92 of Huron, passed away on Sunday, March 29, 2026, at Oakview Terrace Nursing Home in Freeman. Her funeral service will be held at 10:30 a.m., on Thursday, April 2, at Welter Funeral Home with burial to follow at Restlawn Memory Gardens Cemetery in Huron. Visitation will be one hour prior to the service at the funeral home.

Ruth LaVonne was born on August 22, 1933, in Canton, to Milford and Ethel (Mitchell) Beer. She grew up in Canton and graduated from Canton High School in 1951. During her high school years, Ruth worked at a local implement dealership.

A chance meeting at the Arkota Dance Hall led to Ruth's marriage to Kenneth Poulisse. The couple were united in marriage in 1955 at First United Methodist Church in Huron. They made their home in Huron, where Ruth worked at Northwest Bank. Ruth and Kenneth welcomed two children, Neil and Carol. Ruth treasured the years she spent at home raising her children before they began school.

Once both children were in school, Ruth returned to the workforce and worked for the Huron School District, serving as a secretary at the high school and later in the superintendent's office. Kenneth passed away in 1978. Ruth married Gerald Thompson in 1979.

Following her retirement, Ruth discovered a love for oil painting and generously gifted many of her creations to family members. She also enjoyed working word puzzles and found great joy in birdwatching. Ruth always had a dog by her side throughout her life, as animals held a special place in her heart. Though she was not overly social, she valued her time with Beta Sigma Phi and remained a devoted member for decades. Ruth was a life-time member of the First United Methodist Church.

She is survived by her daughter, Carol (Mark) Andersen of Canistota; her daughter-in-law, Pam Poulisse of Huron; granddaughters, Brandi (Tim) Knippling and Lauren (Michael) Gapp; great-grandchildren, Maggie, William and Karly Knippling, Kenneth and Liam Beals, and Harper Gapp; her sister-in-law, Martha Beer of Canton; she is also survived by Gerald's family.

She was preceded in death by her husbands, Kenneth Poulisse and Gerald Thompson; son, Neil Poulisse; brother Howard Beer; grandson, Grant Hoscheid; and great-grandchildren, Natalie, Sydney, and Delaney Knippling.

Visit www.welterfuneralhome.com



Ruth Thompson

Eugene Katz

HURON — Eugene Katz, age 86, of Huron, passed away on Saturday, March 28, 2026, at Peaceful Pines Assisted Living in Huron. His funeral service will be held at 10:30 a.m., on Friday, April 3, at Welter Funeral Home with burial at Riverside Cemetery in Huron. Visitation, with family present, will be Thursday, April 2, from 4 to 6 p.m. with a time of sharing starting at 5 p.m. and visitation also the hour before the service on Friday morning.

Eugene Hartman Katz was born on May 22, 1939, in Huron to parents Paul Hartman and Lillian Irene Alma (Hein) Katz. Gene attended country schools in Beadle County and graduated from Huron High School. During his high school days, Gene worked at Coca-Cola. After high school, Gene enlisted in the Army National Guard and served from 1959 to 1964.

Gene married Bonnie Baum, the love of his life, on August 26, 1962, in Huron. After their wedding, Gene and Bonnie left for Omaha where Gene worked for the Campbell Soup Company for fourteen years. After a couple years in Omaha, the family moved to La Vista, where Gene was a member of the LaVista Volunteer Fire Department and was 1st assistant chief and emergency medical technician.

The family returned to Huron in 1976, where Gene worked for Burnison Plumbing and Heating and Park Grant Company. His career with the Huron School District started in 1984. He was a custodian at the Huron Middle School for 17 years. He truly enjoyed his work and loved to take care of the clocks at the middle school. When the old middle school closed, Gene was instrumental in making the display of all the clocks at the new middle school.

Gene enjoyed hunting and fishing, but his true passion was woodworking. He handcrafted benches, curio cabinets, and many special gifts for his family, creating treasured pieces that will be cherished for years to come. Following his retirement, Gene devoted much of his time to caring for his grandchildren and attending their activities. They were the center of his world. Known for always putting others first, Gene will be deeply missed by all who knew and loved him.

He is survived by his wife of 63 years, Bonnie of Huron; sons, Clifton (Beverly) and Bradley, all of Huron; grandchildren, Cory (Christina) Katz, Alix Katz, Brittany (Tyler VanWyhe) Brimmer, Hartman (Sydney) Katz, Elizabeth (Andrew) Raml, Shannon (Mitchell) Oehme, and Matthew (Shae) Katz; 7 great-grandchildren, Brier and Malikai, Emmett and Isla, Paul, Eddy, and Scottie; and many nieces and nephews.

He was preceded in death by his parents; brothers, Donald, Robert, Charles "Alan"; sisters Frances Wulf, Phyllis Buick, Delores Stopplemoor, Verla Teply and baby Nancy.

Visit www.welterfuneralhome.com



Eugene Katz

For routine business, call the Huron Police Department at 353-8550 or the Beadle County Sheriff's Office at 353-8424. Use 911 only for emergencies.

Friday, March 27
2:05 p.m. - Suspicious activity reported at intersection of Waibel Dr. and Ravine Park Rd.

3:53 p.m. - Non-injury accident reported, rural Huron.

3:54 p.m. - Traffic complaint reported on US Hwy. 14.

4:15 p.m. - Ambulance call, rural Huron.

5:48 p.m. - Visitor to the department to report a runaway.

6:02 p.m. - Traffic complaint reported, rural Huron.

6:17 p.m. - Medical alarm reported at 800 block of 13th St. SW.

9:37 p.m. - Runaway reported at 1400 block of Nevada Ave. SW.

10:12 p.m. - Suspicious activity reported at 1000 block of 18th St. SW.

10:44 p.m. - Suspicious activity reported at intersection of 21st St. SW and Lincoln Ave. SW.

11:17 p.m. - Suspicious activity reported at intersection of 14th St. SW and Lincoln Ave. SW.

11:48 p.m. - Ambulance call to 200 block of Iowa Ave. SE.

Saturday, March 28
12:58 a.m. - Officer out to keep the peace at 700 block of 13th St. SW.

4:38 a.m. - Ambulance call to 100 block of 5th St. NE.

5:15 a.m. - Suspicious activity reported at 200 block of Lincoln Ave. SW.

6:59 a.m. - Animal-involved accident reported, Lake Preston.

8:50 a.m. - Ambulance call to 200 block of 7th St. SW.

11:49 a.m. - Welfare check requested at 300 block of Utah Ave. SE.

12:10 p.m. - Hit and run accident reported, Arlington.

1:17 p.m. - Fire call reported, rural Huron.

3:29 p.m. - Harassment reported on 7th St. SE.

4:51 p.m. - Ambulance call to 1300

block of Michigan Ave. SW.

6:18 p.m. - Vicious animal reported at 700 block of 10th St. SW.

6:28 p.m. - Welfare check requested at 1000 block of Montana Ave. SE.

6:45 p.m. - Traffic complaint reported at 1400 block of 21st St. SW.

8:49 p.m. - Officer out to keep the peace at 2100 block of Frank Ave. SE.

8:57 p.m. - Traffic complaint reported, rural Huron.

10:09 p.m. - Noise complaint reported at 600 block of Nicholas Ct. SE.

10:12 p.m. - Domestic assault reported on 2nd St. SE.

10:54 p.m. - Noise complaint at intersection of 3rd St. SE and Beach Ave.

Sunday, March 29
5:09 a.m. - Traffic complaint reported at intersection of Dakota Ave. S. and 22nd St.

6:21 a.m. - Intimidation/threats reported at 300 block of 16th St. SE.

7:52 a.m. - Controlled burn reported, rural Huron.

9:54 a.m. - Visitor to the department to report a scam.

11:18 a.m. - Fire call reported, rural Huron.

11:18 a.m. - Welfare check requested at 900 block of 15th St. SW.

2:00 p.m. - Parking complaint reported at intersection of 3rd St. SW and Wisconsin Ave.

2:47 p.m. - Controlled burn reported, rural Huron.

3:32 p.m. - Traffic complaint reported, Cavour.

3:52 p.m. - Ambulance call to 1500 block of Kansas Ave. SE.

4:00 p.m. - Ambulance call, De Smet.

7:17 p.m. - Noise complaint reported at 300 block of Simmons Ave. SE.

8:23 p.m. - Alarm reported, Miller.

11:55 p.m. - Animal-involved accident reported, rural Huron.

Monday, March 30
7:03 a.m. - Found property reported at

POLICE — PAGE 3

Marlin Davis

FAULKTON — Marlin L. Davis, 87, of Faulkton, passed away Saturday, March 21, 2026, at Avera St. Luke's Hospital, Aberdeen.

Visitation will be 1:30 to 3:30 p.m., Saturday, April 11, at Luce Funeral Home, Faulkton with family present. Burial will follow in the Faulkton Cemetery.

Luce Funeral Home of Faulkton has been entrusted with Marlin's arrangements.

www.luceluzereck.com

David Erfman

ST. LAWRENCE — David J. Erfman, 72, of St. Lawrence, passed away Friday, March 27, 2026, at home following a courageous battle of recently diagnosed Epithelioid Angiosarcoma, a very rare form of cancer.

Visitation with family present will be held Friday, April 10, beginning at 9 a.m., immediately followed by a memorial service at 10:30 a.m. at St. John's Lutheran Church in Wolsey with the Rev. Scott Spiehs officiating. Burial will follow at St. John's Lutheran Cemetery, Wolsey.

Kuhler Funeral Home of Huron has been entrusted with David's arrangements.

www.kuhlerfuneralhome.com

FUNERALS

• **Ruth Thompson** — 10:30 a.m., Thursday, April 2, Welter Funeral Home, Huron.

• **Eugene Katz** — 10:30 a.m., Friday, April 3, Welter Funeral Home, Huron.

• **Gladys Boomsma** — 10:30 a.m., Saturday, April 4, St. John's Lutheran Church, Wolsey.

• **David Erfman** — 10:30 a.m., Friday, April 10, St. John's Lutheran Church, Wolsey.

• **Marlin Davis** — 1:30 p.m., Saturday, April 11, Luce Funeral Home, Faulkton.

• **Kathryn Stobbs** — 1:30 p.m., Saturday, April 25, McNearney-Schmidt Funeral and Cremation, Shakopee, Minn..

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South Huron Hours
Mon - Fri: 7:00 AM - 6:00 PM
Sat & Sun: 7:00 AM - 4:00 PM

POLICE: From Page 2

1700 block of Dakota Ave. S.
 8:13 a.m. - Ambulance call, Miller.
 9:24 a.m. - Parking complaint reported, Arlington.
 11:55 a.m. - Police escort requested, De Smet.
 12:10 p.m. - Non-injury accident reported at intersection of Lincoln Ave. SW and Market St.
 12:11 p.m. - Gas drive off reported at 1500 block of Dakota Ave. N.
 12:25 p.m. - Found property reported at 300 block of Lincoln Ave. SW.
 12:38 p.m. - Welfare check requested at 100 block of 4th St. SE.
 1:16 p.m. - Ambulance call to 1700 block of Ohio Ave. NW.
 1:17 p.m. - Ambulance call, St. Lawrence.
 2:20 p.m. - Visitor to the department to report found property.
 3:04 p.m. - Ambulance call to 1300 block of Michigan Ave. SW.
 3:23 p.m. - Welfare check requested at 400 block of 21st St. SE.
 3:25 p.m. - Visitor to the department to report found property.
 3:39 p.m. - Officer out to keep the peace, Miller.
 4:11 p.m. - Welfare check requested at intersection of 7th St. SE and Idaho Ave.
 4:41 p.m. - Burglary reported, Carpeter.
 4:43 p.m. - Fight reported at 1600 block of Idaho Ave. SE.
 4:43 p.m. - Fraud reported at the 1200 block of Utah Ave. SE.
 6:20 p.m. - Ambulance call, Miller.
 6:22 p.m. - Ambulance call, De Smet.
 6:45 p.m. - Accident with injury reported at intersection of Dakota Ave. S. and 3rd St. SE.
 8:19 p.m. - Noise complaint reported at 100 block of 1st St. NE.
 8:54 p.m. - Fire call, Cavour.
 9:59 p.m. - Ambulance call to 800 block of Lincoln Ave. SW.
 10:45 p.m. - Assault reported at 7th St. NE.

Tuesday, March 31
 6:11 a.m. - Ambulance call, De Smet.
 7:17 a.m. - Suspicious activity reported at 2100 block of Dakota Ave. S.
 10:06 a.m. - Ambulance call to 1300 block of Michigan Ave. SW.
 10:22 a.m. - Police escort requested, De Smet.
 1:20 p.m. - Intoxicated person reported at 600 block of 21st St. SW.

COUNTY: From Page 1

proved a conditional use permit filed by Frank Zepp for a seasonal rental home on his property. The rental is currently a building and will be rehabbed to work as temporary living quarters.
 The commission approved three plats and approved a juvenile detention agreement with Buffalo County.
 Commissioners also:
 Approved a contract with Sovell Law Office for the deputy state's attorney to appear on behalf of the county in drug court.
 Approved a request from Dakota Air Spray to land aircraft on Beadle County highways.
 Approved two staff travel requests for training/workshop attendance.
 The commission then closed the meeting in executive session to discuss the emergency management/veteran service officer position and a potential applicant.

Huron participates in 'No kings' rally Saturday

HURON — A number of concerned citizens from Huron and surrounding areas gathered in front of the post office on Saturday as part of the nationwide "No kings" rallies.



Courtesy photos



COFFEE:

to encourage current students to pursue a career in education.
 As a former educator, Greenfield strongly encouraged Bragg to pursue education for many of the positive aspects of being a teacher. She did note that the state has opened up education training funding through college grants and scholarships.
 She mentioned the three percent or inflation rule for increase in school funding each year, whichever is lower. This was emphasized by Van Diepen that the

legislature needs to do all it can to stick to that three percent as a minimum.
 The legislators were asked by another audience member regarding the 1.4% raise, rather than three percent, and the explanation was that inflation was graded at that number, which is why the legislature got to that level.
 Both bills vetoed by Gov. Rhoden were unable to be overturned by the House on Monday.

From Page 1



BENJAMIN CHASE/PLAINSMAN Charlie Bragg asks the legislators a question Saturday.

CITY:

employs. Research found that Huron is the only "large city" in the state that does not employ a city manager or city administrator. Many different government structures were found among large cities in the state, and as Huron continues to grow, the concern is that the city staff and city residents both feel served by their city commissioners and mayor while the jobs are also able to remain part-time in nature.
 No changes were made now, but the group's next move will be to meet with department heads for city departments to discuss their thoughts. A change could be made to a city administrator through a simple hiring, but moving to a city manager form of government would require a citywide vote, per state statute.
 The regular meeting opened with Police Chief Derek Layher discussing the upcoming Easter egg hunt, hosted by the Huron Police Department. With potential weather concerns, Layher did state that the event could be delayed as it is based outdoors. The decision will be made by the end of the day on April 1 and communicated through the PD's Facebook page.

From Page 1

Commissioners also:
 - Acknowledged that 911 Telecommunicator Janie Luper has completed her probationary period on March 21, making her eligible for supplemental benefits on April 1.
 - Approved 2026 seasonal employment for staff in the Arts and Crafts and Day Camp programs.
 - Approved a property tax abatement elderly freeze for 819 Mellette Ave. SW.
 - Approved the second reading of Ordinance 2282-23-419 on vacation rentals.
 - Approved an irrigation contract with the Huron Country Club.
 Commissioner Rhonda Kludt then explained for the second time that yard waste pickup would be on Wednesday, April 1, and continue on Wednesdays on April 8 and April 15. The week of April 20, green yard waste bins will begin pickup on regular garbage and recycling pickup day.

PLAINSMAN FAST FACTS

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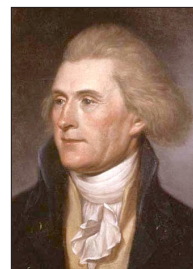
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I Corinthians 15:3-4

OPINION

THE PLAINSMAN
Founded January 4, 1886

"The basis of our government's being the opinion of the people, the very first object should be to keep that right; and were it left to me to decide whether we should have a government without newspapers or newspapers without government, I should not hesitate to prefer the latter."

Thomas Jefferson



The high price we pay when the President violates the war clause

The framers' wisdom in vesting constitutional control over the war power—its "commencement, continuation and conclusion"—in Congress, as James Madison said, not in the hands of the president, has struck Americans squarely in the face in light of President Donald Trump's fly-by-the-seat-of-his-pants conduct of his war in Iran, one characterized by tactics without strategy and occasional public pronouncements that, like the mercurial summertime weather, can change from minute to minute. Trump's arbitrary Truth Social Posts, designed to manipulate the financial markets, are a reflection what his former aide, Steve Bannon, once called his approach to governance—"just win the next five minutes." They leave Americans to guess at this president's strategy, goals and end game—if Trump even has any-- in his initiation of a war of choice, which currently costs the United States over \$ 1 billion per day, in addition to his request to Congress for an additional \$200 billion dollars. All this for something he absurdly calls an "excursion."

Trump's war of choice has sent energy prices soaring, disrupted the world's oil supply and threatens global economic disruption. He has lifted the sanctions on Iranian oil, which has increased the enemy's revenue and thus its capacity to fight Americans, and removed the sanctions on Russian oil, which has lined Putin's pockets so he can increase his war of choice in Ukraine.

There were eminently sound reasons—as compelling today as they were in 1787-- behind the framers' historic decision to grant to Congress, as Madison declared, the entire control over the decision to go to war, to move the nation, as Alexander Hamilton said, from a "state of peace to a state of war." In breaking with the historical pattern of executive warmaking, the framers sought to avoid the arbitrary executive decisions that kings, despots and tyrants had made to initiate and continue wars to serve their own political, personal and pecuniary purposes. The framers preferred to entrust in Congress the responsibility to make the awesome decision to go war, as well as the commencement of military hostilities short of war. The system was designed, as James Wilson said, to "prevent one man" from taking the nation to war because, as George Mason declared, the "executive was not to be trusted with it."

Delegates to the Constitutional Convention, like others with wartime experience then, and now, agreed that it is easier to start a war than to end one. The framers were not naïve; they were not convinced that members of Congress would possess unassailable wisdom on the question of going to war and wheth-



We
The
People

By: David Adler

er to risk the blood and treasure of the nation. Hardly. They embraced, rather, the wisdom reflected in the process of congressional deliberation, the crossfire of discussion and debate that distinguishes a republican form of government. While Congress might make a mistake in declaring war on another nation, there was, the framers reckoned, the prospect of greater wisdom in the collective judgment of the people's representatives, rather the unilateral judgment, temperament and character of the president, whose decisions might involve America in a degree of distress from which the nation might not recover. At all events, congressional debate would inform the public about the solemn decision made by their legislative representatives, hold the elected officials accountable and, perhaps, rally citizens to a cause that might cost them their lives.

In a "constitutional world," Congress would own the war that it has, to invoke Hamilton, "authorized or begun." It would hold hearings on the status of the hostilities, require the administration to articulate and explain military objectives, acknowledge challenges and identify achievements. Based on these hearings, Congress might decide to terminate the hostilities or perhaps increase funding, or possibly instruct the president to change course, as it has throughout American history, all in the exercise of its constitutional authority over the commander in chief in the conduct of the war.

Trump's unilateral War in Iran, however, bears none of these constitutional characteristics. Once again, the Republican controlled Congress, which has unconstitutionally ceded some of the legislature's fundamental powers—appropriations and lawmaking, among others—has elected to facilitate Trump's authoritarian presidency, rather than honoring its constitutional responsibilities.

There is, across the vista of two centuries, the echo of Patrick Henry's plaintive plea in the Virginia Ratifying Convention: "If you depend on your President's and Senator's patriotism, you are gone."

David Adler is president of *The Alturas Institute*, a non-profit organization created to promote the Constitution, gender equality and civic education. This column is made possible with the support of the South Dakota Humanities Council, South Dakota News-Media Association and this newspaper.

Hopping mad about gas prices...



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400 square feet is more than enough

Last week, we thought we would leave our little place in Casa de los Soles.

If you've read my column, you know about this place my husband, Peter, and I stay in while in Mexico. The interior of our apartment will set you right back to the 1980s. The Formica countertop has seen better days. I write in a corner of the living room and have exactly 6 inches between the back of my office chair and the end of the couch. Peter measured our apartment, and it is 400 square feet—and that includes a rather large bedroom.

So, last week, we decided to look around for a place with a little more space. We told our landlord, Jorge, we were thinking about doing this, and he said he understood, and we went looking at apartments.

We did not make it easy on ourselves. In addition to loving this particular place, we love the neighborhood it is in, and the street it is on,

so our circle of investigation was small. When we heard of an apartment for rent just a block away and on the same street, we were very excited.

The apartment was much bigger. It had a fireplace and a rooftop terrace. It had two bedrooms and a full dining room. It would need a little work, but we were very excited. We met with the landlord two days later.

But later that night, I started to think about what we would have to do to live in that apartment. There was nothing on the walls. There was not a lot of furniture. The couch looked a little worse for wear. The furniture on the roof needed replacement. None of it was big stuff, but it added up.

We'd have to pay an electric bill. If we wanted housekeeping, we'd have to figure that out and pay for it. We'd have to get our water and our gas delivered. We'd have to get the garbage out on the curb on the

right days at the right time—which, in the center of an old town with cobblestone, one-way streets, is not as easy as it sounds.

I lay in bed that night and thought of all the things I don't have to worry about now, like having regular internet and a front desk that will accept our deliveries and someone on staff if we ever have a medical emergency.

Then I thought about the things that give me such joy here: the lively restaurant below, which will deliver lunch right to our door. The staff that will store my computer monitor and my clothes and take them out again when we arrive. The bouquet of flowers that is always waiting for me when we check in. The going-away party that the entire staff throws for Peter and me when we leave at the end of the season. And the kindness of Jorge, our landlord who, whenever we have a request, no matter how unusual, will say, "Certainly!"



The
Post-
script

By: Carrie Classon

I thought of how very easy my life was in 400 square feet, how free of worries, and of how much writing I had accomplished sitting at my little green Formica desk with the fresh flowers in front of me.

I talked to Jorge the next day. "We love this place too much to leave!" I told him. And I felt tearful.

Then I looked with fresh eyes at my 400 square feet and realized there was a lot I could do in this space. Because right now, 400 square feet is more than enough.

Till next time,
Carrie

THIS DAY IN HISTORY

Today is **Wednesday, April 1**, the 91st day of 2026. There are 274 days remaining in the year.

On this day in history:

- 1748 - The ruins of Pompeii are rediscovered.
- 1778 - The "\$" symbol is created by New Orleans businessman Oliver Pollock.
- 1826 - Samuel Morey is issued the first US patent for an internal-combustion engine.
- 1853 - Cincinnati becomes first US city to employ full-time firefighters.
- 1936 - Gangster "Lucky" Luciano is arrested in Arkansas on a New York warrant.
- 1948 - "Big Bang" theory first proposed in scientific journal, "Physical Review."
- 1954 - US Air Force Academy is established in Colorado Springs.
- 1960 - US Census determines the population of the country is 179,245,000.
- 1976 - Apple Computer is founded in Cupertino, Calif., by Steve Wozniak and Steve Jobs.

- 1979 - Nickelodean is launched by Warner Cable.
- 1990 - Salem, Ore., passes a law making it illegal to be within two feet of unclothed dancers.
- 1996 - Veteran MLB umpire John McSheery dies of a heart attack while umpiring Opening Day in Cincinnati. He was 51.
- 1999 - Philadelphia 76ers head coach Larry Brown wins his 900th game.
- 2004 - Google launches Gmail.
- 2014 - NATO ends all civilian and military cooperation with Russia.
- 2017 - Bob Dylan receives a Nobel Prize for Literature.
- 2025 - Senator Cory Booker of New Jersey delivers the longest speech in US Senate history.
- Historical birthdays:** Painter David Martin (1737), German chancellor Otto von Bismarck (1815), artist Bill Traylor (1854), composer Sergei Rachmaninoff (1873), novelist Edgar Wallace (1875), college football Hall of Fame coach Hugo Bezdek

- (1884), college football Hall of Fame guard Doc Alexander (1897), Olympic gold medal diver Stefanie Clausen (1900), activist Clara Hale (1905), psychologist Abraham Maslow (1908), Nobel laureate Joseph Murray (1919), hockey Hall of Fame defenseman Ken Reardon (1921), singer Jimmie Lloyd (1922), college football Hall of Famer Bo Schembechler Jr (1929), actress Jane Powell (1929), actress Debbie Reynolds (1932), actor Gordon Jump (1932), Hall of Fame baseball writer Nick Peters (1939), MLB Hall of Fame pitcher Phil Niekro (1939)

Today's birthdays: Supreme Court Justice Samuel Alito is 76, Olympic gold medal skier Toni Innauer is 68, singer Susan Boyle is 65, hockey Hall of Fame defenseman Scott Stevens is 62, college football Hall of Fame tackle Jumbo Elliott is 61, TV personality Rachel Maddow is 53, Olympic gold medal jumper Ruth Beitia is 47, singer Hillary Scott is 40, YouTube personality Logan Paul is 31.

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The Plainsman encourages responsible Letters to the Editor, expressing opinions on subjects of interest to our readers. Concise letters are most likely to be chosen for publication, but the use of any material is at the discretion of the managing editor, and we reserve the right, for whatever reason, to refuse publication. Editing may be necessary for space, clarity or to avoid obscenity or libel, but ideas will not be altered. Writers are urged to use discretion and refrain from sarcasm or personal attacks.

We will print one 300-word letter, per author, per calendar month. Additionally, Guest Editorials may be submitted for publication two times per year. All submissions must bear the handwritten signature of the writer and include address and phone number. E-mailed submissions will be verified by telephone, with no exceptions.

Letters expressing support or opposition to a candidate or ballot measure will be published at a cost of \$25, paid before publication. Letters written by the candidate on his or her behalf will be billed at the current political column inch advertising rate.

Letters chosen for publication do not necessarily reflect the beliefs or opinions of this newspaper or Champion Media. Letters to the Editor may be mailed to: Plainsman, P.O. Box 1278, Huron, S.D. 57350; e-mailed to: bchase@cmpapers.com

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Trade mission to Japan, South Korea carried hope of diversifying soybean market beyond China

BY JOSHUA HAIAR
SOUTH DAKOTA SEARCH-LIGHT

South Dakota officials are trying to strengthen trade relationships with Japan and South Korea as soybean farmers look to diversify beyond China, which has reduced its purchases.

Jerry Schmitz, executive director of the South Dakota Soybean Research and Promotion Council, was part of a delegation that visited the two countries earlier this month.

"Really, we're laying the pathway for additional sales in the future," he said.

The delegation also included Lt. Gov. Tony Venhuizen, South Dakota Trade President and CEO Jesse Fonkert, Governor's Office of Economic Development Commissioner Bill Even, and state Agriculture and Natural Resources Secre-

tary Hunter Roberts.

Schmitz said Japan and South Korea are not new markets for South Dakota soybeans or soy-fed pork. He said the trade mission was less about signing immediate contracts and more about building trust with hog feed suppliers, grocery representatives and other buyers.

Schmitz said the long-term goal is a broader demand for soybeans and more value-added exports, such as pork raised on soybean feed, rather than simply shipping raw beans overseas.

The effort comes as soybean farmers watch China closely. The country continues to shift toward cheaper Brazilian beans.

"China has been a big buyer in the past. They will continue to be," Schmitz said. "But we want to diversify."

Last year, fallout from Presi-

dent Donald Trump's higher tariffs affected soybean farmers. China announced retaliatory tariffs, including an additional tariff on soybeans, and suspended imports. The dispute effectively dried up the Chinese market for South Dakota growers, after China previously purchased about 30% of the state's soybeans.

Then, China agreed to suspend the retaliatory tariffs and to buy at least 12 million metric tons of U.S. soybeans in the last two months of 2025, and at least 25 million metric tons per year from 2026 through 2028. The Trump administration then rolled out a \$12 billion farm aid package to help offset farmers' losses from trade disruptions.

Schmitz said China has so far bought what it agreed to buy, but that's still about 10% less than previous levels. And because South Dakota is far

from major ports and transportation costs are high, Schmitz said, federal trade assistance "has not made farmers here whole."

Schmitz said the shortfall matters for farmers, who already face rising costs for fertilizer and fuel. That's due in part to tariffs on imports and disruptions of markets for petroleum-based products caused by Trump's war against Iran.

Lt. Gov. Venhuizen said the delegation also received embassy briefings and met with foreign affairs officials. He said the mission was about building relationships, exchanging information and identifying openings for future deals.

Venhuizen said one of the clearest opportunities is in food processing, which he said could help South Dakota create more value-added opportunities for South Dakota agri-

cultural commodities.

With the state's help, CJ Schwan's is constructing a \$550 million food production plant in Sioux Falls. The company, which is part of the South Korean global conglomerate CJ Group, has also opened an office in downtown Sioux Falls.

Venhuizen said the delegation met with CJ Schwan's in South Korea to discuss the status of the project. He said the company's presence in South Dakota helped give the state credibility with other Korean companies.

Following the trade mission, Fonkert announced his resignation from South Dakota Trade to "prioritize time with my family." Fonkert, who held the job less than a year, succeeded Luke Lindberg, who now serves as U.S. Department of Agriculture undersecretary for trade and foreign affairs.

SPORTS

Tigers pick up first baseball victory

BY BENJAMIN CHASE
OF THE PLAINSMAN

The Huron Tigers baseball team started off strong over the weekend in the Black Hills in a season-opening tournament.

The Tigers opened Friday playing Spearfish and Sturgis in Sturgis.

In the opener, Nolan Stahly got the 9-3 win over Spearfish by going four innings, allowing three runs, one earned, on five hits and a walk, and he struck out five. Tommie Martin closed out the game with three scoreless innings of re-

lief, striking out four.

Catcher Oakley Anderson led the team from the leadoff spot with a pair of singles and a pair of walks. Korbin Brock had a pair of singles, a walk, and a stolen base. Sean Janes had three walks.

Crayton Siedschlag had a single, a walk, and stole a base. Martin slapped a pair of singles, and Chase Schuchardt had a single and was hit by pitch.

Huron fell in the second game Friday to Sturgis, 6-2.

Parker Bischoff started on the mound, allowing five

runs, three earned, over three innings on four hits and two walks. He struck out one. Colt Culver allowed one run over three innings of relief with three strikeouts.

The Huron offense was only able to muster three baserunners. Janes had a double and a stolen base. Anderson had a stolen base.

On Saturday, action moved to Rapid City, but the Tigers ended up on the short end of a pair of games.

Rapid City Central claimed a 14-4 win over Huron in the first game, emphasized with

an eight-run fifth inning.

Anderson opened the game on the mound, and the lefty allowed seven runs on 11 hits and two walks over four innings. He struck out one. Zach Scheer allowed seven runs over two-thirds of an inning in relief.

Anderson sparked the offense from the leadoff spot with a double and a single. Martin had a single and a walk. Janes was walked and hit by a pitch. Siedschlag had a stolen base.

Rapid City Stevens' offense consistently put up crooked

numbers, scoring four, four, six, and one run to claim a 15-0 victory in the Saturday nightcap over the Tigers.

Elijah Shreeve got the start on the mound, allowing 10 runs over two innings. Siedschlag allowed five runs over 1 2/3 relief innings.

The Tiger offense was only able to muster three baserunners in the loss.

Huron is scheduled to make its home debut with a 5 p.m. game against Douglas at Memorial Stadium and then travels to play Aberdeen on Tuesday.

Class AA team finish 2-0 during 3-Class Shootout held Saturday in Salem

De Smet's Luethmers named MVP for Class B girls' team

SALEM — The Class AA girls and the Class AA boys each went 2-0 during the 38th Annual 3-Class Shootout held Saturday at McCook Central Auditorium.

The Class AA girls opened the event, which featured the top seniors from across the state, with a 100-92 victory

against Class A.

Dana Harpe of Sioux Falls Washington had 23 points and 11 rebounds to lead Class AA, while Alyvia Padgett of Brandon Valley had 20 points and six assists.

Also reaching double figures for the Class AA squad were Hayden Thorton of Rapid City

Stevens with 13, Sadie Mehrman of O'Gorman with 12 and Ava Kellenberger of Brandon Valley with 11.

Addie Siemsen of Mitchell added nine points, while Hylton Heinz of Huron had two points.

Ashlan Carlow-Blount of Mahpiya Luta led the Class A team with 26 points and eight assists and was named the team's Most Valuable Player.

Andie Peters of Lennox had 17 points and nine rebounds, while Sioux Falls Christian teammates Ruth Dvoracek and Aubrie VanBeek had 12 and 10 points, respectively.

In the second girls' game, Class AA got past Class B 103-72.

Mehrman had 17 points to lead seven players in double figures for Class AA. Padgett, who was selected as the Class AA MVP had 14 points, while Kate Scharf of Spearfish had 13 points and Kellenberger had 12 points. Sydney Terveen of O'Gorman and Siemsen each had 11 points while Rylan Kennett of Sioux Falls Washington had 10 points and 10 rebounds.

Hazel Luethmers of De Smet tallied 20 points to lead the Class B team and earn MVP honors with eight re-

bounds and pair of assists.

Liz Boschee of Sanborn Central/Woonsocket added 13 points and had nine rebounds, while Hadlee Holt of Iroquois/Lake Preston had 12 points and nine rebounds.

Also reaching double figures for Class B was Sophie Delange of Corsica-Stickney with 11 points.

In the first boys' game, Class AA defeated Class A 127-110.

Sam Ericsson of Sioux Falls Lincoln had 24 points for Class AA, while Jusin Bilal of Sioux Falls Roosevelt had 22 points.

Colton Smith of Mitchell and Sam DeGroot of Sioux Falls Lincoln each had 15 points, while Kamren Davis of Spearfish had 14 points. Ayuel Deng of Brandon Valley and Brayton Jibben of Harrisburg each had nine points.

Blake Ellwein of Huron finished with seven points.

Trey Hansen of Vermillion had a game-high 32 points for Class A and was named as the team's MVP. Tate Gerdes of Lennox had 20 points, while Keegan Tracy of Groton Area had 16 points. Teegan Musser of Lennox had 13 points, while Will Kuhl of West Central and Isaak Hunter



COURTESY OF CRAIG WOLLMAN

De Smet's Hazel Luethmers puts up a free throw during a SoDak 16 game against Parkston on March 5 in Mitchell.



COURTESY OF CRAIG WOLLMAN

De Smet's Grant Wilkinson puts up a shot in the paint during a Class B SoDak 16 game against Ipswich on March 10 at Huron Arena.

of Miller each had 11 points.

Hansen and Gerdes each had eight rebounds and four assists.

With eight players in double figures, Class AA defeated Class B 124-117 in the final boys' game.

DeGroot was the MVP for Class AA with 32 points, 12 rebounds and six assists. Bilal had

17 points, while Deng and Jibben each had 14 points. Smith had 13 points, Memphis Bylander of Roosevelt had 12 points, Ericsson had 12 and Davis had 10 points.

Holden Wollmann of Bridgewater-Emery was the Class B MVP with 20 points, four rebounds and six assists. Brandon

SHOOTOUT/Page 7

BOWLING

**Fair City Lanes
Holy Rollers
3-30-26**

High game — Individual: Rella Quam 171; Roxy Veenhof 160; Jackie Bain 155; Larry Horn 201; Jered Steilen 200; Wes Goehner 192. Team: Whoppers 671; Wild Ones 630. Individual: Courtney Draft 298; Ellie Toman 24; Brynston North 666; Rylan Eggleston 558; Morgan Eggleston 527. Team: Bowling Boys 1,848; Boss Bowlers 1,819. League leaders — Bowling Boys 67; Boss Bowlers 62; The Brooks 62.

**American Legion Jr/Adult
3-29-26**

High game — Individual: Courtney Dragt 111; Ellie Toman 94; Brynston North 278; Ethan Dorris 205; Morgan Eggleston 226. Team: Bowling Boys 714; Boss Bowlers 662. High series — Individual: Courtney Draft 298; Ellie Toman 24; Brynston North 666; Rylan Eggleston 558; Morgan Eggleston 527. Team: Bowling Boys 1,848; Boss Bowlers 1,819. League leaders — Bowling Boys 67; Boss Bowlers 62; The Brooks 62.

**Dakota
3-26-26**

High game — Individual: Bo Johnson 225; Nikki Steilen 223-205; Jay Kightlinger 210; Troy DePauw 202-202. Team: Wurts Electric 882; Fair City Lanes 875. High series — Individual: Nikki Steilen 599; Bo Johnson 581; Troy DePauw 565. Team: Wurts Electric 2,530; Fair City Lanes 2,505. League leaders — Wurts Electric 192.5; Fair City Lanes 175.

**Jr/Sr High Mixed
3-26-26**

High game — Individual: Annalies Schmitt 216-207-202; Idella Meyer 189; Cora Fitzgerald 169; Brynston North 279-239-218; Peter Helkenn 196; Bentley William 174. Team: Marvin Kelley Ins. 669; North Racing 668. High series — Individual: Anna liese

Schmitt 625; Idella Meyer 520; Cora Fitzgerald 462; Brynston North 736; Peter Helkenn 507; Jona Beck 488. Team: Northern Woodmen 1,914; KC Corral 1,905. Splits — Annalies Schmitt 4-7-10. League leaders — North Racing 70; KC Corral 61.5; Huron Guns & Ammo 54.5.

**Beer League
3-25-26
(final)**

High game — Individual: Jessieca January 191; Troacy Solseng 169; Darlene Hyke 167; David Harrington 192; Kale Sypniewski 183; Norm Heath 182. Team: Misfits 691; Here for the Beer 686. High series — Individual: Darlene Hyke 439; Pam Sinkie 428; Jessieca January 427; David Harrington 513; Norm Heath 482; Kaleb Sypniewski 470. Team: Here for the Beer 1,938; Coney Island 1,883. League leaders — Charlotte's Web 27.5; Here for the Beer 22; Coney Island 22.

**Uptown
3-23-26**

High game — Individual: Megan Kasperson 234; Alex Kasperson 234; Zach DeShazer 232; Bo Johnson 230; Landon Neugebauer 213; Alan Quiram 210; Blake Larson 210; Jon Dittmer 210. Team: Ellwein Beer 829; OB's 792. High series — Individual: Bo Johnson 675; Alex Kasperson 674. Team: Ellwein Beer 2,251; Big Dog Diesel 2,132. League leaders — OB's 146.5; Olympic Chevrolet 133; Muth Electric 127.5; Carr Chiropractic 124.

**Riverview Lanes
Thursday Seven
3-26-26**

High game — Individual: Mike Wasmund 279; Brian Eckmann 278; Tim Ketcham 266; Darlene Hyke 169; Bobbie Krueger 168; Michelle Ketcham 168. Team: Ames Electric 893; Wazzy's Lounge 874; Shue Creek Services 813. High series — Individual:

Brian Eckmann 781; Mike Wasmund 745; Tim Ketcham 695; Michelle Ketcham 477; Bobbie Krueger 431; Darlene Hyke 421. Team: Wazzy's Lounge 2,490; Ames Electric 2,346; Shue Creek Services 2,224. League leaders — Hair and Beyond 81.5; Red Arrow 79.5; Wazzy's Lounge 76; Ames Electric 74; Pin Crushing Pro Shop 72.

**Fair City Classic
3-25-26**

High game — Individual: Ben Dragt 266; Doug Bjorke 256; Todd Evans 251; Alan Quiram 244; Nate Peterson 243; Kevin Flute 242. Team: Ketchall 946; NTA 823. High series — Individual: Doug Bjorke 708; Jerrold Busch 678; Scott Smidt 666; Todd Evans 658; Bo Johnson 635; Tim Ketcham 617; Trent Kouf 617. Team: Ketchall 2,367; NTA 2,346. League leaders — Cavour Store 90; Lookwell Barber 80; SBH 78.5; Ketchall 75.

**Thursday Seven
3-19-26**

High game — Individual: Isaac Steilen 277; Mike Wasmund 256; Scott Smidt 225; Mike Arbeiter 225; Bobbie Krueger 200; Barb Quiram 184; Darlene Hyke 158. Team: Wazzy's Lounge 840; Pin Crushing Pro Shop 837; Shue Creek Services 792. High series — Individual: Isaac Steilen 723; Mike Wasmund 675; Brian Eckmann 640; Bobbie Krueger 509; Barb Quiram 452; Darlene Hyke 401. Team: Pin Crushing Pro Shop 2,405; Wazzy's Lounge 2,284; Hair and Beyond 2,259. League leaders — Red Arrow 74.5; Hair and Beyond 67.5; Lunny Tunes 66; Shepherders 65; Ames Electric 64.

Sports Calendar

Today	
No events scheduled	
Thursday	
No events scheduled	
Friday	
Baseball — Huron vs Douglas, Memorial Stadium, 5 p.m.	
Saturday	
No events scheduled	
Radio/Wednesday	
6/6:40 p.m..	
KOKK-AM (1210) — Major League Baseball, Minnesota at Kansas City	
Radio/Thursday	
12:30/1:10 p.m..	
KOKK-AM (1210) — Major League Baseball, Minnesota at Kansas City	
Radio/Friday	
2:30/3:10 p.m..	
KOKK-AM (1210) — Major League Baseball, Minnesota vs. Tampa Bay	
Radio/Saturday	
8 a.m.	
KOKK-AM (1210) — Dakota Sports Saturday	
5:30/6:10 p.m.	
KOKK-AM (1210) — Major League Baseball, Minnesota vs. Tampa Bay	

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Coyotes to host Illinois St. in WNIT Fab Four

VERMILLION — South Dakota women's basketball continues its run in the WNIT Wednesday night as the Coyotes host Illinois State at 7 p.m. in the Sanford Coyote Sports Center for a trip to the WNIT Championship game.

HOW TO FOLLOW ALONG

South Dakota women's basketball against Illinois State will be available to watch Midco Sports and on the Summit League Network powered by Midco Sports Plus.

Fans can listen to the Coyotes on KVHT 106.3 FM on the Coyote Sports Network with the voice of the Coyotes Jerry Palleschi on the broadcast.

THE BRACKET

South Dakota and Illinois State meet in the Fab Four after home wins over Montana State and George Washington respectively in the Great Eight round. Illinois State is playing in its second straight Fab Four.

The winner of Wednesday's semifinal will face the winner of the Arkansas State, Marshall semifinal, also Wednesday night, in the championship game Saturday at 2 p.m. Loca-

tion is to be determined.

APRIL HOOPS IN THE SCSC

South Dakota's seventh WNIT run has reached the Fab 4, and for just the second time in program history, the Coyotes are playing a women's basketball game in the month of April.

The first ever April USD women's basketball game was the April 2, 2016 WNIT Championship game against Florida Gulf Coast, played in the DakotaDome. It was also the last basketball game played in the Dome.

USD is 17-5 all-time in the WNIT, and is playing in their second semifinal/Fab 4 in the WNIT.

South Dakota is 9-1 in the WNIT inside the Sanford Coyote Sports Center.

This is USD's second appearance since the WNIT field went to 48-teams from 64, and earned a first round bye for the first time in the 48-team field era.

South Dakota continues to have one of the nation's best turnaround this season, going from 11 wins to 26, tied for the second best win improvement in Division I. McNeese State is first with a 19-win improvement.

The 26 wins this season from South Dakota is the 18th time the Coyotes have passed the 20-win threshold in program history.

South Dakota's 26 wins are the most in a season since the 2021-22 season when South Dakota made their Sweet 16 run.

South Dakota's 15 wins in the SCSC are the second most in a single season in the building since it opened in 2016.

INSIDE THE ILLINOIS STATE SERIES

The Coyotes and Redbirds meet for the 1st time in series history.

While South Dakota and Illinois State may be Missouri Valley Football Conference rivals on the gridiron, the USD-ISU rivalry is hitting the hardwood for the first time in women's basketball.

RECORD VS THE MISSOURI VALLEY CONFERENCE

The Coyotes took on two Missouri Valley conference foes this season in Valparaiso and Bradley, and are closing in on 60 games played against the conference as a whole.

South Dakota is 29-29 against the conference all-time, including 1-1 this season.

The Coyotes de-



COURTESY OF GOYOTES.COM

Tori Schlager of the University of South Dakota holds the ball on the perimeter during a WNIT Great 8 game against Montana State on Sunday at Sanford Coyote Sports Center in Vermillion.

feated Valpo at home, but lost to Bradley on the Braves' elementary school day in December.

The Coyotes are undefeated against Indiana State (1-0), Southern Illinois (1-0), and Valpo (2-0), and have beaten every MVC opponent they've seen at least once.

Former MVC member Creighton is USD's most common opponent in the league's history with 19 games. Drake is the most common current MVC opponent with 13 matchups.

USD is 2-0 against MVC opponents in the WNIT, defeating Drake (2011-12) and Northern Iowa (2015-16).

WNIT SUMMARY

South Dakota has taken down Northern Colorado, Pepperdine, and Montana State in

this year's WNIT, all inside the SCSC.

Sunday's win over Montana State came on the back of a career-defining performance from Molly Joyce, who tallied 31 points in a nine-point, 65-56, win over the Bobcats.

Joyce made 10 field goals, 10 free throws, and her lone three-pointer doubled the USD lead from three to six with a minute left to seal a USD win.

Jenna Hopp tied a career-high with 13 points in the win.

Thursday against Pepperdine, Patience Williams scored the game's first 14 points and the Coyotes raced out to a 32-9 lead after one quarter.

Williams and Angelina Robles tallied 20 points apiece in the win with both players making four three-pointers.

USD shot a season's best 11-23 (47.8%) from three in the win over the Waves.

The Coyotes started out with a 9-0 deficit to the Bears, but used a 21-4 run to end the first quarter and build a lead.

Four Coyotes scored in double figures in the win, led by Angelina Robles' 21 points and five assists.

The Coyotes matched a season's best in three-point shooting, converting 9-of-19 for a 47.4% clip.

USD has shot over 45% from the floor and 47% from three in their first two WNIT games. They've also won the rebounding battle in all three games.

THE TRANSFER PORTAL ERA

Over 1,500 women's basketball players entered the transfer portal following the 2024-25 season. USD is one of at least six programs with 13+ newcomers.

USD is one of at least seven programs with 13+ newcomers.

USD is one of at least seven programs with at least nine transfers.

Seven of USD's nine transfers come from Div. I programs, including two from Summit League foes.

South Dakota's transfers hail from 6 states: California (1), Iowa (4), Minnesota (1), New Mexico (1), South Dakota (1), and Washington (1).

NEWCOMER OF THE YEAR

The Summit League announced their post-season awards Tuesday, prior to the start of the conference tournament. Molly Joyce was named the Newcomer of the Year.

Joyce was also named second team all-Summit League and to the all-Newcomer Team.

She averaged 15.8 points while shooting .396/.393/.864 during league play. She added 2.9 rebounds and 1.6 assists.

Her 86.4% from the free throw line was third in the league.

She scored over 20-plus points in the first four games of conference play, and six times total, and scored 10-plus in 14 of the 16 conference games, ranking sixth in the conference in scoring.

She is the third Coyote to win this award, joining Caitlin Duffy (2015-16) and Hannah Sjerven (2018-19).

FIRST TEAM ALL-SUMMIT

After receiving pre-season second team all-conference honors this season, Angelina Robles showed out, and earned herself a first team all-Summit League honor as a senior.

Robles shined as the Yote point guard, totaling 16.4 points and 3.6 assists during league play. Both numbers were best on the team and top five in the league.

She ranked fifth in scoring and second in assists during league play, shooting .394/.375/.853.

Ranks fourth in the league in free throw percentage.

She also tallied 3.6 rebounds and 1.2 steals per game.

Courtesy of Bailey Zubke, Assistant Director of Communications



COURTESY OF CRAIG WOLLMAN

Liz Boschee of Sanborn Central/Woonsocket puts up a shot against Wolsey-Wessington's Maria Nelson during their game on Feb. 7 in Wolsey.

SHOOTOUT: From page 6

Schroedermeier of Viborg-Hurley had 19 points, while Tate Sorenson of Freeman had 15 points. Ben Weber of Bridgewater-Emery and Emmet Dinger of Wall each had 14 points, while Chance Schoenfeld of Deubrook Area had 13 points.

Grant Wilkinson of De Smet had eight points, seven rebounds and three assists for Class B.

Deng was the winner of the dunk contest held between the two boys' games.











COURTESY OF CRAIG WOLLMAN

Huron's Blake Ellwein puts up a shot during a Class AA SoDak 16 game against Pierre on March 7 at Huron Arena.

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JVC puts on production of 'Annie'



This year's James Valley Christian School stewardship dinner theater production was the Broadway hit, "Annie."



Photos courtesy of Craig Wollman



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UPCOMING EVENTS

Holy Week services combined for Our Saviors Lutheran and American Lutheran

The congregations of Our Saviors Lutheran Church and American Lutheran Church will hold two joint services during Holy Week.

Maundy Thursday service is at 7 p.m. at American Lutheran, 155 Fourth St. SE. Good Friday service is at 5:30 p.m. at Our Saviors Lutheran, 2040 Ohio Ave. SW. A joint choir will sing at both services.

Kindernook spaghetti fundraiser set April 9

Kindernook Preschool will hold its 20th annual Spaghetti Dinner at Grace Episcopal Church on Thursday, April 9.

Spaghetti with homemade sauce, French bread, and homemade desserts will be served from 5 until 7 p.m.

Tickets are available from Kindernook families and board members, as well as by calling Sarah Rubish at 352-8231 or emailing her at sarahrubish@yahoo.com. Adult tickets are \$10, and tickets for children under 10 are \$5. Advance ticket sales are preferred.

Bingo and baked potato bar in Wolsey on April 10

American Legion Post 59 is hosting bingo and a baked potato bar on Friday, April 10, at 5 p.m., at the Wolsey City Building.

The baked potato bar is a free-will offering. Bingo begins at 7 p.m. at \$2 per card.

Huron MS event set for April 25

The 10th anniversary Huron MS celebration will be hosted by the Huron MS Society at Red Arrow Bar on Saturday, April 25.

The event celebrating 10 years of supporting those living with MS will offer door prizes, and 50/50 tickets will be sold. Live music by Jokers to the Right begins at 8 p.m.

Warden from Virginia hired to run newly constructed Rapid City women's prison

BY MAKENZIE HUBER
SOUTH DAKOTA
SEARCHLIGHT

The South Dakota Department of Corrections hired Eric Aldridge as warden of the Rapid City women's prison, the department announced on Friday.

The \$87 million facility, which is South Dakota's second women's prison, is under construction and expected to open in July.

Aldridge, most recently warden of the medium-security Fluvanna Correctional Center for Women in Troy, Virginia, will begin his job in South Dakota on April 1.

Aldridge has also worked as a rehabilitation counselor, security assessment analyst and in facility leadership positions, according to the department. Aldridge said he plans to "implement industry best practices" at the new facility.

The Rapid City prison,

designed for minimum and medium-security inmates, will house up to 300 women. The facility will also house a mother-infant program for up to 12 mothers.

The prison will help ease overcrowding at an existing women's prison in Pierre, which will continue to operate.

The new facility will incorporate a therapeutic community model for substance use disorder treatment. That means women will receive four to five hours of intervention and support daily from medical, behavioral health and vocational professionals.

Department of Corrections Secretary Nick Lamb said the model will be a "first-of-its-kind" program in the state.

Women in the prison will also have the chance to participate in a business-entrepreneurship program and earn a certificate in hospitality training.

Don your best dress and kick up your heels for Papa Luigi 2026

HURON — The theme for the 2026 Papa Luigi fundraiser for the Huron Regional Medical Center Foundation was Dancing with the Stars, with a competition held with votes equaling a donation to the organization.

The fundraiser raised \$89,000 from a sold-out crowd.

The winners of the contest were Mark and Jessica Harvey, right.



Legislators plan to learn about Native American health care, emergency services, disability care

BY MAKENZIE HUBER
SOUTH DAKOTA SEARCHLIGHT

South Dakota lawmakers plan to learn more about emergency medical services, Native American health care and services for disabled people ahead of the next legislative session.

After the annual session ends in March, legislative leaders typically identify a few issues to delve into as "summer studies" before the next session in January. This year, lawmakers adopted legislation creating a committee and two task forces, and the legislative Executive Board decided Monday against creating any additional summer study committees.

Several lawmakers are also on the governor's Correctional Rehabilitation Task Force, which was created last year and will continue meeting ahead of the 2027 legislative session. That group is seeking ways to reduce the number of people who return to prison after their release.

"It seems like we have plenty of work to discuss and move forward with next year," said Rep. Brian Mulder, R-Sioux Falls.

Tribal-managed Medicaid model 'better than our current model,' sponsor says

One of the task forces created by the Legislature will study "the creation of Indian Medicaid managed care entities."

Rosebud Sioux Tribe President Kathleen Wooden Knife called on lawmakers at the beginning of the legislative session to support tribal efforts to establish the model, which she said has the potential to improve outcomes and efficiencies for tribal members on and off the state's reservations.

In such a model, tribes could contract with the state of South Dakota to direct federal Medicaid dollars into a pool of funds for health care. An entity of the tribes' choosing could negotiate costs with off-reservation providers and coordinate care — including preventative care or incentives for healthy habits — for tribal members who seek care on or off tribal land.

"When we stand together for health care, our Sioux Nation tribes, working with the state, can bring the strongest health

care resources to the table to improve health care for Native Americans," Wooden Knife said.

Rep. Will Mortenson, R-Fort Pierre, is a member of the Cheyenne River Sioux Tribe and is co-chair of the State-Tribal Relations Committee. He introduced the bill to create the task force this session, saying it was a product of the committee and tribal communities.

"It has the potential for significantly improved health outcomes, and I personally believe that it fulfills the treaty obligations for health care in Indian Country better than our current model," Mortenson said during the session. "A lot of tribal members wind up on state Medicaid rolls, and the state's obligation it was never intended to be."

The state Department of Social Services will lead the task force through November 2028, with four members of the Legislature among the members appointed to the task force.

Legislature creates multi-year committee overseeing Medicaid waiver programs

Senate President Pro Tempore Chris Karr, R-Sioux Falls, introduced the bill this session that will create the Developmental Disability Service Delivery Committee. The committee is a product of a summer study last year focused on improving efficiencies between the state and community support providers.

The committee will be tasked with reviewing South Dakota's Medicaid waiver programs, which allow elderly or disabled people to receive Medicaid-covered care in their homes instead of institutions, and how the state Department of Human Services operates the waivers.

Recommendations made during last year's summer study "will take time," Karr said during the session, adding that the extended, dedicated committee will oversee the continuity and impact of waiver changes and improve transparency about the state Department of Human Services' changes.

The committee will meet through 2029.

Task force to study how to make emergency medical services 'essential,' sustainable

South Dakota doesn't recog-

nize emergency medical services as "essential" under state law. That didn't change this legislative session, after a legislator-led summer study on emergency medical services concluded last year that the state should add the designation. A legal designation of "essential" would put the onus on state or local units of government to guarantee availability.

Instead, lawmakers passed a bill that will create a task force to examine financially sustainable options for counties and cities to support emergency medical services if they're designated as an essential service.

Rosebud Democratic Rep. Eric Emery, who works in emergency medical services, introduced a failed bill in 2025 to designate ambulance services as essential and to collect fees from convicted drunken drivers to pay for it. He was a prime sponsor of this year's legislation.

"South Dakotans already rely on EMS as an essential service, and it's the responsibility of the Legislature to make sure that infrastructure is sustainable," Emery said during the legislative session.

School insurance costs floated as research topic

Legislative leaders plan to request a few research papers from the Legislative Research Council on additional topics. One suggestion included understanding and addressing the rise in school district insurance costs in recent years.

House Majority Leader Scott Odenbach, R-Spearfish, said he's been researching the topic on his own, but believes a paper from research staff "could make a possible bill much easier."

The study topic was suggested by the House Education Committee, said House Minority Leader Erin Healy, D-Sioux Falls. The committee heard concerns about school district insurance costs contributing to higher school budgets and higher property taxes to fund those budgets.

"It's a topic of conversation we're going to have to address sooner or later," Healy said.

The Legislature's Executive Board will finalize issue memo topics at their next meeting in April.

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Friend with benefits was never really even a friend

DEAR ABBY: Six months ago, I started spending time with a woman I knew casually for about a year following her traumatic breakup with her ex-boyfriend. At first, we were just friends, but it quickly progressed as we opened up and shared everything about ourselves with each other. She continued insisting we were "just friends" and went out with other men, which, at the time, didn't bother me.

Two months in, we started being intimate. Three months ago, she began referring to me, her puppy and herself as "a family," talking about future kids and grandkids. She asked to meet my parents and made sure I met hers when they came to town. I began believing this was going to be a long-term thing, even though she still insisted we were just friends.

Three weeks ago, she met and started dating another guy. She told me she still wants to be best friends, that she had been "50-50" the entire time about whether to date me but couldn't commit because she wasn't physically attracted to me, despite having sex with me for many months. She said she was physically attracted to me sometimes but didn't feel that way all the time -- and she thought she should be. I cut things off with her. I'm extremely hurt, and I don't understand her decision. Can you help? -- REJECTED IN COLORADO

DEAR REJECTED: I can try. The "friend" you were dating and intimate with may be an adult chronologically, but she is emotionally immature. Intense physical attraction is great while it

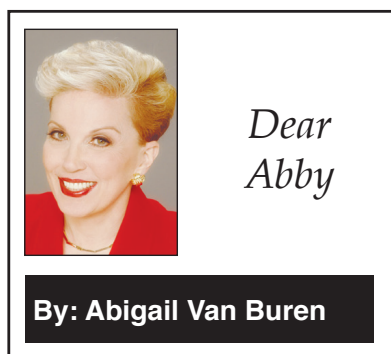
lasts, but in many cases, it diminishes with time. Lasting relationships like marriage depend upon more than that to succeed. Give her marks for honesty and be glad you found out what her true nature is, but also realize that you dodged a bullet. All women are not like her, and you will meet one you can trust.

DEAR ABBY: A friend of mine recently got married. We are pretty close. I was asked to be a bridesmaid. (Unfortunately, I had to decline due to scheduling conflicts.) I attended the wedding, bringing an appropriate gift, only to find out a few months later that the marriage was never legally registered. It had just been a commitment ceremony. When I asked why she didn't announce it as such, she said she wanted people to think it was a real wedding.

I'm feeling a bit betrayed, and I wonder how her other guests would feel if they found out. I'm not sure I would have bought such an expensive gift if I had known beforehand. Is there a rule of etiquette for this sort of thing, or am I overthinking it? -- WONDERING IN CALIFORNIA

DEAR WONDERING: Your reaction is understandable. While no formal rule of etiquette forbids lying to one's friends and loved ones, the Bible has something to say about it. Your friend wanted a party. She wanted gifts. She and her boyfriend did not want a legal commitment that lasts a lifetime or they would have had an actual wedding.

DEAR ABBY: My wife is



Dear Abby

By: Abigail Van Buren

having an affair with an old flame from when she was in high school. He was just released from prison after serving time for murder. I have forgiven her, but I told her to stop the contact. She said she'd rather divorce me than do that; I would have to live with what's going on. I love my wife, so I compromise for now.

She now has put me out of the marital bed, and I am not allowed to touch or hug her. I still do my husband-type chores. Please, I need your advice. -- SIDELINED IN PENNSYLVANIA

DEAR SIDELINED: I am sorry for your pain, of which I'm sure there is plenty. By ousting you from the marriage bed, your wife has effectively deserted you. You may forgive her for the ongoing affair, but tolerating the status quo will not save your marriage. It is important that you seek legal counsel now to help you in the months ahead, because you are going to need it.

DEAR ABBY: A year ago, my husband and I loaned my son and his wife \$6,000 to pay for the doctors to flip my daughter-in-law's baby so she could have a natural childbirth. Since then, she has been extremely rude

and verbally abusive to me. I am not allowed to visit or post any pictures of the baby, even though her mom stayed with them for three months. How do I ask them for our money back? -- SECOND THOUGHTS IN MINNESOTA

DEAR SECOND THOUGHTS: It isn't unusual with a first baby for a new mother to want her mother with her rather than her MIL. Was there a written agreement that you would be repaid the money you gave your son and his wife for the delivery? If there wasn't, you may be out of luck. I wish you had mentioned why your daughter-in-law's attitude toward you has changed so radically. Until you understand the reason, there will be no chance to heal this breach.

DEAR ABBY: I have been friends with my neighbor "Mary" for 30 years. She has developed Alzheimer's disease and needs constant supervision. Her husband refuses to place her in a facility, even though family members tell him he needs to. I have watched Mary a few times, and it was nerve-racking. She wanders off and undoes anything that we did.

Mary's husband came over alone recently and told me he had hired a professional to watch her. Then he offered me \$2 an hour less than the professional. (The professional has never watched her.) I told him I couldn't do it and that he needs the professional. He is now telling friends that I am no longer a "friend" because I wasn't there when needed. He barely talks to me anymore and doesn't wave

when I drive by. What can I do? -- OUT OF FAVOR IN FLORIDA

DEAR OUT: Your neighbor has a crushing 24-hour responsibility on his shoulders, but he shouldn't be blaming you for your inability to relieve it. Do not expect him to smile and wave, and don't be sorry you refused his offer. What you must do now is explain to these mutual friends what happened -- that you watched Mary a few times but managing her was too stressful for you, and that is why her husband is mad at you.

DEAR ABBY: We just moved back to Southern California and into a gated community. My neighbor's property is higher than mine, and she has a spiky, thorny hedge that's growing over into my property and staining the side of my house. I went over and introduced myself, wanting to discuss the issue. My neighbor's reply was, "That's YOUR hedge!" The next thing I know, she has a person trim it and throw all of the clippings into my backyard for me to clean up. How do I deal with a neighbor like this? -- THORNY RELATIONSHIP

DEAR THORNY: Contact the homeowner's association and describe what has been going on. Your neighbor may be violating the covenants, conditions and restrictions (CC&Rs). (There may be fines for this.) It is important that you establish where your property line ends and hers begins. If the plant really is on your land, you may have the right to remove it entirely.

Horoscopes

Aries: March 21-April 20

Your confidence is at an all-time high, Aries. This is the week to pitch an idea or finally send that text you've been mulling over. The universe is backing your bold moves.

Taurus: April 21-May 21

Taurus, this week you're entering a cycle of "treat yourself." You deserve it right now, so enjoy. Whether it's a brunch out with friends or a mental health day, lean into the experience.

Gemini: May 22-June 21

Expect a random invitation to create a new connection, Gemini. Your wit is extra sharp this week, so use it to charm the room. Your social calendar is likely to fill up.

Cancer: June 22-July 22

Cancer, the things you have been visualizing are about to materialize. You might feel an urge to organize your space or redecorate. Jump on that opportunity this week.

Leo: July 23-August 23

Leo, you have been feeling underappreciated lately, but that ends soon. Expect a moment when your unique talents become the star of the show. It's a great week for travel.

Virgo: August 24-September 22

Virgo, a puzzle that you have been trying to solve finally clicks into place. You are moving among different social circles and it can be tricky to balance it all. Trust your intuition over logic.

Libra: September 23-October 23

Libra, harmony is an ideal to aspire to this week. If there has been any tension in your circle, you are able to help dissolve it quickly. This is prime time for a date night or friends' dinner.

Scorpio: October 24-November 22

Scorpio, people are drawn to you this week, and you have that certain something that is impossible to ignore. Use this influence wisely.

Sagittarius: November 23-December 21

This week you're in the mood to see what happens and let fate take the lead. Letting go of control might put you in a very fun situation, Sagittarius. Agree to a spontaneous plan.

Capricorn: December 22-January 20

This week you are ticking off your to-do list with amazing efficiency, Capricorn. The real magic happens when you sign off of work and head home to great news.

Aquarius: January 21-February 18

Aquarius, you are thinking light years ahead of everyone else right now. Share your ideas, however unusual they may be and see who is along for the ride.

Pisces: February 19-March 20

The universe is making you choose whether to enjoy financial riches or riches of the heart this week, Pisces. It can be a tough choice to make, so give it some time.

CryptoQuote

AXYDLBAAXR is LONGFELLOW

One letter stands for another. In this sample, A is used for the three L's, X for the two O's, etc. Single letters, apostrophes, the length and formation of the words are all hints. Each week the code letters are different.

FML PANUSGLT VXL DKOI;

RJNVVNUM PANUSGLT VXL

TKJG.

— OKJMGFT HFWFAVXJA

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King Crossword

Answers

Solution time: 26 mins.

S	T	R	A	P	R	A	G	S	T	E	
A	B	U	T	S	A	G	O	L	E	T	
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H	A	L	V	E	S	O	S	S	A		
R	A	J	M	A	A	W	U	H	A	N	
F	L	O	P	N	U	K	E	S			
D	E	B	A	T	E	I	B	E	R	I	A
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I	N	A	R	U	S	H	A	I	O	L	I
N	O	N	A	N	I	I	T	F	O	R	
S	R	I	L	S	D	D	E	F	O	E	

King Crossword

ACROSS

- 1 Purse part
- 6 Tatter
- 9 Fr. holy woman
- 12 Borders on
- 13 In the past
- 14 Allow
- 15 Trattoria offering
- 16 Wild hurry, as on Black Friday
- 18 Divides in two
- 20 Greek mountain
- 21 Gulet in India
- 23 Goat's plaint
- 24 City on the Yangtze River
- 25 Broadway failure
- 27 Zaps in a microwave
- 29 Argue
- 31 Portugal's place
- 35 Fix a lawn
- 37 Bath bubbles
- 38 Long-legged shorebird
- 41 Hwys.
- 43 Scale note
- 44 Spanish "but" abbr.
- 45 Rob Roy spirit
- 47 Pressed for time
- 49 Garlicky mayo
- 52 Dijon denial

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	
12					13			14			
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- 53 Blackbird
- 54 "What's in — me?"
- 55 — Lanka
- 56 "Acid"
- 57 Crusoe's creator
- 7 Turkish officials
- 8 Deity
- 9 Melting snow
- 10 "Selma" actress
- 11 Patriot Allen
- 17 Awakens
- 19 Wind indicators
- 21 "Mayberry —"
- 22 Hearty brew
- 24 Spider's home
- 26 Sitting room
- 28 Youngster
- 30 Hanoi holiday
- 32 Exit in haste
- 33 Altar promise
- 34 Visual communication syst.
- 36 Corsage flower
- 38 Whirls
- 39 Choir member
- 40 Resident of Tabriz
- 42 Composed
- 45 Taxpayer IDs
- 46 Refer to "Friendly skies" co.
- 50 Brit's restroom
- 51 Fury

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Weather

Today

Mix of snow and rain, 1-3" accumulation



High: 41
Low: 30

Thursday

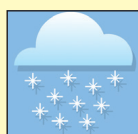
Cold with snow, 1-3"



High: 36
Low: 28

Friday

PM snow shower



High: 33
Low: 27

Saturday

Windy and cold



High: 37
Low: 16



The Huron Daily Plainsman

CHURCH DIRECTORY

ALPENA

United Parish of Alpena – Sunday Worship 10 a.m.; Sunday School 10 a.m.

Alpena United Methodist – Sunday Worship 10 a.m.

BONILLA

Bonilla Presbyterian – Sunday Worship 9:30 a.m.; Sunday School following service. Contact Karen Peterson, 605-266-2793.

CARPENTER

Carpenter United Methodist – Sunday Worship 9 a.m.; Sunday School 10 a.m.

Prairie Bible Church, 40655 SD Hwy. 28 – Sunday School 9:45 a.m.; Worship 10:45 a.m. & 6:30 p.m.

ESMOND

Methodist (Lay Speakers) – Sunday Worship 9 a.m.; Sunday School 10 a.m.

HIGHMORE

St. Mary Catholic, 311 Parker Ave. – Saturday Mass 5:30 p.m.

HITCHCOCK

Hitchcock Methodist, 39060 SD Hwy. 28 – Sunday School 9:15 a.m.; Worship 10:30 a.m. (in-person & Facebook Live).

HURON

Alfa y Omega, 311 Riverside Dr. NE – Tue. Prayer 7 p.m.; Thu. Bible Study 7 p.m.; Sat. Associations 7 p.m.; Sun. Evangelistic Service 1 p.m.

American Lutheran, 155 Fourth St. SE – Sat. Worship 6 p.m.; Sun. Worship 9:30 a.m.; Education 10:45 a.m.

Apostolic Christian Fellowship, 9th St. & Lincoln Ave. SW – Sunday School 10 a.m.; Worship 11 a.m.; Wed. Bible Study 7 p.m.

Bethesda, 1530 Frank Ave. SE – Sunday School 9 a.m.; Worship 10 a.m.; Wed. Prayer 7 p.m.

Calvary Baptist, 350 21st St. SE – Sunday School 9:45 a.m.; Worship 10:45 a.m. & 6 p.m.

Church of Christ, 1508 Wisconsin Ave. SW – Bible Study 10 a.m.; Worship 11 a.m.; Wed. Bible Study 7 p.m.

Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints, 1450 Frank Ave. SE – Sunday Worship 10 a.m.

Church of the Nazarene, 2347 Wisconsin Ave. SW – Sunday School 10 a.m.; Worship 11 a.m.

Faith Alive, 2660 Dakota South – Worship 9 a.m. (traditional) & 10:30 a.m. (contemporary).

Faith Evangelical Lutheran, 1510 McClellan Dr. SW – Saturday Worship 4:30 p.m.

First Baptist, 1420 McClellan Dr. – Sunday School 9:30 a.m.; Worship 10:45 a.m.

First Congregational, 505 California Ave. SW – Worship 10:30 a.m.

First Presbyterian, 5th & Dakota S – Sunday School 9:20 a.m.; Worship 10:30 a.m.

Grace Episcopal, 16th & McClellan Dr. – Sunday School 9:45 a.m.; Worship 10 a.m.

Holy Trinity Catholic, 425 21st St. SW – Sat. Mass 5 p.m.; Sun. Mass 8:30 a.m.

Hope Lutheran, 1667 Frank Ave. SE – Worship 9:30 a.m.; Sunday School 10:45 a.m.

Huron Baptist, 9th St. & Lincoln Ave. SW – Bible Study 9:45 a.m.; Worship 11 a.m.; Sun. Evening Worship 7 p.m.

Huron Christian Church, 777 21st St. SE – Worship 9:15 & 10:30 a.m.; Sunday School 10:30 a.m.

Huron Church of the Open Bible, 855 Utah Ave. SE – Worship 10:30 a.m.

Iglesia Evangelica Nueva Jerusalem, 1214 Dakota Ave. N – Tue., Thu., Sat. 7 p.m.; Sun. 2 p.m.

James River Church, 17 5th St. SW – Worship 10:30 a.m.

Living Hope Alliance, 18th St. & Frank Ave. SE – Sunday School 9:10 a.m.; Worship 10:30 a.m.

Mount Calvary Lutheran (LCMS), 7th St. & Dakota Ave. S – Worship 8 & 10:30 a.m.; Sunday School 9:15 a.m.

Mount Olivet, 6th St. & Lincoln Ave. SW – Sunday School 9:30 a.m.; Worship 10:30 a.m.

Our Savior's Lutheran, 2040 Ohio Ave. SW – Worship 9:30 a.m.

Restoration Church – Worship 10 a.m. at Fine Arts Center, 939 Ohio Ave. SW.

Riverview United Methodist, 1640 Simmons Ave. SE – Sunday School 9 a.m.; Worship 10 a.m.

Seventh-day Adventist, 1830 Simmons Ave. SE – Saturday Worship 11 a.m.

The Salvation Army, 237 Illinois Ave. SW – Sunday School 10 a.m.; Worship 11 a.m.

The Sanctuary, 290 7th St. SW – Kids 2 p.m.; Worship 3 p.m.

Western Way Cowboy Church, 1858 3rd St. SW – Tuesday Service 7 p.m.

IROQUOIS

Faith Mennonite – Worship 11 a.m. & 7:30 p.m.

Prairie Haven Mennonite – Worship 11 a.m.

Trinity United Methodist – Sunday School 10 a.m.; Worship 11 a.m.

MILLER

Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints, 1025 E. 3rd Ave. – Worship 10 a.m.

First Baptist, 902 N. Broadway – Sunday School 9 a.m.; Worship 10 a.m.

First Presbyterian, 321 W. 1st Ave. – Worship 10 a.m.

First United Methodist, 610 E. 4th Ave. – Worship 9 a.m.

Freedom Church, 1123 E. 3rd St. – Worship 10 a.m.

Nazarene, 215 W. 9th St. – Sunday School 10 a.m.; Worship 11 a.m.

Pleasant Valley, 21530 SD Hwy. 45 – Worship 10:30 a.m.

St. Ann's Catholic, 709 E. 4th St. – Mass 9 a.m.

Trinity Lutheran, 707 E. 1st Ave. – Worship 10 a.m.

POLO

St. Liborius Catholic – Sunday Mass 11 a.m.

VIRGIL

Virgil United Methodist – Worship 8:45 a.m.

WESSINGTON

First Presbyterian – Worship 9:30 a.m.

WESSINGTON SPRINGS

Immanuel Baptist, 401 Dakota Ave. N – Worship 10 a.m.; Sunday School 11 a.m.

Foothills Bible Fellowship, 210 5th St. NW – Worship 10:30 a.m.

Our Savior's Lutheran, 215 N. Dunham Ave. – Sunday School 9 a.m.; Worship 10 a.m.

Templeton United Church of Christ – Worship 10:30 a.m.

Wessington Springs Methodist, 110 Main St. W – Worship 11 a.m.

Zion Lutheran, 308 Barrett Ave. S – Worship 8:30 a.m.

WOLSEY

First Baptist – Sunday School 9:15 a.m.; Worship 11 a.m.

First Presbyterian, 531 Maple Ave. SE – Worship 9 a.m.

St. John Lutheran (LCMS), 241 Commercial Ave. – Sunday School 9 a.m.; Worship 10:30 a.m.

WOONSOCKET

Mount Olive Lutheran (LCMS) – Worship 10 a.m.

Spirit of Faith Lutheran Methodist – Worship 9 a.m.

Basham Funeral Service
Alex Nurnberg
Owner/Funeral Director
209 S Dumont Ave.
Woonsocket, SD 57385
605-796-4465

Beadle County Area Nutrition
Huron Area Senior Center
Call and make your reservation by 9:00am
605-352-6091

Kuhler Funeral Home
1360 Dakota Avenue South - Huron
www.kuhlerfuneralhome.com

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6-10 Lines - 10 Days **\$26.00**

Rummage Sales
5 Lines **\$10.00***
*Each Additional line \$3.00 per day

Payment is accepted by:
Check, Money Order, or



LEGALS

STATE OF SOUTH DAKOTA COUNTY OF BEADLE :SS IN CIRCUIT COURT THIRD JUDICIAL CIRCUIT FILE NO. IN THE MATTER OF THE PETITION OF GRACIELA MARIBEL LOPEZ FOR A CHANGE OF NAME TO: GRACIELA MARIBEL LOPEZ LOPEZ NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that a Verified Petition for Adult Name Change has been filed by Graciela Maribel Lopez to change Petitioner's name from Graciela Maribel Lopez to Graciela Maribel Lopez Lopez. The petition will be heard on the 13th day of April, 2026 at 9:30am by the Honorable Judge Kent A. Shelton, at the Beadle County Courthouse, in the City of Huron, South Dakota. Anyone may appear at that time and place and show reasons, if any, why Petitioner's name should not be changed. Kent A. Shelton Circuit Court Judge Attest: Hines, Cora Clerk/Deputy No. 01229534(adv.) Published four times at the total approximate cost of \$48.00 and may be viewed free of charge at www.sdpublicnotices.com.

NOTICE OF MEETING OF COUNTY EQUALIZATION BOARD

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that the Board of County Commissioners, sitting as a County Board of Equalization of Beadle County, South Dakota will meet in the Commissioners' Chambers in said County on Tuesday, the 14th day of April, 2026, for the purpose of reviewing, correcting and equalizing the assessment of said County for the year 2027 and shall continue in session and may adjourn from time to time until all properly filed appeals have been determined and equalization is completed but no later than May 5, 2026. All persons considering themselves aggrieved by said assessment, are required to submit written notice to the Beadle County Auditor-450 3rd St SW, Suite 201, Huron SD 57350 no later than April 7, 2026.

Jill Hanson
County Auditor
Beadle County
No. 3469(Adv)Published twice at an approx. cost of: \$21.50

PUBLIC NOTICE

Notice is hereby given to the public and to the owners and occupants, including firms or corporations, of all real property within the City of Huron, South Dakota, that each occupant, person in charge or owner of any lot within the City of Huron, South Dakota, shall cut and keep cut or otherwise destroyed, at all times during the following growing season, all nuisance vegetation. In case of failure to cut or destroy such nuisance vegetation, the City will cause the same to be cut or destroyed, and assess the actual cost incurred for abatement of nuisance vegetation, including the cost of levying such special assessment against the property. Any person or firm failing to comply with this ordinance shall be guilty of a separate misdemeanor offense for each and every day that the violation continues. The occupant, person in charge or owner shall within 48 hours after publication of this notice and at all times subsequent during the growing season as may be necessary, cut and keep cut all nuisance vegetation. A fine of not less than \$100.00 shall be imposed for each violation of this ordinance. This notice is given pursuant to Chapter 9.64 of Title 9 of the Huron Municipal Code.

Tree and bush trimming - Per City ordinance trees overhanging onto the street or alley must be trimmed to 15' and over sidewalks must be 10'. All brush in the alley needs to be trimmed to the property line. No. 3492(adv.) Published two times at the total approximate cost of \$35.18 and may be viewed free of charge at www.sdpublicnotices.com.

NOTICE OF HEARING ON APPLICABLE NO. 8111-3 TO APPROPRIATE WATER

Notice is given that Van Buskirk Farms LLP, 18892 390th Ave, Hitchcock SD 57348, has filed an application for a water permit to appropriate 1.94 cubic feet of water per second from one well to be completed into the Tulare: Western Spink Hitchcock Aquifer (approximately 110 feet deep) located in the approximate center of the NE 1/4 Section 36 for irrigation of 136 acres located in the NE 1/4 Section 36; all in T113N-R64W. The same area is also authorized for irrigation from the Niobrara Aquifer under Water Permit No. 8748-3. This site is located approximately six miles southwest of Hitchcock SD.

South Dakota Codified Law (SDCL) 46-2A-4(10) provides that "if the applicant does not contest the recommendation of the Acting Chief Engineer and no petition to oppose the application is received, the Acting Chief Engineer shall act on the application pursuant to the Acting Chief Engineer's recommendation and no hearing may

LEGALS

be held before the board, unless the Acting Chief Engineer makes a finding that an application, even if uncontested, presents important issues of public policy or public interest that should be heard by the board." In this case, the Acting Chief Engineer finds that this application presents important issues of public interest that should be heard by the Water Management Board. Pursuant to SDCL 46-2A-2, the Acting Chief Engineer recommends APPROVAL of Application No. 8111-3 with qualifications because 1) unappropriated water is available, 2) existing domestic water uses and water rights will not be unlawfully impaired, 3) it is a beneficial use of water, and 4) it is in the public interest as it pertains to matters within the regulatory authority of the Water Management Board. The Acting Chief Engineer's recommendation with qualifications, the application, and staff report are available at <https://danr.sd.gov/public> or contact Amanda Dewell for this information, or other information, at the Water Rights Program address provided below. The Water Management Board will consider this application at 1:30 PM (Central Time) on May 6, 2026, in the Matthew Training Center, Joe Foss Bldg, 523 E. Capitol Ave., Pierre SD. The Acting Chief Engineer's recommendation is not final or binding upon the Board. The Board is authorized to 1) approve, 2) approve with qualifications, 3) defer, or 4) deny this application based on the facts presented at the public hearing.

Any person who intends to participate in the hearing shall allege that the application, upon approval, will cause injury to the person that is unique from any injury suffered by the public in general. The injury must concern a matter either within the regulatory authority found in SDCL 46-2A-9 for approval or denial of the application, or other matter concerning the application within the regulatory authority of the board to act upon as defined by SDCL 46-2-9 and 46-2-11, or both. Any person meeting the petitioner requirements and wishing to be a party of record in a contested case hearing shall file a written petition to oppose the application with BOTH the applicant and Acting Chief Engineer. A petition opposing the application shall be filed on a form provided by the Acting Chief Engineer. The petition form is available online at <https://danr.sd.gov/public> or by contacting the Acting Chief Engineer. The Acting Chief Engineer's address is "Water Rights Program, Foss Building, 523 E Capitol, Pierre SD 57501" or call (605) 773-3352. The applicant's mailing address is given above. If contesting the Acting Chief Engineer's recommendation, the applicant shall also file a petition. A petition filed by either an interested person or the applicant must be filed by April 13, 2026.

The petition shall be in writing and shall include a statement describing the unique injury upon approval of the application on the petitioner, the petitioner's reasons for opposing the application, and the name and mailing address of the petitioner or the petitioner's legal counsel, if legal counsel is obtained. The hearing is an adversary proceeding and any party has the right to be present at the hearing and to be represented by a lawyer. These and other due process rights will be forfeited if they are not exercised at the hearing and decisions of the Board may be appealed to the Circuit Court and State Supreme Court as provided by law.

The May hearing date will be automatically delayed for at least 20 days upon written request to the Acting Chief Engineer from the applicant or any person who has filed a petition to oppose the application. The request for an automatic delay must be filed by April 13, 2026. If an automatic delay is requested, the hearing will be rescheduled for a future Board meeting and personal notice will be provided to the applicant and all petitioners regarding the time, date, and location.

Any interested person may file a comment on the application with the Acting Chief Engineer. The comment shall be filed on a form provided by the Acting Chief Engineer and is available online at <https://danr.sd.gov/public> or by calling (605) 773-3352 or writing the Acting Chief Engineer at the address provided above. Filing a comment does not make the commenter a party of record or a participant in any hearing that may be held. Any comment must be filed by April 13, 2026.

Notice is given to individuals with disabilities that the meeting is being held in a physically accessible location. Individuals requiring assistive technology or other services in order to participate in the meeting or materials in an alternate format should contact Brian Walsh, Nondiscrimination Coordinator, by calling

LEGALS

(605) 773-5559 or by email at Brian.Walsh@state.sd.us as soon as possible but no later than two business days prior to the meeting in order to ensure accommodations are available.

Under SDCL 1-26-17(7) notices must state that "if the amount in controversy exceeds \$2,500.00 or if a property right may be terminated, any party to the contested case may require the agency to use the Office of Hearing Examiners by giving notice of the request to the agency no later than ten days after service of a notice of hearing issued pursuant to SDCL 1-26-17." This is a Notice of Hearing, service is being provided by publication, and the applicable date to give notice to the Acting Chief Engineer is April 13, 2026. However, since this particular matter is a water permit application and not a monetary controversy in excess of \$2,500.00 or termination of a property right the Acting Chief Engineer disputes the applicability of this provision and maintains that the hearing must be conducted by the Board.

As applicable, the following provides the legal authority and jurisdiction under which the hearing will be held and the particular statutes and rules pertaining to this application: SDCL 1-26-16 thru 1-26-28; SDCL 46-1-1 thru 46-1-9, 46-1-13 thru 46-1-16; 46-2-3-1, 46-2-9, 46-2-11, 46-2-17; 46-2A-1 thru 46-2A-12, 46-2A-14, 46-2A-15, 46-2A-20, 46-2A-21, 46-2A-23; 46-5-1.1, 46-5-2 thru 46-5-26, 46-5-30.2 thru 46-5-30.4, 46-5-31, 46-5-32 thru 46-5-34.1, 46-5-38 thru 46-5-39, 46-5-46, 46-5-47, 46-5-49; 46-6-1 thru 46-6-3.1, 46-6-6.1, 46-6-10, 46-6-13, 46-6-14, 46-6-21, 46-6-26; and Board Rules ARSD 74:02:01:01 thru 74:02:01:25.02; 74:02:01:35.01. Adv No 3475 Published once at an approximate cost of \$94.48.

STATE OF SOUTH DAKOTA IN CIRCUIT COURT :SS

COUNTY OF BEADLE THIRD JUDICIAL CIRCUIT ESTATE OF FRANKLIN J. OCHSNER, 02PRO26-000012 Deceased.

NOTICE TO CREDITORS
Notice is given that on March 20, 2026, Scott E. Ochsner whose address is 274 Mainzer Street, West Saint Paul, MN 55118 and Steven C. Ochsner whose address is 1544 Quarterback Court, Huron, SD 57350, was appointed as personal representative of the estate of FRANKLIN J. OCHSNER, deceased. Creditors of decedent must file their claims within four (4) months after the date of the first publication of this notice or their claims may be barred. Claims may be filed with the personal representative or may be filed with the clerk, and a copy of the claim mailed to the personal representative.

Scott E. Ochsner
Personal Representative
274 Mainzer Street
West Saint Paul, MN 55118
Steven C. Ochsner
Personal Representative
1544 Quarterback Court
Huron, SD 57350
No. 3495(adv.) Published three times at the total approximate cost of \$41.40 and may be viewed free of charge at www.sdpublicnotices.com.

STATE OF SOUTH DAKOTA IN CIRCUIT COURT :SS

COUNTY OF BEADLE THIRD JUDICIAL CIRCUIT ESTATE OF GRACIE L. NEITZERT 02PRO26-000008 Deceased.

NOTICE TO CREDITORS
Notice is given that on February 24, 2026, Jack Neitzert whose address is 622 1st Street SE, Huron, SD 57350, was appointed as personal representative of the estate of GRACIE L. NEITZERT, deceased. Creditors of decedent must file their claims within four (4) months after the date of the first publication of this notice or their claims may be barred. Claims may be filed with the personal representative or may be filed with the clerk, and a copy of the claim mailed to the personal representative.

/s/
Jack Neitzert
Personal Representative
622 1st Street SE
Huron, SD 57350
No. 3489(adv.) Published three times at the total approximate cost of \$36.69 and may be viewed free of charge at www.sdpublicnotices.com.

LEGALS

Virgil Town Council Meeting March 16, 2026

The Virgil Town Council and Board of Equalization met on March 16, 2026, at 7:00 pm at the Virgil Town Hall. Present were President Tom Westphal, Trustee Lorne King and Finance Officer Jean King. Absent Trustee, Debbi Holmes-Stockstill. A motion was made by Tom Westphal and seconded by Lorne King to approve the agenda. Motion Carried. President Westphal called the meeting to order. Minutes: The minutes of the February 3, 2026, meeting were read. A motion was made by Lorne King and seconded by Tom Westphal to approve the reading of the minutes. Motion Carried. Treasurers Report: A motion was made by Tom Westphal and seconded by Lorne King to approve the reading of the treasurer's report. Motion Carried.

The balance as of February 28, 2026, \$11,090.58. The February receipts were Dakotaland FCU; interest \$.43; Beadle County \$374.37 Total receipts are \$374.80. The following bills were presented by President Westphal: Salaries \$250.00 less Payroll deduction \$19.13; Northwestern Energy, Utilities, \$246.55; Plainsman, Advertising \$49.45; Amicus Tax Accountants, CPA \$297.36. Total \$824.23.

A motion was made by Tom Westphal and seconded by Lorne King to pay all bills as presented. Motion Carried. Old Business: None New Business: A Motion was made by Lorne King and seconded by Tom Westphal to approve 2025 annual report to be filed with the SD Dept of Legislative Office, Pierre, SD. Motion Carried. The next Virgil Town Council meeting is scheduled for April 7, 2026, 7pm at the Virgil Town Hall.

A motion was made by Tom Westphal and seconded by Lorne King to adjourn. Motion Carried.

Tom Westphal, President
Jean King, Finance Officer
EXHIBIT 1
MUNICIPALITY OF VIRGIL STATEMENT OF FUND CASH BALANCES
ALL FUNDS
DECEMBER 31, 2025
Cash Assets:
Cash in Checking Accounts
General Fund 10,747.57
Change and Petty Cash
General Fund 0
Passbook Savings
General Fund 5.12
Savings Certificates
General Fund 0.00
Dakotaland FCU
General Fund 5,000.00
Dakotaland FCU
General Fund 44,109.33
101 Fund Cash Balances
General Fund 59,862.02
Total 59,862.02
Municipal funds are deposited or invested with the following depositories: 0.00
ANNUAL REPORT
MUNICIPALITY OF VIRGIL For the Year Ended December 31, 2025

EXHIBIT 1
STATEMENT OF FUND CASH BALANCES
Cash Assets:
Checking Acct.....\$10,747.57
Passbook Savings.....\$5.12
Dakotaland FCU.....\$5,000.00
Dakotaland FCU.....\$44,109.33
TOTAL CASH ASSETS: \$59,862.02

EXHIBIT 2
RECEIPTS, DISBURSEMENTS AND CHANGES IN BALANCES
RECEIPTS (Source):
Property Taxes.....\$4,846.19
Other Taxes.....\$25.81
Bank Franchise Tax.....\$45.04
Motor Vehicle Lic.....\$1,857.74
County Road Tax.....\$362.26
Other Intergovt.....\$6,424.86
Investment Earnings.\$2,126.64
TOTAL RECEIPTS.....\$15,688.54

DISBURSEMENTS (Function):
General Govt.....\$6,033.92
Highways & Streets.\$10,327.43
TOTAL DISBURS.....\$16,361.35
FUND CASH BALANCES:
Beg. Balance.....\$60,534.83
Net Change.....-\$672.81
ENDING BALANCE.....\$59,862.02

Prepared by:
MUNICIPALITY OF VIRGIL
Dated: March 25, 2026

No. 3496(adv.) Published one time at the total approximate cost of \$52.85 and may be viewed free of charge at www.sdpublicnotices.com.

LEGALS

STATE OF SOUTH DAKOTA IN CIRCUIT COURT :SS

COUNTY OF BEADLE THIRD JUDICIAL CIRCUIT ESTATE OF DEBORAH JEAN ANDERSON 02PRO26-000009 Deceased.

NOTICE TO CREDITORS
Notice is given that on March 2, 2026, Steven Elmer Anderson whose address is 1845 Maple Drive, Huron, SD 57350, was appointed as personal representative of the estate of DEBORAH JEAN ANDERSON, deceased. Creditors of decedent must file their claims within four (4) months after the date of the first publication of this notice or their claims may be barred. Claims may be filed with the personal representative or may be filed with the clerk, and a copy of the claim mailed to the personal representative. /s/ Steven Elmer Anderson Steven Elmer Anderson Personal Representative 1845 Maple Drive Huron, SD 57350 No. 3491(adv.) Published one time at the total approximate cost of \$36.69 and may be viewed free of charge at www.sdpublicnotices.com.

NOTICE OF HEARING ON APPLICABLE NO. 8109-3 TO APPROPRIATE WATER

Notice is given that Van Buskirk Farms LLP, 18892 390th Ave, Hitchcock SD 57348, has filed an application for a water permit to appropriate 7.77 cubic feet of water per second from up to four wells to be completed into the Tulare: Western Spink Hitchcock Aquifer (all approximately 110 feet deep) located in the approximate centers of the SE 1/4, SW 1/4 Section 4 and NE 1/4, SE 1/4 Section 5 for irrigation of 544 acres located in the S 1/2 Section 4, E 1/2 Section 5; all in T113N-R63W. Portions of the same area are also authorized for irrigation under Water Right No. 7264-3 & Permit No. 8261-3 (two ponds) and Water Permit No. 5601A-3 (Tulare: Western Spink Hitchcock Aquifer). This site is located approximately one-half mile south and west of Hitchcock SD.

South Dakota Codified Law (SDCL) 46-2A-4(10) provides that "if the applicant does not contest the recommendation of the Acting Chief Engineer and no petition to oppose the application is received, the Acting Chief Engineer shall act on the application pursuant to the Acting Chief Engineer's recommendation and no hearing may be held before the board, unless the Acting Chief Engineer makes a finding that an application, even if uncontested, presents important issues of public policy or public interest that should be heard by the Water Management Board.

Pursuant to SDCL 46-2A-2, the Acting Chief Engineer recommends APPROVAL of Application No. 8109-3 with qualifications because 1) unappropriated water is available, 2) existing domestic water uses and water rights will not be unlawfully impaired, 3) it is a beneficial use of water, and 4) it is in the public interest as it pertains to matters within the regulatory authority of the Water Management Board. The Acting Chief Engineer's recommendation with qualifications, the application, and staff report are available at <https://danr.sd.gov/public> or contact Amanda Dewell for this information, or other information, at the Water Rights Program address provided below. The Water Management Board will consider this application at 1:30 PM (Central Time) on May 6, 2026, in the Matthew Training Center, Joe Foss Bldg, 523 E. Capitol Ave., Pierre SD. The Acting Chief Engineer's recommendation is not final or binding upon the Board. The Board is authorized to 1) approve, 2) approve with qualifications, 3) defer, or 4) deny this application based on the facts presented at the public hearing.

Any person who intends to participate in the hearing shall allege that the application, upon approval, will cause injury to the person that is unique from any injury suffered by the public in general. The injury must concern a matter either within the regulatory authority found in SDCL 46-2A-9 for approval or denial of the application, or other matter concerning the application within the regulatory authority of the board to act upon as defined by SDCL 46-2-9 and 46-2-11, or both. Any person meeting the petitioner requirements and wishing to be a party of record in a contested case hearing shall file a written petition to oppose the application with BOTH the applicant and Acting Chief Engineer. A petition opposing the application shall be filed on a form provided by the Acting Chief Engineer. The petition form is available online at <https://danr.sd.gov/public> or by contacting the Acting Chief Engineer's address is "Water

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Rights Program, Foss Building, 523 E Capitol, Pierre SD 57501" or call (605) 773-3352. The applicant's mailing address is given above. If contesting the Acting Chief Engineer's recommendation, the applicant shall also file a petition. A petition filed by either an interested person or the applicant must be filed by April 13, 2026.

The petition shall be in writing and shall include a statement describing the unique injury upon approval of the application on the petitioner, the petitioner's reasons for opposing the application, and the name and mailing address of the petitioner or the petitioner's legal counsel, if legal counsel is obtained. The hearing is an adversary proceeding and any party has the right to be present at the hearing and to be represented by a lawyer. These and other due process rights will be forfeited if they are not exercised at the hearing and decisions of the Board may be appealed to the Circuit Court and State Supreme Court as provided by law.

The May hearing date will be automatically delayed for at least 20 days upon written request to the Acting Chief Engineer from the applicant or any person who has filed a petition to oppose the application. The request for an automatic delay must be filed by April 13, 2026. If an automatic delay is requested, the hearing will be rescheduled for a future Board meeting and personal notice will be provided to the applicant and all petitioners regarding the time, date, and location.

Any interested person may file a comment on the application with the Acting Chief Engineer. The comment shall be filed on a form provided by the Acting Chief Engineer and is available online at <https://danr.sd.gov/public> or by calling (605) 773-3352 or writing the Acting Chief Engineer at the address provided above. Filing a comment does not make the commenter a party of record or a participant in any hearing that may be held. Any comment must be filed by April 13, 2026.

Notice is given to individuals with disabilities that the meeting is being held in a physically accessible location. Individuals requiring assistive technology or other services in order to participate in the meeting or materials in an alternate format should contact Brian Walsh, Nondiscrimination Coordinator, by calling (605) 773-5559 or by email at Brian.Walsh@state.sd.us as soon as possible but no later than two business days prior to the meeting in order to ensure accommodations are available. Under SDCL 1-26-17(7) notices must state that "if the amount in controversy exceeds \$2,500.00 or if a property right may be terminated, any party to the contested case may require the agency to use the Office of Hearing Examiners by giving notice of the request to the agency no later than ten days after service of a notice of hearing issued pursuant to SDCL 1-26-17." This is a Notice of Hearing, service is being provided by publication, and the applicable date to give notice to the Acting Chief Engineer is April 13, 2026. However, since this particular matter is a water permit application and not a monetary controversy in excess of \$2,500.00 or termination of a property right the Acting Chief Engineer disputes the applicability of this provision and maintains that the hearing must be conducted by the Board.

As applicable, the following provides the legal authority and jurisdiction under which the hearing will be held and the particular statutes and rules pertaining to this application: SDCL 1-26-16 thru 1-26-28; SDCL 46-1-1 thru 46-1-9, 46-1-13 thru 46-1-16; 46-2-3-1, 46-2-9, 46-2-11, 46-2-17; 46-2A-1 thru 46-2A-12, 46-2A-14, 46-2A-15, 46-2A-20, 46-2A-21, 46-2A-23; 46-5-1.1, 46-5-2 thru 46-5-26, 46-5-30.2 thru 46-5-30.4, 46-5-31, 46-5-32 thru 46-5-34.1, 46-5-38 thru 46-5-39, 46-5-46, 46-5-47, 46-5-49; 46-6-1 thru 46-6-3.1, 46-6-6.1, 46-6-10, 46-6-13, 46-6-14, 46-6-21, 46-6-26; and Board Rules ARSD 74:02:01:01 thru 74:02:01:25.02; 74:02:01:35.01. Adv no. 3476 Published once at an approximate cost of \$95.93.

NOTICE OF HEARING ON APPLICABLE NO. 8138-3 TO APPROPRIATE WATER

Notice is given that Ken Jodi Hoyer, 19343 398th Avenue, Hitchcock SD 57348, have filed an application for a water permit to appropriate 2.11 cubic feet of water per second from one well to be completed into the Tulare: Western Spink Hitchcock Aquifer (approximately 60 – 100 feet deep) located in the approximate center of the SE 1/4 Section 31 for irrigation of 150 acres located in the SE 1/4 Section 31; all in T113N-R62W. This site is located approximately six and one-half miles southeast of Hitchcock SD.

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South Dakota Codified Law (SDCL) 46-2A-4(10) provides that "if the applicant does not contest the recommendation of the Acting Chief Engineer and no petition to oppose the application is received, the Acting Chief Engineer shall act on the application pursuant to the Acting Chief Engineer's recommendation and no hearing may be held before the board, unless the Acting Chief Engineer makes a finding that an application, even if uncontested, presents important issues of public policy or public interest that should be heard by the board." In this case, the Acting Chief Engineer finds that this application presents important issues of public interest that should be heard by the Water Management Board.

Pursuant to SDCL 46-2A-2, the Acting Chief Engineer recommends APPROVAL of Application No. 81338-3 with qualifications because 1) unappropriated water is available, 2) existing domestic water uses and water rights will not be unlawfully impaired, 3) it is a beneficial use of water, and 4) it is in the public interest as it pertains to matters within the regulatory authority of the Water Management Board. The Acting Chief Engineer's recommendation with qualifications, the application, and staff report are available at <https://danr.sd.gov/public> or contact Amanda Dewell for this information, or other information, at the Water Rights Program address provided below. The Water Management Board will consider this application at 1:30 PM (Central Time) on May 6, 2026, in the Matthew Training Center, Joe Foss Bldg, 523 E. Capitol Ave., Pierre SD. The Acting Chief Engineer's recommendation is not final or binding upon the Board. The Board is authorized to 1) approve, 2) approve with qualifications, 3) defer, or 4) deny this application based on the facts presented at the public hearing.

Any person who intends to participate in the hearing shall allege that the application, upon approval, will cause injury to the person that is unique from any injury suffered by the public in general. The injury must concern a matter either within the regulatory authority found in SDCL 46-2A-9 for approval or denial of the application, or other matter concerning the application within the regulatory authority of the board to act upon as defined by SDCL 46-2-9 and 46-2-11, or both. Any person meeting the petitioner requirements and wishing to be a party of record in a contested case hearing shall file a written petition to oppose the application with BOTH the applicant and Acting Chief Engineer. A petition opposing the application shall be filed on a form provided by the Acting Chief Engineer. The petition form is available online at <https://danr.sd.gov/public> or by contacting the Acting Chief Engineer. The Acting Chief Engineer's address is "Water Rights Program, Foss Building, 523 E Capitol, Pierre SD 57501" or call (605) 773-3352. The applicant's mailing address is given above. If contesting the Acting Chief Engineer's recommendation, the applicant shall also file a petition. A petition filed by either an interested person or the applicant must be filed by April 13, 2026.

The petition shall be in writing and shall include a statement describing the unique injury upon approval of the application on the petitioner, the petitioner's reasons for opposing the application, and the name and mailing address of the petitioner or the petitioner's legal counsel, if legal counsel is obtained. The hearing is an adversary proceeding and any party has the right to be present at the hearing and to be represented by a lawyer. These and other due process rights will be forfeited if they are not exercised at the hearing and decisions of the Board may be appealed to the Circuit Court and State Supreme Court as provided by law. The May hearing date will be automatically delayed for at least 20 days upon written request to the Acting Chief Engineer from the applicant or any person who has filed a petition to oppose the application. The request for an automatic delay must be filed by April 13, 2026. If an automatic delay is requested, the hearing will be rescheduled for a future Board meeting and personal notice will be provided to the applicant and all petitioners regarding the time, date, and location.

Any interested person may file a comment on the application with the Acting Chief Engineer. The comment shall be filed on a form provided by the Acting Chief Engineer and is available online at <https://danr.sd.gov/public> or by calling (605) 773-3352 or writing the Acting Chief Engineer at the address provided above. Filing a comment does not make the commenter a party of record or a participant in any hearing that may be held. Any comment must be filed by April 13, 2026.

Notice is given to individuals with disabilities that the meeting is being held in a physically accessible location. Individuals requiring assistive technology or other services in order to participate in the meeting or materials in an alternate format should contact Brian Walsh, Nondiscrimination Coordinator, by calling (605) 773-5559 or by email at Brian.Walsh@state.sd.us as soon as possible but no later than two business days prior to the meeting in order to ensure accommodations are available. Under SDCL 1-26-17(7) notices must state that "if the amount in controversy exceeds \$2,500.00 or if a property right may be terminated, any party to the contested case may require the agency to use the Office of Hearing Examiners by giving notice of the request to the agency no

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later than ten days after service of a notice of hearing issued pursuant to SDCL 1-26-17." This is a Notice of Hearing, service is being provided by publication, and the applicable date to give notice to the Acting Chief Engineer is April 13, 2026. However, since this particular matter is a water permit application and not a monetary controversy in excess of \$2,500.00 or termination of a property right the Acting Chief Engineer disputes the applicability of this provision and maintains that the hearing must be conducted by the Board.

As applicable, the following provides the legal authority and jurisdiction under which the hearing will be held and the particular statutes and rules pertaining to this application: SDCL 1-26-16 thru 1-26-28; SDCL 46-1-1 thru 46-1-9, 46-1-13 thru 46-1-16; 46-2-3-1, 46-2-9, 46-2-11, 46-2-17; 46-2A-1 thru 46-2A-12, 46-2A-14, 46-2A-15, 46-2A-20, 46-2A-21, 46-2A-23; 46-5-1.1, 46-5-2 thru 46-5-26, 46-5-30.2 thru 46-5-30.4, 46-5-31, 46-5-32 thru 46-5-34.1, 46-5-38 thru 46-5-39, 46-5-46, 46-5-47, 46-5-49; 46-6-1 thru 46-6-3.1, 46-6-6-1, 46-6-10, 46-6-13, 46-6-14, 46-6-21, 46-6-26; and Board Rules ARSD 74:02.01:01 thru 74:02.01:25.02; 74:02.01:35.01. Adv no. 3477 Published once at an approximate cost of \$92.67.

NOTICE OF HEARING on Application No. 8137-3 to Appropriate Water

Notice is given that Ken and Jodi Hofer, 19343 398th Avenue, Hitchcock SD 57348, have filed an application for a water permit to appropriate 2.22 cubic feet of water per second from one well to be completed into the Tulare: Western Spink Hitchcock Aquifer (approximately 60 – 100 feet deep) located in the approximate center of the NE 1/4 Section 21 for irrigation of 160 acres located in the NE 1/4 Section 21; all in T113N-R62W. This site is located approximately six and one-half miles southeast of Hitchcock SD.

South Dakota Codified Law (SDCL) 46-2A-4(10) provides that "if the applicant does not contest the recommendation of the Acting Chief Engineer and no petition to oppose the application is received, the Acting Chief Engineer shall act on the application pursuant to the Acting Chief Engineer's recommendation and no hearing may be held before the board, unless the Acting Chief Engineer makes a finding that an application, even if uncontested, presents important issues of public policy or public interest that should be heard by the board." In this case, the Acting Chief Engineer finds that this application presents important issues of public interest that should be heard by the Water Management Board.

Pursuant to SDCL 46-2A-2, the Acting Chief Engineer recommends APPROVAL of Application No. 8137-3 with qualifications because 1) unappropriated water is available, 2) existing domestic water uses and water rights will not be unlawfully impaired, 3) it is a beneficial use of water, and 4) it is in the public interest as it pertains to matters within the regulatory authority of the Water Management Board. The Acting Chief Engineer's recommendation with qualifications, the application, and staff report are available at <https://danr.sd.gov/public> or contact Amanda Dewell for this information, or other information, at the Water Rights Program address provided below. The Water Management Board will consider this application at 1:30 PM (Central Time) on May 6, 2026, in the Matthew Training Center, Joe Foss Bldg, 523 E. Capitol Ave., Pierre SD. The Acting Chief Engineer's recommendation is not final or binding upon the Board. The Board is authorized to 1) approve, 2) approve with qualifications, 3) defer, or 4) deny this application based on the facts presented at the public hearing.

Any person who intends to participate in the hearing shall allege that the application, upon approval, will cause injury to the person that is unique from any injury suffered by the public in general. The injury must concern a matter either within the regulatory authority found in SDCL 46-2A-9 for approval or denial of the application, or other matter concerning the application within the regulatory authority of the board to act upon as defined by SDCL 46-2-9 and 46-2-11, or both. Any person meeting the petitioner requirements and wishing to be a party of record in a contested case hearing shall file a written petition to oppose the application with BOTH the applicant and Acting Chief Engineer. A petition opposing the application shall be filed on a form provided by the Acting Chief Engineer. The petition form is available online at <https://danr.sd.gov/public> or by contacting the Acting Chief Engineer. The Acting Chief Engineer's address is "Water Rights Program, Foss Building, 523 E Capitol, Pierre SD 57501" or call (605) 773-3352. The applicant's mailing address is given above. If contesting the Acting Chief Engineer's recommendation, the applicant shall also file a petition. A petition filed by either an interested person or the applicant must be filed by April 13, 2026.

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MINUTES City Commission Meeting Municipal Building City Commission Room March 23, 2026 5:30 PM

PRESENT: Commissioner Bryan Smith, Commissioner Rhonda Kludt, Commissioner Rich Bragg, Commissioner Shawn Harvey, and Mayor Mark Robish. The Board of City Commissioners of the City of Huron, South Dakota, met in regular session on March 23, 2026, 5:30 PM in the Municipal Building City Commission Room. The meeting was called to order by Mayor Mark Robish. Agenda Approval Moved by Bryan Smith, Seconded by Rhonda Kludt to approve the agenda with correction to move the public forum before the Board of Adjustment. FOR: Bryan Smith, Rhonda Kludt, Rich Bragg, Shawn Harvey, and Mark Robish. CARRIED.

Public Forum Mayor Robish introduced the Huron Tiger Boys Basketball team that won the State AA Championship and thanked them for representing the team, school and the community. Commissioner Kludt announced NAMI has changed their name to Mental Health Milestones (MHM) and they meet Mondays at 3 p.m. at Don't Spill the Beans and there will be a ribbon cutting at the library for a room dedication ceremony at 1 p.m. on Tuesday March 24th honoring Donald Urquhart and Mildred Jones.

The City Commission Adjourns to Convene as the Board of Adjustment for the following Public Hearing Moved by Shawn Harvey, Seconded by Bryan Smith to approve a Conditional Use Permit request filed by Annette Bowen, 718 9th Street SW to operate an Airbnb/Vacation Rental Home, where code requires a Conditional Use Permit for this use and a copy of the Vacation Rental Home license from the state must be provided in an area zoned R-2 (One Family Residential District) FOR: Bryan Smith, Rhonda Kludt, Rich Bragg, Shawn Harvey, and Mark Robish. CARRIED.

The Board of Adjustment Adjourns to Reconvene as the City Commission Consent Agenda

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Moved by Rhonda Kludt, Seconded by Bryan Smith to approve the Minutes of March 16, 2026; Set April 4, 2026 as the Public Hearing date for Retail on-off sale Wine and Cider Alcoholic Beverage License for 1904 Remnant, LLC, 266 Dakota Ave S.; Payment of Bills: A-Ox Welding Supply Company-Cylinder Rental \$24.07; Amazon Capital Services-Door Opener Receiver \$155.65; Avera Flex - Health Insurance-Med Reimbursement 03/11 To 03/17/2026 \$937.41; BSN Sports LLC-Homeplate/Base/Pitchers Rubber \$1,479.94; Butler Machinery Company-Annual Maintenance/ Service on Generator \$14,661.28; CHS - Farmers Alliance-Bottle Fill \$6,549.65; Cole Paper Inc-Cleaning Supplies \$148.31; Creative Printing Inc-Business Cards \$272.78; Dakota Energy Cooperative-Utilities 20850 403rd Ave \$7,716.65; Duinink Incorporated-EZ-Street Patch Mix \$974.75; Fastenal Company-Screws/Lock Nuts \$902.96; Gene Halsey-Hustler X-One 72" Mower \$11,765.74; Gohn, Steve-Labor/Materials-Mailbox Post \$95.00; Hach Company-Testing Supplies \$423.71; Hawkins Inc-Chlorine Cylinders \$100.00; Heiman Fire Equipment Inc-Airbags/Control Kits/Hoses \$10,216.92; Huron Ambulance Service In-AED Spare/ Replacement Battery \$246.57; Huron Chamber & Visitors Bureau-Bid Heartland Pool & Dart \$7,090.00; Huron Clinic Foundation-Random Screen \$96.00; Infrastructure Design Group-Prof Services On-Call Training \$940.00; I-State Truck Center, Inc.-Air Dryer Cartridge \$89.04; Lewis, Natalee-Rm Dep Refund-Lewis \$100.00; Mac's Hardware-Drill Bits/Nuts/Bolts/Supplies \$636.83; May, Adam, Gerdes & Thompson-Jan-Feb 2026 Professional Services \$18,000.00; Midcontinent Communication-Internet, Phone \$358.92; Midwest Tuning & Alignment-Clusters/Repairs \$535.00; Millennium Recycling Inc-Single Stream No Glass \$504.75; Water Deposit Refund-Hope House Inc \$201.96; Mrg Hauff-Softballs \$847.80; Northwest Pipe Fittings In-Bolts/Sensors/Pvc/Supplies \$1,406.36; Northwestern Energy-Gas, Electric \$23,587.34; Office Equipment Services-Color Copies Sharp Mx-414In SW \$2,287.77; Premier Equipment-Freight \$576.40; Running's Supply Inc-Water Heater/ Chainsaws/ Supplies \$3,094.11; Sanitation Products Inc-Side Broom Segment/Wiper Assy \$44,931.02; Server Supply-Hard Disk Drive \$351.50; Sherwin-Williams-8511 Resp 2 Pack \$5.71; SHI International Corp-Anti-Glare Screen \$76.81; Smith, Laurie-Rm Dep Refund \$100.00; South Dakota Government Finance-Finance Officer Membership \$150.00; South Dakota Municipal League-District 2 Annual Meeting \$125.00; South Dakota State Treasurer-Sales Tax Remit Fee 2026 \$17,558.46; Streicher's-Keepers/Belt \$109.96; Thomson Reuters - West-Clear Law Enforcement Plus \$156.64; Timeclock Plus LLC-Annual Licenses Mar 2026 - 2027 \$8,063.31; Trevi-pap-Aluminum Gantry Crane/Chain \$5,084.97; Truck & Trailer Specialist-Repairs to Trailer \$15,306.85; Venture Communications Coo-E911 Phones \$190.81; Vee Eide Of Mitchell-Repairs/Alignment \$139.14; Vestis-Supplies \$67.47; Westech Engineering, LLC-Gasket \$1,168.78 FOR: Bryan Smith, Rhonda Kludt, Rich Bragg, Shawn Harvey, and Mark Robish. CARRIED.

Bid / Quote Items Moved by Shawn Harvey, Seconded by Bryan Smith to approve the 2026 Lease Agreement with NB Golf, LLC for 30 new golf carts. FOR: Bryan Smith, Rhonda Kludt, Rich Bragg, Shawn Harvey, and Mark Robish. CARRIED.

Moved by Shawn Harvey, Seconded by Rich Bragg to approve agreement to purchase ArcGIS from ESRI and agreement with DGR for training and data migration and authorize City Engineer to sign. City currently utilizes Beehive which is a GIS platform for utility mapping and asset management, but this system has several issues, such as it cannot generate inventory reports which requires staff to compile reports manually; utility lines cannot be color coded, so when providing utility maps to contractors, staff must manually add labels; Web browser is extremely slow and requires frequent refreshes when updating information; the coordinate system is not compatible with standard surveying practices; the City can no longer export its own GIS data; support is terrible. The recommended new system will allow data to be transferred, and the engineering department will receive training. The new proposed system, ArcGIS, subscription price is also considerably less than Beehive. Initial cost for ArcGIS is \$12,600 which includes licensing, internet service upgrade, training and data migration support. Estimated cost per year after initial set up for ArcGIS is \$4,000, Beehive subscription is \$4,000. FOR: Bryan Smith, Rhonda Kludt, Rich Bragg, Shawn Harvey, and Mark Robish. CARRIED.

Departmental Items Yard Waste Pick Up Schedule - Green Cans (Yard Waste) will be picked up Wednesday April 1st, 8th & 15th. If weather permits, the green cans will be picked up starting the week of April 20th on your regular garbage pick-up day. Green cans are for grass clippings, flowers, and twigs. No large branches. If you have questions, please call 605-353-8542. Work Session Urban Redevelopment Project - Apartment Complex - Barry

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Cranston, City Planner explained that this is a project for the current Tamarac apartments and that Meyer Property Management is looking at purchasing the facility. John and Ryan Meyer gave details of the purchase and the funding with SD Housing and other funds and is asking the city for a forbearance of property taxes, a letter of support from the city and the zoning department. Meyer's added that they will be purchasing then updating the Tamarac units including parking lot, A/C system, sidewalks, playground, community room and replace the elevator with an approximate cost of \$2.3 million for renovations. Cranston added that they are asking for assistance to get additional points on the funding requests and the city could do a resolution asking for discretionary. Commissioner Bragg asked about the subsidized apartments and if it would be all of them, it will be all of them that is why they are asking for the abatement. City attorney discussed other ways that have been talked about in reference to the project but that the city would need to change some ordinances to allow for the redevelopment of this are. At this time the County has a discretionary formula that will allow for adjustments for 5 years. Meyers agreed and thanked the commissioner for allowing them to discuss this project and look forward to the rehab and to continue to be part of the Huron community. Commissioners all agreed that the county discretionary formula would be best at this time and a letter of support from the Mayor and Planner can be put together to them. Other in-kind things were talked about and can be worked out. Executive Session Contractual 1-25-2 (3) - Moved by Bryan Smith, seconded by Shawn Harvey to go into executive session at 6:42 p.m. Note time out of executive session at 7:22 p.m. FOR: Bryan Smith, Rhonda Kludt, Rich Bragg, Shawn Harvey, and Mark Robish. CARRIED.

Adjournment There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned. Mark Robish, Mayor Pauly Carey, Finance Director

No. 3494(adv.) Published one time at the total approximate cost of \$124.17 and may be viewed free of charge at www.sdpublicnotices.com.

Lake Byron Sanitary District GENERAL PROVISIONS

- Chapter 1.00 - CODE 1.01 - Definitions. References and terms as used in this code, unless the context otherwise plainly requires, shall have the meanings hereinafter provided: (1) "Code" refers to the ordinance of the Lake Byron Sanitation District. The provisions, regulations, restrictions, requirements, and prohibitions contained in this code apply to the area within the territorial limits of the Lake Byron Sanitation District, unless otherwise specifically provided. (2) "District" shall mean the Lake Byron Sanitary District, Beadle County, South Dakota. (3) "Garbage" shall mean every accumulation of animal, vegetable, or other matter that attends the preparation, consumption, decay, dealing in or storage of meats, fish, fowl, birds, fruit or vegetables, including the cans, containers, or wrappers wasted along with such materials. (4) "Governing body" refers to the Board of Trustees of the Lake Byron Sanitation District. (5) "Industrial waste" shall mean the liquid waste from industrial manufacturing processes, trade or business as distinct from sanitary sewage. (6) "Inspector" shall mean any authorized deputy, agent or representative of the Superintendent or person appointed as such by Superintendent or by the Board of Trustees. (7) "Lot" is any tract or parcel of ground. (8) "Non-residential Users" shall mean all types of units other than "Residential Users." (9) "Person" shall mean any individual firm, company, association, society, corporation or group. (10) "Property Owner" shall mean any owner of any lot(s), or part owner of any lot(s) or parts thereof, including residential and non-residential property. (11) "Rubbish" shall mean wood, leaves, trimmings from shrubs, dead trees, or branches thereof, shavings, sawdust, printed matter, paper, paper board, posterboard, grass, rags, straw, and all other combustible material not included under the term "garbage." (12) "Refuse" shall mean and include any waste product composed wholly or partly of such materials as garbage, trash, rubbish, litter, accumulated waste material, cans, containers, tires, junk, or other such substances which may become a nuisance. (13) "Residential User" shall mean any single-family dwelling, individual condominium unit, or individual mobile home units, whether seasonal or year-around, per septic tank hook up. (14) "Sewer" shall mean a type of conduit for carrying wastewater. (15) "Storm drain" or "storm sewer" shall mean a sewer which carries storm and surface water drainage, but excludes wastewater and industrial waste, other than undiluted cooling water. (16) "Superintendent" shall mean the person appointed by the Board of Trustees designated as the Superintendent of the wastewater works for the Lake Byron Sanitary District, or a duly appointed member of the Board of Trustees who is authorized to act in the place of such Superintendent. (17) "Wastewater system" shall

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mean the public waster collection system being operated by the District.

(18) "Water course: shall mean a channel in which a flow of water occurs, either continuously or intermittently. 1.02 - Publication. This code shall be printed and published in book form and shall take effect as provided by law. 1.03 - Severability. Should any section, paragraph, sentence, clause or phrase of this code be declared invalid or unconstitutional for any reason, the remainder of this code shall not be affected thereby. Chapter 1.02 - GOVERNING BODY

1.02.01 - Establishment. The governing body of the Lake Byron Sanitation District shall consist of three members on the board of trustees, elected by the qualified electors of the Lake Byron Sanitation District in accordance with the statutes of the state. Each trustee must be a resident of the sanitary district. The board of trustees may by resolution submit to the voters the question of whether the number of trustees shall be increased to five at a special election called for that purpose, or at the next regular election. The board of trustees shall give notice pursuant to SDCL - 16-4 of the election provided for in SDCL 34A-5-17. The question shall be submitted to the voters on a separate ballot and shall enable each voter to vote for or against the proposed question. If a majority of the voters approve the question to increase the board of trustees to five, the voters shall elect one additional trustee for a three-year term and one additional trustee for a two-year term at the next regular election and the trustees shall be certified in the same manner as provided by law. 1.02.02 - Annual Meeting. The annual meeting shall be held each year on the second Wednesday in May. 1.02.03 Annual Election. The annual election shall be conducted in accordance with the municipal election laws pursuant to chapter 9-13, except as provided in SDCL Ch. 34A-5. The board of trustees shall publish a notice in the official newspaper of the sanitary district setting forth the vacancies which will occur by termination of the terms of office of elective officers. The notice shall also state the time and place where nominating petitions may be filed for such offices. The notice shall be published once each week for two consecutive weeks. The first notice shall be published not less than thirty days prior to the deadline for filing nominating petitions. 1.02.04 - Vacancy. When a vacancy occurs on the board of trustees, the vacancy shall be filled by the remaining members of the board of trustees. 1.02.05 - Duties and term of office, compensation of board of trustees. (a) The duties of the governing body and its members shall be in accordance with the statutes of the state and as prescribed by the ordinances of the District. (b) The initial terms of office will be for one (1), two (2) or three (3) years, with the person receiving the highest number of votes at the initial election having a three year term, the person receiving the second highest number of votes having a two year term, and the person having the third highest number of votes having a one year term. Thereafter, one trustee shall be elected annually, one trustee for a term of three years. (c) A majority of the board of trustees constitutes a quorum for conducting business and a concurrence of the majority is necessary for any action by the board. (d) The compensation for the members of the governing body shall be set each year by the board of trustees at the annual meeting.

1.02.06 - Regular board meetings. The governing body shall meet in regular meetings at Byron Bible camp on the second Wednesday of each month, at 7:00PM, except that if the regular meeting day has been deemed a legal holiday pursuant to state law, the regular meeting shall not be held unless otherwise scheduled. If there is no quorum present at the regularly scheduled meeting the meeting shall be adjourned and the President of the Board of Trustees shall reschedule the meeting. 1.02.07 - Special meetings. Special meetings may be called by the President of the Board of Trustees or by a majority of the board. 1.02.08 - Parliamentary Procedure. The Board of Trustees shall utilize Robert's Rules of Order for Parliamentary Procedure as the guide for conducting official meetings held by the Board of Trustees. However, in utilizing Robert's Rules of Order for Parliamentary Procedure as a guide it is not intended nor is it required that there be strict compliance with Robert's Rules of Parliamentary Procedure. The Board of Trustees President shall make all decisions related to parliamentary procedure that may arise during the course of a meeting. Any Board member may appeal the decision of the Board President/Chairperson to the full Board and the Board shall, by majority vote, decide the procedural issue or question pending before the Board. 1.02.09 - Notice of meetings with proposed agenda. The Byron Bible Camp Meeting Hall is hereby designated as the principal office and place of business of the Lake Byron Sanitation District Board of Trustees for purposes of posting the notice of meeting and the proposed agenda pursuant to SDCL 1-25-1.1, as regular and special meetings will be held at that location unless otherwise noted on the notice of meeting. 1.02.10 - Oath of office and

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loyalty oath. Any person elected as a member of the governing body at an annual or special election, or appointed, shall before assuming official duties as a member of the governing body, be duly sworn in by a member of the governing board and be required to take and subscribe an oath or affirmation of office and a loyalty oath as required by the statutes of the state.

1.02.11 – Public Records. The governing board will adhere to SDCL 34A-5-25 and SDCL Ch. 1-27 related to public records. The President of the Board of Trustees shall be the public records officer for the District and a full, complete, accurate and itemized account of all proceedings, ordinances, resolutions and regulations shall be located at an office within the sanitary district as designated by the Board of Trustees. The office will be located at Byron Bible Camp.

1.02.12 – General powers of trustees. The board of trustees shall have the following powers:

(1) To appoint a treasurer and a clerk, an engineer and attorney for such sanitary district and fix their compensation. Such officers shall hold their respective offices during the pleasure of said board, and shall give bond for the faithful performance of their duties as may be required by said board. (2) To sue and be sued and to contract in the name of the district.

(3) To adopt a corporate seal. (4) To construct and operate storm and sanitary sewers and sewage disposal plants, borrow money, levy taxes and special assessments, and issue bonds. The board of trustees may borrow money for purposes described in this section and may issue a promissory note or notes for a term of up to twenty years. The board of trustees may exercise the power of eminent domain, but not over existing sewage facilities, water rights, water mains, hydrants, intakes, wells, storage tanks, reservoirs, treatment plants, or any other water facilities.

1.02.17 – Requiring connections with sewers; assessment and charge; construction and inspection standards for private systems. The board of trustees may require by ordinance or resolution that all dwellings or structures within the district, or within a defined area, shall be connected with the sewers of the district. They may also require minimum sanitary facilities, immediately or within a specified period after the completion of sewers to which a connection may reasonably be made, under such regulations as are established by the resolution or ordinance. When the district finds and determines that such action is necessary for the maintenance of public health and sanitary conditions in the district it may cause any such connection to be made, and assess the cost thereof upon the land where the dwelling or structure is situated, or make an agreement with the owner or occupant to accept payment therefor in cash or in installments payable with other sewer rates and charges over such period as may be agreed. The district may impose and collect charges for the avail-

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indirectly interested in any contract, work, or business of the district, or the sale of any article, the expense, price, or cost of which is paid by the district, nor in the purchase of any real, personal, or other property belonging to the district, or which shall be sold for taxes or assessments, or by virtue of legal process at the suit of the district. Notwithstanding any other provisions of law, a member of the board of trustees of a sanitary district may contract with the district for which the member serves, if the consideration consists of three thousand dollars or less per year and if the consideration for such supplies or services is reasonable and just.

1.02.14 – Notice requirement for passage if new ordinance or resolution. The board of trustees may elect to waive the requirement that a new ordinance or resolution be published by providing written notice of the passage of such ordinance or resolution to each resident within the boundaries of the sanitary district. The written notice may be accomplished by sending a copy of such ordinance or resolution by first class mail, to each resident at the resident's last known address, as shown on the books and records of the sanitary district.

1.02.15 – Operation of sewers; tax levies; assessments and bonds; eminent domain. The board of trustees may construct and operate storm and sanitary sewers and sewage disposal plants, borrow money, levy taxes and special assessments, and issue bonds. The board of trustees may borrow money for purposes described in this section and may issue a promissory note or notes for a term of up to twenty years. The board of trustees may exercise the power of eminent domain, but not over existing sewage facilities, water rights, water mains, hydrants, intakes, wells, storage tanks, reservoirs, treatment plants, or any other water facilities.

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ility of sewer service to any properties so directed to be connected, whether or not such connection is made. The board of trustees shall have exclusive jurisdiction to establish by ordinance or resolution standards for construction and inspection of private sewer systems within its boundaries, in conformity with state county laws and regulations.

1.02.18 – Rates and charges for sanitary services. The board of trustees may:

(1) Fix reasonable rates and charges for services furnished and made available by the district to users of its facilities; (2) Provide for the collection of the charges; (3) Pledge the net revenues derived from the charges to the payment of bonds made payable wholly or partly from the revenues; and (4) Make and enforce on behalf of the district all covenants relating to:

(a) The proper operation and maintenance of the facilities; (b) Insurance against hazards of loss and liability; (c) The administration, expenditure and auditing of the income and revenues of the district; (d) The expenditure of the bond proceeds; and (e) All other matters affecting the security of the bonds, which the board of trustees determines to be necessary or desirable for the purpose of selling the bonds upon terms advantageous to the district and maintaining its credit and ability to engage in further financing when and as necessary.

1.02.19 – Election on construction and operation of sanitation system. The board of trustees shall submit to the voters of the district at an annual election or a special election called and held in accordance with chapter 9-13 the question whether the district shall be authorized to construct and operate a sanitation system. Upon approval of the grant of such authority by a majority of the qualified electors voting on the question, the board of trustees may construct and operate a sanitation system and sewer facilities.

1.02.20 – Revenue bonds. (a) If revenue bonds are issued in accordance with the provisions of chapter 9-40, the sanitary district shall, until all such bonds and interest on the bonds are fully paid, fix such rates and charges and revise

LEGALS

them from time to time in such manner that the collections of the charges will be adequate to:

(1) Pay all current, reasonable, and necessary expenses of the operation and maintenance of all facilities whose revenues are pledged for the payment of the bonds; (2) Produce net revenues, in excess of such current costs of operation and maintenance, at all times sufficient to pay the principal and interest due on the bonds; and (3) Accumulate and maintain reserves for the further security of the bonds in such amounts as are agreed in the resolutions authorizing the bonds.

(b) If bonds are issued in lieu of special assessment certificates in accordance with the provisions of chapter 9-43, the sanitary district board of trustees may provide that rates and charges shall be fixed and from time to time revised to produce net revenues at all times sufficient, with special assessments and interest pledged to the bond fund and actually collected and received in the bond fund, to pay all principal and interest when due on the bonds and to create and maintain such further reserves for the security of the bonds as may be agreed in the resolutions authorizing the bonds. Bonds issued and secured as authorized in this section may be designated as special assessment and revenue bonds, and may be issued to finance an improvement or a group of improvements to the facilities of the district, if any portion of the cost of the improvement is to be paid by the levy of special assessments.

1.02.21 – Certification of unpaid charges and tax levies; collection with real estate taxes; tax sales. The board of trustees may cause the amount of any charges, and interest and penalties on the charges, for sewer service rendered or made available to any land within the district, which are due and unpaid on the first day of October in each year to be certified by the clerk of the district to the county auditor in the manner provided in § 10-12-7 together with any taxes levied by the district for corporate purposes. All amounts so certified shall be inserted by the county auditor upon the tax list of the current year and shall be payable and delinquent at the same time and shall incur penalty and in-

LEGALS

terest and shall be collected by the same procedure as real estate taxes on the same property. In the event of a tax sale or the issuance of a tax deed, the provisions of §§ 9-43-39 to 9-43-41, inclusive, shall apply to all amounts so certified and then delinquent, in the same manner as delinquent installments of special assessments. Chapter 1.03. – Effective Date 1.03.01 – Effective Date. This Ordinance, Title 1, shall be in full force and effect from and after its passage, approval, recording, and publication as provided by law. Passed and adopted by the Board of Trustees of Lake

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Byron Sanitary District, Beadle County, South Dakota, on the 14th day of February, 2026, by the following vote of the Board of Trustees:

Trustee_Larry Cooper
Aye_X_Nay
Trustee_Mike Hofer Aye
X_Nay
Trustee Brad Tschetter Aye
X_Nay
First Reading_14 January
2026_Second Reading_14
February 2026

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Auctions

Magness Livestock

East Hwy. 14, 105 Custer Ave SE, Huron, 57350

Report for Thursday, March 26, 2026

Fat Cows.....	\$175.00-\$187.00
Fat Young Cows	up to \$191.00
Cows.....	\$163.00-\$186.00
Low Yield/Blemish Cows	\$159.00 and lower
Young Cows	up to \$217.00
Hfrts	\$203.00-\$265.00
Hfrs	\$270.00-\$323.00
Fats.....	\$232.00-\$243.00
Bulls.....	\$207.00-\$231.00
Low Yield/Blemish Bulls	\$170.00-\$199.00
Cutting Bulls	\$252.00
Baby Calves.....	\$1250-\$1350/HD

Hay Auction:

4 loads alfalfa	\$125.00-\$137.50/ton
2 loads grass hay	\$127.50/ton
1 load rye hay	\$80.00/ton
1 load slough hay	\$67.50/ton
1 load cornstalks	\$52.50/ton
34 small squares grass hay.....	\$5.25/bale

- Upcoming Sales -

Hay & All Classes of Cattle Auction - Thursday, April 2

Annual Spring Special Feeder Cattle Auction - Friday, April 3

- Artesian 60 blk, bwf hfrs 700-900#
- Artesian 70 blk hfrs 775# BV replacements
- Artesian 20 blk strs 750#
- Willow Lake 40 red strs & hfrs 700-800#
- Yale 90 blk, bwf hfrs 600-800#
- Fedora 150 bwf, rwf strs & hfrs 750-900#
- Wolsey 120 blk strs 800#
- DeSmet 80 blk strs & hfrs 700-900#
- Huron 40 blk hfrs 600-800# BV replacements
- Watertown 80 blk, bwf strs & hfrs 700-900#
- Watertown 5 blk hfrs 800#
- Wessington 50 blk strs & hfrs 300-500# FC
- DeSmet 30 bwf, rwf strs & hfrs 600#
- Clark 10 blk, red strs & hfrs 500-650#
- Huron 20 blk strs & hfrs 400-500#
- Iroquois 20 blk strs 700#
- Arlington 15 blk hfrs 700-800#
- Huron 50 blk strs & hfrs 700-900#

Upcoming Feeder Cattle Auctions:

Grass Turnout Special Feeder Auction - Friday, May 1

Summer Special Feeder Auction - Friday, June 5

Magness Livestock
352-8759 or 1-800-310-8760

Help Wanted General

Be Part of the Tradition: Join the State Fair Team

The SD State Fair is seeking a seasonal Maintenance Worker to perform a variety of building & grounds maintenance projects including general maintenance, custodial duties, and set-up & tear-down of events.

This position is from May through October, generally Mon.-Fri., 8am-5pm, but does require some weekends with extended work hours. \$14.14 per hour.

To apply, fill out an application at the SD State Fair Office, 1060 3rd St. SW. For more info, call 605.353.7340.

Grace Episcopal Church
invites you to join us for Holy Week Services

Palm Sunday Service & Brunch • 10:00 am
Youth Supper & Egg Dying Party • Wednesday 5:30 pm
Maundy Thursday Service • 7:00 pm
Good Friday Stations of the Cross at 5:30 pm
Good Friday Service at 7:00 pm
Easter Sunday Holy Communion • 10:00 am
Easter egg hunt on the lawn following the service.
16th & McClellan Dr • www.grace-episcopal-huron.org

HURON RIVERVIEW UNITED METHODIST CHURCH
1640 Simmons Ave SE

Maundy Thursday • April 2 Worship/Communion Service - 7:00 pm
Good Friday • April 3 "Watch the Lamb" presentation by Youth Group - 6:00 and 8:00pm
Easter Sunday • April 5 7:00 am - Sunrise Serv., led by Middle School Youth • 7:45 am - Easter Brunch • 9:00 am - Easter Egg Hunt • Easter Sunday Worship/Communion Service - 10:00 am
Live stream available for all Riverview services can be found at Huronriverviewumc.org

GLOBAL METHODIST CHURCH
2660 Dak. Ave. S.
605.352.8604
*Across From Walmart

Faith Alive
PALM SUNDAY
March 29
One Service at 10:30AM only

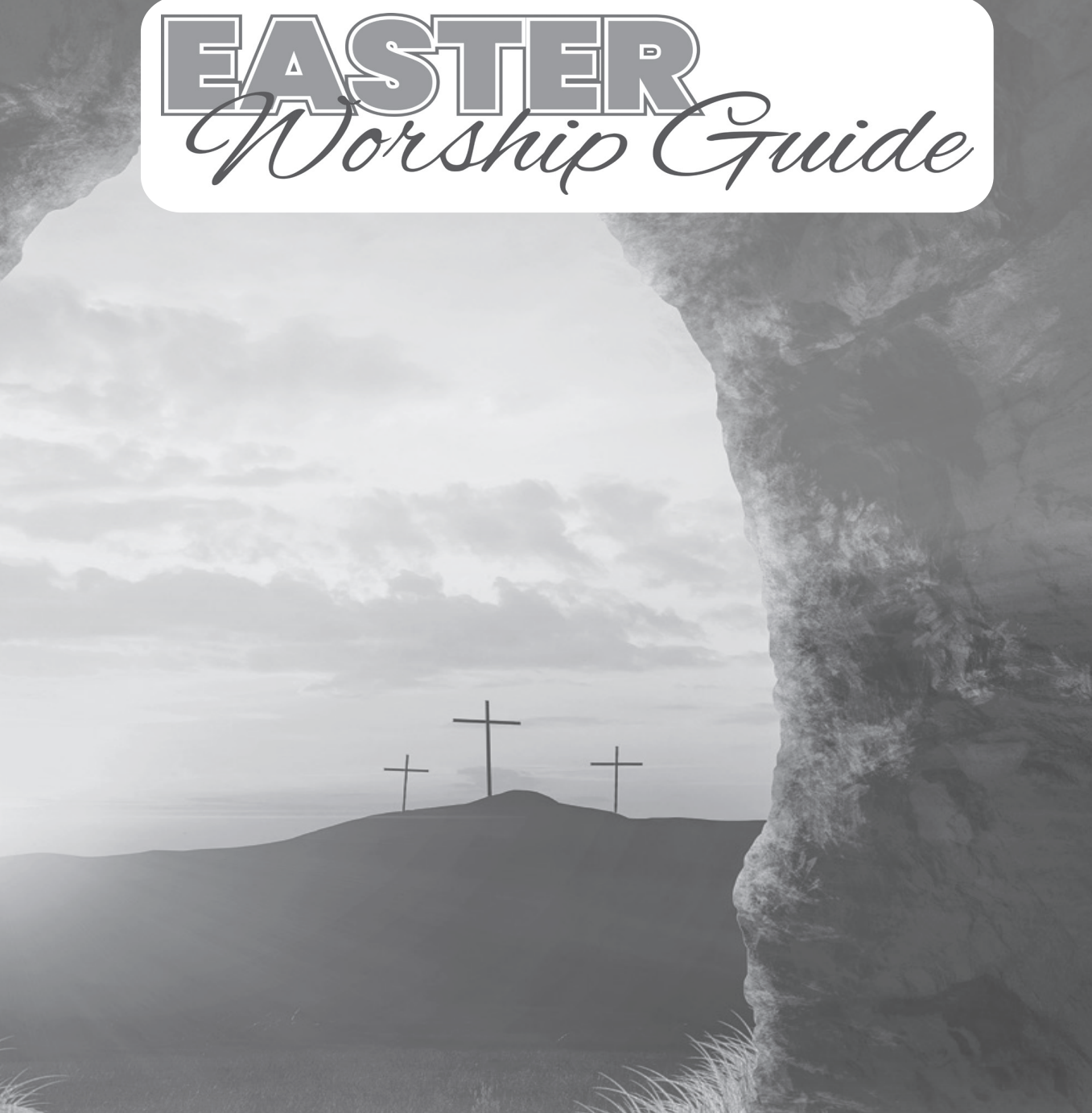
Kid Led Service
Praise Team & Kids Sing
KKLC Preschool Sings
FREE! Kids Easter Egg Hunt after church

GOOD FRIDAY
April 3, 6:30PM
Remembering what came before the empty tomb

EASTER SUNDAY!
9:00AM 10:30AM
Traditional Praise Team
(No Sunday School)

COMMUNITY CHURCH
faithalivehuron

THE TOMB IS EMPTY. HOPE IS ALIVE!
Kids Easter Morning Grab Bags!



Holy Trinity Catholic Parish
425 21st SW

HOLY WEEK

Wednesday: Living Stations • 7:00pm
Holy Thursday • 7:30pm
Good Friday • 3:00pm
Saturday-Easter Vigil • 7:00pm
Mass Easter Sunday
Easter Sunday Mass times will be 8:30am & 7:00pm Spanish

JESUS IS RISEN!
Come celebrate with us at
HURON CHRISTIAN CHURCH

- REFLECTION SERVICE: WEDNESDAY, APRIL 1ST @ 7PM
- RESURRECTION SERVICES: SUNDAY, APRIL 5TH @ 9:15 & 10:30AM

777 21ST ST SE HURON, SD 57350
(605) 352-5073
WWW.HURONCHRISTIANCHURCH.COM

HCC
HURON CHRISTIAN CHURCH

The Huron Daily PLAINSMAN

Ag Outlook.

The sky is the limit: Wheels up with Wilde Air

The most enduring business partnerships are built on shared interests and a mutual drive to innovate. Isaac Wilde and Tom Perrenoud met during a summer job and realized they shared the same work ethic and vision for the future.

Today, that vision flies over the horizons of South Dakota, North Dakota, and Minnesota as Wilde Air Service. For Tom, a Huron native, and Isaac, who was raised in Lake Preston, this is more than a business; it's a commitment to the land they call home. While they've grown into a team of ten full-time professionals, their heart remains in the fields. There is no greater pride for the team than receiving a call from a producer in a bind and knowing their pilots can be overhead in a matter of minutes.

In an industry where a single day can make or break a harvest, Wilde Air treats every acre with precision. They spend countless hours on the ground before 'wheels up,' meticulously calibrating GPS units and studying mapping software. They don't just spray and leave; they attend classes, monitor results, and use advanced data to show growers exactly when and where the job was done. Their philosophy is simple: if it isn't right, they make it right. They aren't just looking for seasonal customers; they are building partnerships for generations.

The reach of their service extends to the Huron Fixed Base Operator (FBO). When you descend toward Huron, you are touching down on the third largest public runway in South Dakota, a stretch of asphalt surpassed only by hubs in Sioux Falls and Rapid City. At the center of this bustling aviation hive is the Wilde Air Service FBO, where the grit of the prairie meets world-class hospitality.

As the FBO, Isaac and Tom have transformed the airport into a sanctuary for pilots and travelers. Service here is a performance; fuel trucks roll directly to the aircraft to ensure a quick turnaround. During the crisp autumn months, the energy shifts as hunters from across the globe migrate to Huron for the legendary ring-necked pheasant. The moment their wheels touch the runway, Wilde Air is there to ensure the South Dakota experience starts on a high note.

From heated hangar space for a Gulfstream G4 to expert de-icing and GPU services that challenge the winter chill, every detail is handled with precision. With a maintenance team that keeps engines humming and a staff that treats every visitor like a neighbor, the Huron FBO is more than a refueling stop. It's the front door to the community, built on a local partnership that started with a summer job.



COURTESY PHOTO

Pilot Nick Christensen, left, and co-owner Tom Perrenoud pose with one of Wilde Air's planes.

H&H Ag Solutions: A legacy of service and a vision for the future

PLAINSMAN STAFF

ALPENA — For the team at H&H Ag Solutions, the business of agriculture is about more than just seed and chemistry; it's about providing answers to the evolving challenges faced by South Dakota producers.

Originally known as Kelsey Seed and Ag, the business was owned by Jeff Kelsey until 2018. When Jeff began looking for a succession plan, his son-in-law Travis Hohn and partner Brett Heezen stepped forward, fueled by a shared passion for the industry. In 2021, the name officially changed to H&H Ag Solutions, a title that combines the owners' last names with a mission to be a truly customer-based resource.

Growing with the community

Since opening their doors under the new name, H&H has seen significant growth. What started with roughly eight employees has expanded to a team of 20, including summer interns. This growth has allowed the business

to provide career opportunities for locals from Alpena, Woonsocket, Wolsley, Wessington Springs, and Miller.

"Alpena is roughly the center of the counties we service," the owners noted, explaining why the town remains their home base. "It creates a central location for our customer base that spans from North of Miller to South of Plankinton and East to Forestburg."

This central location, paired with a



H&H — PAGE 2C

Farmers Union Camp provides agriculture's next generation leadership and professional development

BY LURA ROTI

The Black Hills saw teens from rural communities across South Dakota gather for South Dakota Farmers Union State Leadership Camp June 8-13.

2025 marks the third summer Riley Mutter attended, and the Sturgis Brown High School sophomore said it was the best camp yet. "I made a lot of new friends and enjoyed seeing old friends who I met at camp last summer," Mutter said.

He explained that in addition to gaining friends from across the state, State Leadership Camp helped him develop confidence. "I used to have really bad social anxiety. It was so bad I could not look people in the eye." Farmers Union Camp helped me grow out of this. And this year at camp, I liked watching other campers come out of their shells."

South Dakota Farmers Union Education Program Specialist, Samantha Bowman was happy to hear Rutter's comments because State Leadership Camp is designed to provide rural youth with experiences, resources and training necessary to enhance their personal and professional development.

"Farmers Union understands that youth are our future and our future leaders," Bowman said. "Leadership is not just about commanding a room, it is about being on the same playing field, working together and helping other individuals realize success."

Farmers Union State Leadership Camp agenda was packed with fun team activities, teen-run cooperatives, camp traditions and opportunities for teens to put the leadership skills they develop into action, explained 17-year-old Billy Kezena, a member of the Junior Advisory Council.

Under Bowman's guidance, the Junior Advisory Council organizes, facilitates and runs camp. Elected by their peers or selected through an interview process during the 2024 Leadership Camp, these teens spend a year planning and participating in team building and personal development trainings.

"It takes a lot of teamwork and communication to plan State Camp and serve as a counselor, so I gained a lot of skills in teamwork and com-



munication serving on this team," Kezena said. "As I have researched future careers, it seems these are the skills that employers are looking for."

To campaign to serve on the Junior Advisory Council, Kezena and his teammates had to give a speech in front of all the other campers.

Chase Blotsky, who served with Kezena, said after attending State

reers With a look to the future, campers heard from several agriculture professionals who provided them with an inside look at their careers.

"I enjoyed learning about all the professions you can have in agriculture," said 13-year-old Aaron Kippley.

Kippley lives on his family's Aberdeen farm, and said he had fun learning from ag influencer Greg Peterson. Peterson was among the first farmers and ag advocates to gain a following on social media. He shared about his advocacy and professional journey and encouraged campers to advocate for agriculture.

In addition to Peterson, campers learned about creative marketing from Nisland rancher Gwendolyn Kitzan.

They also learned about the history of cooperatives in South Dakota from Wayne Soren, a Lake Preston farmer and cooperative board member. Soren also served as Vice President of South Dakota Farmers Union for many years before retiring in 2023.

Bowman said connecting campers to agriculture professionals is among the goals of State Leadership Camp. "What a great opportunity for teens to learn about possible careers in agriculture from the professionals actively involved in the careers. These professionals were able to share about the challenges and perks of their jobs and answer questions. Camp also provided the ag professionals with an opportunity to connect with the next generation, and see how great the generation stepping up is."

To learn more about Farmers Union educational programming or to sign up for the upcoming Jr. State Camp, visit www.sdfu.org and click on the Education link.

Registration is open for 2026 Farmers Union Camps!
Visit www.sdfu.org and click on the Education link to learn more.

Camp for three years, he had the confidence necessary to speak in front of a crowd. And in his role on the Junior Advisory Council and as a camp counselor, he said it was his goal to help other campers gain confidence as well.

"State Leadership Camp helped me be able to talk in front of people and not be nervous," Blotsky explained. "I wanted to help new campers have fun and gain the confidence necessary to make friends and even do public speaking."

The other teens who served with Blotsky and Kezena on the 2024-2025 Junior Advisory Council were Brooke LaMont, Union Center; LizBeth Crosby, Pierre; and Cadence Konechne, Kimball.

During camp, the 2025-2026 Junior Advisory Council was elected and selected, they are Allison Schulz, Lennox; Avril Fletcher, Highmore; Chase Blotsky, Hidden Timber; Collyn Raymond, Ethan; Dani Kruger, De Smet; and Ethan Mutter, Sturgis. These youth will serve as counselors during the upcoming Farmers Union Jr. State Camp held at Camp Byron near Huron July 20-23. Turn to page 5 to meet these young leaders.

Inside look at ag ca-

H&H:

From Page 1C

recent expansion into a new facility in Miller, allows H&H to serve Beadle, Jerauld, Sanborn, Buffalo, and Hand counties more efficiently than ever before.

Proven products, experienced service

As a Pioneer dealer, H&H offers a product line that is celebrating a century of genetic research this year. While the seed is a cornerstone of their business, it's their custom application service that resonates most with local producers.

With five custom applicators for plant protection and partnerships for dry fertilizer, the H&H team brings decades of experience to the field. Recent investments in a new shop and chemical warehouse reflect their commitment to staying ahead of the curve as machinery and operations expand.

The 2026 Vision: Doing More With Less

The most rewarding part of the job for the H&H team continues to be their ongoing interactions with producers. "It's rewarding to get to see them be successful and happy with their experience," the owners shared.

Looking ahead to 2026, H&H is excited to announce the hiring of a technical agronomist. This new role will lead expanded research into "biologicals" and other emerging trends.

"The future of ag is moving towards trying to do more with less," the team explained. "More research will allow us to help producers make more educated decisions on products and placements on their operations." By focusing on optimizing products that can accomplish multiple goals at once, H&H Ag Solutions is ensuring that their customers are prepared for the next generation of farming.

Mitchell Tech prepares students for the future of agriculture with drone training and competition

As precision agriculture continues to evolve, drones are becoming an essential tool for modern farming. From crop scouting and mapping to targeted chemical application, drone technology is helping producers operate more efficiently while reducing costs and environmental impact. Mitchell Technical College is preparing students to meet this growing demand through hands-on training in agricultural drone use, including emerging practices such as drone spraying.

Mitchell Tech's agriculture programs incorporate drone technology as part of a broader precision agriculture curriculum, ensuring graduates are ready to work with the advanced tools now shaping farm operations across the Midwest. Students learn how aerial data collection, imaging, GPS guidance, and variable-rate applications support informed decision-making in crop production.

Drone spraying is gaining traction as a solution for applying crop protection products in areas where traditional equipment may be less effective —



such as wet fields, tall crops, or irregular terrain. The technology allows producers to treat specific problem areas quickly and precisely, reducing compaction, minimizing input waste, and improving overall efficiency.

"Drone application is becoming a practical tool for many industry operations," said Devon Russell, Program Coordinator for Mitchell Tech's Precision Ag Technology program and Drone Aviation & Geospatial Technologies program. "Our goal is to ensure students understand both the technology and how it fits into real-world production systems."

Training goes beyond basic flight skills. Students develop knowledge in safe operation, mission planning, regulatory considerations, and how aerial applications integrate with pre-

cision agriculture systems. This comprehensive approach helps graduates enter the workforce prepared to support farms, ag retailers, custom application businesses, and emerging drone service companies.

To further strengthen students' skills and interest in unmanned systems, Mitchell Tech has also launched a collegiate Drone Racing team. While competitive in nature, the program serves as an additional training platform that sharpens piloting ability, spatial awareness, and technical understanding of drone mechanics.

"Drone racing pushes students to develop precision control and fast decision-making in a way traditional training alone cannot," Russell said. "Those skills improve their confidence when operating professional drones used in agriculture, utilities, telecommunications, and other industries."

The team competes virtually against other colleges nationwide, with opportunities to qualify for an in-person national

DRONE — PAGE 5C

South Dakota Farmers Union celebrates Brule County farm familyBY LURA ROTI
FOR SOUTH DAKOTA
FARMERS UNION

According to the Petersen family, the family who works cattle together ... can accomplish just about anything together.

"It can sometimes be chaos, but we all love each other in the end," Leah Petersen explained of working cattle with her husband, Calvin, and four children: daughters, Jayslee, Alexa, Maisy, and son, Coy.

"It's a bonding experience for sure," explained 20-year-old Alexa.

"You learn how to do things the right way real quick, because if something goes wrong, you need to fix it right away," added 17-year-old Maisy.

Their dad, Calvin, agreed, adding, "If you can work cattle with your family and still get along at the end of the day, you can work with anyone."

It's a sunny and mild, afternoon in early January. The Petersen family worked a set of steers just this morning before cleaning up to sit down and visit about the cattle operation that has been in their family for three generations. "Grandpa William and Grandma Mary settled here in 1941," said Calvin, of the ranch that sits on the Crow Creek Reservation, just 13 miles north of Pukwana.

Growing up during

the Farm Crisis of the 1980s, Calvin knew times were tough. But when his dad encouraged him to pursue a different career, he was determined to return to the family's ranch.

"My dad said, 'get out of here and try something new.' I was stubborn enough that I ended up back here after college," Calvin said.

When it comes to raising cattle, the Petersens' herd is mostly closed. "We raise our own replacements," Calvin explained. "Someone asked me the other day, 'the cattle market is good, do you plan to sell.' I said, 'no.' We sell our calves the same time every year regardless of the market and have made it here through good times and bad because we hold steady. We stick to our beliefs and we don't follow fads."

The Petersens raise Simmental-Angus cross cattle. "The cattle we raise need to be able to thrive here," Calvin explained. "We pick cattle based on the lay of the land."

The landscape of the Petersen ranch is rolling hills of native prairie grassland. "Our calves and cows get basic mineral and salt program, we try to minimize supplements and let them just do their thing, we don't put a lot into them," Leah said. "We are fortunate all our pastures are connected, so when it's time to move



the cows, we just open a gate."

Unlike Calvin, Leah did not grow up on a ranch, but she did grow up rural. "My best friend grew up on a farm and I rodeoed, so I always was around it," Leah said.

Leah and Calvin met one summer when Calvin was helping work cattle for a neighbor that Leah was also working for as a nanny.

Leah enjoys raising cattle as much as Calvin. Until 2015 Leah worked in town as a massage therapist and nail technician. But then Calvin's parents, Ronald and Alona were both diagnosed with cancer.

"I quit work to help take care of them and help Calvin on the homeplace, and I've been here full time ever since," Leah said.

Returning to the ranch full time to work with Calvin means no workday is ever the same. "Everyone pitches in. No one has a specific job. When something needs

done, we all help get it done," Leah explained.

And there are days when it's just Leah and their children because Calvin also works off the ranch clipping and torching bulls. It's a side job he's had since he was 14. "I met a family through 4-H and they asked me if I wanted to help get cattle ready for the Denver National Western Stock Show. I didn't play sports so after school every day I went over and helped them until long after dark," Calvin said. "It was an opportunity to meet people and see the world."

Thirty years later, Calvin continues to clip and torch cattle for several purebred producers who have become much more than friends, he thinks of them like extended family. When it works in his school schedule, his 14-year-old son, Coy, helps out.

"My dad and mom have taught me everything I know. I love working side-by-side with them and being

my dad's right-hand man," explained Coy, who is building up his own cattle herd, and hopes to return home to ranch with his parents after college. "It is my lifelong dream. I don't see myself working anywhere else."

Coy is a 2025 Farmers Union Herd Builder, selected to receive a heifer during the Western Junior Livestock Show. Recently, when he and Calvin were at the Fort Pierre Livestock Sale barn, his dad handed the paddle over to Coy because he is starting to expand his own herd, acquiring new genetics.

"We agreed we liked the look of the heifers and we knew the bulls they were bred to. But when dad handed over the bidder number to me, I was shaking," Coy said. "It felt good that he thought I was ready for this responsibility and I would not do him wrong."

Coy's desire to ranch full time after school does not surprise Calvin and Leah.

"At a certain age we told the kids, 'do you want to work on the ranch this summer or work in town,'" Leah explained.

When their oldest, Jayslee had the option, at 14 she chose to work for a local nursing home. "She always said she wanted to be a nurse, so we said she should work at the nursing home and see if she liked it. She loved it," Calvin said.

Now 22, Jayslee recently graduated from Lake Area Technical College with a nursing degree and works for Avera WesKota Hospital in Wessington Springs.

She said working with her family on the ranch prepared her well. "Whether it was working cattle with my family or fixing fence, I learned hard work and dedication for sure," Jayslee said.

Her sister, Alexa, an accounting major at Southeast Technical College, agreed. "Working on the ranch I learned to help out wherever it was needed," Alexa said. "And the hard work and dedication transfers to college — focusing, studying and going to class."

Maisy, who is a senior at Chamberlain High School, and is looking at attending the University of South Dakota in the fall with pursuing a degree in criminal justice also agrees with her sisters in regards to the hard work, dedication and responsibilities all play a role in how they apply themselves in the future.

Leah and Calvin said they enjoy watching their children discover and follow their passions on and off the ranch. They treasure days like this one, when most of their children are home and they can work cattle together.



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Agriculture students learn about policy and careers during D.C. Leadership Summit

BY LURA ROTI

South Dakota Farmers Union co-sponsored college students to participate in the National Farmers Union 2025 All-States Leadership Summit in Washington, D.C.

"I feel it is important for the next generation of agriculture professionals like me, to know what goes on in D.C. and how to be a part of what happens," explained Dakota Jensen, a dairy production and political science major at South Dakota State University. "What happens in D.C. impacts not only my life as an agriculture producer, but every citizen's life."

The All-States Leadership Summit focused on providing young adults from across the nation with an immersive educational experience focused on agriculture policy, advocacy, professional development and leadership.

"Gaining first-hand knowledge on how policy works and connecting with professionals in agriculture at this stage of life opens so many doors for these students," said Karla Hofhenke, Executive Director of South Dakota Farmers Union. "This is the reason our organization brought the idea for this summit to National Farmers Union."

Jensen said she found value in the networking opportunities the Summit provided. "Meeting college students from other states who, like me are pursuing careers in agriculture, was interesting, and gave me some new perspectives to think about."

Expanding perspectives of what an agriculture career looks like was among the goals of the Summit programming, explained Samantha Bowman, South Dakota Farmers Union

Education Program Specialist. "Agriculture industry encompasses more than hands-on production agricultural. There are many who work in support roles, like careers in ag policy, to help make things better for the farmers and ranchers who are doing the boots on the ground work."

Summit participants met with professionals working in ag policy and other careers. They also engaged in professional development workshops.

"The focus on resume-building, advocacy and networking gave me and the other participants tools we can actually use in our future careers," said Chaz Blotsky, a Hidden Timber rancher and Mitchell Technical College student.

Blotsky and South Dakota State University student, Aerial Eitrem, worked with National Farmers Union to plan the All-States Leadership Summit. In 2024 they were elected to serve as the 2024-2025 National Farmers Union Youth Advisory Council during the organization's All-State's Camp. This year's Leadership Summit replaces the camp – a decision, Eitrem said was a positive change.

"This new format allows all college-age students interested to attend, whereas the former camp was limited to students who previously participated in Farmers Union educational programming," Eitrem said. "And changing the programming from a camp-like atmosphere to a conference provides students with a higher level of professional development, networking and career-building skills."

Treyton Anson appreciated the change. The Leadership Summit is the first Farmers Union activity the fifth-generation Mill-

er cattle producer has participated in.

"This opportunity through Farmers Union opened our minds and helped us gain more knowledge on agriculture policy development," Anson said. "We also learned about advocacy. As a young producer, this is important because there's a lot that goes on in D.C. that impacts every aspect of production. And the people who are making the decisions don't always understand agriculture, so we need to help them understand."

Anson was among four Mitchell Technical College students to attend the Leadership Summit. After college, the 19-year-old plans to return to Miller to ranch with his family full time.

Three South Dakotans selected to serve on National Council

During the Leadership Summit, Madi Raymond, Ethan; Brandon Toennies, Cresbard, and Patrick Olson, Aberdeen; were selected to serve on the National Farmers Union Youth Advisory Council. These South Dakota college students will serve alongside students from Wisconsin and Oklahoma. Selected through a competitive application process, these students will work closely with National Farmers Union education staff.

"NFU was proud to welcome the next generation of farmers and policy leaders to Washington, a program first for the All-States Leadership Summit," said NFU President Rob Larew. "Our NYAC represents the future of family farming, ranching and rural advocacy. Their voices, ideas and energy are vital to shaping a stronger future for agriculture, and we are thrilled to have them serve in this role in the year ahead."

Radicle Growth launches The Radicle Corn Challenge sponsored by US Corn Farmers to drive new demand for corn

\$1.75M Challenge Invites Global Startups to Develop New Uses for Corn Across Materials, Chemicals, Fuels, and Emerging Value Chains

SAN DIEGO, Calif. — Radicle Growth today announced the launch of The Radicle Corn Challenge sponsored by US Corn Farmers, a global call for startups developing technologies that create new, durable demand for corn through innovative products, materials, and value chains. The Challenge will invest a total of \$1.75 million in selected companies and is supported by twelve leading U.S. corn grower organizations: Colorado Corn Promotion Council, Corn Marketing Program of Michigan, Illinois Corn Marketing Board, Iowa Corn Promotion Board, Kansas Corn Commission, Kentucky Corn Promotion Council, Missouri Corn Merchandising Council, National Corn Growers Association, Nebraska Corn Board, Ohio Corn Marketing Program, South Dakota Corn Utilization Council, and Tennessee Corn Promotion Board.

Corn farmers are highly efficient at producing corn, but long-term profitability increasingly depends on expanding how corn is used beyond traditional markets. The Radicle Corn Challenge is designed to support startups that are building new uses for corn by helping unlock additional sources of demand across industrial, material, chemical, and fuel applications.

"Corn has long been a foundational feedstock for food, feed, and fuel," said Kirk Haney, Managing Partner at Radicle Growth. "The next opportunity is expanding how corn is used across new products and markets. Through the Radicle Corn Challenge, we're looking to support companies that can translate innovation into real-world demand."

The Challenge seeks applications from startups and growth companies around the world working on technologies that convert corn and corn-derived streams—such as sugar (glucose), ethanol, and other by-products—into higher-value products. Areas of interest include bioplastics and materials, corn- and ethanol-derived chemicals, valorization of corn byproducts, and emerging fuel pathways, including marine fuels and sustainable aviation fuel.

"Advances in chemistry, catalysis, and biological conversion are opening up new, practical pathways for corn-based products," said Neal Gutterson, Partner and Chief Technology Officer at Radicle Growth. "What's particularly compelling today is how many of these technologies are becoming technically and commercially viable at scale."

The Radicle Corn Challenge Sponsored by US Corn Farmers will invest \$1.75M across the winning startups and growth companies. In [CB1] addition to capital, selected companies will benefit from Radicle's commercialization expertise, scientific and technical diligence, and connections across the corn and broader bio-economy ecosystem.

Historically, corn growers have played an active role in building and growing new markets, including the early development of the ethanol industry. The Challenge explores how similar alignment between innovators, investors, and growers can help scale the next generation of corn-based technologies.

"South Dakota producers continue to do more with less," said Jim Ketelhut, South Dakota Corn Utilization Council President and farmer from Pukwana. "Farmer profitability is top of mind for the Council and that's why our board made the decision to sponsor the second Radicle Corn Challenge. We support the search for breakthroughs in corn demand and look forward to continuing work towards finding new uses for our crop."

Investment decisions will be made following a comprehensive due diligence process, with selected winners announced at the Bio Innovations North America conference on September 9th, 2026 in Omaha, NE.

For more information about The Radicle Corn Challenge Sponsored by US Corn Farmers, and to apply, visit radicle.vc/radicle-corn-challenge.

About the South Dakota Corn Utilization Council:

The South Dakota Corn Utilization Council is responsible for the collection and administration of a one-cent-per-bushel corn check-off program. Money raised through that program funds research and development of new uses and markets for corn and corn byproducts that benefit South Dakota corn growers.



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The family who rodeos together... Winner rodeo family shares their story

BY LURA ROTI
FOR SOUTH DAKOTA FARMERS UNION

All three of Heather and Cody Moore's sons are rodeo athletes. And the Tripp County parents say in addition to all the great life lessons Rowdy, Roper and Rider have gleaned from competing in the sport, it's the friends they have made that they are most grateful for.

"There's the rodeo family, and then there's your other family," Heather explained.

"The whole family goes to the rodeo together, so we have all met friends," Cody added. "Whatever rodeo we go to, pretty much all the Tripp County rodeo families will park our campers and horse trailers together. At any given time, there will be about 20 kids hanging out together. We'll cook a brisket all day long, and at supper time we'll all get together and eat together and spend the evening just hanging out."

Cody grew up rodeoing, so their sons grew up hearing stories about rodeo. Rowdy, 19, and Roper, 16, began competing in local playday and 4-H rodeos when they were in elementary school. As soon as Rider, 11, was old enough, he joined them.

Rowdy and Roper Team Roping

"Rodeo is a great experience, I made a lot of good friends through rodeo who I still talk to," explained Rowdy. "I'm glad my brothers are still involved."

2023 was Rowdy's last rodeo season. Just a few weeks after high school graduation, he was named All Around Cowboy during the High School Rodeo in Martin.



PHOTO COURTESY SDFU

The Moore family raises cattle and operates the Winner Livestock Auction. The family also makes time for rodeo: Rowdy, Heather, Cody, Roper and Rider Moore.

"Everyone missed the first round of steer wrestling, and on the second round, I got first and then Roper and I placed in both rounds of team roping," Rowdy said.

At the time, Rowdy said he weighed 120 pounds. "I'm not really built for steer wrestling, but I like it so I sure tried my hardest to do well," Rowdy said.

To practice Rowdy spent hours chute dogging at the Winner Arena. Over time he perfected his technique running steers through a chute and grabbing them as they ran out.

Steer wrestling takes speed, timing and guts. "Basically, you fall off a horse on purpose, try and catch a steer

by grabbing its horn and then you need to flip it over," Rowdy explained.

"At first it was nerve-racking to watch him," Heather said. "But after I got used to it, it got more exciting."

2024 was Roper's first South Dakota High School Rodeo season team roping without Rowdy.

"I miss roping with my brother because when you rope with your brother you don't feel as vulnerable if you miss — because it's your brother," Roper said. "And you can always rope together, whereas if you have a partner who is not family, you have to schedule practice."

Rowdy agreed. "I would

get so nervous sitting in that box when I roped with someone else. It took a lot of pressure off when I roped with Roper last year that I actually did better."

Rowdy team ropes on Apple, a horse Roper bought for only \$100.

"There was a horse sale at our family's auction market and I wanted a hat. My mom said I could not get a hat unless I bought a horse. So, I bought a horse, and he turned out to be pretty good," Roper said.

Roper was seven at the time, so Cody was quick to add that it took a few years of experienced cowboys riding him in order for Apple to become the good team roping

horse that he is today.

In addition to team roping, Roper also competes in tie down and cattle cutting.

"Cutting is my main thing now — I got addicted to it," Roper said. "I like the aspect of a good horse. Cutting horses are different in a way, there are not a lot of roping horses where you can just drop the reins and they know what to do. I like the feeling of a good cow horse that will go up and stop a cow."

Roper's cutting horse, Ettafied, was purchased by a family friend, Tom Kauer. He and Ettafied qualified for the South Dakota High School Rodeo Finals in 2023 and ended up placing in the top 15. This year, horse and rider hope to qualify once again. But even if they don't make it to the finals this year, Roper said there's more to rodeo than winning.

"Rodeo teaches you hard work and dedication. It is not something you can get good at overnight. You can be a hero one day and zero the next. It is mentally challenging. I know rodeo has helped me become mentally prepared for life."

Rider goat tying

Youngest brother, Rider, agreed. In addition to goat tying and team roping, he competes in basketball, football and golf. "Being in rodeo taught me that if you want to be good in a sport, you need to spend time practicing on your own."

Heather said Rider honed his roping skills roping dummies at his brothers' rodeos long before he was old enough to compete. Today he puts those skills to work in the arena.

SDSU Extension invites youth to 2026 Rangeland and Soil Days

BROOKINGS — South Dakota State University Extension invites youth interested in learning more about grasslands and soil health to the 2026 Rangeland and Soil Days in Belle Fourche.

The annual Rangeland Days contest promotes education on South Dakota's most threatened natural resource — grasslands. Similarly, the purpose of Soil Days is to promote education of South Dakota's most important resource — soil. Combined, the event provides youth with hands-on experience in understanding rangeland resources and a sense of stewardship in natural resource management. Both FFA and 4-H youth can compete in Rangeland and Soil Days.

This year's event is June 9-10, 2026, at the Belle Fourche Community Hall. Registration, check-in and student display setup begin on the morning of June 9. Next, students will spend time in the field learning about rangelands and soils and practicing their contest skills. Student displays and speeches will be



presented in the evening. The rangeland and soil judging contests begin the morning of June 10, with results and awards presented after lunch.

Registration is \$50 per person, which includes lunch and supper on June 9 and lunch on June 10. To register, visit the SDSU Extension Events page and search "rangeland". To pay by check, send registration fee to: Butte Conservation District, Attn: Yvette, 1837 Fifth Ave., Belle Fourche,

S.D., 57717. Registration is due by May 22.

Rangeland Days students learn plant identification, ecological sites and how to determine suitability for cattle and wildlife. Age categories are: New Rangers (ages 8-10), Wranglers (ages 11-13), Scouts (ages 14-18, typically first-time attendees), and Go-Getters (ages 14-18, previous attendees).

Students who attend Rangeland Days can compete in three different categories: display, talk and judging. Youth

who participate in all three contest categories are eligible for the Rangeland Top Hand awards, which are given to the highest overall score in each division.

The top-scoring Scout or Go-Getter in the talk contest will represent South Dakota as a delegate for the high school youth forum at the National Society for Range Management Meeting. Additionally, the top Go Getter Range team in the 4-H divisions will represent South Dakota in the National Land

and Range Judging Contest the following year in Oklahoma City, Oklahoma.

"Participating in the student talks and displays is an excellent opportunity for youth to present their 4-H projects and get feedback on them prior to county fairs later in the summer," said Kaylee Wheeler, SDSU Extension Range Field Specialist.

Soil Days is for youth 14-18 years old. Students learn about soil texture and types,

factors that limit soil health, land management recommendations and understanding suitability for building infrastructure.

The Soil Days judging contest includes evaluation of four sites for land and homesite use. The overall top scorer in soils receives the Soils Top Hand award. The top-scoring Soil team in the 4-H division will represent South Dakota in the National Land and Range Judging Contest the following year in Oklahoma City, Oklahoma.

This year's Rangeland and Soil Days event is hosted by the Butte and Lawrence County Conservation Districts, Natural Resources Conservation Service, South Dakota Society for Range Management and SDSU Extension.

For more information about Rangeland Days, contact Kaylee Wheeler, SDSU Extension Range Field Specialist; or Emily Rohrer, NRCS State Rangeland Management Specialist. For information about Soil Days, contact Lance Howe, NRCS Soil Scientist, at 605-468-3088.

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65 people attend 47th annual Ranchers Workshop

BROOKINGS — South Dakota State University Extension was proud to help plan the 47th annual Ranchers Workshop in Mission, which drew 65 people from the region.

The Ranchers Workshop is designed to provide current information to farm and ranch owners and operators with an emphasis on family, finance, production and natural resources. This year's event was held on Jan. 21, 2026, at the Todd County Fairgrounds with the theme "Youth, Our Investment in the Future".

Brian and Erica Ingerson, a father/daughter

duo started the morning session by discussing their journey of working together in an alternative enterprise with their custom welding business. Erica attended the Mitchell Tech entrepreneurship program and now works with her dad full time.

Attendees also heard from the South Dakota Animal Industry Board's State Veterinarian, Dr. Mendel Miller, with an animal health update. Miller discussed a variety of topics including the new world screwworm, highly pathogenic avian influenza and brucellosis. He also explained the



PHOTO COURTESY SDSU EXTENSION
65 people attended the 2026 Ranchers Workshop at the Todd County Fairgrounds in Mission.

routine testing that the

board conducts to ensure intentional disease management.

After lunch, Erin Yost, from Farm Credit Services of America discussed what young producers need to get started. Financing for their business can be one of the biggest hurdles for those just starting out, yet there are opportunities available with a variety of groups.

Logan Vandermark, SDSU Extension Precision Livestock Field Specialist, rounded out the day by discussing virtual fencing, how it can help livestock producers and

what it costs to implement. Virtual fencing is an emerging technology for managing livestock grazing on the landscape.

The first Ranchers Workshop was held in 1979 in Mission, as a small gathering of key local businessmen and ranchers. Dave Steffen, Natural Resources Conservation Service District Conservationist, and Dale Mallory, SDSU Extension agent for Mellette County, developed the first agenda.

It was so successful that word began to spread, and people began

to notify the conservation districts they wanted to be invited to the next workshop. As a result, the rancher's workshop became an annual event centered around the needs and interests of local producers.

The event was planned and hosted by the Ranchers Workshop committee. Kaylee Wheeler, SDSU Extension Range Field Specialist, and Ron Frederick, SDSU Extension 4-H Educator for Todd County, are members of the planning team for this event. Other members include Jewell Bork with the South Central Resource Conservation and Development Council, Lealand and Jennifer Schoon with Fourever Grazingland LLC, Kim Cook with the Rosebud Sioux Tribal Ranch, Faith Lehman with the Farm Service Agency, and rancher Vanessa Hight.

For more information or to provide input on the 2027 Ranchers Workshop, contact Ron Frederick, SDSU Extension 4-H Educator for Todd County; or Kaylee Wheeler, SDSU Extension Range Field Specialist.

DRONE:

competition at the end of the season. Equipment and support for the program are provided through partnerships with industry organizations, including Mitchell Telecom, TrueNav RTK, and AccurAg Solutions.

By combining classroom instruction, applied agricultural training, and competitive drone experience, Mitchell Technical College is positioning students at the forefront of one of agriculture's fastest-growing technology sectors.

As producers continue to adopt precision tools to address labor shortages, rising input costs, and sustainability goals, the need for skilled drone operators will only increase. Mitchell Tech graduates enter the workforce prepared not just to use these tools, but to help drive innovation in modern agriculture.

For more information about Mitchell Technical College's agriculture and technology programs, visit www.mitchelltech.edu.

From Page 2C

About Mitchell Technical College

Founded in 1968, Mitchell Tech is an innovative leader in technical education and a valued partner in global workforce development, preparing students for career success and lifelong learning in an ever-changing world. The ultramodern campus, found on the edge of Mitchell, South Dakota, is home to thirty-five on-campus academic programs and four online programs.

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COURTESY PHOTO
From left: Kaylee Wheeler, SDSU Extension Range Field Specialist and Ranchers Workshop planning committee member, with event presenter Logan Vandermark, SDSU Extension Precision Livestock Field Specialist.

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The Huron Daily PLAINSMAN

Real Estate Outlook

Huron real estate market shows steady momentum heading into 2026

BY SHAWN HARVEY
PRESIDENT, HURON BOARD OF REALTORS



As we move into a new year, the local real estate market in Huron continues to show encouraging signs of stability and opportunity, even as inventory remains tight. We are off to a strong start in 2026, with homes going under contract quickly and new listings steadily coming on the market.

Year over year, we closed out 2025 with 55 active listings compared to 50 at the end of 2024, showing a modest increase in available homes. While inventory remains limited, this slight growth is a positive signal for buyers who have been patiently waiting for more options.

Homes are taking a bit longer to sell than last year, with the average days on market rising to 83 in 2025 compared to 66 in 2024. This reflects a market that is becoming more balanced, giving buyers time to make thoughtful decisions while still maintaining healthy demand.

Sales activity remained strong, with 227 homes sold in 2025 versus 257 in 2024. While that represents a slight decrease, new listings stayed remarkably consistent, with 331 homes coming on the market in 2025 compared to 336 the year prior. This consistency speaks to continued confidence from

homeowners and sellers in our local market.

One of the most notable trends from 2025 was the increase in home values. The median sales price rose to \$167,500, up from \$160,000 in 2024. This uptick highlights the ongoing strength of the Huron housing market and reinforces real estate as a solid long-term investment in our community.

Looking ahead, the Huron Board of Realtors is excited about what 2026 has in store. Beyond supporting buyers and sellers, our focus remains on staying present and engaged in the community. We are actively discussing ways to contribute to local improvement projects and initiatives that help make Huron an even better place to live, work, and invest.

As always, our local Realtors are here to guide residents through changing market conditions and provide trusted expertise. With steady momentum and a strong sense of community, we are optimistic about the year ahead.

Huron Title Company helps protect Huron buyers

BY CRYSTAL PUGSLEY

For nearly 65 years, the Huron Title Company has been serving residents in Beadle County. Title insurance is a policy that protects against financial loss from defects in a property's title that existed before the policy was issued.

Title insurance is a one-time payment made at the close of purchasing a home that covers things like forgeries, fraud, undisclosed heirs and liens that were not discovered during a title search. Homeowner's title insurance provides protection for the homeowner and lasts for as long as you own the home.

"We search the records in the courthouse, Register of Deeds, clerk's office and treasurer's office," said Huron Title Company manager Nancy Wagner, who has been with the company for almost 38 years. "It's best if you're going to buy a property that you do title work before signing any paperwork. You want to make sure everything is okay."

Lara Holt, who is also a licensed abstractor, works with Wagner in an office that employs six. Holt said they search for records from the present back to the first recorded owner of the property. There can be as few as 15 to 20 entries of ownership or close to 50 or 60 to go through, she said.

"With family land passed down multiple times you may find there's an interest of a parent or grandparent that never got out," Holt said. "It's important even with family members to have a search on the property if they want to sell it in the future."

"I find it interesting to know the history of properties," Holt added.

If they do find something that raises a red flag, they help the client take the right steps to fix it. "We'll tell them what needs to be done, and they will talk to an attorney about legal documentation that needs to be done," Holt added.

Wagner was well acquainted with dealing with land and property records, because she



COURTESY PHOTO
Back row, from left, Deb Snyder, Jeanette Gromer and Nancy Wagner, and in front, Morgan Hofer, Lara Holt and Carrie Wetz.

worked in the Register of Deeds office for several years prior to starting at Huron Title.

"I was approached to come to work for Huron Title Company because I had knowledge of land and legal descriptions and that type of thing," said Wagner, who was no longer working at the courthouse at the time. "I took the training, and we have to pass a test that consists of five different sections."

Holt, who has been with the company since 2016, said she saw an advertisement for a closing agent and decided to give it a try. "I didn't know anything about real estate or legal descriptions, so I've been learning it as I've gone. I passed the test, but it's been a hands-on experience for me."

The company was owned by a South Dakota bank for a number of years, before it was purchased by a group of local investors lead by Homestead Holdings in 2008.

"As our company has grown, we moved from our long-time

location downtown to our current building on Kansas Avenue in November 2018," Holt said. "We provide title search and closing services for all types of real estate transactions."

"From start to finish, we help search, close, and protect the parties involved in buying, selling, and refinancing property in Beadle County," Wagner added. "Our staff has over 100-years of experience and has helped search and closed on nearly every property in the county since our start."

There are two types of title insurance: lender's, which protects the mortgage lender, and owner's, which protects the homebuyer.

Title insurance protects against problems with the property's ownership history that existed before the policy's effective date. Examples include:

- Errors in public records, such as a misspelled name or an incorrect property description.

TITLE — PAGE 7C

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Seven Sons seeks to make you comfortable

BY CRYSTAL PUGSLEY

“We’re not comfortable until you are.” That’s more than a motto for Seven Sons Heating & Cooling, which opened in Huron in January. As the name implies, the business, formerly known as Curt’s Heating & Cooling, is owned and operated by seven brothers.

“My parents have nine kids total – two girls and seven boys,” said Daniel Watts, who is joined by brothers Andrew, Jacob, Joseph, Joshua, Steven and David in the business. Their degrees are through technical colleges and on-line courses.

Their parents are Jennifer and Tracy Watts who live in Forestburg. Their sons live in Forestburg, Artesian and Huron, so they can service a wide area.

“We’ve been staying busy,” Daniel said. “Especially when it gets really hot or really cold. We offer 24-hour service. We always have someone on call.”

They sell York and Lennox brands and offer installation of new furnaces and water heaters, as well as service calls to check and clean existing appliances. They work with commercial refrigeration, residential and commercial heating and cooling, and in-floor radiant heat.

There are several things people can do to extend the life of their furnace. One of those is to have someone come to clean and inspect the unit. “Inspect the heat exchange and ignition system, check gas pressure and safety controls, inspect flue and vent system, inspect flame sensor,” Daniel said. “It’s better to check when it’s 50

degrees outside rather than when it’s negative.

“Our slogan is ‘We’re not comfortable until you are,’” he added. “We really mean that.”

Perhaps one of the most important things to do to keep your furnace running efficiently is to change the filter regularly. “Changing the filter is a really big one,” Daniel said. “If you have a small problem, it can create bigger problems.

Daniel said his parents owned a similar heating and cooling business when they were young, and each of his siblings learned the family trade growing up in Idaho. Five years ago, that business was relocated to Sioux Falls and the family followed two years ago.

“My dad moved here to be closer to the business in Sioux Falls,” Daniel said. “He liked Forestburg because it’s a small town.

“We grew up in the pre-existing family business summers and after school,” he added. “A lot of what we’re doing now we already did before.”

When the opportunity came to purchase Curt’s Heating & Cooling in January, they jumped at the chance.

“We all wanted to work together again, we like working together as a family,” Daniel said. “This was an opportunity to work together. I absolutely love it. We’ll go wherever people want us to go.”

To schedule a furnace check up before cold weather moves in, call them at 605-352-5316. Seven Sons Heating & Cooling is located at 111 Dakota Ave. N.



Ace Realty has eye on Huron market

BY ANGIE UTTECHT

If you’ve been watching “For Sale” signs around Huron and wondering whether the market is finally changing, the answer is: yes—but not in the dramatic, headline-grabbing way people expect. What we’re seeing locally is more of a slow recalibration: buyers are careful, sellers are adjusting expectations, and the homes that are priced right and show well are still moving. The difference is that “moving” now often means negotiating again—on price, on repairs, on closing costs—rather than the take-it-or-leave-it frenzy we lived through a few years back.

What we are seeing in Huron right now

In Huron, the biggest story continues to be availability—not just how many homes are listed, but the type of homes that are listed. Many would-be sellers are still hesitant to trade their current mortgage rate for a higher one, which keeps turnover tighter than the community’s normal rhythm. That has a practical impact: buyers may have fewer options in the exact neighborhood, style, or price point they want, and when the “right” home hits the market, it tends to get immediate attention. We currently have 25 houses for sale in Huron in all price ranges which is low inventory for us.

At the same time, the mood of today’s buyer is different. People are doing more homework, asking more questions, and taking fewer leaps. They want inspections as compared to post Covid when many buyers waived inspections to make their offer more competitive. Today buyers want clarity on utilities, deferred maintenance, roof age—everything. Buyers are more savvy than years past.

The national picture: cautious recovery, affordability still tight

I am writing this article as I sit in the airport in DC returning from the National Association of Realtors Advocacy Week where we discussed nationally, the market is still operating in a “low gear,” to borrow language used in reporting tied to NAR’s most recent Pending Home Sales release, which showed a sizable December drop and pointed to subdued buyer-and-seller activity.

Meanwhile, December’s existing-home sales did rise month-over-month (a reminder that buyers are still out there), but the bigger takeaway is that activity remains historically soft compared with the norms most of us remember.

Affordability is still the wall families keep running into. The National Association of REALTORS® tracks this through its Housing Affordability Index, which is built around the relationship between income, home price,



es, and mortgage rates. When affordability is strained nationally, it ripples everywhere—right down to communities like Huron—because it shapes what first-time buyers can qualify for and how confident move-up buyers feel about making a change.

There is, however, a meaningful note of optimism from NAR’s own economic outlook: NAR Chief Economist Lawrence Yun has projected that 2026 could bring a noticeable rebound in home sales activity compared to the stagnation of recent years. Yun believes that home sales will increase 14% in 2026. He also predicts 2 or 3 mortgage rate reductions in 2026. That kind of improvement—if it materializes—wouldn’t just be a “big city” story. It would show up here, too, as more listings come to market and more buyers feel comfortable stepping off the sidelines.

Advocacy Week in Washington matters locally.

While the market is local, the rules and policies that shape homeownership are often federal as was reiterated at Advocacy Week in Washington, D.C.

Advocacy Week is designed to bring REALTOR® leaders together for training and coordinated policy work—combining multiple signature advocacy events into one D.C. gathering. The published schedule describes an opening reception and a wrap-up that included an “elevated policy forum” with D.C. policymakers and elected officials focused on issues facing real estate.

A few highlights that stand out—because they translate directly into what my clients ask me at the kitchen table:

- REALTOR® Party Training: Sessions aimed at giving associations tools, resources, and funding know-how to build stronger advocacy and community outreach programs.
- Policy Forum focus: A dedicated forum intended to address leading real estate-related issues nationwide.
- The core mission behind it: NAR’s advocacy work frames its role as pro-

ACE — PAGE 8C

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From Page 6C

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Variables to consider before downsizing a home in retirement

Aspiring to save money in retirement makes perfect sense. Once professionals call it a career and are no longer drawing a paycheck, cutting back on expenses can be a sound decision that ensures seniors won't outlive their money. And housing remains a significant expense, even for retirees who own their homes and no longer have monthly mortgage payments to make.

Many retirees seeking ways to save money consider downsizing their homes. According to the National Association of Realtors, 12 percent of people between the ages of 60 and 69 who move indicated their home was too large, and that percentage grows among movers between the ages of 70 and 78 (16 percent) and those who move after turning 79 (18 percent). Downsizing a home in retirement can seem like an ideal means to saving money after calling it a career, but individuals pondering such a move should consider a number of variables before putting their homes up for sale.

Costs

Downsizing may help retirees lower their property tax obligations, reduce their utility bills and lower their monthly mortgage payments (for those who are still paying off a mortgage on their current homes), but that does not mean moving will not incur new expenses that render such savings moot. Expenditures like closing costs, real estate commissions, moving-related expenses, and capital gains taxes can quickly add up. In addition, retirees who currently do not pay homeowner's as-



sociation fees may be subjected to such fees when moving into a new home, and those fees can be substantial and hard to avoid. Indeed, recent data from the U.S. Census Bureau indicated that 71 percent of new constructions in the western and southern United States were built in communities with homeowner's associations. Prior to downsizing, current homeowners should calculate all of the costs related to relocating, including anticipated HOA fees, to see if downsizing is to their financial benefit.

Social benefits

Another variable that merits consideration is the impact that moving can have on seniors' social lives. The World Health Organization reports that more than one in 10 seniors experiences loneliness, which can adversely affect their physical and mental health and potentially reduce their life expectancy. Retirees currently living in communities in which they are socially active should weigh the effects of leaving that social network behind. Retirees also can weigh the benefits of moving to 55 and over communities where they will be surrounded by people at

a similar stage in life, and how living in such developments may improve their social lives.

Adjusting and adapting

Downsizing will require an adjustment period and a willingness to adapt. Retirees may have an emotional attachment to their current homes, and leaving that behind can be a difficult adjustment. Adapting to life in a new community also can be challenging, particularly if retirees are moving from areas where there are no restrictions regarding their properties to communities where homeowner's associations must approve of any changes to properties. Moving also may require finding new health care professionals, which can be a particularly difficult adjustment for retirees who have spent years building a strong rapport with their current health care team.

Downsizing a home might be a pathway to more financial freedom for many retirees. Seniors considering such a move can consider a number of variables to determine if moving is in their best interest.

How to maximize a real estate investment

Real estate has long been considered a good investment. Whether people are buying a home they intend to live in or purchasing investment properties they hope to flip or rent out, real estate tends to provide a strong return on investment.

Maximizing the investment value of a property is wise regardless of how buyers intend to use it. With that in mind, buyers can consider these strategies to make the most of a real estate investment.

- **Renovate with ROI in mind.** Though no room of a home in need of work should be ignored, various studies have identified the rooms buyers emphasize most when looking for a new home. Kitchens and primary suites tend to make the most lasting impressions on home buyers, and that can offer a strong return on investment (ROI). And the good news for homeowners hoping to sell a property they currently own is that minor kitchen remodels, which require a smaller financial investment than major overhauls, offer stronger returns. According to the Cost vs. Value Report 2025 from the Journal of Light Construction, a minor kitchen remodel offers an average return of 113 percent compared to a 36 percent average return for a major upscale remodel.

- **Prioritize location.** Real estate investors who aren't looking to sell but buy can maximize their investment by prioritizing location as they search for properties. Though the real estate market is ever-changing, the importance of location remains a constant. Investopedia notes that a "good" location for prospective buyers typically is near access to transportation (be it public transportation or highways that can help cut down on commute times), well-regarded schools, and community involvement. While the importance of location is a constant, Investopedia notes that a given neighborhood's reputation can go from "good" to "bad" or vice versa. Identifying an emerging "good" neighborhood can be a tall order, but prospective real estate investors are urged to consider a range of variables about each location in an effort to maximize their investments. Recent investment in local infrastructure and a growth in local employment opportunities are two variables that can help a given area quickly transform into a place people want to live.

- **Sell at the right time.** When selling a home with the intent of maximizing a real estate investment, it's important that owners recognize certain times of year are better for sellers than others. A 2024 report from the real estate curator ATTOM indicated that listing a property in May, February or April can yield the best returns for sellers. May is a particularly good time to sell, as the ATTOM analysis of 59 million home sales between 2011 and 2023 found that homes sold in May sold for 13.1 percent above market value, which was the highest of any month.

Real estate has long been considered a great investment, and various strategies can help investors bolster their returns.

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With the support of this great community we, and any other small business, will be able to continue giving you the best prices we can and the best customer service. Thank you to everyone that supports us!

ACE:

From Page 7C

moting and protecting a sound and dynamic U.S. real estate market and vibrant communities.

And when people ask, "Why does that matter in Huron?" here's the plain-English answer: the ability to buy, sell, build, and finance homes is shaped by decisions on lending, housing supply, property rights, and consumer protection—many of which are debated and decided far from our county lines.

A note from NAR's advocacy messaging

On NAR's advocacy-focused social channels (commonly shared under the REALTOR® Party banner), the message is consistent: advocacy is about protecting property ownership and supporting a healthy real estate market and communities. Whether a family is buying their first home in Huron or a retired couple is downsizing, the day-to-day experience of that transaction is influenced by the larger policy environment.

The takeaway for Huron buyers and sellers

If you're a buyer: be ready, be patient, and be decisive when the right home appears. A careful market still rewards preparation—solid financing, clear priorities, and realistic expectations.

If you're a seller: pricing and presentation matter more than ever. The market will still say "yes" to a well-positioned home—but it won't overpay just because it's spring (or because it's listed).

And for all of us—agents, homeowners, renters, and future buyers—the conversations happening in Washington this week are worth watching, because they shape the cost and availability of housing everywhere, including right here in Huron.

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A home-buying guide for empty nesters

The day a child leaves home can be bittersweet for parents. Although a son or daughter being successful and mature enough to move on to new opportunities can be a source of pride, parents typically lament the quiet that comes from empty rooms and a change to the daily routine they'd grown accustomed to when the kids were around. After some time, some couples decide to downsize to a home more befitting the empty nester lifestyle.

Downsizing presents an option for homeowners whose kids have left the nest. New analysis from a survey of 2,500 empty nesters commissioned by Regency Living found that 30 percent of empty nesters choose to downsize and move from their original family homes. When retirement is just around the corner, many professionals shift focus to how they want to live and where. Moving to a new home presents plenty of opportunities for older adults, including a chance to choose a home based on what's right for them in this stage of life. There are questions homeowners can ask themselves as they ponder if downsizing is right for them.

1. How much upkeep can I handle? A lifelong family home may be well-loved, but chances are it requires significant upkeep and repairs. Empty nesters may choose to move on to a home that offers lifestyle benefits



like less maintenance. Homes in lifestyle communities or those overseen by a homeowners' association tend to have certain maintenance built into a monthly fee.

2. Is this layout still a fit? Many empty nesters may not immediately feel the effects of aging, but before selecting a next home, individuals should think about aging in place and any unique needs they may have. Opting for a single-level home, or at least one with the owner's suite on the main level, can be advantageous.

3. Can I make due with less square footage? A cavernous home with many rooms often isn't desirable for empty nesters. All of that square footage requires heating, cooling and maintenance. Rattling around inside a big, empty house may precipitate the decision to downsize. Downsizing also can free up home equity, which can be used to fund retirement needs.

4. Which features do you desire? Many empty nesters want the next home to focus on some luxury items they may have bypassed in the first home when pri-

orities lay elsewhere. Upscale environments like gourmet kitchens, spa-like bathrooms and outdoor living spaces may be in the budget when moving into a home with a smaller footprint.

5. Will my home be secure while I travel? Empty nesters might want to choose homes in gated communities or condominium complexes for safety reasons. Should they opt to spend a portion of time at a vacation rental or second home as snowbirds, secure communities enable residents to leave their primary residence with the peace of mind that those homes will be less vulnerable to thieves.

6. Does this home have enough light? The American Optometric Association says many adults start to have problems seeing clearly beginning at age 40. Homes with more light from large windows and artificial lighting can reduce accident risk.

Moving to a smaller home is a consideration for many empty nesters. Various features offer benefits to adults who want to age in place.

Cost-effective curb appeal boosters

One shouldn't judge a book by its cover. However, that often is hard to do, particularly when it comes to homes. Curb appeal bears significant influence regarding how a property is perceived. A property that is neat and aesthetically appealing probably will be preferable to one that looks like the homeowners did not maintain it.

Boosting curb appeal is a common focus of sellers before listing a property. But what can those who don't have big budgets for major overhauls do to improve their curb appeal? Plenty of projects can offer maximum output with minimal investment.

Refresh the front door

Painting the front door can add brightness and improve the look of a home's entryway. Most exterior paint costs between \$30 and \$40 per gallon, so this is undeniably a budget-friendly improvement. If money allows, replacing the door altogether will generate bang for your buck.

Improve or add landscaping elements

Landscaping should be designed to highlight the home's best features. It should look symmetrical and feel manicured. If it's not possible to plant new flowers or bushes, simply cleaning up debris and weeds,

and trimming existing greenery can make it feel neater and more polished.

Clean up

Power-washing the siding, cement walkways and garage door can create instant impact. It's amazing how much dirt and mildew can reduce the luster of a home. Cleaning off years of grime can be a fast and inexpensive refresh.

Reseal the driveway

Make sure the driveway is clean and tidy. If it has cracks or discoloration, filling in cracks and applying a new coat of sealer will make a big difference. Homeowners can hire someone to reseal the driveway or do the work on their own.

Add more lighting

Updating front porch lights and accent lights around the property will cast a more positive glow on a home, both literally and figuratively.

Add a seating area

If space by the front door allows, add a bench or some chairs to create a welcoming seating area. A potted plant or two nearby will help the area seem intentional.

Improving curb appeal doesn't have to cost a lot of money. A few easy touches can boost the look of any property.



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Health Outlook

A whole-body approach to healing

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Instead of just managing symptoms, we work to uncover the why behind your health concerns. Through advanced testing and personalized care plans, we address issues like fatigue, inflammation, digestive problems, and hormone imbalances at the root level.

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Healing doesn't stop at the adjustment. We guide patients through corrective exercises and movement strategies to rebuild strength, improve stability, and prevent future injuries.

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Whether it's a sudden injury, flare-up, or accident, we provide prompt evaluation and care. With on-site X-ray capabilities, we can quickly assess what's going on and determine the safest, most effective next step.

Working together for your best outcome

We believe great healthcare is collaborative. That's why we work closely with medical doctors, orthopedic specialists, and other healthcare providers when needed. If your condition requires additional care, we help coordinate referrals to ensure you get the right support at the right time.

Care that's built around you

No two patients are the same, and your care shouldn't be either.

Whether you're dealing with chronic pain, recovering from an injury, or looking to improve your overall health, we take the time to understand your goals and create a plan tailored specifically to you.

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At Carr Chiropractic Clinic, we're here to take the guesswork out of your health. By combining chiropractic care, functional medicine, rehabilitation, and diagnostic tools—all under one roof—we help you move forward with confidence.

Because when your body works better, life works better.

Dr. Wayne H. Carr CCSP, DACRB, AFMCP, AC
Chiropractic and Functional Medicine Provider

Why a primary care doctor and annual checkups matter

When life gets busy, it's easy to put your own health on the back burner. But having a trusted primary care doctor and making time for annual checkups are some of the most important steps you can take to stay healthy.

Your primary care provider does more than treat you when you're sick, they help you understand your baseline health. Through regular exams and simple lab tests, such as cholesterol, blood pressure, and glucose, your doctor learns what's normal for your body. That way, if changes occur, problems can often be caught early when they are most treatable.

Annual visits are also a chance to review medications, update vaccines, and talk about lifestyle habits that can protect your long-term health. Annual visits can help ensure you stay up to date on preventive screenings, which are designed to catch problems before they become serious.

Below are some general

screening recommendations, although your doctor may recommend adjustments based on your personal or family history:

- Cholesterol & Blood Pressure: Begin screening in early adulthood

- Diabetes (Blood Glucose Testing): Starting at age 35, every 3 years, or earlier if overweight or at risk.

- Cervical Cancer (Pap Smear): Every 3 years starting at age 21 for women; Every 5 years combined with HPV testing after age 30

- Breast Cancer (Mammogram): Women ages 40-74 should have a mammogram annually.

- Colorectal Cancer (Colonoscopy or other tests): Starting at age 45, continue through age 75.

- Prostate Cancer (PSA Test): Men should discuss testing options with their provider starting around ages 45-50, or earlier if at higher risk.

- Bone Density (Osteoporosis)

Women should have a bone density scan at age 65 or as early as 50 if high risk or history of fractures; men may be screened starting at age 70, or earlier if at risk.

"Prevention is one of the best forms of care," said Susan Olson, CNP/PA-C at the HRMC Physicians Clinic. "When clinicians work alongside patients to ensure they receive the right screenings at the right times, patients feel more empowered in managing their health and all of the standard screenings can be done right here in Huron."

By scheduling your annual checkup, you're taking an important step toward protecting your health and ensuring that you can enjoy the future with confidence. Call today to schedule your annual visit and talk with your provider about which screenings are right for you. Visit huronregional.org to find a local practitioner.

Understanding perimenopause and menopause: You're not alone

For many women, the transition into midlife brings changes that can feel confusing, frustrating, and sometimes overwhelming. Perimenopause, the time leading up to menopause, can begin as early as a woman's 40s, though symptoms sometimes start sooner. Menopause officially begins when a woman has gone 12 months without a menstrual cycle, most often between ages 45 and 55.

Hormonal changes during this time can trigger a wide range of symptoms, including hot flashes or

night sweats, changes in menstrual cycles, trouble sleeping, mood swings or irritability, vaginal dryness or discomfort, brain fog or difficulty concentrating, and even weight gain. While these changes are natural, they don't have to be endured in silence.

The good news is there are many treatment options, from lifestyle changes and over-the-counter remedies to prescription therapies that can ease symptoms and help women feel like themselves again. Talking with a health care provider can help identify

which options best fit your needs and goals.

"Menopause is a normal stage of life, but that doesn't mean women should suffer through uncomfortable symptoms," says Rebekah Storm, DNP, family and women's health practitioner at Huron Regional Medical Center. "There are safe, effective treatments available, and it's important for women to know they can talk to their provider openly about what they're experiencing."

For generations, menopause was something many women felt they had

to quietly endure. Today, more women are speaking up and learning that support and care are available. At Huron Regional Medical Center (HRMC), women's health providers are dedicated to helping women navigate every stage of life with compassion and expertise. Whether you're experiencing early perimenopausal changes, adjusting post-menopause, or just feeling "off", your provider can help you feel confident, supported, and cared for. Find a care provider at huronregional.org.



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Five healthy habits to help reduce stress

Between work, family obligations and a constantly changing world, people in the United States are stressed. In fact, U.S. workers are among the most stressed in the world, according to a State of the Global Workplace study. While some stress is unavoidable and can be good for you, constant or chronic stress can have real consequences for your mental and physical health.

Chronic stress can increase your lifetime risk of heart disease and stroke. It can also lead to unhealthy habits like overeating, physical inactivity and smoking while also increasing risk factors, including high blood pressure, depression and anxiety. However, a scientific statement from the American Heart Association shows reducing stress and cultivating a positive mindset can improve health and well-being.

To help people understand the connection between stress and physical health, the American Heart Association offers these science-backed insights to help reduce chronic stress.

Stay active

Exercise is one of the easiest ways to keep your body healthy and release stress. Physical activity is linked to lower risk of diseases, stronger bones and muscles, improved mental health and cognitive function and lower risk of depression. It can also help increase energy and improve quality of sleep. The American Heart Association recommends adults get at least 150 minutes per week of moderate-intensity activity, 75 minutes of vigorous activity or a combination.

Meditate

Incorporate meditation and mindfulness practices into your day to give yourself a few minutes to create some distance from daily stress. Some studies show meditation can reduce blood pressure, improve sleep, support the immune system and increase your ability to process information.

Practice positivity

A positive mindset can improve overall health. Studies show a positive mindset can help you live longer, and happy individuals tend to sleep better, exercise more, eat better and not smoke. Practice positive self-talk to help you stay calm. Instead of saying, "everything is going wrong," reframe the situation and remind yourself "I can handle this if I take it one step at a time."

Show gratitude

Gratitude - or thankfulness - is a powerful tool that can reduce levels of depression and anxiety and improve sleep. Start by simply writing down three things you're grateful for each day.

Find a furry friend

Having a pet may help you get more fit; lower stress, blood pressure, cholesterol and blood sugar; and boost overall happiness and well-being. When you see, touch, hear or talk to companion animals, you may feel a sense of goodwill, joy, nurturing and happiness. At the same time, stress hormones are suppressed. Dog ownership is also associated with a lower risk of depression, according to research published by the American Heart Association.

Find more stress-management tips at Heart.org/stress.

Stress 101

Understanding stress is an important step in managing and reducing it. Consider these things to know about stress and how it could affect your life:

* Today, 1 in 3 adults in the U.S. report being worried or depressed.

* Higher levels of the stress hormone cortisol are linked to increased risk of high blood pressure and cardiovascular events like heart disease and stroke.

* The top sources of stress are money, work, family responsibilities and health concerns.

* Work-related stress is associated with a 40% increased risk of cardiovascular disease like heart attack and stroke.

What to know about colonoscopies

Adults in their early 40s know the day is looming when their physicians indicate it's time for them to get a colonoscopy. According to the MD Anderson Cancer Center®, most people should get their first colonoscopy at age 45 and continue to get semi-regular screenings through age 75.

Colonoscopies are an effective means to screening for colorectal cancer, which the World Health Organization reports is the third most common cancer worldwide. Though the MDACC characterizes colonoscopies as the "gold standard" for colorectal cancer screening, many people still approach the test with a degree of apprehension. But a closer look at these highly effective screenings shows there's little to fear when getting a colonoscopy.

What happens during a colonoscopy?

During the procedure, a long, flexible tube known as a colonoscope is inserted into the rectum and around the colon. A camera and light at the tip of the colonoscope allows the doctor to examine the lining and the walls of the colon. The MDACC notes that ability is what makes colonoscopies so effective. During a colo-

noscopy, a doctor can remove any polyps, which are small, typically benign growths. Stool-based colorectal screenings and virtual colonoscopies do not allow for the removal of polyps.

Why do colonoscopies inspire anxiety?

The anxiety associated with colonoscopies typically does not stem from the procedure itself but the preparation required the night before it. The Mayo Clinic notes that the colon, which is normally filled with stool, will need to be emptied prior to getting a colonoscopy. That means patients cannot eat solid food the day before the exam, and any drinks they consume may be limited to clear beverages, including water, tea and coffee without milk or cream, or broth (patients should first consult with their physicians about what they can and cannot consume on the day prior to the procedure).

Avoiding solid food and sticking to clean liquids can be inconvenient, but the anxiety from a colonoscopy often can be traced to the prescription laxative patients typically consume in pill or liquid from the night before the procedure. That laxative facilitates the emptying of the colon, and pa-

tients may make several trips to the bathroom after consuming the laxative. Patients also may need to wake up in the middle of the night and take a second dose, after which they may make several additional trips to the restroom.

What about the procedure itself?

During a colonoscopy, patients will wear a gown but likely nothing else. Sedation or anesthesia is typically administered, and after that patients often fall asleep and ultimately awake in another room after the procedure has been completed. The Mayo Clinic notes some patients feel stomach cramps and/or bloated after the procedure. When patients awake from the sedative, the doctor who performed the procedure will offer his prognosis.

How soon do I need another colonoscopy?

Recommendations regarding a subsequent colonoscopy depend on what was found during the procedure. The MDACC notes that the typical timeline if no polyps were discovered is 10 years before the next colonoscopy.

Colonoscopies have a reputation for being unpleasant, but any pre-procedure discomfort is worth it given the efficacy of the exams.

How time outdoors can benefit mental health

Nature beckons billions of people to get outside every day. Natural settings are not called "the great outdoors" for nothing, and nature enthusiasts may insist there's nothing better than a day in the elements.

Such a sentiment may be more accurate than the most ardent outdoorsman realizes. In fact, the American Psychological Association notes that extensive research supports the notion that nature provides myriad physical and psychological benefits.

• Nature can help with attention. A 2019 study published in the journal *Current Directions in Psychological Science* found that ex-

posure to natural environments improves working memory, cognitive flexibility and attentional control. On the flip side, the study found that exposure to urban environments can be linked to attention deficits. Such findings echo conclusions from an experimental study conducted in 2015 by researchers in Australia. That study engaged students in a dull task to compromise their attention. Midway through the task, which involved pressing a computer key when certain numbers flashed on a screen, some students were asked to look out at a flowering green while others were directed to gaze at a concrete rooftop. Students who looked at

the green made notably fewer mistakes with the computer screen task than those who looked at the concrete rooftop.

• Nature can increase happiness. Some findings suggest time spent in nature also can lead to increases in happiness. A 2019 study published in the journal *Science Advances* found that contact with nature is associated with increases in happiness and subjective well-being. The researchers also found that contact with nature is associated with an increased sense of meaning and purpose in life.

• Time outdoors may lower children's risk for mental health disorders later in life. Researchers in Denmark used satellite data to assess more than 900,000 individuals born between 1985 and 2003. The researchers discovered that children who lived in neighborhoods with more green space had a lower risk of various psychiatric disorders later in life. Risks for depression, mood disorders, schizophrenia, eating disorders, and substance use disorder were found to be lower among children who grew up with greater access to green space than children who had the lowest levels of green space exposure.

Few things might be more welcoming than the great outdoors, particularly when the weather is warm. Taking advantage of access to nature can pay some surprising dividends that even the most seasoned outdoorsman might not be aware of.

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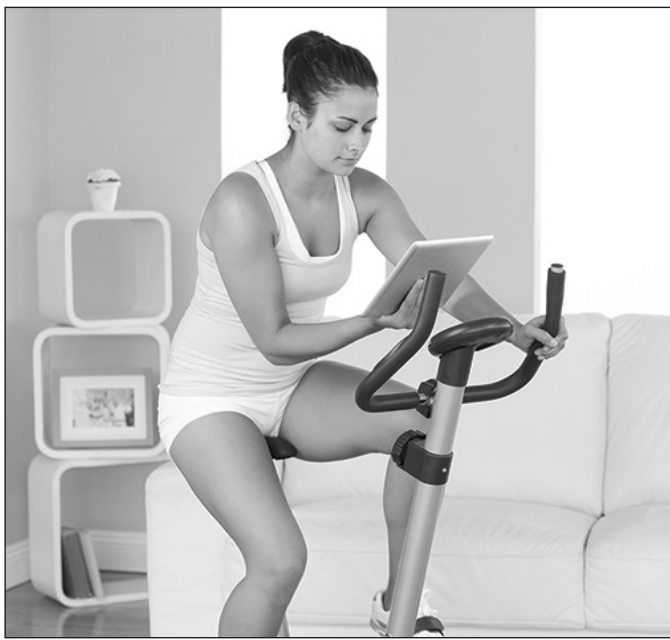
How to find time to be more physically active each day

Physical fitness is one of the keys to a long and healthy life. The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention note that routine physical activity helps people maintain a healthy weight, reduces a person's risk for chronic health problems like cardiovascular disease and type 2 diabetes, and strengthens bones and muscles, which can help aging adults overcome age-related reductions in muscle mass and strength and reduce their risk for falls.

People have much to gain from incorporating exercise into their daily routines. But many adults are not reaping those rewards, and studies indicate sedentary lifestyles are on the rise. A 2024 study published in the journal *The Lancet Global Health* noted that 31 percent of the world's adult population was physically inactive in 2022, which marked a 5 percent increase since 2010. And a recent report from the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services and the United Health Foundation found that roughly one in five adults get no physical activity beyond their regular job.

The Heart Foundation notes lack of time is often cited as an excuse for not exercising, and that's a legitimate hurdle for many professionals. Indeed, a 2026 report from Monster indicated that 73 percent of workers report regularly working more than 40 hours per week and 47 percent cite employer expectations or company culture as their top reasons for overworking. While professionals in such situations may find it challenging to overcome a lack of time to exercise, the following strategies may be just what people need to incorporate physical activity into their daily routines.

- Drive less. Driving is undoubtedly convenient, particularly for people who feel they're continuously pressed for time. But leaving the car behind and walking or cycling to run local errands is a simple and enjoyable way to incorporate physical activity into your daily routine. Parents can walk children to the bus stop or their school



in lieu of driving. Adults also can try walking to a local coffee shop near their home or office in lieu of driving to get their morning cup of Joe.

- Break up workouts. WHO guidelines recommend adults between the ages of 18 and 64 get at least 150 minutes of moderate-intensity physical activity or 75 minutes of vigorous physical activity each week. The WHO also recommends muscle-strengthening activities two or more days per week. That can seem daunting to adults pressed for time, but workouts can be broken up throughout the day. A pre-breakfast strength training session at home may only require 20 minutes, and that night adults can go for a jog or a brisk walk around their neighborhood.

- Workout while watching television. Adults who like to unwind at the end of the day by watching their favorite television shows can use that time to exercise without giving up their entertainment. Invest in a treadmill or elliptical and turn television time into a time to break a sweat as well. Watching a 30-minute episode of a favorite TV show while on a treadmill or elliptical can help adults meet WHO physical activity guidelines without requiring them to sacrifice their preferred way to unwind.

These strategies can help time-pressed adults incorporate more physical activity into their daily routines and lay a foundation for a long and healthy life.

Avoid exercise-related injuries

Exercise promotes mental and physical well-being in myriad ways. However, injuries remain a cause for concern for both seasoned and novice exercise enthusiasts.

According to *WifiT-Alerts*, which provides comprehensive market data and statistics, more than 3.4 million emergency department visits occur for sports and recreation injuries annually in the United States. Roughly 2.5 million injuries occur in gym and workout environments, highlighting the importance of an approach to exercise rooted in injury prevention. Understanding the risk factors and how to manage them can help individuals stay active and safe.

Types of injuries

Exercise injuries tend to be acute injuries or overuse injuries. Acute injuries are sprains or fractures, while overuse injuries include tendinitis or stress fractures. Overuse injuries develop gradually when tissues are repeatedly stressed without affording time for adequate recovery, says Boston Children's Hospital.

Injury prevention

A proper warm-up gradually increases heart rate and improves blood flow to muscles. Experts recommend five to 10 minutes of light aerobic activity before engaging in a more lengthy workout. A similar cool-down period afterwards returns the body to resting levels, says WebMD.

Beginners often do too much too soon. Orthopedic specialists recommend beginning with moderate exercise and gradually building up intensity and duration to allow tissues to adapt. Sudden spikes in training tend to lead to overuse injuries.

It's also important to follow proper form while exercising. WebMD says working with a qualified trainer or coach, even if it's just in the beginning to learn techniques, can help establish safe movement to avoid injury.

Repeating activities day in and day out will stress the same tissues. That is why the American Academy of Orthopaedic Surgeons suggests cross-training. Cross-training alternates between cardio, strength and flexibility workouts to help dis-

tribute exercise load in an effort to reduce injuries.

Afford yourself time for recovery

Recovery is when the body repairs and strengthens tissues. Overtraining without proper rest of at least one to two days per week can lead to fatigue and higher injury risk.

If injury occurs

Should an injury occur, it is essential to follow a doctor's orders for rest without returning to activity too soon. Early management follows the RICE protocol: Rest, Ice, Compression, and Elevation. Exercising through sharp or persistent pain can worsen minor injuries, so it pays to be mindful of what the body is saying, says Just Move Athletic Clubs. Most minor injuries improve within a few weeks, but persistent symptoms should be addressed with a medical professional.

Exercise is highly beneficial, and the risk of injury should not deter people from physical activity. Instead, following key prevention strategies can dramatically reduce injury risk, even for beginners.



5 Signs

IT'S TIME TO CONSIDER ASSISTED LIVING

Planning a move into assisted living for a loved one or yourself can be one of the most difficult decisions you may face in life. Watching a loved one age and seeing their abilities change can leave many feeling helpless. StoneyBrook Suites is here to help when that time comes.

- 1 Have there been any red flags? Has your loved one fallen, gotten in a fender bender, confused medications or had a medical scare? These can be indicators that it may be time to look into assisted care.
- 2 Is the house in disarray? If mail is piling up, trash is not being removed, the house is not as clean as it used to be or laundry and linens aren't getting clean, maintaining the house is probably becoming more than your loved one can manage.
- 3 Noticeable weight loss, body odor or change in looks? These are signs that your loved one is having a problem managing activities of daily living. Assistance may be needed in areas like food preparation or personal hygiene. This is also a sign of loneliness or depression.
- 4 Complaints of loneliness, depression or social withdrawal? Losing a spouse or close friend, or having limited social opportunities due to a lack of mobility or transportation, may leave your loved one isolated and depressed.

5 Signs of fire, trouble with appliances or entrances left open? Safety and security issues are common reasons to research an alternative living arrangement. The thought of a major accident can be terrifying. As loved ones age, they may begin to forget things that can lead to safety concerns.

Our passion for assisted living shines through every day at StoneyBrook Suites. It is our goal to be more than just a retirement center. We want to ensure your loved ones feel at home with a listening ear, a caring embrace, and an overall sense of community. We invite you call, stop in or schedule a tour to learn about the lifestyle and care available to you at StoneyBrook Suites.



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How sleep benefits mind and body, and how you can get more of it

Waking up after a good night's sleep can prepare people to take on a new day and all the challenges it has to offer. On the opposite end of the spectrum, a poor night's sleep can contribute to physical and mental fatigue, and even have an adverse effect on the immune system, making people more vulnerable to illness. Perhaps that's one reason why the National Institute of Neurological Disorders and Stroke contends sleep is as important to a person's survival as food and water.



Anyone who has had a good night's rest and a bad night's sleep need not be reminded how differently their minds and bodies felt after each night. But they might not realize why their minds and bodies felt much better after a good night's rest than the night when they battled insomnia. According to the NINDS, sleep plays a vital role in brain function, including affecting how nerve cells communicate with one another. The NINDS also notes that recent research suggests a particularly important task is performed while a person is asleep, as it's during rest when toxins that build up in the brain while you're awake are removed. That could be one reason why the health-related effects of chronic lack of sleep are so profound. Such effects include an increased risk for a number of health problems, including high blood pressure, cardiovascular disease, diabetes, depression, and obesity. If left untreated, each of those conditions can adversely affect quality of life and may even contribute to a reduction in life expectancy.

of consistent and sufficient sleep have been noted, how can anyone go about ensuring a better night's rest? The NINDS recommends people looking to get better sleep take the following advice to heart.

- Establish a consistent sleep schedule by going to bed and waking up at the same time each day.
- Avoid a sedentary lifestyle. Make a concerted effort to exercise for at least 30 minutes most days of the week, but avoid doing so within a few hours of bedtime. Advice regarding when to exercise to ensure a good night's rest is mixed. The National Sleep Foundation notes that research indicates some people considered "night owls" sleep well after exercising at night, while "early birds" may struggle to fall asleep if they work out too close to bedtime. In addition, the NSF notes that research has found moderate-intensity exercise does not have a detrimental effect on sleep so long as a workout concludes at least 90 minutes before bedtime.
- Relax before bed. This tip is connected to the rule of thumb regarding exercising too closely to bedtime. Just

like ramping up right before bed may adversely affect sleep, winding down with a warm bath, cuddling up with a good book, or engaging in another relaxing routine may set the body up to fall asleep when a head hits the pillow.

- Avoid caffeine and nicotine late in the day and alcoholic drinks before bed. Even if a night-cap helps you fall asleep more quickly, alcohol may lead to interruptions in sleep shortly after it begins. And once awake, falling back asleep can be difficult.
- Create a sound sleep environment. A good sleeping environment has no bright lights and loud sounds, is kept at a comfortable temperature, and is device-free (which includes televisions, tablets and smartphones).
- Don't lie in bed awake. If sleep proves elusive after your head hits the pillow, try engaging in a relaxing routine, like reading a book or listening to calming music, until you feel tired.

A good night's rest is perhaps more beneficial than many people realize, which is why it can be so vital for people to establish and maintain a sound bedtime routine.

Gardening and mental health

Gardening and strong mental health seemingly go hand-in-hand. A study published in 2018 in the journal Clinical Medicine found that exposure to plants and green space, and particularly to gardening, is beneficial to both physical and mental health. Penn State Extension says working with the soil and plants can help relax the mind and have a grounding effect on the gardener, as gardening can help to reduce stress,

anxiety and even built-up anger. Gardening also helps a person connect to the current moment and not be caught up in their mind. Nearly all forms of exercise, gardening included, can lighten mood and lower levels of stress and anxiety. Also, routines, such as spending a certain portion of the day weeding or tending to gardening needs, creates a soothing rhythm to ease stress.



Surviving seasonal allergies

Rising temperatures and the reemergence of wildlife make spring a popular time of year. But the blooming flowers and blossoming trees of spring may not be a wonder to behold for seasonal allergy sufferers. Trees, flowers and grasses are ripe with pollen this time of year, which can produce a bevy of symptoms for people with seasonal allergies.

The Asthma and Allergy Foundation of America says more than 106 million people in the United States have allergies and/or asthma. Coping with allergies often comes down to a multi-pronged approach that may involve medication and

lifestyle changes. The Mayo Clinic says that oral antihistamines (particularly non-drowsy, second-generation options) combined with nasal steroid sprays can reduce inflammation and congestion and alleviate sneezing, itchy noses and eyes. Decongestants can offer temporary relief of nasal congestion, while saline nasal sprays and rinses can help wash out pollen and mucus.

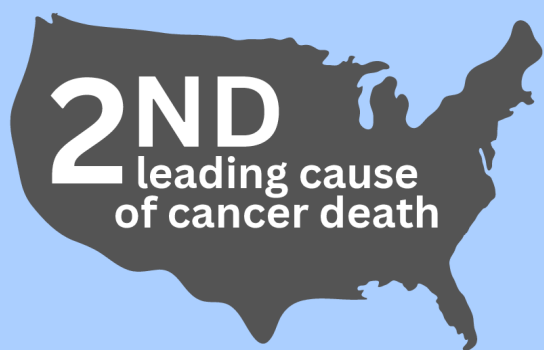
Individuals can modify their activities by avoiding the outdoors when allergens are very high. When coming in from outdoors, remove clothing and launder it right away to keep allergens from transfer-

ring to furniture and bedding. When pollen counts are high, windows and doors should remain shut and HVAC systems should be run with a fresh filter to help mitigate any allergens already in the air. Allergy sufferers also can look into a HEPA room air filter to clear indoor air even more.

Should over-the-counter options and lifestyle changes prove ineffective, seek medical advice. This is especially true if allergies cause intense sinus pressure, difficulty breathing or wheezing. Long-term or prescription treatments like immunotherapy could be the next step to find relief.

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Safe ways seniors can lose weight

The prevalence of obesity among adults 60 and older is significant. According to the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, 39 percent of adults 60 and over met the criteria for obesity over a two-year period between August 2021 and August 2023.

The National Council on Aging notes the importance of maintaining a healthy weight as you age. Seniors who qualify as obese, which occurs when a person's body accumulates and stores excessive amounts of body fat, carry a higher risk of chronic diseases like type 2 diabetes, heart disease, and certain types of cancer. The NCOA also notes that excess body weight puts a strain on the joints, increasing the risk for osteoarthritis and making daily movements more difficult. People with obesity also are more likely to develop asthma and sleep apnea.

Seniors diagnosed with obesity are urged to seek safe and healthy ways to lose weight. Fad diets and other means to quick weight loss can be dangerous, but the NCOA notes simple lifestyle changes and healthy habits can help seniors safely lose weight.

- Consume nutrient-dense foods. Lean proteins, whole grains, fruits, and vegetables offer plenty of vitamins, minerals and fiber but tend to be low in calories. That makes them ideal options for people looking to lose weight, as they contribute to feelings of fullness without consuming a lot of calories.

- Incorporate physical activity into your daily routine. Exercise can pose problems for older adults who qualify as obese. The joint issues that can affect older adults with obesity can make traditional exercise regimens that incorporate strength training and moderate to vigorous aerobic activity very difficult, and maybe even dangerous. But the NCOA notes that exercise need not be intense to be effective. Walking is a great physical activity for older adults. Swimming also is excellent, as it provides a full-body workout that's easy on the joints. Seniors are urged to speak with their physicians



about physical activities they can handle.

- Don't sleep on sleep. Sleep can be an effective ally for seniors looking to lose weight. The NCOA notes that seven to nine hours of sleep per night helps support a healthy metabolism and regulate hunger. Seniors who have trouble falling asleep at night can try various strategies, from avoiding caffeine from the afternoon on to avoiding screens after dinner, to prepare their bodies to get better rest at night.

- Work to combat stress. The NCOA reports that stress is a contributor to weight gain. And stress and disorders linked to it are perhaps more common among adults 60 and over than people realize. In fact, according to the Anxiety and Depression Association of America, anxiety disorders, which are a notable source of ongoing stress, are the most widespread mental health condition among older adults. Sufficient sleep, meditation and deep breathing exercises can help seniors combat stress, and that in turn may help older adults avoid excess weight gain.

Obesity is a problem among older adults. Finding safe ways to lose weight can have a profound effect on seniors' short- and long-term health.

Five ways seniors can get moving

People of all ages are encouraged to be physically active, and that includes seniors. The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention say seniors ages 65 and older should aim for at least 150 minutes per week of moderate-intensity aerobic activity and at least two days a week of muscle-strengthening exercises. Although some people may be drawn to the gym, others with no such preference may need to identify other ways to incorporate more physical activity into their lives. Seniors can stay active in various ways by enjoying activities that get them up and moving. The following are five ideas to get started.

1. Play a sport. Pickleball and padel are the fastest-growing recreational sports among seniors. Pickleball blends tennis and badminton while padel blends ten-

nis and squash. These activities combine challenging cardio workouts with a social component.

2. Go dancing. A recent meta-analysis found that group dancing enhances social interaction while providing moderate aerobic exercise. Dancing is fun and can get anyone to break a sweat, and it doesn't feel like exercise.

3. Join or start a walking club. Seniors can engage with other like-minded individuals by turning their daily walks into something that offers companionship and exercise. An app like Charity Miles offers an additional layer of purpose to the activity, as it turns walks into fundraising opportunities.

4. Take up gardening. Gardening can be a thorough workout. The Royal Horticultural Society says gardening provides

moderate-intensity, full-body exercise that burns approximately 165 to 300 calories every 30 to 60 minutes.

5. Consider aquatic endeavors. High-intensity interval training (HIIT) in the water is a new exercise trend that allows people to elevate their heart rates without placing any extra strain on the joints. Water activities in general tend to be easy on the body but provide immense benefits for flexibility and gentle resistance. Everyday Health says HIIT in a pool can improve fitness capacity roughly as much as HIIT done on land.

Seniors have various options to stay active and keep moving. Many such activities are entertaining and social in nature, which can help seniors maintain a commitment to being physically active.



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