

SHARE:



[Join Our Email List](#)



\*\*\*When viewing on a mobile device- please scroll down and click on "view entire message" to view Buffalo Bytes in correct formatting\*\*\*

To have things added to Buffalo Bytes, please send to [bytes@custersd.com](mailto:bytes@custersd.com). Items need to be received by Wednesdays at noon in order to be added to weekly Buffalo Bytes. Thank you!

## CUSTER CONNECTIONS



You already know this but you will never out-doorbuster the big box stores. You are not supposed to. Your power is not in pallets of TVs sold near cost to get people in the door. It is in how people feel when they walk through your door. If you lean into experience, Black Friday can shift from “we cannot compete” to “we own this lane.” Here’s how:

## 6 Ways to Win at Black Friday

Black Friday is loud, crowded, and a little unhinged. Use that to your advantage by being the opposite. Think of your business as a holiday oasis.

Ideas you can try:

- **Quiet Hours Shopping.** Offer “calm hours” in the early morning or later evening with softer lighting, relaxed music, and a limited number of shoppers by RSVP. This is an ideal way to stand out.
- **Cozy Comfort Station.** Set up a hydration and warmth bar. Think hot cocoa, tea, cucumber water, and maybe a simple snack. You are literally refueling tired shoppers.
- **Phone Drop Zone.** Create a “scroll break” basket where people can put their phones while they browse. Add a small sign: “You will not find peace in your notifications. Try here instead.”

You become the place where shoulders drop and breathing slows. That alone is a competitive edge.

People love to feel like insiders. Use that instinct.

Ideas to elevate the day:

- **By-Appointment Shopping.** Offer 30-minute mini appointments for styling, gifting help, or product demos. Shoppers leave with decisions made and gifts checked off.
- **First Look Access.** Give your email list, top customers, or loyalty members early access to your best bundles or limited items. Frame it as a thank you, not a gimmick.
- **“Done and Dusted” Gift Packages.** Curate grab and go gift sets for specific people: “Teacher TLC,” “Hostess Hero,” “Self-Care Sunday,” “Office Secret Santa.” The value is not only in the items. It is in the decision fatigue you remove.

You are not trying to be the cheapest. You are trying to be the easiest and the most thoughtful.

If the big box experience feels like a stampede, yours can feel like a respite.

Add small, memorable touches:

- **Gratitude Wall.** Invite customers to write what they are grateful for on tags or sticky notes and hang them on a wall or tree. It creates a moment of reflection and looks great on social.
- **Photo Moments.** Set up a simple photo nook. A decorated chair, a small backdrop, a “We survived Black Friday together” sign. Offer to take photos for customers on their phones.
- **Word of Mouth Marvels.** Ideally, word of mouth testimonials will come from customers in the form of reviews or social posts. But you can also use the help of your employees. Help customers feel more confident about their purchases by telling them things like, “That’s one of our biggest sellers” or “I bought that for my son’s teacher and she loved it.” These short employee-led testimonials work in-person and even as physical signs near a popular product or service. If you’re not a believer, check out how Amazon designates some of its products as “Amazon’s Choice.”

Use all five senses to stand out.

- **Sight.** Make your best bundles and gift solutions front and center. Use clear signage like “Gifts under \$25” or “Perfect for the person who has everything.”
- **Sound.** Choose a playlist that fits your brand. Calm acoustic, jazzy holiday, or upbeat pop. Just be deliberate.
- **Smell.** A subtle holiday scent can make your store feel warm and inviting. Candles, diffusers, or even a simmer pot if it is safe.
- **Taste.** If allowed, offer small sips or bites. Think sample cocoa, infused water, or a local treat.
- **Touch.** Invite people to try, test, feel, and flip through. Hands-on experiences make products more real and more likely to be purchased.

You want people to feel like they have stepped into a curated world, not just another errand.

You do not have to do Black Friday alone. Collaboration makes everything bigger without blowing your budget.

Ideas:

- **Oasis Trail.** Partner with nearby businesses to create a “Holiday Sanity Route.” Each shop offers a comfort element or mini perk. Share a simple map online and in print.
- **Shared Experiences.** Host a pop-up inside your store featuring a local baker, maker, or artist. It brings their audience to you and gives your customers something extra to enjoy.

This is how you turn one good experience into a whole neighborhood story.

A great experience still needs promotion.

- Share your Black Friday “experience menu” on social media, your website, and via email.
- Focus the message on how people will feel. Less “10 percent off.” More “Skip the chaos and actually enjoy your holiday shopping.”
- Let your chamber know what you’re doing. They may share it in their newsletters or social feeds and send more people your way.

If you can make Black Friday feel human, calm, and a little bit magical, you will not just survive it. You will stand out from all the noise and become a place people seek out year after year. They’ll feel like you understand their needs.

You don’t want to compete in the race to the bottom on price. You are competing in something much more powerful: the memory of how your business made people feel in the middle of holiday madness.

*Christina Metcalf is a writer and women’s speaker who believes in the power of story. She works with small businesses, chambers of commerce, and business professionals who want to make an impression and grow a loyal customer/member base. She is the author of *The Glinda Principle*, rediscovering the magic within.*

Medium: @christinametcalf

Facebook: @tellyourstorygetemtalking

Instagram: @christinametcalfauthor

LinkedIn: @christinagsmith



**Dawn Murray**  
Executive Director

# Custer Loyal2Local Shop Hop

Shop at participating Custer businesses  
on Small Business Saturday, November 29

- Save your receipts dated November 29
- Bring receipts into the Custer Chamber  
Office on December 1 or 2.
- Each receipt = one entry into our Custer  
Cash drawing!

**Let's show our small businesses some BIG  
hometown love on Small Business Saturday!**



The more you shop, the more chances you have to win.

[Printable Copy](#)

## 2025 EVENTS CALENDAR

# A full list of 2025 events by the Chamber and other organizations.

[Click to download calendar](#)

## MARK YOUR CALENDAR

### November 27-30th

Chamber closed for Thanksgiving  
see you Monday December 1 at 9:00 AM

### November 28th

Custer Loyal2Local Shop Hop  
throughout Custer

### December 18th

Chamber Mixer  
hosted by South Dakota Outdoor Shop  
5:00PM-7:00PM

## IMPORTANT ANNOUNCEMENTS



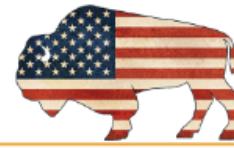
In order for staff to enjoy  
a little extra family time,

**THE CUSTER CHAMBER  
OF COMMERCE**

will be closing at noon on  
Wednesday, November 26th and  
will remain closed through the  
weekend.

**SEE YOU MONDAY!**

**CUSTER**  
Chamber of Commerce



**CUSTER**  
*Chamber of Commerce*

**Be sure to  
VOTE**

**Custer Area Chamber of Commerce  
Board of Directors  
2026-2028**

**Get your ballots turned in by December 18**

**Remember, only one (1) vote per Chamber Membership**

[Click To Vote](#)

**REMINDER TO HAVE YOUR  
CHRISTMAS CASH BOXES READY  
AND OUT NOV 28<sup>TH</sup>**

**1ST DRAWING DEC 5TH**





## **Gift Wrapping Fundraiser for Fireworks**

Join us at **The Hills Finest** for a special gift wrapping fundraiser

Bring your gifts and let us wrap them beautifully for you!

Donation only and all proceeds go to the Custer Chamber of  
Commerce for the 4th of July Firework display.

Where: The Hills Finest    Address: 26 S. 6<sup>th</sup> St    When: Fri-Sun Starting 11-28-12-21-25

Wanna help or donate? Call Michelle at (605) 517-5588

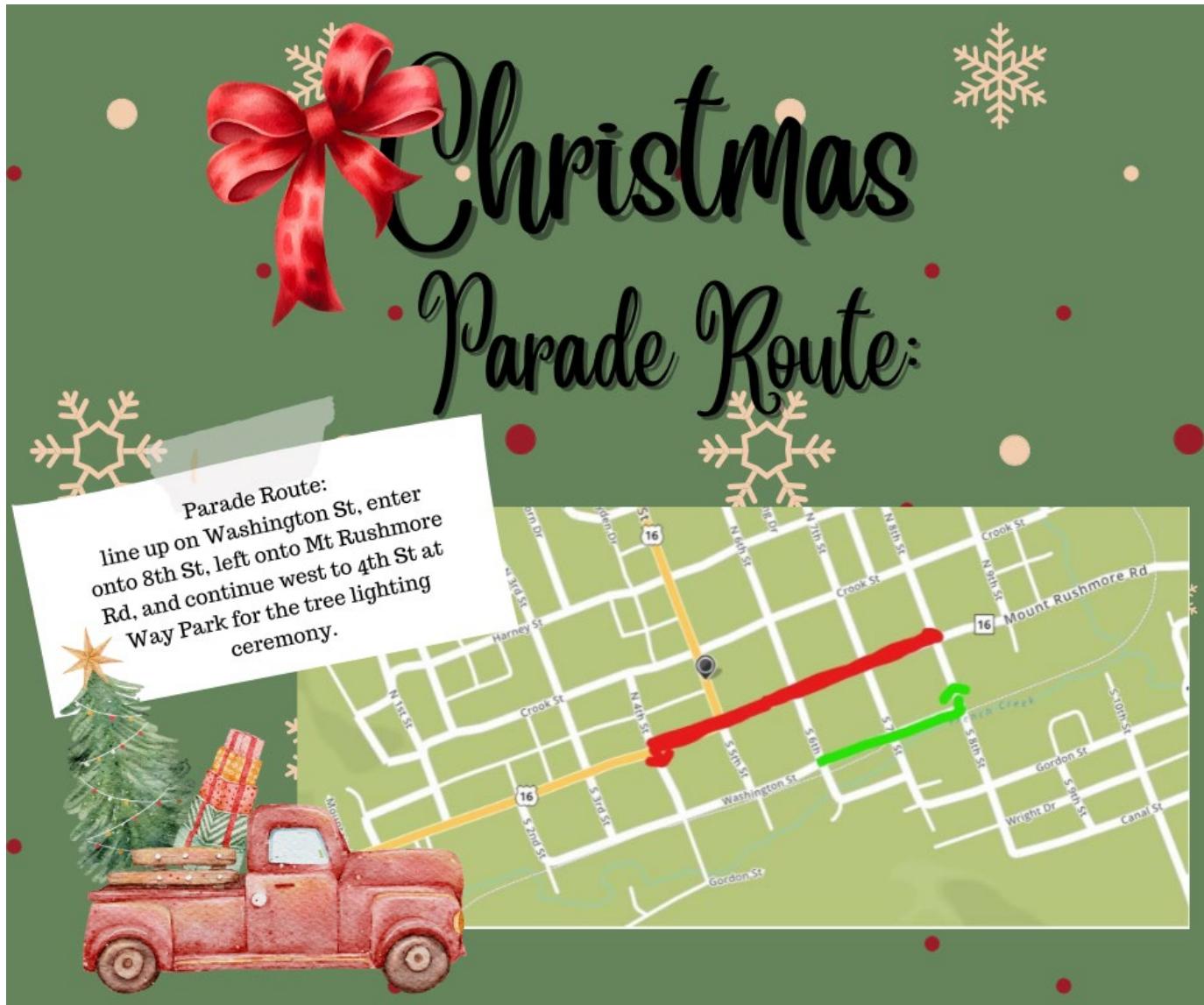
Wrapping times are 11am-4pm Friday thru Sunday







[Sign Up Here](#)



# Candy Cane Hunt

Saturday, December 6th

at 9:30 am



Located at:  
The Elementary School





# Christmas



# Scavenger



**Get your business signed up today! Call 605-673-2244**

---





# 2026 MIXER DATES

**JANUARY 29-GOLD PAN**

**FEBRUARY 19-PREMIER EYE CARE**

**MARCH 19- CUSTER'S RENDEZVOUS**

**MAY 21- LEWIS REALTY**

**SEPTEMBER 10-CAMP BOB MARSHALL**

**NOVEMBER 19- BRADEEN REAL ESTATE**

**DECEMBER 17- STARR INSURANCE**



Follow Us on Facebook & Instagram



## Chamber Board Meetings

December 17th 2:00 P.M

## WEEKLY HUMOR



Thank you so much for renewing your membership with the Custer Chamber! We truly appreciate your continued support and partnership.

1. 1880 Train	139. Highmark Credit Union
2. 1881 Courthouse Museum	140. Hills Inn
3. 21 Electric	141. HJEM am
4. A & B Business Solutions	142. Holiday Inn Express
5. A Walk in the Woods	143. Homeslice Media Group
6. Abundant Life Fellowship of Custer SD	144. Homestead Carpet Care
7. Aflac -Carol Perrigo	145. Honest Paint Co
8. Al Cornella Refrigeration	146. Horatio's Homemade Ice Cream
9. All Net Connections	147. Hounds, Pugs, and Hugs
10. ALPHA Builders, LLC	148. J & M Lawn Care
11. American Family Insurance- Ronni Calvird Agency	149. Jacqueline Hartwick
12. American Legion Post #46	150. JAM Heating and Cooling LLC
13. Aspen Federal Credit Union	151. Jewel Cave National Monument
14. Aspen+Pine Realty	152. John & Diana Carson
15. Bakers Bakery	153. Jon G Gindhart, D.C., PLLC.
16. Bavarian Inn	154. Jorgensen Log Homes Inc
17. Bear Country USA	155. JQ Clothing Co
18. Beaver Lake Campground	156. K & S Stagecoach Stop
19. Beecher Rock Vehicle Storage	157. K2 Masonry & Concrete Inc
20. Begging Burro Mexican Bistro and Tequila Bar	158. Ketel Thorstenson
21. Best Western	159. Kieffer Sanitation
22. Big Pine Campground	160. Kitchens by Karla
23. Black Granite Construction	161. Lampert Properties
24. Black Hills Badlands	162. Lasting Impressions Unlimited
25. Black Hills Balloons	163. Laurie Arthur
26. Black Hills Bronco Adventures	164. Lenny Merriam CPA, CFE, PLLC
27. Black Hills Burger & Pizza Co	165. LFC Veterinary Service
28. Black Hills Chemical & Janitorial	166. Living Outreach Church
29. Black Hills Electric Cooperative, Inc	167. LJ's Recovery and Transport, LLC
30. Black Hills Enclave	168. Local Black Hills
31. Black Hills Energy	169. Lynn's Dakotamart
32. Black Hills Federal Credit Union	170. Marci & John O'Connell
33. Black Hills Parks & Forests Association	171. Maria's Mexican Restaurant
34. Black Hills Pizza Hut	172. McCoy PC dba Custer Lawyer PLLC
35. Black Hills Playhouse	173. McGas Propane
36. Black Hills Power Bikes Rentals and Boutique	174. Mickelson Trail Affiliates, LLC
37. Black Hills Preservation Project	175. Miner's Cup, LLC
38. Blind Guy Custom Window Coverings	176. Moccasin Springs
39. Bradeen Real Estate and Auctions	177. Monument Health- Custer Hospital/Clinic
40. Branch Construction Services, LLC	178. Mountainview Baptist Church
41. Buffalo Ridge Camp Resorts	179. Mt Rushmore Brewing Co/ Pounding Fathers
42. Buglin' Bull	180. Murray Auto Repair LLC
43. Busy Ewe Farm & Fiber	181. My XO Adventures
44. Calamity Jane Kitchen	182. Naomi Haraldson
45. Calamity Peak Lodge	183. NARFE
46. Camp Bob Marshal	184. Nelson's Oil & Gas
47. Carr Electric, Co, LLC	185. New Trails Ministry, Inc
48. Carson Drug	186. Nielsen Enterprises, LLC
49. Certified Folder Display Service, Inc	187. NXTLAW PC
50. Chalet Motel	188. Operation Black Hills Cabins
51. Chamberlain McColleys Funeral Home	189. Our Place
52. Chapel in the Hills	190. Our Place
53. Charley and Norma Najacht	191. Our Quilty Things
54. Chief Motel	192. Our Redeemer Lutheran Church
55. Christy Chamberlain & Bob Reich	193. Outlaw Ranch
56. City of Custer	194. Pain & Movement Solutions
57. Claw Antler and Hide	195. Patti & Jim Lee
58. Coca-Cola Bottling Company	196. PDQ Construction
59. Colleen Hennesy and Jim Frank	197. Peaceful Meadows
60. Comfort Inn & Suites	198. Petals & Pages

61. Common Cents	199. Pizza Mill
62. Community Education of the BH	200. Pleasant Valley Farm and Cabins LLC
63. Crazy Horse Memorial	201. Plenty Star Ranch Retreat
64. Crossroads Church	202. Prairie Hills Transit
65. Custer Ace Hardware	203. Premier Family Eyecare
66. Custer Ambulance Service	204. Purple Pie Place
67. Custer Area Arts Council	205. Pye-Barker Fire & Safety
68. Custer Cares	206. Rabbit Bicycle Rental & Repair
69. Custer Chiropractic, PC	207. Reed's Chimney Sweeping, Handyman & caretaking
70. Custer City Masonic Lodge #66	208. Regency CSP Resorts
71. Custer County Airport	209. Reptile Gardens
72. Custer County Candy Company	210. Rise Custer
73. Custer County Chronicle	211. Road Runner Inc
74. Custer County Conservation District	212. Rock Solid
75. Custer County Democratic Party	213. Rocket Motel
76. Custer County Library Foundation	214. Rod and Avis Converse
77. Custer County Republicans	215. Ronald McDonald Charities
78. Custer Dental Studio	216. RP Lumber Co Inc
79. Custer Golf Corp/ Rocky Knolls Golf Course	217. Rush Mountain Adventure Park
80. Custer Heating & Air Conditioning	218. Rushmore Photo & Gift, Inc
81. Custer Lions Club	219. Rushmore Vacation Rentals
82. Custer Lutheran Fellowship	220. Sage Creek Grille
83. Custer Mile High Garden Club	221. Sentinel Federal Credit Union
84. Custer Mt. Rushmore KOA	222. Servall Uniforms & Linens
85. Custer Piecemaker Quilt Guild	223. Sew What
86. Custer Rotary	224. Shady Rest Motel
87. Custer Senior Center	225. Shepherd of the Hills
88. Custer State Farm- Steve Engelbrecht Agent	226. Simon Contractors of SD, Inc
89. Custer State Park	227. Skogen Kitchen
90. Custer Subway	228. Sleep Better South Dakota, LLC
91. Custer's Gulch RV Park & Campground	229. Sousleys HillBilly Barbeque Catering
92. Custer's Rendezvous	230. South Dakota Outdoor Shop
93. Dacotah Bank	231. South Dakota Parks & Wildlife Foundation
94. Dakota Greens - Custer Greenhouses & Nursery, Inc.	232. Southern Hills Animal Clinic
95. Dakota Photographic	233. Southern Hills Family Medicine, PLLC
96. Dave's Rock Shop	234. Southern Hills Law, PLLC
97. Days Inn	235. Southern Hills Tactical
98. Deep Creek Art Gallery	236. Southern Hills Title Co.
99. DGR Engineering	237. Splish Splash Car, RV and Dog Wash
100. Diane Dennis	238. Spokane Creek Cabins & Camp
101. Don & Arlayne Barmore	239. Sprockets Fun Foundry
102. Double Diamond Ranch	240. St John the Baptist Catholic Church
103. Eagle's Landing Lodge	241. Star Ridge Advetisments
104. Early Learner Custer	242. Starr Insurance
105. Econolodge	243. Stars and Stripes by Steph
106. Edward Jones- Mark Koch	244. Steele Collision & Glass
107. Edward Jones-Jared Slagel	245. Steve and Yolanda Davis
108. Edward Jones-Kris Zerbe	246. Stockade Lake Cabin
109. Elk Haven Vacation Cabins	247. Studt Construction, Inc
110. enCore Energy Corp	248. Sturgis Mustang Rally
111. EO Bungalows	249. Sunset RV Park
112. Evergreen Media	250. Sunshine Storage
113. Faith Lewis Real Estate Inc	251. Super 8
114. Feel Good Café	252. Sweet Clover and Sage Salon
115. First Choice Lock and Key	253. Sylvan Rocks Climbing School and Guide Service
116. First Interstate Bank	254. Tallgrass Landscape Architecture
117. Floors and More Cleaning and Restoration	255. Tanglewood Estate
118. Four Mile Old West Town & Campground	256. Tennyson Investments
119. Fred & Wendy Hlava	257. The Cruisin' Canvas
120. Freedom Hills Wealth Management	258. The Custer Beacon

121.	Freeman's Electric Service, Inc.	259.	The Custer Wolf Food & Drink
122.	French Creek Campground & RV Park	260.	The Mammoth Site
123.	French Creek Supply- NAPA Auto Parts	261.	Thomas Home Improvement
124.	French Creek Tree Fellers, LLC	262.	Travel Custer
125.	Frenchy's Hideaways	263.	United States Forest Service Supervisor's Office
126.	George Mickelson Trail	264.	United Way of the Black Hills
127.	Gideons International Southern Hills Camp	265.	Valhalla Legal, PLLC
128.	Glen Erin Campground	266.	Vector Design Print and Tech
129.	Gold Camp Cabins, LLC	267.	VFW Post #3442
130.	Gold Pan Saloon/ Calamity Jane	268.	Vineyard Black Hills
131.	Gold Valley Camp	269.	Western Skies Real Estate
132.	Golden West Telecommunications	270.	Western Tire Chain LLC
133.	Good Karma Jewelry	271.	Windsong Valley Gardens
134.	Green Owl Media	272.	Workplace Disability Network of the Black Hills
135.	Grizzly Gulch Adventure Golf	273.	World Fossil Finders Museum
136.	Growing Roots, Inc	274.	Xanterra
137.	H&R Block	275.	YMCA
138.	Harney Peak Chapter, NSDAR	276.	Zonta Club of the Southern Black Hills



PDQ Specialty Products  
Xtreme Sports Simulators

The Christians Team-Broker Heath Shields

The Hills Finest-Bridal by Michelle  
Don't Panic, LLC

Rising Hope Counseling, LLC  
Custer Laundry

Lintz Brothers Pizza  
Around the Map Travel  
Winmore, LLC

Bridle Ridge Horse and RV Camp LLC  
Bottoms Up Taphouse

Grant Administration & Consulting LLC  
Aflac- Matti (Kelley) Schryvers  
Quilted Buffalo

Performance Outdoor Services  
Western Dakota Tech Foundation

Encompass Payroll  
South Dakota Department of Labor &  
Regulation  
On The Water

Elk Mountain Retreats and Tours  
Rushmore Custom T's  
Drover's Ridge

Black Hills Open-Top-Tours  
Village of Boyd

Boyds Antiques and Unique's, Inc  
Custer Sheds- by Old Hickory  
Nomad Vancamp & RV Park

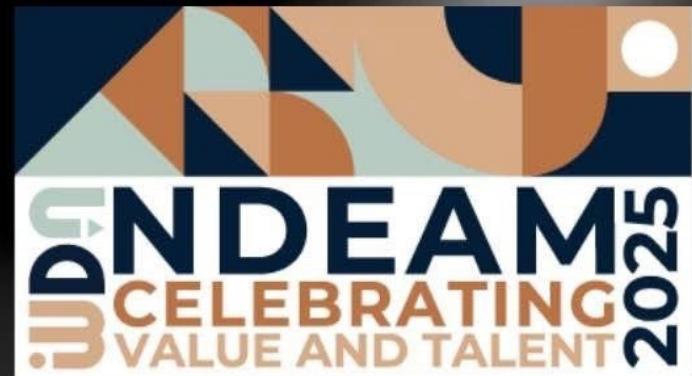
# MEMBERSHIP SPOTLIGHT



2025 Custer Chamber

## Member Spotlight

Workplace Disability Network of  
the Black Hills



Address: 505 Kansas City Street, Rapid City, SD, 57701  
Phone: 605-786-8311  
Email: director@wdnbh.org

**#Membership Monday**

This week, our member in the spotlight is WDN of the Black Hills. Here is what Heidi had to say about WDN of the Black Hills and the services they provide.

"The Workplace Disability Network of the Black Hills (WDNBH) educates and equips businesses to confidently hire, support, and retain employees with disabilities. We provide training, consultation, and resources that help employers identify and remove workplace barriers, strengthen teams, and build sustainable, inclusive workplaces. Unlike traditional business consultants, WDNBH focuses on helping employers remove workplace disability barriers. We combine practical training, real-world tools, and community partnerships to give businesses confidence in hiring, supporting, and retaining employees with disabilities. With over a decade of impact across the Black Hills, WDNBH bridges the gap between disability resources and business success—making accessibility a compliance requirement and a strategy for stronger workplaces."

More Info: <https://custersd.com/members/workplace-disability-network-of-the-black-hills>  
#custersd #chambermembership #workplacedisability #chamberspotlight

---

### ❖❖ Membership Spotlight Time! ❖❖

We love shining a light on the amazing businesses that make our community great! ❖❖

Would you like to see your business in the spotlight?

Send a short write-up and a few photos to [assistant@custersd.com](mailto:assistant@custersd.com) — we can't wait to feature YOU!



---

## AREA EVENTS

# OUR PLACE Will Be Open Thanksgiving Day

7am –10:30am Breakfast Buffet

11am-2:30pm Ham & Turkey Buffet

**COME JOIN US FOR YOUR HOLIDAY**

**Steve & Diane**

## **BREAKFAST BUFFET**

Scrambled Egg, Bacon, Sausage Links, Sausage Patties, Biscuit & Gravy, & French Toast.

Adults \$16.95 Kids 6-14 \$11.95 5-2 \$5.00

## **DINNER BUFFET**

Ham, Turkey, Mash Potatoes, Dressing, Cranberries, Corn, Peas, Green Bean Casserole, Salad Bar, and Homemade Pie.

Adults \$18.95 Kids 6-14 \$12.95, 5-2 \$6.00





# GINGERBREAD

## *House Competition*

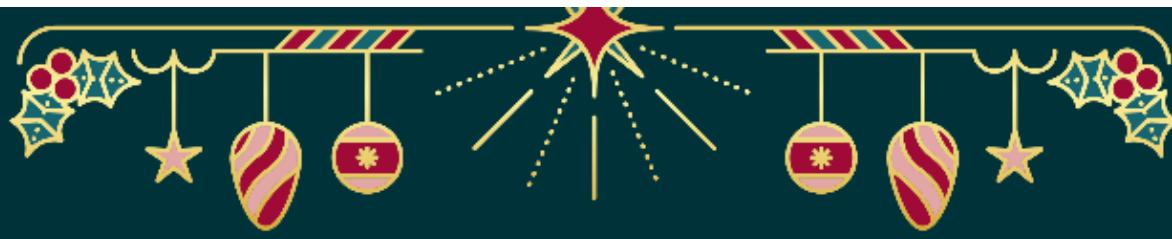
It's time for another gingerbread house contest  
at the Custer County Library!

We will have sign ups and starter kits available for  
pick up at the library (while supplies last)  
starting Monday, November 17th.

All entries must be dropped off by December 6th.  
December 8<sup>th</sup> - 31<sup>st</sup> voting by patrons

\*Prizes awarded January 2026!!!





# ENCHANTED “WONDER”LAND

## *A Holiday Market*

*Shop unique, high-quality gifts and educational items  
that support national parks, grasslands, and forests!*

**NOVEMBER 10TH - DECEMBER 24TH**

**833 MT. RUSHMORE ROAD**

MONDAY - FRIDAY  
9:00AM-4:00PM

SATURDAYS  
9:00AM-3:00PM



BLACK HILLS  
**PARKS &  
FORESTS**  
ASSOCIATION

**BHPFA.ORG**

*A non-profit organization supporting wonder  
and exploration through stewardship of  
YOUR public lands.*



# November Story Time Schedule



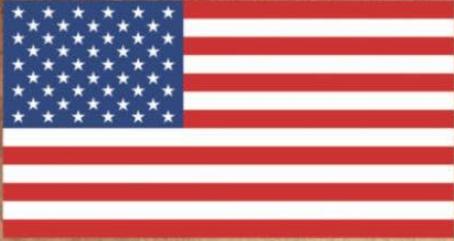
**11/7 - Special Event: Storytime & book signing at the 1881 Museum**

**11/14 - Pickles (National Pickle Day since 1949!)**

**11/21 - Creation Station & STEAM(8+)**

**11/28 - No Story Time/Thanksgiving break**





## **Custer VFW Post #3442 Gun Bash**

**November 28, 2025  
Drawing to be held immediately following  
Queen of Hearts at 6 p.m.**

**\$20/Card  
or  
\$100 for Six Cards**

**Winner gets a choice of one gun out of 10**

**Need to be present to win**

**Contact Joey at the VFW with questions**



# Adopt A Resident

Spread holiday cheer  
this year!

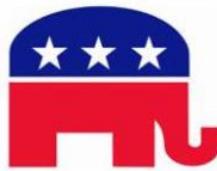
PICK UP TAGS: DROP OFF BY  
12/1/2025      12/19/2025

HOW CAN YOU HELP?  
• GRAB A TAG FROM THE TREE.  
SHOP FOR YOUR RESIDENT.

Spread the Joy!

Custer Care & Rehab Center  
1065 Montgomery St.  
605-673-2115





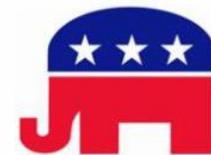
## Custer County Republicans

The Custer County Republicans will meet Tuesday, December 2, 5:30 pm in the Tap Room of the Mt. Rushmore Brewery (on the south side of the Brewery). We will be celebrating the holiday season and a great year over dinner. We will also hear a bit about the generosity of our Custer County community and some of the great projects that happen.

Please RSVP to [CCRepubs@goldenwest.net](mailto:CCRepubs@goldenwest.net) to get a headcount for food.

Check us out on Facebook at [CusterCountySDRepublicans](#)

Or online at <https://www.custercountyrepublicans.org/custer-sd-republicans>



**Vehicle-Trailer-Toy Trains-  
Collectibles-Firearms-Coins-Tools**

# ESTATE AUCTION

**The Roger Behlings Estate & Guests,  
Custer, SD**

**Closing Tuesday · December 2nd,  
2025, 4:00PM**



**Highlights include:** 2017 Ford F150 4x4, 4 dr pickup, 14645 miles A-1; snow mobile trailer; Luigi Franchi Semi-auto 12 ga.; Mossberg Model 500 12 ga.; Henry Golden Boy 22 Cal.; Henry Big Boy 44 Rem Mag/44 SPL; Henry Big Boy 30/30 Win.; Ruger New Model Black Hawk, 24 Kt Gold Plated; Romarm/Cugir/Wasr-10; Minnesota Arms Co. double barrel 12 Ga.; PW Arms Model M91/30 caliber 7.62 X 54R; Cabela's 50 Cal. BP Hawken w/set trigger; Thompson Center 50

Cal. New Englander Muzzleloader; BPI New Frontier 50 Cal.; Thompson Center 45 Cal. Hawken Muzzleloader; large selection of coins & proof sets; 100+ locomotives and train sets, model cars; wood working tools; lawn/patio furniture; Riding lawn mower; tools & shop items; modern & antique furniture; antique & collectible; pocket watches; art work and MUCH MORE!



# EILEEN MCDONALD ESTATE - BUFFALO GAP SD



## ESTATE AUCTION REAL ESTATE & PERSONAL PROPERTY

SELLING AT ONLINE AUCTION - BIDDING CLOSES DECEMBER 3, 2025

BID ONLINE AT [WWW.BRADEENAUCTION.COM](http://WWW.BRADEENAUCTION.COM)

PROPERTY LOCATED AT 410 N. 3RD STREET, BUFFALO GAP SD

REAL ESTATE CONSISTS OF A LARGE CORNER LOT ON THE NORTH EDGE OF BUFFALO GAP AT THE CORNER OF N 3RD. STREET AND DUDLEY STREET, FEATURING A WOOD FRAME SHOP WITH ELECTRIC HEAT & AIR CONDITIONING, AIR COMPRESSOR, AND MORE. ALSO FEATURES A FIVE STALL STORAGE BUILDING WITH 5 INDIVIDUAL ROLL UP DOORS AND A FINISHED OFFICE. ALSO INCLUDES AN EXISTING SEPTIC SYSTEM AND CITY WATER HOOKUP TO ADD A RESIDENCE IF DESIRED. ALSO INCLUDES A WELL FOR GARDEN/LAWN WATER, GARDEN AREA, SHADE TREES, GARDEN SHED AND MORE.

**TERMS & CONDITIONS:** ABSOLUTE AUCTION, SELLING TO THE HIGHEST BIDDER WITHOUT MINIMUM OR RESERVE BID. 15% DOWN AUCTION DAY WITH THE BALANCE IN 30 DAYS. ADMINISTRATORS DEED & TITLE INSURANCE PROVIDED. SELLING "AS-IS WHERE-IS" WITHOUT WARRANTY OF ANY KIND, INSPECT TO THE EXTENT DEEMED NECESSARY, BOTH ON AND OFF PREMISE AND RELY UPON YOUR OWN JUDGEMENT WHEN BIDDING. SEE [WWW.BRADEENAUCTION.COM](http://WWW.BRADEENAUCTION.COM) FOR ADDITIONAL TERMS, CONDITION, INSPECTION, PHOTOS, ONLINE BIDDING, ETC.

**PERSONAL PROPERTY** INCLUDES AN ATLAS TWIN POST FREE STANDING HOIST, COATS TIRE MACHINE, FULL LINE OF SHOP TOOLS, SOME HOUSEHOLD ITEMS, 1956 FORD F-600 TRUCK WITH DUMP BOX - PARTIALLY RESTORED IN RUNNING CONDITION, JD RIDING LAWN MOWER, AND MUCH MORE!

**AUCTIONEERS NOTE:** WHETHER YOU ARE SEARCHING FOR A SHOP WITH PLENTY OF STORAGE AND ROOM TO EXPAND OR LOOKING FOR A HOMESITE OR MOBILE HOME SITE WITH UTILITIES, LOOK NO FURTHER. THIS IS AN ATTRACTIVE OFFERING IN THE QUIET, BUT GROWING COMMUNITY OF BUFFALO GAP. INSPECT THIS INTERESTING PROPERTY, HAVE ARRANGEMENTS SECURED, AND MAKE PLANS TO PARTICIPATE IN THE ONLINE BIDDING, AS THIS PROPERTY WILL SELL WITHOUT RESERVE!

EILEEN MCDONALD ESTATE  
LORI SHORB, PERSONAL REPRESENTATIVE





# JOIN US FOR OUR ANNUAL

# *Christmas*

## COOKIE & CANDY WALK

*Support the Custer Senior Center and stock up on your favorite holiday cookies, candies, breads, and other Christmas goodies—only \$12.00 per pound!*



**December 5<sup>th</sup>, starting  
at 8am to 12pm**



**538 Mt. Rushmore Rd.  
Custer, SD 57730**

**\$12  
per pound**

Bring your family and friends—and skip the holiday baking! Let the Custer Senior Center take care of the treats so you can enjoy the season.



# 1881 COURTHOUSE MUSEUM HOLIDAY OPEN HOUSE

**Saturday, December 6th**

**• 4pm - 6:30pm •**

**411 Mt. Rushmore Rd. Custer, SD**



**tour the museum: free admission**

**enjoy refreshments  
in the courtroom**

**holiday shopping  
in the bookstore**



# SANTA'S VILLAGE CRAFT FAIR



**Shop for Christmas gifts  
Support local vendors/businesses  
Concessions available  
Pictures with Santa from 10 AM-12 PM  
Hourly door prizes  
And lots more!**

Date and time:  
**December 6th, 9 AM-3 PM**  
1645 Wildcat Lane, Custer SD



For More Information:  
**605-673-2222**  
[erinw@rcycymca.org](mailto:erinw@rcycymca.org)

[Registration Form](#)

CUSTER SENIOR CENTER'S  
CHRISTMAS CONCERT

OPEN TO  
THE  
PUBLIC

THE SANDSTONE  
SINGERS

6 DECEMBER 2025

538 Mt. Rushmore Rd. | Starts at 2 pm



THIS THE SEASON FOR HOLIDAY CHEER! COME JINGLE ALL THE WAY WITH US FOR AN AFTERNOON OF FUN, LAUGHTER, AND FESTIVE DELIGHTS. CHRISTMAS OUTFITS ENCOURAGED!





► **QUILTED BUFFALO,  
DEEP CREEK GALLERY &  
OUR QUILTY THINGS**

Cordially Invite you to our

**Holiday  
Open House**

**Saturday, December 6<sup>th</sup>, 2025**

**Noon – Through the Lighted Parade**

*757 Mt Rushmore Rd, Custer, SD*

**Door Prizes, Goodies, Hot Coco, View  
the Lighted Parade, Gift Shopping!!**



# Custer Senior Center Holiday Open House



Step into the magic of the season at the Custer Senior Center! Enjoy a performance by The Sandstone Singers, delicious cookies, and festive refreshments.

December 06 | 2-4 PM

538 Mt. Rushmore Rd.  
Custer, SD 57730



# THE BLUEPRINT

Custer County Democratic Party



## Holiday Gathering

**Saturday, December 6<sup>th</sup> | 4-7pm**

Trailhouse ~ 148 Gordon St, Custer, SD

**RSVP by 5pm, Monday Dec. 1<sup>st</sup> - [ccsddp21info@gmail.com](mailto:ccsddp21info@gmail.com)**

Fun Evening of Good Food, Friendly Conversation, Door Prizes,  
and Holiday Cheer!



*Throughout the month of December*

**Visit the Custer County Democratic Party's Tree!**

**At the Custer State Park Visitor Center**

Join us as we participate in the Third Annual Festival of Trees  
in Custer State Park.

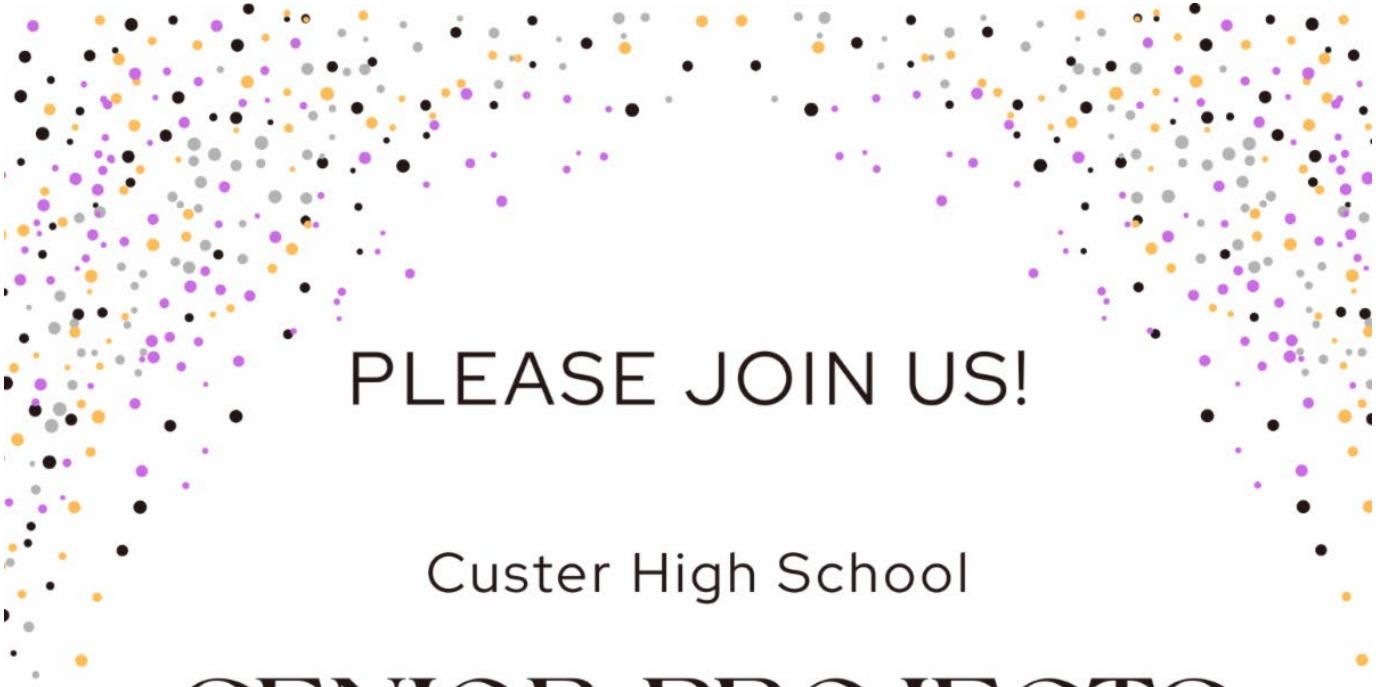


Custer County Democrats of SD  
PO Box 5065 - Custer, SD 57730  
[ccsddp21info@gmail.com](mailto:ccsddp21info@gmail.com)  
[@custercountydemocratsouthdakota](https://www.facebook.com/custercountydemocratsouthdakota)

**Saturday, January, 3rd, 9:00AM**  
**Pancakes & Perspectives**  
*Monthly Breakfast Get-together at Crazy Horse Memorial*  
Laughing Water Restaurant ~ 1215 Avenue of the Chiefs, Custer, SD  
**RSVP by Friday noon, December 31st to [ccsddp21info@gmail.com](mailto:ccsddp21info@gmail.com)**



The Custer County Democrats invite everyone who values and supports our vision to promote Democracy, Economic Justice, Universal Human Rights, Environmentalism, and a Culture of Peace to join our growing community.



PLEASE JOIN US!

Custer High School

# SENIOR PROJECTS COMMUNITY EXPO

**Monday, December 8th**

**6:00 p.m. - 7:30 p.m.**

**Custer High School Commons**



GALLERY-WALK STYLE

OPPORTUNITY TO CELEBRATE OUR SENIORS'

HARD WORK

Custer Senior Center

# Painting Class with Tami

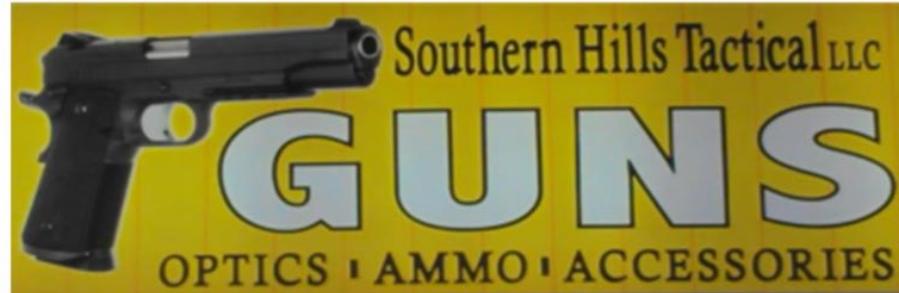


DECEMBER  
10<sup>TH</sup> @ 1:00PM

SIGN UP  
AT THE  
CENTER

538 Mt. Rushmore Rd.  
Custer, SD 57730





## **South Dakota Enhanced Conceal Carry Class**

**This is a One day Class**

**Saturday Dec 13th 2025 9:00am to 4:30pm**

The Enhanced Permit allows you carry in 39 states including  
MN, NE, WI, NV, NH, WA, NM and SC

Class size is limited so register early.

For additional information or to register for the class you may  
contact the instructor at **www.sodakian.com**, contact us at

605-673-3222 or by e-mail at

[southernhillstactical@gwtc.net](mailto:southernhillstactical@gwtc.net)



## CHRISTMAS FOR KIDS 2025

The 34th Annual Christmas for Kids event will take place at the Custer High School on Saturday December 13th, 2025 Noon-3:00 P.M.

All children residing in Custer County, ages 0-10 years, are welcome to attend this free event but must be registered.

Registration via email at [custerchristmas4kids@gmail.com](mailto:custerchristmas4kids@gmail.com), registration will start on Saturday November 17th and end on December 5th.

A reply email will confirm your registration and will let you know what time to arrive. Kids and parents will enjoy lunch, holiday games, crafts and kids will visit with Santa and Mrs. Claus.

If you would like to donate to this event to assist with our toy purchases, or have any questions, please contact Corey or Jana Virtue at [custerchristmas4kids@gmail.com](mailto:custerchristmas4kids@gmail.com) or at 605-890-0458.



# Details

**Date:** Saturday 13 December 2025

**Time:** 4:00 pm – 10:00 pm

**Cover Charge:** Free for all ages!

**Location:** The Custer Beacon!



Custer Senior Center's

# CHRISTMAS RAFFLE

## DRAWING ON DECEMBER 15TH

The most wonderful time of the year brings amazing prizes! **Join our holiday raffle for your chance to win two \$50 Lynn's Dakotamart gift cards, one \$25 Ace Hardware gift card, a deluxe travel game set, red & black oven mitts, crocheted pot holders, a bottle of Prairie Berry wine, two wine glasses, and other fun miscellaneous items.** Feel the excitement of winning while celebrating the season together!

Purchase your  
tickets at  
538 Mt.  
Rushmore Rd.

Tickets are \$1  
for 1 ticket or  
\$5 for 6  
tickets!



# Ladies Night at The Cruisin' Canvas

## Tuesdays: 6pm to 8pm



**October 28**  
**November 4, 11, 18**  
**December 2, 9, 16**  
**January 6, 13, 20, 27**



**NOV-FEB**  
**6:00- 7:30 PM**  
**\$10 AT DOOR**

Black Hills Parks & Forests Presents

## CABIN NATURE CHATS AT THE TRAILHOUSE

148 GORDON ST, CUSTER, SD 57730

*Join us for a series of interactive nature programs held in the warm and welcoming Trailhouse. Explore, learn, and connect with the natural world in a cozy setting.*

**NOV 6**  
**Field Notes: Stories and Skills from the Natural World**  
*Explore the art of observation through photos, videos, and stories that bring tracking, survival, and local plants and wildlife to life. Interactive Q&A included.*

**DEC 4**  
**Introduction to Survival**  
*Learn the core skills of survival: shelter building, fire without matches, making water safe to drink, and basic snares for food.*

**JAN 8**  
**Nature's Clues: Intro to Animal Tracking**  
*Discover how to recognize tracks, scat, and other animal signs and interpret what they reveal about behavior, movement, and the ecology of the area.*

**FEB 5**  
**Voices of Nature: Learning the Language of Wildlife**  
*Tune in to the calls, movements, and behaviors of birds and mammals to detect hidden wildlife and move through nature with greater invisibility.*



**Learn more**



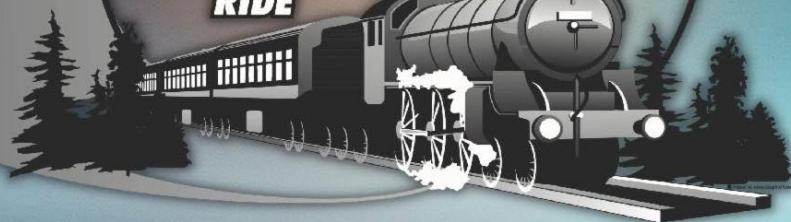
**TRAILHOUSE**  
a creative gathering space  
[www.TRAILHOUSEARTS.COM](http://www.TRAILHOUSEARTS.COM)

**BLACK HILLS PARKS & FORESTS ASSOCIATION**

[www.bhpfa.org](http://www.bhpfa.org) | 605-745-7020

# JUNE 13, 2026

*The*  
**Big Mick**  
CENTURY &  
HALF CENTURY  
RIDE



**Bike it like you mean it!**  
**George S. Mickelson Trail**

**109 Miles • 1 Day**  
1/2 Century Ride: 49 miles

**Register Now!**  
[MickelsonTrailAffiliates.com](http://MickelsonTrailAffiliates.com)

**We Ride at Dawn!**  
Event starts in Deadwood, ends in Edgemont  
Registration Includes: Meals • Snacks  
Day Pass • Rider Support • T-Shirt • Trail Swag

## ANNOUNCEMENTS



# CUSTER COUNTY CWPP

## Community Wildfire Protection Plan

Custer County is updating its CWPP in cooperation with representatives from local, state, and federal agencies and other organizations with a stake in wildfire preparedness and mitigation. The project is being facilitated and supported by contract staff from Bintel Inc.

The CWPP is a plan developed by a community in an area at risk from wildfire. The Community Wildfire Protection Planning process is the collaboration between communities and agencies interested in reducing wildfire risk.

We welcome your feedback on how wildfire affects you for the purposes of the CWPP.

**Survey Topics:**

- county wildfire risks
- landowner mitigation
- evacuation planning



Scan for Survey



**What is included in a CWPP?**

- fire history, behavior, and probability
- firefighting capabilities & water supplies
- evacuation routes
- wildfire community hazard ratings
- wildfire mitigation recommendations
- home ignition zone recommendations

For more information about the project contact  
[sesser@custercountysd.com](mailto:sesser@custercountysd.com)



**Take Survey**



**FREE  
ad design  
included!**

**Reserve your holiday ad space now!**

**Thank your friends, neighbors and community for a wonderful year!**

**Chronicle only**

3.25" wide by 5" tall: \$120  
6.625" wide by 5" tall: \$220

**COMBO (both papers)**

3.25" wide by 5" tall: \$220  
6.625" wide by 5" tall: \$400

**Prevailer only**

3.25" wide by 5" tall: \$120  
6.625" wide by 5" tall: \$220

**DEADLINE:  
December 12**

Contact Kate now to be included!  
[chroniclewriter2@gmail.com](mailto:chroniclewriter2@gmail.com)  
call or text 605-440-1248

**With kids'  
letters to  
Santa!**



## VFW Post 3442 Angel Tree

There are 71 envelopes on the tree. Each envelope has a number and that number is assigned to a resident at the State Veterans Home in Hot Springs. Inside each envelope is a list of what that veteran would like for Christmas. Most of the lists are very short, but nothing says you can't buy more for that person.

When you pick a card, you will be Christmas shopping for that veteran. Please fill out your name and phone number on the sheet provided next to the number that you picked.

There will also be a contact card in the envelope for you to list your name, phone number and mailing address in case that veteran wants to personally thank you.

Please have all gifts back to the VFW by Dec 15<sup>th</sup> so we can deliver them later that week.

We would prefer that you wrap the gifts or at least put them in a holiday gift bag so that it really feels like Christmas to the heroes at the State Vets home.

Hats on, Gloves up! Let's Warm The Community



# Winter Hat & Glove Drive

DROP OFF LOCATION  
EDWARD JONES: KRIS ZERBE  
245 MT. RUSHMORE RD  
CUSTER, SD 57730

**Donate: Hats/gloves brand new or  
clean in good condition**

**All sizes needed from infant to teenager!**



For more information call Aubrey at 605-673-4092 or  
email at [aubrey.frasier@edwardjones.com](mailto:aubrey.frasier@edwardjones.com)



Forest Service  
U.S. DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE



# CHRISTMAS TREE **PERMIT**

GET YOURS AT  
[RECREATION.GOV](https://recreation.gov/tree-permits)

Cut down your own Christmas tree  
and bring home a story!



## Cutting your own tree delivers gifts for the forest and families

- Removing trees in designated areas helps other trees grow and can open areas that provide forage for wildlife.
- The adventure of hiking through the forest and the memories made can create traditions worth carrying on for generations.

For information on how to obtain your Christmas Tree Permit and important Know Before You Go steps visit [recreation.gov/tree-permits](https://recreation.gov/tree-permits) or you can scan the bar code.



Fourth Graders with Every Kid Outdoors Passes are Eligible for a **Free Christmas Tree Permit**.



USDA is an equal opportunity provider, employer, and lender.

**RECREATION.gov**  
BRING HOME A STORY



Get a **\$25**

**Lynn's Gift Card**

when you spend at least **\$200**  
in a single transaction.

Wed., November 19<sup>th</sup> - Tues., December 2<sup>nd</sup>.

**Store locations...**

Belle Fourche • Custer • Hot Springs • Lead • Sturgis • Summerset  
Box Elder • Faith • Fort Thompson

Buffalo, WY • Glenrock, WY • Greybull, WY • Dubois, WY • Hardin, MT

The logo for Lynn's, featuring the word "Lynn's" in a large, elegant, black script font. A red, wavy line or underline is positioned below the "n".



# DONATIONS NEEDED



- Empower Job Corps Classes -



Donate your old (working) sewing machines to Job Corps to aid in helping students build the skills and gain the hands-on experience needed to launch a successful career, pursue higher education, or join the military.

**Drop off your donations  
at Custer Senior Center**



# “November Nonsense Sale”

## “Bundle up” for Fall!

**10 Admission Bundle**

**Normally \$200**

**Sale Price \$150**

**605-745-7625**

**\*limit 2**



**THE VINTAGE EXPRESS**

*All aboard for  
a magical ride!*

**1880 TRAIN.**

*Every weekend from  
Thanksgiving to Christmas Eve*

RESERVATIONS - 1880TRAIN.COM



# Holiday RAFFLE

DRAWING WILL BE DECEMBER 6<sup>TH</sup>

FOR EVERY \$25 YOU SPEND GET 1 FREE RAFFLE TICKET

OR BUY 1 TICKET FOR \$5 OR 5 TICKETS FOR \$20

TOP 3 PRIZES WILL BE MAILED IF WINNER IS OUT OF STATE

#### -TOP PRIZE-

BLACK HILLS GOLD WOMEN'S WATCH - OR - HANDMADE DAMASCUS  
DINO BONE INLAYERED FOLDING KNIFE WITH SHEATH - ESTIMATED  
RETAIL PRICE \$650

#### -2ND PRIZE-

LARIMAR STERLING SILVER BRACELET -  
ESTIMATED RETAIL PRICE \$360

#### -3RD PRIZE-

TITAN INTERNATIONAL HANDMADE VIKING  
INSPIRED AXE WITH SHEATH - ESTIMATED VALUE \$150

AS WELL AS MANY OTHER PRIZES FOR LOCALS SUCH  
AS CINCH, KIMES, PANHANDLE, BLACK HILLS GOLD  
APPAREL AND ACCESSORIES, AND WITH THE WIND WINERY  
AND MANY MORE.

507 MT RUSHMORE RD  
CUSTER, SD



*Come Stay With Us*

# Eagles Landing Lodge

Family visiting for the holidays? We've got the perfect spot for them to stay!

Location: 12046 US Hwy 16  
Custer SD 57730  
Call/Text directly: (605) 673-3373



A large, stylized orange and yellow turkey is the central figure. It wears a black pilgrim hat with a gold buckle. The turkey is surrounded by various Thanksgiving-themed illustrations: a pie with a lattice crust, a green ginkgo leaf, a small orange candle with a flame, a green clover leaf, and a small pie in the upper right corner. The background is a light gray, and the overall theme is autumn and the Thanksgiving holiday.

# DONATIONS NEEDED



- Empower Job Corps Classes -



Donate your old (working) sewing machines to Job Corps to aid in helping students build the skills and gain the hands-on experience needed to launch a successful career, pursue higher education, or join the military.

**Drop off your donations  
at Custer Senior Center**





## Announcing Holiday Pass Sale for Season 80 Tickets at the Black Hills Playhouse

Save up to 23% on Tickets from November 1-December 31!

### For Immediate Release

**SOUTH DAKOTA —** Theatre 605 Black Hills Playhouse is excited to announce its annual holiday pass sale, offering exclusive savings on flexible ticket packages for the highly anticipated 2026 season. Running from **November 1 to December 31**, this special sale is one of the year's biggest for theatergoers. With discounts of **up to 23%**, it's the perfect opportunity to plan ahead and secure flexible tickets for an unforgettable summer of theatre in the scenic Black Hills. **The Holiday Pass Sale goes live online on November 1 and by phone via the Box Office on November 4.**

The holiday ticket packages come in a variety of options to suit any budget or gift-giving need:

- **Stocking Stuffer:** Includes 2 flexible tickets
- **Secret Santa:** Includes 4 flexible tickets
- **Shout it From the Rooftop:** Includes 8 flexible tickets
- **Shining Star:** Includes 16 flexible tickets

Each ticket package provides flexibility for attendees. Tickets can be redeemed for any 2026 season regular show performance and used by anyone, making them ideal for sharing with friends or family. Whether as a thoughtful gift or a personal treat, these passes offer convenience and value for all theatre lovers.

Season 80, titled **250 Years and Counting...Celebrating America's past, present, and imperfect progress** features a stellar lineup of four productions sure to captivate audiences:

- ***The Complete History of America (Abridged)***
- ***1776***
- ***Come From Away***
- ***What the Constitution Means to Me***

These flexible ticket packages are the perfect gift for the holiday season, and the Theatre 605 team is ready to assist you with your purchase. Tickets can be purchased conveniently online at [theatre605.org](http://theatre605.org) starting November 1 or by calling **605.255.4141** starting November 4.

Don't miss out on this opportunity to share the magic of live theatre with loved ones while enjoying exceptional savings!



GOOD KARMA  
JEWELRY  
Custer, SD

**ETSY SHOP**  
**CYBER**  
**WEEK**  
*Sale*

**35% OFF ALL ONLINE JEWELRY**  
**11/24 - 12/2**

**WWW.ETSY.COM/SHOP/GOODKARMAJEWELRYSD**

The advertisement features a black background with red balloons and confetti. The Good Karma Jewelry logo is at the top, followed by the text 'ETSY SHOP CYBER WEEK Sale'. Below this, a large '35% OFF ALL ONLINE JEWELRY' is displayed with the dates '11/24 - 12/2'. At the bottom, the website 'WWW.ETSY.COM/SHOP/GOODKARMAJEWELRYSD' is shown in a red bar. Red ribbons are tied to the balloons on the sides.



# **Yoga Teacher Training 200HR Certification**

**Our 200-hour Yoga Alliance Registered Teacher Training is designed for dedicated practitioners who feel called to expand their knowledge and impact others through teaching.**

**605-745-7625**  
**[www.moccasinsprings.com](http://www.moccasinsprings.com)**



# FALL HOURS UPDATE

ADVENTURE RENTALS &  
HOLLY'S CHIC BOUTIQUE

6 DAYS A WEEK  
8AM – 6PM

- 📍 HILL CITY CLOSED MONDAYS
- 📍 CUSTER CLOSED TUESDAYS

COME ENJOY CRISP FALL DAYS  
WITH AN OFF-ROAD ADVENTURE  
OR A COZY SHOPPING TRIP



Black Hills National Forest 2025/2026 Off-Season Campground Information						
Campground Name	Start of Reduced Off-Season Rates	Daily Fee	Units	Lake or Stream	Spur Length (Maximum)	Remarks
<b>Bearlodge</b>	Sept. 8	\$15	8	None	25 ft	Closes 12/15
<b>Beaver Creek</b>	Sept. 8 - Dec. 15	\$0	8	Beaver Creek	45 ft	Sites are outside of the main campground gate. Closes 12/15
<b>Bismarck Lake</b>	Sept. 29	\$15	5	Bismarck Lake	45 ft	Sites are outside of the main campground gate.
<b>Boxelder Forks</b>	Sept. 8 - Dec. 15	\$15	3	Boxelder Creek	45 ft	Sites are outside of the main campground gate.
<b>Black Fox</b>	Sept. 8 - Nov. 30	\$0	9	Rapid Creek	45 ft	Closes 12/1 for snowmobile routes.
<b>Castle Peak</b>	Sept. 8	\$0	9	Castle Creek	45 ft	Historic mining sites are available nearby.
<b>Comanche Park</b>	Sept. 8	\$15	5	None	25 ft	Sites are outside of the main campground gate.
<b>Cook Lake</b>	Sept. 8	\$4 Day Use \$15 Night	15	Cook Lake	45 ft	B Loop is open. All other loops are closed. Closes 12/15
<b>Custer Trail</b>	Sept. 8	\$0	16	Deerfield Lake	50 ft	
<b>Dalton Lake</b>	Sept. 8	\$15	11	Dalton Lake	45 ft	Closes 12/1 or as access allows due to snow
<b>Ditch Creek</b>	Sept. 8	\$0	13	Ditch Creek	50 ft	Off-season access may require a snowmobile or skis.
<b>Dutchman</b>	Sept. 8	\$0	9	Deerfield Lake	50 ft	Top Loop is open. All other loops are closed.
<b>Hanna</b>	Sept. 8	\$15	6 - Tent Only	Spearfish Creek	0 ft	Walk-in tent sites are open during the off-season.
<b>Redbank Springs</b>	Sept. 8 - Nov. 30	\$15	4	None	50 ft	Closes 12/01
<b>Reuter</b>	Sept. 8	\$15	24	None	30 ft	Closes 12/15
<b>Rod &amp; Gun</b>	Sept. 8 - Nov. 30	\$15	7	Little Spearfish	50 ft	Closes 12/1
<b>Roubaix</b>	Sept. 8	\$15	9	Roubaix Lake	25 ft	C Loop is open. All other loops are closed.
<b>Sheridan Lake South</b>	Sept. 29	\$15	30	Sheridan Lake	60 ft	Woodsy Loop is open. All other loops are closed.
<b>Summit Ridge Cabin</b>	Year Round	\$75	1	None	N/A	Reserve at <a href="http://www.recreation.gov">www.recreation.gov</a> - Area roads are not maintained; off-season access may require a snowmobile or skis.
<b>Sundance (Horse Camp)</b>	Sept. 8	\$15	10	None	50 ft	Horse facility (corrals & stalls). No water after 09/11
<b>Timon</b>	Sept. 8 - Nov. 30	\$15	7	Little Spearfish	60 ft	Closes 12/1
<b>Whitetail</b>	Sept. 8	\$0	17	Deerfield Lake	50 ft	Lower Loop (including toilet) is open. Upper Loop is closed.
<b>Closed for the Off-Season on Sept. 8:</b>		Bear Gulch Group Campground, Dalton, Grizzly, Pactola Reservoir, Sheridan Lake North Group Sites, Steamboat Rock, and Strawberry.				
<b>Closed for the Off-Season on Sept 29:</b>		Bismarck, Horsethief Lake, and Oreville. NOTE: Oreville Campground and Iron Creek and Willow Creek Horse Camps are open through October 31 (Weather Permitting).				
<p>* Fees: Self-Pay at all open campgrounds. The Stay Limit is 14 days at all developed campgrounds.</p> <p>* Roads: Not maintained during the off-season. Sites above are open until weather prohibits access or closed on date(s) noted above.</p> <p>* Garbage: Pack It In, Pack It Out at all sites.</p> <p>* Plan Ahead: All campsites are first come, first serve and offer a picnic table and fire ring. Vault toilets are available. Drinking water is NOT available.</p> <p>* All information is subject to change, due to inclement weather, decreased staffing, and sporadic conditions beyond control.</p>						

September and October offer some of the best camping conditions in the region. Shoulder season temperatures are comfortable, roadways are less congested, and recreational opportunities still abound on the Forest. Whether you are a local enthusiast or a passing traveler, please see the off-season camping calendar from our friends at the Black Hills National Forest. #FindYourForest



# LOVE LOCAL GIVE LOCAL

HELP LOCAL PROJECTS THAT MATTER TO YOU  
& YOUR BUSINESS!

CHAMBER MEMBERS:  
PLEASE CONSIDER A BUSINESS DONATION

HIGHLIGHT YOUR BUSINESS & SUPPORT CUSTER'S FUTURE!

DONATE AT THE CITY OFFICE OR SPEAK TO A COMMITTEE MEMBER

CURRENT PROJECT:

## REBUILD & REVIVE WEST DAM AND PARKS



FUTURE PROJECTS MAY INCLUDE: CITY PARKS & CUSTER COMMUNITY CENTER

MAKE A TAX DEDUCTABLE DONATION - SCAN QR CODE OR VISIT:  
[HTTP://BIT.LY/CUSTERWESTDAM](http://bit.ly/custerwestdam)

LEARN MORE ABOUT THE PROJECT:  
[WWW.CUSTERCDF.COM](http://www.custercdf.com)

## NEWS FROM THE STATE



Hello, Industry Partners!

I love this holiday and time of year. It's a season in which we are reminded to slow down, take a breath, and be thankful. As I've shared in past years, at the top of our list of things to be grateful for this year are you, your teams, our industry, and calling South Dakota home.

As I write this month's comments, we have learned of the devastating fire at Reptile Gardens (in an off-exhibit building) that killed a number of the Gardens' alligators and tortoises. Like me, I am sure you were absolutely gutted and devastated when the news of the fire first hit your phone or email inbox. Our dear friends at Reptile Gardens absolutely mean the world to the tourism industry in our state. They have been entertaining visitors for decades with warmth, hospitality, humor and a world-class experience. And the entire Brockelsby Family – and especially the iconic "Johnny B" – also mean so much to us. Reptile Gardens has reported that literally thousands have reached out to them with their love, prayers, and expressions of sympathy. That tells you all you need to know about the impact the team there has had on the lives of hundreds of thousands (dare I say, millions) of our guests throughout the years. Reptile Gardens is reporting that they are OPEN for business and are grateful the fire didn't do even more damage. Their gratefulness and positivity are inspiring and worth emulating during this special season. Our love and prayers continue to be extended to the entire team.

The major item I want to share this month is that we are only about a month and a half away from the [2026 Governor's Conference on Tourism](#)! Early registration closes **Thursday, December 18**, so make sure you take advantage of the discounted price now. There is also still time to support us with a sponsorship. Thank you for considering a sponsorship that helps us host one of the premier state tourism conferences in the nation. Please visit the [South Dakota Tourism Conference](#) website to learn more about sponsorship and exhibitor opportunities, registration, lodging, and our full schedule (including speaker bios).

As you read through the Mile Marker, check out important information about:

1. The 2026 A La Carte Cooperative Marketing Program
2. **A December 9** webinar about 2025 visitation to our state
3. Our winter marketing campaign
4. Brand USA Travel Week in London
5. Our latest MEET THE CREW series featuring Teresa Tople, our department's wonderful Admin Assistant and Tourism Board Liaison

Please reach out if you have questions about any of these items.

On behalf of your team and friends at Travel South Dakota, I want to wish you and your families a Happy Thanksgiving. We are thankful to be your partners in promoting The Mount Rushmore State. Your friendship and support are such gifts to us. Enjoy this wonderful time of the year. God bless you and your families.

All our best,

Jim and Team

## PRESS RELEASE



## Black Hills Parks & Forests Association

Supporting wonder and exploration through stewardship of **your** public lands.

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Contact: Patty Ressler

Email: [pressler@blackhillsplarks.org](mailto:pressler@blackhillsplarks.org)

### Government Shutdown Leaves Public-Lands Partner with More Than \$105,000 in Lost Revenue

HOT SPRINGS, SD – Black Hills Parks and Forests Association, a nonprofit that supports National Park Service and U.S. Forest Service sites in South Dakota and Nebraska, reports more than \$105,000 in lost revenue following the 43-day federal government shutdown. The financial hit affects the organization's ability to fund educational programs that thousands of visitors rely on each year, including Junior Ranger activities at several national parks and forests.

BHPFA operates 16 stores inside federal land agency facilities across the region, including Wind Cave National Park, Jewel Cave National Monument, Scotts Bluff National Monument, Agate Fossil Beds National Monument, and ranger district offices for the Black Hills and Nebraska National Forests. These locations provide most of the nonprofit's operating income.

"Our partner retail operations make up 89 percent of our operating revenue," said BHPFA Executive Director Patty Ressler. "October is usually a strong sales month for us. Losing this revenue will impact how we support our federal partners, especially the education programs families count on."

Because the shutdown closed federal facilities to visitors, BHPFA's stores were unable to operate during one of the most active visitor periods of the fall season. The organization says the shortfall threatens funding for interpretive materials, youth education, and community outreach programs that help connect people with public lands.

To stabilize its budget, the nonprofit is launching a year-end fundraising effort supported by a \$50,000 matching gift. The appeal aims to prevent interruptions to partner support and to maintain staffing levels for the organization's nine full-time employees.

"A gift at this time will assure our federal partners there will be no gaps in funding their education programs," Ressler said. "It also helps us keep our staff employed so we can continue serving the parks and forests our communities care about."

BHPFA has also opened a holiday market at its new headquarters at 833 Mt. Rushmore Road in Custer, offering seasonal hours through Dec. 24.

---

#### About Black Hills Parks & Forests Association:

Black Hills Parks & Forests Association (BHPFA) is a nonprofit partner of the U.S. Forest Service and National Park Service. The organization supports wonder and exploration through stewardship of public lands. In 2025, BHPFA has provided over \$100,000 to its agency partners for educational programming, interpretive materials, and public outreach across South Dakota and Nebraska.

---

Proud non-profit partner of Wind Cave National Park, Jewel Cave National Monument, Scotts Bluff National Monument, Agate Fossil Beds National Monument, Black Hills National Forest, Nebraska National Forests & Grasslands, & the National Grasslands Visitor Center

---

26611 US HIGHWAY 385 | HOT SPRINGS, SD 57747 | 605.745.7020

[BlackHillsParks.org](http://BlackHillsParks.org)

---

At 11 a.m. MT today, Monday, Oct. 6, 2025, a road construction project is scheduled to begin on U.S. Highway 16A near Custer. The reconstruction project to replace a box culvert structure and multiple pipe culverts is located 14 miles east of Custer or nine miles west of the S.D. Highway 79 intersection.

Highway 16A will be closed from the intersections of Highway 16A/Iron Mountain Road to Custer State Park's Wildlife Loop. This closure will be in place until April 2026. Additional work will include replacing multiple pipe culverts, building gabion walls, and mill and overlay asphalt from Custer State Park's east entrance to the west entrance for 13 miles. Custer State Park's Wildlife Loop and Iron Mountain Road will remain open throughout the project.

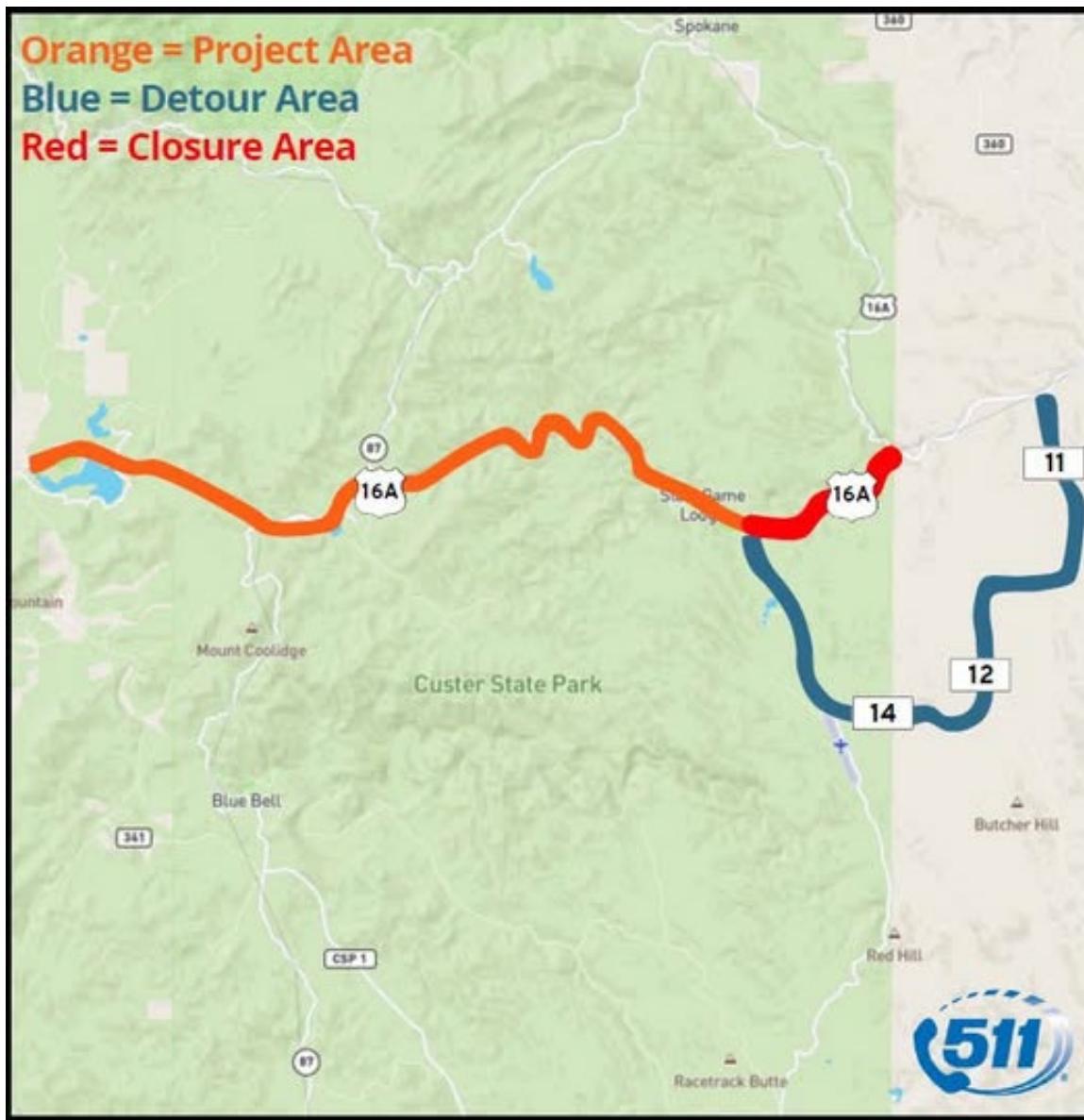
During the Highway 16A closure, there will be a detour in place. The detour route is from the intersection of S.D. Highway 36 and Custer County's Ritterberger Road, south two miles to Cobb Road intersection, west one mile on Cobb Road, south one and one-half miles on Cobb Road to the intersection of LH Road, west approximately two miles on LH Road to Custer State Park's Wildlife Loop Road, and then north two miles on the Wildlife Loop Road back to Highway 16A. Motorists should be aware that the detour on Ritterberger Road, Cobb Road, and LH Road includes six miles of gravel. The Wildlife Loop Road is two miles of asphalt with a reduced speed limit of 25 mph.

S.D. Highway 40 between Hermosa and Keystone also provides a detour option for area motorists.

Find additional project information at <https://dot.sd.gov/16a-culverts>. This website includes project updates, photos, and a downloadable map that demonstrates the project area and detour route.

The overall project completion date is October 2026.

#SDDOT #SD511



## South Dakota DOT Update





## Project Update

NOVEMBER 14th

### Current Construction:

- Closure E (Pactola Dam to Taylor Ranch Road) is currently in place and ends on Friday, March 6, 2026. Outside of the closure area, construction crews continue to work on the roadway.
- The intersection of Custer Gulch Road and U.S. Highway 385 has been temporarily moved 300 feet to the north. A temporary diversion is in place while the contractor continues work on a box culvert in this area.
- In preparation of winter weather, the contractor has placed road markers and reflective delineators along the roadway between Sheridan Lake Road and Calumet Road.
- Roadway grading is taking place between Sheridan Lake Road and McCurdy Gulch Road.
- Within the closure area, the contractor is currently conducting planned rock blasts, excavating and replacing culverts, and grading the roadway.

### Upcoming Construction:

- Throughout the winter, the roadway surfacing within the construction area will be a combination of pavement, blotter (hard, packed surface that resembles asphalt), and gravel. The surface of Highway 385 from Wrinkle Valley Road to 1/2-mile from South Sanders Ranch Road and from Sheridan Lake Road to 1/2-mile to the north will be gravel.



[View Construction Updates](#)

## ❖?❖ Construction Zone Reminders ❖?❖

- Follow posted speed limits in construction zones.
- Be aware of flaggers and other construction workers in the construction area.
- If you are following a pilot car, stay with the line, and do not stop or exit your vehicle in the project area.
- It is illegal to go beyond cones and barriers within construction zones even when the contractor is not working.

## Stay Connected

Take a moment now to share this email with neighbors, friends, coworkers, and anyone else who might be interested in the U.S. Highway 385 Construction Project. Then encourage them to sign up for these project email updates at <https://us-385.com>.

A free text-in service is being used to communicate any major traffic changes. To subscribe, simply text "US385" to 605-566-4041. Subscribers can unsubscribe at any time.

## HWY 385 ROUTING INITIATIVE



BH&B is sharing information related to the upcoming *HWY 385 infrastructure improvement project* that will include *routing options* and continuous business promotion. BH&B's goal is to educate and to explain that this simple detour will not prevent, nor should it discourage visitors from enjoying their vacation in the Black Hills.

*[Visit Route Reimagined](#)*

**A free text-in service is being used to communicate major traffic changes.**

**To subscribe, simply text "US385" to 605-566-4041.  
Subscribers can unsubscribe at any time.**



**U.S. HIGHWAY 385  
CONSTRUCTION**  
PENNINGTON-LAWRENCE COUNTY LINE TO SHERIDAN LAKE

**FREE TEXT ALERTS:**  
Text "US385" to 605-566-4041

**US 385** SD DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

# Custer Senior Center

## November Activities

Custer Senior Center Activities Calendar - NOVEMBER 2025						
Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
<b>NOTE: ** Until Further Notice Center Hours will be 9:00 AM - 4:00 PM **</b>						1
<b>BUY YOUR TICKET FOR THE HOLIDAY RAFFLE BASKET BEFORE DECEMBER 15</b>						
<b>SET YOUR CLOCKS BACK 1 HR</b>	Center will be closed November 11 in honor of Veterans Day November 27 & 28 Thanksgiving Day and the following day			PRAIRIE HILLS TRANSIT BUS Transit Bus to Rapid City from the Center 1st & 3rd Thursdays Leaves Custer between 7:00-8:00 AM - Arrives Custer At 3:00 PM CALL 1-877-673-3687 24 Hours in Advance for Reservations. \$20 Rapid City Round Trip - \$4 Round Trip for Custer Destinations		
2	3	4	5	6	7	8
	7:00 AM Fitness Time 8:00 AM Morning Coffee 9:00 AM Vets' Pool 9:00 AM PROGRAMS & WAYS & MEANS MEETING 12:00 PM Pinochle	7:00 AM Fitness Time 8:00 AM Morning Coffee	1:00 PM Ladies Billiards	TRANSIT BUS TO RAPID & RETURN 7:00 AM Fitness Time 8:00 AM Morning Coffee 12:00-3:00 PM 1881 COURTHOUSE MUSEUM HOSTS SOUTHERN BLACK HILLS MUSEUM ALLIANCE KICK-OFF MEETING	7:00 AM Fitness Time 8:00 AM Morning Coffee 9:00 AM LINE DANCING-2 10:00 AM LINE DANCING-1 11:00 AM STRENGTH STEP & STRETCH 12:30 PM Bingo 2:30 PM Newsletter Meeting	
9	10	11	12	13	14	15
	7:00 AM Fitness Time 8:00 AM Morning Coffee 9:00 AM BOARD OF DIRECTORS MTG		9:00 AM-3:00 PM SHINE MEDICARE INFO SHARE <b>REQUIRES APPOINTMENT</b> 1:00 PM Ladies Billiards 1:00 PM PAINT CLASS W/TAM SHOWERS	7:00 AM Fitness Time 8:00 AM Morning Coffee	7:00 AM Fitness Time 8:00 AM Morning Coffee 9:00 AM LINE DANCING-2 10:00 AM LINE DANCING-1 12:30 PM Bingo	
16	17	18	19	20	21	22
	7:00 AM Fitness Time 8:00 AM Morning Coffee 9:00 AM Vets' Pool 12:00 PM Pinochle 2:00 PM MEMBERSHIP MEETING NOMINATE BOARD CANDIDATES	7:00 AM Fitness Time 8:00 AM Morning Coffee	1:00 PM Ladies Billiards 12:00-3:00 PM CELEBRATION OF LIFE LUNCHEON FOR ROWENA RICHARDSON	TRANSIT BUS TO RAPID & RETURN 7:00 AM Fitness Time 8:00 AM Morning Coffee 9:00 AM HOLIDAY BAKE SALE 11:00 AM-1:00 PM SOUP & PIE FUNDRAISER	7:00 AM Fitness Time 8:00 AM Morning Coffee 9:00 AM LINE DANCING-2 10:00 AM LINE DANCING-1 11:00 AM STRENGTH STEP & STRETCH 12:30 PM Bingo	
23	24	25	26	27	28	29
30	7:00 AM Fitness Time 8:00 AM Morning Coffee 9:00 AM Vets' Pool 12:00 PM Pinochle	7:00 AM Fitness Time 8:00 AM Morning Coffee 12:00 PM MEMBERS POTLUCK 1:00 PM MUSIC-BY KITCHEN BAND	1:00 PM Ladies Billiards		CENTER CLOSED Enjoy time with your families (or shopping for bargains) <b>MAKE GOODIES FOR THE COOKIE/CANDY WALK ON DECEMBER 5<sup>th</sup></b>	



To educate every student  
to his or her potential

Latest Newsletter

# Thanksgiving



Holiday Break



Closed Nov. 26 - 27 - 28, 2025

School resumes Mon., Dec. 1, 2025

## WEEKLY INSPIRATION



## HELP WANTED



CARSON DRUG

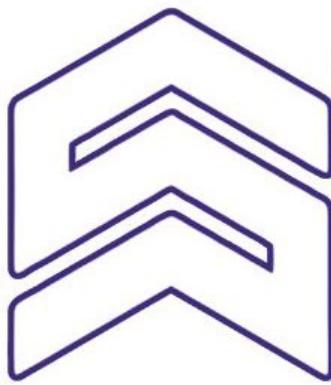
# WE ARE HIRING

Don't miss this opportunity

- PHARMACY TECHNICIAN
- PART-TIME OR FULLTIME
- PAY \$20.00-\$25.00
- CERTIFICATION PREFERRED  
BUT NOT REQUIRED IN SD

- Stop in to apply in person
- Send Your CV to Colby at  
[Carsondrug@gwtc.net](mailto:Carsondrug@gwtc.net)
- Apply on Indeed





CUSTER, SD

## PHYSICAL THERAPIST

- Clinic Director Opportunity, mentorship available
- Serve as primary care for all musculoskeletal conditions in general outpatient private practice.

Email [office@painandmovementsolutions.com](mailto:office@painandmovementsolutions.com) to learn more.



# WE ARE HIRING

## Physical Therapist Aide

Custer Location

Looking for a flexible, part-time position in a positive, healthcare setting? We're seeking a dependable, detail-oriented individual to support our clinic team and keep things running smoothly behind the scenes.

Cultivate relationships within the healthcare realm and work with industry leading therapists while serving as a crucial player in meeting our patients' goals.

- 8-10 hours/week
  - Weekdays during business hours (flexible scheduling)
- \$14/ hour, part-time
- Great for students interested in healthcare or physical therapy
- Send resume to [julie@painandmovementsolutions.com](mailto:julie@painandmovementsolutions.com) for consideration



1369 Montgomery Street, Custer, SD 605-574-1802



## Hiring Experienced Server

**\$12 per hour  
plus tips**

**605-745-7626  
soakinhotsprings@gmail.com**



**CUSTER SENIOR  
CENTER**

# **WE'RE HIRING!**

**OUR EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR  
POSITION IS OPEN. PLEASE STOP  
BY THE CENTER OR EMAIL YOUR  
RESUME TO  
[CSCDIRECTOR@GWTC.NET](mailto:CSCDIRECTOR@GWTC.NET)**

**For more information please call:  
(605)673-2708**

**538 Mt. Rushmore Rd.  
Custer, SD 57730**



# HELP WANTED

WE ARE LOOKING FOR PART-TIME WORKERS YEAR-ROUND.

**APPLY TODAY**

*CUSTERCANDYCO@GMAIL.COM*

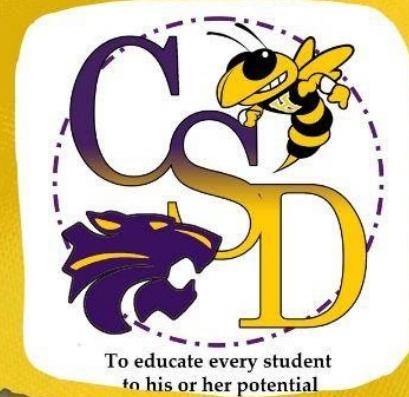
# Outlaw Ranch



**Outlaw Ranch is looking for a part-time assistant cook/baker. Our beautiful space offers a welcoming working environment. Experience preferred, will train. Pay DOE. Hours for this position vary throughout the year, as we host a wide variety of retreats from August-April, and we host summer camps for ten weeks from late May through July.**

**Please call Jamie at 605-673-4040 for more details.**

# Join Us.



**BE A PART OF OUR  
EDUCATIONAL  
TEAM!**



## Current Openings:

- SPED PARAPROFESSIONAL @ CES
- Substitute Teachers & Custodians- at all schools

• To apply: <https://www.csd.k12.sd.us/page/current-career-opportunities>  
• Call Custer School District 605-673-3154

[www.csd.k12.sd.us](http://www.csd.k12.sd.us)



**GOOD KARMA  
JEWELRY**  
**JOIN OUR TEAM**  
**GREAT PAY + EXTRA PAY  
FOR EVENING SHIFTS**

PREFERABLY AGE 21+  
SALES ASSOCIATE  
WILLING TO WORK  
DAYTIME, EVENINGS &  
WEEKENDS

RESPONSIBLE & MATURE  
CUSTOMER SERVICE EXPERIENCE  
SALES EXPERIENCE  
GREAT PEOPLE SKILLS  
SEASONAL POSITIONS AVAILABLE

**APPLY IN STORE**  
507 MT RUSHMORE RD  
CUSTER, SD 57730  
**FOR MORE INFO:**  
605-673-3047

# WE ARE HIRING



- Part Time or Full Time flexible employment opportunity with great pay
- Looking for friendly smiling dependable energetic individuals.
- 
- Retail associates to work retail shop in town. Cashier and/or packaging shipping orders.
- 
- Retail associates at factory store 7 miles West of town.
- 
- Must be neat in appearance, able to stand on feet, engage with customers, complete tasks with minimal supervision. Schedule is flexible. Great pay. Perfect summer job for teachers or high school seniors & those with outgoing personalities.
- If you meet these qualities please call or email Pam at:
- (605) 440-0028
- Blackhillscandleco@gmail.com
- 

Be sure to check out the Help Wanted section on our [Website](#):

**Chamber Staff & Board of Directors**



## **CHAMBER STAFF**

**Dawn Murray**  
Executive Director  
*dmurray@custersd.com*

**Fred Baumann**  
Information Associate  
*fbaumann@custersd.com*

**Pat Hattervig**  
Information Associate  
*phattervig@custersd.com*

**Adrianna Burgess**  
Office Assistant  
*assistant@custersd.com*

**Rachelle Woodford**  
Office Assistant  
*bytes@custersd.com*

Joel Behlings  
Information Associate  
*info@custersd.com*

2025

Board Of Directors

Amy Bailey – President

Craig Reindl – Vice President

Michelle Fischer – Treasurer

Carrie Moore- Secretary

Amanda Allcock  
Corey Virtue  
Keely Mahony  
Miranda Boggs  
Ronni Calvird

Julie Jenniges – City Liaison

Mark Naugle – School Liaison

Lydia Austin – CSP Liaison

Jessica Noteboom – BID Board Liaison



**Our Address:**  
615 Washington Street  
Custer, SD 57730

**Phone Numbers:**  
605-673-2244  
800-992-9818



[Visit our Website](#)

[dmurray@ustersd.com](mailto:dmurray@ustersd.com) / [ustersd.com](http://ustersd.com)

[Send Us An Email](#)

Custer Area Chamber of Commerce | 615 Washington St. PO Box 5018 | Custer, SD  
57730 US

[Unsubscribe](#) | [Update Profile](#) | [Constant Contact Data Notice](#)



Try email marketing for free today!