



Buffalo Bytes



CUSTER
Chamber of Commerce

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

To be included in Buffalo Bytes, please email your items to bytes@custersd.com.
Submissions must be received by Wednesday at 5:00 PM to be included in that week's issue.
Thank you!

CUSTER CONNECTIONS

This Is THE Weekend to Be in Custer!

If you're looking for a reason to visit the Custer area this weekend, look no further! Starting today, Thursday, the Southern Black Hills are packed with incredible events, live entertainment, arts, culture, and plenty of opportunities to enjoy the beautiful fall weather.

32nd Annual Buffalo Roundup Arts Festival

Three days of **live entertainment, more than 170 arts & crafts vendors**, and plenty of fall fun!

And don't miss the spectacular **Hot Air Balloon Glow on Friday at 7 p.m.**

Festival Hours:

- **Thursday:** 10 a.m.–6 p.m.
- **Friday:** 10 a.m.–7 p.m. (*vendors close at 6 p.m.*)
- **Saturday:** 9 a.m.–4 p.m.

61st Annual Buffalo Roundup — Friday at 9:30 a.m.

One of the Black Hills' most iconic traditions returns Friday morning! Watch as park staff, cowboys, and cowgirls drive the massive herd of bison into the corrals to be sorted, branded, tested, and prepared for the fall auction.

- **Parking lots open:** 6:15 a.m.
- **Roundup begins:** 9:30 a.m.

Can't make it in person? Custer State Park is once again partnering with South Dakota Public Broadcasting to bring the Roundup to you!

YouTube: <https://www.youtube.com/live/cCYvos5VgGw>

Website: <https://sdpb.org/live>

Radio: <https://sdpb.org>

Facebook Live: <https://www.facebook.com/events/1755973505672044>

Tatanka Day — Saturday at Crazy Horse Memorial

Join Crazy Horse Memorial in honoring the buffalo and learning more about its significance and importance to Plains culture. A full day of special events and activities is planned.

14th Annual Crazy Horse Fall Volksmarch — Sunday

Sunday brings another unique opportunity to experience Crazy Horse Memorial with the **10K round-trip Fall Volksmarch** — including one of the rare opportunities to stand on the arm of Crazy Horse!

- **Registration begins:** 7 a.m.
- **Hikers must be off the trail:** 4 p.m.
- Bring **3 cans of food per person** and your monument entrance fee will be waived.
- The American Volkssport Association hike fee is **\$4 per participant**, regardless of age. Cash or check only — no credit cards.

A Big Thank You!

A huge thank you to the teams at **Custer State Park and Crazy Horse Memorial** for putting on these incredible events and helping make the Southern Black Hills such a special place to visit. Your hard work truly helps our community shine!

Thank You, Custer Burger Battle Participants & Tasters!

A BIG thank you to everyone who participated in this year's Custer Burger Battle — from the restaurants that created their amazing burgers to everyone who came out to taste, vote, and support our local businesses!

Thanks to all of you, the Burger Battle was a huge success! Nearly 300 people completed the survey, our restaurants were busy, and we all had the opportunity to enjoy some truly creative and delicious burgers.

And now, the results are in!

Burger Battle Winners

-  1st Place: Custer Wolf — Elvis Burger
-  2nd Place: Baker's Bakery — Jalapeño Burger
-  3rd Place: Begging Burro — El Jefe

Creativity Winners

- 🥇 1st Place: Begging Burro — Del Pacifico
- 🥈 2nd Place: Custer Wolf — Elvis Burger — just .002 behind first place!
- 🥉 3rd Place: Pizza Mill — Saw Mill

🌟 Honorable Mention: Calamity Jane's — Buffalo Bandit, which received the highest score for presentation!

Congratulations to all of our participating restaurants, and thank you to everyone who grabbed a burger, filled out a survey, and helped make this event such a success. You showed once again what happens when our community comes together to support local businesses!

And That's Not All!

Custer is buzzing with activity all weekend long!

🎵 Live Music & Entertainment

Custer Beacon

- **Thursday:** Josh Cleveland & the Tri of Wonders
- **Friday:** Jeffery Foucault
- **Saturday:** SD Jazz Orchestra

VFW

- **Friday:** Queen of Hearts drawing — **\$138,457 up for grabs!** — plus live music with Midnight Sun at 7 p.m.
- **Saturday:** Luau & Pig Roast at 4 p.m.
- **Sunday:** Football Potluck 11 a.m.-7 p.m.

Gold Pan

- **Thursday:** Rusty Rierson noon-3 p.m.
- **Friday:** Rusty Rierson 8:30-10:30 p.m.

🥬 Custer Farmers Market — Saturday

8 a.m.–12:30 p.m. at Way Park

Stop by for fresh local produce and other seasonal goodies while you're out enjoying the weekend.

🍴 Season's End Dining

Fall is here, and some of our local restaurants will be closing after this weekend. **Be sure to stop in for one last delicious meal before spring!** Supporting our local businesses is a great way to enjoy the weekend and help keep our community thriving.

☀️ Come Enjoy Custer!

With beautiful weather in the forecast and so much happening throughout the area, **this is the weekend to get out, explore, shop local, eat local, and enjoy all that Custer and the Black Hills have to offer!**
We'll see you around town!

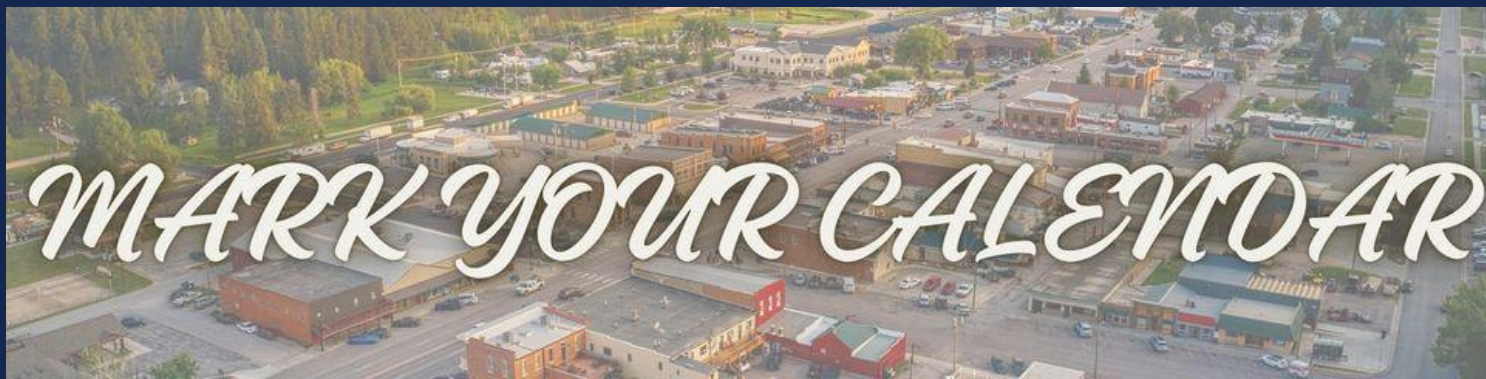


Dawn Murray
Executive Director

2026 EVENTS CALENDAR

A full list of 2026 events by the Chamber and other organizations.

[Click to download calendar](#)



October 15

Chamber Annual Awards Dinner
State Park Events Barn
5:30pm

October 24

Monster Mash Pub Crawl
Throughout Custer
4pm

October 30

Merchants Trick-or-Treat
Throughout Custer
4pm



Thank you to these community leaders for signing up for the 2027 Custer Chamber magazine! We would love to include you on this list too!

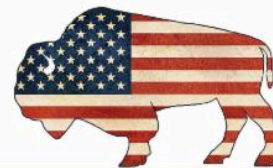
1881 Courthouse Museum
Black Hills Energy
Black Hills Federal Credit Union
Bradeen Real Estate and Auctions

Carr Electric
Carson Drug
City of Custer
Crazy Horse Memorial
Custer Heating & Air Conditioning
Custer Hospitality
Custer School District
Custer State Park
DGR Engineering
enCore Uranium
Golden West Telecommunications
Horatio's Homemade Ice Cream
Image 360
Lampert Properties
Lynn's Dakotamart
Miner's Cup
Monument Health
Mt. Rushmore Brewing Co.
Nelson's Oil & Gas
New Trails
Nielsen Enterprises
NXTLAW
PDQ Construction
PDQ Specialty Products
Pizza Mill
Premier Family Eyecare
RP Lumber
Sentinel FCU
Shepherd of the Hills
Starr Insurance
Tallgrass Landscape Architecture
Theatre 605/BH Playhouse
Xtreme Sports Simulators

Contact Kate TODAY to be a part of this amazing group!
605-440-1248
chroniclewriter2@gmail.com

Your Custer-area magazine!

Everything you need to know about Custer and Custer County!



CUSTER

Chamber of Commerce

2027 Custer Area Chamber of Commerce Business and Membership Directory

Your Custer Area Chamber of Commerce & Visitors Bureau is producing the 2027 Chamber Business and Membership Directory with helpful features for chamber members, Custer visitors and potential residents. This beautiful, full-color directory will include great photography, a community profile, a calendar of special events, accommodations, attractions, restaurant listings and a complete categorical directory of all chamber members in full magazine-size layout.

We'll print 15,000 copies of this directory, which will be distributed to prospective visitors and residents who call our community seeking information about traveling to the region, or relocating their home or business to the Custer area. In addition, thousands of copies will be distributed at our Visitor Information Center and at chamber businesses such as local motels, restaurants and campgrounds. **This will be our primary economic development and business recruitment piece!**

If you'd like to distribute your message to thousands of potential customers who will visit Custer or are inquiring about living here, just give the folks at Southern Hills Publishing a call at 605-673-2217. Don't miss this opportunity. Thanks for your continued support.

Craig Reindl
Chamber President

Plus:
**Our website gets more than
1 million visits per month!**

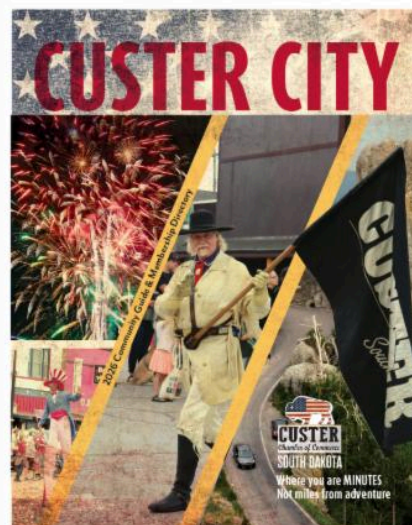
Full Page Size
7.708" wide x 10.139" tall
With bleed (8.875" wide x 11.305" tall)

1/2 Page Size
7.708" wide x 5" tall

1/4 Page Size
3.75" wide x 5" tall

1/8 Page Size
3.75" wide x 2.5" tall

We'll be happy to compose your ad for you **AT NO EXTRA CHARGE**. All camera ready ads should be e-mailed to custerads@gwtc.net in the appropriate size at 300 dpi. Acceptable formats are JPG or PDF files.



**15,000
Copies**

EARLY BIRD SPECIAL RATES!

Advertising Rates Full-Color Ad

Full page ad	\$1750
Half page ad	\$950
Quarter page ad	\$650
One eighth page ad	\$500

Premium pages are back page, inside front, inside back page, and page 3 and are an additional \$100.

DEADLINE: Oct. 23, 2026

For Space Reservations, Call Kate Najacht at 605-440-1248

or email Kate at chroniclewriter2@gmail.com

Southern Hills Publishing Inc. • PO Box 551 • 431 N. 5th St. • Custer, SD 57730 • 605-673-2217

www.myblackhillscountry.com



IMPACT LEADERSHIP DEVELOPMENT 2026

Strengthening Leaders · Connecting Community · Custer, SD
 Facilitated by the Custer Area Economic Development Corporation

The IMPACT Leadership Development Program encourages and equips present and future leaders to strengthen our community.

WHAT TO EXPECT:

- 👉 Practical leadership-building activities & challenges
- 👉 Keynote presentations from guest speakers & local leaders
- 👉 Personalized evaluation to pinpoint strengths & work through shortcomings
- 👉 Networking with fellow local professionals and community advocates

WHO SHOULD APPLY?
 Anyone looking to develop their leadership skills, grow professionally, or play a more active role in Custer's economic and civic future!

EVENT DETAILS:

WHEN: Every Monday October 5 – November 16, 2026	TIME: 4:00 PM – 8:00 PM	WHERE: The Trailhouse in Custer, SD
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HOW TO REGISTER:

SCAN TO REGISTER



bit.ly/IMPACT2026Custer

Questions? Email: custeredc@gmail.com

Great leaders aren't born; they're built!

The IMPACT Leadership Development Program was created to equip present and future leaders with tools that make a real difference in our workplace and community.

If you're looking to:

- Pinpoint your core leadership strengths
 - Overcome personal skill bottlenecks
 - Expand your professional network in Custer
 - Learn directly from seasoned local experts
- ...then save your seat today! Spots are limited.
 When: Oct 5 – Nov 16 (Mondays only, 4:00 PM – 8:00 PM)
 Where: The Trailhouse, Custer

Chamber Member Benefit: Chamber members who complete the IMPACT Leadership Development Program can bring proof of course completion to the Chamber to receive \$50 in Custer Cash.

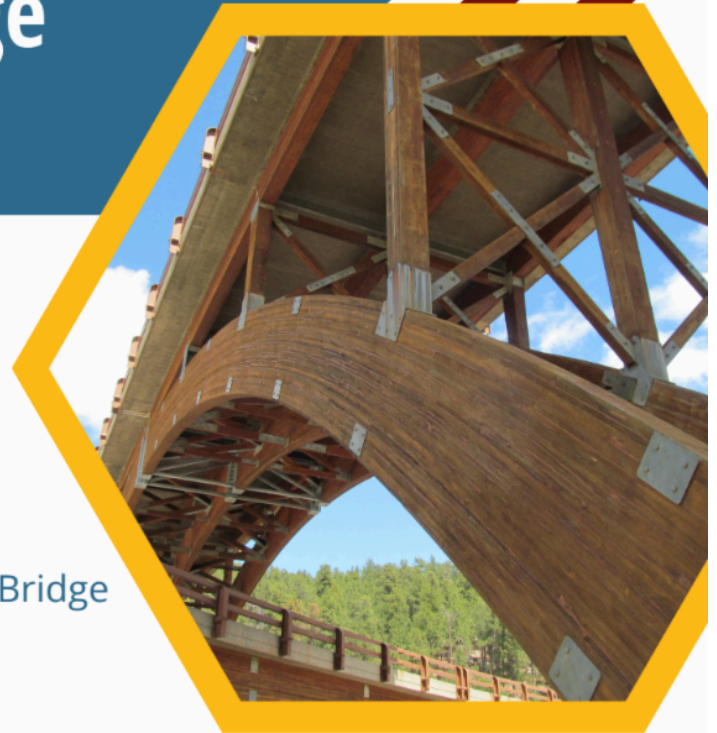
Apply here: <https://docs.google.com/.../1FAIpQLSf6gvmyI8vhID.../viewform>

Cost: \$250 (scholarships available)
 Applications close: September 26th
 Questions? Email custeredc@gmail.com

U.S. HIGHWAY 16A

Keystone WYE Bridge

SD  DOT



CONSTRUCTION DETAILS

Tentative Schedule:

- Sept. 8, 2026 - Oct. 30, 2026

Location:

- U.S. Highway 16A at the Keystone WYE Bridge

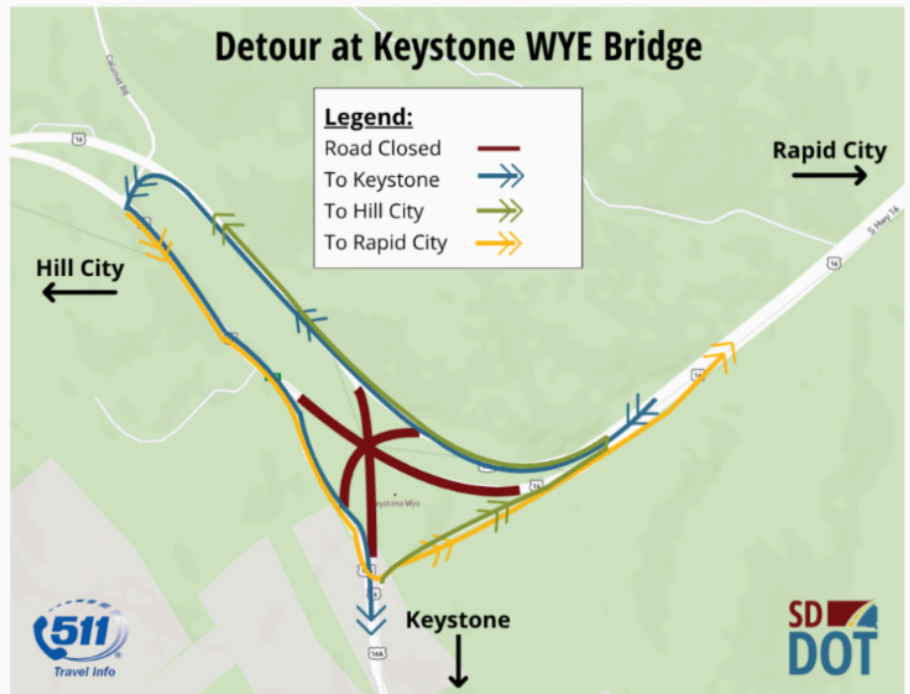
Benefits:

- Bridge Deck Overlay
- Bridge Repair

Alerts:

- The speed limit will be reduced to 35 mph for the duration of the project.
- Once the detour is in place, flaggers may temporarily stop traffic to allow construction equipment to enter and exit the work zone.

For questions, contact the
Custer Area Office
at 605-981-5089.



Visit <https://sd511.org> or dial 511 for information on the detour.



CHAMBER ANNOUNCEMENTS

2026 ANNUAL CHAMBER
**MEMBERSHIP
AWARDS BANQUET**

Sponsorship



GOLD SPONSOR ~ \$350

includes 3 free meals



SILVER SPONSOR ~ \$250

includes 2 free meals



BRONZE SPONSOR ~ \$150

includes 1 free meal



If you are interested in being a sponsor,
contact Dawn at
dmurray@custersd.com or 673-2244.

Sponsoring this event is an opportunity
to showcase your business and show your

community support.

Your sponsorship will be announced during the banquet

your sponsorship will be announced during the banquet
and printed on all published materials.

we're now accepting

NOMINATIONS

MEMBERSHIP AWARDS

- HEART OF CUSTER
- COMMUNITY TEAM/SERVICE
- INDIVIDUAL OF THE YEAR
- LIFETIME ACHIEVEMENT
- NEW BUSINESS OF THE YEAR
- BUSINESS OF THE YEAR
- CUSTER'S RISING STAR

NOMINATIONS DUE
SEPTEMBER 28, 2026

ANNUAL AWARDS BANQUET



OCTOBER
15
2026



6 PM



CUSTER STATE PARK
EVENT BARN



SCAN
HERE
TO SUBMIT
NOMINATIONS



The Custer Area Chamber of Commerce
Board of Directors & Staff
cordially invite you to attend the
2026 Annual Chamber Membership Banquet
Thursday, October 15th at Custer State Park Event Barn

Social Hour 5:30 pm

Dinner 6:30 pm

Award Presentations

Adjourn 8:30 pm

Custom Buffet Dinner featuring:

Pan Seared Chicken with a creamy wild mushroom Sauce

Herb Walleye with a Citrus Beurre Blanc

Slow Roasted Beef Pot Roast with gravy

Served with:

Mixed greens salad - blue cheese, candied pecans, and white truffle vinaigrette,
green bean almonidine and parsnip mashed potatoes

Dessert

Triple Layer Chocolate Cake

\$60/person (includes drink ticket)

RSVP by Tuesday, October 6, 2026 Cancellations after Oct. 9th will be billed.

To register, call the Chamber at 673-2244 or email dmurray@custersd.com

GET REGISTERED

MERCHANTS

Trick OR Treat



FRIDAY
OCTOBER 30
4:00PM-6:00PM

Get your business
signed
up now!



Boo!



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 10- STARR INSURANCE





CUSTER
Chamber of Commerce

Connect • Collaborate • Grow

STRONG BUSINESSES • A VIBRANT COMMUNITY • A BRIGHTER CUSTER

2027 Chamber Mixers

GOOD PEOPLE • GREAT CONNECTIONS • A STRONGER CUSTER

MONTH	BUSINESS	MIXER DATE
JANUARY	First Interstate Bank	1/28/2027
FEBRUARY	Custer Area Arts Council & Black Hills Creative Exchange	2/25/2027
MARCH	Custer Senior Center	3/25/2027
MAY	Lewis Realty	5/27/2027
SEPTEMBER	Black Hills Parks & Forest	9/30/2027
NOVEMBER	Edward Jones	11/18/2027
DECEMBER	Lampert Real Estate	12/9/2027

Networking Happens Here!

CUSTER, SOUTH DAKOTA
MINUTES NOT MILES FROM ADVENTURE

Follow Us on Facebook & Instagram





October 14th



1. Adventure Rentals
2. Aflac- Matti Schrivers
3. All Net Connections
4. American Family Insurance- Ronni Calvird Agency, Inc
5. American Legion Post 36
6. Aspen Federal Credit Union
7. Bavarian Inn
8. Big Pine Campground
9. Black Hills Electric Cooperative, Inc
10. Black Hills Lifestyle Magazine
11. Bradeen Real Estate and Auction Services
12. Branch Construction Services, LLC
13. Buffalo Ridge Camp Resort
14. Busy Ewe Farm & Fibers
15. Carr Electric Company, LLC
16. Christy Chamberlain & Bob Reich
17. City of Custer
18. Colleen Hennesy & Jim Frank
19. Crazy Horse Memorial
20. Custer Area Arts Council
21. Custer County Democrats
22. Custer Hospitality (Best Western, Econolodge, Super 8, Holiday Inn Express, Comfort Inn)
23. Custer Mile High Garden Club
24. Custer Mt Rushmore KOA
25. Custer Senior Center
26. Custer State Farm- Steve Engelbrecht Agent
27. Custer's Gulch RV Park
28. Dacotah Bank
29. Dakota Photographic

30. Deep Creek Art Gallery
31. EO Bungalows
32. Feel Good Café
33. First Choice Lock and Key
34. Good Karma Jewelry
35. J & M Lawncare LLC
36. Jorgensen Log Homes
37. K & S Stagecoach Stop
38. Kieffer Sanitation
39. Lenny Merriam CPA, CFE, PLLC
40. LFC Veterinary Service
41. LJ's Recovery & Transport
42. Local Black Hills
43. Local Black Hills
44. Mammoth Site
45. Mickelson Trail Affiliates
46. Miner's Cup
47. Monument Health- Custer Hospital and Clinic
48. Mountainview Baptist Church
49. NARFE
50. New Trails Ministry
51. NXTLAW PC
52. Operation Black Hills Cabin
53. Our Redeemer Lutheran Church-LCMS
54. Pain & Movement Solutions
55. Performance Outdoor Services
56. Rabbitt Bicycles Rental & Repair
57. Reptile Gardens
58. Rising Hope Counseling, LLC
59. Ronald McDonald House South Dakota
60. Rush Mountain Adventure Park
61. Rushmore Vacation Rentals
62. Saghe Creek Grille
63. Sentinel Federal Credit Union
64. Simon Contractors of South Dakota, Inc
65. Skogen Kitchen
66. South Dakota Parks and Wildlife Foundation
67. Southern Hills Family Medicine
68. Spokane Creek Cabins & Campground
69. Sprockets Fun Foundry
70. Star Ridge Advertisements
71. Starr Insurance
72. Stars & Stripes by Steph
73. Steve and Yolanda Davis
74. Stockade Lake Cabin
75. Tanglewood Estate
76. The Hills Finest- Bridal by Michelle
77. Valhalla Legal, PLLC
78. Weather Tite Exteriors
79. Western Tire Chain, LLC
80. World Fossil Finders Museum



Built Right Roofing & Construction
Network Troubleshooting & Installation LLC
John's Handyman Service
The Black Hills Bakery- Gluten Free
Black Hills Disc Golf Club
Hobo's Healing Heart
Black Hills Roofing
Wolff's Plumbing & Heating





CUSTER
Chamber of Commerce

2026 Custer
Chamber

Member Spotlight



Our Chamber is powered by people like you—passionate, dedicated, and committed to making Custer a stronger, more vibrant community. Whether you're a local business owner, entrepreneur, or community advocate, there's a place for you here!

Join today and be our next Member Spotlight!

✨ THIS COULD BE YOU! ✨

Every week, the Custer Area Chamber of Commerce shines the spotlight on one of our incredible members—and your business could be next!

Our members are the heart of our business community. From local shops and restaurants to service providers, entrepreneurs, organizations, and community champions, we love showcasing the people who make Custer special. ❤️

Want to see YOUR business featured? Join the Custer Area Chamber of Commerce and become part of a network dedicated to supporting, promoting, and growing our local business community.

☀️ Join today. Be our next Member Spotlight! ☀️

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 — we can't wait to feature
YOU! 📷





**UNITED
WAY**

FUNDRAISER

to benefit the United Way of the Black Hills
in the Southern Hills



JOIN US EVERY WEDNESDAY NIGHT

August 26 – October 14, 2026

AT THE CUSTER BEACON

FOR BINGO, FUN & TO SUPPORT A GREAT CAUSE!

FUN BEGINS AT 6:30PM • COME EARLY TO GET YOUR TABLE!

**FINISH OFF THE SEASON WITH OUR
GRAND FINALE BINGO NIGHT ON
SATURDAY, OCTOBER 17, 2026**



FREE!!

FREE!!



Bible Stories, Crafts, Games, Songs, Snacks & FUN!

SPARK KIDS

starts on Sept 16th!

**Wednesdays after school
at Custer Lutheran Fellowship
12622 US HWY 16A**

For children in Jr Kdg-5th grades

After School the kids ride the "Fun Bus" to church!

Pick-up is 5:00- 5:15pm or stay for a free Supper!

Join us for Worship from 6:00-6:30pm!



Register
#605-673-4691,
clf@gwtc.net,
or here!



Magic's

5th

Gotcha
Day
Extravaganza

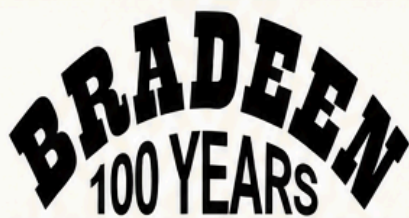
to benefit Battle Mountain Humane Society



Items Needed:

Purina Dog Chow,
Purina Cat Chow
(Complete), cat &
dog toys, nitrile
gloves (medium &
large), sheets, paper
towels, Windex.

Sept. 21-26 | Petals & Pages | 21 N. 4th Street



REAL ESTATE & AUCTIONS

Ron Bradeen - Jeff Storm - Travis Mayer, Auctioneers

605-673-2629 • Custer, SD

www.bradeenauction.com

STATE SURPLUS VEHICLE & EQUIPMENT ★ AUCTIONS ★

SD SURPLUS PROPERTY PUBLIC AUCTIONS

★ THREE AUCTIONS • THREE LOCATIONS • GREAT SELECTION! ★

**TUESDAY
SEPTEMBER 15, 2026
10:00AM CDT**



DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION
REGION OFFICE
2529 W. HWY 12
ABERDEEN, SD

**WEDNESDAY
SEPTEMBER 16, 2026
10:00AM CDT**



EXPO COMMUNITY CENTER/
STANLEY COUNTY FAIR GROUNDS
320 S. CASEY TIBBS ST.
FORT PIERRE, SD

**WEDNESDAY
SEPTEMBER 23, 2026
10:00AM CDT**



DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION
5801 S HWY 79
RAPID CITY, SD

VEHICLES:

'19 Dodge Ram 1500 4x4; 3-'18 Dodge Ram 3500 4x4; '17 & '18 Dodge Ram 1500 4x4; '16 Chevy 3500 4x4; '16 Ford F350 4x4; '16 Chevy 2500 4x4; '15 & '16 Chevy 1500 4x4; '00 Chevy 1500 4x4; '07 Chevy Impala;

TRUCKS & EQUIPMENT: '07 Sterling LT9500 w/plow; skid steer backhoe attachment; '94 16' flatbed trailer; '77 Trailer w/sandblaster; portable fuel tanks; '22 Tiger flail mower; JD D120 mower.

MISC.: Toro snow blowers; Huskee push mower; Truck tires & tires w/rims; Parts washer; Stihl equip.; Dewalt tools; Pickup tool boxes; Used tires; cabinets; chairs; sneeze guards; Exam table & trays; Desks and more misc. items.

VEHICLES:

'15, '16, '19 Chevy Tahoe's; '07 & '19 Dodge Caravan; '19 Dodge Ram 1500 4x4; '20 & '22 Ford Expedition; '17 Ford Taurus; '18, '19 & '20 Dodge Durango; '13, '17, '19, '20 & '21 Chevy Suburban's; '08, '09, '15 & '18 Chevy 1500 4x4; '08, '13, '14 Chevy Impala; '07 & '21 Ford F150 4x4; '17, '18, '20 & '21 Ford Explorer; '20 & '21 Ford Interceptor police; 2-'21 Chevy 2500 4x4; 4-'20 & '21 Chevy Equinox; '19 & '20 Chevy Malibu; '13 Chrysler 200; '02 Chevy Trailblazer; '06 Ford Ranger; '05 Chevy Astro Van; '01 Ford Van; '97 Ford CW3 van;

EQUIPMENT & RECREATIONAL:

'94 Bobcat skidsteer; '90 Ford F800 dump truck; '20 Dodge 1500 (motor bad); '15 Yamaha 700 Grizzly; '00 & '15 Yamaha Big Bear 400 ATV; '04 JD 1435 Mower; '95 Kawasaki 300 ATV; Lexmark mower; Onan 12KW standby generator; Generac 240v 3p Standby generator.

FIREARMS:

2-Ruger American .22 cal. w/Leupold optics; Remington 870 12 ga.; buckets of brass.

MISC.:

Office items; Tables; Chairs; recliners; bookshelves; electronics; display stands and so much more.

VEHICLES:

5-'17 & '18 Dodge 1500 4x4; '09, '10, '13 & '15 Ford F250 4x4; '15 & '16 Chevy 1500 4x4; '11 Dodge Dakota; '16 Chevy 2500 4x4 w/alum. Bed; '13 & '15 Ford F350 4x4; '13 & '14 Ford F150; 4-'12 Chevy Impala; '09 Ford F350 4x4 w/flatbed; '09 Ford F550 w/service body.

TRACTORS, TRUCKS & EQUIPMENT:

'01 Case MX110; H&H 7'x28' Enclosed trailer; '00 Sterling LT9500 truck w/plow; '98 Road King 8'x20' flatbed; '96 JD 310D Backhoe; '95 6'x10' enclosed trailer; JD GX335 mower; Case IH 1300 sickle mower; Miller 3pt stump grinder; Bobcat auger attachment; Honda EB3500X generator; 3 pt sprayer; Champion 1500w generator; Stihl equip.; Olsen MFG band saw; Honda 3500w generator; Solid skidsteer tires; 2000 gal. plastic water tank; (9) Honda trash pumps; Steel for a used 30"x84" lean too taken down and on pallets; Vinyl fencing; Waste pile located SDDOT yard Buffalo SD Approx. 835 yards; 20-15"x30" steel culverts; 7-18"x20" steel culverts; 20-6"to8" 12.5' wood posts; 8"x12"x22.5" wood blocks; 240-6"x8"x22" wood blocks; 8"x6"x6" wood posts (23 stacks of 25 posts each); 12.5' steel used guard rail (28 stacks of 30 each); 20-½" cable rolls; Aviation radio equipment; Carrier electric furnace; Shop items; Office equip.; steel lockers and misc. items.

FOR MORE INFORMATION VISIT **WWW.SDSURPLUSPROPERTY.COM** OR CALL



*Meals on Wheels Golf
Tournament*

ANNUAL

GOLF TOURNAMENT

ENTRY FEE

\$300 Per Team

4-Man Scramble-18 holes
Pin Prizes
Door Prizes
Silent Auction

✦ **SEPTEMBER 26TH AT 10:00 AM** ✦

Rocky Knolls Golf Course, Custer, SD

Prizes for best dressed team
Carts are not included



CUSTER STATE FARM

MEDICARE MADE SIMPLE:

Understanding Your Options.

Join Steve from Custer State Farm, for a free, easy-to-understand presentation designed to make you feel confident about your medicare choices.

TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 29TH

6:00PM-7:30PM

PINE ROOM

NO REGISTRATION NECESSARY



605-673-4141



www.protectcuster.com



Custer County Pine Room
447 Crook Street
Custer, SD 57730





WITCHES NIGHT OUT

WEDNESDAY, SEPT. 30 | 4-7 PM

BROOM DECORATING

CLASSES AT 4:30 & 6 PM

TAROT CARD READING

REIKI ENERGY HEALING

WITH DEEPLY WELL

SALDARE PERMANENT

JEWELRY

PLUS SNACKS AND

SHOPPING DEALS!

Kubota - Volkswagen - Tools – Sporting Goods – Ammo

ESTATE AUCTION

Daniel Kruse Estate & Guests – Custer, SD

ONLINE BIDDING OPENS Friday · October 2nd, 2026

- Closing Tuesday · October 6th, 2026, 4:00 PM

Two locations: Lots 3-898 are located at 25192 US Hwy 385 S. Custer

Lots 900+ are located at Bradeen Auctions, 9 W. Mt. Rushmore Rd. Custer



Featuring: '71 Volkswagen Bug; '13 Chevy Silverado K1500; '03 Chevy K1500 Suburban; '12 Kubota L3800 Loader/Backhoe; Titan Man-Basket; Quick-tach rotary mower w/omni gear hydraulics; Bobcat SD 200 quick-tach snowblower; Wolverine quick-tach hydraulic breaker; Troy-bilt storm 2620 26in. snowblower; Toro recycler 60V w/flex force power system mower; Bad Boy 5ft. 3-point rotary cutter (new); Pinecone rake; Dethatcher; Strongway garden tractor aerator; Quick-tach tiller; John Deere Lawn Sweeper; Anvils; Elk Antlers; very large selection of fishing poles and tackle; Wolf Hides; Fifth wheel hitch; Buggy wheels; Log Splitter; The Competitor trap thrower; Silver dollars & many coins; Apollo Moon Landing newspapers; Wolf C36C 6 burner range; tools; toy tractors; duck decoys; wall hangings & décor; Carved painted buffalo skull; Military jackets several firearms with ammo and so MUCH MORE!

Property Inspection: Items will be available for inspection at Bradeen Auctions at 9 W. Mt. Rushmore Rd. & 25192 US Hwy 385 S, Custer, SD on Tuesday Oct. 6th, from 11am to 2pm. See the detailed descriptions & photos in the online catalog, at www.bradeenauction.com.

Property Settlement & Pickup: All items must be settled for Thursday Oct. 8th between 10am & 2pm at the Bradeen Auctions Office at 9 W. Mt. Rushmore Rd. Custer. No Exceptions. Shipping is available on select items.

See complete details & photos on www.bradeenauction.com

OWNER:

Daniel Kruse
Estate & Guests
Custer, SD

BRADEEN
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REAL ESTATE & AUCTIONS

Ron Bradeen - Jeff Storm - Travis Mayer, Auctioneers
605-673-2629 • Custer, SD
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PIE EATING & PET COSTUME CONTESTS CORNHOLE TOURNAMENT

OCTOBER 3 | 11 AM - 9 PM

BUFFALO RIDGE CAMP RESORT

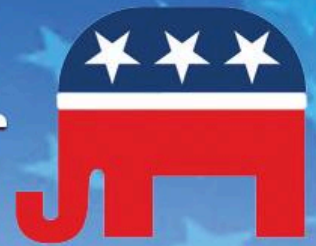
245 CENTENNIAL DRIVE, CUSTER, SD 57730

10% off all Custer Hospitality Hotels & Buffalo Ridge Camp Resort. Call each property direct or visit **CusterHospitality.com** to book your stay!





Custer County Republicans
**Lincoln Day Dinner
& Fundraiser**



Saturday, Oct. 3, 2026

Mt. Rushmore Brewing Company, Barrel Room

Social Hours 5:30-6:30, Dinner to follow

Speakers

Senator Amber Hulse

The Honorable Luke J. Lindberg

**Tickets: \$50 each. To purchase tickets please contact Lea Anne
at 605-673-4639 or email CCRepubs@goldenwest.net.**

Please purchase tickets in advance

**Pete Burkett Memorial Gun Raffle - Must be present to win
"Trump 47-Keep America Great"
1873 Single Action Revolver, .357 Mag/.38 Spl.
Suggested donation \$20 per ticket**



BANNED BOOKS READ-IN

JOIN OUR READ-IN TO PROTEST BOOK BANS.



Monday, Oct. 5, 4-6p.m.

**Attendees will receive a free
audiobook copy of Banned Together
or How to Defend Books and Why.**

Silent
BOOK CLUB




Libro.fm



Custer County Republicans

The Custer County Republicans will meet next on Tuesday, October 6, at 5:30 pm at the Hermosa Elementary School in Hermosa. This month we will host Mike Bielmaier, who will talk about the East County Ambulance District. Should be good information for everyone in east Custer County! Please note, we will be meeting in Hermosa!

Hope to see you there!

Please RSVP to CCRepubs@goldenwest.net to get a headcount for food.

Check us out on Facebook at CusterCountySDRepublicans

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



IMPACT LEADERSHIP DEVELOPMENT 2026

Strengthening Leaders · Connecting Community · Custer, SD

Facilitated by the Custer Area Economic Development Corporation

The IMPACT Leadership Development Program encourages and equips present and future leaders to strengthen our community.



WHAT TO EXPECT:

- 🐟 Practical leadership-building activities & challenges
- 🎤 Keynote presentations from guest speakers & local leaders
- ✅ Personalized evaluation to pinpoint strengths & work through shortcomings
- 🤝 Networking with fellow local professionals and community advocates

WHO SHOULD APPLY?

Anyone looking to develop their leadership skills, grow professionally, or play a more active role in Custer's economic and civic future!

EVENT DETAILS:

WHEN:
Every Monday
October 5 – November 16, 2026

TIME:
4:00 PM – 8:00 PM

WHERE:
The Trailhouse
in Custer, SD

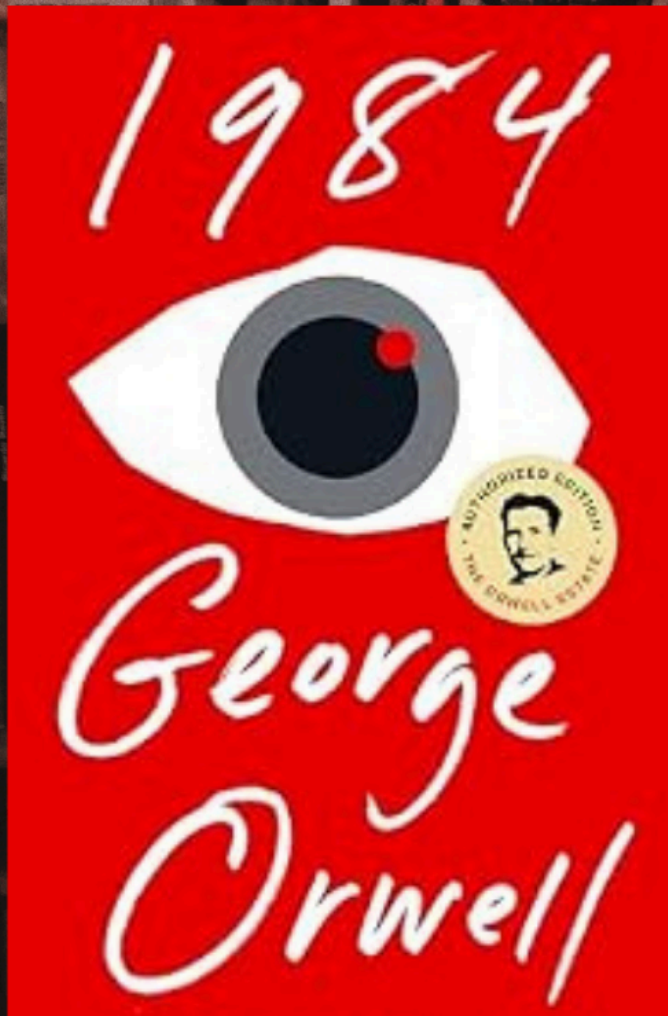
HOW TO REGISTER:



bit.ly/IMPACT2026Custer

Questions? Email: custeredc@gmail.com

The Bookquet



Written 75 years ago, George Orwell's chilling prophecy about the future. And while "1984" has come and gone, his dystopian vision of a government that will do anything to control the narrative is timelier than ever. Remember, Big Brother is watching...

**Meets Monday, Oct. 12, 5-6:30 p.m.
at Petals & Pages, 21 N. 4th St.**

BOO Bingo

Oct 18th

2:00-5:00

VFW
Post 3442

Custer, SD



Scholarship Benefit

Great Fun - Great Prizes

ANYONE CAN PLAY - ALL AGES WELCOME



Save the Date

Red GALA

November 5, 2026

The Box - 6:00-9:30 PM

631 Watiki Way, Box Elder, SD 57719

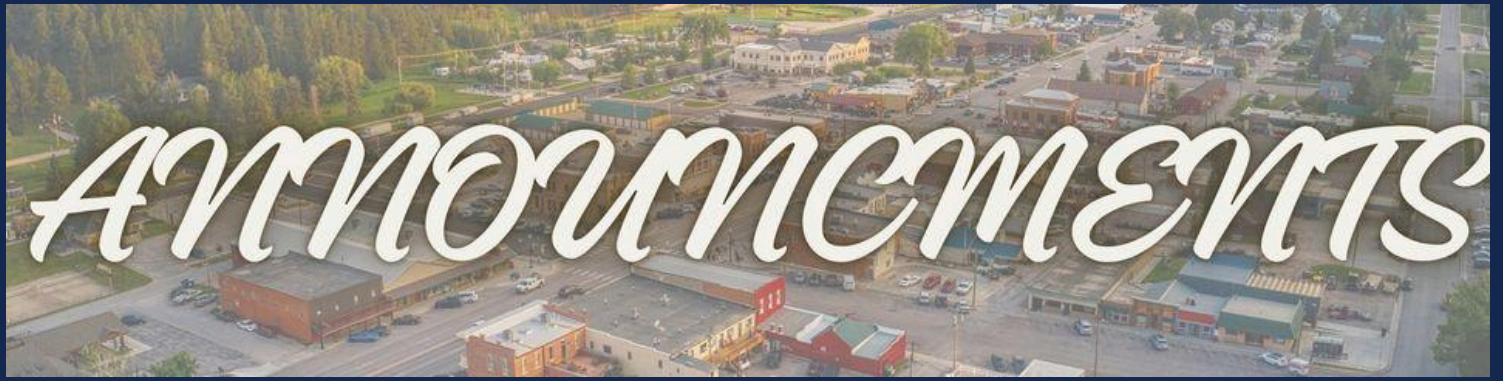
An evening benefiting the Ronald McDonald House - House in the Hills. Join us as we celebrate and “fill the house” with critical items that make the House a home for families who need it most.

Sponsorships Opportunities, Tables + Event Tickets
are available now!

Contact Sheila Klosterman at 605.336.6398 Opt 2, Ext 3 or
Sheila@ronaldmcdonaldhouseSD.org for more info.



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House[®]**
South Dakota



Christmas is in the Air



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307.760.7175

THE BURNING BEETLE

2027 SPONSOR OPPORTUNITIES

January 16, 2027

The Burning Beetle is a community celebration that focuses on our connection to the Black Hills. Its goal is to foster appreciation for our forest home, encourage support for the arts in our community and to be an economic booster. Your continued support of this event and its objectives are much appreciated and necessary to provide our many arts programs in the Custer community. We are looking forward to another amazing event with renewed vigor and an expanding team of volunteers to make 2027 the best one yet!

DEADLINE TO CONFIRM SPONSOR NAME ON SHIRTS IS 11/15/2026



IN-KIND SPONSOR

Determined case-by-case

BRONZE SPONSOR \$100 – \$249

Included in all event MARKETING

SILVER SPONSOR \$250–\$499

Included in all event MARKETING

1 TORCH BEARER TICKET 1 OFFICIAL SHIRT

EVENT SPONSOR LEVELS

GOLD SPONSOR \$500–\$999

Included in all event MARKETING

2 TORCH BEARER TICKETS 2 OFFICIAL SHIRTS

EVERGREEN SPONSOR \$1000 OR MORE

TOP LEVEL MARKETING EXPOSURE

4 TORCH BEARER TICKETS 4 OFFICIAL SHIRTS

BUSINESS NAME

INDIVIDUAL/FAMILY NAME

CONTRIBUTION \$

CONTACT

EMAIL

CONTACT PHONE #

MAILING ADDRESS

CITY, ST ZIP

SHIRT SIZE(S)

WILL YOU BE A BUG CRAWL VENUE? YES NO

SEND COMPLETED REGISTRATION & CHECK TO:

Custer Area Arts Council (BBB)

PO BOX 310 CUSTER, SD 57730

EMAIL YOUR LOGO TO: CusterBurningBeetle@gmail.com





NARFE FALL GATHERINGS

(National Active and Retired Federal Employees)

Chapter 2200: Custer, South Dakota

September 18

Pizza Hut, Custer

Mike Bielmaier, Custer Ambulance

October 16

Forest Service Supervisor's Office

BlueCross/Blue Shield Representative

Open Season

October 23 (12-2 pm)

Pizza Hut, Custer

Adam Kaemingk, Senator Rounds Aide

November 20

Springs Lodge, Hot Springs

Aging Brain/Aging Gracefully

December 18

Crazy Horse – Laughing Water Restaurant

Holiday Celebration

Luncheon Begins at 11:30

Adjourn By 1:00



In an effort to continue improving the online information we provide to visitors, we’re sharing the following link to a page with information about off-season camping in the Black Hills National Forest.

Please feel free to share this link with visitors who inquire by email or phone about camping options during the off-season. We hope this will be a helpful resource when answering questions and assisting visitors with their trip planning.

Thank you for helping us provide visitors with accurate and useful information!

<https://www.fs.usda.gov/r02/blackhills/recreation/season-campground-information>



Forest Service

U.S. DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

Black Hills National Forest

September 2026

Black Hills National Forest

2026/2027 Off-Season Campground Information

Campground Name	Start of Reduced Off-Season Rates	Daily Fee	Units	Lake or Stream	Spur Length (Maximum)	Remarks
Bearlodge	10/01 - 12/14/26	\$15	8	None	25 ft	Closes 12/15
Beaver Creek	10/01 - 12/14/26	\$0	8	Beaver Creek	45 ft	Sites are outside of the main campground gate. Closes 12/15
Bismarck Lake	10/1/26	\$15	5	Bismarck Lake	45 ft	Sites are outside of the main campground gate.
Boxelder Forks	10/01 - 12/15/26	\$15	3	Boxelder Creek	45 ft	Sites are outside of the main campground gate.
Black Fox	10/01 - 11/30/26	\$0	9	Rapid Creek	45 ft	Closes 12/1 for snowmobile routes.
Castle Peak	10/1/2026	\$0	9	Castle Creek	45 ft	Off-season access may require a snowmobile or skis.
Comanche Park	10/1/2026	\$15	5	None	25 ft	Construction is pending, which may cause limited access.
Cook Lake	10/01 - 12/14/26	\$5 Day Use \$15 Night	15	Cook Lake	45 ft	B Loop is open. All other loops are closed. Closes 12/15
Custer Trail	10/1/2026	\$0	16	Deerfield Lake	50 ft	Remote location, with lake access for ice fishing.
Ditch Creek	10/1/2026	\$0	13	Ditch Creek	50 ft	Off-season access may require a snowmobile or skis.
Dutchman	10/1/2026	\$0	9	Deerfield Lake	50 ft	Top Loop is open. All other loops are closed.
Hanna	10/1/2026	\$15	6 - Tent Only	Spearfish Creek	0 ft	Walk-in tent sites are open during the off-season.
Redbank Springs	10/01 - 10/31/26	\$15	4	None	50 ft	Closes 11/01
Reuter	10/1 - 12/14/2026	\$15	24	None	30 ft	Closes 12/15
Rod & Gun	10/01 - 11/30/26	\$15	7	Little Spearfish	50 ft	Closes 12/01
Roubaix	10/1/2026	\$15	9	Roubaix Lake	25 ft	C Loop is open. All other loops are closed.
Sheridan Lake South	10/1/2026	\$15	30	Sheridan Lake	60 ft	Woodsy Loop is open. All other loops are closed.
Summit Ridge Cabin	Year Round	\$75	1	None	N/A	Reserve at www.recreation.gov - Area roads are not maintained; off-season access may require a snowmobile or skis.
Sundance (Horse Camp)	10/1/2026	\$15	10	None	50 ft	Horse facility (corrals & stalls). No water after 09/11
Timon	10/01 - 11/30/26	\$15	7	Little Spearfish	60 ft	Closes 12/01
Whitetail	10/1/2026	\$0	17	Deerfield Lake	50 ft	Lower Loop (including toilet) is open. Upper Loop is closed.

Closed for the Off-Season on October 1: Bear Gulch Group Campground, Dalton, Grizzly, Horsethief Lake, Oreville, Pactola Reservoir, Sheridan Lake North Group Sites, Steamboat Rock, and Strawberry.

Closed for the Off-Season on October 31: Iron Creek and Willow Creek Horse Camps.

Fees: Self-Pay at all open campgrounds. The Stay Limit is 14 days in a 28 day period at all developed campgrounds.

Roads: Not maintained during the off-season. Sites above are open until weather prohibits access or closed on date(s) noted above.

Garbage: Pack It In, Pack It Out at all sites

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.

* All information is subject to change, due to inclement weather, decreased staffing, and sporadic conditions beyond control.

printable copy

Mountainview
BAPTIST CHURCH

ANCHOR CLUB

BEGINS WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 9th, 2026

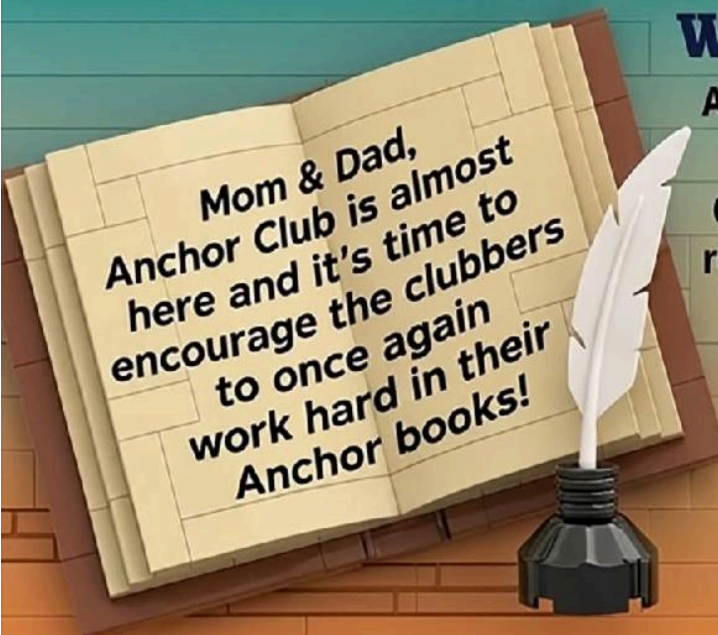
WHAT IS ANCHOR CLUB?

At Anchor Club, we learn from God's Word, while having fun...all at the same time!

Clubbers will be challenged to memorize, read, sing, and participate in the activities every week! Your children are invited to be a part of the Club!

WHO? K5 thru 6th grades

WHEN? Wednesday afternoons
4:00 to 6:00pm



Mom & Dad,
Anchor Club is almost
here and it's time to
encourage the clubbers
to once again
work hard in their
Anchor books!

We will provide a meal each night
for the Anchor Clubbers.

FREE TRANSPORTATION AVAILABLE!

*We can pick up children right at the
school, if desired.*



Mountainview
BAPTIST CHURCH

12230 Aviation Way

(next to the Custer airport)

605-673-2498

www.mountainviewbaptistcuster.com



JESUS is the ANCHOR of my soul!
Hebrews 6:19

PAGEANT HILL THURSDAY LEAGUE



Join us every Thursday for competition
and fun!



THURSDAYS



**ROUND STARTS
5:30 PM**

**MEET AT:
THE PAVILION**

**Every Thursday,
April-October**

Contact:

✉ jellis0836@me.com

Sponsored by:



Custer Writers Group

Thursdays at 5:45pm

Pine Room
•
Custer Library

July 30
August 13
August 27
September 10
September 24
October 8
October 22
November 12
November 24
December 10
December 22

Sponsored by:



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Free & Open to the Public

Debunking five common Social Security myths

*Reported by Jared Slagle MBA,
Edward Jones, Member SIPC*

Social Security is often one of the most important income sources in retirement. Yet widespread myths about how it works can lead to confusion, unnecessary worry and poor planning decisions. Here's the truth behind five of the most common misconceptions.

Myth 1: Social Security is going broke.

You've probably heard this one, but the full picture is more nuanced. According to the 2026 Social Security Board of Trustees Report, if Congress does nothing, the program would need to reduce benefits starting in 2032, paying roughly 78 cents for every dollar owed.

But that's just one scenario. Congress could raise the combined payroll tax from 12.4% to 16.65%, which the trustees estimate would secure full benefits through 2100. Other options include eliminating the earnings cap subject to payroll tax or adjusting retirement ages. Lawmakers have tools to address this.

Myth 2: Social Security will cover all your retirement needs. Think of Social Security as a financial foundation, not the full building. According to the Social Security Administration, benefits replace only about 40% of pre-retirement income for a median earner. That means you'll likely need to account for most of your retirement income yourself. Building a strong personal savings strategy now can help close that gap.

Myth 3: You lose benefits permanently if you keep working. Not true. Social Security does have an "earnings test" that can temporarily reduce benefits for people who claim early and keep working. If your earnings exceed a set annual cap – which changes each year – Social

Security will withhold a portion of your benefits. But once you reach full retirement age, the Social Security Administration adjusts your monthly check higher to repay those withheld amounts over time.

Myth 4: An ex-spouse's benefits come out of your own. If you were married for at least 10 years and are currently unmarried, your former spouse may be eligible to collect on your earnings record, or you may be able to collect on theirs. Divorced spouse benefits can be up to 50% of the other person's full retirement benefit. But those payments don't affect yours. Your monthly benefit is not reduced by anything paid to an ex-spouse or even a current spouse.

Myth 5: Social Security benefits are no longer taxed. Recent legislation caused some confusion here. The One Big Beautiful Bill Act did not eliminate taxes on Social Security benefits. If your combined income exceeds certain thresholds, you'll still owe taxes on a portion of your benefits.

The law also created a temporary deduction (available through 2028) for people 65 and older. Eligible taxpayers can deduct \$6,000 per qualifying filer if their modified adjusted gross income is \$75,000 or less for singles or \$150,000 for couples. The deduction phases out at \$175,000 for singles and \$250,000 for joint filers.

The more you understand Social Security, the more control you have over your retirement outcome. Grounding your decisions in facts rather than assumptions can make a meaningful difference in your long-term financial security.



Jared Slagle is a Financial Advisor with Edward Jones in Custer, SD. He can be reached at (605) 673-2198 or www.edwardjones.com/jared-slagle

This article was written by Edward Jones for use by your local Edward Jones Financial Advisor. Edward Jones and its financial advisors cannot provide tax advice. You should consult your qualified tax professional regarding your situation. Edward Jones, Member SIPC

I can help simplify life insurance



Steve Engelbrecht
Agent

750 West Mt. Rushmore Rd, Unit 6
Custer, SD 57730

Bus: 605-673-4141
www.protectcuster.com
steve@protectcuster.com

Talking about life insurance can be intimidating. That's where I come in. I can help you determine how life insurance will best fit your individual needs, and there's no guesswork with policy type, amount or budget. Contact me today.

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Bloomington, IL



Media Release



FREEDOM 250 AT MOUNT RUSHMORE DELIVERS MILLIONS IN ECONOMIC IMPACT AND GLOBAL EXPOSURE FOR SOUTH DAKOTA

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE: Mon., Aug. 10, 2026

CONTACT: *Katlyn Svendsen*, Global Public Relations & Content Services Senior Director, Travel South Dakota

PIERRE, S.D. – The Freedom 250 at Mount Rushmore celebration generated millions of dollars in economic activity while showcasing the state to audiences around the world.

A post-event analysis done by research firm Tourism Economics found the event generated an estimated **\$2.35 million in total economic impact**, including **nearly \$1.5 million in direct visitor spending**, while supporting area businesses, hotels, and local tax revenue.

More than **4,000 attendees** attended the event, with **87.7% traveling from overnight destinations** and representing **more than 40 states**.

The event's significance extended well beyond those attending in person and those that left their tax dollars in local communities. It also was viewed by millions across the world.

Broadcast and digital media coverage reached an estimated **53.7 billion audience impressions**, generating an estimated **\$50.7 million in publicity value**. Online interest also surged, with Travel South Dakota's website recording **146,535 sessions** during the event period—a

66% increase over the previous week—and the livestream being viewed more than 107,000 times.

“The Freedom 250 at Mount Rushmore event demonstrated what happens when South Dakota has the opportunity to showcase one of America's most iconic landmarks on an international stage,” said James Hagen, Secretary of the South Dakota Department of Tourism. “The economic benefits to our communities, combined with the extraordinary global exposure for South Dakota, will continue to pay dividends well into the future.”

The Tourism Economics analysis also found the event immediately generated:

- **\$2.35 million** in total economic impact.
- **\$1.49 million** in direct visitor spending.
- More than **4,100 hotel room nights**.
- More than **\$1 million in lodging revenue**.
- Approximately **\$162,000** in combined state and local tax revenue.

The celebration also produced one of the strongest tourism weekends in recent Rapid City history. During the event, **hotel occupancy increased 5.5% year-over-year**, and Friday, July 3 recorded the highest single-day hotel revenue year-to-date as well as the top single day revenue-per-available room in the last two years.

The event was made possible through a partnership between the State of South Dakota, the U.S. Department of the Interior, the National Park Service and numerous federal, state and local partners. Following a five-year absence, the return of fireworks to Mount Rushmore National Memorial served as a centerpiece of the nation's 250th anniversary celebration.

The State of South Dakota invested \$2.8 million in planning and producing the Freedom 250 at Mount Rushmore celebration. This generated a return on investment that has already paid tremendous dividends and will continue to do so for years to come, thanks to the billions of earned media impressions. The costs include the pyrotechnics and lighting, media production, shuttle bus contracts, and cost recovery payments to the National Park Service.

“This event generated an estimated **\$2.35 million in direct economic impact** while delivering more than **53 billion media impressions** globally, introducing South Dakota to new and familiar audiences,” Hagen said. “It's an investment that strengthened our tourism economy while reinforcing South Dakota's place as one of America's most iconic destinations.”

The South Dakota Department of Tourism is comprised of Travel South Dakota and the South Dakota Arts Council. The Department is led by Secretary James D. Hagen.

-30-

- **Media Notes:** Economic impact numbers are reported from Tourism Economic, an Oxford Economics Company.





Sara J. Becker
SVP, DIRECTOR OF MARKETING COMMUNICATIONS
She/Her
O: 406-255-5314
firstinterstate.com

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:

Jess McMillin Joins First Interstate as Senior Community Branch Manager

CUSTER, S.D.— First Interstate Bank is pleased to announce the hiring of Jess McMillin as Senior Community Branch Manager. In his new role, McMillin will oversee branch operations, support client relationships, and lead the Custer team in delivering exceptional service to individuals, families, and businesses throughout the community.

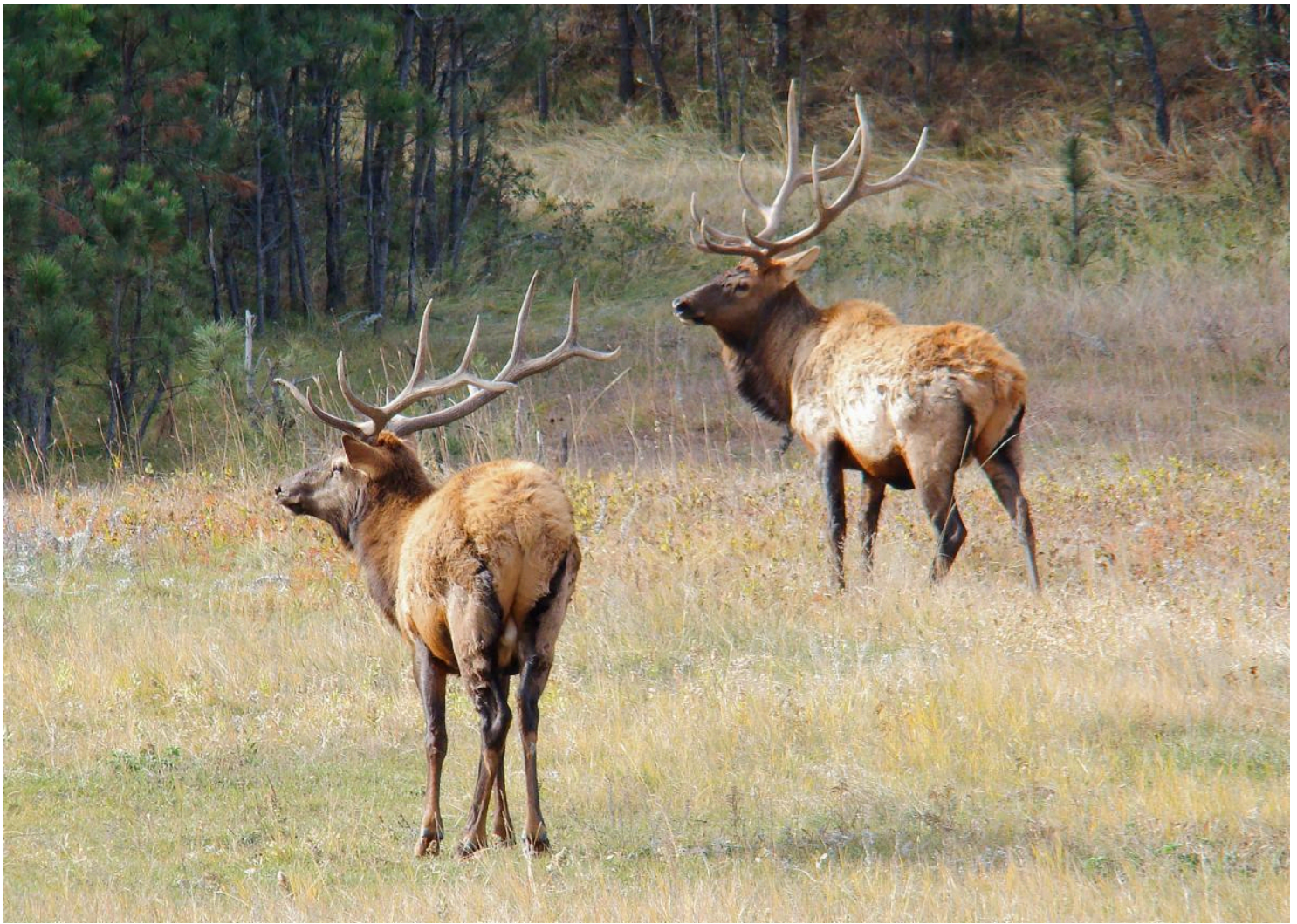
A lifelong Black Hills resident, McMillin grew up in Hermosa, South Dakota, and graduated from Custer High School. He later attended the South Dakota School of Mines & Technology, studying Industrial Engineering while building a successful career in management. “I’m excited to join First Interstate because it gives me the opportunity to expand my management and sales skills while continuing to learn and take on new challenges,” said McMillin. “I enjoy growing professionally, and I believe this role is a great fit for me.”

McMillin brings more than 25 years of leadership, sales, and customer service experience to First Interstate. He spent 15 years with Nash Finch, where he advanced into management roles before the company closed in 2016. He then joined Four Seasons Sports Center as Finance Manager and worked his way up to Sales Manager during his 10-year tenure with the organization.

Outside of work, McMillin is an avid outdoorsman who enjoys fishing, participating in sports, and pursuing a variety of hobbies. A talented guitarist, he also has a passion for music. Additionally, he volunteers with Special Olympics and is committed to giving back to the community.

About First Interstate

First Interstate is a community bank headquartered in Billings, Montana, delivering best-in-class banking and Wealth Management services across Colorado, Idaho, Iowa, Missouri, Montana, Nebraska, Oregon, South Dakota, Washington, and Wyoming. With nearly 300 offices, First Interstate enhances the communities it serves through an innovative corporate philanthropy program, which includes donating a portion of Company profits, matching employees’ personal financial contributions, and donating \$10 per hour for volunteer efforts made at qualifying organizations. To learn more, please visit www.firstinterstate.com.



HOT SPRINGS, SD – Wind Cave National Park will offer ranger-led elk bugling programs on select evenings in September and October in addition to daily cave tours.

The Rocky Mountain elk's high-pitched whistle heralds the arrival of fall and the elk's mating season. On Monday, Wednesday, and Saturday evenings from September 14 through October 10, meet on the front lawn of the Wind Cave Visitor Center at 7 p.m. for a ranger presentation about elk, followed by a drive to a pullout within the park to listen to elk bugling. Participants should bring a flashlight, a camp chair or blanket to sit on, and dress warmly.

Fall Cave Tour Schedule

Cave tours along different tour routes are offered daily throughout the fall. Fall routes include the Natural Entrance, Fairgrounds, and Garden of Eden. For all tours, participants are encouraged to bring a light coat or sweater and good walking shoes.

- The Natural Entrance tour lasts approximately 75 minutes and involves 300 stairs and is offered through September.
- The Fairgrounds tour lasts 1.5 hours and involves 450 stairs and will be offered starting October 1.
- The Garden of Eden tour lasts one hour and involves 150 stairs and is offered year-around.

Learn more about guided cave tours at www.nps.gov/wica/planyourvisit/guidedtours. Reservations for cave tours can be made up until two days before the tour at www.recreation.gov.

Fall Visitor Center Hours

The park visitor center will be open from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. daily through September. Beginning October 1, winter hours will be 8 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. For more information, visit the park's website at www.nps.gov/wica or call the park at (605) 745-4600.



Forest Service
U.S. DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

Forest Service News Release

Media Contact: Krista Landreneau, Program Specialist
(605) 673-9201
krista.landreneau@usda.gov
<https://www.fs.usda.gov/r02/blackhills>

Safety Alert: Veteran's Point Area and Trail temporarily closed

(Rapid City, SD, August 10, 2026) — Beginning August 16, 2026, through May 20, 2027, the Veteran's Point Area and Veteran's Point Trail will be closed to public for safety due to construction associated with the Veteran's Point Trail Rehabilitation Project. This project includes asphalt and handrail repairs, construction of retaining walls, erosion control and overall trail improvements to enhance public access and safety.

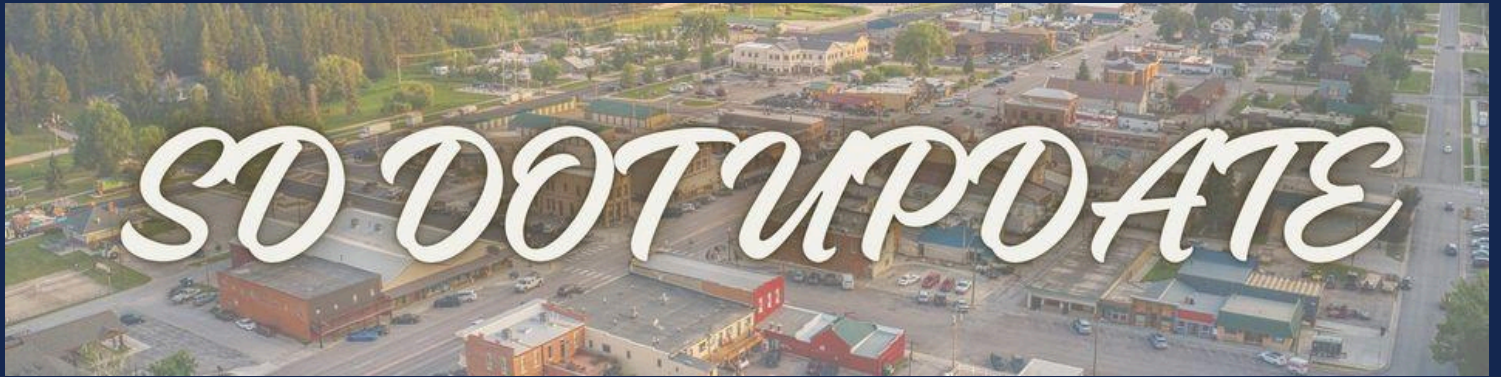
The closure is necessary due to recurring safety concerns, including the public passing barricades, entering active construction areas, damaging construction materials, blocking access with unauthorized vehicles and causing interruptions to project operations. These issues have made it unsafe for the site to remain open during construction.

The contractor began mobilization on June 11, 2026, and project completion is now anticipated by mid-May 2027.-
For more information on the Black Hills National Forest, call the Recreation Program at (605) 673-9200 or visit <https://www.fs.usda.gov/r02/blackhills>.

About the Forest Service: The Forest Service has brought people and communities together to answer the call of conservation for more than 100 years. Grounded in world-class science and technology — and rooted in communities — the Forest Service connects people to nature and recreation opportunities. The agency manages 193 million acres of public land, supports the nation's forest industry and energy needs, and operates the largest and most respected wildland fire and forestry research organizations in the world. By providing assistance to state and private landowners and working with tribes and other partners, the Forest Service also helps steward an additional 900 million forested acres within the U.S.

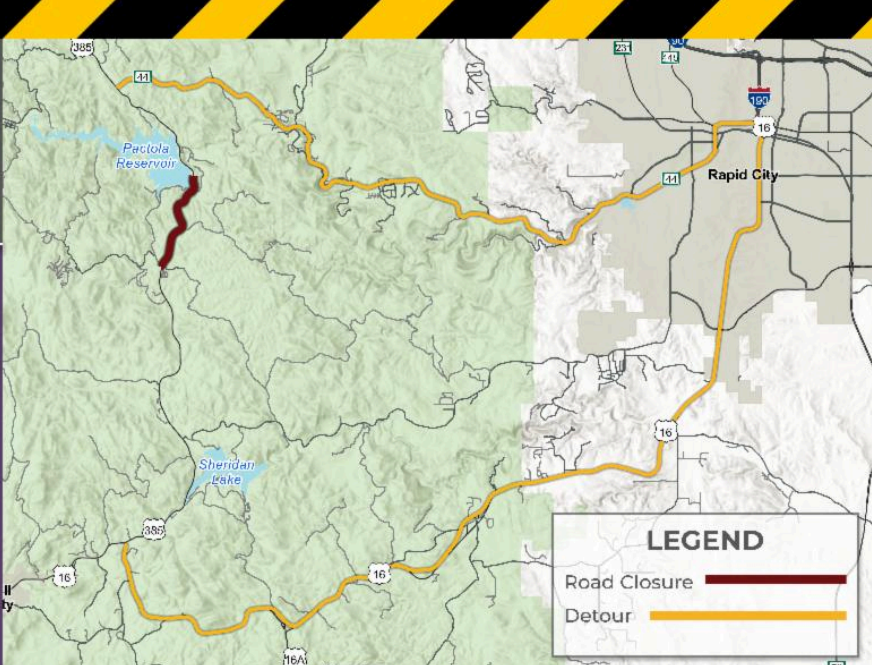
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U.S. HIGHWAY 385 CONSTRUCTION

ROAD CLOSURE

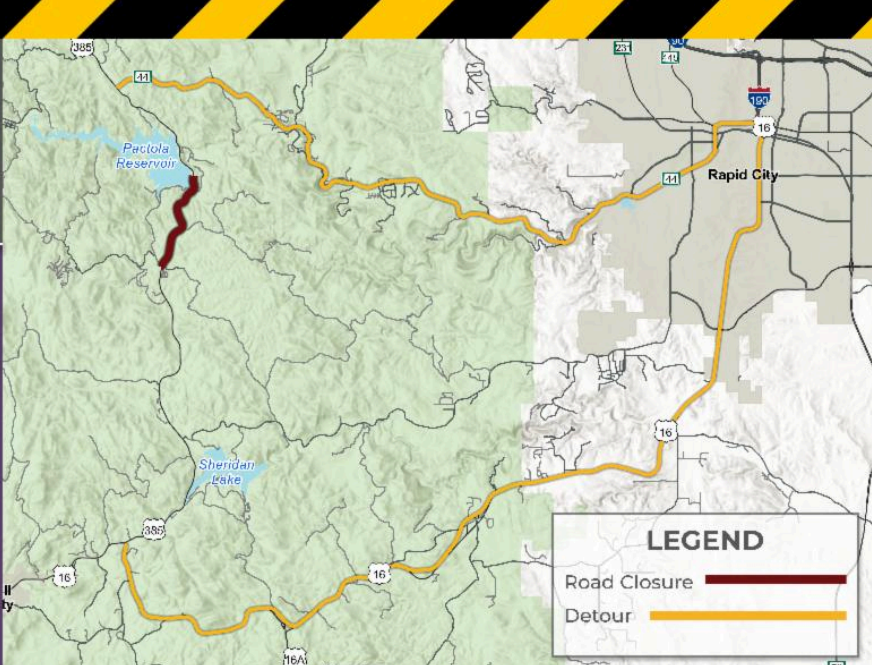


CLOSURE E

Pactola Dam to Custer Gulch Road

Oct. 20, 2025 – March 6, 2026

*Local access to Victoria Lake Road maintained



Project Update

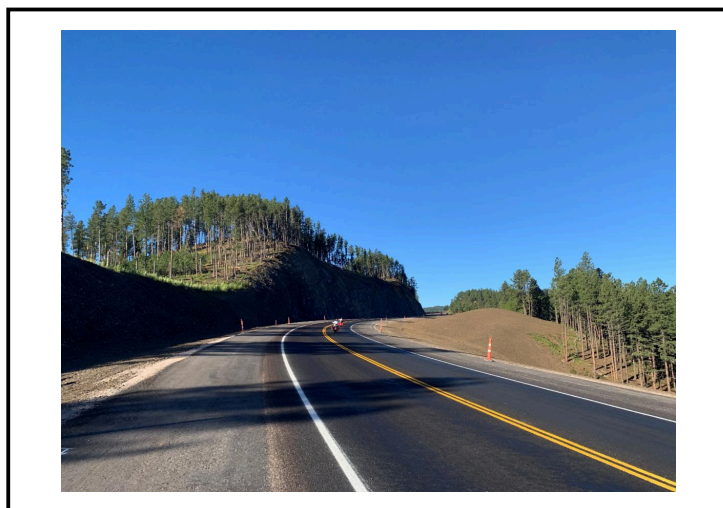
Friday, August 7, 2026

Sturgis Motorcycle Rally Construction Impacts:

- **Construction Activity Paused During Sturgis Motorcycle Rally:** Construction activities will be paused in the U.S. Highway 385 construction area (Pactola Dam to Calumet Road) starting on Wednesday, Aug. 5, 2026, and will resume on Tuesday, Aug. 18, 2026.
- **Sturgis Motorcycle Rally Traveler Information:** Find additional information, including frequently asked questions, on the [SDDOT Rally Traveler Information page](#).

Current Construction Area Road Conditions:

- Currently, the driving surface within the construction area is oiled blotter (a hard, packed surface that resembles asphalt) with pavement markings. The surface may feel slick, so drivers are encouraged to be cautious and allow additional stopping time, especially in wet conditions.



Upcoming Construction Updates:

- **Final Surfacing:** Final surfacing from Pactola Dam to Calumet Road is expected to be completed in the summer of 2027.



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.

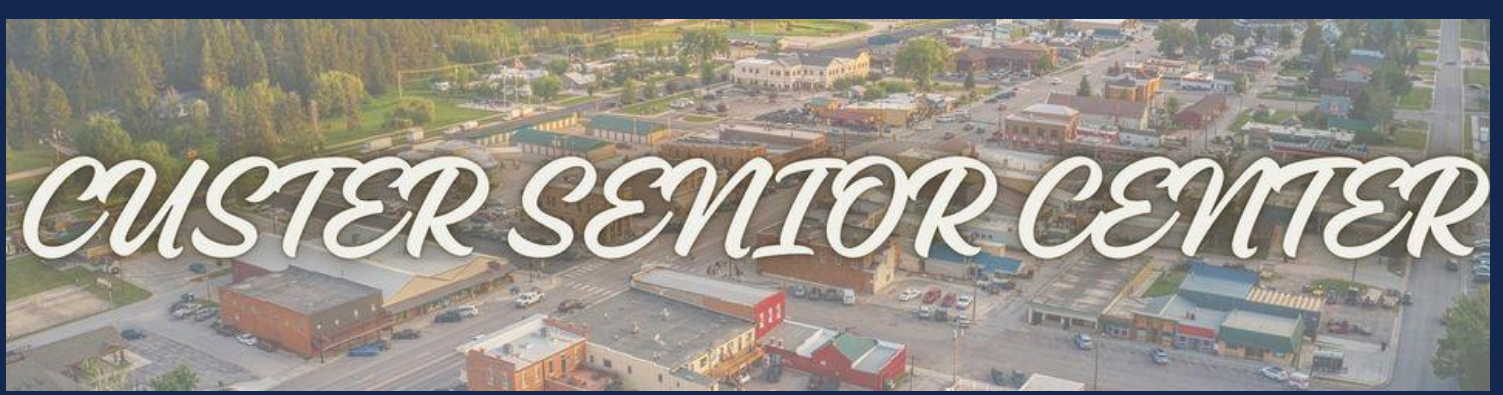
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**U.S. HIGHWAY 385
CONSTRUCTION**
PENNINGTON-LAWRENCE COUNTY LINE TO SHERIDAN LAKE

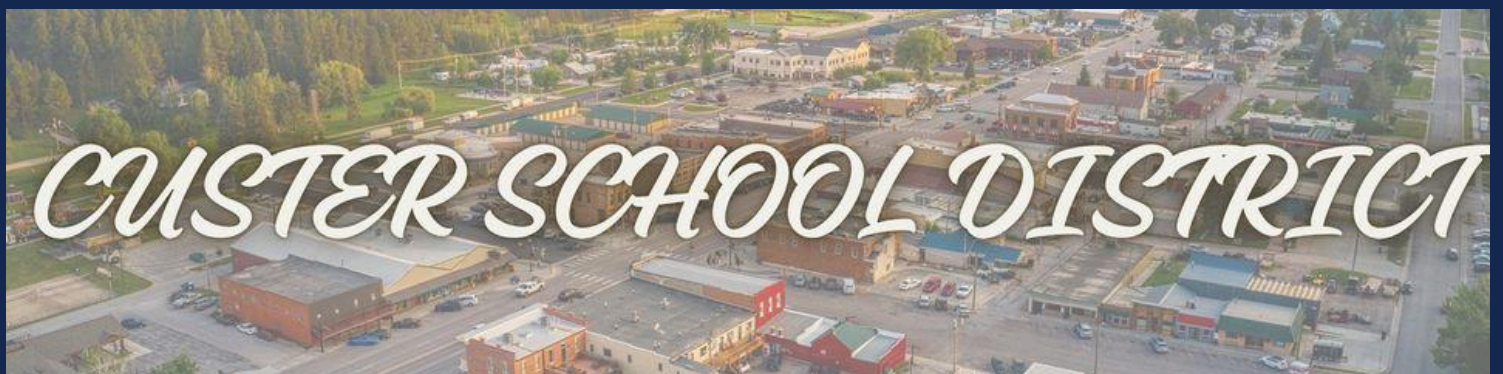
FREE TEXT ALERTS:
Text "US385" to 605-566-4041

Thank you for joining the SDDOT U.S. Highway 385 Text Update List! You will now receive the latest updates on this project via your mobile device. Thank you!

US 385 **SD** DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION



September Activities





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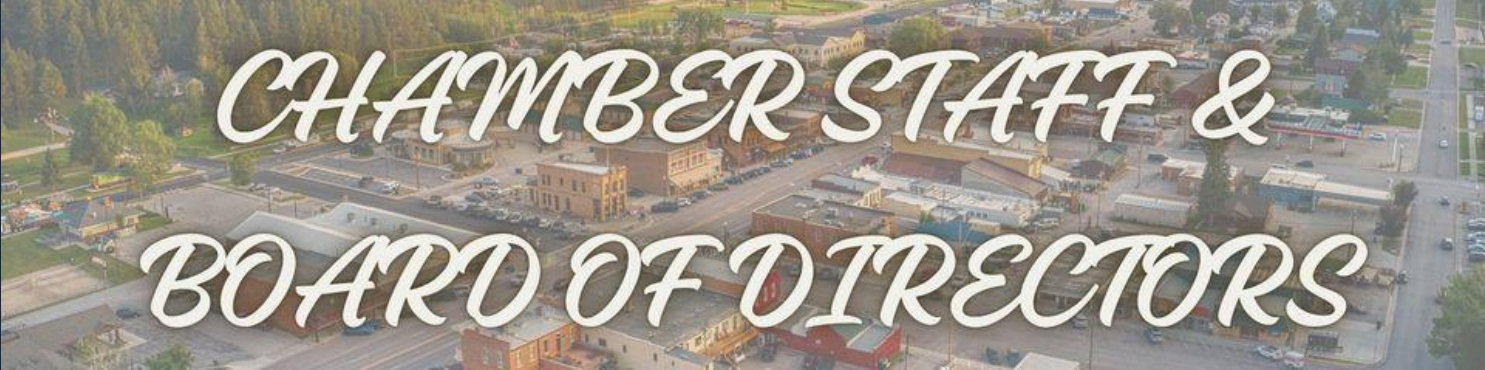
10 AM until 5 PM

Monday through Friday

Please contact Lori

at the Custer Senior Citizen's Center
in person or at **605-673-2708**





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CHAMBER STAFF

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2026

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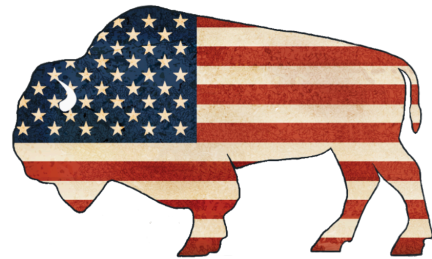
Jessica Noteboom - BID Board Liaison



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