



Buffalo Bytes



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

CUSTER CONNECTIONS

The Rally has ended and we are halfway through August. Summer will be ending soon, and school will be starting next week.

We are still keeping busy here at the office. Membership renewals have been mailed out. New this year, we will also email a copy of your invoice, allowing you to pay by credit card if you prefer. We will need all updated information and payment back by October 1st to be included in the publications. All members receive a listing as a member benefit and have the option of purchasing ads. Evergreen Media and the Chronicle will be contacting you with more information on purchasing ads.

Custer Crazy Days returns this Friday and Saturday! We have 11 businesses participating in this fun sales event. Be sure to stop in and check them out! Remember to sign up at participating merchants for a chance to win some goodies from the Chamber:

1. A Walk in the Woods
2. Art Expressions Gallery - Custer, SD
3. Black Hills Power Bikes Rentals and Boutique
4. Custer County Library
5. Custer Chamber
6. Deep Creek Art Gallery
7. Good Karma Jewelry
8. Jenny's Floral (Friday Only)
9. RP Lumber
10. South Dakota Outdoor Shop
11. Stone Décor Rock Shop

Saturday is the annual Community-Wide Rummage Sale. We are excited that we have over 30 participants this year! The digital map is available [HERE](#) and the printed map are available for pick-up at the Chamber Office.

The Lean Horse 100 will also be taking place this weekend. About 250 runners and their support people will be in Custer for this event. Each runner will be given \$10 in Custer Cash to use at our local businesses. Remember that Custer Cash spends just like cash, and change should be given. If you have any questions, don't hesitate to get in touch with the Chamber.

With all of these exciting events going on, I hope you all see a big influx of visitors this weekend!



Dawn Murray
Executive Director

IMPORTANT ANNOUNCEMENTS

CHAMBER STAFF

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2024

Board Of Directors

Amy Bailey - President
Craig Reindl - Vice President
Michelle Fischer - Treasurer

Amanda Allcock
Carrie Moore
Corey Virtue
Eric Butler

John Stahl

Hounds, Pugs & Hugs LLC

Veteran Owned-&-Operated

**An In-Your Home
Pet Sitting Service!**

**Gena Keller
605-880-0655**



kellerpugpug@gmail.com

**PROUD Sponsor of
Big Paws K-9
bigpawscanine.com
&
SoldiersAngels.org
(sending care packages to
troops deployed)**

Please take note of the following message from Gena Keller:

Food insecurity affects anywhere from 14.8 percent up to 48 percent of households across South Dakota. This reality has a significant impact on many families in our community, calling for us to come together and take action. In my first year of running Hounds, Pugs, and Hugs, a beloved dog and animal daycare, I have been blessed by the support and kindness of this community. Throughout the past year, several fundraising events have been held to benefit our veterans, from Midwest Honor Flight and Soldiers' Angels, to providing gifts for our veterans at the Michael J. Fitzmaurice Veterans Home in Hot Springs.

As Veterans Day approaches, we have another opportunity to unite and extend our support, not only for our veterans but also for those struggling with food insecurity. With food insecurity reaching higher

John Stamm
Miranda Boggs

Julie Jenniges - City Liaison

Mark Naugle - School Liaison

Lydia Austin - CSP Liaison

Jessica Noteboom - BID Board Liaison

levels, there is an urgent need to help those facing this challenge. Therefore, I am calling on each of you to help stock the shelves of The Storehouse, located at 66 Centennial Drive, right here in Custer. The Storehouse provides essential food supplies to many families in our area, and your contributions can make a significant difference.

If you are interested in making a non-perishable donation, blue tote bags are available from the following businesses: The Custer Chamber of Commerce, The Custer County Chronicle, Vector Design Print & Tech, and from me. By filling these blue tote bags with food items, you will be directly helping to alleviate the burden of food insecurity for families in our community. Together, we can make a profound impact. Let us rally our efforts, just as we have for our veterans, and ensure that no family in Custer has to go hungry. Your generosity and compassion will help lift the burden for those in need, and there is no better time than now to show our support. Thank you for standing and uniting as we prepare to honor our veterans and uplift our community.

Please have your donations dropped off by October 5th, 2024. If you have any questions, please contact me at 605-880-0655.



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.

MARK YOUR CALENDAR

August 16

Grand Re-Opening Ribbon Cutting
Custer YMCA Children's Center

August 16-17

Custer Crazy Days

August 17

Community-Wide Rummage Sale

August 30-September 1

Labor Day Farmers Market and Arts & Crafts Fair
Friday 4-8, Saturday 8-8, Sunday 10-3

September 1

Studebaker Car Show

September 12

Custer Chamber Mixer at the Gold Pan Saloon

September 19-22

Mickelson Trail Trek

October 17

October 17

Custer Chamber Annual Dinner

WEEKLY HUMOR

How close I am to
losing it on the daily

@mykiddbutler







Ribbon Cutting

CUSTER
Chamber of Commerce

CUSTER YMCA EARLY
LEARNER
GRAND RE-OPENING

WHEN: FRIDAY, AUGUST 16TH

WHERE: 1315 BLUEBELL LANE,

CUSTER, SD

TIME: 4PM



Mid State

CRAZY DAYS

SPECIAL OFFER



A WALK IN THE WOODS
 ART EXPRESSIONS GALLERY
 BLACK HILLS POWER BIKES & BOUTIQUE
 CUSTER CHAMBER
 DEEP CREEK ART GALLERY

GOOD KARMA
 JENNY'S FLORAL
 RP LUMBER (CUSTER DO IT BEST)
 SOUTH DAKOTA OUTDOOR SHOP
 STONE DECOR



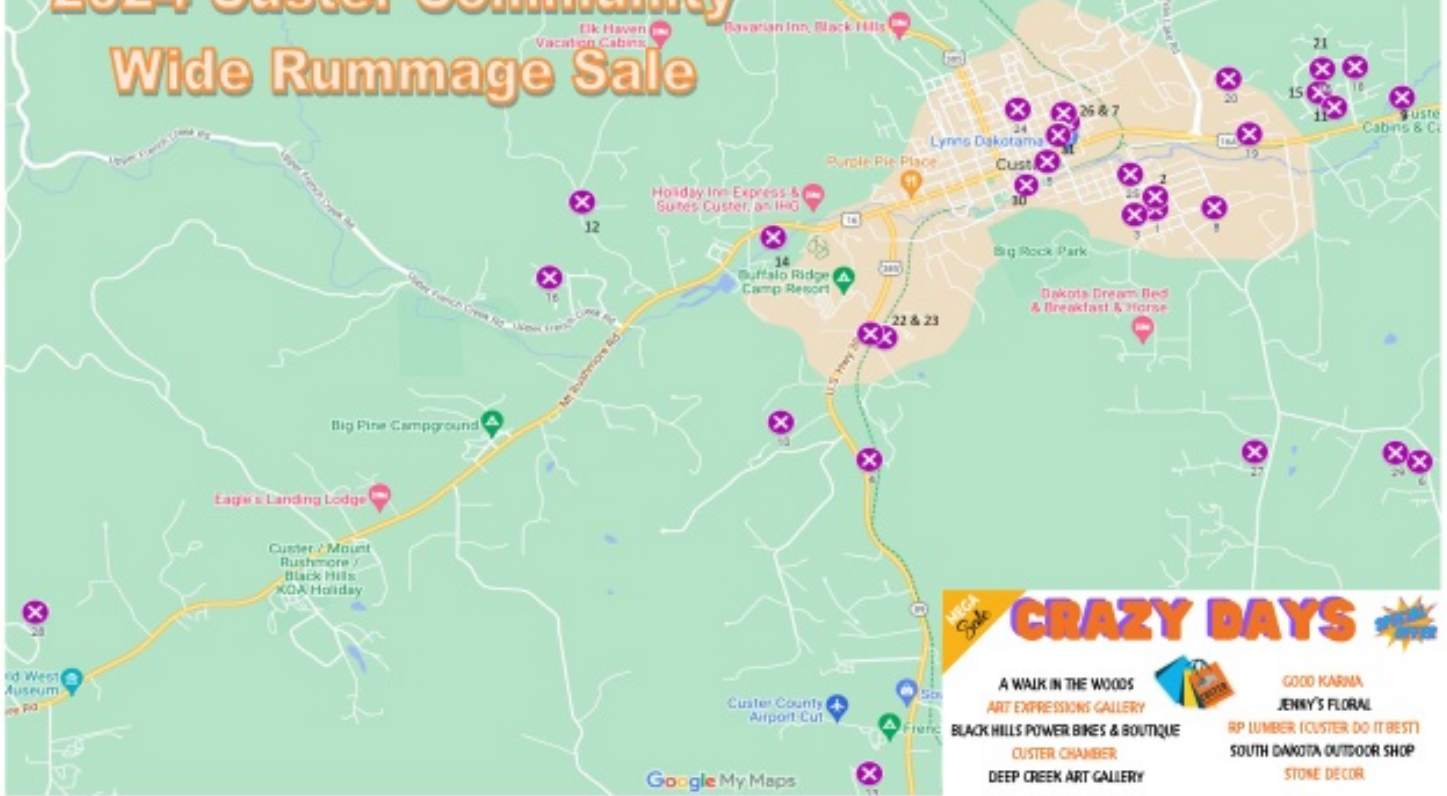
COMMUNITY- WIDE RUMMAGE SALE

Saturday, August 17

CUSTER, SD

Paper Maps available at the Custer Chamber
on August 16 & 17





Printable Copy

Mickelson Trail Trek Welcome Banquet Sponsors Needed

Fat Tire Sponsor- \$300
Road Bike- \$200
Hospitality Night Sponsor- \$100

Over 650 bicyclists on
September 19, 2024

Contact Dawn at dmurray@custersd.com



Thank you
for renewing your
Chamber Membership

Custer County Library Foundation

Claw Antler and Hide, Inc



WELCOME NEW MEMBERS!

Edward Jones-Jared Slagle
Rise- Custer
DGR Engineering
Glen Erin Horse Camp
Custer's Rendezvous
Rapid Fire Protection
Black Hills Bronco Adventures
Sage Creek Grille

MEMBER SPOTLIGHT



2024 Custer Chamber

Big Pine Campground



Phone: (605)-673-4054 **Address:** 12084 Big Pine Road, Custer
Website: <https://www.custersd.com/Big-Pine-Campground>

Today's Membership spotlight is Big Pine Campground.

Here are some words from the owners. "Big Pine Campground has been welcoming families to Custer for generations, sharing the beauty of the Black Hills with guests from across the country and worldwide. We offer a variety of accommodations to suit every adventurer. Guests can choose from cozy tent sites, charming cabins, and a quirky Tiny Retro Trailer for rent or you can bring your RV and stay in one of our many 30 or 50 AMP full hook-up sites. This year, we have an on-site food trailer, where guests can enjoy delicious food 6 days a week!"

AREA EVENTS

JOIN US!



YOU'RE INVITED!

Custer Early Learning Grand Re-Opening

Friday, August 16 – 4:00-6:00PM

1315 Bluebell Lane

Refreshments will be served.



Diaper





Please consider helping those in need with a donation:

Sponsored by Lewis Realty

- New and unopened diaper packages.
- All sizes needed.
- Baby wipes.
- Other baby items such as toys, teething, books, feeding accessories, child safety gear, travel gear, etc...

**DROP OFF AT LEWIS REALTY:
14 W MT RUSHMORE RD,
CUSTER, SD 57730**



Contact Black Hills Pregnancy Center:
Call- 605-341-4477
Text- 605-415-6217
Visit- 1774 Centre St., Ste 1
Rapid City, SD 57703

ABOUT BLACK HILLS PREGNANCY CENTER:

Black Hills Pregnancy Center is a Nonprofit 501 c3 agency who is governed by a local Board of Directors. Because all life is sacred, Black Hills Pregnancy Center exists to explore choices by providing appropriate resources and support for all impacted by an unplanned pregnancy. BHPC is financially supported by individuals, businesses and churches in the Black Hills Region. The great team of medical professionals and trained volunteers donate several thousand hours each year to serve the needs of their clients.



Proposed:

Custer Fire District

For more information please join us
at our upcoming Open Houses:

Where: 616 Crook Street
Leo Harbach Fire Station
Custer, SD

All open houses will start at
6:30 pm with a Power Point
information presentation,
questions to follow

July 8th
July 29th
August 19th
September 9th
September 30th
October 28th

Email questions to: custerfiredistrict@gmail.com

Check out our Facebook page:

“Custer Fire District - Proposed Fire Protection District”

Original Art-Prints-Signed Artwork-Posters-African Collectables

AUCTION

AUCTION

High Plains Western Heritage Center, Spearfish, SD

ONLINE BIDDING OPENS Friday · August 23rd -

Closing Tuesday · August 27th, 2024, 5:00 PM

Property located at **High Plains Western Heritage Center, 825 Heritage Dr. Spearfish, SD.**

Artwork, paintings & posters including: Originals from Mike Songstad, J. Mather, Lou Schmeltzer, Christen Green, Lorna Moore; Larinda Burress, McKelvie, Letti Lister; H.P. Pelton, Limited Edition, Signed & numbered prints including: Ken Schmidt, Joe Grandee, Ray Johnson, Ole Larsen, CW Anderson, Gordon Schnabel, Robert Conely, John Kelly, Joe Grandee, Ray (Padre) Johnson, Cat Deuter, Sis Krueter, D.C. Lamphere, Joe Grandee, Mick Harrison, & more; Photographs, Prints, Posters including: CM Russell, Herbert Wesley Amriott, J. Raven, Russ Madson, Mick Harrison, Black Hills Range Days 1945, Black Hills Round Up 1944, Black Hills Round Up 1932, 125th Ann. Mandan Rodeo Days, World Champion Cowboys, Miles City Bucking Horse Sale, Stetson Hats Promotion Card Poster and so many more.

African Collectibles from the Fred C. Johnston African Artifact Collection from early 1900's including: wooden statues, knives with sheaves, pipe, musical instruments, horns, hooves, claws, skulls, baskets, cord, comb, flint, metal implements, quirt, spears, harpoon, quiver of arrows, plus many more interesting pieces of African history.

Auctioneers Note: You will be impressed with the quantity and quality of this offering. 100% of the proceeds from the auction will be used for Capital Improvements at HPWHC. This is a great opportunity to purchase some beautiful collectables while helping a worthy cause! Make plans to participate in this exciting event! See www.bradeenauction.com to view this great collection.

Property Inspection: Property will be available for inspection on Friday August 23rd through Tuesday August 27th during regular business hours at the High Plains Western Heritage Center or see the detailed descriptions & photos in the online catalog.

Property Settlement & Pickup: All items must be settled for and picked up Thursday August 29th between 12:00 noon & 5:00pm No Exceptions. Shipping available see terms.

See complete details & photos on www.bradeenauction.com

Owners:

High Plains Western
Heritage Center, Spearfish, SD

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REAL ESTATE & AUCTIONS

Ron Bradeen - Jeff Storm - Travis Mayer, Auctioneers
605-673-2629 • Custer, SD
www.bradeenauction.com

TERMS & CONDITIONS:

ONLINE ONLY AUCTION. NO BUYER PREMIUM! Complete detailed photos, descriptions, terms & registration at www.bradeenauction.com.





South Dakota Enhanced Conceal Carry Class

This is a One-day Class

Saturday, Aug. 24th, 2024 9:00am to 4:30pm

The Enhanced Permit allows you to carry in 38 states including MN, NE, WI, NV, NH, WA, 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

Southern Black Hills – Custer SD

MANUFACTURED HOME ON RENTAL LOT

ABSOLUTE AUCTION

ONLINE BIDDING CLOSES THURSDAY SEPTEMBER 5th, 24 – 2:00 PM MDT

Property located at 949 Ponderosa Street, Lot 3, Custer SD

Selling at Absolute Auction, without minimum or reserve will be a 2004 Redman New Moon 16' x 80' manufactured home on an attractive rented lot in NE Custer City, SD. This comfortable 1280+- sq. ft. home includes a deluxe 13'x14' master bedroom with large bath, garden tub and a newly installed custom marble type walk in shower (\$10K+ installed). Also includes 2 additional bedrooms, 2nd full bath, as well as a spacious kitchen & living room. Other features include vaulted ceilings, central air & propane heat, new refrigerator, a gas range & stacking washer/dryer, 14'x18' deck and more! New asphalt shingles and siding were replaced in 2021. The home is served by Custer City water/sewer/garbage. The spacious oversized corner lot features a large back yard with shade trees, privacy fenced on 2 sides, in Ponderosa Mobile Home Park, located east of the Custer Schools football/athletic field.

TERMS AND CONDITIONS: Absolute Auction, selling without minimum or reserve! Bidding by Online only Auction format only. Register at www.bradeenauction.com. Successful bidder shall deposit 15% irrevocable earnest money

within 24 hours of the close of the online auction, with the balance due upon closing, on or before Sept. 20th, 2024. Property sold without buyer contingency of any kind. Have financial arrangements secured prior to bidding. Selling 2004 Redman Manufactured home only, no real estate included. Home may remain upon signing a lease, or buyer may remove the home, at buyers expense, by Friday September 27, 2024 without additional rental fees. Move-In-Ready, immediate possession available upon full settlement. Auctioneers, Brokers, and their associated staff are representing the seller's interest in this transaction. All information was derived from sources deemed reliable; however, neither Seller nor the Auctioneers/Brokers are making any guaranties or warranties, actual or implied. Property selling "As-is where is", without warranty of any kind. Inspect to the extent deemed necessary both on and off premise and use your own judgement when bidding. Announcements made at auction take precedence over any prior printed or oral representations.

Inspection: Auctioneers/Brokers will be at the property on Thursday August 22nd and 29th from 3 to 5 PM or call 605-673-2629 for appointment, MLS Lock Box installed contact your local Realtor. **Broker Participation is encouraged,** call for details, required form and deadline.

Auctioneers note: Take time to tour/inspect this 2004 Redman Home. The home may remain on the rental lot, OR move to your location. As you are aware, affordable housing is difficult to find in the Black Hills. Do your homework, and place your bids ONLINE, where YOU set the price! Auctioneers will be at the property from noon through the close of bidding on Sept. 5th to answer questions or to help with the bidding process. Remember, this home sells without reserve!

Register early to bid at www.bradeenauction.com Contact Bradeen Auctions early to place your bid if you are unable to bid online! See complete terms, photos & details at www.bradeenauction.com.



Owners:
Jack Kitchen
Custer, SD

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100 YEARS

REAL ESTATE & AUCTIONS

Ron Bradeen • Jeff Storm - Auctioneers

605-673-2629 • Custer, SD

www.bradeenauction.com



“Catholics Returning Home”

AN OPEN DOOR FOR RETURNING CATHOLICS

St. John the Baptist, Custer St Anthony of Padua, Hot Springs
St. James, Edgemont

Welcome!

- * Were you raised Catholic but do not come or seldom come to Church anymore?
- * Are you a Catholic who now feels separated from the church?
- * Would you like to know more about the Catholic Church as it is today?
- * Would you like to feel at home in the Catholic Church again?

No matter how long you have been away and no matter what reason, we invite you to consider renewing your relationship with the Catholic Church.

Informal listening sessions begin:

Date: Saturday, September 7, 2024 & continuing for 6 weeks
Time: 10:00 - 11:30 AM
Place: St John the Baptist Catholic Church, Custer

Sponsored by the local Catholic Parishes listed above.
For more information call Lynda Davis, (605) 745-3988



THE CUSTER AMERICAN LEGION



POST 46 PRESENTS



FLAG RETIREMENT

Program

WEDNESDAY

SEPTEMBER 11, 2024

6:00PM

Veterans Memorial Park



The American Legion will hold an American Flag retirement program in honor & memory of the first responders, military & citizens who gave everything on 9/11.



ANNOUNCEMENTS

SOCIAL MEDIA MANAGEMENT

Now onboarding tourism, travel & hospitality
clients in the Southern Black Hills

**We manage your social media accounts so
you can focus on running your business!**

Content Creation • Graphic Design • High Quality
Images & Photography Services • Brand Awareness
Strategic Presence • Audience Engagement

Green Owl
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605.440.2400 • GreenOwlMedia.com





RV Covered Storage

25991 Hwy 385, Custer, SD 57730

(9.5 miles S. of Custer along Hwy 385)

@ Plenty Star Ranch

Contact Isa Kirk @ 605-440-2233

\$75 per month or \$600 per year - Parking Only.

The pole barn (open on 3 sides, no lights, no heat) is 80 ft wide x 100 ft long.

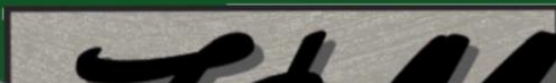
The doorway opening is 12 ft high.

(Liability / contract. Barn owner will not be held liable for damage or theft)

+ **3 RV grass sites** (not under cover) with full hookups (electricity, water & sewer) are available for winter camping @ \$850 / month
(No smoking in and around buildings, pets stay on a leash).

2 One-room **camping log cabins** can be booked via Airbnb or HipCamp

Give us a call
for a free
quote today!



OUR SERVICES

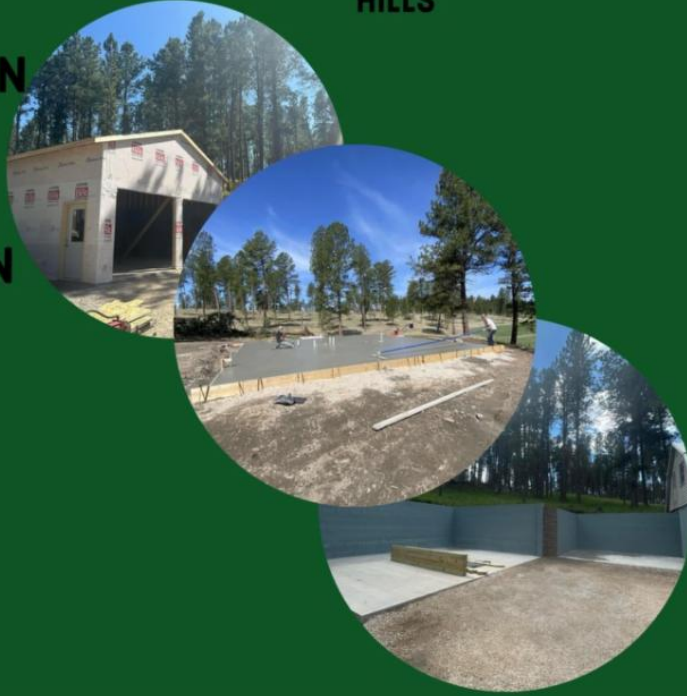
T&M offers a wide range of services, if you do not see a service you'd like a quote in listed, give us a call to inquire

- CONCRETE PATIOS
- FOUNDATIONS
- CUSTOM STONE
- NEW CONSTRUCTION
- REMODELING
- HOME REPAIRS
- SMALL EXCAVATION
- LANDSCAPING
- SNOW REMOVAL
- AND MORE...



Concrete & Snow Removal

T&M PROUDLY SERVING THE SURROUNDING AREAS OF THE BLACK HILLS



605-517-5754



tmconcretllc@gmail.com



25606 Carroll Creek Rd
Custer, SD 57730



tmconcretllc.wixsite.com/
tmconcretecomstructi

Custer Crazy

375 SQ FEET FOR \$75
A VALUE OF \$150!



CALL TO BOOK YOUR CLEANING AUG 15-19
(605) 440-1094

Dayz Sale

8/1/2024

GOOD KARMA JEWELRY



BLACK HILLS GOLD JEWELRY

Available Online

WWW.GOODKARMACUSTERSTORE.COM

8/1/2024

NEWS FROM THE STATE



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE: Tuesday, July 30th, 2024

CONTACT: *Katlyn Svendsen*, Global Media & Public Relations Representative, Travel South Dakota

Hello, Tourism Industry Friends!

I'm having difficulty wrapping my head around the fact that July is almost over. With the summer Olympic Games underway in Paris, the rumble & roar of motorcycles being heard in the distance, and the school year starting in three weeks, this has been the quickest summer in recent memory. We hope you are well and keeping busy giving our visitors an experience unlike any other.

I was fortunate to be in the Black Hills last week and stop at Crazy Horse Memorial and in Custer. I spoke with a couple of visitors from Los Angeles who shared what an incredible time they were having in our state. It's been a challenging summer with road construction, hot temps and smoky skies (as of late), and Americans not traveling in the numbers predicted by many experts this past spring. Despite these obstacles, THANK YOU for hanging in there and for your hard work to give our visitors the best time possible.

Here are a few items we want to share with you:

1. As Shakespeare once wrote, "Parting is such sweet sorrow". We are sad to announce that two team members are leaving our ranks. Jacey Ellsworth, our incredible Agritourism Manager & Industry Outreach Representative, and Mandy Lemmel, our wonderful Welcome Center Manager, will be pursuing new career opportunities. You can read more about their future plans further down in the e-newsletter. We are going to miss these two talented and amazing friends and colleagues and wish them nothing but the very best in the years ahead.
2. We have 28 partners who are participating in our inaugural *Rally Rush* outreach to welcome bikers to the 84th Sturgis Motorcycle Rally. We can't wait to see what activities your communities and businesses are undertaking to let our Rally attendees know how much we appreciate them being here.
3. We are already receiving nominations for the annual tourism awards that are presented at the tourism conference. It's great to see. Be sure and check out all the awards and online nominations forms *here*. The deadline for nominations is **Tuesday, November 26**.
4. And speaking of the tourism conference, we are way ahead of the curve with our planning! Sponsor and exhibitor information will be shared in September, so be on the lookout for these opportunities.
5. We are currently working on three exciting projects: a new scenic guide print piece, a new inspiration guide (which will also be translated into French, German and Italian) and a complete overhaul of *TravelSouthDakota.com*. The scenic guide will be ready by the end of the year, and the inspiration guide and revamped website will debut next spring. We can't wait to share all of these items with you when they are complete.

There is a lot more information about various items in this newsletter, so keep on reading.

Please reach out if we can assist you with anything. Our hope is that as we near the end of summer and

Please reach out if we can assist you with anything. Our hope is that as we near the end of summer and head into our shoulder season, our hard work and marketing will inspire visitors to travel to South Dakota this fall. We are doing all we can to make that happen, and we know you are, too. We hope to see you soon!

All our best,
Jim and Team

-30-

Media Notes:

For downloadable examples of the creative for the “So Much South Dakota, So Little Time” campaign, click [here](#)

PRESS RELEASE



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE: Wed., Aug. 14, 2024

CONTACT: *Katlyn Svendsen*, Global Media & Public Relations Representative, Travel South Dakota

TRAVEL SOUTH DAKOTA RECEIVES NATIONAL TOURISM MARKETING AWARD

“Forever 605” Named Best State Tourism Stewardship Campaign in the Nation

PIERRE, S.D. – Travel South Dakota’s “Forever 605” campaign was honored as the nation’s best state tourism stewardship campaign, recognized by the U.S. Travel Association and industry peers at the annual ESTO (Educational Seminar for Tourism Organizations) conference in Columbus, Ohio.

Named after South Dakota’s single area code, a local point of pride, Forever 605 is a destination stewardship program providing simple, yet impactful, ways to enjoy South Dakota respectfully.

“Forever 605 is an initiative we developed to spread the message of enjoying South Dakota responsibly for residents and visitors alike, and to ensure our state’s pristine beauty is maintained for generations to come,” said James Hagen, Secretary of Travel South Dakota. “Instead of creating a campaign centered around simply ‘leaving a place better than you found it,’ Forever 605 aims to build a sense of pride around respecting our destination and make it something that everyone wants to be a part of.”

Components of the Forever 605 campaign include building awareness of lesser-known visitor experiences and locations, promoting South Dakota as a year-round destination, educating residents and visitors on the importance of responsible travel practices, supporting local businesses, preserving cultural heritage, and proactively sharing the positive contributions of tourism to South Dakota’s way of life and economy.

More than 3,000 people have signed the Forever 605 pledge, and local communities have gotten on board with branding and encouraging action locally. The campaign was launched in earnest on June 5 (6/05/2024) and has

already generated more than 71,000 hotel bookings and 1,218 flight bookings. It has inspired visitors to visit lesser-known destinations, thereby relieving other destinations from overcrowding. It also has encouraged locals to explore hidden gems and encouraged community engagement.

The Mercury Awards recognize excellence and creative accomplishment in destination marketing from state tourism offices and are open to all U.S. state and territory tourism offices that are members of the U.S. Travel Association. The South Dakota Department of Tourism is comprised of Tourism and the South Dakota Arts Council. The department is led by Secretary James Hagen.

-30-

Media Notes:

- A sample Forever 605 “mountain goat love note” commercial promoting the initiative can be [found here](#). Credit to Travel South Dakota.
- Forever 605 logo can be downloaded [here](#).



Forest Service News Release

Media Contact: Scott Jacobson, Public Affairs Officer (605) 440-1409

scott.j.jacobson@usda.gov www.fs.usda.gov/blackhills/

Proposed Changes to Recreation Fees Identified by the Black Hills National Forest

Custer, S.D., August 5, 2024 – The Black Hills National Forest is proposing changes to recreation fees for facilities, as well as Special Recreation Permit (SRP) fees under the Recreation Enhancement Act (REA) Fee Program. These changes include new and increased fees at several fee sites and for motorized OHV use permits. If approved, the proposed fees would be effective in 2025.

“Usage at recreation sites on the Black Hills National Forest has changed over the past 15-20 years,” said Shawn Cochran, Forest Supervisor. “An increase of fees is needed to meet public expectations and the increasing demands of recreation activities across the forest.”

The proposed fees by site are listed in the below table.

Site Name:	Current Fee(s):	Proposed Fee(s):
Black Hills Motorized Trails	Day Fee: \$0 rate per vehicle Week Fee: \$20 rate per vehicle Season/Year Fee: \$25 rate per vehicle	Day Fee: \$10 rate per vehicle Week Fee: \$30 rate per vehicle Season/Year Fee: \$50 rate per vehicle
Meeker Cabin	Night Fee: \$0 Group size: 4	Night Fee: \$50 Group size: 4
Summit Ridge Cabin	Night Fee: \$35 Group size: 10	Night Fee: \$100 Group size: 10
Jenny Gulch Picnic Site	Year-Round: Day Fee: \$0 rate per vehicle	Year-Round: Day Fee: \$5 rate per vehicle
Wrinkled Rock Climbing Area	Year-Round: Day Fee: \$0 rate per vehicle	Year-Round: Day Fee: \$5 rate per vehicle

In 2004, Congress passed the Federal Lands Recreation Enhancement Act (REA) which allows the Forest Service to retain funds collected at certain recreation sites and use these funds locally to operate, maintain, and improve the sites and related facilities. At least eighty percent of the revenue from recreation fees remains on the Forest to operate,

maintain, and improve facilities. Raising the revenue collected through recreation fees will help the Forest improve infrastructure at campsites and day-use areas and hire additional recreation staff. The resources derived through collection of fees helps provide quality recreation opportunities that meet the modern expectations of visitors and creates a more financially sustainable developed recreation program for the benefit of future generations.

These fee changes will be reviewed by the Black Hills National Forest Advisory Board (NFAB) and the Wyoming Recreation Action Team (REACT) for those sites in Wyoming. Committee members represent a broad array of interest groups to help ensure that the Forest Service is proposing reasonable and publicly acceptable new fees and fee changes. The public is invited to comment on the proposed fee changes to the developed recreation program. The comment

period is set to end by close of business on November 29, 2024. To ensure that your comments are considered, please send your feedback no later than the above date to Black Hills National Forest, Attention: Bradley Block – Recreation Program Manager, 1019 N 5th Street, Custer, SD 57730 or bradley.block@usda.gov. Comments can also be provided online at <https://arcg.is/qyij80>.

Oral comments must be provided in person at the Black Hills National Forest to Bradley Block during normal business hours (Monday – Friday, 9 a.m. – 4:00 p.m. MT) or by calling 605-673-9200 and indicating you would like to provide comments on the proposed recreation fee changes. For more information on the proposed project, visit the Forest website at <https://www.fs.usda.gov/detailfull/blackhills/recreation/?cid=fseprd1198079>.

Once public involvement is complete, the proposed fee changes will be reviewed by the Black Hills National Forest Advisory Board (NFAB) and the Wyoming Recreation Action Team (REACT), who will provide a recommendation for a final decision.

###

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

Printable Copy

8/8/2024



Forest Service
U.S. DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

Black Hills National Forest

Forest Service News Release

Media Contact: Scott Jacobson, Public Affairs Officer



Pre-solicitation Notice for Concessionaire Prospectus on the Black Hills National Forest

Custer, SD, July 19, 2024 – A pre-solicitation notice has been issued to potential bidders for the concessionaire prospectus on the Black Hills National Forest, related to the operations and management of Forest campgrounds, day-use areas, picnic sites, and other developed recreation facilities. The prospectus will be advertised in 2025.

The prospectus will solicit proposals from interested parties for one campground concession special use permit to provide high-quality public service in the operation and maintenance of government-owned recreation facilities. The new permit will replace the current concession permit, which expires December 31, 2025, with the intention that the successful applicant will be awarded the special use permit in January 2026.

The special use permit currently in place includes around 30 campgrounds, 14 picnic areas, 7 boat launches, 4 swim beaches, and multiple fishing areas. The exact number of sites for the upcoming prospectus has not yet been determined.

The Forest intends to host an official tour of the sites included in the prospectus in 2025. However, potential applicants are encouraged to visit sites on their own during the summer and early fall seasons of 2024.

This pre-solicitation notice is issued solely for information and planning purposes and does not constitute a solicitation, prospectus, or Request for Proposal. Further, the Black Hills National Forest is not seeking proposals at this time and will not accept unsolicited proposals. The U.S. Government will not pay for any information, travel, or administrative costs incurred in response to this pre-solicitation notice. Responding to this pre-solicitation notice or visiting the area is not required to apply for any future prospectus.

For more information on this opportunity, please contact Bradley Block, Forest Recreation Program Manager, at bradley.block@usda.gov or 605-673-9239.

For more information on the Black Hills National Forest, visit <http://www.fs.usda.gov/blackhills>.

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7/25/2024



Forest Service
U.S. DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

Black Hills National Forest

Forest Service News Release



Fire Restrictions in Effect July 23, 2024 For Black Hills National Forest in Wyoming

Custer, S.D., July 22, 2024 — Black Hills National Forest Supervisor Shawn Cochran has signed a Stage 1 fire restrictions order for the Black Hills National Forest in Wyoming (WY). [Special Order 180](#) (& [Map](#)) will be effective Tuesday, July 23, 2024 through December 15, 2024, unless rescinded sooner.

“Persistent long-term drought conditions and recent high temperatures combined with the lack of moisture have dramatically increased the fire danger, said Jason Virtue, Black Hills National Forest Fire Staff Officer. “Conditions are ripe for large fire potential, and people need to be extremely careful in the Forest.”

Stage 1 fire restrictions apply to campfires and smoking. Under Stage 1 restrictions, the following acts are prohibited: Building, maintaining, attending, or using a fire or campfire outside of a permanent metal or concrete fire pit or grate that the Forest Service has installed and maintained at its developed recreation sites in the WY Black Hills National Forest.

Other restrictions include: (see [Exemptions](#))

- Smoking, except in an enclosed vehicle or building, a developed recreation site, or while stopped in an area at least three feet in diameter that is barren or cleared of all flammable materials.
- Operating a chainsaw without an effective and properly installed and approved spark arrestor.
- Blasting, welding, or operating acetylene or other torch with open flame without being in a cleared area of at least 10 feet in diameter and keeping a chemical pressurized fire extinguisher nearby.
- Using an explosive. This includes but is not limited to fuses, blasting caps, fireworks, rockets, exploding targets, tracers, and incendiary ammunition.

7/25/2024



The Black Hills Playhouse Presents its Last Production of 78th Season with *The Curious Incident of the Dog in the Night-Time*

Tickets are [on sale](#) Now for This Play, With Only 8 Chances to See It Before It's Gone!

For Immediate Release

Black Hills, S.D. — The Black Hills Playhouse will be wrapping up its 78th season of performances this summer with their last production, *The Curious Incident of the Dog in the Night-Time*. This play runs **August 11 - August 17** and features 8 performances.

Based on the novel by Mark Haddon, and adapted by Simon Stephens, *The Curious Incident of the Dog in the Night-Time* follows the story of 15-year-old Chris, who has an extraordinary brain. She is exceptional at mathematics, but ill-equipped to interpret everyday life. She has never ventured alone beyond the end of her road, detests being touched, and distrusts strangers. Now it is seven minutes after midnight, and Chris stands beside her neighbor's dead dog, Wellington, who has been speared with a garden fork. Finding herself under suspicion, Chris is determined to solve the mystery of who murdered Wellington, and carefully records each fact of the crime. But her detective work, forbidden by her father, takes her on a thrilling journey that upturns her world.

The last Pay As You Can performance of the season will be held on **August 10 at 7:30 pm**. Keep in mind that the Pay As You Can performance is the final dress rehearsal for the performers and technicians before the show officially opens. **Plan to arrive early**, as this is expected to be a well-attended preview performance.

An Artist Reception will also be held on August 11 after the 2:00 pm opening matinee. Audience members are invited to enjoy refreshments and appetizers and have a chance to meet the cast and crew who bring this story to life.

[Click here for more information](#), or call our friendly box office staff at 605-255-4141.

***Custer State Park passes are required and can be purchased in the snack bar.**

****This show is not recommended for audiences under the age of 13****

8/1/2024



Project Update

Project Update

Friday, Aug. 9, 2024

Construction Updates:

- Most construction activities are paused to accommodate additional traffic from local events until Monday, Aug. 12, 2024. All lanes are open to unimpeded traffic, and the roadway is, at a minimum, 24-foot-wide with a speed limit of 45 mph. Although the road is unfinished, uneven lanes and shoulder drop-offs are smoothed out.
- The roadway from Pactola Dam to S.D. Highway 44 is now sealed and has a hard surface that will be in place until final surfacing is placed in 2025.
- Traffic is being diverted on one gravel diversion (a temporary at-grade roadway next to the original road) immediately south of the Pennington-Lawrence County line. A width restriction of 12 feet is in place.
- The contractor is applying water to the gravel roadway to control dust as needed.



Coming Up:

- The box culvert near the Pennington-Lawrence County line is nearing completion, and Diversion 2 is expected to be removed in late August.
- Milling (removal of the existing pavement) on U.S. Highway 385 from 1/2-mile north of Silver City Road to the Pennington-Lawrence County line is expected to begin in mid-August.

[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.



U.S. HIGHWAY 385 CONSTRUCTION

PENNINGTON-LAWRENCE COUNTY LINE TO SHERIDAN LAKE

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



printable copy





Custer Senior Center

August Activities

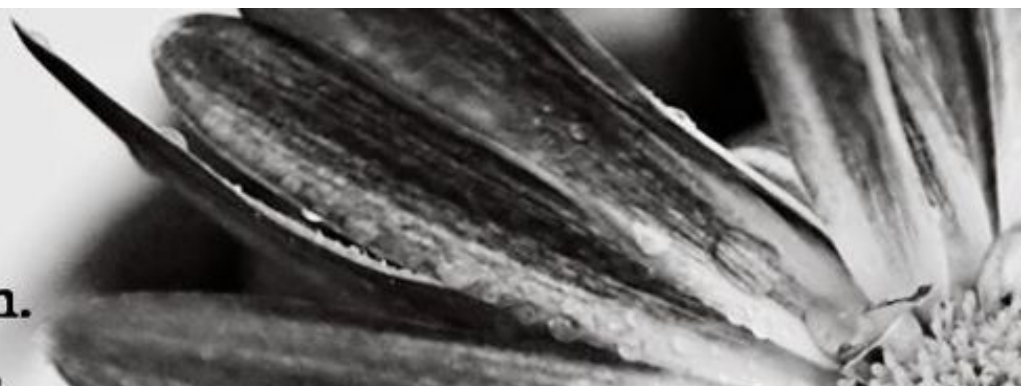


To educate every student
to his or her potential

[Click here to Check out the Custer School District Information](#)

WEEKLY INSPIRATION

Don't confuse
your path with
your destination.
Just because it's



Just because it's
stormy now
doesn't mean you
aren't headed for
sunshine.

-unknown

♥ bealeadinglady.com

HELP WANTED

Join the team!

WE'RE



HIRING

Seasonal
to
October

Wind Cave

Jewel Cave

Pactola Reservoir



605-745-7020

mrymer@blackhillsparks.org



[BLACKHILLSPARKS.ORG/EMPLOYMENT](https://blackhillsparks.org/employment)

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

Our Address:

615 Washington Street
Custer, SD 57730

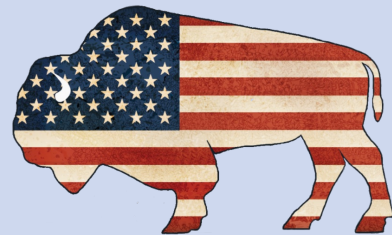
Phone Numbers:

605-673-2244
800-992-9818

dmurray@custersd.com / custersd.com

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