CUSTER
Chamber of Commerce

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

Turning Your Passion into Profit: A Short Guide to Transforming Your Hobby into a Business

Whether it's part of a work/life balance personal initiative, an idea to follow your bliss, or you simply

want to change things in your life, if you have a hobby you want to turn into a business, we have some advice for you. It can be a huge leap of faith moving from a steady paycheck to relying on others to buy from you. But it can be done successfully if you do your homework first.

Going into business for yourself has the potential for personal and financial fulfillment. But it comes at great risk. For risk-averse people, this is the first challenge in going from hobby to business. As writer, speaker, and consultant Tim Ferriss wrote in his book The 4-hour Workweek, “People will choose unhappiness over uncertainty.” If you want to turn your hobby into a business, you’ll want to minimize the uncertainty. And that comes through planning.

Know the Facts About Opening a Business

There are many ways to go from hobby to business. You might sell items or perform services part-time while you continue to work for someone else. Some entrepreneurs put together a business plan and seek funding. But one of the *most common ways* to fund a new business is to use personal savings. Before you burn bridges with your current employer or risk your savings, create a plan to turn your hobby into a full-time business.

Step 1: Assess Your Hobby's Business Potential

Evaluate the market demand for your hobby-related products or services. Sure, what you make is really cool but is there a demand for it? If there isn’t, and you still want to proceed, you will need to educate your audience on the importance of your product or service.

Ideally, you will begin selling in your spare time at makers’ markets, festivals, events, and online. This should give you some insights into what works and what doesn’t before you officially launch as an “all or nothing” business. A trial like this helps with research and development for your business, marketing, and sales plans, which we’ll address in a little bit.

Consider the competition and identify your unique selling proposition (USP). What makes you different —and don’t say *good customer service*. That’s an expectation for your customers, not a USP.

Consider the time commitment, skills, and resources required to turn your hobby into a business and discuss them with the people who would be impacted such as your spouse. Coordinate things like childcare before it’s needed. Working for yourself is not a “cocktails at the pool” lifestyle. At least not initially. Working for someone else is a lot easier. As novelist and comic artist Oliver Marcus Malloy wrote, “Being self-employed means you work 12 hours a day for yourself, so you don’t have to work 8 hours a day for someone else.”

Step 2: Develop a Business Plan

Define your business goals and target audience. Who are you selling to? Who is your ideal audience? And don’t say -- *everyone*. Some people need your offering more than others. Find those people and get in front of them.

Choose a suitable business structure (sole proprietorship, LLC, etc.). While you don’t have to incorporate before your first sale, you will want to do so in the first year. Consult a tax specialist to understand what form of business will work best for you. Depending on your industry and offerings, you may want to consider business insurance and liability.

Outline your marketing and sales strategy. Now that you’ve decided who you’re going to sell to, figure out how you will do it and how you will get eyes on your product or service. Will you sell at public events like festivals or online running products out of your garage? There are many cost-effective solutions out there but having a strategy will help you from feeling like you need to chase every shiny object or opportunity that presents itself. Establishing business goals and a strategic plan will also give you a road map to direct you. A plan helps you decide what is worth your time and what isn’t in that crucial first year.

direct you. A plan helps you decide what is worth your time and what isn't in that crucial first year.

In line with your strategic plan/goals, create financial projections, including costs, pricing, and potential profit margins. Hobby businesses are often a labor of love, but if you enjoy eating and shelter, you need to understand if you're succeeding or not. Plans give you that objective measure. There are many businesses that while they bring in money, still fail. That's often because they don't have a solid plan and end up growing too quickly where outlay overcomes earnings.

Step 3: Legitimize Your Business

Register your business with the appropriate government agencies. Obtain necessary licenses and permits. Check to understand your state and local obligations as well as federal.

Set up a dedicated business bank account. This will help keep your business expenses and earnings separate from other sources. Consider securing a business credit card or using a personal one for business-only expenses. Again, consult with a tax professional so you understand what you can write off for your business and so you keep accurate records and receipts.

Step 4: Build Your Brand and Market Your Business

Craft a compelling brand identity that resonates with your target audience. Utilize online platforms like social media and e-commerce websites to reach customers. You can begin doing these things for free (outside of the cost of your time).

Explore offline marketing options like local events and networking opportunities. The chamber has a wealth of information and connections. As the Voice of Business, they can help make the right introductions for you and lend your business legitimacy. It's sometimes difficult to get people to take a chance on you. Chamber membership tells them you are a legitimate business with a vested interest in the community, not a hobby that may close shop tomorrow.

Step 5: Manage and Grow Your Business

Most people assume that the first year of business is the most perilous. That isn't the case. Data from the Bureau of Labor Statistics indicates that while nearly 20% of new businesses fail within the first two years of opening, the riskiest time comes later. 45% of businesses close during the first five years, and 65% during the first 10 years. Only 25% of new businesses make it to 15 years or more.

While no business is a sure thing, if you implement efficient processes for production, inventory management, and customer service, you're on your way to managing smart growth. Also, track your business performance through data analysis and adjust your strategies accordingly.

Regardless of how you initially funded your venture, consider seeking funding and exploring expansion opportunities. Your local chamber is a great source to find out about these and educate yourself on what's available.

If you're one of the estimated 42% of Americans who want to own a business, know that you're in good company. Business ownership is one of the most fulfilling and challenging things you'll do. It requires passion and perseverance and is anything but glamorous. However, if you're like most of us, you'll find that there's nothing like it. It's addictive. Just don't be surprised if you realize you can never work for anyone else again.

Christina Metcalf is a writer/ghostwriter who believes in the power of story. She works with small businesses, chambers of commerce, and business professionals who want to make an impression and grow a loyal customer/member base. She loves road trips and hates exclamation points. The only thing she misses about working in the corporate world is tech support.

Instagram: @christinametcalfauthor
Medium: @christinametcalf
Facebook: @tellyourstorygetemtalking
LinkedIn: @christinagsmith

Dawn Murray
Executive Director

IMPORTANT ANNOUNCEMENTS

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CUSTER
Chamber of Commerce

2024 Membership Referal Program

The Custer Chamber of Commerce has announced a new referral rewards program aimed at continuing to strengthen the organization.

The Referral Rewards program aims to reward members who play an active role in helping the Chamber grow its membership, understanding the importance in contributing to the greater Custer area and enhancing member businesses.

For every new Chamber member that a member organization refers, they will receive $20 in Custer Cash. Upon referring 5 new Members, the Referring Member will receive $250 in Custer cash or their membership FREE for one (1) year.

The new member must put the referring organization on their application, and must complete their membership obligations, including paying their membership dues in full.

2024
Board Of Directors

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

Amanda Allcock
Carrie Moore
Corey Virtue
Eric Butler
John Stahl
Miranda Boggs

Julie Jenniges - City Liaison
Mark Naugle - School Liaison
Lydia Austin - CSP Liaison
Jessica Noteboom - BID Board Liaison

ATTENTION PLEASE!

NEW CENTURY, NEW LOGO!

BIG NEWS BIG NEWS

GOLD Discovery Days Custer, South Dakota

WE ARE ACCEPTING NEW LOGO IDEAS FOR THE 2024 GOLD DISCOVERY DAYS!

SUBMIT YOUR DESIGNS BY MAY 1, 2024

Exciting news folks!!! This year, we are revamping the Gold Discovery Days logo and want your help! We will be accepting designs thru email, bytes@custersd.com, or by dropping it off to the Custer Chamber of Commerce by May 1st. When you start your design, keep in mind it should include a 3 -4 color scheme and it can be hand drawn or done digitally. We look forward to all the wonderful ideas that will be flooding in!

This new logo will be used on all marketing material including the 2024 Gold Discovery Days event shirt.

All submitted logos become the property of the Gold Discovery Days committee and the Custer Chamber.

2/22/24

Chamber Members:

We have been approached via BH&B by Dan Bilka, coordinator for the Greater Northwest Passenger Rail Coalition, to write a letter of support for an investment in rail transportation infrastructure. As this is something that could impact all of us, I am passing along the information to you as well. He has asked that interested parties send letters of support to Senator Thune, Senator Rounds, and Representative Johnson, encouraging them to get on-board with passenger rail and help ensure that it is a national priority moving forward.

Comments to the Federal Railroad Administration regarding the Amtrak Daily Long-Distance Service Study can be submitted at *https://fralongdistancerailstudy.org/comments/* and are requested by March 8.

Attached are examples and below is additional information which was provided, including a link to Letters and Resolutions of support/interest" page: *https://allaboardnw.org/our-work/resolutions-and-letters-of-support/*

If you have questions you would like to address with Mr. Bilka, you can reach him at *dan@allaboardnw.org*.

Sample Letter

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

MARK YOUR CALENDAR

March 21

Chamber Mixer

5pm-7pm

Garland Goff Law Office

April 11

Spring Fling

5pm-8pm

The Custer Beacon

April 18

Chamber Mixer

5pm-7pm

WEEKLY HUMOR

CHAMBER HAPPENINGS

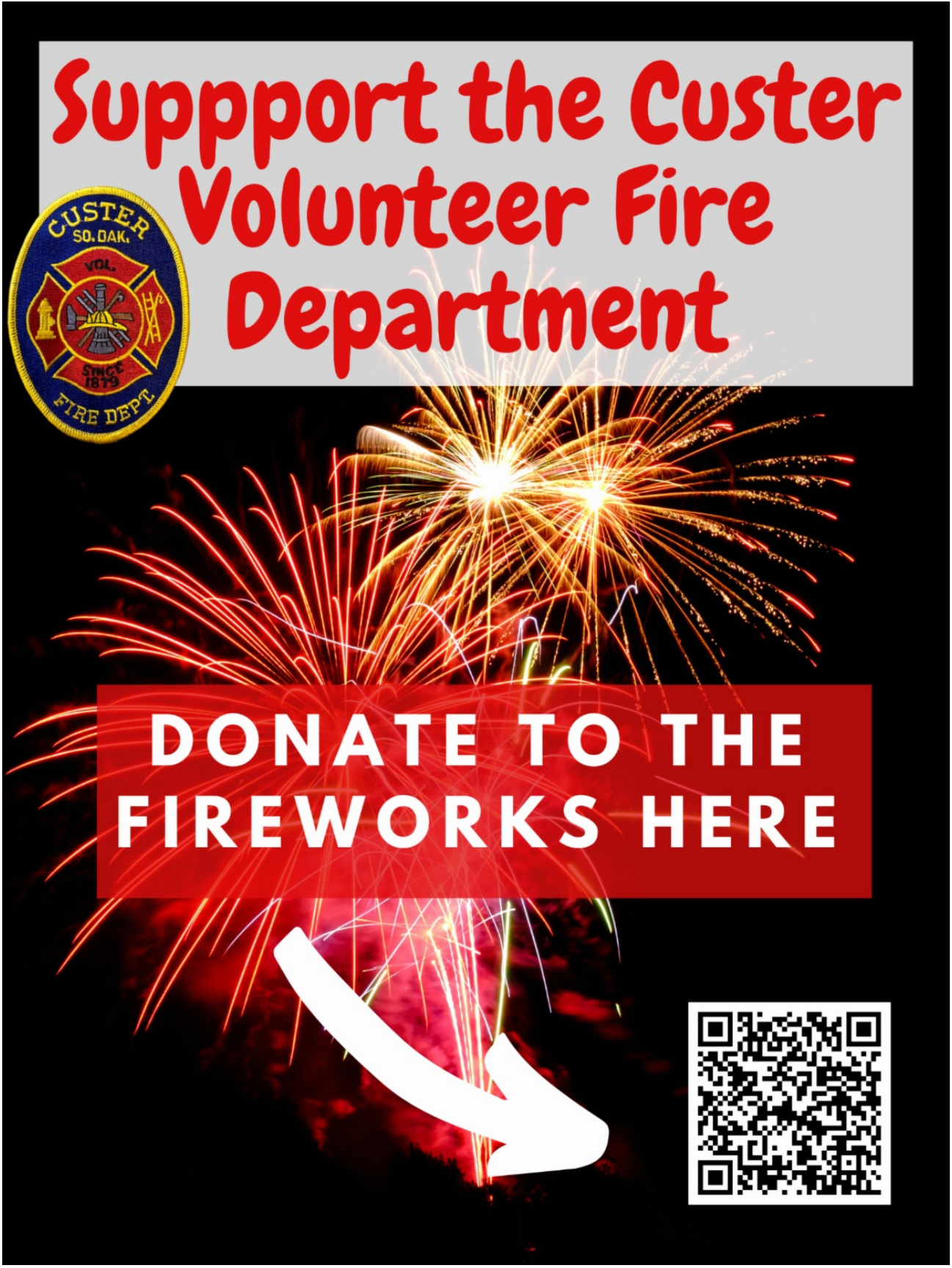
The Custer Volunteer Fire Department has been providing excellent fireworks to our community for over 70 years!!!

This approximately 30-minute fireworks display, provided by the Custer Volunteer Fire Department, at no charge to spectators, costs around $25,000 each year and is funded strictly by donations.

Many visitors to the Black Hills attend our fireworks display every year. We hear that our fireworks rival many much larger city's displays. We are so grateful that our little volunteer fire department continues to provide this service for us and hope that you, like us, see the value in supporting them.

Please consider placing this poster and a donation bucket in your business this upcoming season.

Please contact the Chamber if you have any questions and/or to participate



Printable Poster

FREE MEMBERSHIP SOCIAL MEDIA CLASS

THURSDAY
14 MARCH

TIME
1:00 PM

CRAZY HORSE MONUMENT

EVERGREEN MEDIA
&
THE CUSTER CHAMBER

CUSTER
Chamber of Commerce

Get pre-registered

CUSTER
Chamber of Commerce

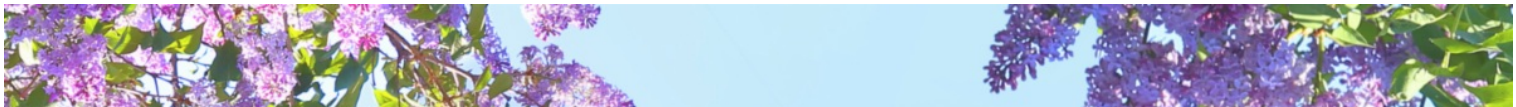
Chamber Mixer

Hosted By:

Garland Lee Goff
ATTORNEY AT LAW
605·673·3529

March 21st from 5 p.m. - 7 p.m.
Held At the Garland Lee Goff Attorney at Law
220 N 5th St, Custer, SD 57730

MIXERS ARE A GREAT WAY TO MEET, MIX, AND MINGLE
PLEASE BRING A FRIEND AND ENJOY SOME REFRESHMENTS



Spring Fling

Sponsors Needed

Sponsoring this event is an opportunity to showcase your business and show your community support. Your sponsorship will be announced during the banquet and printed on all published materials.

Gold Sponsor~ $300	includes 3 free meals
Silver Sponsor~ $200	includes 2 free meals
Bronze Sponsor~ $100	includes 1 free meal

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

2024 Chamber's Annual Spring Fling

Thursday, April 11
at Custer Beacon

5:00pm Social Hour
6:00pm Heavy Hors D'oevres
$35 per person

Please RSVP to Dawn by April 2nd
dmurray@custersd.com or 673-2244

MEMBER SPOTLIGHT

CUSTER
Chamber of Commerce

WELCOME

NEW MEMBERS!

Carr Electric Co, LLC
Vibin' Vocals Karaoke Entertainment
Aspen Federal Credit Union
Sturgis Mustang Rally
Early Learner Custer
Sow Native/Wild Ones
Custer Care and Rehabilitation Center
Game On! LLC
Red Sands Ridge
Black Hills Realty
Custer Piecemakers Quilt Guild
All Net Connections
Grooming by Brenna
Gold Valley Camp
Black Hills Candles
Black Hills Family Vacations
Hillcrest HVAC and Appliance Pros
Reed's Chimney Sweeping, Handyman & Caretaking
Jubilee J Photography
Willow Creek Child Care
Broken Boot Dispensary
Growing Roots, Inc
Homestead Carpet Care
Lenny Merriam CPA, CFE, PLLC

WEEKLY MEMBER SPOTLIGHT

2024 Custer Chamber Member Spotlight

Early Learner Custer

Email: earlylearnercuster@gmail.com

We would like to spotlight *Early Learner Custer* this week. Early Learner Custer aims to improve families' access to quality early learning experiences and environments for early learners in Custer County. We believe all children deserve access to high-quality early learning experiences and environments to create a solid foundation for lifelong success. Early Learner Custer is a combined community initiative of the City of Custer, Monument Health, the Custer Ministerial Association, Custer Area Economic Development, and the Custer School District. They are charged with keeping momentum going, reaching specific goals for our community, and tracking progress with Early Learner SD. Community members are encouraged to become involved in our initiative!

AREA EVENTS

Firecracker Tuesday

Come play bingo to raise money for Custer Volunteer Fire Department's 4th of July fireworks show!

6 pm - 10 pm Every Tuesday

Drink specials

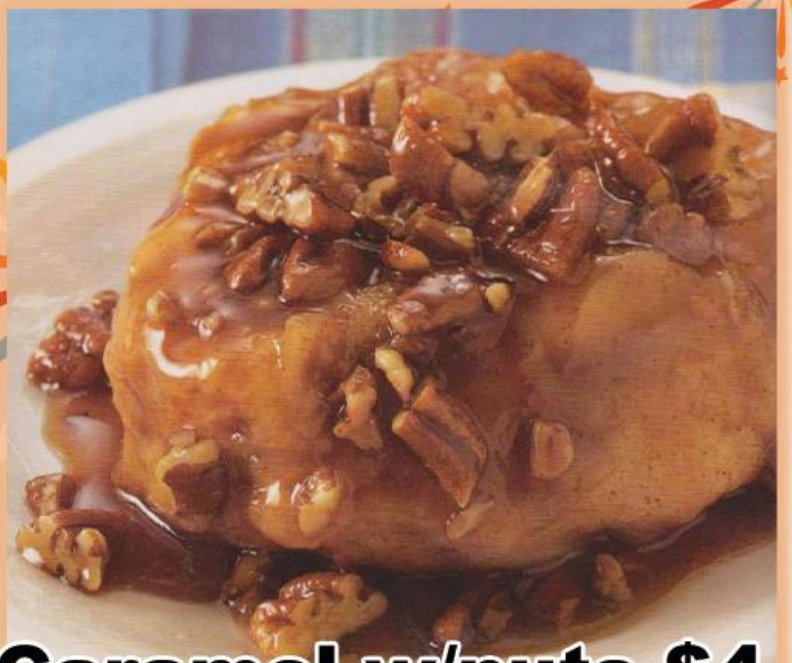
Asian Food

Prizes

Gold Pan Saloon

Sponsored by Custer Chamber of Commerce

Cinnamon Rolls are back at the Custer Senior Center!!!!!!



Caramel w/nuts $4
or w/o nuts $3.50
Frosted & Plain $2.50

Every Friday

March 1st, 8th, 15th, 22nd & 29th

538 Mt. Rushmore Rd., Custer

9AM UNTIL THEY'RE GONE!

Advance Orders by Wednesday at Noon are Recommended.

Call 605-673-2708

Southern Hills Tactical LLC

GUNS

OPTICS • AMMO • ACCESSORIES

South Dakota Enhanced Conceal Carry Class

This is a One day Class

Saturday Mar. 9th 2024 9:00am to 4:30pm

The Enhanced Permit allows you 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 can e-mail the instructor at **echo.ft.sd@gmail.com**, call the shop at 605-673-3222 or e mail us at southernhillstactical@gwtc.net

Southern Hills Family Resource Fair

Saturday, March 9th

10 am - 2 pm

Custer Elementary School

Custer Elementary School

Family Resources!

Free Food!

Family Fun!

Prizes!

The Southern Hills Family resource fair is guaranteed fun for families and includes awesome activities for kids 0 to 8, free food, giveaways, and prizes. Join us to learn about the Southern Hills organizations, businesses, and activities that support young children and their families!

EARLY LEARNER Custer

JOIN US AS WE CELEBRATE YOUTH CHOOSING THE ARTS OVER ALCOHOL, TOBACCO, AND OTHER DRUGS BY ATTENDING THE

LIFEWAYS

LIFEWAYS

10TH ANNUAL EVENT:

A M P

A NIGHT OF YOUTH ART, MUSIC, & PERFORMANCE

A DUAL ART SHOWCASE:
MARCH 9, 2024
THE DAHL ARTS CENTER
713 7TH ST, RAPID CITY

5:15PM: DOORS OPEN TO VIEW THE AMP VISUAL ART ON DISPLAY AND FIND A SEAT FOR THE PERFORMANCE EVENT AT
6:00PM: AMP PERFORMANCE EVENT (EVENT:6PM-8PM)

NOW ACCEPTING YOUTH PERFORMANCE APPLICATIONS UNTIL FEBRUARY 16: YOUTH PERFORMERS CHOOSE ANOTHER YOUTH'S VISUAL ART PIECE THAT INSPIRES THEIR PERFORMANCE. YOUTH WHO WOULD LIKE TO PERFORM MUST COMPLETE AN APPLICATION BY FEBRUARY 16. PLEASE SEE THE LIFEWAYS COUNSELOR AT YOUR SCHOOL FOR PERFORMANCE APPLICATION AND INFORMATION OR VISIT WWW.LIFEWAYS.US OR CALL 605-716-6555.

YOUTH WHOSE VISUAL ART IS ON DISPLAY CAN TAKE THEIR ARTWORK HOME WITH THEM AFTER THE PERFORMANCE

RPM & ASSOCIATES, INC. | Dark Canyon coffee company | United Way of the Black Hills | RAPID CITY AREA SCHOOLS

LIFEWAYS IS A UNITED WAY PARTNER AGENCY

Arts

Arts Midwest

CHAUTAUQUA
Craftsmen & Artisans of the Black Hills

ARTS MIDWEST WORLD FEST

LADAMA

The public is invited to attend a FREE open concert

PRESENTED BY CHAUTAUQUA CRAFTSMEN & ARTISANS OF THE BLACK HILLS

Hot Springs Mueller Civic Center, Sunday, March 10, 2 PM

LADAMA is scheduled to present a full week of assemblies and workshops for multiple public and private Hot Springs and Custer area schools and the Michael J. Fitzmaurice State Veteran's Home the week of March 4-10.

LADAMA is an ensemble of female musicians from across the Americas who write and arrange original music influenced by music from their respective countries, Colombia, Brazil, and Venezuela, to create a unique sound with universal appeal. Learn more at artsmidwest.org/worldfest.

NATIONAL ENDOWMENT for the ARTS arts.gov

A program of Arts Midwest, the 2024-2025 World Fest artist tours are generously supported by the National Endowment for the Arts. Arts Midwest is also generously supported by the Illinois Arts Council Agency, Indiana Arts Commission, Iowa Arts Council, Michigan Arts and Culture Council, Minnesota State Arts Board, North Dakota Council on the Arts, Ohio Arts Council, South Dakota Arts Council, Wisconsin Arts Board, 3M, and individual donors and partners.

ONLY $10.00

THURSDAY MARCH 14TH

SOUP & PIE

11AM – 1PM

Custer Senior Center
538 Mt. Rushmore Rd.

Refreshments

Homemade Bread

Featuring:

Traditional Portuguese

Turkey Noodle & Chili

Everyone Welcome!

JUNIOR KINDERGARTEN and KINDERGARTEN ROUNDUP AND REGISTRATION

Wednesday & Thursday, March 20 & 21, 2024
Children from the Custer Area

Roundup will be held at the
Custer Elementary School
1415 Wildcat Lane

Call (605)673-4483

WHO: Children turning 5 on or before Sept. 1, 2024 come at their chosen appointment time. Parents attend also.

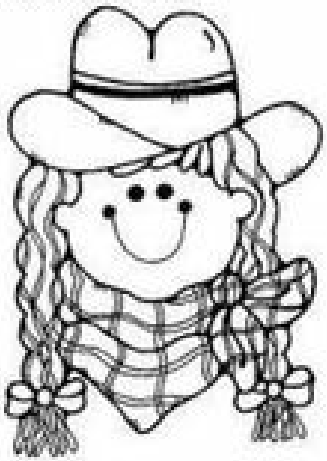
WHAT: A time to learn about child development and receive an evaluation of your child's strengths and needs. A nurse will be available to check vision and hearing. Please bring your child's updated immunization record and a certified birth certificate.

WHEN: March 20 & 21, 2024. Appointments are necessary. Please allow at least an hour.

WHERE: Custer Elementary School. Please enter the front of the school facing the high school.

WHY: To become acquainted with school staff; to learn what school programs are available, to have your child participate in a developmental "check-up"; to confer with a kindergarten teacher; and to pre-register for junior kindergarten or kindergarten.

- If you have questions or wish to make an appointment, call (605) 673-4483
- Please pass the word to friends and co-workers with young children.
- Attendance is important for children eligible to enter Junior Kindergarten and Kindergarten in the Fall of 2024.



Thank you for your interest and support!

SDDEMS

Custer County Democratic Party

MONTHLY MEETING

3rd Thursday of the Month

Thursday, March 21st - 6:00 PM

Custer County Library - Pine Room

447 Crook St

Support Democracy
It's An Election Year!

Email: ccsddp21info@gmail.com

PO Box 5065 Custer, SD 57730

Facebook:

@custercountydemocratsofsouthdakota

The Great Custer

Easter Egg Hunt

Organized by: Custer State Farm

Friday, March 22nd
4PM-6PM

Join Custer State Farm starting at 4PM at their office at 302 Mt. Rushmore Road. Children will receive an Easter Basket (Compliments of Custer State Farm) and a map to local businesses participating in the Great Easter Egg Hunt.

Then follow the map around town and visit local businesses to get your child's basket filled with Easter goodies!

3/7/24

South Dakota Enhanced Conceal Carry Class

This is a One day Class

Saturday Mar. 23rd 2024 9:00am to 4:30pm

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

Class size is limited so register early.

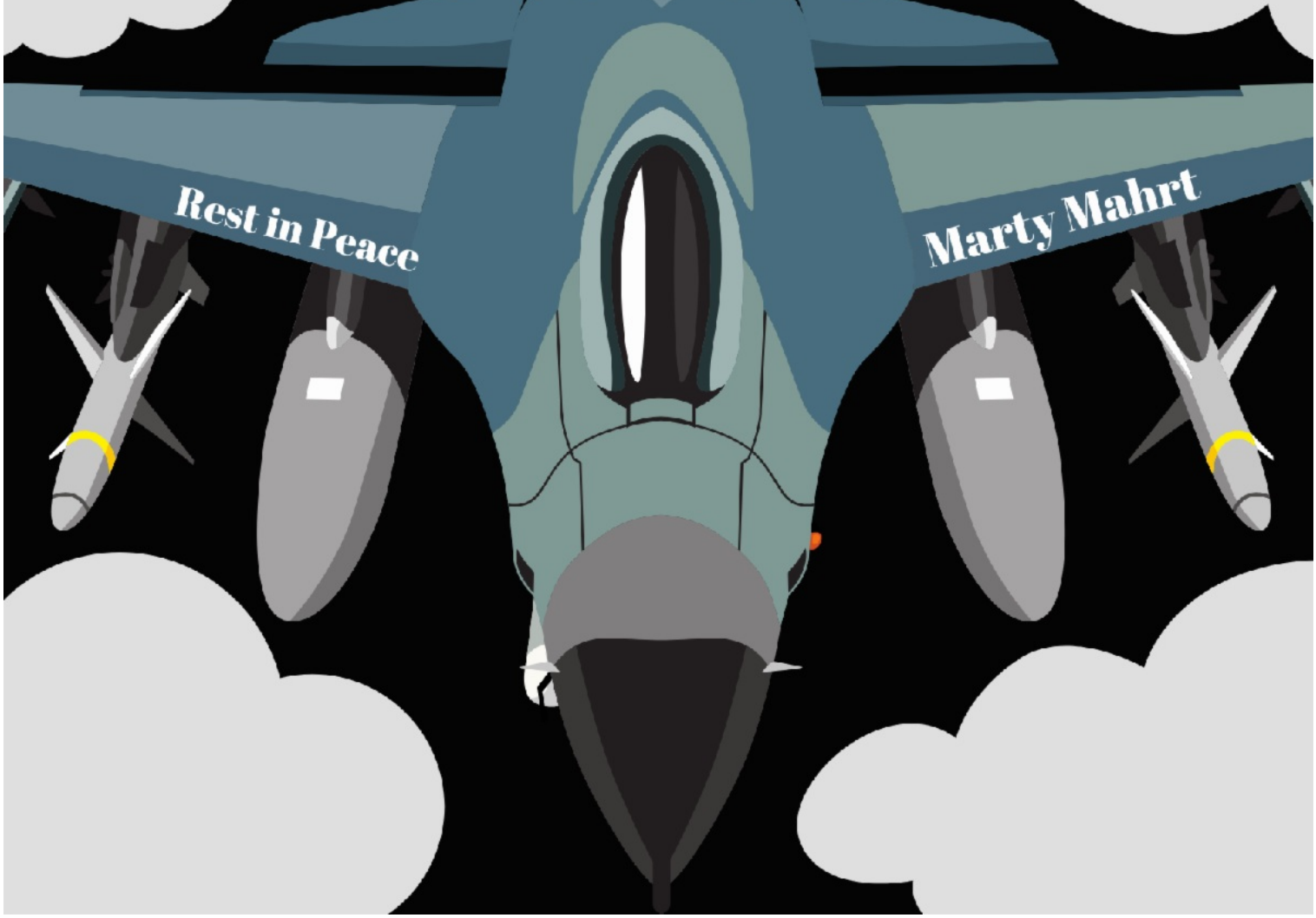
For additional information or to register for the class you may contact the instructor at **www.sodakian.com**, contact us at 605-673-3222 or by e-mail at

southernhillstactical@gwtc.net

Marty Mahrt

Tune In.....

Colonel Marty Mahrt, a Custer hometown hero who passed away in January, was profiled in February, 2021 on PBS TV. The program, which aired nationwide in 2021, will be rebroadcasted on SDPB Thursday, March 28 at 7:30 P.M. MT and again on Sunday, March 31 at 12:30 P.M. MT. Marty's 88th combat mission was in his F-105 over Vietnam.



3/7/24

the YMCA

FOR YOUTH DEVELOPMENT®
FOR HEALTHY LIVING
FOR SOCIAL RESPONSIBILITY

AN EGG-CITING EASTER EGG-STRAVAGANZA

CUSTER YMCA
THE CUSTER VFW AUXILIARY
BEGGING BURRO MEXICAN BISTRO
SOUTHERN HILLS TITLE COMPANY
MT. RUSHMORE BREWING COMPANY

Hop on over to Harbach Park across from the Custer Chamber of Commerce. Bring your baskets and be ready to collect eggs stuffed with special treats courtesy of the Custer VFW Auxiliary, Begging Burro Mexican Bistro, Southern Hills Title Company & Mt. Rushmore Brewing Company. Have your camera ready & snap a photo with the Easter Bunny! This event is free for all children ages 0 to 8 years old. No registration is required.

DATE: SATURDAY, MARCH 30, 2024
TIME: 9:00 AM
FEE: FREE
AGES: INFANT – 3RD GRADE
LOCATION: HARBACH PARK
(Across from The Custer Chamber of Commerce)
Washington Street
Mickelson Trail
Custer, SD 57730
605.673.5134
http://www.rcymca.org

111237 04/12

3/7/24

POOL Tournament

AND

CHILI COOK-OFF

APRIL

6

1 PM

VFW 721 MT RUSHMORE RD

CUSTER, SD

CONTACT:

COREY VIRTUE 605-517-0193

ENTRY FEE

$25

Kaiyah McDonnell 605-391-9293

KM4304@k12.sd.us

SGT COLTON LEVI DERR FOUNDATION

PROCEEDS TO BENEFIT THE SGT. COLTON LEVI DERR FOUNDATION

ANNOUNCEMENTS

CUSTER MILE HIGH GARDEN CLUB

To Whom it may concern; January 2024

The Custer Mile High Garden Club annual scholarship program has two scholarships available for 2024 in the amount of $1,000.00 each. Our Mission is to promote community and home beautification while improving the environment and conserving native plants.

Applicant must be a current Custer County or Fall River County resident pursuing post-secondary studies. Scholarship applicants must be currently enrolled in a recognized horticulture, agriculture, botany, or ecology program in such as college, technical school, or trade school. The recipient must provide all documentation requested in the application. The scholarship is to be used within one calendar year of the scholarship selection.

Direct any questions or request electronic forms from:
Brenda Anderson
25743 Carroll Creek Road
Custer, SD 57730
Cell #: (605) 440-0316
busyewefarm@gmail.com

2024 Scholarship applications must be postmarked by Monday, April 22, 2024. Application postmarked after April 22, 2024 will be evaluated on an individual basis.

Scholarship recipients will be notified by May 8, 2024.

Respectfully,
Custer Mile High Garden Club, Scholarship Committee
Jenny Behlings
Brenda Anderson
Jill Schanzenbach
Peggy Williams

Custer County Courthouse Art Gallery

420 Mount Rushmore Road, second floor

Through March 29, 2024

Showcasing the artwork of Tracy Harrison.

Endorsed by Custer Area Arts Council.

CUSTER AREA

"Tasunke Witco"

"I was inspired to create a piece inspired by the Warrior Crazy Horse (Tasunke Witco).
He only wore one feather and carried an earstone behind his ear. His Horse was as fierce a warrior as he.
Crazy Horse carried sacred medicines on himself, including a heart stone.
The center stone of the piece represents the heart stone.
It is from the mountain carving itself. I wanted to honor his spirit."

CUSTER'S LAST STOP LOVES LOCALS

We appreciate your support and want to offer some of our

fresh handmade meals at great deals! Every day we will have a special discounted price on select menu items!

Monday – Hot Dog Day

50 % off any of our delicious gourmet grilled Hot Dogs,

including our quarter pound Bison Dogs

Ten Dollar Tuesday

Founding Fathers Pepperoni Pizza for only $9.99

Wagyu Wednesday

Wonderfully Tasty Wagyu Beef Burger $10.99

Gold Nugget Thursday

Custer's Gold Nuggets for only $6.99

Fluffy Cow Friday

Try our new Fluffy Cow Pizza $11.99

Slider Days

Saturday - Bison Sliders for only $9.99

Sunday - Gold Chicken Sliders for only $7.99

Offers expire April 30th stop in today before they are gone!

Thank you so much for your continued support!

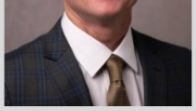
429 MT RUSHMORE RD

(605)673-2621

3/7/24

NEW HAND BLOWN GLASS
HUMMINGBIRD FEEDERS
507 MT. RUSHMORE RD
CUSTER, SD

BLACK HILLS



Kevin Kennedy
Broker Associate

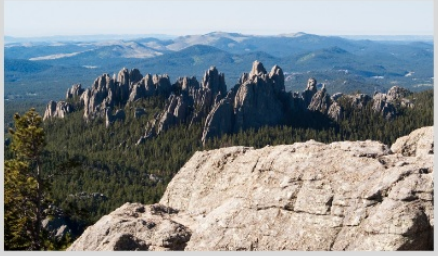
- **Residential**
- **Commercial**
- **Lots/Acerage**
- **Farm/Ranch**

REALTY

Top closing agent for January!

605-431-5094

email - kevinkennedy605@gmail.com
website - kevin.bhsdrealty.com



EQUAL HOUSING OPPORTUNITY

Market Trends for Custer, South Dakota

Single Family Residence

January 2024

Market Type

Seller's Market | Balanced Market | Buyer's Market

Key Details

Months of Inventory	List to Sold Price %	Median Days in RPR	Median Sold Price
5.19	98.4%	40	$364,444
↑ 7.23% Month Over Month	↑ 6% Month Over Month	↑ 37.93% Month Over Month	↓ 29.34% Month Over Month

Courtesy of Kevin Kennedy, SD Lic# 20562

Source: Realtors Property Resource® analysis based on Listings

Homestead Carpet Care

Commercial Deals

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Set up Annual Cleanings 20% off

Set up Bi-annual Cleanings 30% off

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AUTHORIZED AFFILIATE

What do you have planned for Dinner Tonight?

Picture: Farmer Girl (Farm to Fork Sweet Heart Dinner) & Two Cows Creamery & Bistro – Featuring Busy Ewe Farm & Fibers Rib Chops

Check out the meat bundles available at Busy Ewe Farm & Fibers!

•Variety Lamb Cut Bundle
- Leg Center Cut Roast
- chops
- shanks
- ground
- Chislic (Stewmeat)
- Stew Bones
- Receipies & spices

12+#/$99.00

• Ground Lamb Bundle
- 5 - 1# packages
- Recipes
- Spices

5#/$50.00

• Stew Lamb Bundle
- 2 - 1# Chislic
- 3 - 1# Ground Lamb
- Recipes
- Spices

5#/$50.00

Individual Lamb Cuts Available!

- Leg Center Roasts
- Neck Roasts
- Loin Chops
- Spare Ribs

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Shoulder Blade Chops
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2/22/24

PRESS RELEASES

SOUTH DAKOTA HALL OF FAME

Champions *for* Excellence

South Dakota Hall of Fame Seeks Acts of Excellence Recommendations for 2024

For Immediate Release

Every day, South Dakotans do extraordinary things. The South Dakota Hall of Fame's Acts of Excellence (AOE) program, sponsored by Sanford Health, recognizes the individuals and organizations who are building a culture of excellence in South Dakota.

The South Dakota Hall of Fame is proud to announce that the Acts of Excellence Program is now accepting recommendations for this year's Acts of Excellence awards through March 31st, 2024. The public's input is valuable to the organization in identifying excellence across the state. We encourage South Dakotans to look for the excellence taking place in their communities and submit a recommendation today.

Awardees will be announced later this spring, with a special ceremony to honor the awardees taking place on Saturday, June 1, 2024, at the Visitor and Education Center in Chamberlain, South Dakota. This event will be a celebration of their achievements and contributions. Furthermore, the Visitor and Education Center will feature a year-long display showcasing the awardees, offering a tribute to their excellence and impact on their communities.

To learn more about The Acts of Excellence program, as well as the recommendation process, individuals can visit the South Dakota Hall of Fame's website at: *https://www.sdhalloffame.org/acts-of-excellence*

FOR MORE INFORMATION:
Laurie Becvar, Ed.D., M.A.
CEO, South Dakota Hall of Fame
lbecvar@sdhalloffame.org
605-234-4216

ABOUT THE SOUTH DAKOTA HALL OF FAME
The South Dakota of Fame is a 501c3 nonprofit organization designed to Honor, Inspire, and Educate. The Hall's mission is to ***Champion a Culture of Excellence*** and the public charity is built upon the recognition, celebration, and preservation of the stories of South Dakotans instrumental in establishing that culture. **More on the South Dakota Hall of Fame *here.***

3/7/24

NEWS FROM SD DOT

Project Update

Friday, March 1, 2024

Phase 1 Traffic Impacts Begin March 12, 2024

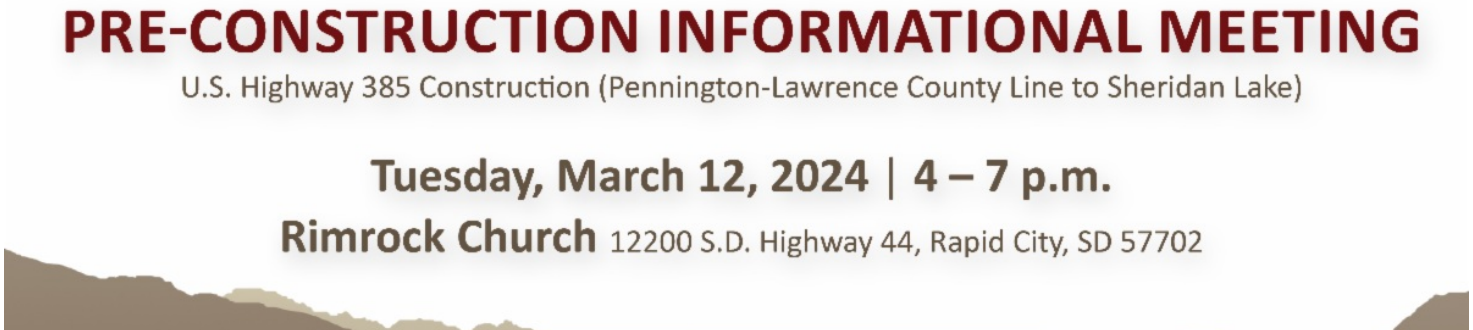
Phase 1 construction will begin on March 12, 2024 and will continue through winter of 2025. Phase 1 include a number of traffic impacts, including shoofly detours (detours on gravel roads built parallel to the existing roadway), diversions (smaller-scale shoofly detours) complete closures from S.D. Highway 44 to the northern end of Pactola Dam, rock blasting with temporary closures, and pilot cars with wait times.

Users of the roadway can expect delays of 20 minutes during construction in areas that remain open to traffic and up to 1-2 hours during rock blasting. To avoid unknown wait times, consider using the posted detour of S.D. Highway 44 and U.S. Highway 16.

Visit the project website for the most updated information, including pictures and videos of construction progress.

View Construction Updates

Pre-Construction Informational Meeting



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 will be used to communicate any major traffic changes. To subscribe, simply text "US385" to605-566-4041. Subscribers can unsubscribe at any time.

3/7/24

NEWS FROM THE STATE

USDA Forest Service
U.S. DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

Public Comments Sought for GAOA Mitchell Dam Project on the Mystic Ranger District

Rapid City, SD, February 29, 2024 — The Black Hills National Forest is proposing a project to address the deferred maintenance of the dam at Mitchell Lake, located on Spring Creek just east of Hill City along Highway 16. The project is called the Great American Outdoors Act Mitchell Dam Project.

The proposal is to either decommission (remove) the dam or repair the dam and remove the built-up silt. The current state of the dam does not meet requirements to protect life and property downstream for a probable maximum flood event where over 56,000 cubic feet of water per second flows at the dam. Significant damage and potential loss of life could result in the event of a dam failure.

If the dam is decommissioned, riparian habitat would be restored, and the stream would be designed to enhance the recreational fishing experience. Through decommissioning, the dam would be removed completely, and thus would no longer pose a threat to downstream populations and infrastructure. The natural Spring Creek river channel is proposed to be restored through the existing reservoir pool area to match the natural channel materials and features prior to creation of the reservoir.

The entire sediment pool would also be revegetated with a native seed mix. The existing floodplain of the channel would be restored with native shrubs, trees, and grasses. Graveled parking areas and walking trails would be considered to provide better access to the restored floodplain and channel for the public.

If the dam is repaired, the overall height would be reduced slightly. Rehabilitation would include removal and reconstruction of the existing auxiliary spillway and outlet works, as both are significantly deteriorated and not capable of routing the design storm events. Sediment removal to restore the original storage capacity of the dam is also proposed. The primary spillway outlet intake, control, and conduit would also be reconstructed. The overall lake size would remain relatively the same.

Nearly two-thirds of the reservoir's capacity has been filled with sediment since construction. The original 1937 drawings for the dam show storage of 53.35 acre-feet at the auxiliary spillway crest, and the most recent bathymetric survey shows only 17.8 acre-feet of storage. To restore the reservoir to its previous capacity, approximately 35 acre-feet of sediment would need to be removed. Onsite disposal is likely not feasible as the reservoir is constricted by steep canyon walls and Highway 16.

The third option is a No-action Alternative: Categorized as a high hazard dam, if left alone, the estimated damages and loss of life are high. The costs of no action range up to $14.9 million with an additional $2 million or more in deferred maintenance and sediment removal costs.

The Mystic Ranger District has a public involvement plan identifying specific public involvement objectives, including collaborative efforts, methods to achieve the objectives, estimated times and dates for any activities and the people organizations to involve. A public meeting is planned for this project on March 13 from 6-8 p.m. at the Community Center in Hill City.

The scoping document is now available for the proposed Great American Outdoors Act (GAOA) Mitchell Dam Project.

The preliminary assessment is to evaluate this proposal as a categorical exclusion (CE), 36 CFR 220.6 (e)(18), categorically excluded from documentation in an Environmental Analysis or Environmental Impact Statement. The scoping document is currently available for a 30-day agency and public review period. Documents relating to this project can be found on the Black Hills National Forest website: *https://www.fs.usda.gov/project/blackhills/?project=65637.*

Forest Service specialists will analyze potential effects on resources such as water, wildlife, cultural resources, recreation, and timber. Required consultation with other federal, state, and tribal entities, such as the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, South Dakota State Historic Preservation Office, and Tribal Historic Preservation Offices, will also occur prior to the decision.

Electronic comments are preferred and must be submitted to the Comment Reviewing Officer online at *https://cara.fs2c.usda.gov/Public/CommentInput?Project=65637*. An automated response should confirm your electronic comment has been received. Comments can also be sent via U.S. mail to Mystic Ranger District Office, Attn:

electronic comment has been received. Comments can also be sent via U.S. mail to Mystic Ranger District Office, Attn: GAOA Mitchell Dam Project, 8221 S. Mount Rushmore Rd., Rapid City, SD, 57702 or by fax at 605-343-7134. While the Forest welcomes comments on this proposal at any time, it would be most helpful if the comments are received by March 29, 2024. It is the responsibility of the sender to ensure timely receipt of any comments submitted. Comments submitted, including names and addresses of commenters, are public information.

For additional information, or if there are questions on this proposed project, please contact Brittany Coupe, Civil Engineer, at (605) 642-4622 or Jim Gubbels at the Mystic Ranger District office in Rapid City, SD, at (605) 343-1567, Monday through Friday between 8:00 a.m. and 4:30 p.m., mountain daylight time.

For more information on the Black Hills National Forest,

visit: *www.fs.usda.gov/blackhills*

or follow Facebook: *https://www.facebook.com/blackhillsnf*

and/or Twitter: *https://twitter.com/BlackHillsNF*

3/7/24

Beretta and Johnson Gulch Roads to be Temporarily Closed for Safety

Rapid City, S.D., March 1, 2024

Black Hills National Forest officials will temporarily close Beretta Road (Forest System Road 366.3) and Johnson Gulch Road (Forest System Road 674), west of Rapid City from March 4-7, March 18-21, and April 1-4, 2024, from 7 a.m. - 4 p.m. daily.

These two roads are located approximately 4 miles west of Rockerville, SD or about 4 miles north of Keystone, SD. They are very popular roads used by the public for recreational target shooting on the Forest. The road closures are being put into effect to protect Forest Service employees from shooting activities while they conduct field work, including engineering surveys and timber work in the area.

“We are asking for the public’s cooperation and assistance to avoid this area during these times to ensure the safety of our employees that will be working on critical forest road and timber projects in the area,” said Jim Gubbels, Mystic District Ranger.

The closure order prohibits motor vehicle use on the roads except for:

a. Persons with a special use authorization from the Forest Service specifically exempting them from the order,

b. Any federal, state, or local law enforcement officer or any member of an organized rescue or fire fighting force in the performance of an official duty.

A map of the area and the closure order are posted online at: *https://www.fs.usda.gov/detail/blackhills/notices/?cid=STELPRDB5117120. For more information on the Black Hills National Forest, visit http://www.fs.usda.gov/blackhills.*

3/7/24

Custer Senior Center

March Activities

[Click here to Check out the Custer School District Calendar for upcoming school events!]

WEEKLY INSPIRATION

HELP WANTED

USDA Forest Service
U.S. DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

Black Hills National Forest is Hiring Entry-level Wildland Firefighters

Custer, S.D., March 1, 2024 – The Black Hills National Forest of the USDA Forest Service is hiring entry-level, permanent seasonal wildland firefighters to work on engine, hotshot, helitack, and handcrews across the forest.

Several in-person and one regional virtual event will be hosted to share position and application information beginning in March.

Event Schedule

Black Hills National Forest

- Wednesday, March 6, from 3-6 pm
- Northern Hills District Office
- 2014 N. Main Street, Spearfish, SD 57783

- Thursday, March 7, from 1-5 pm
- Mystic District Office
- 8221 Mount Rushmore Road, Rapid City, SD 57702

- Thursday, March 7, from 3-5 pm
- Custer County Annex Building
- 447 Crook Street, Unit #1, Custer, SD 57730

Virtual Through Microsoft Teams

- Wednesday, March 6, from 3-4 pm MT. Job seekers can join by computer, smartphone, or phone.
- Join on your computer, mobile app: *Click here to join the meeting* .

Meeting ID: 242 157 892 697
Passcode: 68YZrU
Download Teams | *Join on the web*

Join by phone (audio only)
+1 970-812-0909,,208395789#

The Forest Service invites job seekers to meet current wildland firefighters to learn about the agency, its current wildland firefighter job opportunities, employment benefits, and to obtain application assistance.

Job information, including duty locations and application details, is available online on the *National Wildland Firefighting Hiring webpage*. Job seekers can apply for wildland firefighter jobs through *USAJobs.gov* from March 4 through March 15. Applications will be accepted from any U.S. citizen or national at least 18 years of age. Direct Hire Authority will be used to fill these positions, meaning Veterans' Preference and traditional rating and ranking of applicants do not apply. Job seekers do not need to attend an event to apply.

Application and resume preparation tips and guidelines, including step-by-step instructions and on-demand webinars, are available on the *How to Apply webpage*.

The Forest Service is a federal agency under the U.S. Department of Agriculture that manages 193 million acres of land, roughly the size of Texas. The Rocky Mountain Region includes 17 national forests and seven national grasslands in Colorado, Kansas, Nebraska, South Dakota, and Wyoming. The mission of the Forest Service is to sustain the health, diversity, and productivity of the nation's forests and grasslands to meet the needs of present and future generations.

3/7/24

Laughing Water Restaurant at Crazy Horse Memorial® is currently searching for a FULL -TIME YEAR-ROUND LINE COOK.

Prior experience in working kitchen line in a fast paced - small restaurant or food service environment is a must.

Position is full-time, year-round at 35/40 hours per week w/ Evening, Holiday & Weekends required and some overtime.

This is an hourly position with the benefits associated with full-time, year-round employment, which include medical, dental, optical, and AFLAC insurances, Paid Personal Leave, and a retirement plan.

Please contact HR@CrazyHorse.org or call (605) 673-4681 for more information!

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W: www.skogenkitchen.com

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507 Mt Rushmore Rd Custer, SD

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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