

PROGRESS

MAGAZINE

JULY/AUGUST 2019



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**New Soybean
Processing Plant
Set to Open**

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Aberdeen, South Dakota soybean processing plant under construction.



Aberdeen, South Dakota soybean processing plant under construction.



Lance Stoeber
Aberdeen
Plant Operations Manager



Matt Smith
Aberdeen
Merchandising Manager

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Aberdeen, SD 57401
605-626-9005

www.agp.com

2019 ABBY Award Nominations Now Being Accepted!



Gail L. Ochs
President, IOM
Aberdeen Chamber

In just a couple months, the Chamber will be hosting the 25th annual ABBY Awards where we will recognize ten different businesses or organizations within our community and region. We are now accepting nominations in the

following categories:

- The **Agribusiness Award** is presented to a business that has demonstrated exceptional performance in the development and advancement of the agriculture industry in South Dakota through farming, ranching, services, resources and related programs.
- The **Bridge Builder Award** is presented to a business or organization that has demonstrated exceptional performance in collaborating with community educational institutions and agencies to expand their workforce to include under-served segments such as students, individuals with special needs, veterans and minority groups.

- The **Community Involvement - Business Award** is presented to a business that has demonstrated exceptional performance in its support of the community through its involvement and support of programs, events or voluntary groups that serve to enhance the community.
- The **Community Involvement - Non Profit Award** is presented to a non-profit organization that has demonstrated exceptional performance in its mission to serve the community through programs and resources such as arts & culture, sports, education, volunteerism, financial assistance, etc.
- The **Customer Service - Retail Award** is presented to a business that has demonstrated exceptional performance and service in the retail sector.
- The **Customer Service - Service Award** is presented to a business that has demonstrated exceptional performance and service in the service sector.
- The **Health & Wellness Award** is presented to a business or organization that has demonstrated exceptional performance in providing and promoting health and wellness and related programs and services

within their company and/or community.

- The **Manufacturing Award** is presented to a business who has demonstrated exceptional performance and innovation producing and distributing manufactured goods.
- The **Professional Services Award** is presented to a business or organization that has demonstrated exceptional performance providing support services to businesses in our community.

Please take a few moments to nominate a business or organization by contacting us in one of the following ways: Go online at <https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/Abby2019>, call the Chamber at (605) 225-2860 or email your nominations to info@aberdeen-chamber.com. Once you submit your nominations, we'll contact each nominee and have them complete an official award application. Applications are also available on our website at www.aberdeen-chamber.com/abby and are due by August 23, 2019. All ABBY awards winners are selected by a panel of judges from Chambers throughout the United States.

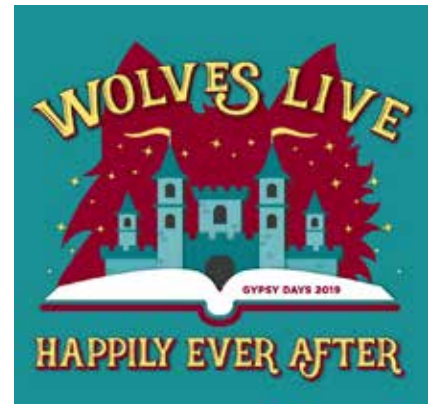
Registration Open for 2019 NSU Gypsy Day Parade

Online registration for the 105th annual Northern State University Gypsy Day Parade is now open. Individuals and groups interested in entering the parade may register via the online form, found by visiting northern.edu, then clicking "Gypsy Days" under "Campus Life." Registration cost is \$25. The parade is scheduled for Saturday, Oct. 12, with a start time of 9 a.m.

This year's parade theme is "Wolves Live Happily Ever After," which will provide participants a wide array of options for float decorations. Participants will create a float depicting their favorite fairytale story or decorating according to the theme as they see fit. A panel of four judges comprised of Northern and community leaders will present awards in the following categories:

- Best Overall Float
- President's Award (best Northern State University entry)
- Mayor's Award (best Aberdeen Area community entry)
- Chamber Award (best Aberdeen Area business entry)
- Northern Pride Award (best representation of theme)
- Northern Spirit Award (best group participation and spirit)
- Thunder's Award (best entry featuring live animals)
- Gypsy Award (best vehicle entry)

The parade lineup will be filled in order of online registrations received. The deadline to enter online is 5 p.m. Sept. 27. Only those individuals or groups that meet the online deadline will receive a block and space assignment. Confirmation letters will



be emailed with lineup information approximately one week prior to the parade.

For information about the parade and registration process, contact the NSU Student Affairs office by calling 605-626-3007 or emailing gypsydays@northern.edu.

Enjoy All Summer Has to Offer in Aberdeen



Dawn Williams
2019 Chamber Board Chair, SD Dept. of Labor & Regulation

After a very long cold winter, we are finally able to enjoy summer in Aberdeen! There are so many activities and events planned throughout the summer, I hope that you are able to make the most of it. Be sure to plan

on participating in your favorite events and take the time to discover something new that the area has to offer. And don't forget our beautiful local parks, campgrounds and lakes. Aberdeen really does have it all and we are so fortunate to live where we do.

The Hub City Hotshots games at Fossum Field provide for a fun, family evening of entertainment with a different theme night planned for each home game. If you have not had a chance to attend a game I would encourage you to take the family to the ballpark!

Aberdeen's Wylie Park and Storybook Land are always open for entertainment and have a summer filled with fun events to help you make some new memories. Our Summer Concert Series on Main Street is an excellent opportunity to enjoy free, high quality music with several concerts scheduled throughout the summer.

The Brown County Fair, August

12th through the 18th, is always a summer favorite that brings visitors from all over to spend time appreciating our community while being entertained with the fair entertainment, exhibits, rides, food and so much more.

Collegopalooza, Aberdeen's back-to-school celebration for Northern State University and Presentation College students will be held in downtown Aberdeen on August 27th. This event provides a chance for businesses to promote their products and services and maybe even find an employee. We definitely want to encourage our student graduates to stay in the area and this a perfect opportunity for an employer to start attracting them. We are so fortunate to have two higher education institutions in our community which help to make Aberdeen a great place to learn, work, start a business, grow a family and enjoy the high quality of life. The student population provides so much energy and enthusiasm along with the benefits of their involvement in our community. Whether it be their volunteer service or the increased activities that the campus life attracts our economy is stronger and the community is more vibrant because of them.

This is just a short list of the many choices you may have for entertainment during our summer months. While thinking about all of the opportunities that we have, I am also reminded of the outstanding

customer service that is delivered by the organizers of the events and staff that serve us. They are truly the ambassadors for our community with their positive and welcoming attitudes that continue to bring people back to visit. Visitors to Aberdeen constantly remind us how friendly everyone is when they are here and how much they appreciate the gratitude and high quality of service they are provided. When you have the chance, be sure to thank and recognize the individuals that provide you excellent service. It is because of them that our businesses and community will continue to thrive.

We want to see you enjoying all that Aberdeen has to offer!

As part of the Chamber's 2019 Program of Work, we now have over 600 webinars available for our members on our website. Check it out at www.chamberstrategies.com/webinars.php?p=5483.

2019 Chamber Leadership

Executive Board

Dawn Williams, Chair	SD Dept. of Labor
Jack Hollinsworth, Chair-Elect	JDH Construction
Jeff Poppen, Vice Chair	Sanford Aberdeen Medical Center
Robert Goscicki, Treasurer	Aberdeen Federal Credit Union
Kellie Ecker, Secretary	SD Mfg & Tech Solutions

Staff

Gail Ochs	President
Bea Smith	Director of Member Services and Events
Lisa Anderson	Director of Public Relations, Committees and Programs
Stacie Wiedebush	Finance Manager
Korine Grismer	Administrative Assistant

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Full Board

Brett Deibert	Farm Credit Services of America
Dr. Timothy Downs	Northern State University
Justin Feickert	Midstates Group
Julie Fischbach	Mainstream Boutique
Todd Forkel	Avera St. Luke's
Paul Galatro	3M Company
David Novstrup	Wylie Thunder Road
Matt Prehn	Midstates Group
Katie Washnok	Blackout Industries
Dr. Sandra Welling	Presentation College
Heath Johnson, ADA Liaison	Dakota Plains Real Estate
Devin Reints, CVB Board Liaison	Dakota Broadcasting
Mike Sommers, ADC Board Liaison	Double D Body Shop
Mike Bockorny, Ex-Officio	Aberdeen Development Corp.
Casey Weismantel, Ex-Officio	Aberdeen Area CVB
Shelley Westra-Heier, Ex-Officio	Aberdeen Downtown Assoc.



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New Business

Allstate Insurance, Agent Raph Duncan
901 6th Ave SE • 605-277-7919
allstate.com



New Business

Baseline Financial Solutions
13 2nd Ave SE, Suite 7 • 605-252-5972
baselinefs.com



New Business

Danger von Dempsey's Pizza & Brewhaus
1023 S Main St • 605-262-0167
dangervondempsey.com



Groundbreaking

Fairfield Inn & Suites
2700 Block of 6th Ave SE • 605-225-1712
lamontcompanies.com



New Business

Gotcha!
3315 6th Ave SE Suite 69 • 605-725-9474



New Business

Hub City Carwash
 6 S 1st St • 605-225-0147
[facebook.com/hubcitycarwashAberdeen](https://www.facebook.com/hubcitycarwashAberdeen)



New Owners

Kitchen Tune-Up of Aberdeen (Franchisee)
 13659 387th Ave • 605-228-5540
kitchentuneup.com/aberdeen-sd



New Business

Lewis Family Drug
 1409 6th Ave SE • 605-262-0283
lewisdrug.com



Groundbreaking

Lewis Family Drug
 119 6th Ave SW • 605-262-0283
lewisdrug.com



New Business

Main Addiction
 220 S Main St • 605-290-8597
[facebook.com/Main-Addiction-3113165175423462](https://www.facebook.com/Main-Addiction-3113165175423462)



New Name & Owners

Prairie Heights Healthcare
 400 8th Ave NW • 605-225-2550
prairieheightshealthcare.com



Groundbreaking

Presentation Place
1002 N Jay St • 605-229-8337
presentationsisters.org



New Business

The Gallery Tattoo Studio
22 2nd Ave SE • 605-290-1383
tattoosbyrt.com

Have You Missed the Chamber's Monday Announcements Emails?

Check your Junk Email or Clutter folders! It has come to our attention that an Outlook issue is causing our larger emails to be delivered to Junk Email folders. To correct this, do the following: Open Microsoft Outlook and select the Junk Email folder. A list of mail items will appear on the right preview pane. Right click on the Chamber Announcements email, scroll to and select Junk Email, then scroll to and click on "Mark as Not Junk". We hope you continue to enjoy the Monday Chamber Announcements!



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EMPLOYEE RECRUITMENT TOOLS NOW AVAILABLE TO ALL LOCAL EMPLOYERS



www.aberdeensd.com/therightmove

Local employers are invited to use this website as a tool to help recruit potential employees who live outside of Aberdeen.

You'll find videos, a community profile, additional community website resources and the *10 Things to Love About Aberdeen, SD* guide. Check it out!



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northwesternenergy.com



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ssitrucktrailer.com



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topnotchcountertops.com

Leadership Aberdeen Class Raises \$20K for Journey Home

Members of the 2019 Leadership Aberdeen class made an impact for area homeless individuals through the recent community event, "Night in a Car for Journey Home."

The April 26 homelessness simulation raised \$20,000 for the Journey Home, a local organization that provides support to individuals experiencing a housing crisis through services such as an emergency shelter and supportive housing.

"Night in a Car for Journey Home" shone a spotlight on the hidden aspect of homelessness that many in our community experience – living in their cars. Approximately 30 vehicles were parked in the Aberdeen Police Department lot, with people "living" out of their cars overnight. The event also



included a public kickoff, with speakers, outdoor games, and the Junction food truck. A total of about 100 people attended throughout the night.

The event was made possible thanks to the generosity of numerous area sponsors and event participants. That includes: Ken's, The Junction, Hub City Radio, Millstone, Caribou, Dakota Broadcasting, Sanford Aberdeen, JDH Construction, GCC Ready Mix, New Life Fellowship, Ronayne Law Office,

DeGroot Concrete, RDO Equipment, Aberdeen Federal Credit Union, Plains Commerce Bank, Dacotah Bank, Avera, North Highland Methodist Church, Zion Lutheran Church, Geffdog, NorthWestern Energy, Aberdeen Fire Department, Aberdeen Police Department, QQP, 3M, Molded Fiber Glass, Boys and Girls Club, Glacial Lakes Energy, US Bank, Presentation Sisters, Best Western Ramkota, Banner Engineering, CBO Hotels, Agtegra, Dakota Supply Group, Dakotaland FCU, Aberdeen Development Corporation, NVC, Aflac, Northern State University, Celebration Entertainment, Aberdeen American News, Larry Hanson and Aberdeen Realtors Association, Aberdeen City Department - Public Works, Dawn Williams with the Chamber of Commerce, Mayor Mike Levsen, Officer Tom Barstad, and Officer Keith Theroux.

Leadership Aberdeen is an annual leadership training program sponsored by the Aberdeen Area Chamber of Commerce. For more information, visit aberdeensd.com.



June 7, 2019

2019 Free Spring Residential Cleanup Summary

April 2 – May 11, 2019

	TRASH	METALS	TIRES	TREES	TOTALS
Aberdeen CITY	144,540 lbs. (2019) 108,540 lbs. (2018)		18,300 lbs. (2019) 23,200 lbs. (2018)		162,840 lbs. (2019) 131,740 lbs. (2018)
BC LANDFILL	4,297 vehicles (2019) 838,540 LBS. (2019) (417.77 TON) 3,364 vehicles (2018) 634,740 lbs. (2018) (317.37 TON)	150,000 lbs. est.(2019) 176,000 lbs. (2018)	120,000 lbs. est. (2019) 120,000 lbs. est. (2018)	775 actual loads trees (2019) 155,000 lbs. estimate (2019) 815 actual loads trees (2018) 163,000 lbs. estimate (2018) (EST. x 200 lbs. per load)	4,297 vehicles (2019) 1,263,540 lbs. (2019) 631.77 ton 4,179 vehicles (2018) 1,057,740 lbs. (2018) 529.87 ton
TOTALS	983,080 lbs. (2019) 743,280 lbs. (2018)	150,000 lbs. est.(2019) 176,000 est. lbs. (2018)	138,300 lbs. (2019) 69.15 ton / 6,915 PTE's* 143,200 lbs. est. (2018) 60.00 ton / 6,000 PTE's *	155,000 lbs. (2019) 775 vehicles x 200 lbs. 163,000 lbs. (2018) 815 vehicles x 200 lbs.	1,426,380 lbs. (2019) 713.19 ton 1,189,480 lbs. (2018) 594.74 ton

VEHICLE COUNT LANDFILL: 4,297 (2019) : 4,179 (2018) : 4,592 (2017) : 3,911 (2016) : 3,866 (2015)

*PTE's: Passenger Tire Equivalents / 20 lbs. per tire



UPCOMING QUICKBOOKS WORKSHOPS



The Small Business Development Center (SBDC) will be offering the following QuickBooks workshops on Tuesday, August 6, 2019. QuickBooks Pro software will be used for the workshop presentation. Participants will view the software live on screen but will not have individual computers. Kelly Weaver of the Small Business Development Center will be the instructor. Registration is limited, so sign up today!

QuickBooks: The Basics

WHEN: Tuesday, August 6, 2019; 9:00 a.m. to 12 Noon.
 WHERE: Smart Center, 416 Production Street North, Aberdeen, SD
 COST: \$70 by July 30th, \$75 after July 30th
 QuickBooks: The Basics is designed for those who may be considering a computerized accounting system or those QuickBooks users who are starting or would like to explore these features and how the data is managed. Topics covered will include Chart of Accounts, Customers, Vendors, Invoicing, Check Writing, Bills, and Reports.

QuickBooks: Inventory and Payroll

WHEN: Tuesday, August 6, 2019; 1:30 p.m. to 4:00 p.m.
 WHERE: Smart Center, 416 Production Street North, Aberdeen, SD
 COST: \$70 by July 30th, \$75 after July 30th
 QuickBooks: Inventory and Payroll will provide an overview of how inventory and payroll are processed by QuickBooks and the basic concerns to be addressed when setting up and using these features. Topics covered include Inventory Items, Inventory Types, Purchase Orders, Payroll Items, Payroll Checks, Payroll Liabilities, and Reports.

Attend both and save! Participants can attend both classes for a fee of only \$125 by July 30th, \$130 after July 30th.

For more information or to register, contact Kelly Weaver at the Small Business Development Center 605-626-2565 or kelly@growsd.org. Seating is limited and seats are reserved once payment is received. Payments should be sent to Small Business Development Center, 416 Production Street North, Aberdeen, SD 57401. The Smart Center is located ½ mile north of RDO Equipment Company.

All webinars are free unless otherwise noted. For more information, and to register, go to www.eidebailly.com/insights/events.



- July 9, 2019: Dealership Insights Webinar: Dealership Operations Update
- July 10, 2019: Business Trends Webinar: International Tax: New Section 199A
- July 11, 2019: Business Trends: Compliance Considerations: State Income Tax
- July 16, 2019: Business Trends: Affordable Care Act – It's Time to Comply
- July 18, 2019: Business Trends: International Tax: GILTI Tax Regime & Planning Opportunities
- July 22, 2019: Business Trends: Benefits of a Quality Assurance Review
- July 25, 2019: Business Trends: Human Resources Insight: Importance of Employee Handbook
- July 30, 2019: Business Trends: Tax Update: Qualified Opportunity Zones
- August 9, 2019: Eide Bailly Complete Webinar: Benefits of Outsourcing for your Dental Practice
- August 15, 2019: Dealership Insights Webinar: Best Practices: Nexus, Post Wayfair
- August 20, 2019: Business Trends Webinar: IRS Trouble: Collections Process & Assistance Overview
- August 22, 2019: Business Trends: Transfer Pricing: Impacts on Your Effective Tax Rate
- August 27, 2019: Business Trends: Benefits of an IC-DISC
- August 29, 2019: Business Trends: IRS Trouble: International Penalty Abatement

CHAMBER BIG DATES

Ag Committee

Thursday, July 18, Noon, SDSU Extension
 Thursday, August 15, 11:30, Brown County Fair

Ambassadors

Tuesday, July 9, Noon, TBD

Business After Hours

Thursday, July 11, 5:15 pm, Aberdeen Downtown Association (south of Dacotah Prairie Museum)
 Thursday, August 8, 5:15 pm, Aberdeen Flying Service

Chamber Executive Board

Thursday, July 11, Noon, Chamber
 Thursday, August 8, Noon, Chamber

Chamber Full Board

Wednesday, July 17, 8 am, Chamber
 Wednesday, August 21, 8 am, Chamber

Community Affairs Committee

Thursday, August 1, Noon, Best Western Ramkota

Diplomats

Thursday, July 11, 3 pm, Chamber
 Thursday, September 12, 3pm, Chamber

Enhance Aberdeen

(Will not meet again until September 6)

Health & Wellness Committee

Wednesday, July 10, 8 am, Heart & Sole Foot Zone Therapy
 Wednesday, August 7, 8 am, Presentation College (Simulation Center)

Military & Veterans Committee

Tuesday, July 9, Noon, National Guard Armory
 Tuesday, September 3, Noon, National Guard Armory

New Faculty Luncheon

Monday, August 12, Noon, Best Western Ramkota

Transportation Committee

Thursday, July 30, 3 pm, Chamber

Workforce & Education Committee

Wednesday, July 17, 3:30 pm, Presentation College (Simulation Center)
 Wednesday, August 18, 3:30 pm, Midstates

The Chamber will be closed Thursday, July 4 (Independence Day), and Monday, September 2 (Labor Day).

Health & Wellness Committee Tours Primrose Cottages



The Chamber's Health & Wellness Committee meets at different member businesses throughout the year to learn how they impact health and wellness in our community. In May, the Committee met at Primrose Cottages and toured the facility. Attending were: Back row, left to right: Lisa Anderson, Aberdeen Chamber; Tasha Job, Mid Star Labs; Kelsey Huber, Mid Star Labs; Megan Janes, Home Care Services; Candace Briscoe, Profiling Beauty Health & Wellness Center; Heather Vetter, Ridgeline Massage Therapy; Donna Hurley, Avera St Luke's; Kami Speiker, Northern State University; Robyn Ewalt, Avera; and Jake Archigo, Avera Human Performance Center. Front row, left to right: Ambers Hanson, Heart & Sole Foot Zone Therapy; Megan Erickson, SDSU Extension; Charity Pionk, Bethesda; and Kayla Paszek, SDSU Extension intern.

Business Milestone Recognized



Aberdeen Community Health Center was recognized at the May Business After Hours for their 5-year anniversary serving Aberdeen and the surrounding area. Pictured are Haley Coss, Aberdeen Community Health Center; Dawn Williams, Aberdeen Chamber; and Soliris Almestica Colon, Aberdeen Community Health Center

Kaiser Recognized for Dedication to Bettering our Chamber & Community



At the May Business After Hours, Dr. Marje Kaiser, South Dakota School for the Blind and Visually Impaired, was recognized for serving nine years on the Chamber Board of Directors, including Chair of the Board in 2017. The Chamber Board, staff and members are grateful for her dedication to bettering our organization and the Aberdeen community. Thank you, Marje!

Pancakes at the BC Fair!

Once again this year, volunteers from the Aberdeen Chamber



committees and board of directors, along with Chamber staff, will be cookin' up and serving the Sunday morning pancake breakfast at the Brown County Fair. The date is August 18th and the menu includes pancakes, sausage, coffee, milk and orange juice. Cost is \$5 per person, with children 6 and under eating free. Thanks to Hub City Radio for sponsoring this event. We hope to see you all at the fair!



Recapping the SD State Society of Human Resource Management Conference



Donna Hurley
Avera St Luke's and
Chair of the Work-
force & Educa-
tion Committee



Kimberly Ludwig
Division of Reha-
bilitation Services
and Member of the
Workforce & Educa-
tion Committee

The Aberdeen Area Human Resource Association (AAHRA) hosted a successful South Dakota State Human Resource Management Conference (SHRM) on the campus of Northern State University (NSU) May 8th-10th. The theme for the conference was "Unleash Your Potential: Learning Today For A Changing Tomorrow." The conference hosted over 170 attendees from across the state along with individuals from out-of-state. The state conference is not limited to human



resource professionals but other business representatives and small business owners who may wear "multiple hats" in hiring or handling personnel matters within their businesses.

The conference provided attendees with educational training sessions, networking time, and the opportunity to visit with over 30 vendors to learn about valuable community resources and business services. Presentations covered a wide range of topics including but not limited to: Employment Law; Diversity and Inclusion; FMLA/ADA



Processes; Mental Health First Aid; Hiring and Recruiting and Performance Management.

Something new and exciting that was done for the first time in state conference history was an AAHRA partnership with the Aberdeen Chamber of Commerce with Leadercast, which was held the final day of the conference.

The SHRM conference is held on an annual basis in different locations throughout the state. The 2020 conference will be held in Watertown.

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DID YOU KNOW?

WINDOWS 7 & SERVER 2008 SUPPORT ENDS ON JAN. 14, 2020

Microsoft will end extended support for Windows 7 and Server 2008 on January 14, 2020. In less than a year, those still using Windows 7 after that date, will no longer receive free technical support, software and security updates putting their computer at risk of viruses and malware.

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SOMMERS SELECTED AS COMMUNITY LEADER FOR FELLOWSHIP PROGRAM

Twenty community leaders from cities across the United States have been selected to participate in the 2019-2020 Emerging City Champions fellowship program, including



Spencer Sommers from Aberdeen. Sommers is employed at CO-OP Architecture and will restore “ghost signs” with support from local artists and community volunteers.

Launched in 2015, the program is an incubator for up-and-coming city leaders with bold ideas to build more accessible, inclusive and connected cities. The program is led by 80 Cities, a nonprofit organization based in Toronto, Canada, and funded by the John S. and James. L. Knight Foundation. In April 2019, Knight Foundation announced a \$500,000 reinvestment in the program.

Emerging City Champions is

open to young people between the ages of 19-35 in the 26 communities where Knight invests. Hundreds of idea submissions are evaluated based on their innovation, potential impact and the applicant’s leadership qualities and capacity.

The successful applicants will receive \$5,000 in seed funding, leadership training, and practical tools to launch their transformative projects to enhance public space, urban mobility or civic engagement in their city.

“Truly informed and engaged communities rely on new leaders, new voices and new ideas,” said Sam Gill, Knight Foundation vice president for communities and impact. “The Emerging Cities Champions fellowship provides a window into the spirit of the community, and supports the visionaries who will shape its future.”

The program encourages diverse voices and fresh perspectives toward common urban challenges. Many participants build on their ongoing work in their communities, while others have new and creative solutions to improve their local streets or public spaces with support from the program.

The 20 participants will meet in Toronto, Canada from July 27 to 30 for the Emerging City Champions Studio. The Studio is an immersive four-day learning experience where fellowship participants hone skills that will help them hit the ground running when they return to their cities. It includes interactive tours of community-led programs and public spaces, presentations by city leaders and program alumni, and hands-on workshops on project planning, community engagement, communication and tactical urbanism. This is also when the

participants will collaborate, bond and establish a support network with fellow participants.

The Emerging City Champions will begin implementing their projects after returning home from Toronto. In one year, their cities will have new and enhanced neighborhood programs, community events, interactive public art, and vibrant public spaces that will push boundaries, change mindsets and inspire long-term investment in the public realm.

More information is available at www.emergingcitychampions.org.

HERMAN INDUCTED INTO HALL OF FAME

Michael Herman, Executive Director of the Boys & Girls Club of Aberdeen Area, was recently accepted for induction into the Great Plains Area Council (GPAC) Hall of Fame. GPAC encompasses Boys & Girls Clubs from South Dakota, North Dakota and Minnesota. He was nominated for his leadership and implementation of policies & procedures improving safety, programming, training, nutrition and more and for his relentless commitment to the national Boys & Girls Club movement.



Under Mike’s leadership, membership grew 477%, summer average daily attendance increased 417% and school year average daily attendance increased 375%. During this time, programming increased from 8 separate programs to 45. Additionally, After School Transportation, days & hours of operation, free & reduced lunches & snacks, collaboration with work study programs and receipt of grant funds have all increased significantly since Mike began his position with the Club in 2011. Perhaps most notably, a new \$5.5 million state-of-the-art facility was built in 2017 to make sure area youth have a safe environment in which to spend their summer and after-school hours.

In addition to this honor, Mike has received the Boys & Girls Club of America Vision and Spirit Award. He will be inducted into the GPAC Hall of Fame on Thursday, August 1st, at the Hall of Fame Dinner and Awards at the Great Plains & Iowa-Nebraska Area Council conference in Bloomington, MN.

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Nick Bittner
NMLS#1328472
nick.bittner@dacotahbank.com



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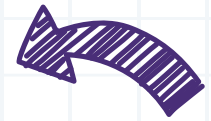
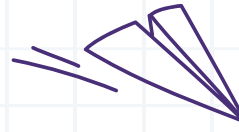
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UPCOMING COMMUNITY EVENTS



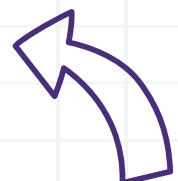
JULY

- 3..... **World of Outlaws Sprint Car Series**, Brown County Speedway, browncountyspeedway1.com
- 3..... **Ride the Wake Summer Concert Series featuring Avenger Joe**, Wakeside Bar & Grill, thewakesidemina.com
- 4..... **Aqua Addicts Water Ski Show & Duck Derby**, Wylie Park, aquaaddicts.org
- 4..... **Aberdeen Municipal Band Concert**, Melgaard Park, aberdeen.sd.us/parksandrec
- 4..... **Wylie Park 4th of July Celebration**, Wylie Park, aberdeen.sd.us/parksandrec
- 5..... **Ride the Wake Summer Concert Series featuring Two Way Crossing**, Wakeside Bar & Grill, thewakesidemina.com
- 5..... **Brown County Speedway Races Bullet Sportswear Fireworks Spectacular**, Brown County Speedway, browncountyspeedway1.com
- 5..... **Nathan Kalish and the Last Callers**, Slackers, slackersaberdeen.com
- 6..... **Ride the Wake Summer Concert Series featuring Black Water Band**, Wakeside Bar & Grill, thewakesidemina.com
- 8..... **Hanson Family Jugglers**, KO Lee Aberdeen Public Library, aberdeen.sd.us/library
- 8-9..... **CC Lee Tennis Tournament**, NSU Tennis Courts, aberdeen.sd.us/parksandrec
- 9..... **Kuhnert Arboretum Kid's Activities**, Kuhnert Arboretum, aberdeen.sd.us/parksandrec
- 10..... **Melgaard Park 2-Mile Fun Run**, Melgaard Park, aberdeen.sd.us/parksandrec
- 11, 18, 25..... **Farmers Market**, Melgaard Park, naturalabundance.org
- 11..... **Downtown Summer Concert featuring The October Road Band**, Main Street, aberdeendowntown.org
- 11..... **Aberdeen Municipal Band Concert Colors & Pre-Concert Kids' Activities**, Melgaard Park, aberdeen.sd.us/parksandrec
- 11-13..... **Senior Games**, Various Locations, aberdeen.sd.us/parksandrec
- 12..... **Star Party**, Kuhnert Arboretum Parking Lot, aberdeen.sd.us/parksandrec
- 13..... **Crazy Days**, Downtown Aberdeen, aberdeendowntown.org
- 13..... **7th Annual DAV Poker Run**, Stutsman Harley-Davidson, facebook.com/aberdeenfmcusadersmc
- 15..... **Victorian Girls Day Camp**, Dacotah Prairie Museum, dacotahpraiemuseum.com
- 16..... **Fraternal Order of Police 3-on-3 Basketball Tournament**, Sunshine Park, aberdeen.sd.us/parksandrec
- 18..... **Aberdeen Municipal Band Concert Movie Music**, Melgaard Park, aberdeen.sd.us/parksandrec
- 18-21..... **28th Annual Western Corporate Image Pro-Am**, Moccasin Creek Country Club, moccasincc.com
- 19..... **SD Manufacturing & Technology Solutions Golf Scramble**, Rolling Hills Golf Club, sdmanufacturing.com/events
- 19-20..... **14th Annual Storybook Land Festival**, Wylie Park, aberdeen.sd.us/parksandrec
- 20..... **Ride the Wake Summer Concert Series featuring 32 Below**, Wakeside Bar & Grill, thewakesidemina.com
- 20-21..... **SmokFest/Bean Bag Tournament**, Wakeside Bar & Grill, thewakesidemina.com
- 21..... **Old Time Music and Ice Cream Festival**, Granary Rural Cultural Center, brown.sd.us/granary
- 25..... **Wylie Park Zoo Day**, Wylie Park, aberdeen.sd.us/parksandrec
- 25..... **Ride the Wake Summer Concert Series featuring Saving Abel & Avenger Joe**, Wakeside Bar & Grill, thewakesidemina.com
- 25..... **Youth Tennis Carnival**, NSU Tennis Courts, aberdeen.sd.us/parksandrec
- 25..... **Aberdeen Municipal Band Concert Kids' Concert**, Melgaard Park, aberdeen.sd.us/parksandrec
- 26..... **Americans with Disabilities Act Celebration**, Red Rooster Coffee House, redroostercoffeehouse.com
- 27..... **Puttin' for Paws Humane Society Golf Fundraiser**, Rolling Hills Golf Club, anewleashonlife.net
- 27..... **16th Annual Make-A-Wish Poker Ride**, Biegler's C&S Motor Sports, Call Loren or Jan at 605-225-7262
- 27..... **Harry Potter: Painting + Trivia Night**, Colorful Creations, thecolorfulcreations.com
- 27..... **Bull Run**, Aberdeen Family YMCA, aberdeenymca.org
- 27..... **Monster Trucks and Thrill Show**, Brown County Speedway, monstertruckthunder.ticketleap.com
- 27..... **Blues, Brews & BBQ**, Centennial Village at Brown County Fairgrounds, sdsnowqueen.com
- 27-28..... **Hub City Open Tennis Tournament**, NSU Tennis Courts, aberdeen.sd.us/parksandrec
- 28..... **Young Guns Marathon Shoot**, Aberdeen Gun Club, aberdeengunclub.com
- 28..... **Slackers Monthly Open Mic Night**, Slackers, slackersaberdeen.com
- 31-1..... **Aberdeen Closed City Tennis Tournament**, NSU Tennis Courts, aberdeen.sd.us/parksandrec
- 31-3..... **2019 Midwest Shrine Association Summer Session**, Yelduz Shrine Center, yelduz.com



AUGUST

- 1, 8, 22, 29..... **Farmers Market**, Melgaard Park, naturalabundance.org
- 1..... **Aberdeen Municipal Band Concert Rushmore Music Camp Night**, Melgaard Park, aberdeen.sd.us/parksandrec
- 2..... **Downtown Summer Concert**, Main Street, aberdeendowntown.org
- 3..... **Brown County Speedway Races Bullet Sportswear Bender Fender Demo Derby**, Brown County Speedway, browncountyspeedway1.com
- 5..... **Feeding America Mobile Food Distribution**, Freedom Church, time4freedom.org
- 7..... **Melgaard Park 2-Mile Fun Run**, Melgaard Park, aberdeen.sd.us/parksandrec
- 8..... **Aberdeen Municipal Band Concert Big Band**, Melgaard Park, aberdeen.sd.us/parksandrec
- 8..... **Lost Ox**, Slackers, slackersaberdeen.com
- 9..... **Star Party**, Kuhnert Arboretum Parking Lot, aberdeen.sd.us/parksandrec
- 9..... **4th Annual NSU Wrestling Golf Tournament**, Rolling Hills Golf Course, nsuwolves.com
- 12-18..... **Brown County Fair**, Brown County Fairgrounds, brown.sd.us/brown-county-fair/home
- 18..... **Dog Day**, Aberdeen Aquatic Center, aberdeen.sd.us/parksandrec
- 18..... **SoDak Sports Shoot**, Aberdeen Gun Club, aberdeengunclub.com
- 23..... **Downtown Summer Concert**, Main Street, aberdeendowntown.org
- 23-24..... **Sizzlin' Summer Nights**, Main Street, aberdeendowntown.org
- 24-25..... **89th Dakota Open**, Moccasin Creek Country Club & Lee Park Golf Course, moccasincc.com



Golfers Hunt for Low Scores at Chamber Golf Tournament

Despite a little wind, it was near-perfect weather for the 2019 Chamber golf scramble. Under a jungle safari theme, eighteen teams participated in this year's event on June 3rd at Moccasin Creek Country Club.

Thanks to our sponsors for making this a fun and memorable day for everyone who came up to support this Chamber event: Aberdeen American News, Aberdeen Federal Credit Union, Dacotah Bank, Domino's, Hub City

Radio, Insurance Plus, JDH Construction, Legacy Financial Partners of Ameriprise Financial, Midco, Pfitzer Pest Control, Plains Commerce Bank and Quality Quick Print.



Flight 1

T 1st – Domino's
Marv Bonnet, Rachel Duvall, Darin Duvall and Larry Bohling



T 1st – Team Perry
Matt Dorssmidt, Jon Knott, Connie Munsch and Dean Munsch



T 1st – Eide Bailly LLP
Don Kainz, Mark Engelhart, Holly Engelhart and Cameron Zent



4th – Helms & Associates #1
Corey Helms, Randy Bacon, Bob Kieso and Bob Babcock



5th – Helms & Association #2
Lucas Hoover, Jamie Weisenberger, Mike Schmit and Brandon Smid



T 6th – Reunion Student Loan Finance Corporation
Eric Comstock, Jon Vedvei, Angie Johnson and Mark Comstock



T 6th – BankNorth Warner
Travis Lueck, Jason Jung, Jeff Christenson and Mark Lane



Flight 1

8th – Schwan Financial Group/
Aberdeen American News
Kory Schwan, Houstyn Heinz, Sean Hopfinger and Tyler Oliver



9th – JDH Construction
Derek Rieck, Jack Hollinsworth, Derrick Gorecki and Gary Klabo



1st – Centennial Homes
Lee Kludt, Rod Tobin, Chad Evans
and Marc Tobin



2nd – RAM Housing Specialists Inc
Paul Zinter, Rich Galbraith, Sea
Atwood and Travis Heuer



3rd – Northern Valley Communications
Jeff Evenson, Brent Hanson, Darren
Torrence and Scott Stolle



4th – Molded Fiber Glass
Eric Schwan, Travis Brist, Ben Smith
and Marc Ronshaugen



5th – Mark Mehlhoff Insurance
Lorne Serr, Troy Holtey, Leon
Crawford and Mark Mehlhoff



6th – Regal/Hub City Inc
Chuck Witte, Patrick Chamberlain,
Dennis VonEschen and Patrick Witte



T 7th – Northern State University
Britt Lorenz, Justin Fraase, John
Eckstein and Layton Cooper



T 7th – Plains Commerce Bank
Vicky Jorgenson, Andrew Christensen,
Ashley Bratton and Tammy Doerr



9th - READiTECH
Danielle Whitaker, Andrew Meyer,
David Malsam and Brandon Huber

Flight 2

Flight 2

Flight 2



Way to go Teams!

Farm and Rural Stress Hotline Available

As a resource for people in many Midwestern communities struck by flooding, wet conditions, and a volatile ag environment, Avera Health has created the Farm and Rural Stress Hotline.

Farmers, ranchers and people who live in rural communities can call 1-800-691-4336 24 hours a day. The call is free and confidential. The hotline is staffed by trained assessment counselors who put callers in touch with local mental health resources.

"Farmers are expected to be tough, but that 'pull-yourself-up-by-the-bootstraps' mentality is so unfair to them," said Matthew Stanley, DO, Clinical Vice President for the Avera Behavioral Health Service Line. "Mental health care in our rural population is what we specialize in and we want our agricultural friends to know that we are here for them."

Avera is a 60-year regional leader in behavioral health services and offers a full continuum of services from psychiatry to outpatient therapy and counseling, inpatient care and addiction services.

"If you or someone you love is experiencing extreme sadness, anger, frustration, anxiety or hopelessness, we

encourage you to call," Stanley added.

Agriculture is the backbone of South Dakota industry, with approximately 31,000 farms and ranches. According to the South Dakota Department of Agriculture, one farmer has the potential to feed 155 individuals each year.

"This is the third year in a row of net farm income decline, and input prices keep going up, making work in agriculture that much harder," said Jim Woster, a longtime ag-business consultant who serves as an advocate for farmers and ranchers in South Dakota. "Those hard times build up."

Woster said that while drought is never something farmers want, they can still get out and work during one. Flooding and persistently wet conditions is harder.

"You can't do much but sit and watch the rain come down. When farmers are working, they are alone a lot, and that isolation with too much time to think about the what-ifs can be overwhelming," he said. "The people taking those calls are special, and they can help talk you through things, especially those dark times."

Woster said that despite the stoicism rural folks are known for, he believes the hotline will be an effective resource. "Today's farms are often partnerships between wives and husbands and children," Woster said. "If this hotline can help just one person, it'll be worth it."

Karl Oehlke, ABIM, PA-C, of Avera Medical Group University Psychiatry, also had a hand in the development of the Farm and Rural Stress Hotline.

"Stress, fear, anxiety, frustration and depression are all words I've heard to describe the ag climate," said Oehlke. "Farming and ranching will never be without unforeseen, uncontrollable challenges, which affect not only the producer, but the family. We encourage anyone experiencing problems to reach out to us."

Stress and related mental health concerns should never cost you your life. If you feel overwhelmed or need help navigating the possible signs of depression, anxiety or other issues, call the 24/7 Farm and Rural Stress Hotline at 1-800-691-4336. Or you can call the National Suicide Hotline at 1-800-273-8255.

Chamber's Ag Committee Bringing Farm to Table Event to Aberdeen



Eric Payne
Insurance Plus
and Member of the
Chamber Ag
Committee

Attention all consumers of food and drink that live in or near Aberdeen, South Dakota: Oh wait, that's all of you reading this article! Have you ever wondered where your food came from? How your food was raised, grown, milked or processed? You are not alone. Many

people ask these questions every day. For ag producers, one of the issues faced is the growing concern by consumers about the practices they follow each day in their fields and in their barns. There is no end to the misinformation that is circulated and shared. And with electronics, bad information can

be transmitted instantly. It's hard to monitor all of the fallacies shared.

This fall, you have the opportunity to learn the answers to those questions and hear the truth behind how food is sustainably and efficiently produced with safety and quality in mind.

The Chamber Ag Committee had an opportunity this year to continue our mission of agriculture education within our community. We have partnered this inaugural year with The Avera Foundation to bring you "Field to Fork: A Farm to Table Connection." The event will bring together 100 local consumers with 20 to 30 local producers for a meal prepared by Chef Jake Collins, sourced locally and state-wide, plus an informal discussion about agriculture.

The event will be held Saturday, September 7th at Centennial Village, Brown County Fairgrounds and a portion



of the proceeds will benefit the new Avera Farm and Rural Stress Hotline. This hotline is available 24/7 and is staffed by trained counselors to help farmers and ranchers navigate these difficult economic times. There will also be live music and local breweries on hand for a fun, educational evening.

Tickets will go on sale July 1st and will only be available to the first 100 people. The cost of this event is \$100 per ticket for the all-inclusive evening. You may purchase your tickets through the Aberdeen Chamber office.

Hope to see ya'll there!

To see a message from Gov. Kristi Noem about the importance of the Farm and Rural Stress Hotline, go to www.avera.org/services/behavioral-health/farmer-stress-hotline.

Healthy Hometown Group Encourages Veggie Gleaning

Each year, over 100 billion pounds of food are thrown away in this country. Contrast this to the fact that there are 49 million people – including 16 million children – going hungry every year. Gleaning, the practice of collecting and donating excess foods, helps simultaneously address these two offsetting problems. More importantly, it helps low-income individuals gain access to nutritious, fresh, locally-grown foods. Gleaning also provides vital resources to nonprofits who serve food to those in need.

The Aberdeen Chamber's Health & Wellness Committee has been working with Healthy Hometown®, powered by Wellmark, to begin to address veggie gleaning in Aberdeen. Both the Boy's & Girls Club of Aberdeen Area and New Beginnings Center grow gardens through programs at their respective organizations. Excess vegetables harvested from them this summer will be donated to local area food pantries. The Healthy Hometown group hopes to

expand this program next year. If you're interested in being part of the effort, please contact Lisa at the

Chamber office. Until then, local citizens are encouraged to make donations of their excess produce to one of these organizations or another of the donor's choice:

- The Salvation Army – 1003 6th Ave SW
- Good Shepherd Lutheran Church's food pantry – 1429 N Dakota Street (distribution is the 3rd Monday of each month)

To find out more about veggie gleaning, go to www.usda.gov/sites/



default/files/documents/usda_gleaning_toolkit.pdf.

You Can Help Feed the Kids This Summer!

Did you know the Salvation Army in Aberdeen delivers lunches to children each weekday during the summer? It's called Feed the Kids and it's happening at parks all over Aberdeen!



The Chamber's Health & Wellness Committee, with the help of Healthy Hometown® powered by Wellmark and Ken's SuperFair Foods and all Food Fair locations, is encouraging healthy donations to this year's Feed the Kids program. Some items include fresh fruits & vegetables, trail mix, nuts & seeds, popcorn, fruit cups in 100% juice, applesauce, whole grain breads, crackers, granola bars, peanut butter and jelly.

What can you do to help? When shopping at Ken's look for the Feed the Kids blue tags on shelves throughout the store, purchase items, then place your donations in the designated cart when exiting the store. You can also volunteer your time preparing the lunches by contacting the Salvation Army at 605-225-7410.

FREE SUMMER LUNCHES FOR CHILDREN
FEED THE KIDS

Items to donate... Spread the word

How can you help? Volunteer your time!

Donate food!

- apples
- bananas
- baby carrots
- trail mix
- nuts/seeds
- popcorn
- fruit cups in 100% juice
- applesauce cups/pouches
- whole grain bread/buns
- crackers
- granola bars
- peanut butter
- jelly

Lunches distributed to local parks Monday-Friday

Items are marked throughout the store. Drop off non-perishable food items at all Ken's SuperFair and Food Fair locations.

Storybook Land Festival is July 19 & 20



Stacy Braun
Executive Director,
Aberdeen Area Arts
Council

The 14th Annual Storybook Land Festival kicks off Friday July 19. Starting at 5:00 pm, visitors can purchase wristbands for \$7.00 good for unlimited rides this evening only until 9:00 pm. All rides within Storybook Land are included. Come

join us from 6:00 – 8:30 pm for the Storybook Land Festival Hulabaloo. Live music, juggling, silk fans, hula-hoop dancing and interactive performances. Dorothy, Tin Man, Scarecrow and the Cowardly Lion will also be strolling around Storybook Land. Some of your favorite storybook characters. Biscuit, Pete the Cat and Wild Thing as well as Buddy from SD Public Broadcasting and Northwestern Energy's Lightning bug will also be present and ready for the perfect photo opportunity

On Saturday, the Festival begins at 10:00 am with a full day of activities all around Storybook Land and in the castle. Storybook Land Theatre takes the stage at 10:00 am in the castle

performing Frog and Toad Stories. Other performances on the castle stage include author Jean Patrick at 11:30 and 2:30, Spirt of Oz characters at 12:30 and 3:30 and an Insphyre Performance at 1:30. Throughout the park, you will find tents full of things to

do – percussion zoo, theatre games, and art activities. Celebrating the 80th anniversary of "The Wizard of Oz", The Spirit of Oz characters, Dorothy, Tin Man, Scarecrow and the Cowardly Lion will be around the park when not performing on stage. Keep an eye out for additional photo opportunities with Biscuit, Pete the Cat, Wild Thing, Buddy and Lightning Bug. The daytime activities conclude at 4:30 with an ice cream social and entertainment by Storybook Land Theatre in the Castle.

Starting around 9:00 pm, Insphyre



will present a fire show, located west of the Storybook Land parking lot, near the film location. In celebration of the 80th anniversary of the premier of "The Wizard of Oz", the movie will be shown at dusk, sponsored by NVC to conclude the Festival.

Storybook Land Festival is co-sponsored by Aberdeen Parks, Recreation & Forestry, Aberdeen Area Arts Council, K.O. Lee Aberdeen Public Library and Sertoma Club. Additional support is provided by Aberdeen Hotel Alliance, South Dakota Arts Council, Northwestern Energy, NVC, and the Fraternal Order of Police.

welcome new members

Kitchen Tune-Up Corporate Office
Craig Green
813 Circle Dr, Aberdeen
(605) 225-4049 • craig@kitchentuneup.com



At Kitchen Tune-Up, we believe that you don't have to spend a fortune or be displaced from your home for weeks to get the space you've always wanted. We offer five service options at different price points, and many projects can be complete in only one to five days. We have fast & affordable options to get a fresh new look for your kitchen, bath or business

Aberdeen Massage



Russell Kimball
202 S Main St Suite 450, Aberdeen
(605) 377-5930 • aberdeensdmassage@icloud.com
Aberdeen Massage provides deep, specific, therapeutic muscular balancing, so that you may live at your natural best. We do not offer spa services, instead everything we do moves towards the goal of getting your muscles and soft tissues in balance.

Join the SUN-"BLOCK PARTY"

The Avera St. Luke's Foundation and Business Health will be hosting a Sun-"Block Party" from 2 to 6 p.m. on Wednesday, July 31.

The event will be in the parking lot and green east of the Avera Human Performance Center of Aberdeen, 815 First Ave. S.E.

Avera St. Luke's will be promoting preventative healthcare with free personalized and accurate skin cancer screening in the Mobile Unit. For more information about the event, call the ASL Foundation at 605-622-5887 or email ASLFoundation@avera.org.

In addition to the screenings, the block party will have music, informational tables and medical staff on hand to visit with, as well as games on the green.

Block Party goers can also plan to have lunch or dinner at one of the food trucks, with a percentage of those proceeds directly benefitting the patient programs and needs of the Aberdeen Cancer Center.

This is a great family event! Swag Bags will be handed out to the first 125 guests.



Hospitality, Blogging and a Summer Packed with Events



Laura Ptacek
Convention Sales & Marketing Coordinator, Aberdeen Area CVB

Here's what's happening at the CVB:

SD High School Clay Target League hospitality room

As I write this, Aberdeen just finished hosting the South Dakota High School Clay Target League state tournament. More than 800 athletes

and over 100 coaches were in town for this event, held at the Aberdeen Gun Club on June 8-9. The CVB provided a hospitality room for coaches, volunteers and officials, to show our appreciation for the opportunity to have this event in our wonderful city. We hope that our visitors had a positive experience in Aberdeen, and would love to host this event again in the future.

New ways of marketing Aberdeen

Perhaps more influential than traditional marketing efforts is word of mouth advertising – referrals from family and friends are much more credible and memorable, especially when it comes to vacation destinations. And, if you've ever visited Facebook, Pinterest or Instagram, you know that a growing number of people are looking to social media influencers and bloggers to help make their travel decisions.

Here's how the CVB fits into this new concept: basically, a destination hosts a blogger, and in turn, they write blog posts and feature articles detailing their experience. The larger their following, the more chance their followers will take their advice and travel to that destination. But for us, it all starts with that initial connection.

That's why this summer the CVB is partnering with the Midwest Travel Network, a group that works to connect travel bloggers and writers with

destinations. Staff members from the CVB attended the annual conference this past June in Medora, ND, and didn't just attend, but served as a sponsor of the event. Many contacts were made and will hopefully result in some awesome coverage of Aberdeen! We will share the articles on social media as they become available.

Awesome Upcoming Events

It's summer, so of course that means big events coming your way in Aberdeen! Of course the Storybook Land Festival will be held July 19-20, but don't forget about the Downtown Summer Concert Series happening throughout the summer, Aqua Addicts Waterski shows every Thursday, and the Brown County Fair August 12-18...and MORE can be found at our calendar of events on our website – www.visitaberdeensd.com/calendar. And as always, please keep submitting your events to us! Hope to see you out and about this summer in Aberdeen!

South Dakota Ranks High in Fiscal Stability, Natural Environment

Recently US News & World Report released their Best State Rankings report, showcasing where states excel. South Dakota ranked 20th overall. More than 70 metrics and thousands of data points were used to measure outcomes in eight different areas. More weight was given to some measure than others, based on a survey of what matters most to people

The areas measured and South Dakota's ranking in each area are:

Health Care (weighted 16%) – 32

Education (16%) – 18

Economy (14%) – 27

Infrastructure (13%) – 16

Opportunity (13%) – 34

Fiscal Stability (11%) – 3

Crime & Corrections (10%) – 40

Natural Environment (8%) – 2

South Dakota ranked 14 in 2018 and 15 in 2017. The full reports, and much more, can be found at www.usnews.com/news/best-states/rankings.



Aberdeen Named 2019 8th Best Small City to Start a Business

Aberdeen was named 2019's 8th Best Small City to Start a Business in a recent study from the leading personal finance outlet WalletHub.com.

To determine the most business-friendly small markets in the U.S., WalletHub compared more than 1,200 cities with fewer than 100,000 residents across 18 key metrics. The data set ranges from small business growth rates and accessibility of financing to investor access and labor costs.

Starting a Business in Aberdeen (1=Best; 631=Avg.):

556th – Human-Resource Availability
117th – Office-Space Affordability

390th – Labor Costs

251st – Avg. Length of Work Week

378th – Avg.

Revenue per Business

534th – Industry

Variety

The top 10, from 1 to 10, are Holland MI, St George UT, Ft Meyers FL, Redmond OR, Cheyenne WY, Huntsville TX, Bozeman MT, Aberdeen, Bend OR and Wilson NC.

You can find the full study at



<https://wallethub.com/edu/best-small-cities-to-start-a-business/20180/>

Enhance the Effectiveness of Employees



Kelly Weaver
Regional Director,
Small Business
Development Center

Successful businesses often say that their most important asset is their people. As an employer, you already know they can spell the difference between success and failure for your company. Most employees want to do a good job, and their job

satisfaction has a direct bearing on their personal effectiveness. Here are five approaches that will help you contribute to the effectiveness of your staff and the success of your business.

1. Give employees the right tools (and enough of them) to do their job. Tools can take a variety of forms: training, furniture and equipment, software or basic office supplies. Observe and ask.

2. Make sure employees are informed about the company and where it is going. Share basics like new hires, new clients, new product lines, changes in operations, etc. By giving everyone the same information, you discourage rumors and cultivate a team spirit.

3. Offer employees a way to measure their improvement and progress. The feedback you give, both quantitative and qualitative, should help employees to better understand their job but why it is important to the company's success. Realistic, achievable goals are great motivators. Show your employees the career path available to them to advance in your company.

4. Actively encourage employees to find solutions to the problems they encounter in serving customers and performing their individual jobs. What can you do today to foster a climate in which they feel empowered to do so? Take a step back, ask questions, and get your employees to contribute.

5. Make an effort to understand what motivates your employees. Having your team participate in an assessment can give your team a better understanding of how team member approaches their work. A couple of free options are www.16personalities.com or



rosegrouppintl.com/the-quiz/.^{*} The more we understand our team, the better we can work together effectively.

While working to improve the effectiveness of a team can be challenging, it can also be the most rewarding work you do.

^{*}The Rose Group International is a South Dakota consulting company who developed this tool to assess culture types based on how people like to work.

Kelly Weaver is the Regional Director of the Small Business Development Center which offers free, confidential business consulting to start up and existing businesses. She can be reached at (605) 626-2565 or kelly@growsd.org. The Center is hosted by GROW South Dakota.

2019 Aberdeen Central High School Hall of Fame Inductees Announced

The Aberdeen Public Schools Foundation is pleased to announce the Aberdeen Central High School Hall of Fame Class of 2019:

Academics/Achievement

Julie M. Johnson, CHS Class of 1971
Karen (Lust) McLaughlin, CHS Class of 1981
Dr. Kenneth J. Meier, CHS Class of 1968

Athletics

Tonia (Burgard) Heath, CHS Class of 1999
Dallas Hoff, CHS Class of 1949
Todd Thorson, CHS Class of 1989

Fine Arts

Tracy (Art) Anderson, CHS Class of 1984
Roger McCafferty, CHS Class of 1981
Dr. Susan K. Vaughan, CHS Class of 1965

Distinguished Service

Mary Amacher, CHS 1950-1988

Saturday, September 28, 2019

At Central High School, 2200 South Roosevelt Street, Aberdeen, SD

5:00 p.m. - Hall of Fame Social, CHS Commons Area

5:30 p.m. - Hall of Fame Banquet, CHS Commons Area

After Dinner guests will be directed to the Thomas F. Kelly Theatre for the Hall of Fame Induction Ceremony and entertainment. A dessert reception will follow in the CHS Commons Area.

Ticket information: Banquet Tickets are \$35 per person. (\$40 per person after September 10.)

Tickets may be purchased after July 1 through the foundation website at <https://aberdeen.k12.sd.us/foundation/> or Aberdeen Public Schools Foundation office at 1224 3rd St. South, Aberdeen SD, 57401. Contact the Foundation Office at 605-725-7118 or Gretchen. Sharp@k12.sd.us

If you would like to sponsor a table for \$500 (includes 6 banquet tickets and recognition in the program and at the banquet) or an inductee's tickets for \$70, please contact Gretchen.



Aberdeen Public Schools Foundation

The CHS Hall of Fame is a special project of the Aberdeen Public Schools Foundation. For more information, contact the Aberdeen Public Schools Foundation at (605) 725-7118 or visit the foundation website at <https://aberdeen.k12.sd.us/foundation/>.

Recent NCAA Report Proves Community Engagement is a Pillar for NSU Athletics

The NCAA recently released the 2018-19 Helper Helper Report, which tracks community engagement for all member institutions. Northern State University Athletics finished the academic year ranked 20th out of over 300 NCAA Division II members.



Northern student-athletes accounted for over 5,000 community service hours in the past year from 329 total student-athletes. The Wolves averaged 15.4 hours per participant that logged into the Helper Helper app.

Earlier this spring, NSU Swimming was honored as the volunteer team of the year at the second annual Thunder Awards, and were honored again on this report sitting third among all NCAA Division II female programs. Likewise, Wolves baseball landed fifth among male programs.

In addition, four Wolves Athletics

teams landed in the top-10 of their respective sports at the Division II level.

On the men's side, baseball led the way in the NCAA and accumulated 1,424 community service hours, averaging 33.1 hours per student-athlete, while wrestling came in fifth with 328 total team hours, averaging 13.1 hours per student-athlete.

On the women's side, swimming came in second



with 1,237 total team hours, averaging 68.7 hours per student-athlete, and women's basketball finished fifth with 637 total team hours, averaging 37.5 hours per student-athlete.

Community engagement initiatives for Wolves Athletics throughout the year include the annual Day of Champions and the SAAC Dare to Share Food Drive, among many others.

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Do You Remember Your First Job?



Kim Dorsett
Partner, Richard-son, Wyly, Wise, Sauck & Hieb

Growing up on a farm, my job was whatever my dad told me to do. Whether it was picking rock, feeding animals, or mowing the lawn, the jobs were not glamorous but they kept me occupied and “out

of trouble” as he liked to say. I am a firm believer that these first jobs as a youth instill character and work ethic, and cultivate an appreciation for the everyday blessings and benefits. I am appreciative of the many businesses that offer employment opportunities for our youth in Aberdeen. If you are an employer of workers under 18, it is important to know the youth employment laws in South Dakota.

For children younger than 16 years, they may not be employed:

- * In any occupation dangerous to life, health or morals
- * For more than 4 hours per school day or 20 hours per school week

- * For more than 8 hours per non-school day or 40 hours per non-school week

- * Later than 10 p.m. on a school night

Furthermore,

children younger than 14 years may not be employed:

- * During school hours

- * Later than 7 p.m.

- * At any time in any factory or workshop or about any mine

Additionally, children ages 16 and 17 may not work in any job declared hazardous by the federal government, which includes processing plants, roofing operations or all work on a roof, mining, firefighting, or work around many types of power-driven machines and saws.

Various exceptions to these laws exist for child actors, jobs pumping gas or detasseling hybrid seed corn during any non-school day or non-school week, employment by parents, employment necessary for the child’s support, or employment using agricultural equipment. Youth employment laws also cover the facilities in which a child may work, how often it must be cleaned and when it can be inspected.

These rules and exceptions can be complex and this article should not be construed as legal advice. For questions about this topic or any other business law matter, please consult an attorney.



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Chamber Board Welcomes Johnson as New Member

Recently Heath Johnson joined the Chamber’s Board of Directors as its newest member. Heath is the board’s Aberdeen Downtown Association liaison. He is a commercial real estate broker with Dakota Plains Commercial Real Estate in addition to being the current President of the Downtown Parking Board and the Aberdeen Area Community Foundation. Heath currently serves as a member of the Aberdeen Family YMCA Board of Directors and is Past President of the Aberdeen Downtown Association and the Business Improvement District. He is a graduate of the 2017 Leadership Aberdeen class. Welcome, Heath! We look forward to benefiting from your knowledge and expertise to help make the Chamber even better for our members and the entire Aberdeen community.



DC Needs to Know About Wet Conditions



Dusty Johnson
US
Congressman
(R-SD)

Agriculture producers need relief. For months, South Dakota and our neighboring states faced record flooding and now we're seeing continued wet conditions from rainfall. For those of us who didn't grow up in Ag,

rainstorms are equated with things like blankets, movies, and cancelled ball games. For South Dakota producers, more rain means delay. It means folks can't plant their crops — it means folks can't make a living.

The USDA crop progress report tells us that only 25% of our intended corn acres are planted, but that's not a surprise to South Dakota's farmers and ranchers.

South Dakota producers are resilient and survived one of the harshest winters on record, followed by devastating spring flooding and a delayed planting season. Last week, Ron from Marion contacted my office. Ron and his son are farmers and feed cattle. He let me know that almost nothing has been planted in his area and he won't be able to feed his cattle unless straw was shipped in from across the state.

Much of the national media doesn't view continual moisture as a flood — it doesn't make the front pages and the Speaker isn't demanding to bring to the issue to the floor for debate. But for those families praying for the sun to shine or for just one good day of dry fields, there is nothing more important.

As a nation we pride ourselves on our ability to help our neighbors in need and provide assistance where we can.

I appreciate the administration's recent announcement that it will provide \$16 billion in farm assistance to producers, but we need to find a solution for the long-term. This problem isn't new. The United States is in its fifth year of declining commodity prices and net farm income. Our producers need certainty when weather conditions stall their production, our producers need an

open-market, and our producers need Congress to pass the United States-Mexico-Canada Agreement.

To me, making crop insurance and prevent plant work, cutting red tape to make sure our livestock producers have enough feed to get through the year, and keeping our focus on market access are some things we absolutely can and should unite on to find common sense solutions. I'm glad to have two effective colleagues in the Senate to help me with this challenge as well as other members of the House facing similar problems from Arkansas to Illinois.

When Congress returns to work next week, passing a disaster package must be our top priority.

To do this, my colleagues need to understand what "wet conditions" truly mean. To South Dakotans, wet conditions can be the breaking point for family farms and rural communities. That's the message I plan to bring back to D.C. next week as we get to work for producers.



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Focusing on Lowering Healthcare Costs



Mike Rounds
US Senator (R-SD)

Since I've been in the Senate, I have been focused on reversing the negative impacts Obamacare has had on South Dakota families. I was working as governor when Obamacare was signed into law and began to be implemented, and

I saw firsthand how destructive the law was. For example, before it was enacted, South Dakota had more than a dozen insurers providing individual insurance. Today, there are just two. Additionally, South Dakota's plans addressed those with pre-existing conditions before Obamacare's one-size-fits-all mandates drove companies out of the market.

Costs for families continue to skyrocket because Obamacare—the so-called Affordable Care Act—is simply unaffordable for most South Dakotans. I am working in the Senate to find a solution to our country's healthcare

needs. I recently invited Sen. Lamar Alexander (R-Tenn.), chairman of the Senate Committee on Health, Education, Labor and Pensions, to join me in Sioux Falls where we spoke with members of the South Dakota Association of Healthcare Organizations about how we can minimize healthcare costs and lower premiums for South Dakota families. We also discussed ways we can reduce healthcare costs that both Republicans and Democrats can agree on, including addressing the rising costs of prescription drugs, incentivizing primary care and preventative care, and increasing transparency.

Chairman Alexander has years of experience working on healthcare issues, and I appreciated having him in South Dakota with me to talk about how we can work with providers to improve delivery of care while reducing costs for consumers. Last year, we worked closely together on legislation known as Alexander/Murray, a bipartisan proposal that would have lowered health insurance premiums by up to 40 percent over three years. I also supported bipartisan legislation that would have

stabilized the individual market through new risk mitigation programs. Election-year politics got in the way of both of these bills making it across the finish line.

We continue to support the full repeal and replacement of Obamacare, but we are also leading efforts to chip away at it piece-by-piece. We're focusing on undoing the law's most unpopular provisions, like the Cadillac Tax, that would impose a 40 percent tax on certain employer-sponsored health care plans. I introduced a bipartisan bill this year to repeal the

Cadillac Tax provision in Obamacare with Sen. Martin Heinrich from New Mexico. We already have more than 20 cosponsors of our legislation, and we continue to work hard to move it forward.

We were successful in getting rid of Obamacare's individual mandate in last year's tax reform package, as well as the Independent Payment Advisory Board, which was often called a "death panel." While there is more work to do, we have made progress undoing some of Obamacare's worst provisions.

When we're talking about how to reduce healthcare costs, prescription drug prices are an important part of the discussion. We all know costs are way too high for prescription drugs. Patient demand for prescription drugs continues to grow, especially as the baby-boomer generation ages and their health care needs increase. I'm working to find legislative approaches that incentivize companies to lower their prices and produce safe, effective products while at the same time allow the U.S. to continue leading the way in research and development for new life-saving medicines.

I cosponsored the CREATES Act again this Congress, bipartisan legislation that seeks to enhance competition in the prescription drug market by fast-tracking the approval process for generic drugs. I also support President Trump's initiatives to lower drug prices. His plan would end the gaming of regulatory and patent processes by drug makers to unfairly protect monopolies and would streamline and accelerate the approval process for over-the-counter drugs.

I will continue working to provide relief to South Dakota families, who deserve quality, affordable healthcare. We'll continue to focus on reforms that are patient-centered and market-based, while also working to protect individuals with pre-existing conditions who have purchased insurance, children remaining on their parents' plans until the age of 26, guaranteed renewal of coverage and portability of coverage. These principles will give all South Dakotans the opportunity to access affordable health care coverage and give them a choice when it comes to making healthcare decisions that are best for themselves and their families.

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Dialing in on Robocall Scammers



John Thune
US Senator
(R-SD)

After the Senate recently passed my TRACED Act, bipartisan legislation that targets people who are behind illegal and abusive robocalls, I joked that if a Packers fan and a Patriots fan can work

together (I teamed up with Sen. Ed Markey from Massachusetts), there's hope for the country. Tongue in cheek, yes, but there's a bit of truth to it, too. There are plenty of areas where members of Congress disagree, but there's not enough focus on the things we agree on, like ending illegal robocalls.

Saying the TRACED Act simply passed the Senate would be an understatement, though, since it was overwhelmingly approved by a vote of 97 to 1, something that doesn't happen every day in the Senate. In fact, the TRACED Act passed by a larger margin than any other bill that has been considered on the Senate floor for a roll call vote during this entire Congress. Why? Well, because it's about as commonsense and straightforward as it comes.

The TRACED Act has three main pillars. First, it lays the groundwork for putting some teeth into the law that would help punish and deter mass robocallers. I believe a credible threat of criminal prosecution – putting people behind bars – is both necessary and appropriate for someone who is willing, for example, to scam an elderly South Dakotan by telling them their grandchild is stranded overseas and needs a large sum of money to receive help. It's hard to believe someone would do something like that, but I've heard countless stories just like this one.

As a result, the bill would require people and entities who would be responsible for investigating and enforcing criminal violations, like experts from the Federal Communications Commission (FCC), the Federal Trade Commission (FTC), the law enforcement community, the telecommunications industry,

and others, to come up with the appropriate framework to define how to most effectively go after these bad guys. It would then be up to Congress to make the law, but given that the TRACED Act passed with near unanimous support, I'm confident we'd be able to move the ball down the field.

The second pillar of my bill would increase the financial penalty for offenders and expand the window in which fines could be levied. Under current law, there is little, if anything, that can be done to penalize scammers more than one year after an illegal call is made. The TRACED Act would expand the timeframe from one year to three years and increase the financial penalty in the second and third years from zero dollars to up to \$10,000 per call.

Finally, my bill goes after spoofed calls – the kind of calls that come from a familiar number (sometimes even an identical known number) but is clearly a scammer who is targeting you or your family. The bill would require the FCC to adopt an industry-wide framework for call authentication to ensure the number that shows up on your phone is truly associated with the person making the call. It would also make it far easier for carriers – think Verizon, AT&T, Sprint, etc. – to block calls that aren't properly authenticated. In other words, it would help create a system where these scam or spoofed calls never reach your phone in the first place.

Collectively, while not a cure-all, the improvements



in the TRACED Act would go a long way toward thwarting illegal robocalls. The bill is supported by all 50 state attorneys general, all current commissioners at the FCC and FTC, consumer and industry groups around the country, including AARP, and nearly the entire U.S. Senate. Even Senate Minority Leader Chuck Schumer (D-N.Y.) said, "The TRACED Act is just what we need to hang up on these non-stop robocalls, and the House should follow the Senate's lead and pass it ASAP." I don't say it often, but I couldn't agree more with Sen. Schumer.

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The Momentum is Just Starting



Dr. Tim Downs
President, Northern State University

Recently, we updated our university tagline:

One of the key takeaways from our brand research was Northern is a diamond-in-the-rough institution – a little-known secret. Our research may have been right, at the time, but not for

long.

There are too many amazing things that have happened throughout the years at Northern – things that continue to occur and will happen in the future – and we cannot be timid about what we do. We must share our story and let everyone know: We're unleashing the potential of our students and campus to the entire world.

It's well-known we're investing more than \$120 million in infrastructure upgrades over less than a decade, starting with the Johnson Fine Arts Center, moving to three new residence

UNLEASH *your* POTENTIAL
— JOIN THE PACK —

halls, athletic and recreation fields for football, soccer and student recreation, a state-of-the-art science center and finishing with an on-campus football stadium and softball field. We could not do these things alone. Northern has benefitted from an unprecedented amount of support from our alumni, community and friends of the university. We cannot thank our supporters enough for these investments in Northern.

It's much more than buildings and facilities. It's about developing long-term partnerships that will enhance relationships and benefit the region and state. It's also about scholarships, and we haven't forgotten that – we'll always be raising endowment funds that help offset tuition costs. Finally, it's about instilling a mentality of success for our students, campus and region.

That's what I mean by the momentum is just starting. Everyone must work together, individuals on and off campus, preparing current and future students to dream big and achieve the impossible. Buildings and facilities are an important driver, but they're just the start. We all need to row in the same direction because together, we can accomplish amazing things.

I encourage you to help in any way possible. Wear maroon and gold, donate to a scholarship endowment, attend a fine arts performance, or join your high school student on a tour of campus. However you're able, I ask you to help us dream big and continue unleashing Northern's potential.

Go Wolves!

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Merxbauer is 2019 Chamber Intern



My name is Mary Merxbauer, and I am going into my senior year at the University of South Dakota this fall. I am majoring in English and minoring in Political Science and Mass Communications. I have not decided my next aspiration after my undergraduate degree at this time, but

I am considering Law school and other graduate and master programs. In my last three years at USD, I was an intern at the South Dakota State Legislature and an intern at the Vermillion Chamber as a graphic designer. Here at the Aberdeen Chamber, I have learned so much about my hometown and about the busy jobs of the ladies here in the Chamber. All of my internships have provided knowledge and experience for my future endeavors.

Beyond my career goals, I am one

of five children with seven nieces and nephews. My parents own the Dental Center here in Aberdeen, and my three older siblings have moved back to Aberdeen and started their own careers and businesses here. This summer, I will be getting married at Sacred Heart Church to a man who is also one of five children. I will be gaining wonderful in-laws and seven more nephews and nieces. This summer will be full of adventures and I look forward to all of them here at the Chamber!

Olympic Development Soccer Trials on the PC Saints Field



Teresa Levsen-Garofalo
Director of Annual Giving, Presentation College

In June, Presentation College welcomed the Dakota Olympic Development program's selection camps for boys and girls.

Dakota ODP is a youth soccer development program, founded

in 1977 to help identify potential national Olympics team players. The organization runs a series of trials at district, state, region and national levels. Hundreds of soccer



players from North and South Dakota participated in the event on the PC Saints soccer and practice fields.



Mark your calendars for the

BROWN COUNTY FAIR'S

volunteer sign up events.

Refreshments will be provided along with door prizes from some of our local businesses. The first event will be held on Tuesday, July 9th at 6:30 p.m. to 8 p.m. at the Elks. The second event will be held on Monday, July 22nd at 6:30 to 8 p.m. at the clubhouse at the fairgrounds. Come on the date that works best for you. Hope to see you there!

ABERDEEN AREA HUMANE SOCIETY'S

PUTTIN' FOR PAWS

Charity golf event to benefit the Aberdeen Area Humane Society

JULY 27 | 11 AM
18 HOLE, 4 PERSON SCRAMBLE
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ABERDEEN AREA HUMANE SOCIETY
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Your Yard Can Be a Sustainable Ecosystem



Sienna Wessel,
Biology Lab Manager,
NSU

Homeowners collectively use millions of gallons of water, gas, and chemicals each year to upkeep a living carpet which provides little value to wildlife. This year, challenge yourself to rethink your lawn space as a sustainable

ecosystem that can be easy to establish and care for. Areas that are along the house, driveways, and at the base of trees are excellent candidates for native plant beds because they aren't useful for play and are tricky to reach during maintenance. Downsizing "turf" space also means that you will be able to mow and water less.

Lay down several layers of newspaper and cardboard and wet down for several days to kill off the grass underneath your new bed. Then

simply till and plant a variety of native species. Selecting a mix with several prairie grasses (tall, short, cool, and warm season types), varied flower colors and shapes, and staggered bloom times will keep pollinators around from early spring to fall. Your lawn will now provide valuable food and shelter for wildlife as well.

Lawns planted with a diversity of species will naturally be better able to outcompete weeds, but you can also opt to mulch between plant clusters for added water retention and weed prevention. The remaining "turf" of the lawn can be planted to a few drought and disease-resistant native species of short grasses to achieve a soft living carpet effect with little to no mowing. Just a few of the options for South Dakotan lawns include clustered field sedge, Idaho fescue, buffalograss, and blue grama. Use a mix of cool and warm season grasses to ensure the lawn stays green for the whole growing season without extra water or

fertilizer. Wildlife agencies can assist with planning and locating appropriate native plant suppliers while many greenhouses tend to carry cultivars that aren't as well suited to the local environment.

Selecting appropriate native trees, grasses, and perennials for your lawn will allow you to go much longer between watering, forgo chemicals, improve the soil, reduce rainwater runoff and pollute less with lawn equipment. Once you see the complex beauty of a native lawn that allows you to save time, money, and work, you will be glad you took on the challenge.

TIP: Visit your local NRCS office for a copy of "Living Landscapes in South Dakota: A Guide to Native Plantscaping"

Sienna Wessel is the Biology Lab Manager at Northern State University and former technician for the US Fish and Wildlife Service, Game, Fish and Parks, NRCS, and the Nature Conservancy.

Aspire Foundation, Inc



Annual Golf Benefit

Friday ~ August 2nd, 2019

Lee Park Golf Course

Registration begins at 12:00pm. Shotgun start at 1pm.

The Aspire Foundation provides financial support to Aspire, Inc. We are a non-profit organization with a mission to create opportunities for people with disabilities to enhance the community.

Tournament Fees: \$400.00 per 4-person team
This includes green fees, cart and meal (after tournament).
Register at www.aspiresd.org/golf-tournament

For more information or to register, call Janae at 605-229-0263 ext. 1007

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