

BELLE FOURCHE ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT



Leadership Belle Fourche

December 16, 2021

Time: 12:00 p.m.

Location: BFDC Conference Room - 5th & Grant Plaza, 608 5th Ave.

BFDC Board of Directors Meeting

December 8, 2021

Time: 7:00 a.m.

Location: BFDC Conference Room - 5th & Grant Plaza, 608 5th Ave.

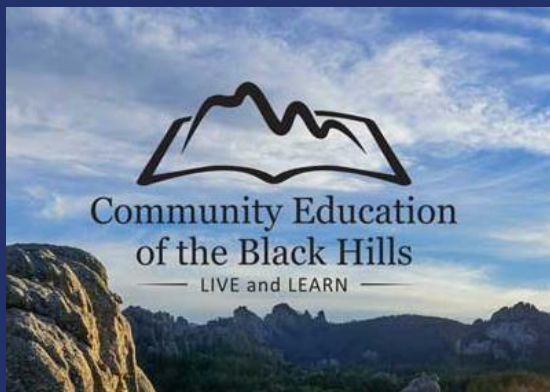
RESOURCE

Rushmore Region Economic Development Alliance

RushmoreRegion.com

We hope you enjoy and share this video of the amazing resources available in our 6-county region. Belle Fourche is in two different spots in the video.

Watch Video [HERE](#)



Live and Learn

The Fall 2021 Season of Community Education is here!

Registration Begins September 1st.

www.CommunityEducationClasses.org

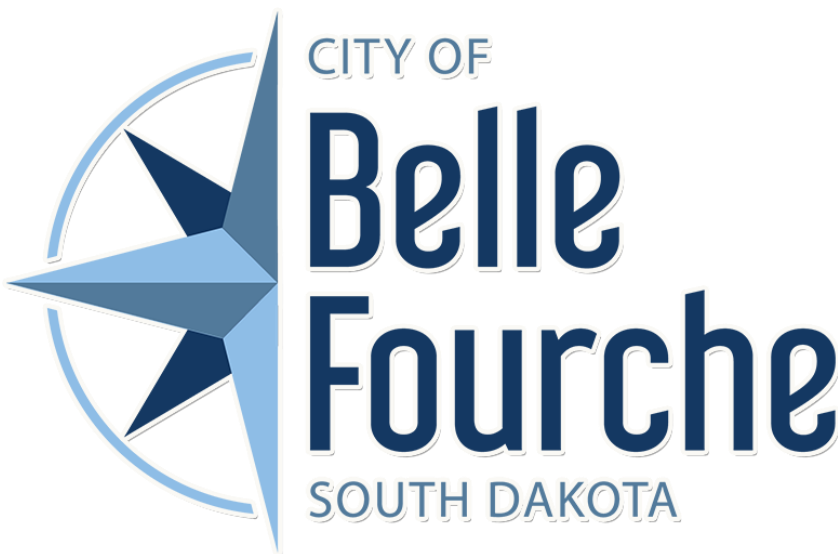
Sales Tax Revenue Stays Strong

Belle Fourche city sales tax figures for the month of October continue to show strong economic activity. A total of \$335,731.24 was collected last month marking the fourth straight month the city brought in more than \$300,000. Compared to last month the revenue was 2% less but year over year the city is 16% ahead of last year's record revenue.

Total sales tax revenue for the year through October is \$3.182 million. That total is more than what was collected in all of 2019, 2018, 2016 or 2015. It's only \$32,224 less than what was collected during last year's record revenue of \$3.214 million. At current rates the 2021 collections will easily exceed last year.



Third penny collections during October were \$21,488.63, a record for the month of October. It represented a 9% increase over last year. The total third-penny for the year through ten months is \$190,681.42 which exceeds the total for all of last year and surpasses the record third-penny collections of \$180,870.94 from 2019. At current rates 2021 will be the first year the city will have exceeded \$200,000 in third-penny revenue. Third penny revenue is a good measure of tourism and visitor activity. The tax is collected on hotels, restaurants, and adult beverages.



Various reasons have been given for the increase. Among them is the fact that local municipalities can now collect sales tax on online purchases, such as through Amazon.com. Of perhaps greater consequence is the amount of COVID stimulus money that has been sent through the economy, which has increased economic activity at all levels. There is also abundant evidence that more people have moved into the community during the 18 months of the pandemic. Finally, inflation is seen as a contributing factor. As the price of goods and services has increased, so has the level of sales tax collection.

How long the trend continues remains to be seen. COVID stimulus payments will soon wash through the economy. The key to sustained tax revenue levels will be how much real economic activity will be restored by residents returning to the workforce along with additional spending from incoming citizens.

Belle Fourche Beacon | news@bellefouchebeacon.com

Roundup Committee Delegation Leaves for NFR; Rodeo Nominated Again

Belle Fourche Beacon | December 1, 2021

**Story written prior to the Awards Ceremony the night of December 1st. Once again in 2021, the Black Hills Roundup has been awarded PRCA ProRodeo of the Year. This is their fourth consecutive year earning this distinction.

For the fourth straight year the Black Hills Roundup in Belle Fourche, SD, has been nominated for Medium Rodeo of the Year by PRCA athletes and contractors.

A delegation of about a dozen representatives from the rodeo committee has made the trip from Belle Fourche to Las Vegas this week for the awards banquet where the rodeo of the year is to be announced the evening of December 1st.

The Black Hills Roundup has won top honors three years in a row and the delegation hopes to accept the award for the fourth straight year.

"It's an honor to even be nominated and it would be pretty cool to win the award again," said Keith Anderson, Roundup Committee Chairman. "It

takes a lot of work and lot of coordination with so many volunteers and community organizations to put on a rodeo that Belle Fourche can be proud of. We're up against good competition once again and we'll just have to wait and see."

Others nominated in the category of Medium Rodeo of the year are as follows: Cave Creek, Ariz., Arcadia, Fla., Jackson, Miss. and Amarillo, Texas. The nominations come from the rodeo athletes, contractors and others who hold PRCA membership cards.

In 2020, when rodeos were sparse, South Dakota swept nearly every category with Belle Fourche winning, Deadwood's Days of '76 winning large outdoor rodeo and the Black Hills Stock Show taking large indoor honors. The latter two are also nominated once again this year.

"There are really three big parts to putting on the Roundup," Anderson told the Beacon. "One is to have the support of community through sponsorships and all the community does to help make Belle Fourche a destination over the Fourth of July. And then the second is the volunteers who show up and do their job every year.

We have so many long-time and loyal volunteers that often do a lot of the legwork that doesn't get noticed enough. And the third thing is everything coming together to put on a good show at the rodeo. That includes the specialty acts, the stock contractors and all the parts that make the rodeo a great show."

Long-time Roundup stock contractor Powder River Rodeo has also been nominated as one of five finalists for stock contractor of the year. Additionally, Black Hills Roundup Veterinarian Rhett Scoggin was one of five finalists for PRCA Veterinarian of the Year. That winner was named in early November, Dr. Benjamin Espy of San Antonio, TX. It was Scoggin's second time to be named a finalist for the award. The chairman of the Roundup Committee is once again this year going to be Keith Anderson. Normally an incoming chairman serves as vice-chair while "learning the ropes" from the current committee chairman and then in the second year is elevated to the chairmanship while training the next chairman.



The incoming chairman was to be Dirk Hoffman who currently serves as the Belle Fourche Director of Public Works. He resigned that post earlier this fall citing lack of time to serve both the city and the Roundup at the same time, and to avoid any potential conflicts of interest.

Clay Crago will serve as vice-chairman this year while Dallas Connor, Committee Secretary, will assume the post as Roundup Committee Chairwoman in 2023. She is a veteran committee board member and Anderson says she will step into the role without any problems. "She knows about as much as any of us about how things operate as the chairman," Anderson said.

While in Las Vegas at the NFR the committee plans to hold meetings with their stock contractor, specialty acts and generally keep a pulse on what rodeos are doing nationwide to attract top talent and draw crowds.

"One of the things we've added this year is an announcer on horseback, Andy Seiler, to go along with Steve Goedert who will be in the crow's nest," Anderson said. "The Roundup is getting to the stage where we've got to look at doing some of those things that larger rodeos do."

With the growth of the event the Roundup has also added two additional board members to make a total of nine.

Brett Crowser took Hoffman's place on the board, Levi Conry has been added and the ninth position will be filled soon according to Anderson.

Anderson said the main areas of focus for the Black Hills Roundup will continue to be improving the rodeo grounds and elevating the rodeo experience for fans.

In the last 3 years improvements have been made to the grandstands, VIP boxes were added, a mercantile building was built, a permanent hospitality building is in place and a new larger announcer's box was installed last summer.



**BHR EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE L-R: BRETT CROWSER, LEVI CONRY, CLAY CRAGO, KEITH ANDERSON, TERRY SIEGFRIED, DALLAS CONNER, MITCH JOHNSON, NOT PICTURED JUSTIN TUPPER.
PICTURE COURTESY OF JODIEB PHOTOGRAPHY BY JODIE BAXENDALE**

The next project will be building a raised observation deck by the west concessions area with permanent seating instead of folding chairs, allowing more room for fans to watch the rodeo.

"Last year we ran into an issue with seating. We hadn't had that much attendance since the 1940's and we were taken a bit by surprise," Anderson said.

The proposed party deck will be about 12-feet off the ground with a roof over it and is expected to cost in the range of \$70,000. If plans come together construction could begin this spring.

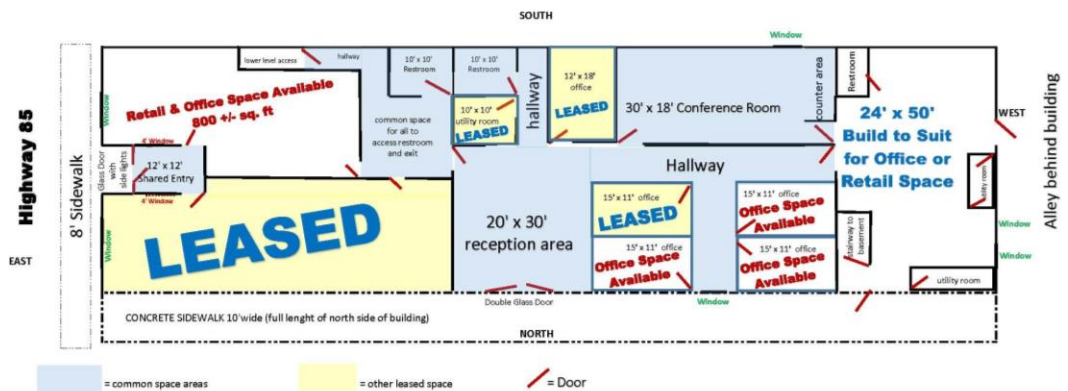
The past two weekends the Roundup Committee and Chutes for Charity organized a Christmas photo shoot at the Roundup grounds as a fundraiser. Families and individuals came to the rodeo grounds to have their Christmas card photos made in front of an old wagon decorated for Christmas. Anderson said close to \$2,000 was raised to benefit local charities.

Beautiful Belle Fourche



HUNTER ANDERSON PHOTOGRAPHY - Based in the Black Hills of South Dakota, Hunter specializes in candid, event, rural & real estate photography as well as 360 virtual tours. Follow us each newsletter as we feature his “Beautiful Belle Fourche” photos. HunterAndersonPhotography.com

- 767 +/- sq. ft. of retail or office space
- 3 – 11x15 offices
- Build to suit space in the west end of the building



Located in a downtown business plaza, excellent parking, and Highway 85 signage. Shared common space lobby and restrooms. Shared scheduled space of oversized conference room with technology in place. FREE Wi-Fi throughout the facility. For more information: 605-892-5065

The Federal Bonding Program
IT'S SIMPLE

The fidelity bonds issued by the FBP protect employers against employee fraud and dishonesty. Employers receive the bonds free-of-charge as an incentive to hire these applicants. The FBP was designed to reimburse the employer for any loss due to employee theft of money or property up to \$5,000 during the first six months of a selected individual's term of employment.

Accessing the program is easy:

- **NO** application for job seekers to complete
- **NO** forms for employers to submit or sign
- **NO** additional paperwork after the bond expires
- **NO** deductible if employee dishonesty occurs
- **NO** age requirements for the bonded individuals (other than legal working age in State)

Fidelity bonds can be applied to:

- **ANY** job
- **ANY** state
- **ANY** employee dishonesty committed on or away from the work site
- **ANY** full or part time employee paid wages with Federal taxes automatically deducted, including individuals hired by temp agencies. However, self-employed people are not eligible for FBP bonds.



THE FEDERAL BONDING PROGRAM

Employers and Job Seekers



Employers and Job Seekers
GET A BOND

Our national network of State Bonding Coordinators work hand-in-hand with local, state, regional, and national employers; workforce agencies; job seekers; and grantees to issue bonds. If you are seeking bonding services and/or a job you should call the following toll-free number, **1.877.US2.JOBS (1.877.872.5627)** for:

1. the location of the workforce office/one-stop center closest to you,
2. the phone number of the State Bonding Coordinator in your state. If no coordinator is assigned in a particular state, the nearest career center/one stop center for employment may assist.

** Employment offer must be presented to an individual prior to bond being issued.*

No other U.S. program provides Fidelity Bonding services.

The Federal Bonding Program
WHAT IS IT?

The U.S. Department of Labor established the Federal Bonding Program (FBP) in 1966 to provide Fidelity Bonds that protect employers against employee fraud and dishonesty for "at-risk," hard-to-place job seekers. The bonds cover the first six months of employment. There is no cost to the job applicant or the employer.

Thousands of employers across the country have integrated the Federal Bonding Program into their hiring practices — industries that support our country's economy — hospitality, retail, construction, transportation, auto repair, manufacturing, healthcare, banking, tourism and more. The Federal Bonding program has placed over 50,000 at-risk job seekers into employment through bonds. This unique hiring incentive tool targets individuals whose backgrounds can pose significant barriers to securing or retaining employment including:

- Justice-involved men, women and youth
- Individuals in recovery from substance abuse
- TANF recipients
- Individuals with poor credit records
- Economically disadvantaged youth and adults with little or no work histories
- Individuals dishonorably discharged from the military

Success and Prosperity
WHO WE SERVE



Employers

The mission of the Federal Bonding Program (FBP) is to give employers the peace of mind that you can safely provide all individuals job opportunities with limited risk.

The FBP helps to reduce barriers for justice-involved individuals, as well as others who have difficulty securing employment and getting their lives back on track builds strong, healthy communities.

Visit us online at:
www.bonds4jobs.com

Job Seekers

Each year, justice-involved men, women, and young adults return home to restart their lives; unfortunately to ridicule, discrimination, and hostility. No wonder annually, America's 600,000 returning citizens are experiencing an up-hill battle that most times leads to recidivism. Many of those instances involve repeat, non-violent offenses due to lack of access to education, health/mental care, treatment, housing, training, and employment.

The Federal Bonding Program can help those facing barriers to employment by providing fidelity bonding for the first six months on the job with the option to be renewed for another 6 months.