

BELLE FOURCHE ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT



Belle Fourche Paint The Town

June 21 - 25

Location: Home located at 1103
5th Ave, Belle Fourche.

VOLUNTEERS NEEDED!

Contact Paul Kuhn at
NeighborWorks 605-578-1401 to
sign up.

Belle Fourche Kite Festival & Duck Races

May 22, 2021

Time: 11:00 a.m. - 4:00 p.m.

Location: Tri-State Museum and
Visitor Center Grounds.

Leadership Belle Fourche Graduation

May 20, 2021

Social: 5:30 p.m.
Dinner, Speaker & Graduation
Ceremony at 6:00; conclude by
7:00 PM

Location: Graps Banquet Room



**Belle Fourche
Development
Corporation**

2021 Investment Campaign ~
Your investment creates opportunities in Belle Fourche!

Membership Is An Investment In The
Future Growth And Development Of
Our Community.

Apply & Pay Online:

bfdcsd.com/memberships/

South Dakota School Superintendents Assoc.

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

SOUTH DAKOTA SCHOOL SUPERINTENDENTS ASSOCIATION (SDSSA)

The South Dakota School Superintendent Association Executive Board is pleased to announce our 2021 Superintendent Awards. The 2021 Superintendent of the Year is Becky Guffin of the Aberdeen School District. Becky has served as a teacher, principal, assistant superintendent, adjunct professor, and superintendent in the Aberdeen Public School system since 1991. Dr. Guffin has been an administrator in the Aberdeen School District for the past 17 years serving as Superintendent of Schools since 2014. As Superintendent of Schools, Becky has successfully led building projects and consistently connect with staff and the community through multiple communication forums. Additionally, Dr. Guffin is known for her state leadership in education as she serves appointments on the State Board of Education Standards and the Blue-Ribbon Task Force to name a few of her many appointments.

The 2021 Distinguished Service Award recipients are Roger Degroot and Joel Price. Dr. Degroot retired in 2015 after serving 40 years in education the last 8 as the superintendent of the Brookings School District. Roger began his career as a teacher in 1975. He served as the superintendent of schools in Lennox and Brookings. During his career, he served as an educational leader and mentor. He not only built schools in the Lennox and Brookings School Districts, but he also provided avenues for young people in the profession to earn advanced degrees. Dr. Price retired in 2019 after serving 33 years in education the last 17 as the superintendent of the Faulkton Area School District and Stanley County School District. Joel began his career as a teacher and coach in 1986. He served as the superintendent of schools in Faulkton Area and Stanley County. During his career, he led a Blue-Ribbon School Excellence, connected with the community through active engagement in Economic Development, and connected communities through reorganization. Dr. Price believes strongly in the connection and impact relationships have on the character, growth, and personal development.

The 2021 Community Leader of the Year Award recipient is Brian Field. Mr. Field has served as a teacher, coach, principal, and superintendent for 34 years. Brian has been the superintendent in Beresford for the past 14 years. As Superintendent of Schools, Mr. Field has been a champion for the Beresford School District and the greater community. Brian developed and led the district through a 10-year strategic plan supported by uncontested opt outs. Mr. Field provides a model for other districts to follow in his development of the Watchdog Education Foundation, Hall of Fame, and Alumni Association. Mr. Field has not only made an impact in Beresford but also across the state with his servant leadership.

The 2021 Innovator of the Year Award recipient is Steven Willard. Dr. Willard has served as a teacher, coach, principal, and superintendent for 42 years. Steve has been the superintendent in Belle Fourche for the past 12 years. As Superintendent of Schools, Dr. Willard has been a champion for Career and Technical Education. He has led the Belle Fourche School District in an alternative calendar focused on remediation and enrichment programs. Dr. Willard has authored two grants supporting over one million dollars in innovative after school care. The Belle Fourche Board under Dr. Willard's leadership has led the industry in CTE programing and partnerships with their relationship with Western Dakota Technical College. Dr. Willard is Belle Fourche's biggest cheerleader and has tremendous pride in the community and his family.



2021 INNOVATOR OF THE YEAR AWARD RECIPIENT IS BELLE FOURCHE'S DR. STEVEN WILLARD.

The 2021 Rookie of the Year is Kimberly Kludt of the Deubrook Area School District. Dr. Kludt is in her third year as superintendent in Deubrook. She has engaged in her community and advocated on their behalf in Pierre. Dr. Kludt is committed to the students and staff of Deubrook. She continues to develop partnerships and relationships to provide opportunities for all.

These individuals will be honored at the annual Superintendent Conference held in July 2021.

Please direct any questions to:

Dr. Jennifer Lowery, Secretary SDSSA

Jennifer.lowery@k12.sd.us



From Mike Walker -

Executive Director of Neighbor Works Dakota Home Resources:

Pictured is our latest homeowner in Belle Fourche, Bethanie Z. Bethanie recently moved into her new home at 8th & Aurora. I would also like to thank Travis Martin from BH Title, Grant Welford from Macrovision Marketing, and Paul Kuhn, Grant Writer at NeighborWorks for volunteering your time and labor to help me install 1,300 sq. feet of Kentucky Bluegrass sod in Bethanie's front yard. Thanks again for all your help.





HAVING TROUBLE PAYING YOUR MORTGAGE, RENT OR UTILITIES?

You may be eligible for temporary assistance.

Recently, Treasury provided funding to assist South Dakota residents with emergency housing assistance. If you have been financially impacted due to COVID-19, the SD CARES Housing Assistance Program (SDCHAP) may provide temporary mortgage, rent and/or utility assistance.

Assistance provided is not a loan and does not have to be paid back. Payment is made directly to the mortgage servicer, landlord or utility provider on the applicant's behalf. Funding amount is based on need.

Funds can be used to cover rent, rental arrears, utilities, utility arrears, mortgage payments and mortgage delinquency, from March 13, 2020 to present.

DO I QUALIFY?

- ☒ Be a renter or homeowner;
- ☒ Have income at or below 80% of AMI (Renters) or 100% of AMI (Homeowners) for your respective county;
- ☒ Be financially impacted - directly or indirectly - by Covid-19;
- ☒ Owe past due mortgage, rent or utilities or unable to pay current housing expenses

AGENCIES PARTICIPATING

- ☒ Helpline Center
- ☒ Codrington County Welfare
- ☒ Grow South Dakota
- ☒ Inter-Lakes Community Action Partnership
- ☒ Lakota Funds
- ☒ Lutheran Social Services
- ☒ Mazaska Owecaso Otipi Financial
- ☒ NeighborWorks Dakota Home Resources
- ☒ Pennington County Health & Human Services
- ☒ Rural Office of Community Services, Inc.
- ☒ Western SD Community Action
- ☒ South Dakota Housing Development Authority

HOW TO APPLY

☒ Apply today:
sdcareshousingassistance.com

Verify eligibility requirements and begin the application process.

DOCUMENTATION NEEDED

- ☒ Photo ID (Driver's License or State/Tribally Issued ID)
- ☒ Copy of current agreements and your past due bills
- ☒ Proof of Income
- ☒ Documentation proving COVID-19 related financial hardship
- ☒ Other if requested



HAVE QUESTIONS:

Helpline Center @ 211 | SDHDA @ 800.540.4241



NEW CONSTRUCTION – Ready for Lease!

767 +/- sq. ft. of retail or office space for lease right on Highway 85 in the heart of Belle Fourche.

Located in a downtown business plaza, excellent parking, Highway 85 signage, and each tenant has individual entrance. 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



View the video from the annual meeting showing some of the many community successes:

<https://youtu.be/xNcTpAjWwzA>

GOVERNOR KRISTI NOEM ANNOUNCES 24 BROADBAND GRANT AWARDS

PIERRE, S.D. – Governor Kristi Noem announced today that 24 grants have been awarded to fund broadband projects to better connect unserved and underserved areas across South Dakota. In February, it was announced that \$25 million in CARES Act funding was made available for broadband projects that could be completed by the end of 2021. Additionally, South Dakota legislators approved an additional \$75 million in one-time state funding to finish connecting the state to high-speed broadband.

“We’re finishing our efforts to connect the entire state to high-speed broadband,” said Governor Kristi Noem. “Folks in South Dakota shouldn’t have to choose between their career and the way of life in their hometown. With these projects, more and more South Dakotans won’t have to make such a choice.”

The following grants were approved:

Alliance Communications
Fairview
\$209,195

Ft. Randal Telephone Company
Wagner, Lake Andes, Keystone, Hermosa,
Centerville, and Viborg
\$3,592,629

Interstate Telecommunications Cooperative
Grant County
\$1,364,238

James Valley Cooperative Telephone Company
City of Groton
\$293,927

Kennebec Telephone Company
Client Hardware
\$55,836

Midco Communications
Harrisburg, Rural Tea and Rural Vermillion
\$1,052,679

Midstate Communications
Oacoma
\$190,966

Mitchell Telecom
Rural E Davison

\$346,273

Northern Valley Communications
Brown County, Rural Bristol, Rural Conde
\$4,252,653

RC Technologies
Big Stone Lake
\$849,865

Santel Communications Cooperative
Beadle County and Rural Davison
\$8,657,456

TrioTel Communications
Junius and Fulton
\$883,882

Valley FiberCom
Rural Brookings and Kingsbury Counties
\$1,549,138

Vast Broadband
Rural Belle Fourche, Spearfish, Yankton, and Turner
Counties
\$1,457,352

Venture Vision
Hand County
\$5,768,727

In total, \$30.5 million in grants funds was approved for projects totaling more than \$56.7 million on broadband upgrades. 5,886 households and 377 businesses will be impacted by the grant dollars, meaning 6,263 locations in total will soon have access to broadband internet.

“High-speed broadband internet has long been a commodity our rural communities have hoped for, and I’m pleased these dollars are helping make that a reality,” said Commissioner Steve Westra, Governor’s Office of Economic Development. “Governor Noem’s steadfast commitment to South Dakotans of today and tomorrow has never been stronger. I’m proud of the work being done to aid in a stronger, brighter South Dakota.”

Full Connect South Dakota grant details can be found at sdgoed.com/public-records/connectsd/.

Firefly Builders begins manufacturing tiny homes.

By Kimberly Talcott, Black Hills Pioneer

BELLE FOURCHE —Tiny homes are taking over the building formerly known as ShopKo in Belle Fourche. Firefly Builders, Inc., began manufacturing tiny homes in the 44,000 square foot building space in March.

The first two tiny homes are nearing completion and will be placed on Ziebach Street in Belle Fourche as rental properties, said Kevin Wilen, Firefly Builders office manager.

“It has been a dream of the Firefly Builders owner, Wayne Koistinen, to build tiny homes, due to the lack of economical housing in the area. We have a physical location now to build them,” said Wilen.



Wilen said Firefly currently has two tiny home options in the works for customers to choose from: A small home of less than 800 square feet which includes two bedrooms and 1 bathroom, and a true tiny home with a footprint of less than 400 square feet including either a single bedroom and single bath, or an open floor plan.

Firefly is creating specific small and tiny home construction plans for customers to choose from. Customers can customize flooring, paint, and siding color, along with minor changes in the floor plans of the homes.

“These small and tiny homes can be put on a slab foundation, concrete pier foundation, or other options. We want to make this economical and still meet the codes of the communities,” said Wilen.

As Firefly continues to build its tiny homes business, Wilen said the cost of materials and available workforce are two big considerations. Wilen stated Firefly is trying to control the cost of building through manufacturing processes and procedures. Firefly plans to hire around 10 additional employees and anticipates working with local schools to find workers.

“As a localized manufacturing shop, we can hire those individuals that are not able to travel. We can utilize high school students that are interested in building trades,” said Wilen. “We’re working on establishing those partnerships.”

Firefly plans to take their tiny home venture nationwide. Plans to transport tiny homes manufactured in Belle Fourche to locations across the U.S., are in the works, according to Wilen.

“We know the housing market has gone through the roof here, and across the nation. The tiny home movement is eventually going to come here and be big,” said Wilen. “We are excited to bring this to the communities of western South Dakota and parts beyond.”



Thank You to our New & Returning 2021 Members

Black Hills Energy – Platinum
Black Hills Title - Platinum
David Pummel & Associates – Platinum
First Interstate Bank – Platinum
Gillette Fence – Platinum
Grossenburg Implements – Platinum
Jackson Dental – Platinum
Montana-Dakota Utilities - Platinum
Mineral Technologies Inc. - Platinum
Pioneer Bank & Trust – Platinum
Scull Construction - Platinum
State Home Care Services – Platinum
Upper Deck Architects, Inc. – Platinum
Belle Fourche School District - Gold
Bunney's Body & Collision Repair – Gold
Butte Electric – Gold
CBH Cooperative - Gold
Civil Design - Gold
ET Sports – Gold
Johner Trucking - Gold
Pain & Movement Solutions – Gold
Bennett Main & Gubbrud P.C. – Silver
Cowboys Too! – Silver
Dakota Home & Ranch Real Estate - Silver
Ensz Appraisals - Silver
Highmark Federal Credit Union – Silver
Hills Product Group – Silver
Joe Dirt – Silver
Leverington Funeral Home of NH – Silver
Morris Law Firm – Silver
New Generation Supplements – Silver

Clay Birkeland - Bronze
Black Hills Monument - Bronze
Black Hills Pioneer – Bronze
Black Hills Vision Care – Bronze
Branding Iron Steakhouse – Bronze
K & M Buchholz – Bronze
Carl's Trailer Sales – Bronze
Ferman & Barb Clarkson - Bronze
Jeb & Maureen Clarkson - Bronze
Clutter Buster Storage – Bronze
Dakota Lumber - Bronze
Denim & Opal - Bronze
Jim Doolittle – Bronze
Graps Burgers - Bronze
Brandon & Julie Hatling – Bronze
Hills Interiors - Bronze
Dirk & Betty Jo Hoffman - Bronze
Lensegrav & Sons Motor Express – Bronze
NeighborWorks Dakota Home Resources - Bronze
NH Federal Credit Union – Bronze
Redwater Eye Clinic – Bronze
Annie Reich - Bronze
SD Dept. of Labor – Bronze
Karen Wagner – Bronze
Legacy Financial Partners – Associate
Reese Property Mgt. - Associate
Z Productions – Associate
Wendy Bowers – Individual
Jay Cordell - Individual
Stan Harms – Individual
Renae Schaeffer – Individual



Belle Fourche Development Corporation

2021 Investment Campaign ~

Your investment creates opportunities in Belle Fourche!

Membership is an investment in the future growth and development of our community. Select your membership level and return this Member Application with your pledged amount.

MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION Belle Fourche Development Corporation

Date: _____

Name of Business: _____

Contact Person: _____

Billing Address: _____

Phone: _____

Website: _____

E-Mail: _____

Signature: _____

Please check one:

☐ Platinum
\$1,000 or above

☐ Gold
\$500 - \$999

☐ Silver
\$250 - \$499

☐ Bronze
\$100 - \$249

☐ Associate or Individual
\$50 - \$99

See page 2 for membership benefits and payment options

Page 1

We appreciate your investment and offer these member benefits in our promotional material:

1. \$1000 Membership

- ~ receives a scrolling logo on the BFDCSD.com home page.
- ~ member shout-outs in the BFDC newsletter and social media posts
- ~ a special BFDC gift

2. \$500-\$999 Membership

- ~ member shout-outs in the BFDC newsletter and social media posts
- ~ a special BFDC gift

3. \$250-\$499 Membership

- ~ member name listed & social media shout-outs

4. \$100-\$249 Membership

- ~ member name listed

Submit this application and membership investment to:
Belle Fourche Development Corporation
PO Box 344
Belle Fourche, SD 57717

3 Easy Ways to Pay!

1. Mail this application and membership investment

2. Mail this application with card information:

Name on card: _____

Card # _____

Card expiration date: _____

Security Code: _____ Amount: \$ _____

____ VISA ____ MASTERCARD ____ DISCOVER

A 3.5% transaction fee added to all credit card payments.

3. OR Apply AND Pay Online
at www.bfdcsd.com/memberships/