

# progress

MAGAZINE

2024 | MARCH - APRIL

[aberdeens-chamber.com](http://aberdeens-chamber.com)



[Aberdeenburgerbattle.com](http://Aberdeenburgerbattle.com)

*Paid Promotional Space*

## IN THIS ISSUE .....

community champions 3  
new members 7  
leadership aberdeen class 12-13  
aberdeens burger battle 16-17  
biz briefs 22-23

## It's Back! The Aberdeen Burger Battle

**April 1 – 30, 2024**

*See this year's entries on pages 16 & 17*



*Last Year's Winner, Three22 Kitchen & Cocktails with their winning entry – The Bourbon Bacon Burger. Pictured are General Manager Jacob Collins and Chef Tyler Badten*

**aberdeens**  
CHANGING THE GAME

**The Official Magazine of the Aberdeen Area Chamber of Commerce**



# HEALTH INSURANCE SOLUTIONS FOR YOUR BUSINESS

Avera Health Plans offers comprehensive plan options and added benefits that give your employees coverage that connects to their life but falls within your budget.

- Several plan and network options to fit your employees' needs
- Employee Assistance Program (EAP) for easy access to counseling services
- Virtual visits for care when your employees need it
- LiveNOW well-being technology to stay on track with personal goals

**That's coverage that keeps your business moving.**



Call your agent or get a quote at  
**[AveraHealthPlans.com/Solutions](https://AveraHealthPlans.com/Solutions)**

Moving Health  
***Forward.***



# Community Champions Award Winners

Congratulations to these local leaders who were recognized at the annual Community Champions Luncheon on February 13th at the AmericInn.

Thank you for contributing to the livability of the Aberdeen area!

(For award descriptions go to [aberdeen-chamber.com/events-programs/community-champions-awards-luncheon](http://aberdeen-chamber.com/events-programs/community-champions-awards-luncheon))



**Woman of Spirit**  
**Pat Tollefson**



**George**  
**Brodie Mueller**



**Entrepreneur of the Year**  
**Brad Burdette**



**ViTality**  
**Julie M. Johnson**



**Family Business of the Year**  
**VanLaecken Orthodontics**  
(Nikki Johnson, Dr. Ryan VanLaecken, Jen VanLaecken, Pam Nitschke & Erika Nichols)



**STAR (Students Taking Active Responsibility)**  
**Central High School NASA (Native American Student Association) Club**  
(Gordon Tree Top, Kaelynn Hanley & Isabella Archambault)



**Non-Commissioned Officer of the Year**  
**Stacy Vrchota**



**Civilian Advocate for Military and/or Veteran Groups**  
**Ron Lindner**



**Rich Kezar Veteran of Armed Services**  
**Samantha Kay Boshard**

# Join Us at These Upcoming Events!



**Gail Ochs,  
IOM**

*Chief Executive  
Officer,  
Aberdeen Area  
Chamber of  
Commerce*

I thought I would use my article this month to highlight some of the great opportunities, meetings, and events available to our Chamber members in the next few months. We understand that sometimes it can be confusing to know what the Chamber does and why you should participate in the Chamber. And honestly, the why is different for every business and every individual, just like every Chamber of Commerce is different as they respond to the needs of their business community. We are here to make you and your business more successful by providing you with opportunities, education, resources, and connections that will help you and your employees grow. It's up to you to take advantage of those benefits and we hope you do!

When local businesses and organizations thrive, neighborhoods thrive, quality of place flourishes, our entire community wins... and it all starts with those invaluable connections made through the Chamber. Here is what we have coming up in the next few months. Please reach out and let us know if you are interested in participating in any of these programs or events as a participant or sponsor, or if you just want to learn more about them.

## **State of the City Address and Luncheon**

Thursday, March 7th at 12:00 pm at the Best Western Ramkota  
\$30 for Chamber members  
Join us as for lunch and hear from Aberdeen Mayor Travis Schaunaman. He will recap 2023 and give us a look into 2024 and what the City is prioritizing and how that affects you.

## **Business After Hours – Non-Profit Night**

March 14th at 5:15 pm at the Yelduz Shrine  
\$25 for Chamber members – Sponsored by Plains Commerce Bank  
Come out and learn about the fantastic non-profit organizations and service clubs in our community, while networking with other business people in our community.

## **National Ag Day & National Ag Week**

March 19th and March 17-23rd  
No charge to participate – Sponsorships available  
Show your pride and appreciation to our local ag producers by putting a message on your marquee, hanging a window cling in your business window, or maybe do a Facebook testimonial on why Ag is important to you. We would love to help!

## **Campaign School**

March 27th at 11:00 am at the Chamber  
\$50 to attend – Sponsorships available  
Before deciding to embark on a career as a politician, there are many questions you'll need to answer and we're here to help answer some of those questions at Campaign School. The class will be facilitated by Karl Eckart with the National Association of Home Builders (NAHB). Eckhart published a grassroots campaign guide titled "Fifty Percent + One: The Fundamentals of Running a Successful Campaign."

## **Self-Care Wellness Fair**

April 18th, 2024 at the KO Lee Aberdeen Public Library  
No Charge to attend – Sponsorships available  
We are talking Brain Health  
It's a great chance to come out and learn about programs and resources available to your business and employees.

## **4th Grade Ag Fair**

April 23rd, 2024 at the Beef Barn at the Brown County Fairgrounds  
Sponsorships available  
Want to join the Ag Committee and Groton FFA to teach 4th-grade students about the importance of agriculture in their daily lives? Visit with us on how you can participate.

## **New Employee Welcome**

May 9th, 2024 at 4:15 pm at IDC  
No charge to attend – Sponsorships available  
Send your new employees to this event and have them learn about the Aberdeen community and the Chamber. Then, they can stay for the Business After Hours mixer and meet other business professionals.

## **2024 Leadercast**

May 17th, 2024  
7:30 am at the Kessler's Champions Club  
\$125 to attend – Sponsorships available  
Join us for this simulcast event with national speakers speaking on GHOAT (Greatest Habits of All Time). Every Leadercast participant walks away inspired, better equipped, and motivated to lead in new ways. The ripple effects of learning from world-class leaders, athletes, disruptors, innovators, and teachers are invaluable.

And there's even more with multiple committee meetings that meet each month, as well as CART, which meets every Thursday morning at 8:30 am at the Chamber. The Chamber is a busy place and we would love for you to join us.

*"I hope to see you at one of these events soon!"*



## Chamber Leadership

### EXECUTIVE BOARD

Cam Shock, President	Climate Control, Inc.
Zach Flakus, Vice President	NSU Foundation
Kila LeGrand, Treasurer	Sanford
Courtney Rott, Secretary	Riddle's Jewelry
Katie Washnok, Past President	Blackout Industries

### STAFF

Gail Ochs	Executive Director
Lisa Anderson	Marketing & Collaboration
Kami Spieker	Promotions & Partnerships
Julia Coon	Outreach & Engagement
Kathy Bjerke	Finance & Administration

### FULL BOARD

Mohamed Abul-Hawa	Kessler's Food & Liquor
Alexandra Grieben	Dacotah Bank
Angela Kelly	First Premier Realty
Brodie Mueller	The Market on the Plaza
Mike Quast	Aberdeen Family YMCA
Jarrett Rix	Rix Farms Inc
Mike Sommers	Double D Body Shop
Daryl Thoennes	3M Company
Judy Vrchota	US Senator John Thune
Taylor Wensmann	Midstates Inc.
Tanner White	Avera St. Luke's
Brent Hanson, CVB Board Liaison	NVC
Spencer Sommers, ADA Board Liaison	Co-Op Architecture
Katie Washnok, ADC Board Liaison	Blackout Industries
Mike Bockorny, Ex-Officio	Aberdeen Development Corporation
David Novstrup, Ex-Officio	Wylie Thunder Road/Alleivty Ent.
Alexa Sheldon, Ex-Officio	Aberdeen Downtown Assoc.
Casey Weismantel, Ex-Officio	Aberdeen Area CVB

[www.aberdeen-chamber.com](http://www.aberdeen-chamber.com) • 605.225.2860



This magazine is a bi-monthly publication of the Aberdeen Area Chamber & of Commerce.

COVER: Aberdeen Burger Battle

### INFORMATION:

Provided by the Aberdeen Area Chamber of Commerce, 516 South Main Street  
Aberdeen, SD 57401



Designed & printed by Quality Quick Print/  
Midstates Inc., Midstates Group Companies. For  
advertising opportunities, contact Dan Goetz at  
605-226-2547 or email [dang@myqqp.com](mailto:dang@myqqp.com).

## Raise the Bar...Get Involved!

When each of us takes a moment to reflect on the people we spend time with, everyone has at least one person that stands out and makes everyone around them better. They have that endless energy, great attitude, compassion, never-ending support, and empathy that seems to always amaze you.

One of the common traits of these amazing people is their love and dedication to help others. Wow, pretty simple. The Community Champions Award Luncheon showcased some of these people in our great Aberdeen community. It is a special event that recognizes individuals and groups for making everyone around them better. Not one specific action, task, or deed, but the culmination of always being the catalyst for raising the bar for everyone they touch. Congratulations to all the recipients...you make us all better.

Chamber events get you in touch with so many of these Community Champions and is a great way to have your bar raised and help others. So get involved this year, share your talents and help others raise their bar. Look at all the different committees and events available through the Chamber and find one that interests you. Your involvement will raise the bar for someone else just like all these Community Champions have done. Our community has a rich history of support, let's grow the reputation and celebrate a new round of Community Champions next year to celebrate the progress!



**Cam Schock**  
2024 Chamber  
Board President,  
Owner, Climate  
Control Inc

Sponsorship  
Opportunities

As a member of the Chamber, you have access to events and programs that can provide new opportunities. We encourage you to consider becoming an event sponsor to increase your visibility and reach. Customized packages are also available to help reach the right audience.

By becoming a sponsor, not only will you have the opportunity to showcase your business, but you'll also be supporting the Chamber's mission to promote economic growth and development in our community. In addition, sponsoring an event can help increase brand awareness, generate leads, and create new connections with potential customers. You'll also benefit from the Chamber's extensive network of members and resources, which can provide valuable insights and opportunities to help your business grow. So why wait? Contact us today to learn more about how you can become a sponsor and take advantage of all the benefits that come with being a member of the Chamber.

Leadercast™  
**GHOAT**  
GREATEST HABITS OF ALL TIME

friday may 17 2024

kessler's champions club | nsu

[aberdeen-chamber.com/events-programs/leadercast](http://aberdeen-chamber.com/events-programs/leadercast)

# Diplomat Visits



**AFLAC, Ashely Bennett LLC**  
Ashley Bennett, District Sales Coordinator  
909 N Main St • 605-277-4815  
ashley\_twiss@us.aflac.com  
aflac.com/ashley\_twiss



**Anthony Jewelers**  
Anthony Schwan, Owner  
101 S Main St • 605-380-9225  
schwan6@abe.midco.net  
anthony-jewelers.business.site



**Derian Lodge Senior Living**  
Tandy Walker, Administrator  
1701 3rd Ave SE • 605-846-6300  
tandy.walker@sincerisl.com  
derianlodgesl.com



**Karisma Boutique**  
Melissa Larson, Owner  
305 S Main St • 605-377-8214  
shopkarisma@yahoo.com  
shopkarisma.com



**Kore Cares In Home Services**  
Dawn Breitag, Agency Manager  
2301 8th Ave NE, Ste 200 • 605-705-2880  
aberdeen@korecares.com  
korecares.com



**The Alonzo Ward Hotel & Plaza**  
Sarah Kuntz, General Manager  
104 S Main St • 605-824-6074  
booking@thealonzowardhotel.com  
thealonzowardhotel.com



# Diplomat Visits



**The Refuge Retreats LLC**  
Allie Ryckman, Owner  
711 N Lancelot Dr • 605-846-0575  
info@therefugeretreats.com  
therefugeretreats.com

**self-care wellness fair**  
**Brain Health**

April 18th, 2024 • K.O. Lee Library  
10:30am-1:30pm • 215 4th Ave SE

Join us to learn about Brain Health from local experts!

Topics are focused on enhancing your brain health, including exercise, diet, preventative measures, and methods to boost brain function.

- ✓ Free & open to the public!
- ✓ Informational tables
- ✓ Food trucks

**Aberdeen**  
A collaboration between the Aberdeen Area Chamber of Commerce and KO Lee Aberdeen Public Library

- Exercise is just as good for your brain as it is for your body
- An adult brain weighs about 3 pounds
- Adults who participated in mind-challenging activities are 63% less likely to develop dementia.

## New Members

### Adobe

Ellen Sartin  
345 Park Ave, San Jose CA • 408-753-5826  
cit46532@adobe.com  
adobe.com  
Creativity is in our DNA. Our game-changing innovations are redefining the possibilities of digital experiences. We connect content and data and introduce new technologies that democratize creativity.



### Kamson Aberdeen Properties LLC

Corey Lanzara, Property Manager  
2011 3rd Ave SE • 605-824-9550  
aberndeencommunities@kamsoncorp.com  
aberndeencommunities.com  
Multifamily apartment housing with garden style, two and three story buildings.



### KuLu Boutique

Anita Luce & Kelsey Kuo, Owners  
3001 6th Ave SE, Ste 1 • 605-824-4332  
kuluboutique@gmail.com • kuluboutique.com  
KuLu Boutique is a small locally-owned boutique offering womens, mens and childrens clothing. There is also a closet where they buy & sell gently used clothing to bring sustainability to Aberdeen.



### Blings & Things

Dawn Cramer, Owner  
122 N Main St • 605-380-3087  
blingsandthingsdawn@gmail.com  
A small crafting business located inside Chic Charm, specializing in fun and seasonal crafts along with T-shirts and tumblers. Blings & Things has no minimum amount for special orders for T-shirts or tumblers.



### Chivilla Bay LLC

Rhonda & Bruce May, Owners  
3315 6th Ave SE, Ste 22 • 605-397-7...  
rmay@nvc.net • chivillabay.com  
Your laidback leisure lifestyle apparel and gift company. Personalized and customized gifts for all.



### DKR Bookkeeping LLC

Rhonda Helgager, Owner  
4302 Schipke Ln, Ste 6 • 605-277-513  
dkrbookkeeping23@gmail.com  
I offer A/R, A/P, payroll and inventory services. I learn other business' software and work with the owners. I have 20+ year experience and started the business in January 2023.



### League of Women Voters of the Aberdeen Area

Linda McQuillen, President  
Aberdeen • 608-575-0142  
aberndeen.lwv@gmail.com  
lwv.org/local-leagues/lwv-aberdeen-area  
This is a local chapter of a national organization whose primary purpose is to encourage voting by registering voters, providing voter information, and advocating for voter rights.



### McKeever Vending

Daren & Rhonda McKeever, Owners  
2637 15th Ave SE, Watertown • 605-860-1011  
mckeever@midconetwork.com  
One stop shop for all your vending needs: office coffee, sodas, snacks, candy, sandwiches, and cappuccino.



### Midwest Fire & Safety

Jonathon Kremer, Fire Safety Technician  
200 Railroad Ave SE • 605-290-2426  
jonathon.kremer@mwfireandsafety.com • mwfireand-safety.com  
Midwest Fire & Safety is a fire protection company. We offer sales, service, install of fire extinguishers, first aid supplies, and pre engineered kitchen and industrial suppression systems.



### South Dakota Home Builders Association

Rachel Dix, Executive Vice President  
Pierre • 605-224-2761  
rachel@sdhomebuilders.com • sdhomebuilders.com  
This Association exists for the purpose of improving conditions in the home building industry and thereby assisting to improve the social, political, and economic welfare of the State and Nation.



### Special Strong South Dakota

Hunter & Cassidy Bauer, Owners/  
Adaptive Fitness Trainers  
Aberdeen • 605-606-2292  
southdakota@specialstrong.com  
specialstrong.com/south-dakota-aberdeen  
Adaptive fitness training for individuals with mental, physical, and/or cognitive challenges. Special Strong South Dakota offers science-based adaptive and inclusive fitness programs for children, adolescents, and adults that prevent them from obtaining health-supportive exercise in conventional gyms.



Welcome!

# Ambassador Visits



New Business

## Blings & Things

Dawn Cremer, Owner  
122 N Main St • 605-380-3087  
blingsandthingsdawn@gmail.com  
facebook.com/profile.php?id=100083142048654



New Business

## DKR Bookkeeping LLC

Rhonda Helgager, Partner  
4302 Schipke Ln, Ste 6 • (605) 277-5138  
dkrbookkeeping23@gmail.com



New Business

## Dollar General

Rochelle Gosvener, Manager  
600 5th Ave NW • 605-503-6651  
rochellegosvener@yahoo.com  
dollargeneral.com



Relocation

## Hardin's Photography

Joel & Nikki Hardin, Owners  
523 S Main St, Ste 2 • 605-225-5344  
hardins@nvc.net  
hardinsphotography.com



Addition

## Ranch Café at Demkota Ranch Beef

13 135th St SW • 605-262-2333 ext 1131  
info@demkotaranchbeef.com  
demkotaranchbeef.com



Relocation

## Thee Glass Doktor

Kirby & Kari Kiesz, Owners  
4302 Schipke Ln, Ste 6 • (605) 380-9469  
kktgd@hotmail.com



# 2024 Chamber Committee Chairs

## ambassadors

### Ambassadors – Jason Jung, BankNorth Warner

The mission of the Committee is to promote a positive community image and serve as goodwill ambassadors at Chamber and community functions such as ribbon cuttings, new business openings, ground breakings, business relocations, and other networking events. Committee selection is done on a nomination basis.



### Other Committees:

## agribusiness

The mission is to promote agriculture as a major segment of the local economy, to address & educate the membership on issues important to agriculture, to unite & network groups through ag-related programs & events and to recognize outstanding achievements in agriculture.

## enhance aberdeen

The mission of the Enhance Aberdeen Committee is to coordinate projects that serve to beautify the community and enhance our quality of life; educate the public on related issues which affect them such as regulations, codes, and new efforts; and to recognize and promote business and community development projects.

## diplomats

### Diplomats – Ben Volk, Titles of Dakota

The mission of the Diplomat Committee is to strengthen membership engagement and retention by visiting current members and facilitating communication to and from members, helping to identify member concerns, and garnering support for the Chamber. Committee selection is done on a nomination basis.



## health & wellness

The mission of the Health & Wellness Committee is to implement business-healthcare partnerships and programs to promote workplace wellness and inspire healthy lifestyle choices through education and initiatives.

## military & veterans

### Military & Veterans – Ron Lindner, DAV Swanson O'Conner Chapter 13

The mission of the Military & Veterans Committee is to promote a positive working relationship among the community, employers and area military and veterans' groups while heightening awareness of the military and veteran presence and needs in the community.



## transportation

The mission of the Transportation Committee is the Chamber's primary business voice on transportation issues of importance locally, regionally, and nationally. The committee meets monthly to gather information from transportation experts in all areas of transportation including ground, rail, and air; analyze the information presented and determine how the Aberdeen Chamber can have an impact; and to share pertinent information with business people in the community.

## workforce & education

### Workforce & Education – McKenzie DuFresne, Agtegra Cooperative

The mission of the Workforce & Education Committee is to facilitate, and support activities related to business-education partnerships, youth engagement and workforce recruitment and retention. The committee also addresses educational and training needs of the business community.



**Serving our Region  
for a CENTURY**

For over one-hundred years, Woodman Refrigeration has been your source for hvac and commercial refrigeration.

**Woodman**  
- REFRIGERATION -  
**100 Years of Service**

**Carrier**  
turn to the experts

woodmanrefrigeration.com | ph 605.225.5212 | Aberdeen, SD

# Snow Boss Conquers Winter Roads in Aberdeen Area

Four years ago, the annual Name the Snowplow Contest was created by the South Dakota Department of Transportation (SDDOT) to engage people across the state in winter driving safety awareness and preparedness. The SDDOT encourages travelers to use SD511 resources to make informed travel decisions during winter weather.

When the fourth annual snowplow naming contest ended on Nov. 30, 2023, over 650 entries had been submitted by individuals, families, classrooms, senior living centers, and businesses across the state. SDDOT staff then voted on the submissions.

Snow Boss, the winning name for the Aberdeen Area, was submitted by Mark Krage of Aberdeen. Recently, Mark was able to stop by the SDDOT shop to personally meet Snow Boss.

Each of the SDDOT's 12 areas had one snowplow named again this year.



*Pictured is SDDOT Ipswich Lead Highway Maintenance Worker Dom Anglin, on the left, with Mark Krage, contest winner for the Aberdeen Area.*

## **2023-24 SDDOT Named Snowplows:**

Aberdeen Area: Snow Boss  
 Belle Fourche Area: Not my First Snowdeo  
 Custer Area: Snow-key the Bear  
 Huron Area: Saltosaurus Rex  
 Mitchell Area: Plow Bunyan  
 Mobridge Area: Snow Crusher  
 Pierre Area: Blade of Glory

Rapid City Area: Scoop! There it is!  
 Sioux Falls Area: South-Da-Snow-Ta  
 Watertown Area: Frostimus Prime  
 Winner Area: Clearapathera  
 Yankton Area: Salt, Rattle, & Roll

Additional information, including the names of those who provided the winning submission by area, is available on the SDDOT website at <https://dot.sd.gov>. The contest page can be found by clicking on the following image on the SDDOT homepage. Photos and local stories will continually be added to the SDDOT contest page.

*Submitted by SDDOT staff*

## APRIL COMMUNITY AFFAIRS LUNCHEON

**2024 SD LEGISLATIVE SESSION RECAP  
 WITH DAVID OWEN, SD CHAMBER OF COMMERCE**

Friday, April 12th | 12:00 pm  
 Best Western Ramkota Hotel  
[aberndeen-chamber.com/events-programs/community-affairs-luncheons](http://aberndeen-chamber.com/events-programs/community-affairs-luncheons)

**aberndeen**  
 AREA CHAMBER OF COMMERCE





# Empowering Entrepreneurs Through Success Stories

The Northern Innovation and Startup Center is here to celebrate the success of entrepreneurs in Northeast South Dakota, creating a powerful and supportive collaborative community. Embracing the “more the merrier,” “help first,” and “fail-forward” culture is central to the supportive entrepreneurial ecosystem we are striving to create.

A story can serve as the first touchpoint in the ecosystem and build inclusion. When people hear stories that feel representative, it creates an opportunity for nuanced conversations, for new ideas to percolate, and highlights the fact that anyone can become a tech entrepreneur and turn their idea into a scalable tech startup.

We have over 20 success story features of regional



entrepreneurs, which can be found by visiting [www.northernstartupcenter.com/stories](http://www.northernstartupcenter.com/stories). All stories are written by Nkemdilim Chibuko, an NSU international student who is in the second semester of her junior year.

For information about upcoming programs, workshops, and events, please visit our website at [www.northernstartupcenter.com](http://www.northernstartupcenter.com). Or follow us on Facebook [facebook.com/northernstartupcenter](https://facebook.com/northernstartupcenter).



**Bea Smith**  
Director, Northern  
Innovation &  
Startup Center



you  
bring  
the  
**VISION**  
we  
bring  
it to  
**life**

**hkg**  
architects

605.225.6820  
524 S Arch Street  
Aberdeen, SD 57401



Thursday, March 28 • 4 pm & 8 pm  
Friday, March 29 • 4 pm & 8 pm  
Saturday, March 30 • 11 am, 7 pm & 8 pm

**Aberdeen Civic Arena**

**Children: \$5.00 Adults: \$12.00 Advance & \$15.00 at the door**

Advance tickets available at the Shrine Center, Kasslers, and Ken's Super Fair Foods.  
Proceeds are for the benefit of the Yelduz Shrine and are not tax deductible.



The 37th Leadership Aberdeen Class is 28 members strong. They began their journey on Thursday, January 11th with the program kickoff and will complete it on Tuesday, March 26th at their graduation ceremony.

Leadership Aberdeen was launched in 1987 to:

- Identify potential leaders drawn from diverse sectors in the community.
- Equip emerging leaders with a broader and deeper understanding of the problems, opportunities and resources existing within the Aberdeen area so that they may more effectively assume responsibility for civic affairs.
- Stimulate both a commitment to the Aberdeen area and better appreciation for the role of the community within a regional and state framework.
- Facilitate the development of communication networks among emerging leaders of diverse constituencies as well as between current and future leadership.
- Create a permanent forum for individuals of demonstrated commitment to the Aberdeen area to gather and exchange ideas.



**Jared Appel**  
Agtegra Cooperative



**Betty Austin**  
Avera Mother Joseph  
Manor



**Dr. Jesse Babcock**  
Babcock Family  
Chiropractic



**Jonathan Bartlett**  
3M Company



**Lane Bauer**  
Insurance Plus



**Patty Black-Tracy**  
Avera St. Luke's



**Evan Brandt**  
RDO Equipment  
Company



**Nicole Calaway**  
Demkota Ranch Beef



**Ryan DeRouchey**  
City of Aberdeen –  
Ride Line



**Darin Dockter**  
BAE Systems



**Sarah Engel**  
Siegel Barnett & Schutz



**JoAnne Freitag**  
Northern State  
University



**Adam Geffre**  
BAE Systems



**Geena Hanson**  
Dakotaland Federal  
Credit Union



**Kendra Hinz**  
Aberdeen Development  
Corporation



# Class of 2024



**Annie Jacobson**  
Sanford Aberdeen  
Medical Center



**Bradley Jung**  
City of Aberdeen –  
Police Department



**Jory Kunzman**  
KO Lee Aberdeen  
Public Library



**Mark Miller**  
City of Aberdeen –  
Police Department



**Brendan Mousseau**  
3M Company



**Derek Ravellette**  
Dacotah Bank



**Amber Schaffer**  
Agtegra Cooperative



**Jon Sorensen**  
Climate Control Inc



**Skyler Vearrier**  
Climate Control Inc



**Chad Vetter**  
Dacotah Bank



**Ben Volk**  
Titles of Dakota



**Molly Wood**  
Plains Commerce Bank



**Buddy Yamaura**  
Midstates Inc

# Building Today and Tomorrow's Workforce through Apprenticeships



Registered Apprenticeship Programs (RAPs) have proven to be a win-win solution for South Dakota businesses and aspiring professionals. RAPs are an industry-driven career pathway consisting of five core components: business involvement, on-the-job learning, classroom instruction, progressive wage increases, and a nationally recognized credential.

RAPs offer several advantages for businesses that contribute to their growth, competitiveness, community partnerships, and long-term success with a reliable, skilled, and motivated workforce. In RAPs, businesses develop an occupation-based training plan for the business's specific needs. Apprentices are hired by the business as paid employees from day one – trained to the business's equipment, specifications, and culture. The training plan ensures apprentices will complete the apprenticeship with the skills and knowledge required to excel.

When businesses invest in workforce development, their employees feel valued and engaged. This commitment to employee growth makes employees more likely to stay with the business and develop a full range of skills. The business benefits from a highly

skilled and motivated workforce and reduced turnover and recruitment costs. Investing in apprenticeships benefits the business with new ideas, perspectives, and up-to-date knowledge, ensuring businesses remain competitive and adaptable in an ever-evolving job market.

With these benefits of RAPs outlined, how does a business build its program? A business can connect with a Job Service office or fill out the Registered Apprenticeship Referral form on [starttoday.sd.com](http://starttoday.sd.com). The business will connect with an Apprenticeship Coordinator who will assist them every step of the way.

As South Dakota continues to grow, RAPs allow businesses to stay at the forefront of industry development. Start Today SD has available funding to provide financial services for program development and expansion. A business can apply for these funds under the Program Development and Expansion application on Start Today SD's website. The Start Today SD team will support sponsors and employers by providing on-the-job learning, apprentices, and journey-level mentors during the initial training period. Related Instruction funding is available to help offset the educational component of Registered Apprenticeships.

Want to get connected or find more information? Visit [starttoday.sd.com](http://starttoday.sd.com). Now Matters. Start Today. Succeed Tomorrow.

*Article submitted by the staff at Start Today SD apprenticeship program.*

**2024 LEGISLATIVE COFFEES**

Thank you to the Legislators representing Districts 1, 3 & 23 during the 2024 South Dakota Legislative Session. We appreciate your participation.

Legislative Coffees Sponsored by:

DISTRICT 1 (Brown, Day, Marshall, Roberts)	DISTRICT 3 (Brown)	DISTRICT 23 (Brown, Campbell, Edmunds, Faulk, Hand, McPherson, Potter, Walworth)

# APRIL 2024

## MURDER MYSTERY DINNER THEATRE

NOIR

Suspicious

ABERDEENCOMMUNITYTHEATRE.COM



# Aberdeen Wins Cacklin' Community

In January, the Aberdeen Area Convention and Visitor's Bureau accepted the Rooster Rush Cacklin' Communities award on stage at the Governor's Conference on Tourism. This award is given to one community each year that exemplifies a welcoming spirit to the pheasant hunters that come to the state in droves starting in October.

While the award hangs in our lobby, it's really a credit to the whole community of Aberdeen. If hotels didn't allow dogs and have game cleaning rooms, if restaurants didn't welcome tables of hunters wearing orange, if stores didn't stock supplies from ammo to spare toothbrushes, we would not have received it. This community welcomes pheasant hunters with open arms. We could sell t-shirts or decorate public spaces, but it's the businesses and the people behind them that bring the soul to Rooster Rush season.

In 2023, we celebrated 80 years of World War II pheasant sandwiches – feeding the troops as they came through Aberdeen was probably one of the greatest group projects Aberdeen ever completed. Our



yearly Rooster Rush efforts take just a fraction of that dedication and commitment but show just what this community can do when we work together for a common goal.

New this year was Rooster Rush Night at Aberdeen Central High School Football and Volleyball games and Northern State University added a collegiate chapter of Pheasants Forever – one of five in the country.

We just wrapped up the 2023-24 pheasant season, but we're already looking forward to next Rooster Rush. We'll have a new design for our T-shirts and hockey hoodies. So next fall decorate your restaurant, welcome hunters on your marquee, wear your Rooster Rush t-shirts and continue the amazing hospitality that Aberdeen has become known for.

It's the efforts of the whole community of Aberdeen that have won us this award and it's what will continue to set us apart from the rest of the state as the best place to hunt the greatest.



**Katherine Grandstrand Quail**

*Convention Sales & Marketing Director,  
Aberdeen Area Convention  
& Visitors Bureau*

## Designer Purse

# BINGO

## Fundraiser

**Play to Win** designer purses like Coach®, Kate Spade® & Michael Kors®!

**Sunday, April 28th**  
**3pm (Doors 1:30pm)**  
**Yelduz Shrine Center**

[sertomabingo.square.site](http://sertomabingo.square.site)

Proceeds support the service projects provided by the Aberdeen Sertoma Club.

**DACOTAH BANK'S BUSINESS CASH BACK CARD**

**Touchless • Local Service • Manage in the App**

Earn 1.5 points for every dollar spent, no restrictions, no category or merchant restrictions

No limit to the rewards you can earn and points do not expire

**Apply Today** | [dacotahbank.com](http://dacotahbank.com) or in the **Dacotah Bank Mobile App**

Full terms/details of Rewards Program are available in your package upon approval.



# ABERDEEN IS TAKING A

**The Aberdeen Burger Battle is Back! It will be a clash of the condiments! A brawl of the buns! A punch of the patties!**

Alumni of the 2023 Leadership Aberdeen Class, along with the Aberdeen Area Chamber of Commerce, Aberdeen Downtown Association, and the Aberdeen Area Convention and Visitors Bureau, will kick off the 2nd Annual Aberdeen Burger Battle from April 1- April 30, 2024. The battle showcases the great burgers Aberdeen restaurants have to offer, with proceeds going to the Salvation Army of Aberdeen for food insecurity programs. The Salvation Army's food pantry supplies free fresh produce, canned goods, and healthy frozen items that provide valuable meal supplementation while helping those in need maintain their independence and dignity. From sit-down programs that provide nutritious hot meals and valuable human interaction, to mobile meals and weekend backpacks, they help the most vulnerable members of society escape the daily burdens of food insecurity. Last year the class donated over \$10,000 to the Salvation Army through the generosity of sponsors and participating restaurants!

Burger connoisseurs will be able to visit the participating restaurants below and rate each of the burgers they try at [aberdeensburgerbattle.com](http://aberdeensburgerbattle.com). Ultimately the burger with the highest overall ratings will be unveiled and celebrated on Thursday, May 9th at 5:00 pm as part of the Chamber's Business After Hours Mixer at IDC.



**April 1 – 30, 2024**

## **Barbeque Twist: Lil' Smoky**

The Lil' Smokey is a toned-down version of everyone's favorite burger at Barbeque Twist, the Ole' Smokey. The Lil' Smokey is a hand pattied half-pound burger, topped with a generous amount of smoked pulled pork, smoked gouda cheese, 2 pieces of bacon, and barbeque sauce.



## **Dempsey's: Onion Bier Burger**

Smashed Burger, white cheddar + habanero jack cheese, sautéed onion, balsamic onion spread, rye bread - served with beer cheese to dip plus your choice of side.



## **Circus Bar & Grill: Lipsmacker Burger**

The best chargrilled burger you'll ever taste, set on a toasted bun with American cheese, onion, lettuce, tomato, and thousand island dressing. Nothing beats an original Circus burger!



## **Lager's Inn: Cajun Melt**

Fresh hand-pattied burger with bacon, sautéed peppers and onions, cajun aioli, pepper jack and cheddar cheese on Texas toast.



## **City Lights: Buffalo Strip Burger**

Mild buffalo sauce infused in a hand pattied burger with a crispy, juicy buffalo sauce-tossed chicken strip on top of a toasted bun. Served with french fries and homemade ranch.



## **Maverick's: Smokehouse Burger**

Hand-pattied burger topped with home-smoked brisket, smoked cheddar cheese, applewood smoked bacon, a little bbq sauce and crispy onion straws.



**BIG CHEESE SPONSORS:**





# BITE OUT OF HUNGER – AGAIN!

## Minerva's: The Millionaire

Served on a toasted brioche bun, lettuce, tomato, candied bacon, jalapeño bacon jam, smoked gouda cheese and topped with fried pickled onions.



## Schwan's Recreation: Pastrami Burger

1/4 lb. Angus burger with shaved pastrami, American cheese and special sauce



## Mulligan's: Stuffed Jalapeno Popper Burger

A fun twist on the classic jalapeño popper burger! This mouth-watering creation features a beef patty stuffed with jalapeño-infused cream cheese. It is topped with crispy strips of bacon and our chipotle mayo. Served on a salt and pepper bun, this burger is sure to take your taste buds on a journey!



## Scotty's: The Big Rebel

The Big Rebel is a play on two of our most famous burgers. This burger will not disappoint, served smash-style with three 3 oz patties of chuck brisket short rib blend. It is piled high with our signature smash sauce, American cheese, lettuce, tomato, onion, and pickle.



## Pounders: County Fair Burger

Two smash patties topped with sauteed jalapenos, pepper jack cheese, bacon, and gooey fried cheese curds on a toasted brioche bun, slathered with wild berry preserves.



## The Market on the Plaza: SD Jucy Lucy

Bringing in Brodie's Minnesota Roots, it's the SD Jucy Lucy! We start with local Back 40 Beef and Bumpy Road Ranch pork blend, then we stuff some Valley Queen Cheese inside and sous vide the burger till it's perfect. Your choice of toppings, and it all sits on a housemade potato bun.



## Red Rooster Coffee House: Mac Bean Burger

Rich and mildly spicy black bean veggie burger topped with mac n cheese, melty provolone, romaine, red onion, tomato, and Sriracha mayo on a toasted pub grain bun. Served alone or with the meal deal: kettle chips, pickle and your choice of soup du jour or side salad.



## The Zoo Bar: Double Smash Burger

Two fresh hamburger patties smashed and grilled with thinly sliced onion, topped with lettuce, tomato, choice of cheese and the Zoo homemade smash sauce.



## Richmond Oasis: Pretzel Pub Burger

A chewy, delicious pretzel bun topped with a hamburger patty, swiss cheese, bacon, crispy onions, and ground mustard aioli.



## Three22: Birria Smash Burger

Hand-pattied smash burger topped with chef Tyler's signature Birria, which is braised with a select blend of peppers and then shredded. Served on a crispy cheese brioche bun with queso fresco, pickled red onion, and cilantro served with Birria consommé and choice of side.





# New Reporting Requirement Affects



**Kelly Weaver**

Regional Director,  
Small Business  
Development  
Center

This may be the first time you hear the words "Corporate Transparency Act" (CTA) or "Beneficial Ownership" but it won't likely be the last. Businesses must provide names and details about their company ownership and control in an attempt to crack down on activity such as tax fraud, money laundering, and financing for terrorism. Implementation is now in full swing. If your business or organization is created through the paperwork filed with the Secretary of State's office like an LLC or corporation, this law applies to you. Non-profit organizations that are not tax exempt under IRS code may also fall under the Act. Sole proprietors and general partnerships are not considered reporting companies under the Act.

**When is the report due?** Businesses are required to report their beneficial ownership information (BOI) to the Treasury's Financial Crime Enforcement Network (finCEN). Filing is simple, secure, and **free of charge**. Companies must file their initial reports by the following deadlines:

- **Existing companies** created or registered to do business in the United States before January 1, 2024 must file by January 1, 2025.

- **Newly created or registered companies** created or registered to do business in the United States in 2024 have 90 calendar days to file after their company's creation or registration is effective.

**Who is a beneficial owner?** A beneficial owner is an individual who has an ownership interest of at least 25% OR who exercises substantial control over the business. Examples of substantial control include serving as a senior officer, having authority over the appointment or removal of any senior officer or a majority of the board of directors/managers, or having substantial influence over important decisions made by the company.

**What needs to be filed?** Generally, reporting companies must provide four pieces of information about each beneficial owner:

- name;
- date of birth;
- address; and
- a unique identifying number from an active U.S. driver's license, U.S. passport, or other approved identification document.

While a report only needs to be submitted once, it must be updated whenever the information changes. For example, an updated BOI report may be needed if a beneficial owner changes their address, legally changes their name, or obtains a new driver's license. If someone has been granted more authority over the company, updates may also be needed. It would be a good practice to review the BOI filing annually to confirm its accuracy.

Are there any exemptions? This is a broad law with limited exemptions. The two primary exemptions are 1) tax exempt entities and 2) large operating companies with a physical office in the U.S.; employing more than 20 fulltime employees; AND with gross receipts of more than \$5,000,000. Consult your accountant or attorney for guidance on any specific determinations.

**Beware of scams!** This is exactly the environment scammers love to operate in so PLEASE beware of scams! The information reported on CTA filings can, in the wrong hands, be used to steal your identity. You will likely receive many solicitations relating to CTA related services. If you engage anyone to provide those services, please make sure they are a reputable company. Be sure you only provide that information to appropriate individuals.

FinCEN is committed to providing America's small businesses with the resources and information they need to make filing as quick and easy as possible. FinCEN's Small Entity Compliance Guide walks small businesses through the requirements in plain language. Filers can also view informational videos and webinars, find answers to frequently asked questions, connect to the contact center, and learn more about how to report at [www.fincen.gov/boi](http://www.fincen.gov/boi).

Kelly Weaver is the Regional Director of the Small Business Development Center in Aberdeen which offers free, confidential business consulting to start up and existing businesses. She can be reached at (605) 698-7654 x 144 or [kelly@growsd.org](mailto:kelly@growsd.org). The Center is hosted by GROW South Dakota.

**MARCH 28 THE DEC**  
9:00 A.M. - 3:30 P.M.

5TH ANNUAL CONFERENCE

**THE WOMEN'S BUSINESS CONFERENCE ABERDEEN 2024**

NATIONAL KEYNOTE  
COURTNEY SCARF, TREND HUNTER  
INNOVATION THROUGH RITUAL  
SPONSORED BY  
**NORTHERN**  
INNOVATION AND STARTUP CENTER

IDEAS TO IMPACT  
BUSINESS SHOWCASE  
NAVIGATE CONFLICT  
INCREASE INFLUENCE  
NETWORK & MORE

**\$99 - WWW.BHSU.EDU/SDCEO - 605.642.6948**

EARLY REGISTRATION OPEN THROUGH FEB 29. TICKETS OPEN UNTIL MARCH 29. STUDENT TICKETS AVAILABLE. TABLES & BUSINESS VENUE SPACES AVAILABLE.

SD CEO West is funded in part through a co-op agreement with the U.S. Small Business Administration and located at Black Hills State University. Reasonable accommodations for persons with disabilities will be made if requested at least two weeks in advance. Contact Bailey Sadowky at [Bailey.Sadowky@BHSU.edu](mailto:Bailey.Sadowky@BHSU.edu) or 605.642.6435.

**SDCEO** **SBA** **BLACK HILLS STATE UNIVERSITY**



# Local Ag Innovators Part of SDARL Class of 2025



*Kaleb Bowman*



*Kiera Leddy*



*Russell Samson*



*Carson Stange*



*Taylor Sumption*

The South Dakota Agricultural & Rural Leadership program began in 2000, with the first class graduating in 2002. Today, it is still going strong today with 30 current participants. Class XII began their journey in November 2023 with their first seminar in Mitchell, South Dakota. They will graduate in March 2025. Two of the 12 class seminars will be held in the Hub City in 2024.

Local participants include:

- Kaleb Bowman, Director of Agronomy Operations at Agtegra Cooperative (Aberdeen)
- Kiera Leddy, Attorney with Siegel, Barnett & Schutz (Aberdeen)
- Russell Samson, Financial Officer at Farm Credit Services of America (Aberdeen)
- Carson Stange, Farmer (Stratford)
- Taylor Sumption, Farmer & Entrepreneur (Frederick)

For more information, go to [sdagleadership.com](http://sdagleadership.com).

ABERDEEN AREA HUMANE SOCIETY'S  
BOW WOW BOOGIE  
**DISCO IN'FUR'NO**  
MARCH 30, 2024  
5:30 DOORS OPEN • 6:30 DINNER • 8:30 PIANO SHOW  
RAMKOTA ABERDEEN, SD  
[WWW.ANEWLEASHONLIFE.NET/BOWWOW](http://WWW.ANEWLEASHONLIFE.NET/BOWWOW)

Dinner • Silent Auction • Games  
ENTERTAINMENT BY  
**DUELING DUO**

45th Annual  
*Roncalli Ball*  
Grateful for a Lasting Legacy

**Saturday,  
April 20, 2024**  
*at the Dakota Event Center*

Scan the QR code  
for more information,  
or to purchase tickets  
and sponsorships

OR  
call the ACSS  
Development Office  
at 605-226-2100.

# Water a Big Part of City Spring Planning



**Robin Bobzien**  
PE, CFM,  
PWLF  
Aberdeen  
City Manager

As I write this article, I am seeing everyone anticipating the beginning of Spring. We continue to have a really mild winter, and that has allowed a lot of outside activities like walking and biking to be done throughout the winter season. At least we know that the end of the winter season is in site!

We look forward to having a busy year with many things taking place in all of our departments. Our departments are busy working on current programs and planning for upcoming programs for the next season. There is no such thing as downtime for any of our departments as they are always planning for what is coming next.

- Our Parks and Recreation Department has been busy working on the additional programming opportunities that have been given to the community through the acquisition of the Strode Center and Dome on the PC Campus. We will see these opportunities improve and increase over the next many months and years.

- Staff are discussing ways to improve Moccasin Creek, so that it is an attractive area within the

community. This will be an important opportunity for us to work toward.

- Plans are still being developed for projects related to the reconstruction of the Water Reclamation/Wastewater Plant, for the new Public Works Operations Building and for the northeast water tower. It is likely there will be at least \$100 million invested in these three facilities.

- The City of Aberdeen, WEB Water Development and BDM Rural Water have entered into a Memorandum of Understanding that will work toward increasing the amount of water available to all three systems using treated Missouri River water that will be delivered through the WEB Water system in an endeavor termed the WINS (Water in NE SD) project. The MOU states that the WINS system will increase WEB's capacity by an additional 15 million gallons daily by the year 2030 and will provide the City of Aberdeen supplemental water of 4 million gallons per day. The intent behind the initial phase is to eliminate WEB's moratorium areas before any supplemental water can be delivered to any other entities. The

MOU further states that the three entities will work toward finding additional funding to work into a second phase, that we hope to have completed by 2050, that will provide larger volumes of water to Aberdeen. In addition, 3.1 million gallons daily additional water will also be provided to BDM. The intent for these additional water supplies is to allow for proper growth and necessary redundancy in the NE region of the State.

- We recently hired an individual that will work on retail recruitment as well as work with the Governor's Office of Economic Development and the Aberdeen Development Corporation to make sure that we are able to provide all the necessary information to companies that might be interested in locating in the Aberdeen area. This is a position to help supplement the efforts of those two offices. In addition, this position will be working on our public information pieces, to include public service information, as well as items that reside on our website and social media platforms.

I am very thankful for the opportunity to work with a fantastic staff! Our number one goal is to continue to make improvements so our community will always be a thriving place to live.

**GOLF OLYMPICS**  
ABERDEEN AREA CHAMBER OF COMMERCE  
**GOLF TOURNAMENT**  
MONDAY, JUNE 3  
MOCCASIN CREEK COUNTRY CLUB

**THE EDGE**  
ABERDEEN YOUNG PROFESSIONALS

JOIN US FOR THIS  
FREE EVENT OF...

**BROOMBALL**

Odde Ice Arena  
400 24th Ave NW

April 18th, 2024  
6:00 - 9:00 PM

To register scan the QR code  
Or contact Julia Coon at either  
605-225-2860  
julia@aberndeen-chamber.com

Broomball is like  
hockey on foot! Players  
wear regular shoes,  
not skates, and use  
brooms instead of  
sticks to hit a small ball  
into the opponent's net

The EDGE is for early career professionals ages 21 - 40.






LEARN MORE ABOUT RUNNING  
FOR ELECTED OFFICE AT  
**Campaign School**

— March 27, 2024 | 11am-4pm —

Are you thinking about running for elected office? If so, join the Aberdeen Area Chamber of Commerce and the Aberdeen Home Builders Association for Campaign School. This class will be facilitated by Karl Eckart. Karl will be teaching participants about the basics and how to fine-tune a campaign.

Cost is \$50 which includes lunch, refreshments and materials.  
RSVP at 605-225-2860 or [aberdeen-chamber.com/events-programs/campaignschool](http://aberdeen-chamber.com/events-programs/campaignschool).



**CORRAL YOUR HERD**  
Tired of being penned up in the winter?

Visit some of Aberdeen's favorite eating spots.  
Wings, Pasta, Steaks, Ethnic Cuisine, Salads and More!



Um...

WINGS, PASTA, AND WHAT NOW?



605.225.2860 [f](https://www.facebook.com/aberdeenarea) [i](https://www.instagram.com/aberdeenarea) [y](https://www.youtube.com/aberdeenarea) [t](https://www.tiktok.com/aberdeenarea)

[visitaaberdeensd.com/eat](http://visitaaberdeensd.com/eat)



CPAs & BUSINESS ADVISORS

## Finances are Vital to Your Ag Operation



**Managing the finances of your agricultural business is just as important as how you handle the nuts and bolts of operating it.** While there are plenty of uncertainties you can't control, like inflation or weather, focusing on financial management can help you understand what areas of your business are profitable, if you're increasing the net worth of your business, and project cash flow and profit.

**Understanding Your Finances**  
Future financial predictability begins with understanding the basics of your farm's finances, including:

- Financial statements
- Income statements
- Balance sheets
- Cash flow statements
- Net worth statements

Key performance indicators (KPIs) can help measure your progress and make decisions based on facts and not instinct. While there are elements of art and science in agribusiness, KPIs are the science that keeps your business running.

You can track all kinds of metrics in a farming operation, but there are three critical KPIs to consider over time: profitability, size, and growth.

**Better financial management in your agribusiness will help you manage uncertainties of volatility across the business.**

**Better Financial Management Can Help You Handle Future Risks**  
Establishing enhanced financial management and analytical oversight of the financial aspect of your agribusiness helps you optimize operations and prepare for what comes next.

This financial oversight ultimately helps with farm profitability, which is essential to the survival of your business. Regular equity and asset returns analysis against net farm income can help determine if your agribusiness is in trouble or going through short-term cash flow issues.

**Strategic Agribusiness Solutions**  
Focusing on financial management can help you understand what areas of your business are profitable, if you're increasing the net worth of your business, and project future cash flow.

Outsourcing your accounting functions is an option that farming operators increasingly turn to as the business of running their farm grows more complex. Outsourcing your accounting practices can:

- Give you the information to make more data-driven decisions
- Help you understand impediments to business profits
- Offer roadmaps to withstand future challenges to your financial solvency
- Free you up to focus on building your operation

Our experienced agribusiness team can help you manage your accounting and financial processes to plan for a more profitable farm operation that can withstand future storms.



Learn more about improving your ag operations.  
[eidebailly.com/ag](http://eidebailly.com/ag)

# Chamber Big Dates

## Ag Committee

Thursday, March 21, Noon, Chamber  
Thursday, April 18, Noon, Chamber

## Ambassador Committee

Tuesday, March 12, Noon, Chamber  
Tuesday, April 9, Noon, Chamber

## Business After Hours

Thursday, March 14, 5:15 pm, Yelduz Shrine Center  
Thursday, April 11, 5:15 pm, Dakotaland Federal Credit Union

## Campaign School

Wednesday, March 27, 11 am, Chamber

## CART

Every Thursday at 8:30 am, Chamber

## Chamber Executive Board

Friday, March 8, 8 am, Chamber  
Friday, April 12, 8 am, Chamber

## Chamber Full Board

Wednesday, March 20, 8 am, Chamber  
Wednesday, April 17, 8 am, Chamber

## Community Affairs Luncheon

Thursday, March 7, Noon, Best Western Ramkota  
Friday, April 12, Noon, Best Western Ramkota

## Diplomat Committee

Thursday, March 14, 3 pm, Chamber  
Thursday, April 11, 3 pm, Chamber

## EDGE

Thursday, April 18, 6 pm, Odde Ice Arena

## Enhance Aberdeen Committee

Friday, April 26, 8:30 am, Chamber

## Free Spring Residential Cleanup

Saturday, April 27, Jensen's Rock & Sand & Brown County Landfill

## Health & Wellness Committee

Wednesday, March 6, Noon, Chamber  
Wednesday, April 3, Noon, Chamber

## Leadership Aberdeen

Monday, March 4, 4:30 pm, Aberdeen Public Safety Building  
Tuesday, March 12, 5 pm, Dacotah Bank (Main Street)  
Tuesday, March 19, 5 pm, NSU  
Tuesday, March 26, 5 pm, Best Western Ramkota (Graduation)

## Military & Veterans Committee

Tuesday, March 5, Noon, Chamber

## National Ag Week

Sunday, March 17 – Saturday, March 23

## Transportation Committee

Tuesday, March 26, 3:30 pm, Chamber

## Wellness Fair

Thursday, April 18, 10:30 am, KO Lee Aberdeen Public Library

## Workforce & Education Committee

Tuesday, March 19, 8:15 am, Chamber  
Tuesday, April 16, 8:15 am, Chamber

The Chamber office will be  
closed March 29.

## BUSINESS BRIEFS

### HEINZ NAMED CMO FOR AVERA ST. LUKE'S HOSPITAL

Avera St. Luke's Hospital is pleased to announce that Blake Heinz, DO, is the new chief medical officer (CMO) for the organization.

Dr. Heinz began serving as CMO Jan. 21. He will also continue to provide direct patient care as a hospitalist.

The CMO has primary responsibility for developing and strengthening physician and clinic relationships throughout the Aberdeen region. This position represents the physician perspective and serves as a physician advocate promoting effective physician and health system relationships and clinical quality improvements. As CMO, Dr. Heinz will be a member of the administrative team and will partner with senior leadership to implement strategies across the region while helping to promote positive clinical outcomes and cost-effective care.

Dr. Heinz joined Avera St. Luke's as a hospitalist in 2015. He has served as the Medical Director of Hospitalist since March 2020 and as the Medical Director of Pulmonary Rehabilitation since July 2018. He also serves on the Medical Executive Committee, currently as Vice Chief of Staff, and is a 2022 graduate of the Avera Physicians Leadership Academy.

He earned his medical degree and a master's degree in ethics from Kansas City University of Medicine and Biosciences, completed an internal medicine residency at Hennepin County Medical Center and is board certified through the American Board of Internal Medicine.

Dr. Heinz succeeds Dr. Susheel Gundewar who made the decision to step away from the CMO role in order to focus on the cardiology clinic and outreach services.



### LFP RECOGNIZED BY FORBES

Legacy Financial Partners, a private wealth advisory practice with Ameriprise Financial, was named to the list of "Best-in-State Wealth Management Teams" published by Forbes. The list recognizes financial advisors and their teams who have demonstrated high levels of ethical standards, professionalism, and success in the business. The rankings are based on data provided by thousands of the nation's most productive advisors and their teams. Legacy Financial Partners was chosen based on assets under management, industry experience, compliance record and best practices in their practice and approach to working with clients.

Legacy Financial Partners consists of 46 financial advisors, over 50 support staff and operates out of 29 offices across the upper Midwest. Legacy Financial Partners provides financial advice that is anchored in a solid understanding of client needs and expectations and provided in one-on-one relationships with their

clients. For more information, call 1-800-411-7572 or visit [planwithLFP.com](http://planwithLFP.com).

### OVER \$20,000 DONATED THROUGH CORTRUST PROGRAM

Since 1930, CorTrust Bank has been investing in the cities and towns they serve. While the needs of local communities have changed over time, their principle of giving back has not. In fact, CorTrust Bank employees connect with the well-being of their communities and share the values of the Bank. "Our team members have a strong sense of responsibility for the success of our local cities and towns. We believe in the power of community collaboration and fully support CorTrust employees who go above and beyond to make the places we call home even better," said Jack Hopkins, President and CEO of CorTrust Bank.

Because of CorTrust's priority to give back, a charitable giving initiative was created in early 2023. The program is called CorTrust Cares Jeans Day and offers a centralized way for each CorTrust market to uplift worthwhile causes. In exchange for a financial gift each month, CorTrust employees can wear jeans on Fridays.

Since its inception, the CorTrust Cares Jeans Day program has donated \$20,328 to local nonprofits in the areas they serve. These funds have helped over 45 organizations. Some of the causes CorTrust contributed to in 2023 include:

- Vermillion Community Theater
- LifeScape
- Bowdle Public Library
- Mitchell Food Pantry
- Hats & Mittens
- Leola FFA
- McLeod Food Shelf
- Southeast CASA
- Habitat for Humanity
- Sanborn County 4-H Leaders
- Junior Achievement
- Walk to End Alzheimer's

CorTrust remains committed to supporting the 37 communities they serve in South Dakota and Minnesota.



### MIDSTATES PROMOTES WENSMANN

Midstates Group is excited to announce that Taylor Wensmann has been promoted to VP of Logistics. Taylor has been leading Midstates' growing Fulfillment Department for the past five years. Taylor has done an excellent job of growing his team, while focusing on the financial strength of the department. Over the past 15 months, Taylor has worked with Eric Stevenson on the transition of leadership across the Shipping, Receiving & Warehouse operations. Bringing these departments back together has allowed Midstates to use the time and talent in the departments to cross-train and run more efficiently.





## DACOTAH BANK EARNS TOP WORKPLACES AWARD

Dacotah Bank has been awarded a Top Workplaces 2024 honor by Great Plains Top Workplaces. This marks the first year for Dacotah Bank receiving this honor and the company is proud to be ranked #3 (in the company size of 500+). Dacotah Bank strives to be one of the top workplaces and an employer of choice throughout their territory. This recognition is a testament to their efforts to center their focus around their employees, communities, customers, and shareholders.

"In addition to an enhanced paid parental leave program, we eliminated employee-paid premiums for medical and dental insurance for employees and their families and believe these changes demonstrate our commitment to the entire Dacotah Bank family, all

of whom contribute so much to the

Company and the communities in which we live and work," said Chairman and CEO Robert Fouberg.

This list is based solely on employee feedback gathered through a third-party survey administered by employee engagement technology partner Energage, LLC. The confidential survey uniquely measures the employee experience based on and its component themes, including employees feeling Respected & Supported, Enabled to Grow, and Empowered to Execute, to name a few.

To go directly to a full list of this year's winning companies, go to [topworkplaces.com/award/greatplains](https://topworkplaces.com/award/greatplains).

## DACOTAH BANK

## BUSINESS BRIEFS

# ACCA Special Offer for the 2024-25 Season

The Aberdeen Community Concert Association is closing their 2023-24 season with a great concert and a special offer for the upcoming 2024-25 season!

On Thursday, April 25 at 7:00 pm Shaun Johnson and the Big Band Experience Concert will be at the Harvey & Cynthia Jewett Theatre in the Johnson Fine Art Center on the Northern State University Campus. Shaun Johnson and The Big Band Experience is a rare, newcomer to traditional pop – fusing a big band spirit with an inventive edge – and garnering a top 5 Billboard spot with the release of their first album. Shaun, an Emmy award-winning crooner and lead singer of the internationally known vocal group Tonic Sol-Fa, indelibly stamps vocal jazz and swing with a contemporary punch to the delight of both traditionalists and newcomers, emerging as an original voice in the continuing tradition of the American vocalist.

This is a special membership bonus concert. People who become 2024-25 ACCA members on or before this night will be able to attend the Shaun Johnson concert for FREE! Don't miss this opportunity!

Here is the lineup for the 2024-25 season:

• **The Hall Sisters** – Sunday, October 20, 2024 at 4:00 pm. The Hall Sisters, vocal/multiple instrument quartet, are one of the industry's up-and-coming, premier acts in the country/pop genre. The sibling quartet marries stunning harmonies and brilliant musicianship with engaging, uplifting, family-friendly music. Their show features heart-wrenching ballads and instrumentals, fiery fiddle tunes, and country classics sprinkled with pop.

• **Beo String Quartet** – Thursday, November 14, 2024 at 7:00 pm. This daring, genre-defying ensemble has taken the classical music world by storm.

• **South Dakota Jazz Festival Concert** – Thursday, March 6 at 7:30 pm

• **Sixtiesmania** – Thursday, November 14, 2024 at 7:00 pm. A journey through the Sixties. One of the

leading '60s tribute bands in the US, Sixtiesmania covers everything from the Beatles to the music of Woodstock, and everything in between! Audiences will be on their feet dancing and singing along with the biggest hits from superstars like The Beatles, The Beach Boys, The Rolling Stones, the British Invasion, and more!

### • Bachelors of

**Broadway: Gentlemen of the Theatre** – Thursday, April 3, 2025 at 7:00 pm. Closing this amazing season will be a performance by three of New York City's top theatrical performers. Bachelors of Broadway offers soaring and thrilling melodies in contemporary, three-part vocal harmony. This show breathes new life into vintage classics from the Golden Age of Broadway.

ACCA memberships are a tremendous value for the five concerts. Adult, student and family memberships are available. (The Family membership can be a Grandparent membership for 2 grandparents and 4 student tickets for grandchildren!) Go to the ACCA website for more information.

Interior Design Concepts located at 21 North Main will serve as the ACCA Campaign Headquarters and box office. Memberships can be purchased there during store hours as well as online.

For more information check the ACCA newly designed website at [www.aberdeencommunityconcerts.org](http://www.aberdeencommunityconcerts.org).



# Become a Working Genius!



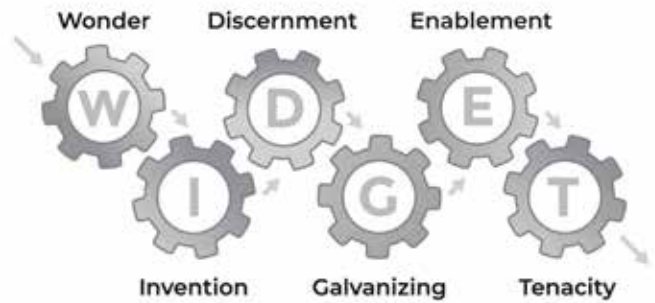
## Stuart Giere

*Business Advisor, SD  
Manufacturing &  
Technology  
Solutions*

Back in 2002, an author named Patrick Lencioni introduced the world to the concept he called "The Five Dysfunctions of a Team". Based on his book by the same name, Patrick launched a company called The Table Group. This book and associated training programs became a cornerstone of the business management world. This methodology has helped organizations explore their work team dynamics and offered solutions to help teams perform better.

Twenty years later, in 2022, Patrick was able to finally fulfil one of his dreams – to come up with an assessment, designed for teams and individual team members, to help them better understand their "geniuses", improve productivity of every member of the team, and eliminate the guilt and judgement that comes with not only the "geniuses" of each team member, but also their working "frustrations" that can lead to burn-out. He called his book and methodology, "The Six Types of Working Genius".

Hello – my name is Stuart Giere, and I am a Business Advisor with South Dakota Manufacturing and Technology Solutions. We offer assistance in the form of coaching, training, and project work, for manufacturing businesses all across South Dakota. Our fundamental platform is based on the Lean methodologies developed and refined by the Toyota Corporation. In other words, we help businesses



identify waste and inefficiencies within their operations and their supply chain. Included in our list of offerings are Leadership Training, Team Building, Strategic Planning, and Supply Chain consulting.

I recently had the opportunity to become a certified Working Genius facilitator through Patrick Lencioni's company, The Table Group. There I learned that the Working Genius assessment is 20% personality and 80% productivity. People who understand their genius show up to work happier, are more effective, and play well with others. Working Genius Certified Facilitators are equipped to analyze and apply results to help individuals and teams leverage Working Genius to be more innovative, strategic, and effective.

### **As a Certified Facilitator, I can help transform work for people by helping them:**

- Understand why they have been successful or unsuccessful in past endeavors
- Clarify which types of work give joy and energy and which types are draining and difficult
- Avoid making unfair and inaccurate judgments about one another's motivation
- Alleviate guilt about struggles people have with certain types of work
- Improve dialogue and directives in team meetings
- Make quick and concrete adjustments to roles and responsibilities to better tap into one another's strengths, and avoid one another's weaknesses
- Get more done in less time

This model can be used in a variety of ways to bring greater success and fulfillment:

- Leadership development/coaching
- Job alignment/adjustments
- Team cohesion and productivity
- Creating a common language for
- Clarity around stages of work

The Working Genius assessment and workshop are now offered by South Dakota Manufacturing and Technology Solutions. The process includes the assessment, which only takes about 15 minutes for team members to complete, a full individual Working Genius report, and is followed by 4-hour workshop with the team.

For more information, please contact me at Stuart. Giere@SDManufacturing.com, or call me at 320-894-6464.

# BCF HALL OF FAME

## Banquet

### CELEBRATING THE 2024 INDUCTEES

GEORGE CASANOVA  
DUANE JARK

LOUIE ROCH  
GARY MEYER

HAROLD PLEINIS  
BONNIE SCHILE

HITCH'N POST

**SATURDAY,  
MARCH 23, 2024**

**Yelduz Shrine**  
802 S Main St, Aberdeen, SD

**LIVE & SILENT AUCTION**  
[www.JarkAuction.com](http://www.JarkAuction.com)

**5:00 SOCIAL  
6:00 DINNER**

**TICKETS \$25**  
**SPONSOR A TABLE FOR 8 PEOPLE \$200**

**TICKETS AVAILABLE AT  
BROWN COUNTY FAIR OFFICE  
605-626-7116**

Scan the QR Code for more information about the Brown County Fair Foundation



# Mandatory Retirement Policy Challenged, Costs Medical Group Nearly \$7 Million

The Scripps Medical Group in San Diego has learned the hard way that its mandatory retirement policy was a problem. Without admitting liability, the group has settled an age and disability discrimination charge filed with the U.S. Equal Employment Opportunity Commission (EEOC) after it subjected a class of physicians to a mandatory retirement age, regardless of the individuals' abilities to do the job. The EEOC investigated the allegations and found reasonable cause to believe that Scripps Clinical Medical Group violated the Age Discrimination in Employment Act (ADEA) and the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA).

According to the four-year conciliation agreement reached with the EEOC, the medical group will provide \$6,875,000 to a class of individuals impacted by the company's mandatory retirement age policy and rescind its mandatory retirement policy based on age. Jacquelyn Famber, director of the EEOC's San Diego Office, announced, "Using a mandatory retirement age based on assumptions and stereotypes is against the law and the EEOC will continue to pursue such discriminatory policies."

This then begs the question: Is mandatory retirement ever allowed, or does it violate laws banning age discrimination? While federal law generally bans such policies, two types of mandated retirement are generally allowed: (1) where the employer is retiring high-level executives, and (2) where there are bona fide occupational considerations.

As to high-level executives, federal law authorizes an employer to impose a mandatory retirement age of 65 on (1) bona fide executives or those in high policymaking positions (for the two-year period immediately before retirement) who (2) are entitled to an immediate non-forfeitable annual retirement of at least \$44,000 per year. Because this is an exception to age discrimination laws, it is narrowly interpreted. The burden is on the employer to prove that all elements are met and it is strictly limited to the top executive group.

The Bona Fide Occupational Qualification (BFOQ) exception applies where there are safety issues involved and the employer can show that age materially affects an employee's job performance. This is becoming a very high standard to meet, however, as many professionals – such as pilots, police, and firemen – have successfully proved that age is not always an indicator of ability. This is critical, for in order to impose a BFOQ regarding age, the employer must be able to show that substantially all older employees are similarly affected and that there is no other way, other than basing the decision on age, to manage this issue.

I predict that more mandatory retirement policies will be legally challenged and ultimately fail. This can first be seen in recent judicial decisions siding in favor of the affected employees. In the business sector, many large corporations such as Target, 3M, and Merck have either axed their existing policies or raised the mandatory retirement age from 65 to 70. Ultimately, the use of age limits for most employees carries with it a discriminatory bias that older people are less creative, less productive, or too conservative to lead.

To any company that currently has a mandatory retirement age, or is thinking of implementing one, the bottom line is this: chances are it's illegal. \*

*\*This article is offered for informational purposes only and is not intended to be legal advice. Please consult an attorney experienced in employment and labor law for any questions related to this topic.*



**Kim Dorsett**

Partner,  
Richardson,  
Wyly, Wise,  
Sauck & Hieb


DELTA WATERFOWL




#TheDuckHuntersOrg

**WHAT:** JIM RIVER MARSH MASTERS DELTA WATERFOWL BANQUET

**WHERE:** DAKOTA EVENT CENTER, 720 Lamont St, Aberdeen

**WHEN:** SAT. APRIL 6 – Doors Open AT 4:30 PM, DINNER AT 6:30 PM

**CONTACT:** Kyle Maple - 605.252.8764 - [kyle@revoalliance.com](mailto:kyle@revoalliance.com)

**TICKETS & TABLES CAN BE PURCHASED ONLINE**

[DELTAWATERFOWL.ORG/DELTA-EVENTS](http://DELTAWATERFOWL.ORG/DELTA-EVENTS) | 888.987.3695



Celebrate with us March 19th, 2024

National Ag Day aims to inspire producers, agricultural associations, corporations, universities, government agencies, and various others across the nation to recognize and celebrate the prosperity brought about by American agriculture.



# BUSINESS AFTER HOURS HOST

Thee Glass



Aberdeen's locally owned mobile ag, construction, truck, RV, and automotive glass replacement business.

**605-380-9469**

WELLNESS • COMPASSION • EXPERIENCE • RESULTS



Prairie Heights  
Healthcare

Skilled Nursing Care  
Post-Acute Rehabilitation  
In-Home Therapies • Long-Term Care  
Outpatient Therapy



400 8TH AVE. NW | ABERDEEN, SD 57401  
605-225-2550 | INFO@PRAIRIEHEIGHTSHC.COM



*a little bit of everything*  
**AAHS 2ND PAW SALE**

*Aberdeen's largest "2nd hand" sale*

**Brown County Fair Grounds Expo**

**\*First Pick Friday: May 3, 2024 6pm-7pm**

Pay \$20 & gain access before the regular sale starts Sat

**Sale Day: May 4, 2024 9am-3pm**

Donations may be dropped off at the Expo:

Apr 21 from 1 PM to 4 PM

Apr 22-26 from 3 PM to 7 PM

& Apr 27-28 from 1 PM to 4 PM

\*No clothing, large appliances, magazines, encyclopedias, metal desks, exercise equipment or old TVs accepted\*

Questions? Contact: Jan, (701) 471-9616



# Support for Women Owned Small Businesses

As we celebrate Women's History Month in March, the U.S. Small Business Administration (SBA) amplifies women owned small business (WOSB) contributions in South Dakota. According to the 2023 SD Small Business Profile, there are nearly 90,000 small businesses in the state and 43 percent are owned by women, providing thousands of jobs across the state.\*\*

Like many other small business demographics, women choose small business ownership to be their own boss, increase autonomy and flexibility in scheduling, and to have creative room to make a living in a field they are passionate about. WOSBs represent a variety of industries from retail and professional services to scientific-based manufacturing and are more positioned for revenue growth potential and job creation than ever before.

The SBA assists women small businesses to launch and compete in the marketplace. There are many small business support resources available to support women:

- Free and confidential small business counseling, training, and business development: SDCEO East and West Women's Business Centers, SD Small Business Development Centers, Veterans Business Outreach Center of the Dakotas, and SCORE. Connect with SBA's vast network of resource partners at [www.sba.gov/local-assistance](http://www.sba.gov/local-assistance)
- Free online learning platforms:
  - Ascent is a free online learning platform specifically designed to provide in-depth business information and training for women business development and growth. Ascent is

divided into business lifecycle topics called Journeys, developed by experts in women's entrepreneurship.

Within each Journey, women business owners take virtual excursions, using tools needed to master topics. The Ascent learning experience allows the participant creative authority and ownership of the learning experience including applying virtual tools to an individual business. To build a profile and learn more about Ascent, visit <https://ascent.sba.gov/>.

– DreamBuilder introduces participants to all areas of business ownership through a carefully crafted and engaging curriculum, featured in English and Spanish. At the conclusion of the program, women leave with a business plan to start their own business or develop an existing one. To connect with DreamBuilder visit <https://dreambuilder.org/>

- Federal contracting certification: WOSB firms may apply for certification on <https://wosb.certify.sba.gov/>. Additional information for government contracting is available at [www.sba.gov/contracting](http://www.sba.gov/contracting).
- SBA has a nationwide network of government-guaranteed lenders offering business loans up to \$5 million. To connect with the SBA lender network visit [www.sba.gov/lendermatch](http://www.sba.gov/lendermatch).

For more information contact the SBA SD District Office at 605-330-4243 or visit [www.sba.gov/southdakota](http://www.sba.gov/southdakota).

\*\*Data retrieved from the 2023 SBA SD Small Business Profile: Small Business Economic Profile SD ([sba.gov](http://sba.gov))



**Jaime Wood**  
South Dakota  
District Director,  
U.S. Small Business  
Administration

## Winefest Renaissance 2024

**Saturday, April 13, 2024**  
**VIP Tasting - 4:30 - 6:00 PM**  
**Grand Tasting - 6:00 PM - 9:00 PM**  
**Boys & Girls Club of Aberdeen Area**  
**1121 First Avenue SE**  
**605-225-8714**

Fundraising & Social Event  
with all proceeds to benefit:

**BOYS & GIRLS CLUB OF ABERDEEN AREA**

**Tickets:**

**VIP Tasting - \$100 each**  
**Grand Tasting - \$65 each or \$100/pair before April 1.**  
Limited number of VIP tickets are available.

**Ticket purchase includes:**

- \*Wine & Food Pairings
- \*Music & Artists
- \*Live & Silent Auctions
- \*Beer, Spirits & Wine Sampling
- \*FREE Shuttle Service

Tickets available at the Boys & Girls Club of Aberdeen Area at 1121 First Avenue SE beginning February 16, 2024.

For more information or to make shuttle reservations please call 605-225-8714 Ext 104

## FREE 2024 SPRING RESIDENTIAL CLEANUP

BROUGHT TO YOU BY:  
**ENHANCE ABERDEEN**  
**THE CITY OF ABERDEEN**  
**DEPENDABLE SANITATION**  
**BROWN COUNTY LANDFILL**  
**THE ABERDEEN AREA CHAMBER OF COMMERCE**

**2 DROP OFF LOCATIONS BELOW**

**APRIL 26 THRU MAY 11: LANDFILL**

**1. BROWN COUNTY LANDFILL**

**TIRES (4 Car or Pickup Tire LIMIT)**

PAINT  
TREES  
RUBBLE  
BATTERIES  
FURNITURE  
WASTE OIL  
ELECTRONICS  
APPLIANCES  
SCRAP METAL  
PROPANE TANKS  
GRASS & LEAVES  
OTHER MISC. WASTE

\* NO LARGE DEMO PROJECTS (HOMES, TREE BELTS ETC...)  
 NO MOBILE HOMES  
 NO BUSINESS / COMMERCIAL WASTE [Please apply to the landfill](#)

**HOURS**

MONDAY – SATURDAY: 8 TO 5  
 SUNDAY: CLOSED

**2. SOUTH 5TH STREET (2 BLKS. S. OF WHITE HOUSE INN)**

**TIRES (4 Car or Pickup Tire LIMIT)**

BATTERIES  
FURNITURE  
APPLIANCES  
ELECTRONICS  
SCRAP METAL  
OTHER MISC. WASTE  
RUBBLE (NO SHINGLES)

\*LARGE LOADS, GRASS, LEAVES, TREES, SHINGLES, PAINT, WASTE OIL, PROPANE TANKS & ANTIFREEZE MUST BE BROUGHT TO THE LANDFILL.

**\*SITES SUBJECT TO CHANGE HOURS**

SATURDAY: 8 TO 5

**ALL LOADS MUST BE COVERED AND SECURED**

**NO 8th Avenue Access: Asphalt Roads ONLY to Landfill**

FOR MORE INFORMATION LOOK US UP ONLINE: @[www.brown.sd.us/landfill/home](http://www.brown.sd.us/landfill/home) or call 626-4019 / 380-0111

MARCH - APRIL 2024

# South Dakota IS a Border State



**Dusty Johnson**  
US Representative  
(R-SD)

Every state is a border state. South Dakota is no exception.

While on a drug trafficking trip, an illegal immigrant and his companion, both from Central America, carjacked and kidnapped an FBI employee outside of Red Shirt in West River. One of the men had re-entered our country after being deported. President Biden's open border policies have allowed illegal immigrants to enter and re-enter our country and commit heinous crimes. Unfortunately, this isn't the only time South Dakota has seen crime like this.

The effects of the border crisis are hitting way too close to home for many in South Dakota who are more than 1,000 miles from the southern border. We've seen increases in violent crimes, fentanyl overdoses, and illegal immigrants flooding cities that don't have capacity to house them.

In the past three years, more than 7 million people have crossed the southern border illegally. The situation has



worsened almost every month. This is the direct result of having open borders. This is a major problem, but we already know what some solutions are, like Trump's effective Remain in Mexico policy which I support. If President Biden put it in place today, illegal border crossings would decrease by 70-80 percent almost immediately.

I've voted over 70 times for stronger border policies since I came to Congress. I've worked on and helped draft legislation that includes some of the strongest border policies ever brought before the House. These policies would stop the flow of illegal immigrants, restart construction of the border wall, hire

more Border Patrol agents, and improve technology along the border. I voted in support of the Secure the Border Act, HALT Fentanyl Act, POLICE Act, Schools Not Shelters Act, and more.

I've been to the border and know how disastrous the situation is. The Senate and President Biden need to enact these bills the House has passed – and they need to do it soon. You cannot have a safe and secure nation if you don't have safe and secure borders.





## Calling You By Name SINCE 1979

203 S. Dakota St.  
Aberdeen, SD 57401  
info@hcpfcu.coop  
605-725-0900  
877-452-7935

Monday – Friday  
Drive Through: 7:30 AM – 6:00 PM  
Lobby: 9:00 AM – 4:00 PM  
Saturday  
Drive Through: 9:00 AM – 12:00 PM  
Sunday: CLOSED



**SUMMIT CARBON SOLUTIONS**

**Safety of the landowners, communities, and our workers is ingrained in our corporate values and is reflected in all we do.**

CO2 Pipelines:	We are committed to:
<div style="border: 1px solid #ccc; padding: 5px; margin-bottom: 5px;">  5,300+ miles exist today         </div> <div style="border: 1px solid #ccc; padding: 5px;">  Safely operating for the last 50 years         </div>	<div style="border: 1px solid #ccc; padding: 5px; margin-bottom: 5px;">  Using proven technologies         </div> <div style="border: 1px solid #ccc; padding: 5px;">  Employing best industry practices         </div>



Learn more at [www.SummitCarbonSolutions.com](http://www.SummitCarbonSolutions.com)



# BUSINESS AFTER HOURS HOST



**AGTEGRA**  
COOPERATIVE

**STRONG.  
STABLE.  
DEPENDABLE.  
LOCAL.**

[www.agtegra.com](http://www.agtegra.com)

## BUSINESS AFTER HOURS HOST

**plains+**  
checking

**5.12%**  
annual percentage yield\*

JUST ANOTHER PLUS FOR BANKING WITH US.

**605.225.7548**  
524 Dakota Street S  
Aberdeen, SD 57401

\*Percent approval, conditions, qualifications, limits, limitations, and other requirements apply. No minimum deposit is required to open the account and no minimum daily balance required. To qualify for premium rate, each qualification cycle you must have at least \$500+ in debits and credit in statements. For balances over \$25,000, the interest will be applied to only the portion of the balance under \$25,000 and the average balance will not receive interest. If qualifications are not met, account holders will receive 0.00% APY. Monthly qualification cycle expires a period beginning one business day prior to the first day of the current statement cycle through one business day prior to close of the current statement cycle. Rates may change after account opening or at our discretion. Rates are accurate as of 1/16/2024. Fees may reduce earnings. Limit 1 account per social security number. Contact us for additional information, details, restrictions, processing. Other products and services may require enrollment, terms and conditions and fees may also apply.

Specializing in **Small  
Businesses & HUD Agencies**



Illich Galbraith, Owner

**FEE ACCOUNTING  
SMALL BUSINESS SOLUTIONS  
PROPERTY MANAGEMENT**

Phone (605) 229-0180 | Website [ram.solutions](http://ram.solutions)

ALL OVER ROOFING

**HOT SHINGLES IN YOUR AREA  
LOOKING TO  
GET NAILED**

**605.759.0000**

1003 6TH AVE SE, ABERDEEN, SD 57401



## Historic Service

Trusted for over a century with your  
business and personal insurance.

**It all starts with a relationship.**

In times of disaster or significant loss, the agents at RhodesAnderson Insurance will stand by your side to help you recover. Since 1880, we have been protecting Aberdeen's business community and constantly building relationships to ensure success into the future.

**Get to know us.**

**RHODESANDERSON**  
INSURANCE

LIFE | HEALTH | AUTO | HOMEOWNERS | BUSINESS | FARM

605.225.3172 | [RHODESANDERSON.COM](http://RHODESANDERSON.COM)

# SD Legislature 2024: What to Know



**Julie Johnson**

*Attorney at Law  
and Registered  
Lobbyist*

The SD Legislature got to “Hump Day”, over the halfway mark, on the day this article is written. By the time the article is printed, there is so much to know, which we’ll try to provide for you.

This is a thumbnail sketch of the issues we are watching, and involved in, in Pierre for our area.

- **Water**—We are privileged to work with the “WINS” project, the Water Investment in Northern South Dakota project, to request state assistance with funding, to add to all of the local work done by WEB and the partners to date. I was privileged to be able to deliver the news to our legislators that an historic Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) had been reached between WEB, City of Aberdeen and BDM. We can all be proud of this work. And we are “ARPA-ready”. With all of the work that has been done to date, we are ready to spend some of the remaining ARPA money, the COVID relief money from the federal money. Nearly \$130 million remains. We are ready to apply and to put it to work quickly, as required by the federal dollars. We are proud! This is huge for our whole region!

- **Childcare**—Considerable work has been done, much behind the scenes, to give more definition to the childcare needs across the state and in the workforce. Aberdeen is well-positioned to work on this topic given extensive work by ADC, childcare providers throughout and great facilities like our Youth

Development Center and Boys and Girls Club, to name a few. Wish us luck! We have a front-row seat.

- **Northern State University**—Our coveted higher education institution has had a good session so far. We are hoping that a tuition freeze can be implemented to keep their good work going, as well as a few other budget decisions. NSU had a very good budget hearing. We can all be proud!

- **Richmond Lake Dam**—This is an important investment in critical infrastructure in our region, as the dam needs to be replaced. If it is not, well, we’ll try not to think about that. Wish us luck on this important piece! We are so fortunate to have lakes like Richmond, Mina, Elm, and more, around us!

- **Airports**—There is an effort by a few of the larger airports to secure more funding for their infrastructure. At the end of the day, we hope that Aberdeen will stay in the bill and be eligible for any funding that may make its way through the budget process.

- **State Budget**—The legislative process is about to get to the time when they estimate how much money they have to spend. So important budget decisions are on deck for action once that decision is reached. It is amazing how critical this portion of the process is every year. I am fortunate to be in Appropriations nearly every day.

- **So Much More!** The small business and employer community has a lot at stake every year when the Legislature convenes. We are privileged to watch out for our community and our region.

We’ll share a better update after they adjourn for the year, which is March 25 (Veto Day).

And don’t forget that the deadline for filing petitions to run for the next legislature is March 26 if you are a Republican or Democratic candidate. There is an April deadline for independent candidates. That is another important part of the process.

We’ll look forward to more information for you in the next Progress magazine. In the meantime, if you have questions or concerns, please feel free to reach out. Johnson2@abe.midco.net.

If you’re struggling with suicidal thoughts,  
**YOU ARE NOT ALONE.**

**Honest communication  
helps prevent suicide.**

Support available, regardless of financial means.

  
**Northeastern**  
MENTAL HEALTH CENTER

**(605) 225-1010**



[nemhc.org](http://nemhc.org)

Windshield  
replacement and  
repair

Collision repair  
and painting

AUTHORIZED  
**ClubCar**  
DEALER

Golf Cart Sales  
& Service



**Double D Body Shop, Inc.**  
MIKE SOMMERS, OWNER

1-605-229-4488 | 1-605-380-9891 Cell | 1-605-229-4365 Fax  
424 North 4th St. | Aberdeen, SD 57401 | [doubledauto@gmail.com](mailto:doubledauto@gmail.com)

[www.doubledbodyshop.com](http://www.doubledbodyshop.com)



keeping your business  
connected is our business



Brent Hanson

Internet  
VOIP Phone Systems  
Voice & TV  
Local Support



Shaun Falken



605-725-1000

[nvc.net](http://nvc.net)



An Authorized Independent Agent For



Wellmark Blue Cross and Blue Shield of South Dakota is an independent licensee of the Blue Cross and Blue Shield Association.



Because...  
**Things Happen®**

**EMPLOYEE BENEFITS**  
✓Health ✓Dental ✓Vision

**Carol Sommers**  
**605.225.4270**



# Any financial advisor can know the markets. *We know our clients.*

Understanding your goals is the first step in providing personalized financial advice to help you reach them. We take the time to know what you're looking forward to, as well as what your challenges are, to help you build the financial future you want.

**Call us today  
to get started  
605.725.5770**



Legacy Financial Partners  
Ameriprise Private Wealth Advisory Practice

## Legacy Financial Partners

A private wealth advisory practice of  
Ameriprise Financial Services, LLC

1108 S Main St, Ste 101  
Aberdeen, SD 57401  
[planwithLFP.com](http://planwithLFP.com)

Ameriprise Financial cannot guarantee future financial results.

**Investment products are not insured by the FDIC, NCUA or any federal agency, are not deposits or obligations of, or guaranteed by any financial institution, and involve investment risks including possible loss of principal and fluctuation in value.**

Ameriprise Financial Services, LLC. Member FINRA and SIPC.

© 2023 Ameriprise Financial, Inc. All rights reserved.

Ameriprise  
Financial