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## BELLE FOURCHE SOUTH DAKOTA

### Center of the Nation

**BLACK HILLS PIONEER • 2017-2018 • DESTINATION MAGAZINE**

### agriculture mainstay of BUTTE COUNTY

Agriculture is South Dakota's number one industry and in Butte County it's a way of life.

"It's handed down from generation to generation around here," said D.J. Ives, formerly with the Butte County Cooperative Extension Service. "If you've got the land to do it and the passion to fight the markets, it's just what you do."

"South Dakota has always been land rich and continues to be an agricultural state," said Bill Foss, with the South Dakota Department of Agriculture. He noted that the economic impact of agriculture in South Dakota exceeds \$12.6 billion and employs more than 122,000 people, directly and indirectly.

According to an agricultural census, there are a total of 679 farms in Butte County making up a total of approximately 1.2 million acres. Of that, a total amount of 163,373 acres is used for cropland.

The larger agricultural operations are mostly cattle production and farming. An average of 60,000 head of cattle are raising throughout the county for a given year. And, he said, because of the open prairie land, it makes for excellent crop production, which in turn, provides food for cattle producers.

"When the rains are heavy in the spring around here, it can make for a sizable amount of forage for cattle," Ives said. "Western wheatgrass is one of the best forage for land and we currently have 2 1/2 of that around here." Cattle is among the most produced crop in Butte County, along with soybean production come in right behind it.

According to the U.S. Department of Agriculture, Butte County ranks number one in sheep production, with at least 42,000 head. Statewide the U.S. Department of Agriculture reports there are approximately 305,000 head of sheep and approximately 1.7 million head of lambs in the state.

**During the busy months, the Belle Fourche Livestock Auction is bustling with buyers and sellers. People travel from Montana, Wyoming, North Dakota and throughout South Dakota to buy and trade cattle.**

The Belle Fourche Livestock Auction was originally held in 1926. With a rich history and a staple for economic development in Butte County as to be for the largest livestock exchange facility in the area.

The auction's rise because our area had a vision of building a more around a railroad. Through the years, grain in an unbroken railroad to transport the cattle, on the location of the Dakota, Minnesota, & Eastern Railroad was the vision of the area.

According to history records, the valley that Belle Fourche lies in was first settled in 1875. It was discovered in the Black Hills. Shortly thereafter, Seth Bullock came to the Black Hills and settled around the Belle Fourche River. Bullock, a former merchant and rancher, offered a free right-of-way and offered to build the railroad to the proposed railroad company looking to build a new rail route through the Black Hills. The location of the Old Middle Creek shipping yards to the present day Belle Fourche Livestock Auction site. By 1878, Belle Fourche was shipping 2,500 head of cattle each year through the busy months.

Shipping the cattle became a hot career and two entrepreneurs, therefore making the location perfect to create weekly markets for stock.

**PHOTO: CHRIS HANSEN**

### belle fourche owes its start to the RAILROAD

In 1890, the railroad had been built west to a point that is now Belle Fourche. On Sept. 10 of that year, the first load of cattle was shipped by rail to western states. Over the next two months nearly 1,300 steers of cattle were transported to markets. The first steers in the cowboys was completed by December 1890.

The success of the railroad then brought about the planting of Belle Fourche in the spring of 1891 and land parcels were sold during the year of that year. The railroad made it possible for the region's agricultural industry to have easy access to a highly efficient means of delivery for its products to market.

In 1962, nearly 1,000 steers of cattle were being shipped from Belle Fourche by 1891, that number had soared to 2,500 steers of cattle per month, making Belle Fourche the largest shipper of cattle in the world.

Over the decades the railroad had shipped numerous agricultural commodities from Belle Fourche including wool, grain, flour and numerous other items for the industry. The rail was run to Colony, Wyo., where the railcars carry biomass, a natural resource used in a wide variety of products from long haul to construction.

Today the railroad in Belle Fourche is being a modern horse thanks to the rail fields in North Dakota. A new industrial rail park opened in the city in 2013 and has been steadily expanding since. High density polyethylene pipe manufacturer Pioneer Tank and Manufacturing Incorporated is the industrial rail park in 2013 and expanded in 2015 to accommodate increased demand.

In 2015, the addition of a half-mile long siding track at the industrial rail park is making it easier for businesses to load and unload products including a new switch which will allow for additional track construction in the future, should additional businesses come on with rail access needs.

**PHOTO: CHRIS HANSEN**

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**PHOTO: CHRIS HANSEN**

### documenting the rich LOCAL HISTORY

The Tri-State Museum is certainly a must see for anyone visiting or relocating to Belle Fourche.

Since 1933, the Tri-State Museum has collected historical materials from the early settlement of the Tri-State area, including the centers of South Dakota, Missouri and Wyoming.

The objective of the museum is to tell the stories of the early pioneers and those who followed them and to preserve that legacy for future generations.

The museum houses a unique collection that attracts thousands of visitors every year seeking to learn more about the history of Belle Fourche and the Tri-State region.

The non-profit museum opened in 1933 after Mrs. Ray Williams, of Hammond, Mont., donated \$15,000 and a western collection started by her late husband. To accommodate this collection, local business and interested parties grouped together to create the historical center.

In 2001, the museum opened in its current location at 415 5th Ave. The museum Foundation is currently involved in a capital campaign to raise funds for an addition that would include all-purpose gallery to be used for events including gallery showings, business education for children, office space, and research center.

As visitors enter the museum, the fine display to greet them is the "Early Cattle Companies." In one time Belle Fourche was the largest shipping point of range cattle in the world. Many of the cowboys of the area rode with Seth Bullock's cowboys to the 1893 inauguration of Theodore Roosevelt.

The Black Hills Roundup and Rodeo, now in its 96th year, plays a large part in the history of this area. The Roundup began in 1918 as a benefit for the Red Cross during World War I, bringing \$10,000 to the war effort. During the Roundup rodeo, the challenge of riding Tipperary, the legendary bucking horse, set the momentum, and the rodeo became an annual Fourth of July celebration, which continues to this day, attracting overflow crowds from around the world.

In the museum, visitors will find the story of the Great Butte County Bank Robbery featuring the Sundance Kid and the Hole-in-the-Wall Gang. A military section with uniforms and memorabilia from the Civil War through Vietnam includes the story of Don Smith, a local hero who was part of the Devils Hole Band during World War II. Cars, local industry a premier home complex with lawns and furniture, a mechanic, and the history of the railroad round out the main collections of the Tri-State Museum.

Located near the museum is the "Trackless" Johnny Spaulding Cabin. Spaulding was an avid hunter, scout, and guide. The two-story cabin, which originally stood at the lower Redwater River just south of Belle Fourche, was built from hand-hewn logs hauled from the surrounding hills. After building the cabin, Spaulding invited his sister and brother-in-law and their six children to move to the area. For two years they lived together in his cabin, now equipped with furnishings and artifacts that reveal the modern lifestyle of the era.

In 1900, the W.A. Helmer family donated the cabin to the museum, and the Belle Fourche Lion Club provided resources. In 2000, it was moved to its present location near the banks of the Belle Fourche River and steps away from the Center of the Nation Museum. Museum and Visitor Center Director Thelma said that visitors often say that the Johnny Spaulding Cabin is the highlight of their stop in Belle Fourche. "It has a charm that especially captures the story of Bascom Johnson and the girl he loved behind a teaching one. Stories — especially those from outside the western states — really respond to it," Thelma said.

For 2017, the Tri-State Museum and Visitor Center has a new logo, a new website, and new outdoor signage. All new exhibits, temporary exhibits, First Saturday Brunches, Family Fun Days, summer classes, and In-Store Performance productions for the year have been planned and information about them is available online at [www.tristatemuseum.com](http://www.tristatemuseum.com).

The museum has also expanded its Discovery boxes for families to explore adding books on snowflakes and the Native American of South Dakota. For children, the museum continues to offer a draw-up truck, a western activity table, and have added a kids' table to each of its temporary exhibits. Programming has expanded to include three museum productions each year by the new Tri-State Performers and both holiday units and saguaro have been built for the theater stage.

**PHOTO: CHRIS HANSEN**

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### PENNY COLLECTORS REJOICE!

**Penny Pincher souvenir coins**

Now you can get a collectible penny token during your visit to the western town of Belle Fourche and they're available exclusively at the Tri-State Museum and Visitor Center at 415 5th Ave.

For collectors of all ages, penny tokens are a fun and interactive way to commemorate your trip to Belle Fourche with these unique designs, the Black Hills Roundup Rodeo, Tri-State Museum and Center of the Nation Museum.

All you do to put in your penny plus two quarters, crank the rollers and watch as your token is made right before your very eyes! They also have passport books available to keep your token organized!

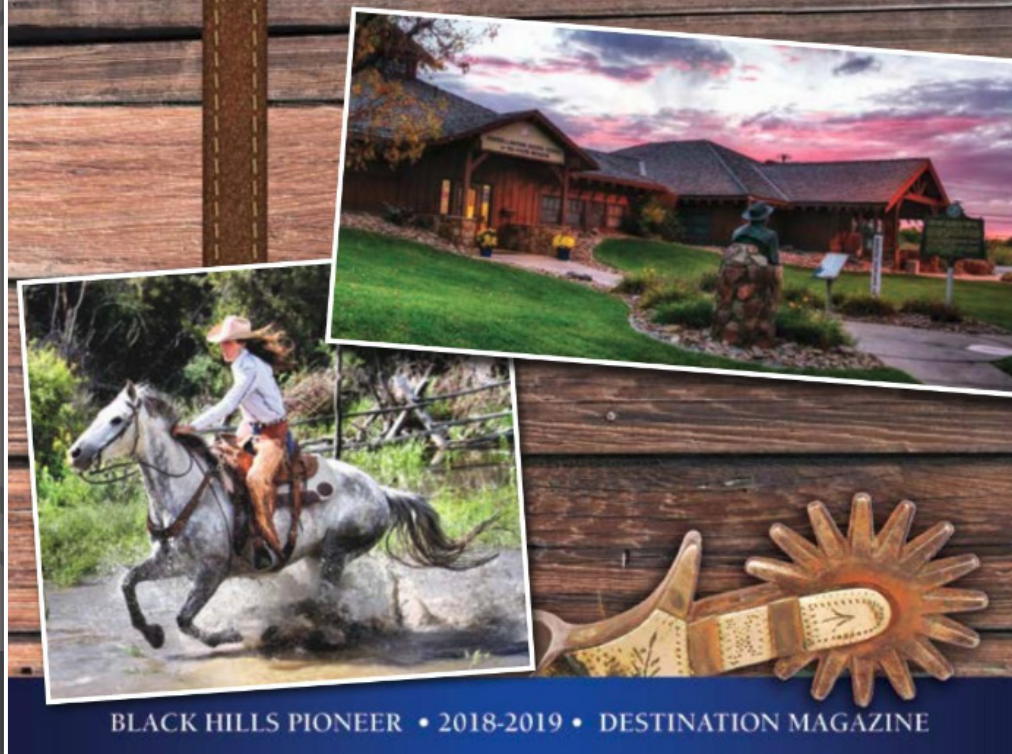
Hottington tokens have been around since the 1892-93 World's Columbian Exposition held in Chicago, Ill. There were four different designs made to commemorate the 400th anniversary of Columbus landing in America.

They have become quite a specialized collectible with some people focusing on acquiring items travel-themed tokens, Christmas tokens, political tokens and even everything produced by one specific mill.

No matter what your level of interest, your name is here! In getting your one-of-a-kind penny token from the Center of the Nation Belle Fourche, among other machine locations, can be found at [www.pennycollector.com](http://www.pennycollector.com).

**PHOTO: CHRIS HANSEN**





## CENTER of the NATION monument

South Dakota sits front and center in the United States, geographically, and Belle Fourche holds the distinction as being the center of the nation once in the closest community to the geographic point.

The geographical center of the 48 contiguous United States moved on Aug. 21, 1994, the day that Hawaii became the 50th state, and on Aug. 21, 2007, the Belle Fourche Chamber of Commerce and the Center of the Nation Planning Committee marked the spot by dedicating a new monument next to the Tin State Museum and Visitor Center.

Made from South Dakota granite, the 210-by-94-foot composite stone marks Belle Fourche as the geographic center of the nation, with a 1.1-inch bronze marker from the National Geographic Society verifying the location.

"We work hard to make sure all our visitors have a memorable and memorable experience while they are here," Kristi Thelen, the director of the Tin State Museum and Visitor Center, said. "We maintain gardens and container plantings and have a newly refurbished fountain to make the center of the facility both attractive. Our visitor information is always kept up to date and we have a touchscreen with minor info, as well. This summer we'll have temporary and mini exhibits on the history of geographic being geologic, and the Black Hills Gold Rush. And we always have interesting discovery boxes and activity tables for children and families."

The monument was designed by local artist and musician Monica Anselmi and constructed by local contractors. The monument was unveiled and officially

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142 YEARS OF HISTORY

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## GATEWAY to the NORTHERN BLACK HILLS

Like many places, the area now known as Belle Fourche was inhabited long before a name or township was ever established. The name came when France held the claim on the area and French explorers found the meeting point between the Redwater and Elk Creek. Belle Fourche (pronounced Bel Fouch) translates to "beautiful fork," and many trapper found the area to be profitable in the fur trade, making Belle Fourche a rendezvous point during the 1800s for trappers and traders.

The plans throughout the United States, and even those beyond its borders, were filling with cattle, and service areas and towns began to appear to meet the needs of the cattle business. The stage line between Medina, N.D., and Deadwood was established in 1884, and a way station, known as De Moss, which included a stage barn and a saloon, was built on the 38 Ranch owned by Sol Star and Seth Bullock. After only a few stage runs, however, the stop proved unprofitable, and the stage line no longer took the route that included De Moss. While the saloon remained open, it wasn't until the railroad came along that Belle Fourche really made a mark on the map.

Everyone in the area knew that the Fremont, Elkhorn, and Missouri Valley Railroad, under pressure from the cattle barons, would soon need a freight stop in the area for freights before shipping to packing plants in the Midwest, and through the town of Minnesota, near Belle Fourche and more developed at the time, was the favored choice of location by the railroad, a speculator purchased Minnesota title right of way and demanded a high price for the land the railroad wanted. Seth Bullock, having acquired land along the Belle Fourche River since his arrival in Deadwood in 1876, appreciated the situation and decided to offer the railroad free right-of-way across his land, in addition to offering to build a terminal if the railroad would locate it on his land.

The business partner, Sol Star, went word to the railroad that he would not approve any deal that Bullock's proposed unless the railroad also built into Deadwood. The railroad officials recognized a deal when they saw one and agreed to the terms, and following the agreement, the railroad terminal was built in 1880 in the place where the present Belle Fourche Livestock Exchange

Seth Bullock's supposedly proposed the town name after the last rail was hammered into place. The town was born, lots were sold, and the first strand of cattle departed from Belle Fourche in 1880. However, five lots in town were offered to businesses moving from Minnesota, and while there was some bad feeling for the past between the communities, many businesses did move to the thriving town. The early days of Belle Fourche revolved around the cattle business, and known as a "cow town," Belle Fourche catered to cowboys and cattlemen. The town's original main street (now 10th Avenue) on known as Saloon Street, quickly filled with businesses, including several saloons, restaurants, clothing and grocery stores, a hotel, and Star and Bullock's hardware and furniture store.

After losing the railroad depot, the community of Minnesota did not let the Belle County seat to Belle Fourche in 1884. After an election where, supposedly, hundreds of voters were "imposed" to ensure the desired outcome to Belle Fourche's favor, Seth Bullock once again intervened on behalf of Belle Fourche, raising \$2,000 to build a two-story building for a courthouse once the county seat transferred. After cleared prohibition on the vote period, a few overcautious citizens of Belle Fourche rode into Minnesota and stole the county books, though the transfer would not take place until the fall of the next year.

Growing from a rendezvous point for trappers to the county seat, Belle Fourche was on its way to establishing itself as an important community in the area.

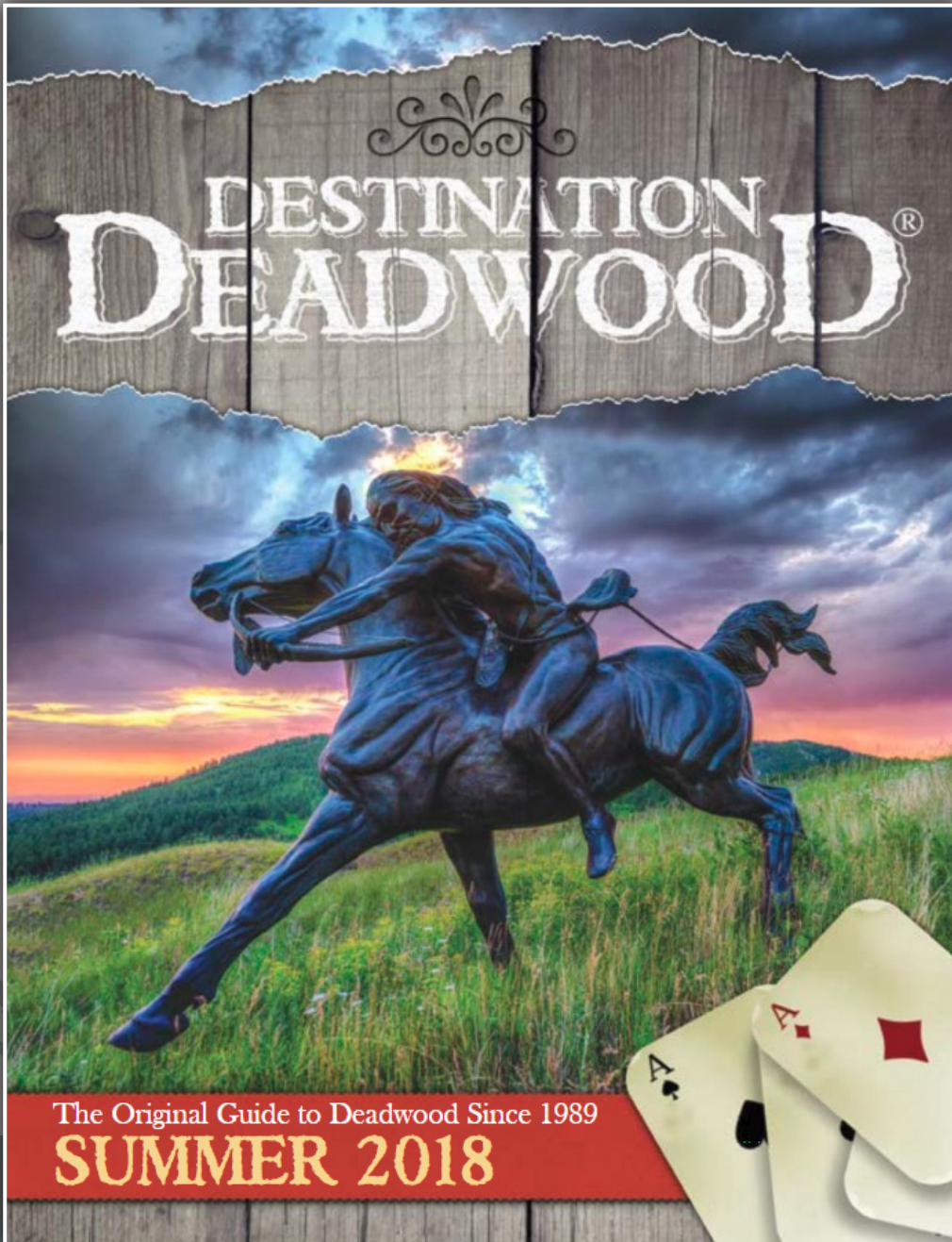
Just five years after the first strand of cattle left its depot, Belle Fourche shipped 2,300 carloads per month in 1885 in the peak season, becoming the world's largest livestock shipping point. Belle Fourche was no longer a simple stage stop as it was, and still is, an agricultural center for the region. Unfortunately, a fire in 1893 destroyed most of the business district, but within three months, it was almost completely rebuilt. Many buildings were moved from Minnesota, unfortunately, without a railroad, the town slowly diminished and is now considered a ghost town, but many of the buildings in Belle Fourche's present downtown business district remain from the rebuilding after the fire in 1893.

Belle Fourche made headlines again in 1897 when a member of the Hole-in-the-Wall gang, the "Sundance Kid," attempted to rob the Belle County Bank. Belle Fourche was the home to one of the oldest outdoor rodeos, the Black Hills Roundup, which started in 1918. Originally raising funds for the Red Cross during World War I and named the "Tin State Roundup," the Black Hills Roundup drew 15,000 spectators to Belle Fourche in its first year, though the population of the town at that time was under 1,200 and there were no roads and few cars to speak of in the area. The Roundup started on the grounds of the town and raised nearly \$20,000 for the war effort. Though the war ended the year after, the popularity of the rodeo made it an annual event that continues each July.

Belle Fourche continues to serve as a large trade area for work, cattle, and livestock industries which have been instrumental in the growth of the town. Serving as the "Gateway to the Northern Black Hills," Belle Fourche describes Belle Fourche as the heart of the region, but also the intersection of history, and community which makes a mark on the area and state in a variety of ways.

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The Original Guide to Deadwood Since 1899  
**SUMMER 2018**

## Penchant for the plesiosaur

Plan to see rare, locally discovered plesiosaur fossil at Adams Museum

Story and Photos by Jani Conrad Pearson

**T**hrough a penchant for dinosaurs and the fossil trade, her paleontologist friends, and a chance to see the plesiosaur fossil. It's housed in a case for 350 degrees viewing at Deadwood's Adams Museum in a new presentation of the former exhibit.

The plesiosaur is a special exhibit because it was found near Whitehorn by a local fossil hunter, to date, still the only one of its species," said Deadwood History Exhibit Director Darrell Nelson. "The museum, Charles Haas and his son Arthur thought they had found something very special and tried to interest large museums in major cities. None wanted it. So they gave it to the Adams in 1974. For several years, the fossil remained encased in rock in museum storage."

The subject of the Adams Museum plesiosaur is that it is the only fossil ever found from the Cretaceous period.

Deadwood History Inc. Collections Curator Rachel Lovelace-Perrill explained that the head and vertebrae of the non-dinosaur fossil were originally put on display in the Adams Museum in December of 1934.

"Dr. S.C. Simons of the Chicago Field Museum assumed Charles Haas had identified and reconstructed the fossil," Lovelace-Perrill said. "Charles mentioned in a letter dated Oct. 30, 1934 that the Smithsonian and the American Museum of Natural History in New York were interested in the fossil, but he decided

A plesiosaur is a large, extinct marine reptile with a small head, long, narrow snout, four paddle-like limbs, and a short tail that lived millions of years ago.

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to give it to the Adams Museum. When Bruce Schumacher identified the fossil as a unique species, he named Plesiosaurus and lead to honor the Lakota name for the Black Hills, 'pala waka' and the Haas family. The fossil is around 60 percent complete, which is not uncommon."

Dr. Bruce Schumacher is the paleontologist who prepared the plesiosaur, removing the fossil to be analyzed," Nelson said. "He decided this after careful measurements of the fossil's various features in comparison to other known plesiosaurs and in the context of the fossil's age period. The time period was established using ammonites from the same 'parent' rock formation, so ammonite impressions in the rock are included in the exhibit."

Nelson and the Curator found a new home this spring when it was moved to suit the major remodeling of the entire lower level of the Adams Museum.

The exhibit is the new exhibit, Exhibit & Responsibilities, "It features one room devoted entirely to geological themes of the region, rocks, minerals, fossils, scientific methods, etc.," Nelson said. "Some parts of the rock collection have never been exhibited before. The highlight of this new display will be a museum case both specially for the plesiosaur. The case will not only give complete visibility for the fossil but offer some

### SPRING/SUMMER 2018 Schedule of Events

<b>April 6-7</b>	<b>Forks, Corks and Kegs Food &amp; Wine Festival</b> Sample a variety of beer and wine from all across the country as well as enjoy Black Hills beverages at various venues across town. Each location will feature culinary creations paired with local produce components. Event Center, 602-535-1181 602-535-1181 • www.deadwood.com	<b>May 18</b>	<b>Wynonna Judd</b> Wynonna Judd Great East Event Center 100 Deadwood Mountain Dr., Deadwood, SD 57122 605-238-1100 • www.deadwood.com
<b>April 14</b>	<b>Richard Marx</b> Richard Marx Great East Event Center 100 Deadwood Mountain Dr., Deadwood, SD 57122 605-238-1100 • www.deadwood.com	<b>May 19</b>	<b>Black Hills Opry Concert</b> 1 p.m. Haines-Hatfield Opera House 100 W. Main St., Lead, SD 57729 605-238-2821 • www.blackhillsopry.com
<b>April 20</b>	<b>Deadwood Craft Beer Fest</b> Deadwood Chamber of Commerce 605-238-1100 • www.deadwood.com	<b>June 3</b>	<b>Mickelson Trail Marathon, Half Marathon, and 5 K Run Marathon Relay</b> Discover 24.2 miles of Black Hills beauty during the annual Mickelson Trail Marathon triathlon and 5K/10K runs in historic Deadwood. 605-238-1100 • www.mickelsontrail.com
<b>April 27</b>	<b>Tracy Lawrence</b> Tracy Lawrence Great East Event Center 100 Deadwood Mountain Dr., Deadwood, SD 57122 605-238-1100 • www.deadwood.com	<b>June 5-16</b>	<b>Wild Deadwood Reads</b> A small-venue, multi-genre book reading series opportunity to connect with local authors. Events throughout historic Deadwood. 605-238-1100 • www.deadwood.com
<b>April 28</b>	<b>Dan's Day</b> Amenity Adams Inn & Casino. There is an annual celebration honoring Dan, the third oldest son of William Emory Adams. Games will include a donation of Dan's vintage clothing and a raffle. Starts on Monday, 10:00 a.m. to 8:00 p.m. All donations benefit the Dan's Day Foundation. Amenity Adams Inn 100 W. Main St., Deadwood, SD 57122 605-238-1100 • www.amenityadams.com	<b>June 8-9</b>	<b>Deadwood Professional Bull Riding</b> Full riding on one of the most extreme sports known to man. Top bull and top riders are competing in Deadwood. Tickets available at the ticket booth or in advance at <a href="http://www.blackhillsrodeo.com">www.blackhillsrodeo.com</a> .
<b>May 5</b>	<b>Cinco de Mayo Festival</b> Games, Entertainment, Food & Fun 605-238-1100 • www.deadwood.com	<b>June 15-16</b>	<b>Wild Bill Days</b> Celebrate the life and times of Wild Bill Hickok with a weekend full of live concerts on Main St., a classic Deadwood Drag Competition, gold panning, a shooting contest. Deadwood Chamber of Commerce 100 Main St., Deadwood, SD 57122 605-238-1100 • www.deadwood.com
<b>May 13</b>	<b>Mother's Day Tours</b> Join our tour team for lunch and then hit the third of the beautifully restored Victorian homes and explore vintage shops and gardens in Deadwood's historic downtown. Five admissions to historic Museum open from 1 a.m. to 3 p.m. Amenity Adams Inn 100 W. Main St., Deadwood, SD 57122 • 605-238-1100 Lead of 70 Museum 100 W. Main St., Deadwood, SD 57122 605-238-1100 • www.amenityadams.com	<b>June 21</b>	<b>Northern Hills Community Band Concert</b> Music and sound come to the town at 7 p.m. Admission by donation. Seating is water view over the canyon to the Rosemount State Research and Cultural Center. Brian Adams Home 100 W. Main St., Deadwood, SD 57122 • 605-238-1100
		<b>June 23</b>	<b>Brian Regan</b> Wynonna Judd Great East Event Center 100 Deadwood Mountain Dr., Deadwood, SD 57122 605-238-1100 • www.blackhillsopry.com



**From page 3**

Rather it stands as a centerpiece for two cultures, one whose very lives depended on the buffalo and one who saw it as a means to expand. It recognizes and accepts that this is our mutual history. It can also represent the chance to move forward."

Tanaka is a Lakota word meaning "big bear."

So, is it "bison" or "buffalo?" The American bison is not a true buffalo in scientific terms, but most people use the word "buffalo" for this animal. Hence, popular usage perpetuates the term "buffalo," even though "bison" is the scientific name for the animal featured at Tanaka. And at Tanaka: Story of the Bison, both terms – bison and buffalo – are used interchangeably, although the only true buffalo in the world are the cape buffalo and the water buffalo.

Perhaps the most fascinating and captivating portion of the Tanaka experience is the massive Buffalo Hunt bronze sculpture assembly on the Tanaka grounds.

"Kevin commissioned the sculptor from Peggy Demers' Caldwell explained. "It took five years to sculpt and cast. There is a total of 17 sculptures: 14 buffalo and three Native American riders on horseback. It depicts the buffalo hunt. The Native Americans would select the buffaloes they wanted to harvest, then they would create a stampede and run

the buffaloes over cliff. It was the simplest way for Native Americans to hunt the buffalo. They did that when the horse was introduced into America. Then they would go down and harvest the buffalo and take it back to their families."

A real buffalo jump, the Yore Buffalo Jump, can be found west of Spearfish and Abaldin, Wyo along Interstate 20. It was used by numerous Native American tribes over a period of about 300 years. During that time at many 20,000 animals were slaughtered.

For the Northern Plains people, Tanaka means life. Ceremonies and daily life revolved around sacred references to Tanaka. They relied upon the bison for food, clothing, housing, tools, weapons, and ceremonial items. Plains Indians had more than 100 uses for the various parts of the bison. Nothing was wasted.

An estimated 30 to 60 million bison once roamed the Great Plains of North America. By the close of the 19th century it was estimated that less than 1,000 bison survived. This is their story.

"Tanaka is the story of the bison and the Northern Plains people in relationship to the bison," Caldwell said. "We focus on the 1800s and up to present day. It's a family friendly attraction. We have a museum, gift shop, and a small restaurant. We have Lakota people do presentations throughout the day. We, of course, have the bronze sculpture, which is the

third largest in the world. We're pretty proud of them. They're beautiful. It's very tranquil and calming here. We have people coming up who plan to spend an hour and end up spending half a day — in some cases, all day. It's just that tranquil here. There's something very special about Tanaka and most people feel that. We don't put a label on it. We let our guests decide for their own what they're feeling. We take great pride in the fact that it represents the Lakota people in an honest and true way."

Cultural Preservation at Tanaka: Story of the Bison, Phil Reichard, said the goal of Tanaka is education, but more so, making it easy to relate to.

"The different preservers, we each have our own way of telling the story," Reichard said. "It's a living story, beyond cultural boundaries, skin color, and spiritual beliefs."

Reichard said the goal of Tanaka is for visitors to walk away with a good feeling about, not only Tanaka, but about themselves.

"Again, to relate, the feeling that I can see a lot of myself in the Native American culture or its spiritual beliefs," Reichard said.

So, what can a visitor to Tanaka expect?

The massive Buffalo Hunt bronze sculpture, commissioned from Peggy Demers by owner and founder of Tanaka Kovs Center, took five years to sculpt and cast.

"To begin with, we have a tipi village as part of a replica camp and the tipi is to me the bison, which, first and foremost are the focus to me," Reichard said. "The tipis are always a good story beyond being a structure. It also includes aspects of engineering and social life. For example, the south side of the tipi was always given to females, because it had the most warmth in the winter months. The poles represent the skeleton of a body or being and the skin cover it, so when you're in a tipi, it's like being inside the body again."

Next stop, the sculptures.

"The sculptures, themselves, look different as the day progresses, depending on how the sunlight moves across them," Reichard said. "For example, folds of skin or ribs that are not visible in the morning are visible in the evening. The sculptures are almost alive in that way. They show, obviously, the face in the bison's eyes. We also see the determination in the hunter's face. It's like many opinions and positive and negative — hunting is necessary, but a very dangerous occupation."

Although there are pretensions at Tanaka to help interpret the visit, one also has the chance to do just as the spirit moves them.

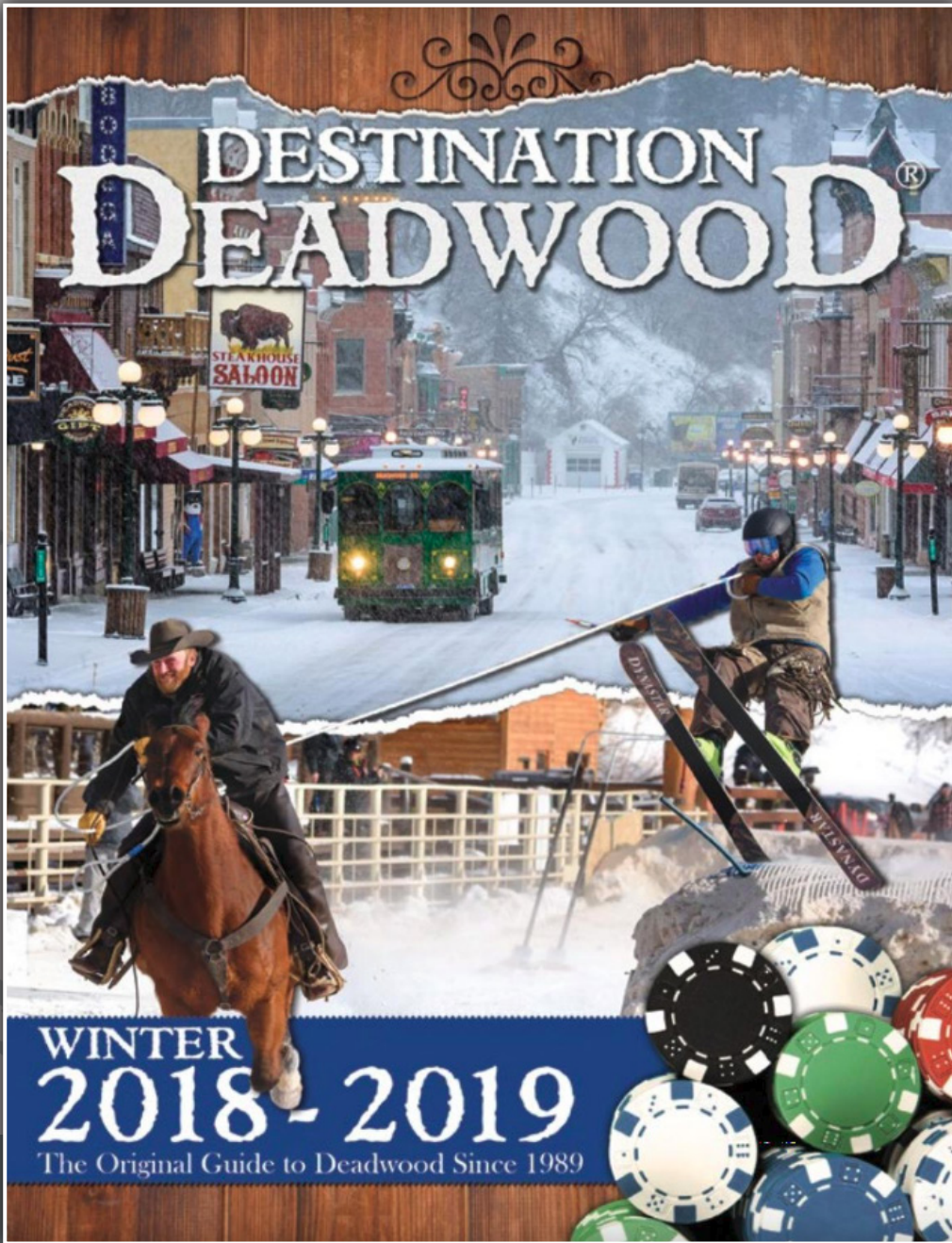
It's definitely a cultural presentation," Reichard said. "It's a guided walk to the museum and the village to the tipis. At the Northern Plains People Educational and Interpretive Center, you can come in and look around at your leisure and there's a cultural presenter there and we can answer questions, as well. We don't answer them. We let them read the story boards and the objects can be looked at. More importantly, the bison, horns, skulls and stomachs, which was used for cooking pots before metal. And we encourage people to touch them, to pick them up. We're a hands-on museum. To me,

Continued on page 6



# 2018-19 WINTER DESTINATION DEADWOOD

The full publication can be viewed online at [https://issuu.com/bhpioneer/docs/dest\\_dwd\\_fall-winter\\_18-19](https://issuu.com/bhpioneer/docs/dest_dwd_fall-winter_18-19)



## DEADWOOD: a dynamite destination to museum-hop

**W**ant to get up close and personal with Deadwood? There's a visit to the town's four museums, collectively called Deadwood Museums, (DWM) is a must.

The Adams Museum, Days '76 Museum, Historic Adams House, and Horowitz Adams Research and Cultural Center. Each has its own unique flavor and focus, but all are museum experiences on Deadwood's days of old.

As stated in the organization's museum mission, DWM inspires the global community by preserving and celebrating the cultural heritage of Deadwood and the Black Hills in the context of the American West through exceptional exhibits, innovative educational programs and access to extensive collections in unique settings.

"Deadwood Museums, Inc. creates exhibits that tell compelling stories about the history of Deadwood and the Black Hills through the use of original artifacts, primary source archival research, and thoughtful interpretation," said Caroline Wibben, DWM executive director. "We want our audience to realize and understand that history is above the human experience, which is reflective to all of us."

### HISTORIC ADAMS HOUSE

With the founder of the Adams Museum, such an integral part of preserving Deadwood's history is not fitting that a few decades ago, museum officials set about preserving Mr. Adams' home. Built in 1872 and located at 27 Van Buren St. in Deadwood, the Queen Anne-style home is well-known for its towering ornate appearance and turret. In addition to its well-appointed, painted interior, featuring profuse amounts of oak, hand-painted canvas wall coverings, stained-glass windows, some of the first 19th century plumbing, electricity and telephone in the Black Hills, and original furnishings. Following "E.E. Adams' death, then-oldest Mary left everything intact, from the street made up to the parlor to the corner of the wall. Deadwood. The house has stood for more than 150 years. That's why the Deadwood Museums Preservation Commission purchased the property in 1992 and restored it as a house museum in 2000.

Continued on page 14



## SNOCROSS Returning to Deadwood

**T**he seventh annual AMSOIL Championship Snocross event is scheduled for Jan. 25-26, 2019, at the Days of '76 Event Complex in Deadwood.

"It's a combination of all things snow and adrenaline," Deadwood Chamber of Commerce Director Lee Harard said. He described the sport as snocross with a snowmobile.

Amateur jumps and right turns characterize a snocross course. The Days of '76 track is regarded as one of the toughest, most technical tracks on the circuit.

Professional, amateur, and female races compete.



Some of the athletes compete at the well-known 76 Grand event. January's event marks the fourth stop on the tour's eight-city schedule. Other stops include Duluth, Minn.; Salamanca, N.Y.; and March's grand finale in Lake Geneva, Wis.

Harard said the event has enjoyed momentum, especially in Deadwood. "It's up close and personal to the action with the speed and high-flying action," he added.

"Do you like watching competitive sports?"

"Absolutely," he said. "It's really fun. It's really fun for Deadwood's economy to have events that draw people in for the weekend," Harard said.

Harard's answer will likely be sold out before the event, according to Harard. He said some random seats have been available on the Friday of the event.

"It's amazing that in the dead of winter, we can transform Deadwood into a snowmobile racing capital for nearly a week," Harard said.

The International Series of Championship Snocross (ISCS) made the AMSOIL series. It named the Deadwood Snocross as its event of the year in 2014.

"It's really fun for Deadwood's economy to have events that draw people in for the weekend," Harard said.

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## DEADWOOD 1876 THEATER'S TALES woven with historic fiction

**S**tory and Photos by Jaci Conrad Pearson

A live stage experience artfully mingling fiction from the past with fiction, Deadwood 1876 Theater's tales are woven with the golden threads of history that characterized this mining town at the turn of the century.

Loosely based on true events on actual events, over 2000 actors, Deadwood 1876 Theater is in its seventh season and offers an evening of comedy, entertainment centered around the characters and stories of Deadwood in its early town days.

"I came here seven and one-half years ago on vacation and fell in love with the Hills," said Ardavani, who falls from Blue Springs, Mo. "I saw a real need for entertainment—the old Deadwood-style entertainment is what I was shooting for."

Everything from the theater to the costumes is meant to deliver on that goal.

"I like to buy authentic stuff. I did a year of research on Deadwood and costumes, furniture, buildings, mining before I even got started," she said.

Ardavani found her way to Deadwood via the HBO Deadwood series and the desire to just take a vacation somewhere, anywhere.

"When I heard it was a real town, I was like, 'No way! I'm there!'"

Later, with her oldest daughter in tow, the former biology teacher moved to Deadwood and set up shop, first focusing her theater efforts on plays and more recently adding a mystery dinner theater theme.

"I write all the plays," Ardavani said. "I write events that happened in the Black Hills between 1876 and 1890. I use as much history as I can. Everything's pretty much period and since it's dinner theater, it's a little less formal. We have a lot of fun."

Inspired by a murder mystery dinner theater she attended with her daughter, Ardavani changed up the plays she was writing and hoping to include the mystery dinner theater theme.

"I said, 'I can do that,'" she recalled. And the lines of Katie Quinn, which played over the summer, and Who Killed Naby? were born.

"Who Killed Naby?" playing 5:30-7:30 Oct. 18, 19, 20 is the story of Deadwood's most popular working girl at Madam DeFran's boy brotzel, who is murdered. The list of suspects grow as secrets are revealed. The audience is asked to help Sheriff Bullock determine just who killed Naby.

And here's how the murder mystery dinner theater works.

"It's called by Cheyenne Crossing, we have a live musician, and after dinner, we start the play out, the murder happens, and we give the crowd the opportunity to guess who did it," Ardavani said. "They write down their guess, we collect them, they finish the play. The people who guessed right are entered into a drawing for a bottle of wine."

December features a festive run of events for the Deadwood 1876 Theater, as "Scrooge of Deadwood," a historical-fiction piece with musical accompaniment takes to the stage 5:30-7:30 p.m. Dec. 7, 8, 14, 15. Prosperity and profundering inspired in 1876 Deadwood. Can the spirit of the season touch the heart of the most despicable, ruthless man in town? Share the comedy and tragedy to find out.

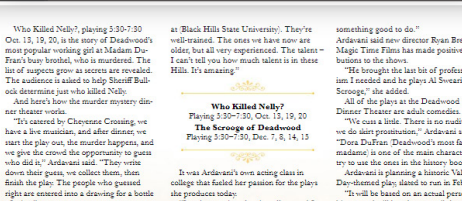
"The Scrooge of Deadwood is great," Ardavani said. "It's got a great ending."

Looking for actors to populate her plays has never been difficult and Ardavani says she's got some of the best talent out there.

"They're from Belle Fourche, Spearfish, Lead, and Deadwood," she said. "Belle Fourche and Spearfish are good actors. When some of my first actors were college students."

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<p><b>2016 FORD F-150 XLT</b></p> <p>FX4 • VERY LOW MILES SALE: <b>\$33,480</b></p>	<p><b>2015 CADILLAC ESCALADE</b></p> <p>SUNROOF • DVD • NAVIGATION SALE: <b>\$40,550</b></p>	<p><b>2015 GMC SIERRA 1500 SLT</b></p> <p>ALL TERRAIN • NAVIGATION • Z71 SALE: <b>\$33,850</b></p>
<p><b>2015 CHEVY SUBURBAN LTZ</b></p> <p>SUNROOF • DVD • NAVIGATION SALE: <b>\$42,370</b></p>	<p><b>2013 GMC SIERRA 2500HD</b></p> <p>LONGBOX • 6.0 GAS SALE: <b>\$25,220</b></p>	<p><b>2006 DODGE DAKOTA DUOD CAB</b></p> <p>SLT • 5 SP • VERY LOW MILES SALE: <b>\$9,992</b></p>

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<p><b>2018 SIERRA 1500 SLT</b></p> <p>WAS \$57,900   NOW \$45,622<sup>95</sup> SAVE <b>\$12,278</b></p>	<p><b>2018 SIERRA 1500 SLT</b></p> <p>WAS \$59,400   NOW \$46,987<sup>95</sup> SAVE <b>\$12,413</b></p>	<p><b>2018 SIERRA 1500 DENALI</b></p> <p>WAS \$65,765   NOW \$56,950 SAVE <b>\$8,815</b></p>	<p><b>2018 SIERRA 1500 SLE</b></p> <p>WAS \$52,385   NOW \$42,205 SAVE <b>\$10,180</b></p>
<p><b>2018 ACADIA SLT</b></p> <p>COURTESY TRANSPORTATION VEHICLE WAS \$45,625   NOW \$35,997 SAVE <b>\$9,628</b></p>	<p><b>2018 ACADIA DENALI</b></p> <p>COURTESY TRANSPORTATION VEHICLE WAS \$52,585   NOW \$42,619 SAVE <b>\$9,966</b></p>	<p><b>2019 ACADIA SLT</b></p> <p>INFOTAINMENT SYSTEM • NAVIGATION WAS \$44,435   NOW \$39,340<sup>90</sup> SAVE <b>\$5,094</b></p>	<p><b>2019 ACADIA DENALI</b></p> <p>TECHNOLOGY PKG. • SURROUND VISION WAS \$52,585   NOW \$47,025<sup>90</sup> SAVE <b>\$5,559</b></p>
<p><b>2018 TERRAIN DENALI</b></p> <p>COURTESY TRANSPORTATION VEHICLE WAS \$44,325   NOW \$37,811<sup>90</sup> SAVE <b>\$6,513</b></p>	<p><b>2019 TERRAIN SLT</b></p> <p>DRIVER ALERT PKG. WAS \$39,930   NOW \$34,883<sup>95</sup> SAVE <b>\$5,046</b></p>	<p><b>2018 CANYON SLE</b></p> <p>DIESEL • LONG BOX WAS \$43,655   NOW \$37,399 SAVE <b>\$6,256</b></p>	<p><b>2018 CANYON SLT</b></p> <p>DIESEL • DRIVER ALERT PKG. WAS \$46,400   NOW \$40,347 SAVE <b>\$6,053</b></p>

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<p><b>2017 GMC SIERRA 1500 CREW CAB</b></p> <p>ENALI • 6.2 V8 • POWER SUNROOF WAS \$62,710   NOW \$54,748 SAVE <b>\$7,962</b></p>	<p><b>2017 GMC SIERRA 1500 CREW CAB</b></p> <p>DENALI • 6.2 V8 • 20" CHROME WHEELS WAS \$62,178   NOW \$53,753 SAVE <b>\$8,425</b></p>	<p><b>2017 GMC SIERRA 2500HD DOUBLE CAB</b></p> <p>WORK TRUCK • CONVENIENCE PKGS. • 6.0 V8 WAS \$43,895   NOW \$36,717<sup>90</sup> SAVE <b>\$7,177</b></p>	<p><b>2017 GMC CANYON CREW CAB</b></p> <p>SLE • ALL TERRAIN PKG. • Z71 WAS \$39,860   NOW \$35,167 SAVE <b>\$4,693</b></p>

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### 2019 MODEL YEAR INTRODUCTION

<p><b>2019 GMC TERRAIN SLT</b></p> <p>SUNROOF DRIVER ALERT PKG. SAVE <b>\$5,547</b> WAS \$39,930   NOW \$34,383<sup>95</sup></p>	<p><b>2019 GMC ACADIA SLT</b></p> <p>INFOTAINMENT SYSTEM WITH NAVIGATION SAVE <b>\$5,594</b> WAS \$44,435   NOW \$38,840<sup>90</sup></p>
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L-R Darsha Cecil, Jodi Rogers, Sandy Ager, Chloe Ager

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346 E. Colorado Blvd., Spearfish  
642-4251 - Sandy Ager/Owner

## EXCEED YOUR EXPECTATIONS

**ZFORCE 800 EPS TRAIL**

Unmatched performance with premium CVTech clutching. New 50" trail stance give you the chance to explore more trails. Premium nitrogen gas-charged shocks provide comfort and better handling of the terrain. Electronic power steering makes tight maneuvers easy while minimizing unwanted steering feedback.

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All road vehicles can be hazardous to operate. For your safety, avoid paved surfaces on public roads; always wear a helmet, eye protection, protective clothing and seat belts, if so equipped. CFMOTO ATV'S are for licensed riders 16+. Never carry passengers or use vehicle in designed for off-road use under the influence of alcohol or drugs. No street driving and avoid excessive speed/dirty lanes, take a safety training course for information call 574-61 (800) 637-2087 or contact your CFMOTO dealer. See owner's manual for further warnings and instructions.

## SEPTEMBER 21-23, 2018 OFF-ROAD RALLY

**JACKPINE GYPSIES EVENT CENTER**  
1216 SHORT TRACK ROAD, STURGIS

**FRIDAY, SEPT. 21**

- 8AM Onsite registration opens
- 8AM Ride on your own
- 8:30AM Orienteering Challenge
- 12PM Vendor Booths, DEMOs & Obstacle Course track opens
- 3:30PM Hill Climb registration
- 5:30PM Hill Climb

**SATURDAY, SEPT. 22**

- 8AM On-site registration opens
- 9AM Poker Ride leaves
- 9AM Vendor booths, DEMOs & Obstacle Course track opens
- 10:30AM Mayor's Ride leaves
- 10:30AM Drag Races registration
- 11:30 AM Sturgis Hash Ride
- 1PM Drag Races
- 5PM Line up for the Rally ATV & SXS Parade, Jackpine Gypsies Club Grounds
- 5:30PM Show & Shine (H-D Way)
- 7PM Mayor's Social & Awards

**SUNDAY, SEPT. 24**

- 8AM Ride on your own
- 12PM Motocross Check-in
- 2PM Motocross





## current employment

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### **SEATON PUBLISHING** GRAPHIC DESIGNER

magazine layout & design | logo creation | manage print jobs | handle to-scale blueprints | create print, web, business cards, and brochures for branding suites  
manage print jobs | create, print, and wrap canvas photos | adobe suite

## education

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### **BACHELOR OF SCIENCE**

FISHERIES & WILDLIFE SCIENCES  
Oregon State University | 2012

### **BACHELOR OF ARTS**

GRAPHIC DESIGN & MEDIA ARTS  
Southern New Hampshire University | 2019

## awards

received from the south dakota newspaper association

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● **BEST SINGLE AD IDEA**  
2015

● **BEST RACK CARD PROMOTION**  
2015

● **BEST SALES TOOL**  
2016

● **BEST OVERALL DESIGN CONCEPT**  
2017

● **BEST USE OF COLOR**  
2016

● **BEST USE OF COLOR**  
2016