

# The Miller Press

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Miller, Hand County, SD 57362 Saturday, Feb. 27, 2021

## Facts and figures to contemplate law enforcement issues



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### Weather

Date	High	Low	Precip.
Feb. 18	19	-1	
Feb. 19	30	-3	
Feb. 20	44	9	.03 in
Feb. 21	47	16	
Feb. 22	61	30	
Feb. 23	53	29	
Feb. 24	43	20	

Jan Kittelson

The Miller Press canvassed several communities in South Dakota to learn about the different methods of policing in their communities. Following is what we discovered.

In the graph attached to this story you can see the dollar amounts for police funding are really not consistent. Some communities have 24/7 coverage with an officer on duty at all times, some with four officers and some with five officers. Some communities have an agreement with the sheriff department for back up while others have highway patrol officers living within their community.

The communities of Highmore/Hyde County and Redfield/Spink County are both county wide law enforcement. The Spink County Sheriff, Frank Krumm, informed us that the majority of their calls are from the city and they have a one year agreement with the city of Redfield for a \$375,000 contribution to the Spink County budget to cover costs (included in \$876,484 budget), negotiations for 2022 are ongoing. The major highways in Spink County are US Highways 212 and 281; and South Dakota Highways 20, 26, 28 and 37. There are two Highway Patrol officers who live in Spink County to help with backup.

Backup is a very important part of police safety. In Spink County officers are able to take home a sheriff vehicle to speed up response time, if backup is needed. Spink County also has a 911 dispatch service they man for Faulk County. Spink county has a sheriff with eight deputies. This is short one

deputy and Krumm is having to skimp on some services until they are back to full staff.

Spink County also has a K-9 drug dog unit; they cost approximately \$7,000 which was covered by a grant.

While communities such as Groton, four officers, and Webster, five officers, have 24/7 police coverage. Groton has US Highway 12 and South Dakota Highway 37. Webster has US Highway 12 with South Dakota Highway 25.

The community of Platte has two officers that split their time to cover the town when coverage is necessary and they also take on call time. The officers are to provide coverage of 87.5 hours in two weeks. Platte also has a county deputy living in the community as well. Platte has South Dakota Highways 45 and 44.

The Community of Springfield has a population of 1,922 and patrols this with two officers. They have one highway with South Dakota Highway 37. Mike Durfee State Prison is also located in Springfield.

Each of these communities have special circumstances involved and contributing to the special requirements of their police force. It is not a one size fits all.

A policeman's job is more than writing tickets and enforcing laws. A relationship between officers and public are not quantified with numbers. There are no numbers for monitoring a school zone, cross walks or escorting a funeral procession.

This is one of the most thankless jobs and is very difficult on the special people called to do this work.

### SD Law Enforcement statistics

#### Tickets written in Hand County

Agency	2018	2019	2020
Game Fish & Parks	16	3	11
Highway Patrol	134	27	14
e-Citation	20	22	66
City Police	118	109	42
Sheriff	264	333	257
States Attorney	13	4	8

#### 2020 Tickets written out-of-county

Spink County	Hyde County
City Attorney	Sheriff
Game, Fish & Parks	Game, Fish & Parks
Highway Patrol eCitation	Highway Patrol
Highway Patrol	States Attorney
Sheriff's Office	
States Attorney	

The following information was taken from the South Dakota Attorney General's Web site.

Cost of Law Enforcement	Budgeted	Population	Per capita
Miller	\$365,000	1,353	\$269
Hand County	\$318,526	3,271	\$ 97

#### Out-of-area law enforcement costs

Spink County	\$849,184	6,441	\$131
Hyde County	\$265,910	1,319	\$201
Groton	\$410,204	1,506	\$272
Brown County together	\$7,443,677	39,750	\$187
Gettysburg	\$179,000	1,110	\$161
Potter County	\$273,293	2,225	\$122
Freeman	\$171,900	1,290	\$133
Parkston	\$201,650	1,497	\$134
Hutchinson County	\$254,000	7,398	\$ 34
Platte	\$170,280	1,263	\$134
Wagner	\$450,000	1,561	\$288
Lakes Andes	NA	897	\$
Charles Mix County	\$895,000	9,515	\$94
Tyndall	\$187,800	1,036	\$181
Springfield	\$124,000	1,922	\$ 64
Bon Homme	\$292,015	7,009	\$ 41
Wagner	\$450,000	1,561	\$288
Webster	\$395,000	1,746	\$226
Day County Together	\$739,027	5,522	\$133



John T. Page | The Miller Press | Feb. 27, 2021

**MAYOR RONALD BLACHFORD will run as the incumbent candidate for the office of mayor in Miller's next municipal election.**

### Mayor Blachford seeks another term

Mayor Ronald Blachford is announcing his candidacy for the position of mayor of the City of Miller.

Blachford started working for Hand County in 1977. After 27 years, he became Highway Superintendent in 2004. This kicked off 10 years of working to keep the county roads up and running until Blachford retired in 2014.

His 37 years at the county as well as spending six years on the council and 12 years as mayor provides Blachford with a wealth of experience in government processes. Years of contributing to and overseeing large scale projects gave him extensive financial and bureaucratic knowledge for handling the various municipal situations.

Even though Blachford served as mayor for 12 years, he still wants to contribute to the city.

"If re-elected, I want to help finish up the projects that should be completed in two years. I want to keep the town moving forward. For new projects, I would like to get something started with housing and street paving as well as get the flooding in east Miller under control."

The City of Miller election will be held April 13, 2021.



John T. Page | The Miller Press | Feb. 27, 2021

**THE MILLER PRESS received a facelift this week in the form of two large windows installed in the front of the building. Workers spent the week removing old panels and installing the two large windows brightening the office and improving the outer look of the building. Owner Jan Kittelson stated, while watching the windows go up, "It only took me fourteen years to get them put in."**





## Questions and answers about law enforcement

Kecia Beranek, On Hand Development Corporation

The City of Miller police force committee and the Hand County Law Enforcement committee are coming together to answer questions about the idea of combined law enforcement. This opportunity is for Hand County citizens to bring their questions to the leadership groups and get some answers. This is not the time or the place to talk about anything other than law enforcement.

Everyone will get the rules right up front.

This is not a formal meeting so there will be no decisions made at this session.

In order to speak, you have to ask a question about LAW ENFORCEMENT

Make room for every voice in the room

Be kind

The first couple rules are self-explanatory. The third rule I want to touch on for a second.

Have you ever been to a party where there is one person who talks nonstop? Don't be that person. Come



to the session to listen and ask the questions that you have. We want to be respectful of everyone's time and try to keep the session to ninety minutes or less. We also want to make sure that every voice is heard.

The fourth rule is the most important. Let's all remember that these leaders are taking extra time to answer your questions so we want to be kind to them. They are willing to talk about the issues that they are allowed to speak about in an open and honest forum. We need to give them the same open and honest communication back. No rumors, no hear say, just facts. Let's keep it classy so we can have more of these sessions in the future.

Do you have questions about City of Miller or Hand County Law Enforcement? Join some of the Miller City Council members and some

of the Hand County Commissioners on **Thursday, March 4<sup>th</sup> at 7:00 pm** at the Miller Community Center meeting room for an open forum. No formal meeting. No agenda. No need to sign up ahead of time. Ask the questions you talk about with your friends at coffee or the question that have been on your mind.

If you google citizen responsibilities you will find these: Respect and obey federal, state, and local laws. Respect the rights, beliefs, and opinions of others. *Participate in your local community.* Serve on a jury when called upon. We have a responsibility as citizens of Hand County to participate in our local community. The more openness and honesty we facilitate in our community, the faster we will be able to work together to achieve a common end goal.

I hope to see you there.



John T. Page | The Miller Press | Feb. 27, 2021

After 24 years, Jane DeRoos retired from her position as a Patient Flow Coordinator at the Avera Health Clinic in Miller.

## 5-MINUTE INTERVIEW DeRoos retires from Avera Clinic

John T. Page

**Tell me a little bit about yourself. Where did you grow up, what did you do after high school?**

I grew up in Gettysburg. After high school I graduated with a business degree from Northern in 1972.

**Are you married? Did you ever have kids? Who are they?**

Yes, I got married after college. Our two girls grew up and graduated in Miller. Carrie is an occupational therapist in Anaheim, California with three girls and Christy lives in Woodberry, Minnesota with her three kids, two girls and one boy.

**What was your job title and what did you do?**

I was the patient flow coordinator for twenty-four years at Avera in Miller. I scheduled appointments, answered the phone, everything. When I started, I used a pencil and a ledger book. Things gradually switched to computers the longer I was there.

**When did you start working there?**

April 16th of 1996.

**What was your favorite part of your job?**

Dealing with the patients, they were my favorite thing, I made a lot of friends.

**What was the most challenging part of the job?**

I've never thought of it being challenging, I suppose getting everyone where they need to be and getting the patients what they need.

**Are you involved in any community organizations or volunteer work?**

I golf, and I recently retired from line judging volleyball.

**What do you like the most about Miller?**

We've lived here 40 years and enjoyed all of them. It's a good place to raise kids

**What do you enjoy doing in your free time?**

I haven't had any free time yet, my husband and I plan on traveling in our retirement.

**What is your most fond memory from the clinic?**

All the people I worked with at the clinic. I'll miss all of them.

**Anything you would like to add?**

"After 24 wonderful and rewarding years at Avera Medical Group Miller, it is time to say good bye and get into a different chapter of my life. I appreciate everyone who put their faith and trust in me all these years. To my fellow workers, we have had so much fun over the years; the memories will always bring a smile to my face. We supported each other through good and tough times when we had to deal with events and losses out of our control. You really did make it a happier place to be. I have truly enjoyed working with all of you and I'll remember all our good times. I am truly grateful. To my patients who number in the thousands: I am truly grateful for your support over these years. From South Hand, Wessington, Tulara, Polo, Highmore, Ree Heights, and Miller many of you I have come to consider as my friends. You are what made me successful and I have always realized and will never forget that. I am sure I will continue to run into many of you as I start my new chapter in life."

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SALE 1:00 PM**



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**STORM DATE: MARCH 13, CHECK WEBSITE FOR UPDATES**

## Another Jark/Worlie Auction

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**Saturday,  
March 27, 2021  
11:00 a.m. CST**

Dakotah Diamond  
Auction Lot, 1600 E 3rd  
Street, Miller, SD  
From Miller, SD - 1/4 mile  
East on Hwy 14.



**LIVE PUBLIC AUCTION with SIMULTANEOUS ONLINE BIDDING!**

NOTE: This is a partial listing. Watch for future ads with sale terms, pre-bidding info and complete listing!

**Owners: Bankruptcy Estate of Triple R Ranch, Bankruptcy Estate of Lyle Burton Rowen, Jr. and Rhonda Lynne Rowen**

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Val W. Jark Warner, SD (605) 380-2244	Clayton Keck Miller, SD (605) 354-8468	Jark/Worlie Auction Aberdeen, SD (605) 225-1828

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

## Empowering parents

Governor Kristi Noem

Good education starts in the home. It starts with strong parents and strong families. We know that parents are responsible for a child's upbringing and their protection. And COVID-19 underscored just how involved parents need to be in their children's day-to-day education, as well.

It's our duty to find innovative solutions that empower parents to set their children up for success. For some kids, the home is the best environment for them to get an individualized education that fits their needs. Senate Bill 177 amends South Dakota's alternative education statutes. This legislation passed through the Senate this week and has my support.

Unfortunately, there's been a lot of misinformation on what this bill does. Some folks think that more homeschooling will lead to more truancy – and this bill strengthens two elements of the state's truancy statutes to make sure that this does not happen. It puts criminal processes in place for parents who neglect their duty to educate their children.

The bill also eliminates a testing mandate that is not currently being used in South Dakota. This test costs taxpayers \$40,000 a year to conduct. If nobody is using it, then we should eliminate it, save the taxpayers those dollars, and spend them in other areas that help grow our state.

SB 177 also simplifies the

notification process. This complicated process varied from school district to school district, and we'd heard from families that it was burdensome when they simply wish to educate their children. There will still be a notification process in place – this just streamlines it.

The bill also allows kids who are being homeschooled to participate. In many school districts across South Dakota – including Rapid City, our 2nd largest school district – these kids can participate in activities today. Our children shouldn't have different opportunities based on what zip code they live in, so we're changing that. For some of these kids, participating in activities may be just the bridge they need to make friends and get involved in a public school. This will get some of these kids back in public school over time.

Through this entire conversation, we should all remember that our goal is to give each individual child the best possible education for their specific needs. For many kids, that comes in public school. For others, parents may realize that their kid will learn better at home. We should be helping parents in those instances; we shouldn't put roadblocks in their way.

Let's empower parents to make whatever choice they think is best for their children. In the meantime, let's put appropriate safeguards in place, such as the strengthening of our truancy statutes and a simplified notification process. And let's keep our focus right where it belongs: on ensuring that every South Dakota child gets the best individualized education that will set them up for a lifetime of success.



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Jaimi M. Lammers | The Miller Press | February 27, 2021

**THE COUNTDOWN IS ON** for Miller High School graduation. Each week from here to graduation on May 22, *The Miller Press* will feature a pair of students. The first to be highlighted are Regan DeBoer, left, and Molly Simons.

# MHS SENIOR SPOTLIGHT

The countdown to Miller High School graduation, which will be Sun., May 22, 2021, at 2 p.m., has begun. The following is a fun inside look at our graduating seniors.

This week we highlight Regan DeBoer, daughter of Doug and Linda DeBoer, and Molly Simons, daughter of Dean Simons and Renae Simons.

**What is your favorite class and why:**

**Regan:** Accounting and Personal Finance because they are both classes that will help me when it comes to paying bills and learning more about the “real” world and some of the problems people face when it comes to balancing money, school, and work.

**Molly:** My favorite class all four years of high school would have to be chorus. Not only is it the easiest “A” ever, but it’s a family tradition that I was able to continue. I don’t do chorus just for no homework and easy grades. I do it for my grandparents. I know the one thing they love most of all is coming to support all of us grandchildren, no matter what we might be doing. My grandma is very big on music, and I just know it makes her proud that I found such an interest in it as well.

**Tell us about your first day of high school:**

**Regan:** I was ready to be back. Leaving school in March and not seeing anyone for so long was just downright weird. I missed my friends and I missed my teachers. I was a little nervous, though, just because with senior year comes scholarships, choosing a college, and a lot of stress. I walked into school ready to face whatever challenge my teacher or Covid 19 threw at me.

**Molly:** I was very nervous, because I knew I’d be going from a “big kid” in junior high, to the little freshman that upperclassmen walk all over. I had a lot of friends older than me, so that helped me out quite a bit, and they prepared me for what was coming. I was scared for no reason. The homework gets to be a lot sometimes, but other than that, high school is a blast!

**What is your best memory of high school:**

**Regan:** Oh my lord! How do I just pick one! There’s so many, but my best memory would have to be the day our English IV class was talking about Bob Marley, and I thought they were talking about Bon Jovi, because I thought they were the same person. Then, Molly Simons tried to tell me it was who her brother had dressed up as for Halloween, which was neither of them. Her brother dressed up as Bob Ross! Then we got on the topic of when Storm Johnsen thought Michael Jordan was the singer and Michael Jackson was the basketball player. Which led to how Molly thought Tiger Woods was a track meet, because our track team would go to Howard Wood. So Mrs. Resel, along with everyone else, learned that no matter how many years of school we go through, we will still never learn the difference between any of these things.

**Molly:** The best memory I have from high school would have to be way back in freshman PE, when I actually thought Tiger Woods was a track meet, ya know, like Howard Wood. Nope. He’s definitely a famous

golfer. And yes, it was all over twitter. That still brings laughs to me and my friends. I’m sure it always will.

**What kind of music is on your phone:**

**Regan:** Everything from Morgan Wallen and Luke Combs to the Mamma Mia soundtrack to Nickelback to for King & Country to classic rock. You name it, and I probably have it on my phone.

**Molly:** My playlists mainly consist of country music, but there is a slight mix of pop as well.

**What is your biggest fear?**

**Regan:** Spiders and Snakes. And outer space, I don’t know why but it scares the living daylights out of me to think about.

**Molly:** I am most afraid of spiders, and anything with multiple holes in it. Gross!

**If you had an unlimited source of money, how would you spend it:**

**Regan:** To give back to people who don’t have money, a cure for diabetes, a nice car, a hot tub, and then put a huge chunk of it in the bank so I never run out.

**Molly:** At first, I would buy my dream home and vehicle, and probably some land, cattle, and equine. After that’s taken care of, I would buy my dad a fancy new tractor and a ton of firearms; shocker, I know. For my mom, I would buy her so many clothes and candles that she wouldn’t know what to do. I’d actually buy them anything they asked for since they are the reason I am here and successful today. I owe my whole life to them. Thank you, Mom and Dad. I love you.

**Describe your senior year in three words:**

**Regan:** Rona, facemasks, and scholarships.

**Molly:** Covid, Quizlet, and Scholarships.

**What advice do you have for underclassmen:**

**Regan:** Always check on your friends, always have their backs, and don’t let little things get in the way of your friendships.

**Molly:** When I was a freshman, I thought “Oh my grades don’t matter until I’m a senior.” Your grades matter the second you step foot into your first 9th-grade class!! Never put homework off, try your best, and never doubt yourself. Along with that, time is everything; use it wisely. And my most important piece of advice: friends come and go. Let them. Drama and fighting are such a waste of time and it’s no fun for anyone! Do your thing and don’t let anyone put you down.

**Where do you see yourself in 10 years:**

**Regan:** Hopefully working in a small local clinic or hospital as a medical assistant.

**Molly:** I hope to be living my best life out in the Black Hills, peaceful and thriving. By then I will be a very experienced nurse, and hopefully ranking high in the military. I hope to be very successful and make my family proud. And of course, I want a ranch with my last name on the front gate, but we will just have to wait and see what happens!

## OSHA signs alliance to train, protect workers from excavation hazards

To combat the dangers workers face in trenching operations, the U.S. Department of Labor’s Occupational Safety and Health Administration, the South Dakota State University Engineering Extension Program and the South Dakota One Call Notification Board signed an alliance on Feb. 19, 2021, to train workers on excavation hazards.

The two-year alliance will focus on educating employees and employers about cave-ins, struck-by heavy equipment, falling loads and vehicular traffic in close proximity to the excavation operations. The alliance will also raise awareness of workers’ rights and employers’ responsibilities under the Oc-

cupational Safety and Health Act.

“Trench collapses pose the greatest risk to workers performing excavation operations, but employers can prevent collapses by sloping, shoring and shielding trench walls,” said OSHA’s Area Director Sheila Stanley in Sioux Falls, South Dakota. “This alliance’s efforts to provide training and access to resources will improve workplace safety in this industry.”

An implementation team, comprised of representatives of each organization, will meet to develop a plan of action, determine working procedures and identify the roles and responsibilities of the participants. In addition, they

will meet up to twice annually to track and share information on activities and results in achieving the goals of the alliance and promote available training by each organization.

The South Dakota One Call Notification Board has scheduled its South Dakota 811’s Annual Spring Damage Prevention Meetings to assist the excavation community and operators of underground facilities in reducing damages while improving worker safety and protecting the general public. OSHA will also be presenting during the online forums. Visit SD811.com for more information and to register.

To raise awareness of OSHA safety standards, the agency has partnered with the National Utility Contractors Association and will participate in Trench Safety Stand-Down Week, June 14-18, 2021, to educate employers and workers. NUCA is requesting all contractors, municipalities, military and others involved with trenching operations to participate in a stand-down event. Visit OSHA’s Trenching and Excavation page for information on protecting workers in trenches.

## Article of Impeachment filed against Attorney General Jason Ravnsborg

Republican Representative Will Mortenson (District 24) has filed a resolution proposing two Articles of Impeachment to remove Attorney General Jason Ravnsborg from office. The resolution is co-sponsored by House Majority Leader Kent Peterson (R-District 19) and House Minority Leader Jamie Smith (D-District 15).

“The Attorney General has a special obligation to follow the laws and protect the public,” said Mortenson. “Jason Ravnsborg’s actions and statements related to the death of Joseph Boever breached those obligations to the people of South Dakota, and he should be removed from office.”


Article XVI of the South Dakota Constitution grants the House of Representatives the sole authority to bring an impeachment action against a state official like the Attorney General. The resolution included two separate Articles

of Impeachment, one concerning the crimes and misdemeanors that caused the death of Joseph Boever on September 12, 2020 and one concerning the statements and actions of Jason Ravnsborg in reporting the crime and the resulting investigation.

“This isn’t about party or politics. It’s about doing the right thing for South Dakota,” said Peterson. “We must hold our elected leaders to a high standard. In this case, the Attorney General has failed to meet that standard, and we owe it to the people to bring these Articles,” Peterson added.

“What happened was a tragedy for all involved,” said Smith. “However, that cannot deter us from fulfilling our duties. The Attorney General has lost the confidence of the people of South Dakota, and he should be removed from office for the betterment of the state.”

**1<sup>st</sup> Quarter Distribution Application DEADLINE**  
**March 8<sup>th</sup>**  
 Please mail applications to  
 PO BOX 295,  
 Miller, SD 57362



For more information, contact any board member go to our Facebook page, or call (605)204-0259.

Hand County Livestock/Crop Improvement Association

**WEDNESDAY, MARCH 3**

**Annual Banquet**

**MILLER COMMUNITY CENTER**

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**6:30 SOCIAL 7:00 BEEF DINNER**

Memberships available at the Door

# HAND COUNTY HAPPENINGS

**ADVANCED**  
**COLLISION & REPAIR CENTER LLC**  
 1022 East 3rd St., Miller  
 Phone: 893-0190 • Fax: 893-0189

	Community Events	Wheels & Meals	School Menu	Rustler Events
<b>Mon. 1</b>	<b>Library hours:</b> 11:00 a.m. - 5:30 p.m. <b>Alcoholics and Narcotics Anonymous:</b> 8 p.m. in the Courthouse basement <b>4-H:</b> Firearms sports at Legion	Hot Pork & Cheese, Sandwich, on Kaiser Roll, Garden Salad, Fresh Fruit, Brownie	<b>Menu not yet available</b>	<b>ACT Pre-Test Meeting</b> – Testing Room – 8th Period <b>Volleyball:</b> JO–Armory–6:00-8:00 p.m. Youth–Elem Gym–6:30-8:30 p.m.
<b>Tue. 2</b>	<b>Friendship Center:</b> Rolls & coffee: 10:30 a.m. - Noon	Loaded Baked Potato, Broccoli, Mandarin Oranges, Praline Bar, Wheat Bread & Butter		<b>District ACT Testing</b> – Testing Room/Theater – 1st–6th Periods
<b>Wed. 3</b>	<b>4-H:</b> Archery sports at St. Lawrence Park <b>LCIA Banquet:</b> Community Center - 6:30 p.m. Social - 7 p.m. Beer Diner	Swiss Steak with Tomato & Onions, Seasoned Noodles, Asparagus, Apple Slices		<b>Church Night</b>
<b>Thurs. 4</b>	<b>Library hours:</b> 11:00 a.m. - 5:30 p.m. <b>Countywide Law Enforcement meeting:</b> Community center - 7 p.m.	Sloppy Joe, Potato Wedges, Cheesy Green Beans, Peach Cobbler, Bun		<b>Volleyball:</b> JO–Armory–6:00-8:00 p.m.; Youth–Elem Gym–6:30-8:30 p.m.
<b>Fri. 5</b>		Macaroni & Cheese, Glazed Carrots, Fresh Fruit, Wheat Bread & Butter		<b>FFA</b> – CDE @ Redfield
<b>Weekend</b>				<b>Sun: NHS Ceremony</b> – Theater – 7:30 p.m.

NO EVENTS SCHEDULED

# I touched the thermostat

Air conditioners are a necessity in the South. Many times an AC is the only defense against the constant assault by hot, muggy, humid, weather. However, there is one rule that must always be observed when dealing with the AC. Never, and I mean never, touch the thermostat without permission. It does not matter if you feel like you might die of heat stroke or begin shivering so bad you start to believe you can phase through walls, you leave the thermostat alone. For most people it represents much more than the ability to change air temperature. It grants you dominion over your living space. Now, some people get a little power drunk where the thermostat is concerned, but most simply want you to leave it alone, I learned that lesson



the hard way. I like sleeping in a cold room. Always have. Unfortunately, the South and its weaponized weather does not always allow for such luxuries. One night I tossed and turned after everyone else went to bed because the room would not cool down. Finally I decided to do something about it. I walked down the hallway and stood before the almighty thermostat. Being an observant child I knew what the buttons meant and ad-

justed the temperature to sixty-five degrees. I also took another step and adjusted the fan to go from "auto" to "on." I heard the fan kick on and returned to my bed for what was a very blissful night's sleep. I woke up to the sound of arguing.

My parents stood next to the thermostat engaged in a heated discussion over which one of them turned the house into an icebox overnight. I innocently asked what was wrong and they explained that someone turned the AC to the "on" position. Feeling proud of myself, I gleefully confessed...I don't remember what happened next.

The thermostat is sacred. You never touch it without express permission. I learned those two lessons that day and never ever forgot them.

# I pledge to 'think positive'

## R.A.M. 'ifications

Ruth A. Moller

As I write this on February 22, snow is melting and dripping off the roof. Although temperatures are to get into the mid-50s today, much snow remains to be melted in yards and on side roads. I'm waiting for a hefty dose of spring.

The country continues to deal with Covid-19 and its after effects, dangerous weather disruptions, as well as political animosity. We're living through a lot of upheaval.

We're also bombarded with instant up-to-the-minute reporting. I like to keep in the loop, but much of the news is downright depressing, and sometimes infuriating.

I can't do much about what goes on in the world, except perhaps grit my teeth.

I believe it is important to stay involved with people,

as well as with what's taking place locally. In spite of "social distancing," it's still possible to at least greet friends and neighbors, and always keep up with what's going on in the lives of beloved relatives. Keeping in touch helps keep us grounded. Those people help boost my spirit,

and I hope I can reciprocate a bit. Each of us can add a bit to relationships with friends, family and acquaintances.

I'm not sure what to expect when we (perhaps) get past so much of what is taking place now. I know there will be changes, and I'm hoping for positive changes.

I do know I plan to never take anything for granted again, do less fretting and make a point of truly appreciating the people, places and things that are part of my world.

# Letter to the Editor



## Looking Out for Our Neighbors in South Dakota

Energy providers have been in the news a lot lately with the cold weather and power outages across the country. While some of us in South Dakota may have experienced brief periods without power and most of us did our part to conserve energy, our hearts go out to those throughout the country who experienced much worse.

Although these frigid temperatures are unwelcome and pose challenges to our team and your families, they tend to showcase the best of South Dakotans. We show up to help without being asked, we share resources without hesitation and often times it all goes unnoticed or without acknowledgement. That's just how we look out for our neighbors in South Dakota. Looking out for our neighbors in South Dakota is a sentiment that rings true for the board at Dakota Energy.

Looking out for our neighbors, or member-owners, means asking the hard questions and revealing uncom-

fortable truths about our current energy provider.

Questions like, why have our rates more than doubled in 15 years while prices decline across the country? Why are we paying for \$700+ million-dollar losses passed from Basin Electric through East River? Why do executives at East River have such high salaries with annual raises, while rates increase and infrastructure improvements are neglected?

As you probably know, Dakota Energy is currently engaged in a lawsuit with East River Electric to establish a fair exit fee, so we can decide whether to exercise our right under the bylaws to pursue other options. While our board has not made a final decision on whether to withdraw, we believe that as a good partner and neighbor, East River has a responsibility to provide us this information. It's nothing personal, it's just how we look out for our neighbors and member-owners in South Dakota.

Chad Felderman  
CEO/General Manager

## From the files of The Miller Press

# RETROSPECT

### March 2, 1911

The community was shocked Saturday afternoon by hearing the report that Robert L. Lovelace, about 36 years old, had committed suicide by shooting himself with a shotgun, the discharge of which tore away part of the frontal bone.... Seems he had gone to Wessington for work returning on a train. On his arrival at home on Second Street, he started a quarrel with his wife because of the cold. Because of his anger, he shut himself in the kitchen and in some manner discharged the gun.

Joeshp Fleege of Quinn and one or two relatives made up story accompanying the body of Fleege's late wife of Alcester, having with them the one-day old dead child of the woman. Somewhere between Miller and Huron the child, had been missing since its mother's death, also died. Between trains at Huron, a basket for the child had been secured, the travelers continued on to its destination without missing a connection.

### February 23, 1961

Fifty years as a member of the Masonic Lodge was observed February 13 by Henry O. Bard, when he was presented with a 50-year pin by the Grand Lodge of South Dakota. Bard was initiated a member of St. Lawrence Lodge on January 8, 1909.

Iona Purrington was quite surprised Friday noon when her yard filled up with cars. The patrons surprised her and the children with a pot-luck dinner. Purrington has been teaching at the Ross School for the past several years. She stayed over the weekend at her trailer house as the weather didn't look very good and she didn't want to take chances in not getting back.

Wessington Warriors and St. Lawrence Wolves staged a thrilling game at the Armory on Tuesday of last week in

which Kenny Timm's Wolves won 61-60 in an overtime period. Bertsch scored 27 points on 11 field goals and five free throws. Monroe and Hargens each scored eight. DeShazer scored 21 points to lead Wessington. "Mooney" Snyder added 15, and Doug Rogers, 14.

### February 25, 1971

The Miller High School Music Department is actively preparing for the presentation of the Broadway musical, "Hello, Dolly." Casting is now complete and the orchestra, chorus and dancers have been selected. Approximately 150 music students are participating in the musical, which will be presented May 5, 6 and 8.

A heart condition from which he had suffered for some time was fatal to Rupert Beaner, 68, who died suddenly at his farm home in York Township Tuesday, Feb. 23. Beaner had resided in York Township since 1926. Immediate survivors are his wife, and 16 sons and daughters. There are also 50 grandchildren and five great-grandchildren.

David Johnson, son of R. and Mrs. Ralph Johnson, is serving aboard the USS itty hawk in the west Pacific. He completed his basic training at the Naval Training Center in San Diego, and left the states November 6 for his tour of duty.

### February 26, 1981

A Miller man barricaded himself with a gun in the home of his parents and kept authorities at bay for seven hours before surrendering Saturday evening. No shots were fired. A call came Saturday morning, and as soon as police arrived on the scene, his wife and child and his mother left the home. When police finally convinced the man to leave the house, he was sent to the Human Services Center for psychiatric examination.

Skeletal remains were

found Wed., February 18 on the creek bank north of Crystal Park. Authorities believe the remains are those of William H. Heerman, who wandered away from Prairie Center Good Samaritan Home on July 11, 1979. At the time Heerman was missing, the creek area was searched. Because of the dense cover, members of the search party walked by the location.

The Opec's Nemesis, the first solar-powered automobile, is now a completed project and will start on its first transcontinental journey. Enroute, it will stop in Miller on June 9 and 10.

### February 25, 1991

Maureen Gerdes was chosen the Unit "Legionette of the Year" for the American legion Auxiliary, Miller. She will compete at the district level in April.

The Rustlers blasted the Chamberlain Cubs 80-54 in Miller's final regular season game of the year in boys' basketball action in Miller last Friday. It was a fitting win for the Rustlers, defeating the team that had given them their first loss in the year. The Rustlers end their regular season with a 11-7 record.

Our country is facing a crisis. The overwhelming cost of health care and, in more and more cases, the complete lack of health care is quickly threatening our standard of loving. As a state senator, I am very concerned about many South Dakotans who cannot afford health insurance or, because of health reason, cannot get health insurance. Sen. Doris Miner, State Senator.

### February 29, 2001

It's been nearly four years since Doug DeBoer was elected mayor of Miller. He was entertaining thoughts of running for a second term, but now that he will be serving as Hand County Sheriff, those plans have changed. A person cannot hold two elect-



ed government offices.

The Rustlers volleyball made it past their first hurdle on their way to a hopeful second consecutive State Tournament when they defeated the Chamberlain Cubs 2-1 in the championship match of the District 10A tournament February 22.

During the Special Olympics World Winter Games, to be held in Anchorage, Alaska March 4-11. During the Olympics, when the phones ring at one of the 27 different sites, they will have been put in place by 145 volunteers from the Alaska Air and Army Guard. Master Sergeant Delmar Schaefer is the lead enlisted contact. From February 28 through March 13, 12 of the sites will require 24-hour volunteer coverage. Schaefer's responsibility is to work with the Officer in Charge to ensure all shifts are filled, personnel received training, and provide daily status reports to the command center.

### February 23, 2011

Miller's special day at the Legislature was postponed February 1 due to bad weather. However, weather on February 15 was much nicer, and constituents rode a bus to Pierre to see the lawmakers in session.

Livestock Crop Improvement Association banquet was held February 16 at the Ree Heights Auditorium. Ken and Kris Stevens received the Producer of the Year award. DeRouche Vet was presented the Business of the Year award.

State B Wrestling qualifiers from the Miller Highmore-Harold Bandits included Colin Bertsch, Devon Gnat, Austin McCloud. Coaches are Matt Englund and Ryan Resel. Resel was selected as the Region 3B Coach of the Year by the Region's coaches.

# The MILLER PRESS

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For uninterrupted service, please notify us by the Wednesday that is at least 2 WEEKS IN ADVANCE of your moving date. Please provide both your old and new addresses.

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The Miller Press encourages letters to the editor and intends to print the opinions of Press readers in full with as few restrictions as possible. The restrictions being

- All letters MUST BE SIGNED and the name of the writer will be printed with all letters published.
- If the writer is unable to submit the letter in person to satisfactorily identify him/herself, a telephone number and address must be included in the mailed or emailed letter. The editors will make verification before publication and will not print the address or phone number.
- Letters will not be published from people who reside outside the local area unless written about a local topic. Letters discussing political candidates will not be accepted, however discussion of issues will be acceptable. Letters of a commercial nature will not be published.
- Letters should be of a constructive nature, limited to 250-300 words, not contain offensive language or be libelous. We reserve the right to edit.
- The editor is responsible for whether a letter will be used, but must bring to the attention of the publisher all questionable letters. The publisher reserves the right to reject any letter.

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To suggest a news story or photograph, please call the newsroom Monday through Friday, 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. at 605-853-3575. If you believe a news story to be incorrect or misleading, please call the newsroom and ask for the writer. For billing questions, have your invoice handy; for subscription issues, have your address label(s) handy.

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## Grid conditions improve as warmer weather moves in

Subzero temperatures may not seem that unusual in the Midwest. But, the electric grid was hit with unprecedented demand last week as record low temperatures extended up and down the central portion of the United States.

This led to calls for consumers to conserve energy and in some cases, rolling

blackouts.

Southwest Power Pool (SPP) operates the electric power grid in a 14-state region on behalf of member utilities. Their service area stretches from North Dakota down into parts of Texas. SPP does not own electric generation resources or transmission lines, but rather balances the supply and demand

of electricity minute-by-minute to ensure power gets to customers. They ensure the amount of power sent is coordinated and matched with power received. They are like the "air-traffic controllers" of the electric grid.

Typically, extreme weather is limited to a small portion of the region. When one area is affected, power generated in other areas can be dispatched to meet demand.

However, beginning on February 15, record cold temperatures were seen throughout SPP's service territory. Areas with typically mild weather were below freezing and northern states stayed below zero for several days. This created an unprecedented demand on the electric grid.

It also put a strain on the available resource pool. Demand for natural gas, both as a heating source and for electrical generation, increased substantially. This caused supply shortages, exacerbated by the impacts of unusually cold temperatures on generation facilities in southern SPP.

During this period, SPP also experienced unusually low wind levels, significant-

ly impacting available wind generation. A combination of seasonally unprecedented demand with these supply constraints created a "perfect storm."

SPP declared the first Energy Emergency Alert (EEA) early on the morning of February 15 as the electric grid throughout SPP's operating area saw increased strain.

SPP entered a level 3 EEA twice, once on February 15 and once on February 16. At this level, there is not enough electricity being generated to meet demand and power outages may be utilized to reduce demand and protect the system.

This marked the first time in SPP's 80-year history it declared Energy Emergency Alert Levels 2 or 3 for its entire region. It is also the first time the grid operator had to direct member utilities to implement controlled, temporary service interruptions to prevent widespread blackouts.

The energy emergency ended over the weekend of February 20 and SPP returned to normal operations as warmer weather moved across the region.



Submitted | The Miller Press | Feb. 27, 2021

**GARY MAJOR** received the Knight of the Year award for the Georgia Knights of Columbus. Pictured left to right: Mark Hofmann GA Knights of Columbus State Deputy, Father Ignacio Morales Pastor at St. John Vianney, Joe Yorio District Deputy 12th District, Gary Major, Rick Morel, Grand Knight Council St. John Vianney Catholic Church.

## Major awarded Georgia Knight of the Year

Gary Major was presented with the Georgia Knight of Columbus Knight of the Year award for the fraternal year 2019-2020.

Gary, the son of Mary Major and the late Richard Major of Wessington, is a 1974 graduate of Wessington.

Major received the award during a presentation ceremony on January 17 at St. John Vianney Catholic Church in Lithia Springs GA.

Major has been a Knight of Columbus for 31 years and

has filled a number of officer positions with the latest being the Past Grand Knight and currently Trustee for the St. John Vianney council and District Warden for 12th District of the State of Georgia Knights of Columbus.

He is heavily involved as a volunteer with Special Olympics, Habitat for Humanity, and Feeding the Homeless. Gary and his wife Phyllis are retired from the Army and reside in Lithia Springs, GA.

## Miller Police Department Log

**Feb. 17**  
5:20 p.m. Welfare check-4th avenue  
**Feb. 18**  
8:40 a.m. Animal complaint-North Broadway  
12:00 p.m. Animal complaint-North Broadway  
12:30 p.m. Welfare check-1st avenue  
**Feb. 19**  
6:59 p.m. Animal complaint - North Broadway  
**Feb. 20**  
7:10 p.m. Accident report - 369th avenue  
3:15 p.m. Ambulance call-

5th street  
3:40 p.m. Animal complaint-5th avenue  
7:10 p.m. Traffic accident-US 14  
8:00 p.m. Ambulance call-4th Street  
**Feb. 21**  
6:45 a.m. Ambulance call-North Broadway  
11:47 p.m. Building alarm-North Broadway  
**Feb. 23**  
12:50 p.m. Traffic stop-5th street  
4:00 p.m. Property check-4th street

## Dang named March Shining Star at Good Samaritan

Residents watched church services on TV, I-pad or listened on the phone Sunday, Feb 14.

Monday morning staff were tested with the Covid virus. Midmorning devotions led by Kevin Hofer and gave news for the day. In the afternoon, several residents participated in the monthly birthday party. The First Presbyterian ladies sponsored the party by bringing cupcakes and ice cream. Once again our entrainment was provided by the use of YouTube and TV. The residents enjoyed "The Birthday Jam-boree" Sioux Falls Tempo Music by Jon Tempo. Sue Jones dropped off the "Happier Magazines" from Rexall for us to distribute to residents.

A few Catholics participated in Rosary in the dayroom Tuesday morning. Later that morning Hofer led resident council meeting with three in attendance. The resident voted Becky Dang from dietary for Shining Star for March. Midmorning Cassii Laskarzewski led devotions and gave news for the day. In the afternoon, the residents played several games of bingo with Laskarzewski as caller. American Legion and VFW

## Good Samaritan Society, Miller

Kevin Hofer

Auxiliary sponsored bingo games. Afterward coffee and cupcakes were served. Wednesday morning Rev. Brian Jones from First Presbyterian Church led an Ash Wednesday service. In the afternoon, a few residents participated in Bible trivia and coffee.

The men gathered for coffee, muffins and discussion of current events Thursday morning. Midmorning Laskarzewski led devotions and gave news for the day. In the afternoon, residents had arts and crafts; making St. Patrick day decorations.

Friday morning the women gathered for coffee, muffins and discussion of current events. Midmorning Laskarzewski led devotions and gave news for the day. In the afternoon several residents participated in Happy Hour. The American Legion/VFW auxiliaries provided Mike's, beer, wine, cheese and summer sausage. In the evening, a few residents watched a movie and had popcorn.

## A vaccine story for the ages

Last summer we heard the prediction that by the end of 2020, we would have a safe, effective vaccine to the SARS-CoV-2 virus, which had only been discovered, of course, in December 2019, before causing countless deaths and mayhem in the world as we knew it. I must admit, I was skeptical.

Early in the pandemic, I learned that the fastest a vaccine had ever been developed was for the mumps virus, an effort which took four years. Even with all possible resources devoted to a COVID-19 vaccine, how could we ever do this in one year? Before I could even ponder this, however, my curiosity took me down the rabbit hole of the mumps vaccine.

Maurice Hilleman, to whom the mumps vaccine is credited, is something of a superhero in the world of virology and vaccine development. Over the course of his career, he was involved in the development of 40 vaccines, including an influenza vaccine in 1957 estimated to have prevented hundreds of thousands of deaths.

One night in 1963, Hilleman's young daughter Jeryl Lynn awoke him from sleep. She was feeling sick. Hilleman saw the telltale swelling of her salivary glands and knew she had the mumps. Mumps was a common childhood ailment, and while most children got mild illness including the classic swollen cheeks, it also caused aseptic meningitis, deafness, and infertility in males. Hilleman



Kelly Evans-Hullinger, M.D.

put Jeryl Lynn back to bed, then drove to his lab to retrieve a swab and culture media. He returned and awoke young Jeryl from her slumber to swab her mouth.

Over the next four years Hilleman cultured and tested the Jeryl Lynn strain of the mumps virus until it was safe enough to administer without the risk of illness but still effective in generating an immune response against a normal mumps virus. Jeryl Lynn was present when her younger sister Kirsten was publicly immunized with the new mumps vaccine as a small child. As a result of Hilleman's vaccine, the United States now has only about 200 cases of mumps per year, compared to 200,000 per year before the vaccine.

Back to that COVID-19 vaccine. Well, my timeline skepticism was unwarranted. In December 2020, data published on two separate vaccines using mRNA technology showed without ambiguity that we did have safe, effective vaccines just one year from the start of this pandemic. How so quickly? We can give credit to a modern technology being ready for this problem and the intellectual weight of thousands of scientists around the world. I think even Maurice Hilleman, the father of modern vaccines himself, would be impressed.

## from the files of the Ree Heights Review

### February 25, 1921

Mrs. William Connelly, one of our oldest pioneer residents, passed away Thurs., February 17, at the home of her daughter, Mrs. J.G. Myers, Fergus Falls, MN, after an illness of about ten days.

Continuation of early days in Ree Heights, the first newspaper was started by W.T. Love, who hired a tramp printer to run it who was for strong drink. In fact one Saturday night Love rustled up the writer, who was a bum printer and Fred Parrish, who was even worse and while the printer snored away his snouse, with Love, we managed to make up and put out the Press and run off fourteen copies of the paper before midnight to save the legal notices that were being published. Soon after the Ree Valley Free Press was started by John T. Cogan, who ran it for several years. He later moved to Sioux Falls where he was with the Argus, I think for many years.

The home of Mr. and Mrs. W.H. Shearer, southwest of Ree Heights was completely destroyed by fire Tuesday morning. Mr. and Mrs. Shearer were unable to state just how the blaze started other than it started in the cream room.

### February 27, 1931

Several changes are about to take place March first—Bert VanDerWerff is moving to a farm south of St. Lawrence; Mr. Deband is moving from Glendale to the Perry farm; Herman Kyburz is moving to his own farm, north of Ree Heights; Jacob Hasart is moving to the Henry Heasley farm; Elroy Cracker is moving to the L.H. Cowan farm; and Milton Hickcox is moving to the Peter Namanny farm.

"Aunt Jerushy on the Warpath" a three act comedy is being given by the adults in Como Township at the Cedar Hall, Saturday evening, February 28. The price will be 35 and 15 cents. The money will go for the benefit of Como Schools.

### February 21, 1941

Work on the excavating

the middle section under the school building was begun last year by a group of N.Y.A. boys, under the supervision of Mr. Phinney. A working force of five have continued the operation this year, and hope to complete it by the end of the school term. Digging out this space, which is flanked on the north and south by shower and lunch rooms, has proved to be quite difficult as there is no adequate way of removing the debris.

Last week we rather jubilantly announce that the Peavey Elevator had been miraculously saved from being destroyed by fire which had started in the cupola. When Highmore and Miller firemen left that afternoon there appeared not to be any fire left in the building and later Thursday night they again checked and no fire seemed to appear but after about twelve hours after the first blaze had been killed the second fire broke out.

### March 2, 1951

The American Legion Post has purchased the ball diamond in the southwest corner of town from the county. They state they got the baseball field and the equipment and can get the team. They need a manager with no pay, lots of expense and thankless job. The only compensation is to see a bunch of kids have a barrel of fun.

The Community Club party is to be held at the August Haedler home, Friday evening and is to be a farewell party for the Ray Pietz family who are leaving the neighborhood and moving to the farm of Mrs. Anna Falkenhainer, which they have purchased.

In the District XV tournament at Highmore last, the Miller Rustlers defeated St. Lawrence High School 57-41 to take the tournament. The consolation trophy went to Ree Heights after they defeated Bonilla 49-38. Entering the consolation semi-finals Friday morning Ree Heights whipped Orient 40-24 for the right to enter consolation finals in the evening.

## :kcaB gnikool

compiled by  
Jeanie Hartman

### February 24, 1961

Mr. and Mrs. Howard Beck attended the Livestock Trucking Safety Awards banquet at Sioux Falls Thursday evening. Howard was awarded a certificate for safe hauling into Sioux Falls during 1960.

Dot Deuter, youngest daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Franklin Deuter, began working in the office of the Pierre Credit Corporation, at Pierre, on Thurs., February 9. She is residing at the Edmund Rychtarik home at present.

Mr. and Mrs. Frank Hammill took his parents, Mr. and Mrs. Curt Hammill, to Elbow Lake, MN, on Friday, to attend the 60<sup>th</sup> wedding anniversary open house on Saturday for Mr. and Mrs. E.J. Leyson. They returned home on Sunday.

### February 26, 1971

Harris Newlin has been a recent visitor in the Don Fawcett home. They were college Fraternity Brothers at SDSU.

Weather came in many varieties, the balmy spring like days brought the creek up to spring time levels, with a few instances of cattle caught on the wrong side of the high level water for feeding. But especially in February, this type of weather cannot continue indefinitely, so Friday's mini blizzard, which cancelled school, came as no big surprise.

Mr. and Mrs. Buster Deuter were guests at the Danny Deuter home for supper in honor of their wedding anniversary.

### March 6, 1981

Hugh McKelvey celebrated his 95<sup>th</sup> birthday with members of his family and friends on Sun., March 1 at Prairie Center. Family members present were his son, William

and wife Francis McKelvey, Highmore; his daughter and husband Beryle and Donald Kelly, Miller and numerous gran children and great grandchildren. Friends present were Mr. and Mrs. Frank Lockner and Mina Slack.

Albert L. Blachford died Fri., February 27 at the Hand County Memorial Hospital. He was born March 3, 1912, in rural Orient, the son of William and Nina Blachford.

Mrs. Georgia Cook and Ms. Margaret Walsh attended the meeting of the executive board of the Democratic Party held in Pierre on Friday. Mrs. Cook as legislative district chair-person is a member of the board. Ms. Walsh served as secretary for the meeting.

Mr. and Mrs. Eldon Bouren and family went to Miller Thursday where Sandy played in the band at the district basketball tournament. Barb, Nicole and Vicki visited at the Carl Sisk home.

### February 22, 1991

We've had another beautiful spring-like week with temperatures in the 50's and 60's each day. Today's temperatures are cooler, more seasonal for this time of the year.

Bill, Tonna, B.J. and Amy Hughes moved to Huron from Odgen, UT, on February 8.

A surprise supper was held on February 5 in Highmore for Jan Semmler's birthday. Twenty-seven guests were present for the occasion.

The first meeting of the Ree Heights Community Club was held with Edna Iversen as hostess on January 24. Nine members answered with Christmas activities as roll call topic.

Thank You

Our 75<sup>th</sup> Anniversary  
was made very special  
and we feel very blessed.  
Thank you for all of the  
flowers, calls, and cards.

Philip & Phyllis Testerman

RIP  
YOUTH

March 1, 1981 -  
March 1, 2021

Happy 40<sup>th</sup>  
TIFFANY!



Albert Zacher

Service Notice

Albert Zacher passed away at Ava's House Hospice in Sioux Falls on Wednesday, Feb. 24, 2021. Funeral services will be held Sat., March 6, 2021, at 10:30 a.m. at the Trinity Lutheran Church in Miller.

Spring climate outlook unclear amid drought concerns

In like a lion, out like a lamb? The climate forecast for March appears to be up in the air for both temperature and precipitation, with the potential for some swings in either direction. According to the latest National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA) outlook, there is no clear, consistent signal if South Dakota will end up warmer or colder than average, or wetter or drier than average next month.

SDSU Extension State Climatologist Laura Edwards says this "equal chances" forecast is not uncommon for March, as the transition from winter to summer patterns is often difficult to forecast with many ups and downs.

"One factor in the spring forecast is the role of La Niña, as February has finally brought the cold temperatures that often accompany this ocean-atmosphere weather pattern," Edwards says. "As the spring season progresses, however, the strength of La Niña will wane and is expected to turn to neutral conditions. This means the sea surface temperature in the Pacific Ocean near the equator is likely to return to average by the end of May and will have less of an impact on the jet stream pattern over the United States."

For March through May, Edwards says there is more confidence that most of South Dakota will be warmer than average.

"The area favored to be warmer includes all but the far northern tier along the North Dakota border," Edwards says. "This outlook looks more promising in April and May, given the uncertainty in March."

Looking ahead to summer, the NOAA report anticipates warmer than average temperatures for the middle of the year across the entire state of South Dakota.

"Similarly, drier than average conditions seem more likely in the southern half of the state in mid-to-late spring," Edwards says. "This is not good news for pasture, grass, forages and crops that rely heavily on spring rainfall. April and May are two of the wettest months for much of South Dakota and are critical for a good start to summer grazing and total productivity of the land."

According to the NOAA outlook, drier than average conditions in the summer season should be expected as well, especially in western South Dakota.

"It's a good time to start, or to continue, keeping track of precipitation on your own farm or ranch," Edwards says. "Knowing what your local snow and rainfall has been, compared to previous years, can provide an early warning to potential reductions in grass or crop production due to drought. There is very limited soil moisture to buffer our grasses and row crops against drought this year. As a result, rainfall in our growing season will be more important than in many recent years where there has been an excess of moisture and rainfall."

With the three-month climate outlook in mind, NOAA has projected drought to hold steady across the state in the coming spring season.

"Currently, soils are frozen to depths of two-to-four feet or more and have very limited ability to take in any moisture from melted snow, despite the dryness that has been carried from the fall season," Edwards says. "There may be areas of both improvements and degradations as we meander through the early growing season. Without consistent rainfall, widespread significant improvements in the current drought status may be elusive."

Farmers partner with rural firefighters

ELLEN G. DUYSEN, UNMC, Central States Center for Agricultural Safety and Health, Omaha, NE

Those working in agriculture are between 8 and 10 times more likely to die on the job than the average U.S. worker. In addition to the devastating consequences of these incidents for farmers and farm workers, the grim statistics also impact local firefighters and Emergency Management Systems (EMS) personnel.

Since 2016, Casper Bendixsen, Ph.D., Director of National Farm Medicine Center, and his team of agricultural safety colleagues have been working to assist farmers and farm managers partner with rural firefighters and EMS to engage in safety education and training designed to help reduce the overall number of farm injuries and fatalities.

The concept for the partnership grew out of the response Bendixsen received in an ag safety survey.

"We asked farmers who they trust and spend time with, who they consult for friendly advice about making changes on their operation," Bendixsen says. "They told us their trusted sources included other farmers and farm families, fire fighters and EMS personnel."

As Bendixsen looked more closely at the relationship between farmers and these public servants, he recognized that 70% of rural volunteer firefighters and EMS staff are often farmers. While that statistic is changing as family farms grow larger and the number of farmers declines, a unique connection and confidence between these entities remains.

"After recognizing this unique relationship, we began examining how we might leverage the esteem farmers had for firefighters and EMS personnel to positively impact farm safety practices," Bendixsen says. "From those efforts, we developed RF-DASH, Rural Firefighters Delivering Agricultural Safety and Health."

The RF-DASH program consists of a five-part classroom and hands-on training with easy to use, free tools. Through the program, which is offered through local firefighter and EMS departments, farmers learn how they can plan a response to an emergency before it occurs. Instructions for how to map farms with the tools at www.FarmMAPPER.com is included in the program.

Pre-planning and mapping a farm allow emergency responders access to a



Submitted | The Miller Press | Feb. 27, 2021

RF-DASH ALSO AIMS to reduce potential for injury to firefighters and EMS personnel during response to an on-farm emergency. Allowing these entities to become more familiar with an individual farm helps promote the overall health and safety of each farm and the rural community.

bird's eye view of the property. That information is invaluable in helping identify the location of hazardous resources on that specific farm, how to quickly assess the elements of a proper and effective response and how to reduce damage and loss of life or property during the response.

"We don't ask farmers to engage in major preplanning," Bendixsen says. "The kind of planning a major factory undertakes is far more complex than what's found on a farm. A key part of RF-DASH preplanning involves farmers building rapport with their local firefighters and EMS and having conversations about any unique aspects or hazards of their farm."

As with any industry or business, RF-DASH emphasizes that prevention is the most effective approach to managing farm injuries and fatalities. The program's secure mobile friendly third-party tool, www.saferfarm.org, is not connected to OSHA (Occupational Safety and Health Administration) or insurance company data.

Farm Hazard Analysis, accomplished through use of the tools at Saferfarm.org, helps farmers learn to recognize and reduce common farm hazards. The program's Farm First Aid module trains bystanders about immediate response options to an emergency while waiting for first responders. This standard first aid course is tailored to the farm environment and emphasizes injury prevention knowledge.

The program also encour-

ages farmers to consider the "agents of injury" found on their farm. The top three causes of fatal ag injuries are related to tractors/machinery, motor vehicles (including ATVs) and drowning. Top causes of non-fatal ag injuries include falls, animals and machinery/vehicles.

"Through the RF-DASH partnership, firefighters and EMS can customize their emergency response to each farm," Bendixsen says. "When farmers and firefighters talk to each other, both are more prepared to respond to an on-farm emergency."

RF-DASH trained responders are respectful and appreciative of a farmer's time. Just two hours of time are required to assess a farm for safety. Details about each farm are secure and are not shared with anyone other than the fire/EMS departments.

When emergency response is well thought out, farmers, firefighters and EMS departments benefit by reducing potential for serious and/or life-threatening injuries to occur for all those involved in an emergency and/or response. When emergency incidents decrease, the risk of life and property loss for all three entities decreases, too.

Currently, RF-DASH has been featured in multiple U.S. and Canadian media sources, including dairy and beef industry publications. More than 70 firefighters/EMS have been trained as trainers in WI, MN, NY, MA, OH, UT, ID, WA, NE, and PA. New trainers are working to train dozens more and have begun making their own RF-DASH presentations.

RF-DASH fits well with many National Fire Protection Association (NFPA) standards, specifically the NFPA 1300 standard on Community Risk Assessment and Community Risk Reduction Plan Development. The program is helping combat agriculture's high rate of injury, with an average of 167 workers per day injured on farms. It also eases the burden on farm safety consultants, who are too few in number to have an effective impact on all U.S. farmers.

RF-DASH is funded by the Upper Midwest Agricultural Safety and Health Cen-

ter (UMASH) through a cooperative agreement from the National Institute for Occupational Safety and Health (NIOSH).

"We're in our fifth year of funding in 2021," Bendixsen says. "Our hope is that we'll secure another five-year funding grant to expand training to include rescue training. Grain bin rescues, grain entrapment, and grain handling equipment entanglements are common sources of farm injury and fatality. We believe communities are ready for grain handling prevention education. We hope to include this training in future RF-DASH training programs."

There are fire departments who really care about their community and want to protect people from being injured," Bendixsen adds. "Think about helping keep them from being injured if they have to come to your farm."

Bendixsen encourages farmers to consider how they can help prevent the need for an emergency rescue. Often, both the victim and the rescuer become endangered.

"By taking this initiative to help prevent something from happening to you, your family or your workers, you're also preventing the risk taken by rescuers in your community."

"We extend a major thank you to my research team and to the Upper Midwest Ag Safety and Health Center out of the University of Minnesota and to the staff at the National Farm Medicine Center," Bendixsen says. "We've grown this over multiple years and we're happy to see it taken root in some fire departments. There are some fire departments who are truly just running with it. That's the kind of thing that's rewarding, when you see an idea come to fruition and people take it and make it their own."

For additional information, contact Casper Bendixsen at BENDIXSEN.CASPER@marshfieldresearch.com or go to www.RFDASH.org.

Funding for this educational article comes from the Central States Center for Agricultural Safety and Health and the University of Nebraska Medical Center.

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City of Miller and Hand County

**Law Enforcement Session**

Thursday, March 4<sup>th</sup>

7:00 p.m.

Miller Community Center Meeting Room

**Worship Guide**

**ASSEMBLY OF GOD**  
New Beginnings Worship Center, 1123 East 3rd St., Miller, 853-2558, Sunday Worship 10:30 a.m.

**BAPTIST**  
First Baptist Church, 902 N. Broadway Ave., Miller, 701-609-0197, Pastor Will Page, Sunday Worship 10:00 a.m. Wed. Bible Study 7:00 p.m.

**CATHOLIC**  
St. Ann Catholic Church, 709 East 4th Street, Miller, 853-2207, Father Paul Josten, Saturday Mass at 5 p.m. Sunday Mass 9:00 a.m.

**St. Liborius Catholic Church**, 17985 354th Ave, Orient, Father Christopher Hughes, Sunday Mass at 11 a.m.

**COMMUNITY**  
Pleasant Valley Community Church, 21530 SD Hwy. 45, Miller, 853-3925, Rev. Glenn Stewart, Sunday Worship 10:30 a.m., Sunday School 9:30 a.m. Broadcasted to vehicles in the parking lot

**St. Lawrence Community Church**, 815 3rd Street NW, St. Lawrence, 853-3753, Jason Watson, Teaching Pastor, Jim Hofman, Family Life Pastor, Derrick DiGiulio Youth Pastor. Sunday Worship 9:30 a.m., Sunday School 11:10 a.m.

**LUTHERAN**  
Trinity Lutheran Church, 707 East 1st Ave., Miller, 853-2446, Rev. Max Miller, Sunday Worship 10:00 a.m.; Wednesday SON-Day School 3:45 p.m., Youth Group 6:00 p.m., Holy Communion 7:30 p.m.

**METHODIST**  
First United Methodist Church, 610 East 4th Avenue, Miller, 853-3656, MillerMethodist-Church.weebly.com, Pastor Teresa Whetsel, worship Sunday mornings 10:30 a.m. online also, Sunday School 9:30 a.m; Wednesday 7 p.m., youth grades 6-12.

**MORMON/LATTER-DAY SAINTS**  
Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-Day Saints, 1025 East 3rd Avenue, Miller, Wayne Ames - Branch President, Sunday Worship 10:00 a.m., Sunday School 10:45 a.m.

**NAZARENE**  
Nazarene Church, 215 West 9th St., Miller, 605-999-2409, Sunday School 10:00 a.m., Sunday Worship 11:00 a.m.

**PRESBYTERIAN**  
First Presbyterian Church, Services online millerpresby.com, 321 West 1st Avenue, Miller, 853-3386 or 853-2322, Rev. Brian Jones, Sunday Worship 10:00 a.m., First Presbyterian Church, 135 Clare Street West, Wessington, Sunday Worship 9:30 a.m., Sunday School 10:30 a.m.

**Good Samaritan Society** 605-853-2701 MILLER

**Avera Avera** Hand County Memorial Hospital Medical Group Miller 605-853-2421 • 605-853-0158

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## Legislative Highlights

### Speaker of the House Spencer Gosch

Last Wednesday HB 1140 passed out of the House of Representatives and has moved to the Senate. This bill would remove conservation officers' ability to enter private land without just cause. Repealing the "open fields doctrine" strengthens landowners' privacy and property rights by ensuring that their land is not trespassed by certain government agents unless they have just cause to believe criminal activity is occurring.

Another strong piece of legislation was passed out of the House State Affairs committee on Wednesday. HB 1110, "An act to prohibit the performance of abortions due to Down syndrome and to provide a penalty therefor," will, as the title suggests, make it illegal for anyone to perform or recommend an

abortion in the state of South Dakota if the reason for it is that the child has Down syndrome. There were many proponent testifiers, many of whom brought their children with Down syndrome to show that all life is precious. This bill serves as an abject condemnation and rebuke of the eugenic policy that rules in many European countries. In particular, Iceland has all but eliminated Down syndrome in this way, killing nearly all diagnosed children before they are born. South Dakota and the Republican party stands for life, and will defend everyone's right to it, even of the smallest among us.

Late on Wednesday evening the State Affairs committee passed HB 1100 which lays the groundwork for the implementation of IM 26, extending the date of final en-

actment into 2022. Legislative sessions are only 40 days long and to create a system that works for South Dakota, we need more than 40 days to do so. I pointed out the need for changes as well as a well-thought-out plan for implementation. For example, IM 26 currently allows children to smoke marijuana, and arguably in school, which is obviously reprehensible.

Again, I want to thank everyone for their support and encourage you to reach out if you have any questions, cares, and/or concerns. You can reach me via email at [spencer.gosch@sdlegislature.gov](mailto:spencer.gosch@sdlegislature.gov) (please put the town that you are from in the subject header) or by call or text at 605-230-0313. May God bless your week and may God bless the great state of South Dakota.



Submitted | The Miller Press | Feb. 27, 2021

**THE CARBON HELD in crop residue cannot be replaced through fertilizer like other nutrients. It has to be produced through biological processes, all of which take time.**

### Senator Bryan Breitling

There are three weeks to the 2021 legislative session left. That means that this week is crossover week and will be a very busy week. Crossover means that all bills need to be out of committee and to their original house by Wednesday, and the last day to pass bills out of their house of origin is Thursday.

In the Senate Appropriations Committee this past week, we heard presentations from the State Auditor, State Treasurer, Secretary of State, and the Dept. of Tourism, as well as heard testimony on several bills.

On the Senate floor this week, HB1042 was passed with unanimous approval, focused on riparian buffer strips; discounting the taxation from 50% to 60% and extending renewal periods from one to six years - a great bill for protecting our streams and rivers. HB1035 removes the locking seal requirement for the transportation of big game; there are advancements in technology that improve upon the manual rule. HB 1034 revises certain youth hunting requirements; raising the age of no license requirements for hunting and fishing to age 18. These bills are now on their way to the Governor.

Senate bills passed and on their way to the House include: SB124 to make churches essential entities, SB111 to reduce permit fees for carry concealed pistols, and SB152 authorizing counties to issue off-sale liquor licenses.

Two bills this week with strong positions on either side were heard as well. First, SB177, "revise the provisions of parental choice..." is the streamlining home school bill. The vote did pass 21-14. There are four main components of the bill: home school

notification process, removes home school testing requirements, update truancy laws, and requires schools to include homeschoolers in school classes, activities, and extra-curricular activities. As stated, there are strong positions on both sides of this bill. I advocated to break this bill up to tackle one issue at a time. Simply put, in my opinion the pendulum will swing too far, cause some unintended consequences, and it eliminates the "may do" with "shall do", making school management of the various student issues an even more difficult responsibility for local school administration and board. It is now on its way to the house for committee debate. I did vote against the bill, raising concerns about the testing requirements ending and hindering local control.

The second bill is not yet finished in the Senate, SB183 - contract provisions in surrogacy. In surrogacy, the parents and carrier all need to agree on very specific and personal topics. The contract process facilitates this dialogue, and this bill eliminates any language of abortion in the surrogacy contract as a deceptive act or practice. SB183 made it out of committee, then one amendment was added, then a second amendment was attempted to be added, then a procedural rule was invoked to defer the bill. SB183 will likely be heard on Monday or Tuesday of this coming week.

Our District Cracker Barrels are continuing with three more scheduled this weekend. I look forward to meeting with you and learning more about the topics of interest to you.

I can be reached at [bryan.breitling@sdlegislature.gov](mailto:bryan.breitling@sdlegislature.gov), please include where you are from and bill number, and I look forward to continued conversations.

### Representative Charlie Hoffman

We had the first three-day work week I can ever remember having in the Legislature last week and now are looking at Crossover week this coming work week in Pierre. Tuesday we had 12 bills to hear.

On the House floor this past week we heard HB 1204 which made it a Class 6 Felony to video or record for any reason any person in a sexual manner by anyone 21 or older of anyone 17 or younger. It passed out of Judiciary 12-0 and we sent it along to the Senate with a 67-0 vote in the House.

Open Fields doctrine gave wildlife officials the right to drive on anyone's land without a search warrant for any reason which smacked against the 4<sup>th</sup> Amendment in our US Constitution. I voted in favor of getting rid of the Open Fields doctrine and it passed out of committee on a 10-2 vote. Federal Wildlife officials can still use the doctrine and also any TIPS calls

will allow a GF&P warden to investigate the tip of wrongdoing. This bill passed out of the House on Thursday on a 41-28 vote. I voted for it both times.

HJR 5003 is a bill which is very similar to SJR 2 from 2013 which Corey Brown and I tried to bring to a public vote but the House then killed it as it was a 2/3 vote needed to implement a state-wide IM on any tax increase. HJR 5003 does the same thing but with a 3/5 needed number of votes in order to pass. Any \$10 Million amount spent in any of five years following the initiative in any Statewide referendum would need a 3/5 vote to pass. This HJR passed out of the House on a 56-12 vote and I voted for it hoping it makes its way through the Senate.

HB 1087 would allow anyone over 60 years of age to use a crossbow for archery season. 2.7% of all archery hunters are over 60 years of age, a non-statistical environ-

mental number of hunters in any wildlife management plan. The crux is that some believe this is a backdoor to allowing crossbows for all archery hunters which has been implemented in some States. I would be absolutely against that happening but I am 61 and don't hunt archery and have never had a crossbow. If this bill passes I might though.

Lastly a bill we all got behind was SB 102 in Local Government which allows ones voter ID to be hidden for anyone with a protection order against someone else or who may be in a shelter. This bill has not received one nay vote and I suspect when it comes up on the House floor this week it will pass 70-0.

I look forward to hearing from you and will do my very best to respond to any and all communication from you. To reach me: Cell 605-216-0027, [Charlie.Hoffman@sdlegislature.gov](mailto:Charlie.Hoffman@sdlegislature.gov)

# The value of residue

There are years when, for one reason or another, it may be tempting for producers to bale and sell wheat or corn straw. Years when livestock feed or bedding is in short supply or some other venture makes the sale of straw appealing.

The benefits of leaving crop residue on the soil surface through farm practices such as no till are numerous. In addition to reducing soil erosion, old crop residue will catch and retain moisture, mitigate soil temperature fluctuations during extremes and contribute to soil organic matter. These benefits are hard to measure and often lose out to short term gains.

Data from SDSU indicates that wheat straw contains approximately 10 lbs. of nitrogen (N), 3 lbs. of phosphate (P2O5), 31 lbs. of potash (K2O), and 2 lbs. of sulfur (S) per ton. The value of these nutrients can amount to \$12-14/ton straw. Research from Nebraska and South Dakota indicates a 20 bushel wheat crop can produce around a ton (2000 lbs.) of straw. Therefore a 60 bushel/acre wheat crop which produces about 3 ton straw will hold approximately \$36-40 worth of nutrients. Corn stover can hold approximately 16 lbs N, 4 lbs P2O5, 29 lbs K2O and 3 lbs of S per ton. A field that yields 150 bu per acre could produce up to 4 tons of stover. This adds up to approximately \$70/acre in nutrients (N = \$0.40/lb, P2O5 = \$0.175/lb, K2O = 0.28/lb). These nutrients are lost when straw is removed from fields. The value of the nutrients does not include the cost of baling the residue or the intrinsic costs associated with the loss of residue and the role residue plays in protecting and building the soil.

However, the biggest cost of residue removal is the loss of carbon held in the residue. Carbon is one of the largest components of soil organic matter. The decomposition of old crop residue is part of the building process in soil organic matter. Higher levels of organic matter in soils

SDSU Extension

Ruth Beck, Agronomy Field Specialist

correlates to improved soil structure, resilience, nutrient availability and water holding capacity.

The carbon held in crop residue cannot be replaced through fertilizer applications like other nutrients. It has to be produced through the process of photosynthesis, residue decomposition and other biological processes, all of which take time. Soil quality isn't always easy to measure and landowners and producers are not always compensated for practices that protect the soil. But building and maintaining soil quality is tied to long term profit and our ability to feed ourselves. I encourage people to keep in the mind the many positive contributions that crop residues provide and keep soils covered.

Extension Calendar: During the week of March 2-5, the SDSU Extension Crop Hour will focus on sunflower production in SD. Registration is free and available at the following link <https://extension.sdstate.edu/event/crop-hour-sunflower-webi->

South Dakota State University, South Dakota counties, and USDA cooperating. South Dakota State University adheres to AA/EEO guidelines in offering educational programs and services.



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Go to: [extension.sdstate.edu/agriculture/crops](https://extension.sdstate.edu/agriculture/crops) for free registration and details.



# Top tips for organized tax filing

(StatePoint) 2020 was a particularly stressful year -- but filing its taxes doesn't need to be. With the following tips, you can stay organized and cool-headed

throughout the process.

### File Early

File early so you check this major to-do off your list and relax. The good news is that the sooner you file, the

better. This is true no matter what your circumstances are. If you owe money, you'll have that much more time to plan your payment. If you're due for a refund, filing soon-

er means you'll have your money sooner, money which can be used to pay bills, be invested or be added to a rainy day fund. To that end, take some time to glance at your overall financial pic-

ture so you can make a smart game plan for directing your refund usefully.

### Check Your Work

A multi-functional printing calculator with a 12-digit display can help you check your work and track and manage any necessary calculations, while ensuring your figures aren't truncated. Look for a model that prints in two colors, such as Casio's HR-170RC, so you can quickly see both positive and negative numbers to avoid reading errors. If you have any international holdings, this is a must-have tax season tool, as its functions include currency exchange. This model also has a built-in tax feature that lets you store a frequently-used rate and pull it up when needed, as well as a check

function that allows you to scroll up to 150 steps of previous calculations.

### Stay Secure

Your financials and personal data are especially vulnerable during tax season. Be sure to keep all the paperwork associated with your taxes organized securely. As forms arrive by mail, file them neatly in one place that's locked and secure. Sensitive information can easily be misused if it falls into the wrong hands. If you're storing information electronically, be sure to use strong passwords and work only on a secure network.

By giving yourself the right tools and plenty of time, you can better ensure timely, accurate tax preparation.

## How and why to build a raised garden bed this season

(StatePoint) Fairly easy to construct and even easier to maintain, raised beds are a great way to raise plants and vegetables in the comfort and convenience of your backyard.

In a recent episode of the Exmark Original Series, "Done-in-A-Week-end-Extreme," landscape designer, Doug Scott, spoke to organic gardener Joe Lamp'l of "Growing a Greener World" about the ins and outs of raised garden beds.

### Insights and tips

Why use raised garden beds? A raised garden bed can help facilitate the ideal growing environment, as most people don't have that perfect soil naturally in their yard. Their accessibility makes them easier to work in and maintain. Plus, they're a nice architectural design element in any landscape.

### What's the ideal size?

The main rule of the thumb applies to width. The bed should be no wider than 4 feet, as you never want to compact the soil when working. Length however, is based on personal preference and needs. As far as height is concerned, you want the roots to be able to grow out and down as much as possible -- 6-inches at minimum.

### While 12-inches is common, anything higher is a bonus.

What materials work best? Treated lumber is the most readily available and economical material and will likely last the longest, however, being an organic gardener Lamp'l prefers untreated hardwood, as it lasts almost as long and doesn't contain chemicals. Other materials you have around the home and yard, such as rocks, old tubs, etc., can work too.

### Where's the best location?

Begin by cutting six, 6 x 6 timbers, each measuring 10-feet 6-inches in length. And six, 6 x 6 timbers, each measuring 4-feet 6-inches in length. Drill rebar holes in each timber.

Once the first layer of bed has been placed, leveled and squared in your desired location, fasten the corners using 10-inch wood screws. Secure the entire layer to the ground with 10 pieces of rebar. Place the second layer of timbers, staggering the corners and fastening them with wood screws. Secure this layer to the first with ten 10-inch galvanized spikes.

Install galvanized cloth to prevent burrowing pests from eating earthworms and destroying plants.

Place the third layer of timbers. Fill with soil and plants.

For more tips and complete build instructions, check out "How to Build Raised Garden Beds" by visiting [Exmark.com/backyard](http://Exmark.com/backyard). Exmark's Backyard Life is part of a unique multimedia destination with a focus on helping homeowners make the most of their backyard.



### Sale Report-- Friday, February 19, 2021

BRED HEIFERS			
Lee/Della Amdahl	16 F1 bwf due 4/1 x 21 days	1174#	\$2,000
Chris Howard	34 blk/bwf Al'd due 3/25 x 21 days	1039#	\$1,850
	20 blk/bwf due 4/16 x 21 days	1040#	\$1,650
	19 bwf due 4/16 x 21 days	1016#	\$1,650
Donald/Allan Knipping	55 black due 3/20 x 40 days	1022#	\$1,750
	20 black due 3/20 x 40 days	1013#	\$1,750
	25 black due 3/20 x 40 days	1011#	\$1,735
	33 black due 3/20 x 40 days	939#	\$1,735
	10 black due 3/1 x 45 days	1103#	\$1,800
Larry Mines	32 blk/bwf due 4/1 x 20 days	1081#	\$1,700
Kelly Konechne	27 blk/bwf Al'd due 3/12 x 7 days	1071#	\$1,725
Anthony/Jerad Jungwirth	8 blk/bwf due 3/29 x 20 days	1140#	\$1,660
	16 blk/bwf due 4/12 x 20 days	1134#	\$1,575
Brian Kraus	8 red/rwf due 4/12 x 20 days	1144#	\$1,635
	6 red/rwf due 3/29 x 15 days	1145#	\$1,725
	33 black 3 yo due 4/20 x 60 days	1101#	\$1,985
	45 black 3 yo due 4/20 x 60 days	1208#	\$1,985
	17 black 3 yo due 4/20 x 60 days	1133#	\$1,960
Kelly Konechne	40 black 3 yo due 4/20 x 60 days	1094#	\$1,950
	43 black 3 yo due 4/20 x 60 days	1009#	\$1,910
	28 bwf 3 yo due 4/20 x 60 days	1148#	\$1,975
	19 blk/bwf 4-5 yo due 4/20 x 60 days	1228#	\$1,885
	20 blk/bwf 6-8 yo due 4/20 x 60 days	1330#	\$1,635
	12 blk/bwf 6-8 yo due 4/20 x 60 days	1386#	\$1,560
	13 red 3-5 yo due 4/20 x 60 days	1170#	\$1,785
	6 blk/bwf BM due 4/20 x 60 days	1319#	\$1,035
	11 blk/bwf 3 yo due 4/10 x 60 days	1139#	\$1,900
	25 blk/bwf 4 yo due 4/10 x 60 days	1226#	\$1,875
24 blk/bwf 5-6 yo due 4/10 x 60 days	1367#	\$1,760	
BREDS			
Lance Hosman	24 black 3 yo due 3/20	1204#	\$1,810
Ron Hoffman	8 blk/red BM due 3/20	1300#	\$825
Joe Painter	40 black 3 yo due 3/15 x 60 days	1257#	\$1,750
	10 black 3 yo due 3/15 x 60 days	1251#	\$1,710
Andy Murphy	23 blk/bwf 5-6 yo due 3/20 x 60 days	1487#	\$1,675
	10 bbbwf SM-BM due 3/20 x 60 days	1415#	\$1,025
Chad Wheelreyer	14 red/blk 4-6 yo due 4/15	1237#	\$1,625
	7 red/blk SM due 4/15	1436#	\$1,300
	5 blk/red BM due 4/15	1529#	\$1,010
Rob Rowe	7 blk/bwf 4-5 yo due 3/20 x 60 days	1535#	\$1,685
Kevin Baysinger	11 Hereford 6 yo due 3/20	1421#	\$1,525
Mark Schelske	15 black SM due 3/15 x 60 days	1301#	\$1,310
	23 black BM due 3/15 x 60 days	1336#	\$1,110
	6 black 6 yo-SM due 4/20	1595#	\$1,400
Tom Thiry	15 black 6 yo-SM due 4/20	1559#	\$1,325
	6 black BM due 4/20	1571#	\$1,160
Burke Ranch	18 blk/red SM due 4/10 x 60 days	1407#	\$1,285
	5 blk/red BM due 4/10 x 60 days	1479#	\$1,035
Rocky Hauge	6 blk/red SM due 2/20	1370#	\$1,060
	18 blk/red BM due 2/20	1495#	\$1,075
	6 blk/bwf BM pairs	1500#	\$1,135
Heiferettes	6 black SM due 3/20	1473#	\$1,025
	4 black BM due 3/20	1428#	\$925
WEIGH-UPS			
		Up to \$85	
		\$67-74	
		\$60-66.50	
		\$53-59.50	
		\$31-50.50	
		\$88-97.50	
		\$76	

### Sale Report - Tuesday, February 23, 2021

CALVES			
Kolousek Ranch	129 F1 bwf steers	704#	\$158.10
	12 F1 bwf steers	617#	\$163
	90 Herf/F1 rwf steers	646#	\$158
	30 Herf/F1 rwf steers	576#	\$160.50
Quirk Ranch	144 black steers	810#	\$143.10
	211 blk/bwf steers	770#	\$145.25
Gary/Jim Hoing	82 blk/bwf steers	670#	\$152.50
	10 red/rwf steers	660#	\$149
	22 red/rwf steers	762#	\$140.25
	74 blk/bwf steers	793#	\$143.75
Lakner Farms	58 blk/bwf steers	704#	\$152.50
	83 blk/bwf heifers	737#	\$134.25
	24 blk/red heifers	626#	\$140
Andy Murphy	197 blk/bwf steers	871#	\$133.75
	71 blk/bwf steers	869#	\$138.50
Ryan/Jan Urban	5 charx steers	773#	\$136
	80 blk/bwf steers	773#	\$141
Willman Ranch	73 black steers	833#	\$136
	74 black steers	861#	\$135.85
Jon Deal	17 blk/bwf steers	815#	\$135
	14 blk/bwf steers	688#	\$145.50
Erin Deal	15 black heifers	707#	\$129
	4 black heifers	565#	\$140.50
	70 blk/bwf steers	714#	\$147.50
Lorin/John Tyrrell	26 blk/bwf steers	592#	\$161
	79 blk/bwf heifers	654#	\$139.10
	13 blk/bwf heifers	563#	\$144
Rick/Chance Tobin	65 black steers	803#	\$141
	58 black steers	679#	\$154.25
Ben Holzbauer	134 blk/bwf steers	864#	\$137.85
	62 black steers	766#	\$141.50
Ed/Gary/John Blindauer	31 blk/bwf steers	620#	\$161
	57 blk/bwf steers	978#	\$127.25
Dwight/Greg Pullman	47 blk/bwf steers	872#	\$128
	64 blk/bwf heifers	900#	\$123
	26 blk/bwf heifers	809#	\$121.25
	64 blk/bwf steers	860#	\$136.50
Lennis Fagerhaug	14 blk/bwf steers	673#	\$148
	41 blk/bwf heifers	723#	\$130
	69 blk/bwf steers	831#	\$133.50
Bruce McCloud	31 charx/red steers	832#	\$133.25
	52 red/rwf steers	956#	\$126.60
Brian Koch	32 red/rwf steers	752#	\$134
	73 blk/bwf heifers	777#	\$130.10
Tom/Andy Geppert	6 blk/bwf heifers	742#	\$129
	42 blk/red steers	916#	\$134
Tate VonEye	24 blk/bwf steers	801#	\$134.75
	35 blk/bwf heifers	763#	\$126.50
	83 blk/bwf steers	599#	\$164
Kevin Thomas	50 blk/bwf steers	480#	\$185
	62 blk/red steers	767#	\$142.25
Brandon/Mandy Synhorst	18 blk/bwf steers	625#	\$163
	7 blk/red steers	508#	\$175
	24 blk/red heifers	653#	\$136.50
Justin Ogle	63 blk/red heifers	678#	\$133
	21 blk/red heifers	588#	\$143
Keith Volek	31 black heifers	808#	\$125.35
Eric/Winston Nowotny	12 blk/bwf heifers	718#	\$129.50
	22 blk/bwf BV heifers	675#	\$137.75
Tom Thiry	18 blk/bwf heifers	590#	\$149
	24 blk/red steers	855#	\$132
Wiedenbach/Petersen	8 blk/red steers	689#	\$147
	28 blk/red heifers	772#	\$127
Jay Langdeau	7 blk/red heifers	660#	\$134.25
	68 blk/red/chx steers	701#	\$147.75
	21 blk/red/chx steers	570#	\$163
Darwin Reindl	47 blk/bwf heifers	650#	\$133.50
	10 red/charx heifers	623#	\$134
	17 blk/red/chx heifers	548#	\$147
Colte Larson	59 blk/red heifers	596#	\$149.50
	9 blk/red heifers	471#	\$157
Dean VanZee	8 blk/red steers	497#	\$179
	39 blk/red steers	715#	\$145
Marty Jandreau	10 blk/red steers	557#	\$162
	37 blk/red heifers	651#	\$136.35
	49 black steers	597#	\$163.50
Hansen Bros.	10 black steers	495#	\$179.50
	47 blk/red/chx steers	716#	\$144.50
Benda Ranch	12 blk/red/chx steers	547#	\$161
	16 blk/red/chx heifers	670#	\$130.25
Ryan Koeck	15 blk/red/chx heifers	543#	\$140
	21 black steers	559#	\$167
Scott Randall	4 black steers	417#	\$190
	4 black steers	555#	\$163
Don Randall	13 red steers	536#	\$154
	14 red heifers	795#	\$125.60
	22 blk/red heifers	802#	\$142.50
Larry Aesoph	11 blk/red steers	802#	\$142.50
	2 black steers	595#	\$161
Clyde Dethlefsen	9 black heifers	706#	\$131
	3 black heifers	570#	\$150.50
Dean Odden	7 black steers	528#	\$169.50
	4 black steers	410#	\$179
	9 blk/bwf steers	344#	\$201
Darwin Reindl	13 blk/bwf heifers	341#	\$180
	5 blk/bwf steers	576#	\$156
Larry Aesoph	6 blk/red steers	423#	\$167
	14 blk/bwf heifers	516#	\$150
Larry Aesoph	10 blk/red heifers	402#	\$161
	7 blk/red/chx steers	701#	\$137
Clyde Dethlefsen	13 blk/red/chx heifers	647#	\$126
	10 red steers	824#	\$129
Dean Odden	4 red steers	616#	\$154.50
	12 charx heifers	672#	\$133
Darwin Reindl	4 charx heifers	803#	\$123.25
	4 red/rwf heifers	873#	\$122.50
Larry Aesoph	11 blk/red/chx heifers	1103#	\$117
YEARLINGS			
***UPCOMING SALES***			
Friday, February 26: 1 pm WEIGH-UPS ONLY			
Tuesday, March 2: 11 am FEEDERS (Premier Equipment: Cookies)			
Thursday, March 4: 1 pm DeJong Ranch Bull Sale			
Friday, March 5: 12 pm BREDS, Weigh-ups to follow (Farmers Union: Cookies)			

**KIMBALL LIVESTOCK EXCHANGE.COM**  
 Find us on FB: Kimball Livestock Exchange LLC  
 BARN: 605-778-6211  
**Chad Heezen-Owner 605-870-0697 Wade Christensen-Owner 605-730-1801**  
**Christi Christensen-Owner / Office Mgr 605-680-1536**  
 Dick Deffenbaugh-Yards 605-680-1324 Steve Chavez-Fieldman 605-860-0016 Paul Munsen-Fieldman 605-680-1450  
 David Viereck-Fieldman 605-680-0386 Lee Ness-Fieldman 605-680-2778

**You are NOT Alone!**  
 No matter where you live, **FREE** and **CONFIDENTIAL** help for you and your children is just a phone call away.  
**For immediate assistance call 605-472-0508**  
**Family Crisis Center, Inc.**  
 at Ginny's House  
 PO Box 347  
 Redfield, SD 57469  
 Serving Faulk, Hand & Spink counties

**Miller Fire Department**  
**Soup Dinner**  
**Cancelled**  
 This year, due to COVID, the Miller Fire Department will **NOT** have the Soup Dinner on March 7, 2021.  
 We regret not being able to have the Soup Dinner. Thank you for your past patronage and hope to see you next year, 2022.



## Trustees approve Interlocal Governmental Agreement

CITY OF ST. LAWRENCE  
TOWN BOARD OF TRUSTEES  
MEETING  
JANUARY 13, 2021

The City of St. Lawrence is an equal opportunity employer.

The Town Board of Trustees met in regular session at city hall at 6:30 p.m. on Wednesday, January 13, 2021. The meeting was called to order by President Shirley Peck with the Pledge of Allegiance being said by all present.

**MEMBERS PRESENT:** President Shirley Peck, Trustees: Terry Naber, Dean Kolda. **AGENDA:** Motion by Trustee Naber, seconded by Trustee Kolda to approve the agenda. All members voted aye. Motion carried. **MINUTES:** Motion by Trustee Naber, seconded by Trustee Kolda to approve the minutes for the regular meeting held on December 16, 2020. All members voted aye. Motion carried. **PUBLIC INPUT** Dean Kolda commented that Seth Allen has repaired the trim on three doors to the fire hall. **DEPARTMENT HEAD REPORTS** Calvin Kindle submitted a water report for review. Water loss was 21% for December and a leaking water meter was replaced at city hall. Randy Peck's report stated that everything is in normal operation; Danburg reported sales tax for 2020 was \$367.77 more than 2019, the city election is to be held April 13<sup>th</sup> with Shirley Peck's 3-year term expiring. Sheila, Cindy and Christi have been working with Summit to convert St. Lawrence to their program.

### UNFINISHED BUSINESS

**Interlocal Governmental Agreement:** Motion by Trustee Kolda, seconded by Trustee Naber to approve the corrected Interlocal Governmental Agreement for the compensation change to \$10,500/year for a one-year term. **Second Reading Ordinance No. 2021-01:** Motion by Trustee Kolda, seconded by Trustee Naber to approve the second reading of Ordinance No. 2021-01 to amend the requirements for paying water and sewer surcharges while services are not in use. Roll call vote: Trustee Kolda – aye, Trustee Naber – aye, President Peck – aye.

## School Board discusses heater

Minutes  
Special Meeting

A special meeting of the Board of Education, Miller School District #29-4 was held on Wednesday, February 17, 2021 in the Elementary School Library. Natalie Bertsch, President of the Board, called the meeting to order via Zoom at 5:02 p.m. Other members in attendance were Vance Caffee, Amy Howard, and Jonathan Hurd. Other members in attendance via Zoom were Connie Schroeder and Tara Yost. Absent was Robert Mullaney. Also in attendance was Dr. Charlene Crosswait, Superintendent, Sara Gates, Business Manager and John Page.

Motion by Hurd, second by Caffee to approve the board agenda. All voting aye.

Robert Mullaney arrived at 5:04 p.m.

Discussion on heating issues. The Miller School District has determined to pursue using the design-build process to make improvements to the facility's dynamic systems (HVAC, electrical, etc.) because the complexity of the project requires close coordination of design/construction expertise with the existing systems.

The Miller School District adopts the design-build procedures set

## Notice to Creditors of Hubert Clement

STATE OF SOUTH DAKOTA  
IN CIRCUIT COURT  
COUNTY OF HUND  
THIRD JUDICIAL CIRCUIT  
ESTATE OF 29 PRO.  
21-000004

HUBERT A. CLEMENT,  
DECEASED.

NOTICE TO CREDITORS AND  
NOTICE OF INFORMAL PROBATE AND  
APPOINTMENT OF PERSONAL REPRESENTATIVE

Notice is given that on February 10, 2021, Joan Clement, whose address is 203 E. Lincoln Ave., Gettysburg, Potter County, South Dakota 57442, was appointed as personal representative of the estate of Hubert A. Clement.

Creditors of decedent must file their claims within four months after the date of the first publication of this notice or their claims may be barred.

Claims may be filed with the personal representative or may be filed with the clerk, and a copy of the claim mailed to the personal representative.

Dated this 10th day of February, 2021.

Hand County Clerk of Courts  
415 W. 1st Ave., #301  
Miller, SD 57362  
(605) 853-3337  
Rory King  
Bantz, Gosch & Cremer, L.L.C.  
305 Sixth Avenue SE, P.O. Box 970

Aberdeen, SD 57402-0970  
605-225-2232  
605-225-2497 (fax)  
rking@bantzlaw.com  
Filed: 2/10/2021 4:49 PM  
CST Hand County, South Dakota  
29PR021-000004  
Published Feb 27, Mar. 6, Mar. 13,  
2021. at approximate cost of \$43.90.-

Motion carried. **NEW BUSINESS: Resolution No. 2021-1 Annual Salaries:** Motion by Trustee Naber, seconded by Trustee Kolda to approved Resolution 2021-1 – Annual Salaries. Roll call vote: Trustee Kolda – aye, Trustee Naber – aye, President Peck – aye. Motion carried.

**Designate Depositories and Official Newspaper:** Motion by Trustee Naber, seconded by Trustee Kolda designate American Bank & Trust and Quoin Financial Bank as the official depositories and *The Miller Press* as the official newspaper. All members voted aye. Motion carried. **Approval of Warrants:** Motion by Trustee Naber, seconded by Trustee Kolda to approve the warrants. All members voted aye. Motion carried.

**Bills January 2021**

Bob's Gas, Fuel, 554.25  
City of Miller, Prof Fees, 432.09  
DPC, Annual Agreement, 560.00  
Evans Construction, Blading, 663.00

Hand County Publishing, Publications, 81.25

MDRWS, Water/Service, 2,593.85

Midco, Telephone/Internet, 37.39

Midwest Fire and Safety, Inspections, 133.00

NWE, Power, 823.11

Seth Allen Construction, Repairs, 514.00

SD DENR, Permit, 150.00

SD DOH, Tests, 196.00

SD Reemployment, Insurance, 2.14

SPN, Prof Fees, 10,325.00

Payroll 1/13/2021, Net, 934.43

IRS, Taxes, 484.27

\*\*\*\*Paid Total\*\*\*\*, \$18,483.78

Heath Mushitz was present to ask the status of the sewer grant/loan package and surcharges. The City of St. Lawrence will be awarded the funding package in March for the sewer project. Motion by Trustee Naber, seconded by Trustee Kolda to adjourn the meeting. There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 6:44 p.m. All members voted aye. Motion carried.

Shirley Peck, President

Sheila Coss, Finance Officer

Published Feb. 27, 2021 at the approximate cost of \$36.20.

## Council contributes to sandbagging machine purchase

UNAPPROVED  
CITY OF MILLER  
CITY COUNCIL MEETING  
FEBRUARY 16, 2021

The City of Miller is an equal opportunity employer.

The City Council met in regular session at city hall at 7:00 p.m. on Tuesday, February 16, 2021.

**MEMBERS PRESENT:** Aldermen: Jim Odegaard, Tony Rangel, Bob Steers, Jeff Swartz, Joe Zeller and Alderwoman Tammy Lichty. Absent: Mayor Ron Blachford. **CALL TO ORDER:** President Rangel called the meeting to order. Pledge of Allegiance was said by all present.

**AGENDA:** Motion by Alderman Odegaard, seconded by Alderman Swartz to approve the agenda. All members voted aye. Motion carried. **MINUTES:** Motion by Alderman Zeller, seconded by Alderwoman Lichty to approve the minutes for the regular meeting held on February 1, 2021. All members voted aye. Motion carried. **PUBLIC INPUT** Mary Jo Gortmaker presented a list of complaints to the council regard-

ing the police department, the street department, and current surcharges. Mike Beaner asked about the electric poles and lines that are still present on the east side of town. Alderman Steers stated that retiring the old electrical system is a project for this summer. Will Page found a 1964 city map at the courthouse. He will take it back to his office if the city does not have a place to hang it. **UNFINISHED BUSINESS Petition for Countywide Law Enforcement:** Finance Officer Sheila Coss denied a petition received from Mary Jo Gortmaker regarding countywide law enforcement after consultation with the city attorney. The petition was not in proper form for placement on the ballot. Alderman Steers informed the public that Kecia Beranek, On Hand Economic Development, is setting up a meeting with the city, county, and the public to discuss the feasibility of countywide law enforcement. **2020 Year-end Financials:** Motion by Alderman Steers, seconded by Alderman Swartz to approve transferring \$77,000 from the general fund checking to the airport project checking, and to transfer from the checking account, for the following funds, to CDs at Quoin: \$450,000 general fund, \$25,000 BBB-pool, and \$400,000 electric. All members voted aye. Motion carried. **NEW BUSINESS Sandbagging Equipment:** Motion by Alderman Odegaard, seconded by Alderman Steers to pay \$700.00 to Hand County for sandbagging equipment. All members voted aye. Motion carried. **Resolution 2021-4:** Motion by Alderman Swartz, seconded by Alderman Odegaard to approve the reading of Resolution 2021-4 – Surplus Property. All members voted aye. Motion carried. **Helms & Associates – Engineering Services:** Motion by Alderman Zeller, seconded by Alderwoman Lichty to approve the engineering services for Helms & Associates to complete Airport Project #3-46-0035-12-2021. All members voted aye. Motion carried. **Helms & Associates – Geotechnical Exploration:** Motion by Alderman Odegaard, seconded by Alderman Zeller to hire Soil Technologies, Inc. to do the soil boring for Airport Project #3-46-0035-12-2021 at the advice of Helms & Associates. All members voted aye. Motion

## Commission to hold budget hearing

**NOTICE OF HEARING FOR CONSIDERATION OF A PROPOSED SUPPLEMENTAL BUDGET**

The Hand County Commission will hold a hearing at 2 p.m. on March 2nd, 2021, in the Commission Chambers, to consider amending and supplementing the 2021 Annual Budget as follows: General Fund: Revenue: VSO Reimbursement-Hyde Co and Expenditure: "VSO" (personnel and operations) \$4,362.00. Road and Bridge Revenue: "RD & BR Wheel Tax" and Expenditure: "RD & BR" (operations – projects) \$175,000.00. Road and Bridge Salaries and benefits, \$177,654.96 (three FTE added in late 2020) Dated this 16th day of February, 2021. /s/: Doug DeBoer - Auditor  
Published Feb. 20, Feb. 27, 2021 at approximate cost of \$15.20.

## Hand County seeks road oil bids

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that sealed bids will be received by the Board of Hand County Commissioners, Miller, South Dakota, at the office of the Hand County Highway Department until 3:00 p.m., on Monday, March 10, 2021, after which time the bids will be publicly opened and read. The Highway Superintendent will present the bids to the county commission at 10:00 a.m., on Tuesday, April 6, 2021, for the following: Approximately 100 ton of MC 800 or MC 3000 road oil, Approximately 1500 ton of AE 150S road oil, Approximately 500 ton of CRS-2 road oil, Approximately 100-ton CSS1H road oil. The above listed road oil must be delivered in transport loads as needed, F.O.B. job site (CRS-2 also needs to be quoted F.O.B. plant site). Gravel Crushing (minimum of 25,000 ton). Rental Equipment: Backhoe, excavator, trucks and crane (proof of insurance must accompany bid for rental equipment). No deposit check is required on the above. Bid specifications and bid sheets may be obtained from the Hand County Highway Department, located at 810 E. 2nd St., Miller, South Dakota, 57362-1606. Telephone: 605-853-3292. Sealed bids should be submitted to the Hand County Highway Department prior to 3:00 p.m. on March 10, 2021. All bids must be submitted on official forms. The Hand County Commission reserves the right to accept or reject any or all bids and to waive informalities. Published Feb. 20, Feb. 27, 2021 at approximate cost \$26.75.

## Miller School District seeks qualifications

**Request for Qualifications**  
Miller School District is requesting Qualifications from interested and qualified providers for the following project:

Implementation of Energy Conservation Measures and Facility Improvements at the Miller School District in Miller, SD. Work to include but not limited to temperature control upgrades, addition of air conditioning to high school and theater mechanical equipment replacement.

Miller School District plans to select and pre-qualify the most qualified contractor to provide a Guaranteed Energy Savings Contract pursuant to SDCL 1-33B, "Energy Efficient Contracts" and/or a "Design Build Contracts" pursuant to SDCL 5-18B-20.

Responses are due at Miller School District's Administration Office, 623 East 4<sup>th</sup> St., Miller, SD 57362 on **Monday, March 8, 2021 by 2:00 p.m.** Interested parties should contact Charlene Crosswait, Superintendent at (605) 853-2614 to request response information.

Qualifications delivered after the stated deadline will be returned unopened and will not be considered.

Final selection will be made based on the information provided in the responses. Miller School District reserves the right to reject all responses. Published Feb. 20, Feb. 27, 2021, at approximate cost of \$24.93.

carried. **SPN & Associates – Flood Study Agreement:** Motion by Alderman Swartz, seconded by Alderman Steers to hire SPN & Associates to do the flood study for the southeast corner of Miller and the area north of Highway 14 between East 1<sup>st</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> Avenues. All members voted aye. Motion carried. **Municode Estimate – Supplement 6:** Motion by Alderman Zeller, seconded by Alderman Swartz to pay approve the Municode Supplement 6 for \$889.00. All members voted aye. Motion carried. **MicroFix, Inc. Computer Quote:** Motion by Alderman Lichty, seconded by Alderman Zeller to approve ordering a computer for Cindy Deuter, Deputy Finance Officer from MicroFix, Inc. for \$909.00 plus installation fees. All members voted aye. Motion carried. **Willie's Bar & Grill – Special Event Liquor License:** Motion by Alderman Odegaard, seconded by Alderman Lichty to approve a special event liquor license for Willie's Bar & Grill to serve alcohol at the community center on March 3, 2021. All members voted aye. Motion carried. **New York Life – Group Life Policy:** Motion by Alderman Odegaard, seconded by Alderman Steers to have Donna Bourdon, New York Life, offer group life insurance to the employees. After discussion all members voted nay. Motion failed. Motion by Alderman Steers, seconded by Alderman Odegaard to table a decision regarding group life insurance until a later date. All members voted aye. Motion carried. **Correspondence – Paint SD:** The council was given information regarding Paint SD where people can nominate a homeowner to have their house painted by volunteers at no cost to the resident. **Approval of the Bills:** Motion by Alderman Odegaard, seconded by Alderman Swartz to approve the bills. All members voted aye. Motion carried.

Motion by Alderman Zeller, seconded by Alderwoman Lichty to adjourn the meeting. There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 7:52 p.m. All members voted aye. Motion carried.

Ronald Blachford, Mayor

Sheila Coss, Finance Officer

**Bills February 2021 (2)**

A & B Business, Used & New Copiers, 4,447.77

Agtegra, Fuel, 201.72  
American Solutions, Supplies, 44.19  
Brookings Area CTC, Supplies, 60.00  
CK Welding, Supplies, 196.31  
Coss Agency, John Green prints (4), 572.00  
Cowboy Country Stores, Fuel, 757.07  
Drivers License Guide Company, ID Guide, 31.95  
Elan, Supplies, 1,745.18  
Family Crisis Center, Donation, 1,500.00  
Farnam's, Parts, 31.80  
Frontier Precision, Subscription, 1,650.00  
Hand County Publishing, Publications, 288.47  
HCPD, Power, 13,950.49  
Light and Siren, Vehicle Equip., 6,732.74  
MDRWS, Water, 16,351.75  
Midco, Telephones, 465.70  
Miller Ace, Supplies, 1,312.39  
Oakley Farm & Ranch, Supplies, 979.34  
OHED, Industry, 6,250.00  
Overhead Door Co., Repairs, 220.61  
Riter Rogers Law, Prof Fees, 1,872.50  
Rural Development, Loans, 16,403.00  
SD Dept of Revenue, Sales Tax, 8,495.59  
Share Corp, Supplies, 236.66  
Sturdevant's, Parts, 176.24  
Tony's Repair, Repairs, 80.00  
WAPA, Power, 54,412.29  
Accounts Payable Total, \$139,465.76  
**Payroll Salary plus Benefits by Department:** 2/16/2021  
Department, w/o OT, OT, Total  
41402, FINANCE OFFICE, 1,409.86, 0.00, 1,409.86  
42101, POLICE, 11,061.66,  
849.84, 11,911.50  
43101, STREET, 5,227.96, 0.00,  
5,227.96  
43201, SEWER, 5,483.26, 44.33,  
5,527.59  
43305, WATER, 5,483.17, 44.32,  
5,527.49  
43403, ELECTRIC, 6,050.01,  
0.00, 6,050.01  
43305, \$3,715.92 , \$938.49 ,  
\$35,654.41  
Published Feb. 27, 2021, at the approximate cost of \$66.32.

## SAVE your breath: always use appropriate personal protective equipment

ELLEN G. DUYSN, By UNMC, Central States Center for Agricultural Safety and Health, Omaha, NE

Nearly every day, farmers may be exposed to elements that pose a hazard to lung and respiratory health. Whether the exposure is frequent or occasional, the health risk can be significant. Symptoms that indicate dust and/or mold spores may have been inhaled ranged from stuffy or runny nose and nagging cough to illness that includes chronic coughing, shortness of breath, fever, aches and pains, and loss of appetite. Long term exposure to dusts and molds can cause respiratory disease.

Anyone who comes in contact with hay, grain, hogs, cattle, poultry, mold or grain dust, woodworking, nuisance odors, resins, solvents, gases, etc. must protect their lungs and respiratory system by using the proper respiratory Personal Protective Equipment (PPE). Depending on the type of exposure, equipment may include disposable filtering face pieces, reusable half full-face respirators, Powered Air Purifying Respirators (PAPR) or for hazardous exposures a Self-Contained Breathing Apparatus (SCBA).

Agricultural dust is a hazard in itself. However, mold spores – so tiny that as many as 250,000 spores can fit on the head of a pin – attach themselves to airborne dust particles, which farmers will unknowingly inhale, unless they're using appropriate respiratory PPE.

"Right now, with so many respiratory PPE supplies dedicated to health care providers, as they should be, many folks wonder where they can find quality respirators to protect themselves," Ellen Duysen, MPH, Community Outreach Specialist at the University of Nebraska Medical Center's Central States Center for Agricultural Safety and Health (CS-CASH), says. "Although it may be more costly right now, this PPE is available. Cloth masks and surgical masks are not going to protect you from dust and mold spore hazards on the farm. You need to wear respirators approved by the National Institute of Occupational Safety and Health (NIOSH) in order to avoid respiratory health issues."

In a recent CS-CASH survey of farmers and ranchers in seven Midwestern states, 26.2% of all respondents indicated they had a respiratory disease which had been diagnosed by a physician. These data indicate a critical need for protecting the lung health of agricultural workers.

Duysen suggests checking the paint section of your local hardware store for respiratory PPE or buying from a reputable online seller. To ensure the quality of the PPE you purchase, Duysen cautions against buying PPE from a seller you don't know.

The NIOSH seal verifies the mask design and quality to ensure it can be properly fitted and will protect the wearer. Recent changes to U.S. manufacturer strategies mean all types of respirators are likely to be more available going forward.

In selecting an appropriate mask, don't choose a single-strap option. It isn't designed to seal, which means air particulates can easily get behind the mask and into a worker's lungs.

At the very least, Duysen recommends use of a NIOSH approved two-strap disposable filtering facepiece when working in a dusty or moldy environment. These "paper" type masks are commonly worn by farmers and are disposed of after they become soiled. These can be N95, N100, R95, or P95 respirators that filter harmful particles out of the air before they are breathed into the lungs. These masks can be purchased with different features, such as an exhalation valve, charcoal filter, and a selection of seal types. They are effective for filtering out dust and mold associated with grain, hay, livestock, pesticide (solids), grinding, woodworking, solvents, and welding. These masks are not effective against gases.

Filtering facepieces are regulated by the U.S. Centers for Disease Control (CDC) and NIOSH (the National Institute for Occupational Safety and Health). They are made of special nonwoven fabrics. An N95 respirator, if worn correctly, can filter out a minimum of 95% of particles above .3 microns in size. An N100 mask will filter out 100% of airborne particulates. This type of mask is higher quality and seals more effectively than lower-rated masks. A two-strap respirator with a valve will help keep the mask from becoming damp and sweaty while it's being used. It also keeps the wearer cooler since the wearer doesn't rebreath as much of the warm air.

An economical alternative to the filtering facepiece are reusable elastomeric half or full face respirators. This type of respirator is currently more readily available.

These types of masks can be cleaned (according to manufacturer instructions) and used long term. Be sure to purchase filters made by the same company that made the mask. The different brands may not be interchangeable.

General cleaning of elastomeric respirators includes removal of the filter/cartridge/canister, and disassembling diaphragms, valve assemblies, hoses or other components. Components are washed in warm water using a mild detergent or cleaner (see manufacturer instructions), then rinse components in clean, running water. Never use solvents or alcohol wipes on these respirators. Allow the components to dry, then reassemble and test the mask to insure it functions properly.

During storage, remove cartridges and filters (which cannot be cleaned). If they can be reused, store in a breathable bag to avoid mold growth. If the filter/cartridge cannot be used again, dispose of it. Maintain a written record of when and how each filter/cartridge/canister is used in order to properly change them out.

The elastomeric mask should be stored in a cool, dry place since exposure to sunlight, heat, cold, smoke or chemicals can damage the piece and make it unusable.

Respiratory experts emphasize that none of the respiratory masks discussed above protect users from hydrogen sulfide, a gas found in manure pits. Exposure to that gas requires use of a supplied air respirator and only used by specially trained individuals.

CS-CASH has developed a series of YouTube videos focused on respiratory protection in agriculture.



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**Weekly Vikings Roundup**  
 By Jordan Wright  
 Twitter (@JordanWrightNFL)

free agency left the Vikings with zero pass rush. Add it all up, and it was a recipe for disaster for the Vikings in 2020.

The number one goal of a defense is to limit the points opposing offenses score. From 2014 to 2019, the Vikings have allowed:

- 21.4ppg (11th in NFL)
- 18.9ppg (5th)
- 19.2ppg (6th)
- 15.8ppg (1st)
- 21.3ppg (9th)
- 18.9ppg (5th)

As you can see, aside from Zimmer's first year, the Vikings have finished with a top 10 defense every season. In 2020, however, the Vikings allowed 29.7 points per game, which was 29th in the league. It was not ideal, to say the least.

The Vikings also allowed a ton of yards to opposing offenses in 2020. They finished 27th in the NFL, allowing 393.3 yards per game. Breaking that down further, the Vikings allowed 258.8 yards per game through the air (25th) and

134.4 yards per game on the ground (27th). As you can see, the Vikings' defense is the main reason the team failed to reach the playoffs last season.

To explain just how bad the Vikings' pass rush was without Danielle Hunter, Yannick Ngakoue was the team leader in sacks with five. Ngakoue was only with the Vikings for five games before being traded to Baltimore. The Vikings finished 28th in the league with only 23 sacks last season, far below their usual defensive line dominance. One area the Vikings did well in was interceptions, as they were tied for seventh with 15 – although those 15 INTs were produced by just six players, three of which were linebackers.

The defensive MVP for the Vikings in 2020 was Eric Kendricks. With Anthony Barr out for the season because of injury, Kendricks stepped his game up and was a one-man wrecking crew for most of the

season. Although he missed five games due to injury, Kendricks still finished the season second on the team with 107 tackles, fifth in tackles for a loss (4.5), fourth in pass deflections (6), and second in interceptions (3). With Kendricks out of the lineup, the Vikings' defense was noticeably worse in nearly every category.

In a year of uncertainty, two rookies stood out on the Vikings' defense. The first was cornerback Cameron Dantzer, who vastly improved as the season progressed. Dantzer was named to Pro Football Focus' All-Rookie team for his performance in 2020. The other player who stood out was defensive end D.J. Wonnum, who was third on the team with three sacks. Wonnum had many excellent plays throughout the season, and he will be competing for a starting role in 2021. Skol!

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## State Wrestling Tournament

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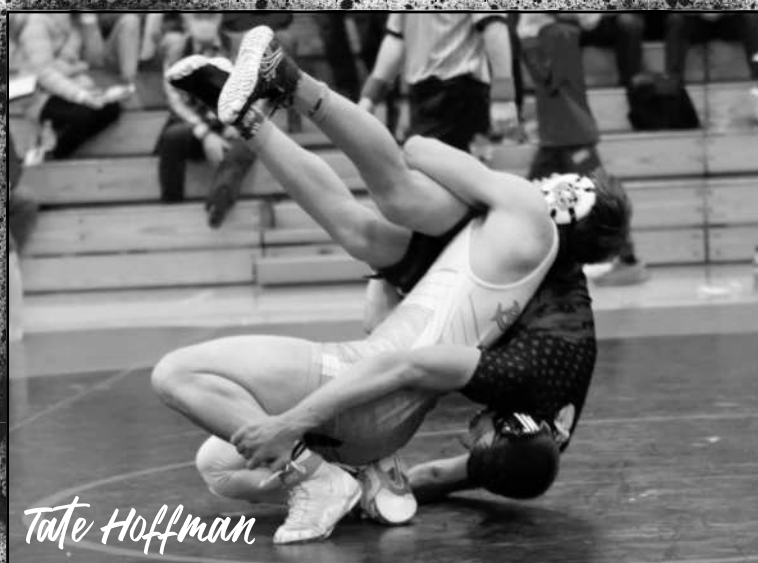


### Region 3B Wrestling Tournament

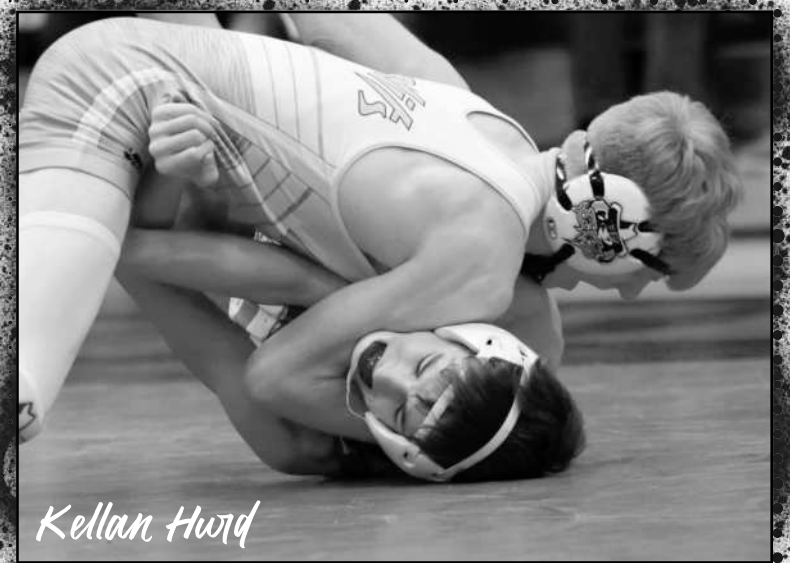
February 20, 2021, Wagner, SD  
**106 Teagan Herrick, 5th place** - Quarterfinals - Gavin Braun (Parkston) over Teagan Herrick (M/H-H) (Fall 1:35). Cons. Round 1 - Teagan Herrick (M/H-H) over Fin Adams (Burke/Gregory) (Fall 0:58). Cons. Semis - Karstyn Lhotak (Wagner) over Teagan Herrick (M/H-H) (Dec 3-1). 5th Place Match - Teagan Herrick (M/H-H) over Brock Kotalik (Bon Homme/Scotland/Avon) (Dec 8-2).  
**113 Kellan Hurd, 2nd place STATE QUALIFIER** - Quarterfinals - Kellan Hurd (M/H-H) over Jackson Bauld (Burke/Gregory) (Fall 1:46). Semifinals - Kellan Hurd (M/H-H) over Iden Myers (Kimball/White Lake/Platte-Geddes) (MD 12-0). 1st Place Match - Hadley Tobin (Mt. Vern/Plankinton/Corsica-Stickney) over Kellan Hurd (M/H-H) (Dec 10-7).  
**138 Gunner Brueggeman, 5th place** - Champ. Round 1 - Gunner Brueggeman (M/H-H) received a bye. Quarterfinals - Aaron Gilchrist (Winner) over Gunner Brueggeman (M/H-H) (Fall 3:33). Cons. Round 2 - Gunner Brueggeman (M/H-H) received a bye. Cons. Round 3 - Gunner Brueggeman (M/H-H) over Tyler Spencer (Burke/Gregory) (MD 13-3). Cons. Semis - Carter Lenz (Kimball/White Lake/Platte-Geddes) over Gunner Brueggeman (M/H-H) (MD 12-0). 5th Place Match - Gunner Brueggeman (M/H-H) over Jaymison Bjorum (Bon Homme/Scotland/Avon) (Dec 7-2).  
**145 Ryder Rowland, 6th place** - Champ. Round 1 - Ryder Rowland (M/H-H) received a bye. Quarterfinals - Kaden Keiser (Winner) over Ryder Rowland (M/H-H) (Fall 0:46). Cons. Round 2 - Ryder Rowland (M/H-H) received a bye. Cons. Round 3 - Ryder Rowland (M/H-H) over Brayden Labore (Wessington Springs/Woonsocket/Wolsey-Wessington) (Dec 7-6). Cons. Semis - Riley Roberts (Wagner) over Ryder Rowland (M/H-H) (MD 17-6). 5th Place Match - Landon Smith (Bon Homme/Scotland/Avon) over Ryder Rowland (M/H-H) (Fall 1:44).  
**152 Hunter Brueggeman, 6th place** - Quarterfinals - Rylan Peck (Burke/Gregory) over Hunter Brueggeman (M/H-H) (Fall 3:44). Cons. Round 1 - Hunter Brueggeman (M/H-H) received a bye. Cons. Semis - Keegan Haider (Wessington Springs/Woonsocket/Wolsey-Wessington) over Hunter Brueggeman (M/H-H) (Fall 2:46). 5th Place Match - Koltter Kramer (Parkston) over Hunter Brueggeman (M/H-H) (Dec 2-0).  
**160 Logan Peterson, 6th place** - Quarterfinals - Grayson Hanson (Kimball/White Lake/Platte-Geddes) over Logan Peterson (M/H-H) (Fall 2:45). Cons. Round 1 - Logan Peterson (M/H-H) over Tyrus Bietz (Bon Homme/Scotland/Avon) (Fall 3:11). Cons. Semis - Gunnar Stephens (Burke/Gregory) over Logan Peterson (M/H-H) (TF 16-1 4:51). 5th Place Match - Carter Grohs (Wessington Springs/Woonsocket/Wolsey-Wessington) over Logan Peterson (M/H-H) (TF 16-1 3:31).  
**170 Tate Hoffman, 3rd place STATE QUALIFIER** - Champ. Round 1 - Tate Hoffman (M/H-H) received a bye. Quarterfinals - Tate Hoffman (M/H-H) over Eric Klanchnik (Wessington Springs/Woonsocket/Wolsey-Wessington) (Dec 3-1). Semifinals - Sam Kruger (Winner) over Tate Hoffman (M/H-H) (Fall 0:20). Cons. Semis - Tate Hoffman (M/H-H) over Logan Heidinger (Parkston) (Fall 4:03). 3rd Place Match - Tate Hoffman (M/H-H) over Holden Havlik (Kimball/White Lake/Platte-Geddes) (Fall 4:58).



## State qualifiers



Tate Hoffman



Kellan Hurd



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# Sports SCORE BOARD

**Varsity Girls' Basketball**  
**Miller High School vs. Faulkton High School**  
 February 16, 2021  
 Score: 27-57  
**Team:**  
 FG 8/26 30.8%, 3PT 2/14 14.3%, FT 5/8 62.5%, Assists 2, Rebounds 15, Steals 6, Turnovers 12, Fouls 9  
**Offense**  
 Tyra Gates: 6, FG 2/7, 3FG 0/1, FT 2/2  
 Morgan Kolda: 5, FG 2/12, 3FG 0/6, FT 1/2  
 Jaden Werdel: 5, FG 2/5, 3FG 1/3  
 Macie Werdel: 3, FG 1/4, 3FG 1/2  
 Journey Palmer: 3, FG 1/2, FT 1/2  
 Paige Werdel: 2, FG 1/2  
 Taya Pawlowski: 2, FT 1/1  
 Madelyn Saienga: 1, FT 1/2  
**Defense**  
 Rebounds: 15 (J. Werdel 4, Kolda 2, M. Werdel 1, Gates 1, Lammers 1, Schlechter 1, Blake 1, P. Werdel 1, Mullaney 1)  
 Assists: 2 (Gates 1, Kolda 1)  
 Steals: 6 (J. Werdel 3, Gates 1, P. Werdel 1, Saienga 1)

**Miller High School vs. Highmore-Harold High School**  
 February 18, 2021  
 Score: 51-46  
**Team:**  
 FG 10/25 40%, 3PT 6/21 28.6%, FT 13/23 56.5%, Assists 9, Rebounds 32, Steals 12, Turnovers 14, Fouls 14  
**Offense**  
 Morgan Kolda: 16, FG 5/14, 3FG 3/9, FT 3/6  
 Tyra Gates: 13, FG 3/11, 3FG 0/2, FT 7/8  
 Macie Werdel: 11, FG 4/8, 3FG 3/6  
 Ally Mullaney: 8, FG 3/6, FT 2/5  
 Jaden Werdel: 3, FG 1/6, 3FG 0/4, FT 1/4  
**Defense**  
 Rebounds: 32 (Mullaney 10, Gates 6, M. Werdel 4, Kolda 3, J. Werdel 2, Gibson 1, Blake 1)  
 Assists: 9 (Gates 5, M. Werdel 1, J. Werdel 1, Gibson 1, Mullaney 1)  
 Steals: 12 (Kolda 5, M. Werdel 3, J. Werdel 2, Gates 1, Lammers 1)

**Sunshine Bible Academy vs. Sully Buttes**  
 February 16, 2021  
 Score: 19-69  
**Team:**  
 FG 7/39, 3FG 1/15, FT 2/10, RB 26, Assists 6, Steals 6  
**Offense**  
 Taylor Nelson: 14, FG 6/8, FT 2/8  
 Addison Pearl: 5, FG 1/4, 3FG 1/4  
**Defense**  
 Rebounds: (Jakki Burma 4, Abby Haun 2, Shelby Bridges 3, Betra Amare 2, Taylor Nelson 6, Annaliese Van Zee 1, Liza Konecne 2, Lydia Lo 1)  
 Assists: (Jakki Burma 1, Abby Haun 2, Shelby Bridges 1, Taylor Nelson 1, Annaliese Van Zee 1)  
 Steals: (Abby Haun 3, Betra Amare 2)

**Sunshine Bible Academy vs. North Central**  
 February 19, 2021  
 Score: 33-55  
**Team:**  
 FG 12, FT 9/13  
**Offense**  
 Abby Haun: 8, FG 3, FT 2/3  
 Shelby Bridges: 3, FG 1/1, FT 1/1  
 Taylor Nelson: 16, FG 6, FT 4/4  
 Jakki Burma: 6, FG 2, FT 2/5

**Sunshine Bible Academy vs. Leola/Fredrick**  
 February 22, 2021  
 Score: 15-58  
**Team:**  
 FG 7/26, FT 1/4, RB 25, AST 10, Steals 4  
**Offense**  
 Abby Haun: 2, FG 1/6  
 Betra Amare: 2, FG 1/3  
 Taylor Nelson: 3, FG 1/7, FT 1/2  
 Jakki Burma: 6, FG 3/5  
 Annaliese VanZee: 2, FG 1/1  
**Defense**  
 Rebounds: (Abby Haun 1, Shelby Bridges 5, Betra Amare 1, Taylor Nelson 7, Jakki Burma 5, Addison Pearl 1, Annaliese VanZee 1, Liza Konecne 1)  
 Assists: (Taylor Nelson 1)  
 Steals: (Betra Amare 1, Jakki Burma 1, Addison Pearl 1, Sadie Konecne 1)

**Wolsey-Wessington vs. Hitchcock/Tulare**  
 February 18, 2021  
 Score: 58-57  
**Team:**  
 FG 16/46, 3PT 4/23, FT 14/23, RB 30, Assists 7, Steals 11  
**Offensive**  
 Leah Williams: 26, FG 7/21, FT 12/17  
 Macie Luze: 12, FG 5/9, FT 2/4  
 Mya Boomsma: 10, FG 2/7, 3FG 2/10  
 Hailey Clarke: 6, 3FG 2/3  
 Faith Nelsen: 4, FG 2/3,  
**Defensive**  
 Rebounds: (Leah Williams 2, Alyssa Hiles 2, Macie Luze 5, Mya Boomsma 5, Hailey Clarke 8, Faith Nelsen 5, Lainey Uttecht 3)  
 Assists: (Leah Williams 2, Macie Luze 1, Mya Boomsma 2, Lainey Uttecht 2)  
 Steals: (Leah Williams 2, Macie Luze 1, Mya Boomsma 1, Hailey Clarke 3, Faith Nelsen 2, Lainey Uttecht 2)

**Boys' Basketball**  
**Miller Seventh Grade Boys vs. Stanley County**  
 Feb 22, 2021  
 Score: 28-44  
**Team:**  
 FG 11, 3PT 1, FT 3/6  
**Offense**  
 Derek Brueggeman: 2, FG 1  
 Oliver Fritzsche: 3, FG 1, FT 1/2  
 Isaac Hunter: 7, FG 3, FT 1/2  
 Cole Cavenee: 9, FG 4, FT 1/2  
 Carter Fanning: 5, FG 1, 3FG 1  
 William Resel: 2, FG 1



Jaimi M. Lammers | The Miller Press | February 27, 2021

**ALLY MULLANEY** shoots one of her five free throws of the night in Highmore on February 18. The Rustlers' closed their regular season with a road win 51-46. The Lady Rustler's hosted Chamberlain Thursday, February 25 in Region 6A action after *The Miller Press* had gone to print for this issue. Watch next week for results of that game.



Jaimi M. Lammers | The Miller Press | February 27, 2021

**MILLER JUNIOR HIGH** boys' basketball players for the 2021 season are, back L-R: Assistant Coach Michael Ketchen, Gentry Harrell, Cole Cavenee, Eli Batin, Mathis Resel, Jesse Hughes, Coach Knute Reierson, and Statistician Hailey Huss. Middle, L-R: Hayden Huss, Terence Frueh, Derek Brueggeman, Isaac McKinstry, Isaak Hunter, and Sawyer Harrell. Front L-R: Oliver Fritzsche, Gage Wik, William Resel, Carter Fanning, Clay Stevens, and Joseph Baker.



Submitted | The Miller Press | Feb. 27, 2021

**THE MANY TWINS AND TRIPLETS** at Miller Elementary pose for the camera in the school hallway. Back row L-R: Lauryn and Chad Stevens (grade 2), Isabelle and Quinn Hurd (grade 3). Middle row L-R: Jake and Ally Gibson (grade 6), Natalie and Lillian Bower (grade 4). Front row L-R: Triplets Josephine, Cooper, and Tyrell Swartzendruber (grade 4), Kaleb and Tyffanie Myre (grade 1).

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