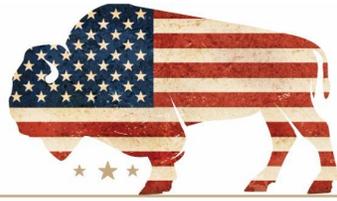


Buffalo Bytes



USTER
Black Hills

May 9, 2019

Quick Links

[Custer Chamber Website](#)

[Custer Chamber Facebook](#)

[Custer Chamber's Twitter](#)

[Custer Chamber's YouTube](#)

[Custer Chamber's Pinterest](#)

Chamber Staff

Dolsee Davenport
Executive Director
ddavenport@custersd.com

Dawn Murray
Office & Events Assistant
dmurray@custersd.com

Fred Baumann
Information Associate
fbauermann@custersd.com

Karen Heuer
Information Associate
kheuer@custersd.com

Pat Hattervig
Information Associate
phattervig@custersd.com

2019 Board of Directors

Steve Olson - President
John Stahl - VP
Amy Bailey - Treasurer
Amanda Allcock
Jim Ashmore
Diane Dennis
Steve Engelbrecht
Corey Virtue
Bobbi Schmidt

Custer Connections

Even though Mother Nature seems to be confused, the amount of traffic in town would sure indicate that it is in fact Spring, with Summer right around the corner. The traffic light at Crazy Horse is on, the amount of out-of-state license plates parked downtown has increased, and the number of visitors coming in to the Visitor Center has definitely gone up. The busy summer season is almost here!

This is a good time to remind your employees that the parking spots in front of your business should be left open for customers. If potential customers can't find an open parking spot near their intended destination, they are likely to keep driving-on to the next business or even the next town. Let's all work together, put our best foot forward as a community, and do whatever we can to give our visitors and customers the absolutely best experience while they're here.

Weekly Inspiration





Mixer Schedule

**Up-Coming
2019
Chamber
Mixers**

March 21 - Baker's Bakery
April 18 - Custer Hospitality
May 17 - Tesla Sound of Silence Meet & Greet
November 21 - Custer State Park
December 19 - Crazy Horse Memorial

Stay Connected

- Like us on Facebook
- Follow us on **twitter**
- View our videos on **You Tube**

Help Wanted



Now Hiring Full Time Seasonal Staff for our Heliports in Keystone and near Crazy Horse. Customer Service, Shuttle Drivers and Ground Crew. Exciting Environment. Always Happy Customers. Full Time is 4 days a week. Must be available weekends and holidays. People are our business - Flying is a Bonus! Stop by Black Hills Aerial Adventures 1 mile North of Crazy Horse for walk-in interview or call 605 673 2163.

Regional Health Care Center - Custer

is accepting applications for full time and part time Dietary Aides and Cooks. We offer year round employment with excellent benefits and competitive wages. For more information call 605-673-2237 ext17.

To apply go to

www.regionalhealth.org

Chamber Happenings

All Chamber members please join us for

MAY 16TH

RIBBON CUTTINGS

AT CHAMBER OFFICE

Craig Hindle Construction	3:00 pm
MakeShift Coaching and Consulting	3:15 pm
AJ Productions, LLC	3:30 pm
Dave's World Tours	3:45 pm

AT 25146 WAZI LANE

LaMonte's Auto **4:00 pm**

Lamonte's Auto will also be hosting a Customer Appreciation Day/Open House on May 16 from 1 pm-6 pm







Custer Hospitality

We are always hiring ridiculously awesome people like you. We think working at Custer Hospitality is one of the very best hotel jobs in the Black Hills. Sure, we're biased, but here's why. We offer competitive compensation and benefits packages, but the real difference is our company culture: one

that's based on trust, responsibility, empathy, and knowledge. It's the friendly, caring and helpful attitudes that exude from all levels of our team. It's the pride we take in our operations and community. Through the intuitive servicing of our guests, we help them fall in love with Custer, fostering a strong sense of connection. With an added personal touch of warm hospitality, our knowledgeable hotelier staff, skills bring a next level experience to our guests. We empower our team to be leaders in the hospitality industry and to bring their passion and pride to work every day.

We're looking for an enthusiastic and highly motivated individual who is passionate about delivering amazing customer service to join our team. We are hiring for the following positions.

**Holiday Inn Express & Suites
Assistant Manger**

Buffalo Ridge Adventure Manager

**All Positions at the Holiday Inn |
Comfort Inn | Best Western | Super 8 |
Econo Lodge**

- Housekeeping, Front Desk,
Laundry, Breakfast

Benefits offered:

- Competitive salaries based on experience
- Paid time off
- Health insurance
- Retirement benefits or accounts
- Employee discounts
- Workplace perks such as food/coffee and flexible work schedules

View all position on Custer Hospitality

**6TH ANNUAL
TESLA SOUND OF SILENCE
ROAD TRIP RALLY**

**May Mixer
May 17, 2019
5 pm- 7 pm
at Mt Rushmore Brewing Co.**



Area Meetings

General Government Committee Meeting -

May 13th, 2019 4:30 P.M.

Planning Commission Meeting -

May 14th, 2019 5:00 P.M.

Custer Economic Development

Monthly Meetings

2nd Wednesday at 7 am
YMCA

Custer City Council

Monthly Meetings

1st & 3rd Mondays at 6 pm
City Hall Council Chambers

Lions Club

Monthly Meetings

2nd Thurs. at noon
4th Thurs. at 5:30 pm
Pizza Works

Custer Rotary

Custer Meetings

Mondays at 12 pm
Custer Senior Center

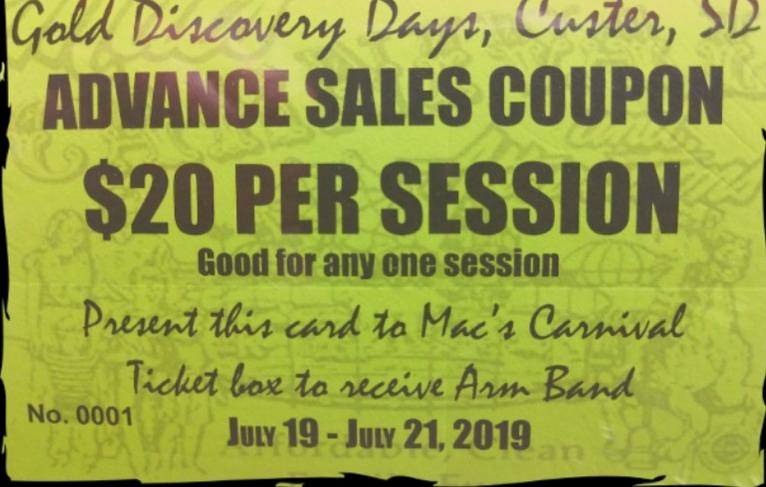
Quick Link

The 2019 Tesla Rally will be held May 17-19, 2019. We have some new exciting events occurring during this time. It would be great to offer some door prizes to showcase our amazing area businesses. If your business would like to donate a prize, please contact the Chamber at 605-673-2244 or info@custersd.com

2019 Sound of Silence Tesla Rally May 17-19



©Crazy Horse Memorial Foundation



GET YOUR WRISTBANDS EARLY!!!

2019 GOLD DISCOVERY DAYS CARNIVAL

Can be purchased at the Custer Area Chamber of Commerce

Some exciting Gold Discovery Sponsorship opportunities available this year!



Business Name:

Contact Person:

Address:

City, State, ZIP:

Phone:

Email:

Please check the following sponsorship opportunities that interest you:

Gold Discovery Days Sponsorship

- Mother Lode Sponsor- \$500+
- Gold Panner Sponsor- \$250
- Miner Sponsor- \$150
- Prospector Sponsor- \$75

Carnival Wrist Band Sponsor- \$20 each

*Purchase wristbands from Chamber to be given to area students in need.
(as identified by the Custer School District and the Custer YMCA)*

Wristbands _____ @ \$20= \$ _____

Gold Discovery Days Car Show Sponsor

- Event Sponsor- \$150

Invoice Immediately

Invoice Before Event

Total \$

*Please submit your company logo as you would like it presented in all event materials, to Dolsee at ddavenport@custersd.com

Please return form by **June 1, 2019**

Questions? Contact: Dolsee Davenport, Executive Director | ddavenport@custersd.com | 605-673-2244

Mail to: Custer Area Chamber of Commerce | PO Box 5018, Custer, SD 57730 | Fax: 605-673-3726

[Click for printable copy](#)

Welcome

New Members



Pleasant Valley Farm and Cabins LLC

Pleasant Valley Farm and Cabins, LLC
Heart of the Hills Catering Co.
MakeShift Coaching and Consulting
Chalet Motel
The Custer Beacon
Chapel in the Hills
WT Martin Services
Evergreen Media
Horatio's Homemade Ice Cream
Dave's World Tours



Membership has it's privileges!



**Join our members only Facebook group.
It is a great way to stay up to date and
share your events with others!**

Join our 2019 Members only Facebook Group
[Click here to join](#)

Chamber Board Meeting Minutes

[Click here for April minutes](#)

Area Events



FOR YOUTH DEVELOPMENT®
FOR HEALTHY LIVING
FOR SOCIAL RESPONSIBILITY

DECLUTTER DONATE & DUMP THE STUFF

**2019 Annual Y's Men Rummage Sale
CUSTER YMCA**

April 27 – May 2:

Drop off Your clean, gently used Rummage items at the Custer YMCA Grace Coolidge Memorial Log Building. If you have large items that need picked up or if you would like to drop off items early, please contact the Custer YMCA to make arrangements.

Friday, May 3, 6–9 PM:

Early Bird Entrance Fee – \$3 per person

May 4 – May 11: Free Admittance

Saturday May 4th: 8am – 5pm

Sunday May 5th: 12–5pm

M–F May 6th – 10th: 8am – 7pm

Saturday May 11th: 8am – 12pm

LOCATION: CUSTER YMCA
644 Crook Street
Custer SD 57730
605.673.5134
www.rcymca.org



11/22/17 04/12



Custer County Courthouse Art Gallery

420 Mount Rushmore Road, second floor

Custer, South Dakota

The Doescher &

Najacht Family Artists

Showcasing four generations of art.

May 1 - July 30, 2019

Reception: Wednesday, May 22, 4-6:00 PM

Reception refreshments
provided by Custer Senior Center.

Endorsed by Custer Area Arts Council

2

DENIAL

SOUTH DAKOTA

OPENING

MAY 2ND

We are still looking for kitchen help and waitstaff

call Tammi 605 440 1967

25

Living Treasures

The Native American
Educational and
Cultural Center*

Indian Arts Cultural
Exchange Program

**Basket Weaving,
Fiber Weaving,
Ethnobotany**

Saturday May 4 -

Friday, May 10 at 2:30 PM

**Gail White Eagle, and the
*Muckleshoot Family Weavers***

Enjoy a featured demonstration and workshop featuring Northwest Coast basket weaving, wool weaving and ethnobotany culture.



For a full schedule
of special programs
and events, visit
our website!



©Crazy Horse Memorial Fed.
Exhibit, in
1988 with model.

THE INDIAN MUSEUM OF NORTH AMERICA

CRAZY HORSE MEMORIAL®

LIKE US ON FACEBOOK · FOLLOW US ON TWITTER · CRAZYHORSEMEMORIAL.ORG
BETWEEN HILL CITY AND CUSTER | HWY 16/385 | 605.673.4681

Ladies' Spring-Time Tea and Fashion Show



*Senior Center
Saturday, May 11th
2:00PM
\$8.00*

*Savories, Scones, Sweets, Desserts
and Delicious Teas.*

*Fashion Show by
Doc & Alice of Rapid City
and*

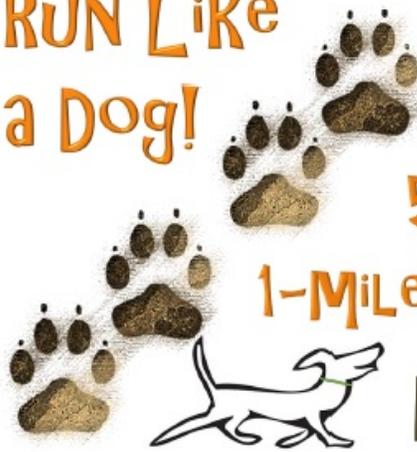
Rustic Chic of Custer

*Wear your favorite hat.
Door prizes will be given out.*

*Tickets now on sale at the Custer Senior
Center. Limited seating available.*



RUN Like
a Dog!



CUSTER
BARK PARK

5K Dog Jog &

1-Mile Mutt Strutt

May 11, 2019

BRING YOUR 4-LEGGED FRIENDS AND JOIN THE FUN!

PROCEEDS BENEFIT THE CUSTER BARK PARK

OPENING SUMMER 2019!

COST: \$25.00

SCHEDULE OF EVENTS – SATURDAY, MAY 11, 2019

- 8:00 am Registration Begins
The Custer Beacon – 3rd and Washington St.
- 9:00 am Run/Walk begins
Prizes for 1st, 2nd and 3rd place winners of 5k

REGISTER EARLY!

1st 100 REGISTRATIONS RECEIVE A COLLAPSIBLE DOG BOWL!

To Register, go to:

<https://bit.ly/2VbGSAk>

(www.raceentry.com & search "Custer")

Like us at: [facebook.com/custerbarkpark/](https://www.facebook.com/custerbarkpark/)

3RD ANNUAL

SATURDAY MAY 11TH, 4-7PM

AT ART EXPRESSIONS

CONTINUES TO JUNE 15

ART SHOW

SMALL PIECES

MINIATURE ARTWORK FITS INTO 8"X8" SPACE

ENTRIES ACCEPTED UNTIL MAY 10TH!

AWARDS IN MULTIPLE CATEGORIES

VOTE FOR YOUR FAVORITE!

WINNING ARTISTS ANNOUNCED DURING OPENING & CLOSING RECEPTIONS
SUBMIT ARTWORK AT ART EXPRESSIONS MAY 6TH-10TH, 2019
SEE OUR FACEBOOK PAGE FOR RULES AND DETAILS

Art Expressions
Gallery and Gifts
36 SOUTH 6TH STREET
CUSTER, SOUTH DAKOTA 57730
605-673-3467

25

The Spring 2019 CHS Senior Projects Class Cordially Invites You To Our

Senior Projects Community Open House

Monday, May 13th from 6:00 to 7:30 pm
Custer High School Commons

See what your CHS Seniors have been doing to make a difference in our community! Poster presentations by students give an overview of each project as you walk through the High School Commons.



The Hot Springs Concert Association's last concert for this season will be the HOLY ROCKA ROLLAZ group from Minneapolis.

Music from the '50s will be featured at the Mueller Center in Hot Springs on Monday, May 13, @ 7:30 p.m. The audience will hear the sounds of Elvis, Chuck Berry, Buddy Holly, Johnny Cash, and many other singing stars from that decade.



Custer City is updating its Comprehensive Plan and wants to hear from you!

Custer's Comprehensive Plan will be used to guide the long-term growth and development of the community in order to create a better future for all those who live, work, and visit Custer City.

Please make plans to attend an upcoming Visioning Meeting to help create a shared community vision for Custer City and give your input about the direction of its future growth.

> Visioning Meetings

Thursday, May 16, 2019

11:30 am - 1 pm **or**
5:30 - 7:00 pm

Pizza to be Served!

Pine Room @ Custer County
Library - 447 Crook Street

> Community Survey Results

Now available online at:

www.plancuster.com/survey
or at Custer City Hall



[Click here for survey](#)



Sunday, May 19, 4 PM
Crossroads Church of Custer
12480 US Highway 16A



Come and sing along to your favorite old-time hymns led by Allen & Jill Kirkham and the Crossroads Worship Team. We'll also be joined by Soul Quartet from Southern Hills Evangelical Free Church, Hot Springs.

Everyone is Welcome!

A special offering will be received for the new Camp Hallawasa.



**KINDERGARTEN ROUNDUP
AND
PRE - REGISTRATION**

**Monday – Wednesday May 20-22,2019
Children from the Custer Area**

**Roundup will be held at the
Custer Elementary School
1415 Wildcat Lane**

Call 673-4483

- WHO:** Parents and children turning 5 by Sept. 1, 2019 come at their chosen appointment time.
- WHAT:** A time to learn about child development and receive an evaluation of your child's strengths and needs. A nurse will be available to check vision and hearing. Please bring your child's updated immunization record and a certified birth certificate.
- WHEN:** May 20-22, 2019. Appointments are necessary. Please allow at least an hour. Call now to reserve a time.
- WHERE:** Custer Elementary School. Please enter the front of the school facing the high school.
- WHY:** To become acquainted with school staff; to learn what school programs are available, to have your child participate in a developmental/educational "check-up"; to confer with a kindergarten teacher; and to pre-register for kindergarten.
- If you have questions or wish to make an appointment, call 673-4483
 - Please pass the word to friends and co-workers with young children.
 - Attendance is especially important for children eligible to enter Kindergarten in the Fall of 2019.

Thank you for your interest and support!



**Customer Appreciation
and**

Anniversary Celebration

Anniversary Celebration

Please join us for a
Breakfast Open House

May 15th, 2019
8:30 AM—10:00 AM
Custer State Farm

FEATURING:



We want to celebrate our customers
current and future as well as Steve and team
being in Custer for **FIVE** years!

We'll have the big red tent set up out front and
everyone is welcome!

25



Outlaw Ranch will be hosting a Wilderness First Aid class through NOLS. This course is great for people of all experience levels, and is best suited for those who recreate outdoors where EMS response can be expected in a timely manner (fewer than eight hours). You'll learn the Patient Assessment System, how to provide effective first aid treatments for injuries and illnesses common in the outdoors, and how to make appropriate evacuation decisions. Upon successful course completion, you will earn the following NOLS Wilderness Medicine certifications: Wilderness First Aid and Epinephrine Auto-injector, both good for two years!

When: May 24-25, 2019 (Friday and Saturday)

Where: Outlaw Ranch

12703 Outlaw Ranch Rd

Custer, SD 57730

Cost: \$250 for commuters with no meals

\$330 for an overnight stay and 4 meals

Visit <https://www.nols.edu/portal/wmi/courses/14535/> for more information

Visit: <https://www.losd.org/wildernessfirstaid> to register

Please contact Camp Director, Matt Rusch, with any questions.
605-673-1014

Van and Rose Arp

in concert at the

Custer Senior Center



Enjoy Country Classics, '30s Jazz Standards

Tuesday, May 28th, at 6:30pm

Concert is free but donations are accepted.

9



Custer Senior Center

[Click here for May calendar](#)

Announcements



LINE MARKER

WE HAVE LINE MARKER FOR YOUR SPORTS FIELDS THAT IS PRODUCED
HERE IN THE BLACK HILLS...

\$7.50 A BAG OR \$6.00 A BAG FOR FULL 48 BAG PALLET...

FREE FOR CITY OF CUSTER SCHOOLS

PACER MINERALS LC

25429 US HWY 385 SOUTH

CUSTER, SOUTH DAKOTA 57730

605-673-4419 KIM@PACERMINERALS.COM

9

FREE

**Free black metal bookcase with glass doors and a gray metal desk
at Ketel Thorstenson. Call 673-3220, Monday- Thursday.**

Life Insurance Customer Satisfaction

Some days life goes really right.

State Farm Life Insurance Company
State Farm Life and Accident Assurance Company
(Residents of NY and WI only)

Celebrate the moments. Anticipate the years.

A lot of people think of life insurance as financial protection you just buy once. But in reality, life can change a lot over time. What won't change is a State Farm® agent's commitment to staying in touch, taking time to listen and being available to address your questions and concerns.

About the study.

The J.D. Power 2018 U.S. Life Insurance Study measures customer satisfaction with their current life insurer. Four key factors are evaluated to determine overall performance: interaction; price; policy offerings; annual statement and billing. The study is based on 5,391 responses. To learn more about how we performed, and view the findings of the Life Insurance Study, visit jdpower.com.

About J.D. Power.

- Established in 1968, J.D. Power is a marketing, consumer intelligence, and data and analytics company that represents the voice of the customer.
- J.D. Power provides insights and solutions in the areas of performance improvement, social media and customer satisfaction.
- The company's quality and satisfaction measurements are based on responses from millions of consumers annually.



**State Farm® has been awarded:
Highest in Customer Satisfaction among
Life Insurance Providers, 5 Years in a Row.
— J. D. Power**



2

Press Release

[Click for full press release](#)



A NON-PROFIT ORGANIZATION 501(c)(3)
1800 U.S. 18 By-pass

P. O. BOX 692
HOT SPRINGS, SD 57747-0692
news@mammothsite.org

PHONE: 605-745-6017
FAX: 605-745-3038
<http://www.mammothsite.org>

May 8, 2019

Contact: Bethany Cook, Public Relations Coordinator

NEWS RELEASE

Mother's Day: Care and Share at The Mammoth Site

Mother's Day, Sunday, May 12, 2019 visit The Mammoth Site for free with three non-perishable food items per person.

Enjoy Mother's Day at The Mammoth Site. Visitors are welcome to visit The Mammoth Site for *Free* on Sunday May 12, 2019 by bringing three non-perishable food items per person. Our goal this year is to raise 2,000 pounds of food to donate to the Hot Springs Food Pantry for KOTA Care and Share Food Drive. Additional cash donations will also be accepted. In honor of Mother's Day, The Mammoth Site will donate \$1.00 per regular paid admission.

The Mammoth Site is open 9:00 a.m. – 5:00 p.m. with the last tour leaving at 4:00 p.m. The Mammoth Site summer hours will begin on May 15, at 8:00 a.m. to 8:00 p.m. with the last tour leaving at 7:00 p.m.

The Mammoth Site is a 501(c)(3) Non-Profit Organization and the only Accredited Museum in the Black Hills. The Mammoth Site is also only one of three museums that is Accredited in South Dakota.

"In accordance with Federal law and U.S. Department of Agriculture policy, this institution is prohibited from discriminating on the basis of race, color, national origin, age, disability, religion, sex, familial status, sexual orientation, and reprisal." (Not all prohibited bases apply to all programs).

[Click here for full press release](#)



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Crazy Horse Memorial Foundation
Krista Knapp
605-673-4681
krista_knapp@crazyhorse.org

Muckleshoot Weavers are Living Treasures

Custer, SD— Basket weaving, wool weaving, and ethnobotany workshops highlight the Northwest Coast Muckleshoot family weavers, from May 4-10, for the new Living Treasures Indian Arts Cultural Exchange program. Visitors can join the 2:30 workshop each day in The Native American Educational and Cultural Center® where master artists will be sharing their skills and cultural knowledge, as well as selling their fine works of art. For more information, please visit

<https://crazyhorsememorial.org/visit/special-events/> or contact Lori Manning, Cultural Programs Manager, lori.manning@crazyhorse.org, phone 605-673-4681, ext. 286.

About Crazy Horse Memorial

Crazy Horse Memorial Foundation's mission is to honor, protect, and preserve the culture, traditions, and living heritage of the Indians of North America. The Memorial fulfills its mission by continuing the progress on the world's largest mountain sculpture, acting as a repository for Native American artifacts, arts and crafts through the INDIAN MUSEUM OF NORTH AMERICA® and the NATIVE AMERICAN EDUCATIONAL & CULTURAL CENTER®; by establishing and operating the INDIAN UNIVERSITY OF NORTH AMERICA®, and when practical, a medical training center for American Indians.



SOUTH DAKOTA DEPARTMENT OF GAME, FISH AND PARKS

13329 US HIGHWAY 16A | CUSTER, SD 57730

CONTACT: Laci Prucinsky, Custer State Park Naturalist
PHONE: (605) 255-4515
FAX: (605) 255-4460
E-Mail: Laci.Prucinsky@state.sd.us
DATE: April 29, 2019

For Immediate Release:

Custer State Park is preparing for the summer season again and our Visitor Center hours will vary through the middle of May. Currently, the Custer State Park Visitor Center is open from 9:00am to 4:00pm, the first movie shows at 9:30am and the last movie at 3:00pm.

The Visitor Center Theater will be closed for All Staff Orientation Thursday, May 9, Friday, May 10, and Monday, May 13. The building will be closed Tuesday, May 14.

Friday, May 17, the Visitor Center and the Wildlife Station Visitor Center will resume summer hours, 8:00am to 8:00pm.

A park entrance license is required to enter the park and can be purchased at the Park Office from 8:00am to 4:30pm during the week, or at the Visitor Center. The Visitor Center, located at the intersection of Hwy 16A and Wildlife Loop Road, is open from 9:00am to 4:00pm.

[Click here for full press release](#)

Jewel Cave 200 Mile Celebration & Reunion June 28-30, 2019



Jewel Cave National Monument 200-Mile Celebration & Reunion

Release Date: April 20, 2019

Contact: Patty Ressler, Black Hills Parks & Forests Association – pressler@blackhillsparks.org

Jewel Cave National Monument recently reached a milestone with 200 miles of passages discovered, and it currently ranks as the 3rd longest cave system in the world! To celebrate, Black Hills Parks & Forests Association and the Paha Sapa Grotto are partnering with Jewel Cave NM to host a 200-mile Celebration and Reunion. The event will take place Friday-Sunday, June 28-30, 2019 with most activities at Custer High School in Custer, SD.

Celebration activities include world class speakers discussing a variety of topics:

- Area geology and hydrology
- History of Jewel Cave exploration
- White Nose syndrome
- Cave mapping, exploration, and filming around the world

Exhibitors from public land agencies and public land partners will be set up to promote educational activities and sell unique products. There will be a BBQ dinner at Jewel Cave National Monument on Friday evening with special cave tours offered on a first come, first served basis. A banquet dinner will be held on Saturday evening featuring Keynote Speaker Dr. Hazel Barton, whose microbial research in cave environments has been featured world-wide. After the banquet, the Paha Sapa Grotto will host a mixer with "Speleolympics" at the Custer Beacon.

This celebration is open to the public. Registration is required to attend the speaker programs and Friday and Saturday evening activities. Early bird registration for all event activities is \$75/adult, \$40/youth 12 & under and ends April 30. Starting May 1, full registration is \$85/adult, \$50/youth. To learn more about the event and to register – please go to www.blackhillsparks.org/partners/jewel-cave-national-monument/.





[Click here for full press release](#)



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE: Thursday, April 11, 2019

CONTACT: Katlyn Richter, Global Media & Public Relations Director, South Dakota Department of Tourism, 605-773-3301

COUNTY AND REGIONAL TOURISM DATA RELEASED

PIERRE, S.D. - A recent study released by the Department of Tourism shows that 73% of counties in South Dakota saw increased visitor spending over 2017. This growth correlated with the South Dakota tourism industry's ninth straight year of record growth in 2018.

The detailed analysis from Tourism Economics, an Oxford Economics company, indicates a majority of visitor activity took place in Minnehaha, Pennington, Lawrence, Brown and Custer counties, making up 67% of all visitor spending in South Dakota.

The counties that experienced the largest year-over-year growth were Harding (27.4%), Hanson (25.4%), Sully (15.8%), Meade (10.9%), and Marshall (10%).

South Dakota's southeast region led the state in growth, increasing 3.6% over 2017. All four regions saw growth over 2017, with the percentage increases as follows:

Central Region (Missouri River Tourism Region): up 1.9%

Northeastern Region (Glacial Lakes & Prairies Region): up 1.4%

Southeastern Region (Southeast Tourism Region): up 3.6%

Western Region (Black Hills & Badlands Tourism Region): up 2%

"The impact these visitors have on communities across our state is significant. They come to enjoy the beauty of our open prairies, fish our pristine lakes and abundant rivers, hunt our bountiful fields and stand in awe at our memorials and monuments. These visitors support restaurants, marinas, hotels and attractions in communities large and small. The strong numbers prove once again that tourism is an incredibly important part of the South Dakota economy," said James Hagen, secretary of the Department of Tourism.

In 2018, total visitor spending in South Dakota reached \$3.98 billion, resulting in \$2.66 billion in GDP and more than \$298 million in state and local tax revenue.

To view the full Tourism Economics County & Region Level Impact Report, visit www.SDVisit.com.

The South Dakota Department of Tourism is comprised of Tourism and the South Dakota Arts Council. The department is led by Secretary James Hagen.

-30-

MEDIA NOTES:

- Source: Tourism Economics
- All stats reflect calendar year 2018 numbers over 2017 unless otherwise noted
- Full report can be found here on SDVisit.com: <https://sdvisit.com/research-reports/econ/2018-economic-impact-report>

Mark Your Calendar

May 16

Ribbon Cuttings Chamber Office-

Craig Hindle Construction 3 pm
MakeShift Coaching and Consulting 3:15 pm
AJ Productions 3:30 pm
Dave's WorlTours 3:45 pm

25416 Wazi Lane-
LaMonte's Auto 4 pm

May 17

Community Mixer

Mt Rushmore Brewing Co Event Center
5:00 pm - 7:00 pm

May 17-19

Tesla Rally

May 30

Ribbon Cuttings
Beginning at 2:30 pm

June 7-9

Off Road Rally

To View the 2019 Custer Area Chamber of Commerce Mixer
Schedule [Click Here](#)

[Click here to Check out the Custer School District Calendar for
upcoming school events!](#)

Humor of the Week



If you have an announcement you would like included in Buffalo Bytes, please email Dawn at: dmurray@custersd.com no later than 1:00pm each Wednesday. Thank you.

[Buffalo Bytes Terms & Conditions](#)

PO Box 5018
Custer, SD 57730

Stay Connected



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