

# WESTERN TRADER

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ISSUE NO. 33

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## Company’s sudden shutdown closes four newspapers in eastern South Dakota

By Mt

Four communities in South Dakota abruptly lost their newspapers this week, leaving more than 40,000 people without a local source of print news — at least in the near term.

Employees at the *Huron Plainsman*, *Redfield Press*, *Brookings Register* and *Moody County Enterprise*, which served the city of Flandreau, learned this week that operations would cease immediately.

“The decision was not made lightly,” read a letter from the papers’ Illinois-based parent company, News Media Corp. “Over the past months and years, we have explored every possible avenue to sustain our operations and preserve our team.”

An attempt to sell the company failed, the letter says, leaving the company in a financial position “where continuing business is no longer feasible.”

Last year, the company announced it would be purchased by Carpenter Media Group, which specializes in rural papers.

News Media Corp. will make “reasonable efforts” to deliver final paychecks, the letter says. Health insurance benefits “will be terminated effective August 6, 2025,” it says, referencing the day the letters were delivered.

The company’s website says it owns 31 newspapers across Arizona, Illinois, South Dakota, Nebraska and Wyoming, as well as six “shoppers,” which are freely distributed advertising publications. One such shopper, the *Payday*, was printed for Huron, on the same printing press used for the *Plainsman* and the *Redfield Press*.

An email to the company’s CEO, J.J. Tompkins, went unanswered. A message to the company’s informational email address came back undeliverable. A message to Carpenter Media Group on the hoped-for merger was not returned.

**‘Gut-punch’ for journalism**

The Wednesday announcements amount to “a real gut punch for community journalism in South Dakota,” according to South Dakota NewsMedia Association executive director Dave Bordewyk.

“I feel bad about it, I’m sad about it, and I’m mad about it,” said Bordewyk,

who lives in Brookings where the association is based.

Bordewyk said his immediate concerns are for the employees of the publications, particularly given the immediate loss of health insurance. Since his arrival as executive director in 1995, Bordewyk said he’s known of a few instances when a small-town paper announced an instant end to operations, but he can’t recall any immediate shutdown across multiple communities at once.

The suddenness also has implications for the communities served by the papers.

“It’s revenue, expenses, bottom lines, I get that,” said Bordewyk, who said around 40 South Dakota papers have closed since the mid-1990s, “but also in the newspapers, there’s a trust relationship with your community.”

“That trust has been broken here, and my hope is it can be restored,” Bordewyk said.

**Legal notice issues**

Ope Niemeyer, the Brookings mayor, lamented the closure notice. He said he understands that newspapers have faced challenges in the digital era, but that he wouldn’t expect a community the size of Brookings — with a population of nearly 25,000 — to lose a printed paper.

It’s especially difficult for Brookings, he said, because a local radio station laid off its news staff less than a year ago. Without the *Register*, Niemeyer wonders who will cover local news.

“It’s pretty much devastating for our community,” Niemeyer said.

The closures could create immediate legal problems for government entities like Niemeyer’s, as well.

Under state law, governments must designate an official legal newspaper for the publication of meeting minutes, ordinance changes, bids for goods and services and more, often on specific timelines.

State law expects local governments to find a paper within their county before looking outside of it. There are three weekly newspapers in Brookings County. The other counties affected by the closures have none.

Niemeyer said he’s already in conversations on how the city will handle its notices. If it comes down to

working with a weekly paper, he said, that could slow down the speed with which the city council can make decisions that require a certain number of days between the publication of a notice and a final decision.

“Most of the local communities only publish once a week, so we’d have to work around that,” Niemeyer said.

In an email to South Dakota Searchlight, Huron School District Superintendent Kraig Steinhoff said he was “saddened” to hear the news about the *Plainsman*. The paper’s coverage of students and sporting events in the district “celebrated the achievements of children and recognized the accomplishments of Huron School District employees, while also accurately reporting on the district’s business through bimonthly board meeting updates.”

The school board voted to retain the *Plainsman*’s designation as its legal newspaper last month.

“Over the years, I have heard from many people who lost their local newspapers comment on how fortunate Huron was to have a daily publication,” Steinhoff wrote. “It often seems that we don’t appreciate what we have until it is gone.”

**Future for local news**

Steinhoff also said he hopes “another company will take over the paper,” but that the district will have to learn to live without it if that doesn’t happen.

Benjamin Chase, the editor for the *Plainsman*, said Thursday that he and the publisher have already fielded calls from a handful of potential business partners who hope to keep the 140-year-old paper alive.

The “how, what and when” are still “being worked out,” Chase said, but “there were people who reached out right away.”

In a lengthy post on Facebook, Chase said his community of 14,500 needs a local news source. He also said he understands why people want to know about refunds on their subscriptions — his 90-year-old grandmother re-upped her annual subscription last week — but his thoughts are with the employees of the newsroom and printing shop, who didn’t know as of Thursday morning if they’d get their next paycheck.

The next scheduled payday is Friday, two days after



**CLOSED...FOR NOW** — A sign outside the offices of the Huron Plainsman signaling that the paper has ceased operations. Submitted Photo/JOHN HULT - SOUTH DAKOTA SEARCHLIGHT]

the letters arrived.

“Huron’s paper now has more than a dozen employees who are now wondering how they will feed their families the rest of THIS month,” Chase wrote on Facebook.

Chase said he’s spoken with employees about the possibility of signing up for Medicaid for health insurance.

Josh Linehan, editor of the *Brookings Register*, wrote a post for the Register’s Facebook page on Thursday afternoon about the closure.

Register employees, he said, did not get a letter on the closure. They only found out officially at 1 p.m. Thursday, and heard about it from the *Plainsman*’s publisher.

“It’s no secret that it’s tough times out there for all print media, and we’re no exception,” Linehan wrote on Facebook. “But make no mistake — we’re closed for now as a result of poor corporate management.”

Like Chase, Linehan told South Dakota Searchlight he’s “taking meetings” on the future of the newspaper. He believes the community can and would support a paper that’s been published under the *Register* banner since 1890.

“There’s absolutely no reason there’s not a newspaper here,” Linehan said.

**Other options for readers, governments**

Bordewyk said he’s fielded calls from local government officials asking about how to manage the situation with legal notices. He’s been telling them to “hold tight” and see if the communities involved can find ways to keep their print products alive.

There are precedents for communities stepping in. In Kingsbury County, the pub-

lisher ran a story in 2020 saying he would have to shut down two weekly papers without a buyer. The local economic development corporations purchased the business and launched a new paper with the help of volunteers. A similar situation played out in Winner last year.

Chase is hopeful that Huron will find a way to keep the local news flowing. The paper predates statehood, and at one point published as many as three editions a day.

In spite of the long-term trend of financial difficulties for local newspapers, some new operations have popped up in South Dakota cities.

Troy McQuillen of Aberdeen publishes two startup newspapers, the *Aberdeen Insider* and *Watertown Current*. Both were launched to fill a void left by staffing

cuts at local papers owned in each city by the nationwide Gannett newspaper chain.

“Here in Aberdeen the public has been incredibly supportive in terms of subscriptions, as have advertisers,” McQuillen said, adding that the *Watertown paper*, launched after the *Insider*, is starting to gain traction.

On Thursday, McQuillen took a call from the City of Redfield and agreed to begin printing its legal announcements in Aberdeen. He’s also had conversations about the possibility of stepping in to fill the void in the other impacted cities.

Meanwhile, The *Dakota Scout*, a three-year-old newspaper based in Sioux Falls, published a story Thursday afternoon saying it now plans to distribute its product in Brookings. The paper already distributes in Flandreau, and “will now include Brookings as part of its coverage area.”

John is the senior reporter for *South Dakota Searchlight*. He has more than 15 years experience covering criminal justice, the environment and public affairs in South Dakota, including more than a decade at the *Sioux Falls Argus Leader*.

*South Dakota Searchlight* is part of *States Newsroom*, the nation’s largest state-focused nonprofit news organization.

Pet of the Week



Meet Megatron! He is a 1-year old yellow lab with a lot of energy. He is neutered and up to date on shots. He knows some commands and is good with other dogs. Megatron is also good with cats and children.

All 'Pet of the Week' listings are available for adoption at the Battle Mountain Humane Society, 27254 Wind Cave Rd., Hot Springs, SD. 605-745-SAVE (7283)

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**SOUTHERN HILLS ANIMAL CLINIC**

Mon-Sat: 8:30am - 5:00pm  
Saturday 8:30 am - Noon - Sun: Closed

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BLACK HILLS EATS



**CUSTER EATS**

**BUGLIN' BULL**

RESTAURANT & SPORTS BAR

Sunday–Thursday  
11 a.m.–8 p.m.  
Friday–Saturday 11 a.m.–9 p.m.

**CALAMITY JANE'S**

Tuesday–Sunday  
7 a.m.–2 p.m.

**CUSTER BEACON**

Wednesday–Saturday  
4 p.m.–Close

**CUSTER COUNTY CANDY CO.**

Daily  
10 a.m.–8:30 p.m.

**CUSTER DELI**

Monday–Thursday 8 a.m.–4 pm  
Friday 8 a.m.–5 p.m.  
Saturday 9 a.m.–3 p.m.  
Sunday Closed

**CUSTER WOLF**

Monday–Saturday  
11:30 a.m.–8 p.m.  
Closed Sunday

**DAIRY QUEEN**

Monday–Saturday  
11 a.m.–8 p.m.  
Sunday 11 a.m.–7 p.m.

**DAKOTA BROASTED**

Tuesday–Saturday  
11 a.m.–6 p.m.

**FEEL GOOD CAFE**

Open Daily  
6:30 a.m.–11 a.m.

**FRONTIER BAR & GRILL**

Daily 11 a.m.–9 p.m.  
Closed Tuesday

**GOLD PAN SALOON**

11-2 a.m.  
Food 11-2 a.m.

**HJEM AM**

Wednesday–Friday  
8-11 a.m.  
Saturday & Sunday  
8 a.m.–Noon

**HORATIO'S HOMEMADE ICE CREAM**

Wednesday–Sunday  
12-9 p.m..  
Monday 12-7 p.m.

**LAUGHING WATER RESTAURANT**

Seven Days A Week  
10:30 a.m.–7 p.m.

**MARIA'S MEXICAN RESTAURANT**

Monday–Sunday  
7 a.m.-8:30 p.m..

**MINER'S CUP**

Monday–Saturday  
6:30 a.m.–1 p.m.

**MT. RUSHMORE BREWING CO.**

Taproom • Barrel Room  
11 a.m.-9 p.m.  
Pounding Fathers 4-9 p.m.

**PIZZA MILL**

Tuesday–Saturday  
11 a.m.-7 p.m.  
Delivery Fri & Sat 4-6 p.m.

**BLACK HILLS BURGER & PIZZA CO.**

Tuesday–Saturday  
11 a.m.–2:30 p.m.  
Wednesday–Friday 5–7:30 p.m.

**SKOGEN KITCHEN**

Tuesday–Saturday  
5–8 p.m.

**SUBWAY RESTAURANT**

Monday–Saturday  
8 a.m.–9 p.m.  
Sunday 8 am.–8 p.m.

**HILL CITY EATS**

**ALPINE INN**

Lunch 11-2:30 p.m.  
Dinner Mon-Thurs 5-9 p.m.  
Fri & Sat 5-9:30 p.m.  
Sunday Closed

**ALL ABOARD**

Monday–Saturday  
11 a.m.–8 p.m.  
Sunday  
11 a.m.–7 p.m.

**HILL CITY CAFE**

Monday–Saturday  
6 a.m.–8 p.m.  
Sunday  
7 a.m.–7 p.m.

**CABOOSE COFFEE COMPANY**

Monday–Saturday  
7 a.m. – Noon  
Sunday Closed

**CHUTE ROOSTER**

Thursday–Monday  
11 a.m.– 9 p.m.  
Sunday 10 a.m. –6 p.m.

**DOWNTOWN DELI AND BAKERY**

Monday –Saturday  
8 a.m. - 3 p.m.  
Closed Sundays

**GOLD RUN CAFÉ**

Sunday–Thursday  
8 a.m.–2 p.m,  
Friday–Saturday  
10 a.m.–3:30 p.m.

**HEART OF THE HILLS EXXON**

Daily 5 a.m.–Midnight

**HIGH-LINER EATERY AT 1880 TRAIN**

Daily 8 am - 5 pm

**PRAIRIE DOG TAPROOM**

Every Day but Tuesday  
11 a.m.– 9 p.m.

**SICK-N-TWISTED**

Thursday–Monday  
11 a.m.–8 p.m.

**SILVER DOLLAR SALOON**

Monday–Thursday  
1–10 p.m.  
Friday–Sunday Noon–10 p.m.

**TIN CITY SALOON**

Sunday–Thursday 11 a.m.–9 p.m.  
Friday & Saturday 11 a.m.–11 p.m.

**CRAVING SOMETHING NEW?**

Dive into the vibrant local food scene with Black Hills Eats! Whether you're hunting for the best burger in town, a cozy café for your morning fix, or a hidden gem for date night, we've got your next meal covered. And for our local eateries — this is your space to shine and bring your flavors to the community!

**LET'S EXPLORE!**

**THREE FORKS BAR, GRILLE & CASINO**

Daily 11 a.m.–7 p.m.

**TURTLE TOWN**

Sunday–Thursday  
10 a.m.–4 p.m.  
Friday–Saturday  
9 a.m.–5 p.m.

**HERMOSA EATS**

**CORNER PANTRY DELI**

Daily 6 a.m.–8 p.m.

**LINTZ BROS. PIZZA**

Thursday–Monday  
3–9 p.m.

**HERMOSA SENIOR CITIZENS CENTER**

Monday–Thursday  
Noon–close

**79 LOUNGE**

Daily 11 a.m.–6 p.m.

**LAZY R BAR & GRILL**

Tuesday–Saturday  
4-9 p.m.

**KEYSTONE EATS**

**BIG THUNDER BAR & GRILL**

Open Daily  
11 a.m.–7 p.m.  
308 1st Street  
605-666-GOLD

**CARVER'S CAFE @ MT. RUSHMORE**

8 a.m.–4:30 p.m.

**CRUIZZERS PIZZA**

Daily  
10 a.m.–10 p.m.

**ENO'S PIZZA & PUB**

Monday–Thursday  
11 a.m.–9 p.m.  
Friday–Sunday 11 a.m.–10 p.m.

**KEYSTONE PUB GRUB**

Daily  
11 a.m.–8 p.m.

**RUBY HOUSE**

Daily  
11 a.m.–9 p.m.

**SPROCKETS FUN FOUNDRY**

Daily  
10 a.m.–10 p.m.

**TURTLE TOWN**

Monday–Saturday  
10 a.m.–6 p.m.  
Sunday 10 a.m.– 5 p.m.

**XANTERRA@MT. RUSHMORE**

Daily 8 a.m.– 9 p.m.

**HOT SPRINGS EATS**

**AMERICAN LEGION**

Monday–Saturday  
10 a.m.–Close

**DAIRY QUEEN**

Daily  
10:30 a.m.–9 p.m.

**MORNIN' SUNSHINE**

Monday–Saturday  
7 a.m.–2 p.m.  
Sunday 7 a.m.–1 p.m.

**PIZZA HUT**

Monday–Saturday  
11 a.m.–9 p.m.

**SILK ROAD EXPERIENCE**

Thursday–Saturday  
3-7 p.m.

**SOUTHERN HILLS DINER & BAKERY**

Thursday–Monday 8 a.m.–2 p.m.  
Tuesday & Wednesday Closed

**SOUTHERN HILLS GOLF COURSE**

Daily 7 a.m.–8 p.m.

**SPRINGS COFFEE KIOSK**

Mon–Fri 5:30 a.m.–4:30 p.m.  
Saturday 5:30 a.m.–2 p.m.  
Sunday 5:30 a.m.–Noon

**TACO JOHN'S**

Monday–Saturday  
7 a.m.–9 pm.  
Sunday 8 a.m.–8 p.m.

**THE KITCHEN INK**

High Season  
Monday–Saturday  
6:30 a.m.–8 p.m.  
Sunday 9 a.m.–3 p.m.

**TWO COWS CREAMERY & BISTRO**

Monday–Thursday 11 a.m.–8 p.m.  
Friday & Saturday 11 a.m.–9 p.m.  
Sunday 11 a.m.–7 p.m.

**HEAVEN SCENT BAKERY**

Wednesday–Monday  
10 a.m.–5 p.m.

**WANDERING BISON COFFEE**

Mon, Tues, Thurs 7 a.m.-3 p.m.  
Friday & Saturday 3-6 p.m.  
Sunday 8 a.m.-3 p.m.

**WINNER'S CIRCLE**

Sun–Thurs 10 a.m.–8:45 p.m.  
Fri & Sat 10 a.m.-9:45 p.m.

**WHISKEY RIVER**

Wed-Sat 8 a.m.-8:30 p.m.  
Sunday 9 a.m.-3 p.m.  
Closed Monday–Tuesday

**EDGEMONT EATS**

**IGLOO BAR**

Daily  
9 a.m.– 12 a.m.  
Friday & Saturday  
9 a.m. – 2 a.m.

**KHANTONG THAI CUISINE**

Monday–Wednesday–Friday  
11 a.m.– 4:30 p.m.

**THE HAT CREEK GRILL**

Friday & Saturday  
Noon– 10 p.m.

**VICTORY STEAKHOUSE & LOUNGE**

Tues–Sat 11 a.m.–9 p.m.

**YESWAY**

Monday–Saturday  
6 a.m.–9 p.m.  
Sunday 8 a.m.–9 p.m

**YESWAY #1174**

Daily  
Open 24 hours

**NEWCASTLE EATS**

**BOOPA'S**

Tuesday–Friday  
7 a.m.–2 pm  
Saturday  
7 a.m.–10 a.m.

**DONNA'S MAIN ST. DINER**

Daily  
6 a.m.–2 p.m.

**KAFFEE KLATSCH**

Mon–Wed 5:30 a.m.–12:30 p.m.  
Tues, Thurs, Fri.  
5:30 a.m. - 1 p.m.  
Saturday 6:30 a.m.-10:30 a.m.

**CAMBRIA COFFEE & DECKER'S MARKET**

Monday–Friday 7 a.m.–5 p.m.  
Saturday 7 a.m.–2 p.m.  
Sunday 8 a.m.–Noon

**HOT STUFF PIZZA**

Daily  
5 a.m. - 6 p.m.

**TACO JOHN'S**

Daily  
11 a.m.–10 p.m.

**HANNAH'S HEAVENLY TREATS**

Tues - Fri 7 a.m.– 2 p.m.  
Saturday 7 a.m.- 10 a.m.

**HOWDY BAKERY**

Thursday, Friday, Saturday  
8 a.m.-6 p.m.  
Saturday 9 a.m.–4 p.m.

**HI-16 CAFE**

Thursday–Sunday  
7 a.m.–9 p.m.

**ISABELLA'S**

Sunday–Wednesday  
11 a.m.–8 p.m.  
Tuesday - Saturday  
11 a.m. - 9 p.m.

**PERKINS TAVERN**

Monday–Wednesday  
11 a.m.–8 p.m.  
Thursday - Sunday  
7 am - 9 pm

**PIZZA BARN**

Monday–Thursday  
4–9 pm  
Friday & Saturday  
4–10 pm

**UNCLE VITO'S**

Tuesday–Friday  
7 a.m.–2 p.m.  
Saturday  
7 a.m.–10 a.m.

**PRINGLE EATS**

**THE HITCHRAIL BAR & RESTAURANT**

Tuesday–Sunday  
11 a.m.–8 p.m.

**RAPID CITY EATS**

**SHIPWRECK'S BAR & GRILL**

Monday–Wednesday  
11 a.m.–8 p.m.

**YOUR SUPPORT MAKES A DIFFERENCE.**

Without our READERS, SUBSCRIBERS & ADVERTISERS we would not exist.

We strive to give the best LOCAL COVERAGE you will not get anywhere else except in our newspapers.

We believe in FREEDOM OF THE PRESS.

We are not corporately owned. The Custer County Chronicle has been a privately owned & independent publication in Western South Dakota for 143 years, est. in 1880.

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BLACK HILLS

Live

LIVE MUSIC - LOCAL EVENTS

Wednesday 8-13

**Men's Breakfast Bible Study**  
The Little White Church  
Hill City, SD  
7:30 AM

**Driver's License Exams**  
Custer County Courthouse  
Annex Pine Room  
Custer, SD  
8 AM to 5 PM

**Seniors Bridge Card Games**  
Hill City Center  
Hill City, SD  
10 AM - 3 PM

**Vitalant Blood Drive**  
**Sponsored By The Hill City Lions Club**  
Hill City Center  
Hill City, SD  
1:30-5:30 PM

**Pool & Pizza Party**  
Custer City Pool  
Custer, SD  
5-8 PM

**Park Board Meeting**  
Hill City Center  
Hill City, SD  
6 PM

**Bingo**  
Custer Beacon  
Custer, SD  
6:30 PM

**Pringle AA Group**  
Custer Alano Club  
Custer, SD  
7 PM

Thursday 8-14

**Seniors Fitness Class**  
Hill City Center  
Hill City, SD  
9 AM

**Mahjongg**  
Hill City Center  
Hill City, SD  
10 AM

**Mindful Moments**  
Custer County Library  
Custer, SD  
10 AM

**Seniors Hand & Foot Card Games**  
Hill City Center  
Hill City, SD  
1 PM

**Friends of Bill W. AA Group**  
Bethesda Lutheran Church  
Hot Springs, SD  
6 PM

**Civil Air Patrol**  
Custer County Airport  
Custer, SD  
6:30 PM

**Bluegrass Jam**  
The Gaslight Restaurant  
Rockerville, SD  
6:30 PM

**Custer AA Group**  
Custer Alano Club  
Custer, SD  
7 PM

**A Brother's Fountain *LIVE***  
Custer Beacon  
Custer, SD  
7 PM

Friday 8-15

**Custer Crazy Days**  
Custer, SD

**Seniors Coffee Club**  
Hill City Center  
Hill City, SD  
9 AM

**Community Food Pantry**  
The Little White Church  
Hill City, SD  
9-11 AM

**Storytime**  
Hill City Public Library  
Kids Annex  
Hill City, SD  
9:30 AM

**Wellness Support Group**  
Monument Health  
Custer Hospital  
Custer, SD  
2 PM

**Chick Chat and Crafts**  
The Little White Church  
Hill City, SD  
4 PM

**Friday Nighters *LIVE***  
Heartland RV Park  
Hermosa, SD  
6 PM

**Musical Bingo**  
Custer Beacon  
Custer, SD  
6 PM

**Canyon Tramps Duo (Kevin Killion) *LIVE***  
Prairie Dog Taproom  
Hill City, SD  
7 PM

Saturday 8-16

**Custer Crazy Days and Community-Wide Rummage Sale**  
Custer, SD



**THURSDAY AT THE BEACON** — A Brother's Fountain will take the stage at the Custer Beacon this Thursday evening as the Beacon reopens following its summer break. A Brother's Fountain is a Colorado-based band with a folk-inspired sound you always wanted to hear, but never knew existed. Some categorize them as Indie Folk. Others call them an Americana band. A Brother's Fountain knows they belong to a genre all its own: Campfire Folk. Songs range from rowdy and anthemic to reflective, laid-back sing-alongs. Keep an ear out to hear their trademark "gang vocals" that invite the listener to throw their voice into the anthem. [\[Submitted Photo\]](#)

**Buffalo Gap Community Breakfast**  
Buffalo Gap  
Community Center  
Buffalo Gap, SD  
8-10 AM

**Farmer's Market**  
Way Park  
Custer, SD  
8 AM - 12:30 PM

**Friends of Bill W. AA Group**  
Bethesda Lutheran Church  
Hot Springs, SD  
10 AM

**Custer AA Group**  
Custer Alano Club  
Custer, SD  
10 AM

**LWC Summer Adventure: Devil's Bathtub**  
Parking Area 1917 Spearfish Canyon Hwy.  
Lead, SD  
10 AM - 4 PM

**Ham Radios in the Park**  
Butler Park  
Hot Springs, SD  
Noon

**Magic: The Gathering | Commander Night**  
Sprockets Fun Foundry  
Keystone, SD  
4-8 PM

**Hill City Lions Club Back To School Bingo**  
Hill City Center  
Hill City, SD  
5 PM

**AA Meeting**  
Keystone Senior Center  
Keystone, SD  
6 PM

**Rocky Mountain Elk Mountain Foundation Southern Hills Chapter Banquet**  
Custer Beacon  
Custer, SD  
6 PM

**Greg Johnson & Friends *LIVE***  
Heartland RV Park  
Hermosa, SD  
6 PM

**Jalan Crossland *LIVE***  
Prairie Dog Taproom  
Hill City, SD  
7 PM

Sunday 8-17

**Women's 12-Step Recovery**  
Custer Alano Club  
Custer, SD  
10:15 AM

**1880 Train Old West Shootout**  
1880 Train  
Hill City, SD  
5 PM



**SATURDAY AT THE PRAIRIE DOG** — Jalan Crossland will perform at The Prairie Dog Taproom this Saturday, Aug. 16 at 7 p.m. Crossland is nationally acclaimed by audiences, critics, and his musical peers as being a premier acoustic guitarist, banjo player, singer-songwriter, and engaging showman. [\[Submitted Photo\]](#)

Monday 8-18

**Community Food Pantry**  
The Little White Church  
Hill City, SD  
9 AM - 11 AM

**Seniors Yoga**  
Hill City Center  
Hill City, SD  
9:30 AM

**Seniors Share-a-Lunch**  
Hill City Center  
Hill City, SD  
11:30 AM

**Custer Rotary Club**  
Custer Senior Center  
Custer, SD  
Noon

**Chick Chat and Crafts**  
The Little White Church  
Hill City, SD  
4 PM

**Pringle Volunteer Fire Department Meeting**  
Pringle Community Center  
Pringle, SD  
5 PM

**The Bookuquet Book Club "The Great Alone"**  
Petals & Pages  
Custer, SD  
5-6:30 PM

**Rushmore Rodeo at Palmer Gulch**  
Palmer Gulch KOA  
Hill City, SD  
6 PM

Tuesday 8-19

**Seniors Fitness Class**  
Hill City Center  
Hill City, SD  
8:30-9:30 AM

**Seniors Hand & Foot Card Games**  
Hill City Center  
Hill City, SD  
1-4:30 PM

**Celebrate Recovery**  
The Little White Church  
Hill City, SD  
5:45 PM

**Trivia Night**  
Cohort Brewing  
Hill City, SD  
6 PM

**Hermosa Town Board**  
Hermosa Town Hall  
Hermosa, SD  
6 PM

**Friends of Bill W. AA Meeting**  
Bethesda Lutheran Church  
Hot Springs, SD  
6 PM

**Sandstone Singers *LIVE***  
Custer Senior Center  
Custer, SD  
6:30 PM

**Bingo Night**  
Gold Pan Saloon  
Custer, SD  
6:30 PM

**Custer AA Group**  
Custer Alano Club  
Custer, SD  
7 PM

Wednesday 8-20

**Driver's License Exams**  
Custer County Courthouse  
Annex Pine Room  
Custer, SD  
8 AM to 5 PM

**Custer County Commission**  
Custer County Courthouse  
Custer, SD  
8 AM

**Seniors Bridge Card Games**  
Hill City Center  
Hill City, SD  
10 AM - 3 PM

**Deb Hanagan Presentation on 1881 Courthouse Museum**  
Custer Senior Center  
Custer, SD  
11 AM

**Custer Area Chamber of Commerce Board Meeting**  
Custer School District Administration Building  
Custer, SD  
1 PM

**Custer Elementary School Open House**  
Custer Elementary  
Custer, SD  
3-5 PM

**Hermosa School Open House**  
Hermosa School  
Hermosa, SD  
3-5 PM

**Custer Jr./Sr. High School Open House**  
Custer Elementary  
Custer, SD  
4-6 PM

**Vinyl Record Club**  
Custer County Library  
Custer, SD  
5:30 PM

**Keystone Town Board Meeting**  
Keystone Community Center  
Keystone, SD  
6 PM

**Bingo**  
Custer Beacon  
Custer, SD  
6:30 PM

**Pringle AA Group**  
Custer Alano Club  
Custer, SD  
7 PM

**Fairburn Town Board**  
Fairburn Civic Center  
Fairburn, SD  
7 PM

Thursday 8-21

**Seniors Fitness Class**  
Hill City Center  
Hill City, SD  
9 AM

**Mahjongg**  
Hill City Center  
Hill City, SD  
10 AM

**Seniors Hand & Foot Card Games**  
Hill City Center  
Hill City, SD  
1 PM

**Custer County Democrats Monthly Business Meeting**  
Custer County Courthouse  
Annex Pine Room  
Custer, SD  
6 PM

**Friends of Bill W. AA Group**  
Bethesda Lutheran Church  
Hot Springs, SD  
6 PM

**Civil Air Patrol**  
Custer County Airport  
Custer, SD  
6:30 PM

**Collin Donley *LIVE***  
Prairie Dog Taproom  
Hill City, SD  
7 PM

**Custer AA Group**  
Custer Alano Club  
Custer, SD  
7 PM

**Paul Bogart *LIVE***  
Custer Beacon  
Custer, SD  
7:30 PM

Friday 8-22

**Community Food Pantry**  
The Little White Church  
Hill City, SD  
9-11 AM

**Community Kid's Clothing Closet by Love, Inc.**  
The Little White Church  
Hill City, SD  
2-6 PM

**Friday Nighters *LIVE***  
Heartland RV Park  
Hermosa, SD  
6 PM

**Abbey Leach and Band *LIVE***  
Prairie Dog Taproom  
Hill City, SD  
7 PM

**Barn Dance Featuring Dakota Country Band *LIVE***  
Chute Rooster  
Hill City, SD  
8 PM (\$10 cover)

Saturday 8-23

**Farmer's Market**  
Way Park  
Custer, SD  
8 AM - 12:30 PM

**Community Kid's Clothing Closet by Love, Inc.**  
The Little White Church  
Hill City, SD  
8 AM -12 PM

**Friends of the Library Informational Meeting**  
Custer County Library  
Custer, SD  
10 AM

**Friends of Bill W. AA Group**  
Bethesda Lutheran Church  
Hot Springs, SD  
10 AM

**Custer AA Group**  
Custer Alano Club  
Custer, SD  
10 AM

**Mike Pennington Benefit Poker Run**  
Custer VFW Post 3442  
Custer, SD  
Registration 10 AM  
Ride Begins at 11 AM

**Adult Macrame Program**  
Hill City Public Library  
Kids Annex  
Hill City, SD  
11 AM - 1 PM

**Magic: The Gathering | Commander Night**  
Sprockets Fun Foundry  
Keystone, SD  
4-8 PM

**Mike Pennington Benefit**  
Custer VFW  
Custer, SD  
4-10 PM

**Chess Club**  
Pringle Town Hall  
Pringle, SD  
5-7 PM

**Greg Johnson & Friends *LIVE***  
Heartland RV Park  
Hermosa, SD  
6 PM

**Sam Grow *LIVE***  
Prairie Dog Taproom  
Hill City, SD  
7 PM

Sunday 8-24

**Women's 12-Step Recovery**  
Custer Alano Club  
Custer, SD  
10:15 AM

**4th Sunday Dinner**  
The Little White Church  
Hill City, SD  
11:30 AM - 1 PM

**Hermosa Duck Races**  
Lintz Ranch  
13937 Hwy. 36  
Hermosa, SD  
Potluck Noon  
Duck Races 1 PM

Monday 8-25

**First Day of School in the Custer School District**

**Community Food Pantry**  
The Little White Church  
Hill City, SD  
9 AM - 11 AM

**Seniors Yoga**  
Hill City Center  
Hill City, SD  
9:30 AM

**Custer Rotary Club**  
Custer Senior Center  
Custer, SD  
Noon

**Heart of the Hills Quilters Sew On Your Own**  
Super 8 Conference Room  
Hill City, SD  
1-3 PM

**Chick Chat and Crafts**  
The Little White Church  
Hill City, SD  
4 PM

Friday 8-29

**Seniors Coffee Club**  
Hill City Center  
Hill City, SD  
9 AM

**Community Food Pantry**  
The Little White Church  
Hill City, SD  
9-11 AM

**Storytime**  
Hill City Public Library  
Kids Annex  
Hill City, SD  
9:30 AM

**Friday Nighters *LIVE***  
Heartland RV Park  
Hermosa, SD  
6 PM

**Hermosa Connects**  
Hermosa Coffee House  
Hermosa, SD  
6 PM

**Mile High Garden Club**  
Custer County Courthouse  
Annex Pine Room  
Custer, SD  
6 PM

Tuesday 8-26

**Seniors Fitness Class**  
Hill City Center  
Hill City, SD  
8:30-9:30 AM

**Zonta**  
Custer County Library  
Custer, SD  
1 PM

**Seniors Hand & Foot Card Games**  
Hill City Center  
Hill City, SD  
1-4:30 PM

**Celebrate Recovery**  
The Little White Church  
Hill City, SD  
5:45 PM

**Trivia Night**  
Cohort Brewing  
Hill City, SD  
6 PM

**Friends of Bill W. AA Meeting**  
Bethesda Lutheran Church  
Hot Springs, SD  
6 PM

**Bingo Night**  
Gold Pan Saloon  
Custer, SD  
6:30 PM

**Custer AA Group**  
Custer Alano Club  
Custer, SD  
7 PM

Wednesday 8-27

**Seniors Bridge Card Games**  
Hill City Center  
Hill City, SD  
10 AM - 3 PM

**Bingo**  
Custer Beacon  
Custer, SD  
6:30 PM

**Pringle AA Group**  
Custer Alano Club  
Custer, SD  
7 PM

Thursday 8-28

**Seniors Fitness Class**  
Hill City Center  
Hill City, SD  
9 AM

**Mahjongg**  
Hill City Center  
Hill City, SD  
10 AM

**Seniors Hand & Foot Card Games**  
Hill City Center  
Hill City, SD  
1 PM

**Elementary Open House Grilling on the Green**  
Hill City Elementary School  
Hill City, SD  
5-6:30 PM

**Life Struggles Suicide Prevention Group**  
Custer VFW  
Custer, SD  
6 PM

**Friends of Bill W. AA Group**  
Bethesda Lutheran Church  
Hot Springs, SD  
6 PM

**Civil Air Patrol**  
Custer County Airport  
Custer, SD  
6:30 PM

**Custer AA Group**  
Custer Alano Club  
Custer, SD  
7 PM

**A-Mac & The Height *LIVE***  
Custer Beacon  
Custer, SD  
7:30 PM

Friday 8-29

**Seniors Coffee Club**  
Hill City Center  
Hill City, SD  
9 AM

**Community Food Pantry**  
The Little White Church  
Hill City, SD  
9-11 AM

**Storytime**  
Hill City Public Library  
Kids Annex  
Hill City, SD  
9:30 AM

**Friday Nighters *LIVE***  
Heartland RV Park  
Hermosa, SD  
6 PM

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