

# Alumni Magazine

Fall 2016



## Sarah Eagle Heart, '99

*CEO of Native Americans in Philanthropy*

Applying lessons learned at BHSU  
to a new challenge.

Donors support students

| 2016 Swarm Days

| Yellow Jacket National Champions

Photo Courtesy of Jesse Short Bull

Greetings BHSU Alumni,

Each student who crosses the stage at commencement has a story. Perhaps they come from a long line of Yellow Jackets, one of many family members who've attended their alma mater. Or maybe their own college graduation is the first they've ever attended, being the first in their family to graduate from college. At BHSU we celebrate each of these stories. We are thrilled to be part of each student's journey.

Being the University we are, located where we are, Native American programs are very important to us and our region. Nearly 6 percent of our University population in Spearfish and 9 percent in Rapid City is Native. As a University community we are especially called to help Native American students bridge the transition from high school to college. When students arrive on campus at Black Hills State, we want them to know they've arrived at their home away from home.

And speaking of coming home, I hope you will join us for Swarm Days this fall as we celebrate the amazing traditions of BHSU. Do you remember hiking to the H or making a float for the parade? Those are just a few of the traditions that remain strong at your University.

Look on the next page of this magazine to find the Open House dates at BHSU. If you know a soon-to-be college student, share your BHSU experience with them. Invite them to visit us so they too can experience the Yellow Jacket family.

Dr. Tom Jackson, Jr., President  
Black Hills State University



Nichole Tippmann, Class of 2016  
Bachelor of Science in Outdoor Education

# Upcoming **BHSU** Alumni Gatherings

## 2006 FOOTBALL TEAM RECOGNIZED ON THE 10TH ANNIVERSARY OF THEIR DAC-10 CHAMPIONSHIP - SEPTEMBER 17, 2016

Members of the 2006 BHSU football team are invited back to campus to celebrate the team's 10th anniversary of their DAC-10 championship. The gathering is being held in conjunction with the Yellow Jackets football home opener against Dixie State University. If interested in participating in this gathering or for more information, contact Tom.Wheaton@BHSU.edu or (605) 642-6385.

## THE 1979 - 1982 FOOTBALL TEAM REUNION - OCTOBER 1, 2016

The 1979, '80, '81, and '82 football teams are invited back for a reunion in honor of their head football coach Gene Schlekeway. For more information about this reunion, please contact Gene Schlekeway at normagene52@gmail.com, Tom.Wheaton@BHSU.edu or (605) 642-6385.

## 25TH ANNUAL ALUMNI MILE REUNION - JANUARY 20 & 21, 2017 (SPONSORED BY THE STADIUM SPORTS GRILL, JOHN AND JO HECK AND CLAIR DONOVAN)

Saturday, January 21, 2017, marks the 25th anniversary of the BHSU Alumni Mile run. Former BH Track & Field and Cross Country alumni and friends are invited back for this reunion. For more information contact Tom.Wheaton@BHSU.edu or (605) 642-6385.

## BHSU BASKETBALL THROWBACK NIGHT & ROUND BALL REUNION - FEBRUARY 11

All former men's and women's basketball players and coaches are invited back for a BHSU basketball reunion when we play rival South Dakota School of Mines and Technology Saturday, February 11, 2017. If interested in participating in this gathering or for more information, contact Melissa.Christensen@BHSU.edu or (605) 642-6460.

## START A BHSU TRADITION.

### BHSU OFFERS IN-STATE TUITION FOR CHILDREN OF ALUMNI.

Alumni are encouraged to share their experience with their children and apply for the scholarship if they plan to attend BHSU at [BHSU.edu/Scholarships](http://BHSU.edu/Scholarships).

## OPEN HOUSE DATES

2016

Saturday, Oct. 29  
Saturday, Nov. 19

2017

Friday, Feb. 17  
Saturday, April 1



JOIN US FOR AN OPEN HOUSE! REGISTER AT [BHSU.EDU/OPENHOUSE](http://BHSU.EDU/OPENHOUSE)

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Watch for these icons throughout the magazine for extra online content!

## BLACK HILLS STATE UNIVERSITY ALUMNI MAGAZINE - FALL 2016

The Alumni Magazine is published twice a year by the Black Hills State University Alumni Association for alumni and friends of BHSU. Your comments are welcome. Email us at [Alumni@BHSU.edu](mailto:Alumni@BHSU.edu).

### PRESIDENT

Dr. Tom Jackson, Jr.

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Curriculum & Instruction K-12  
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Integrative Genomics  
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Strategic Leadership



Learn more at [BHSU.edu/GraduatePrograms](http://BHSU.edu/GraduatePrograms)

## BHSU successfully administers GEAR UP South Dakota program

The South Dakota Board of Regents selected BHSU to provide leadership for GEAR UP in partnership with schools serving American Indians throughout the state.

GEAR UP, an acronym for Gaining Early Awareness and Readiness for Undergraduate Programs, is a federal program to increase the number of low income students prepared to succeed in post-secondary education.

Dr. Tom Jackson, Jr., noted that BHSU has a strong legacy of providing educational opportunities for American Indian students and is committed to the mission of GEAR UP.

"We are honored to administer the GEAR UP program in South Dakota. Faculty at BHSU have exceptional educational outreach and grants experience," Jackson said. "We are dedicated to implementing strategies to increase the number of low income students, many of them Native American students, who will enroll at a university and graduate with a degree. That said, honestly, this is about students. Finding ways to encourage students to earn a college degree."

In June, BHSU hosted the 2016 GEAR UP South Dakota Summer Honors Program, a three week, residential, pre-college enrichment program. BHSU will also provide

leadership throughout the year for GEAR UP services at middle and high schools across the state. Dr. June Apaza, '73 and Dr. Urla Marcus, '99 and '07, both longtime educators and employees at BHSU, are serving as co-directors of GEAR UP South Dakota at BHSU.



Students attending the SD GEAR UP Summer Honors Program at BHSU participate in a circle activity on campus to build social support.

## Wattenhofer wins national debate title



Megan Wattenhofer, biology major from Rapid City, won a national title at the Pi Kappa Delta National Debate Tournament in Lexington, Ky., in March. The national debate win is a first in BHSU history. In addition to winning the novice Individual Parliamentary Debate (IPDA) event at the national tournament, Wattenhofer also took first in speaker points.

In only their second tournament, Broc Hall, biology major from

Spearfish, and Nick Montieth, political science major from Spearfish, advanced to the octafinals round in the novice National Parliamentary Debate (NPDA) event.

Alissa Iverson, biology and chemistry major from Spearfish, said BHSU competed alongside 87 schools, 364 debaters, and nearly 2,000 individual entries at the tournament.

"National tournaments are always a great way to get experience and watch incredible teams, but Megan winning first place and Nick and Broc breaking to the elimination rounds were something tangible that we could celebrate," said Iverson. "This success will continue to inspire us and future

debaters at Black Hills State."

BHSU has a strong history of debate on campus, supporting a debate team for more than 100 years. Pi Kappa Delta, the national honor society for collegiate speech and debate, hosts the National Tournament each year. BHSU has been a member of Pi Kappa Delta since 1955.

The Debate Team adviser is Dr. Ryan Clark, associate professor of communication studies at BHSU. After returning from the National Tournament, BHSU Debate ended their season by winning in a 4-0 decision against South Dakota School of Mines & Technology in the Black Hills Cup.

## IMPROVED OPTIONS FOR TRANSFERRING TO BHSU!

Institutional Graduation Requirements (IGRs) were eliminated at BHSU to encourage students to use those credit hours as electives to expand their academic options by pursuing an additional degree or minor.

For more information, contact Registrar's Office at (605) 642-6092.



# SPOTLIGHT

## BHSU awards honorary doctorate to former Presidential advisor



Left, Dr. Urla Marcus, director of the Center for American Indian Studies at BHSU, presents a Star Quilt to Jodi Gillette, former special assistant to President Obama, after Gillette received a BHSU Honorary Doctorate for Public Service.

Black Hills State University awarded an Honorary Doctorate to Jodi Archambault-Gillette, former special assistant to President Barack Obama for Native American Affairs, during the 171st Commencement Ceremony in May.

An enrolled member of the Standing Rock Sioux tribe, Gillette grew up in South Dakota and spent her formative years on the Pine Ridge Indian Reservation. She recalls her mother, Elizabeth Nelson Archambault, taking classes and playing fast-pitch softball at BHSU.

While in the White House, Gillette created the White House Native American Affairs Council to increase the visibility of Native American issues at the highest level of government, coordinated with Native American communities in response to the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act of 2009, and worked on provisions of the Violence Against Women Act to recognize rights of tribal nations.

▶ Watch Gillette's speech at [YouTube.com/BlackHillsState](https://www.youtube.com/BlackHillsState)

## Black Hills State University welcomes new provost and new dean



Crawford

Adams

Dr. Chris Crawford and Dr. Sharman Siebenthal Adams recently joined the academic leadership team. Crawford serves as the provost and vice president for Academic Affairs, and Siebenthal Adams serves as dean of the College of Education and Behavioral Sciences.

Crawford brings strong academic credentials to BHSU. Having previously served as an interim provost, Crawford is noted for his collaborative approach as a professor and academic leader. His areas of expertise include quality improvement, innovation and IT, and organizational leadership. Crawford replaces Dr. Rod Custer who will remain at BHSU to lead ongoing accreditation initiatives.

Adams has successful leadership experience in developing programs and curricula. Teaching at the university level for more than 15 years, Adams has also directed work in the field of literacy (higher education and K-12), worked in five international countries, and fostered relationships with more than 30 school districts among seven states. Adams replaces Dr. Pat Simpson who retired this summer.

## Student embodies 'Spirit of BH' in pursuit of medical degree



Julie Benedict, '96, Alumni Association President, left, presents Alicia Benz with the 2016 Spirit of BH Award.

Alicia Benz graduated from Black Hills State University this spring as an International University Scholar, one of the first two students to receive this distinction in BHSU history.

A biology major from Killdeer, N.D., Benz says traveling to the Philippines to mentor high school students as part of the International Service Learning Program (ISLP) at BHSU was the best decision she's made in her life.

As president of the Health Sciences Student Organization and recent recipient of the 'Spirit of BH' award, an honor bestowed upon a student who has made significant contributions to the University and the community, Benz says she is ready to take her passion for biology and science one step further. She will take a gap year after graduating from BHSU to further her research and then go to medical school.

📖 Keep up-to-date at [BHSU.edu/News](https://www.bhsu.edu/News)

Whether to network or to reminisce, BHSU alumni gatherings across the country celebrate the excitement of being a lifelong Yellow Jacket.



Alumni and friends gathered at Werner Park in Omaha, Neb.; home of the Omaha Storm Chasers. A pre-game meal and gathering took place prior to the Storm Chasers vs. Salt Lake Bees baseball game. Amongst the group Dr. Tom Jackson, Jr., BHSU President, was in attendance.



Black Hills State graduates from the Class of 1966 gathered on campus during the spring commencement to celebrate their induction into the 50-Year Club. Each year, classmates from the 50-year class return to campus to celebrate the anniversary of their graduation. Members from prior graduating classes are also invited to attend a banquet in honor of the 50-year class.



More than 1,600 miles from Spearfish, BHSU alumni and friends living in the Washington, D.C. area gathered at a networking reception in April to share memories of and support for their alma mater.



The 1975-76 men's and 1995-96 men's and women's basketball teams were honored during the Round Ball Reunion in February for the 20th and 40th anniversaries of their South Dakota Intercollegiate Conference Championships.



**JENNIFER SUTTON, '98**  
VICE CONSUL, U.S. DEPARTMENT OF STATE

International affairs always intrigued Jennifer Sutton. Appointed by President Obama and confirmed by the U. S. Senate, Jennifer began serving recently as Vice Consul at the U.S. Embassy in Kingston, Jamaica. In her new position Jennifer is adjudicating visa applications for immigrants and non-immigrants including tourists, students, and business people. She also helps American citizens with adoptions, passport applications, and crisis situations. Jennifer's tour in Jamaica will be two years, after which she will be deployed elsewhere in the world.

"I am proud to be representing the United States as a diplomat overseas, and am grateful for the foundation that BHSU gave me for this career," said Jennifer.

As a foreign service officer in the public diplomacy career track with the U.S. Department of State, Jennifer looks forward to a career promoting mutual understanding and support for U.S. policy goals. She will work with the next generation of leaders in her role including media, local non-governmental groups overseas, and government officials.

**RYAN WORDEMAN, '07**  
CHAIRMAN, SOUTH DAKOTA REAL ESTATE COMMISSION

Ryan Wordeman is using his business skills to create new opportunities in South Dakota. Pursuing his real estate license after graduating from BHSU, Ryan decided to dabble in real estate investments and it slowly grew into his career.

"I still enjoy assisting buyers and sellers in real estate transactions, but development seems to really get the blood flowing," said Ryan. "I had a number of professors at BHSU whose real-life approach to learning left a mark, including Priscilla Romkema and Dave Scarborough."

In Spearfish, Ryan has been involved with constructing an eight-plex, storage units, multi-tenant commercial buildings, and most recently Creekside Estates which consists of 60 apartments. He is also a partner in Dakota Title which plans to be operational by the end of the year.

Ryan's good business sense was noticed on the state level and he was appointed to the South Dakota Real Estate Commission where he currently sits as chairman. The Commission works with license approval, rules and law changes, continuing education, and works directly with the public resolving issues and complaints.



**SARAH (JOHNSON) STUHL, '11**  
DOCTOR OF OPTOMETRY, FOCUS EYE CARE



As the new doctor in town in Bowman, N.D., Sarah (Johnson) Stuhl says she feels very supported by her local, loyal community. Sarah graduated from BHSU with a degree in biology and then attended Pacific University College of Optometry in Forest Grove, Ore.

"The eyes are amazing, a complex and interesting system. I was very prepared going to optometry school after my time at BHSU, and I felt I was ahead of a lot of my classmates," said Sarah.

Dr. Charlie Lamb is one professor of many at BHSU Sarah regards as helping her achieve her dream. Her favorite class at BHSU was anatomy and she thanks Dr. Lamb for his challenging classes. Sarah served as President of the Health Sciences Student Organization at BHSU. She says she always wanted to be an optometrist and was glad to fill the "great need" for one in Bowman. Sarah works for Focus Eye Care which is part of Black Hills Vision Care based in Belle Fourche.



## BHSU ALUM SOARS AS AIR FORCE THUNDERBIRD

Major Scott Petz, '02, has logged more than 2,000 flight hours as an Air Force pilot. More than 208 of those were combat hours in the F-16.

Originally from Faith, Scott enlisted in the Air National Guard and served as a crew chief before earning a commission through the Academy of Military Science in 2002, the same year he graduated from BHSU with a bachelor's of science degree.

Scott is now the Advance Pilot/Narrator for the U.S. Air Force Air Demonstration Squadron, flying the No. 8 jet. The Squadron is known by the name "Thunderbirds," influenced in part by the Native American culture prevalent in Arizona where the official air demonstration team was first activated.

Scott talks about how the Thunderbirds represent the hard-working airmen who serve America and defend our nation's freedom.

### Q. THE THUNDERBIRDS MOTTO IS "AMERICA'S AMBASSADORS IN BLUE." WHAT DOES THAT MEAN TO YOU?

A. We have a chance on a weekly basis to travel the world and represent with pride, precision and professionalism those protecting our country. Those soldiers, sailors and airmen currently deployed need to have someone telling their story and experiences. We are the conduit between the Air Force, Air National Guard and the Air Force Reserves, and the general public. Beyond the loud and excitement of our F-16s and the demonstration, we are going to schools, hospitals, as well as other special events fostering good will and representation.

### Q. WHAT ARE YOUR DUTIES AS THE ADVANCE PILOT/NARRATOR FOR THE U.S. AIR FORCE AIR DEMONSTRATION SQUADRON?

A. As the Advance Pilot, I do all the logistics and coordination with each specific airshow location. I also get to fly photo chase and media/celebrity incentive rides. That involves flying hometown heroes, local media or national celebrities and I showcase the capabilities of not just Thunderbird pilots but also the capabilities of the U.S. Air Force, Guard and Reserve. I do this by demonstrating the power and precision of the F-16 Fighting Falcon that has 30,000 pounds of thrust. Quite an experience for those in the back seat!

### Q. WHAT WAS YOUR FAVORITE PART ABOUT RETURNING TO SOUTH DAKOTA FOR THE SHOW LAST AUGUST?

A. The best part about coming back to South Dakota was the amount of family and friends that came out to the Airshow. There were countless individuals from past employers of mine, teachers from Faith and Black Hills State as well as fellow South Dakota airmen that had a major part in me achieving this dream. It was gratifying to let them know how much of a part they had in my progression. Of all the 90+ airshows I've done, I have yet to find a state like South Dakota that did as much press coverage and promotion for the Dakota Thunder Airshow at Ellsworth Air Force Base. It was truly a statewide effort that resulted in an amazing and successful airshow.

### Q. IS THERE A CERTAIN PART OF THE SHOW YOU ESPECIALLY LIKE?

A. My favorite part of the show is the "Max G Force Turn." This is something everyone that flies with me wants to experience. Your body under nine gravitational forces is a test of one's physical endurance that can't be measured on the ground. It's truly exhilarating.

### Q. CAN YOU SHARE ANOTHER MEMORABLE MOMENT DURING YOUR MILITARY CAREER?

A. Deploying downrange with my fellow South Dakota Air National Guardsmen and performing close air support for the soldiers on the ground is impactful for life. The ability to get an entire unit to hostile areas and flawlessly perform where failure is not an option and lives depend on the performance of not only a pilot but also the maintainers and other support individuals is responsibility and teamwork at its greatest. That teamwork is what I'm most proud of and is what we represent on the Thunderbirds.



# FOLLOWING YOUR HEART: SARAH EAGLE HEART CREATES MOMENTUM FOR HEALING IN NATIVE AMERICAN COMMUNITIES



Sarah Eagle Heart presents her opening address at the 11th Annual Philanthropy Institute Conference, "Raising Impact with Native Voices," in May 2016.

Sarah Eagle Heart, '99, lives her life unscripted. Call it instinct, blessing, or hard work, Sarah says the lessons she's learned in life, including several important ones at BHSU, brought her to where she is today. Currently capping off her first year as Chief Executive Officer of Native Americans in Philanthropy, Sarah is moving her organization into unchartered territory, and making an impact that will be felt by future generations.

## VALUES AND GOALS

Sarah is a member of the Oglala Lakota Nation of Pine Ridge and grew up in LaCreek District, a mile outside of Martin. She transferred to BHSU after one semester at a University in Minnesota. Starting college pregnant, Sarah took a semester off to give birth to her son. When she returned to college at BHSU, Sarah was motivated to graduate on time, often taking more than 20 credits a semester to accomplish her goal.

At BHSU, Sarah relied on the support of her friends, especially those in the Lakota Omniciye American Indian student organization, to help care for her baby as she finished her degrees. Lakota Omniciye organizes the annual Pow Wow at BHSU. Sarah served as President of the group her senior year.

"The Club was very important to me. Friends in Lakota Omniciye babysat for me, and we're still friends to this day," said Sarah. "I don't think I would have been able to finish my degrees without them."

Sarah remembers the kindness and influence of Jace DeCory, assistant professor of American Indian Studies at BHSU. She says Jace encouraged young people to learn about their culture and values.

"Jace taught us about Native American values that instill leadership. Giving back and helping your community, those are ideals that really influenced my direction in life," said Sarah.

Not only did Sarah graduate on time, but she also graduated from BHSU with two degrees, one in mass communication and the other in American Indian Studies. She says she chose her degrees knowing she had many interests and a deep curiosity about the world.

During her time at BHSU, Sarah also wrote for the Jacket Journal newspaper and had summer internships with Indian Country Today in Rapid City. She initially wanted to be a writer, but says the politics of journalism steered her in another direction.

## COURAGE AND INSTINCT

Moving to San Diego after graduation, Sarah began working at Viejas Casino in human resources, but her passion was for marketing and advertising. With her signature confidence, and a little encouragement from a friend, Sarah walked into the director of marketing's office and handed him her resume.

"It took all my courage to walk up to his door. He asked me to sit down and interviewed me on the spot," said Sarah.

She got the job as executive assistant and was later promoted to marketing and advertising coordinator. While working full-time, and now a mother of two young boys, Sarah completed her master's in business administration in the evenings.

Family circumstances necessitated a move to Pensacola, Fla. After waitressing for several months, Sarah applied for a job at a church she drove by every day. She didn't know then, but that job would soon launch Sarah into an international position.

"It was not part of my plan. I had been a professional in a career field. But, I really needed a job," said Sarah. "My family was Episcopalian, so the church caught my eye. I followed my gut instinct that I was supposed to work at that small church."

Sarah began working as the parish administrator. Noticing her motivation on the job, the priest nominated Sarah to serve on an international education committee and work with ministries for young adults, women, and Native Americans. After serving in several committees and related projects over four years, Sarah was hired by the Episcopal Church's international office as the Program Officer/Missioner for Indigenous Ministry. Three months later, she was promoted to Team Leader for Diversity and Ethnic Ministries.

Sarah says her American Indian Studies degree from BHSU was valuable as she served as an intermediary between churches, developing resources and educating members about American Indian culture and value systems. The Episcopal Church has two million members in 16 countries. Sarah traveled

throughout the world from Australia, to Bolivia, to South Korea leading the Church's Ethnic Offices of Black, Latino/Hispanic, Indigenous Ministry and Asiamerica Ministry. She led a team with a dual call to congregational growth and advocacy to respond to needs of communities within the Church.

Growing up in a small, rural community in South Dakota, and feeling racial tensions herself, Sarah said she drew upon her own tribe's values to find parallels between diverse communities.

**“THERE WERE MANY TIMES I DOUBTED MYSELF, BUT I HAD FAITH IN MYSELF AND IN MY ABILITIES. WORK HARD, DREAM BIG.”**

"There is something greater than all of us that is guiding us. We call it different names but that value system of giving back to your community and supporting one another, it's mirrored across so many cultures. Through my role I educated about American Indian values and those values mirrored within our Church, but I also shared them with the larger mainstream to encourage reconciliation," said Sarah.

Through Sarah's leadership, the Episcopal Church was the first denomination to repudiate the Doctrine of Discovery, and a worldwide movement followed. Sarah worked with a coalition of non-governmental organizations to prepare statements for the United Nations Permanent Forum on Indigenous Issues, leading to another successful repudiation of the Doctrine at the global level.

## ISSUES AND LEADERSHIP

Now as CEO of Native Americans in Philanthropy (NAP), Sarah says she can see how all the lessons she learned prepared her for her current leadership position. NAP, a membership-based organization that promotes reciprocity and investment in, with, and for Native peoples to build healthy and sustainable communities, is a powerful and growing network of Native and non-Native nonprofits, tribal communities, foundations and community leaders.

"We educate nonprofits on how to fundraise and why networking is so important. We also educate within the philanthropy sector and encourage funding for the issues Native people face," said Sarah.

NAP is part of a larger, collaborative affinity group focused on racial justice and promoting identity-based change. Although Sarah still says this was not in her plan for her life, she knew she was called to be a leader in some capacity.

"I was nominated for the position by a colleague in philanthropy. For me, it was taking on the challenge when it came along and believing in myself, that I have the right skill set and knowing everything I've learned prepared me for this role," said Sarah.

Sarah is moving her organization into a new realm of being an issue-driven entity. NAP recently partnered with the White House to host Generation Indigenous: Raising Impact with Innovation and Proven Strategies at the White House South Court Auditorium. The Generation Indigenous (Gen-I) initiative seeks to improve the lives of Native youth by promoting a national dialogue, policies, and programs to mobilize and cultivate the next generation of Native leaders.

Working with young adults has always been a highlight of Sarah's work, and there's one special young adult who continues to encourage Sarah's quest.

"When I got the job at NAP, my youngest son was so excited and the most proud of anyone in my life. That, for me, was amazing," said Sarah. "There were many times I doubted myself, but I had faith in myself and in my abilities. Work hard, dream big. That's my advice. Don't hold yourself back and have courage to take that opportunity when it presents itself to you, because you have no idea where it will take you in life."



# 2016 SWARM DAYS

To watch a video from the 2015 Swarm Days celebration, go to [YouTube.com/BlackHillsState](http://YouTube.com/BlackHillsState).

## SCHEDULE OF EVENTS | [BHSU.EDU/SWARM DAYS](http://BHSU.EDU/SWARM DAYS)

### MONDAY, SEPT. 26

4 to 7 p.m. | Swarm Days Block Party | Jonas Faculty Parking Lot

### TUESDAY, SEPT. 27

3:30 p.m. | Hike to the "H" | Leaving from Student Union Atrium  
6 p.m. | Pep Rally | Lyle Hare Stadium

### WEDNESDAY, SEPT. 28

4 to 6 p.m. | Kiddie Carnival | Underneath Jonas Skywalk

### THURSDAY, SEPT. 29

7 p.m. | Coronation & Burning of the "BH" | Meier Recital Hall

### FRIDAY, SEPT. 30

12 p.m. | Alumni Awards Luncheon\* | Joy Center  
6 p.m. | Hall of Fame Banquet\* | Jacket Legacy Room

### SATURDAY, OCT. 1

10 a.m. | Swarm Days Parade | Jackson Blvd. & Main Street  
11:15 a.m. | Tailgate Social | Joy Center Patio  
1 p.m. | BHSU Football Game | Lyle Hare Stadium

\*Tickets for the alumni awards luncheon & hall of fame banquet must be purchased in advance. Call (605) 642-6385 to purchase tickets or for more information.

## ALUMNI AWARD RECIPIENTS



Beckwith-Temple

**Young Alumni Achievement**  
Megan Beckwith-Temple, '07, graduated with a bachelor of science in biology. While at BHSU, Megan was deployed to Iraq where she opened a dental hygiene clinic for her fellow troops and helped to develop 'Operation Caring Hands' delivering toothbrushes and education to local children. She was awarded the Army Commendation Medal, Army Good Conduct Medal, and the Army Achievement Medal for her work. After graduating from BHSU she went to graduate school at Arizona School of Dentistry in Mesa, Ariz. She returned to South Dakota after graduation and began work as a community health dentist in Wessington Springs. She now practices at Schneider-Beckwith Dental in Sturgis and wrote a children's book *Dakotah's Journey to the Dentist* to help children get an early start on proper dental care. She continues to serve with the S.D. Army National Guard, VFW, and Epsilon Sigma Alpha raising funds for St. Jude Children's Research Hospital.



Gravelle

**Special Achievement**  
Vince P. Gravelle, '62, graduated with a bachelor of science in business administration. He worked at Cole's Quarry after graduation before traveling to Vietnam on contract with RMK-BRJ Construction. Upon returning to the States Vince was employed at Ralston Purina in Denver and transferred to Cincinnati as accounting manager where he worked until becoming office manager of Cleveland-based Stevens Construction in 1972. Vince became chairman and CEO

in 1997, a position he held until retirement in 2007. During Vince's 35 years at Stevens the company expanded and added offices throughout the U.S. along with the addition of a new corporation, Continental Design, in Pittsburgh. Under Vince's leadership, Stevens Construction employed over 1,200 employees and became one of the main contractors in the steel industry.



Hughes

**Special Service**  
Bill Hughes, joined the Health, Physical Education, and Recreation Department at Black Hills State as a professor in 1965 and coached golf, wrestling, football and baseball from 1965-1990. His 25-year wrestling dual record includes 187 wins, 157 losses and six ties along with coaching 39 SDIC Champion Wrestlers and leading four teams to SDIC championships. Bill was a NAIA Rookie Coach of the Year Award nominee in wrestling in 1965 and was the NAIA District 12 Coach of the Year in 1970. Under Bill's leadership the Golf Team won the District 12 Championship and qualified for nationals in 1982. Bill was inducted into the S.D. Wrestling Coaches and the NAIA Wrestling Halls of Fame. He was named associate professor emeritus at BHSU in 1994 and established the Bill and Linda Hughes Athletic Scholarship the same year.



Mickelson

**Distinguished Alumnus**  
David Mickelson, '94, earned a bachelor of science in business administration from BHSU. David built a career in banking moving first to Denver where he managed a payment processing center for Norwest Bank. In 1997 David transferred to Minneapolis where he continued to work for Norwest Bank and Wells Fargo. In 2003 David and his family moved to Sioux Falls where he began working for First PREMIER Bank, eventually becoming vice president of bank operations. In 2011 David began working for Graham Tire Company, one of the largest independently-owned dealerships in the U.S. and was named CEO in 2014. David serves as a board member of the Sioux Falls YMCA and the BHSU Yellow Jacket Foundation.



Webb

**Excellence in Education**  
Dr. Kristine Wiest Webb, '75, graduated with a bachelor's degree in music education from Black Hills State College. Kristine earned her master's (1988) and doctorate (1995) in special education from the University of New Mexico. She worked as a special education teacher from 1985-1991. Kristine then served as a mentor and supervisor of student teachers, interns, and clinical supervisors as director of the teacher exchange program at the University of New Mexico. Kristine is now a professor and director of the Disability Resource Center at the University of North Florida where she recently received the award of Distinguished Professor. She has published books, chapters, and articles on educational transitions for students with disabilities.

## YELLOW JACKET HALL OF FAME

A coach, three contributors, and seven athletes will be inducted into the Yellow Jacket Hall of Fame during the 2016 Swarm Days celebration.



Robin Schamber coached volleyball and basketball at BHSU. Her basketball overall record was 77 wins and 43 losses. She coached two teams in four years to the NAIA National Basketball Tournament finishing in the Elite Eight in 1996 and the Jackets were National Champions Runner-Up in 1997. She was a two-time SDIC Basketball Coach of the Year in 1996 and 1997.



Dean and Mary Ann Myers, '96, have pledged over \$50,000 total to the athletic scholarship program, with more than \$40,000 donated to an athletic endowment in their names. Dean and Mary Ann are not only big financial supporters, but have been known to hit the road and cheer loudly for the Jackets at away games.



Mike Lewis, '80, created a Yellow Jacket mascot costume and was the mascot from 1978 to 1980. His wife, Jo, made the costume and Mike entertained the crowds. His hope was that the mascot would become a tradition at Black Hills State. Today, Sting performs at sporting events and makes appearances for the university at recruiting events.



Alcorn

Marney

M. McDaniel

N. McDaniel



Nicholas

Sperry

VerHey

Zac Alcorn, '06, played football for BHSU from 2005-2006. He was a first team NAIA All-American in 2005 and a two-time first team all-conference selection. He was also named to the NAIA Football Net All-American Team. Zac played for the Green Bay Packers in 2006 and on the practice squads with the 49ers, Chiefs and Seahawks.

Robert W. Marney, '06, ran track and cross country from 2000-2002 and was a seven-time All-American (two cross country, two steeplechase and three relays). He ran on the DMR National Champion team. Rob had two top-ten finishes in the National Cross Country Championships.

Mike McDaniel, '03, ran track and cross country from 1999-2002 and was a six-time All-American (three cross country, 1500m outdoor, mile indoor and part of three relays). He finished 13th in the national meet in cross country and was on the DMR National Champion team.

Nikki (Underwood) McDaniel, '03, ran track and cross country for the Jackets from 1999-2003 and was a ten-time All-American (three individual: one in cross country (8th), indoor 1000m, outdoor marathon and seven relays). Nikki was a National Champion in the marathon in 2003.

Randy Nicholas, '82, played baseball and football for the Jackets from 1977-1980. He was named All-District 12 First Team and All-SDIC in baseball in 1979 and 1980. His career pitching record at BHSU was 21 wins and only 6 losses. Randy also played receiver and quarterback for the Jackets football team.

Rick Sperry, '90, participated in track and field in 1977, 1979 and 1980. He was a two-time South Dakota Intercollegiate Conference Javelin Champion in 1979 and 1980 and was third in the javelin at the NAIA National Track and Field Championships in 1979 earning him All-American status. He held the javelin record at BHSU for many years.

Jody (Wherley) VerHey, '97, played basketball from 1994-1996. She hauled down 23 rebounds in one game and was the SDIC Defensive Player of the Year in 1996. She is in the top ten in 10 different record categories in rebounds, assists, FG%, FT% and steals. Jody was a two-time NAIA All-American Scholar Athlete in 1995 and 1996.

## Yellow Jacket Rodeo sees historic success in 2015-16

The BHSU rodeo team had arguably its best season in history led by Kristi Steffes who earned the Barrel Racing National Championship; the women's team placed third at the College National Finals Rodeo and Tate Thybo and Matt Peters each placed third individually at the CNFR.

The success at the CNFR held in June had its foundation laid throughout the regular season in the Great Plains Region. Both the men's and women's teams walked away as region champs, head coach Glen Lammers was named the Great Plains Region Coach of the Year and the Yellow Jackets had six region event champions.

Samantha Jorgenson and Thybo earned the all-around titles and doubled as region champions as Jorgenson earned the breakaway roping title and Thybo the saddle bronc championship. Other region winners included Peters in the tie-down roping and Carlee Johnston in goat tying.

Throughout the season, the women's team won seven rodeos while the men claimed titles in five. Both squads had a regular season highlight of winning the



Kristi Steffes, elementary education major from Vale, won the national title in barrel racing aboard her horse Captain at the College National Finals Rodeo, in Casper, Wyo.

Will Lantis Yellow Jacket Stampede.

The 2015-16 season was the first time in school history the Yellow Jackets swept the Great Plains Region Championships. By winning the region title, both squads qualified for the CNFR for the second-straight year.

A total of 10 Yellow Jackets represented Black Hills State at the CNFR, led by national champion Steffes. The native of Vale topped the barrel racing field with a

56.09 average over four runs, including a week-best 13.85 on her final run, and as the final competitor. Steffes rode her horse Captain to claim the national title, the first for the rodeo team since Joey Painter in 2012 in breakaway roping.

Thybo placed third in the nation in the saddle bronc with an average of 262.5 while Peters was third in tie-down roping with a 41.5 over four runs. Jorgenson claimed ninth place in breakaway roping. She was holding a second place position until a broken barrier on her final run relegated her to a 20.5 average.

The women's team placed third overall out of 35 teams at the CNFR behind champion Blue Mountain Community College and Missouri Valley College. The men's squad placed sixteenth in the 61-team field.

Black Hills State loses seven seniors from the 2015-16 season including Steffes and Thybo but will have eight others with CNFR experience under their belt for the 2016-17 campaign.

## Black Hills State Athletics hosts South Dakota Special Olympics State Summer Games

The BHSU athletics department hosted the 2016 South Dakota Special Olympics State Summer Games in May. Many coaches and student-athletes volunteered during the three-day event.

The State Summer Games included an Opening Ceremony where Yellow Jacket student-athletes served as a welcoming committee, providing a tunnel entrance to the nearly 600 Special Olympians upon their arrival. The volunteers also marked long jumps and shot puts, raked pits, timed events, and spotted in weight lifting events.

Black Hills State recently received news that it will host the 2017 State Summer Games.



BHSU student-athletes greet participants and supporters during the South Dakota Special Olympics State Summer Games.

## Three added to BHSU Rodeo Hall of Fame



L to R: Rich Ham, Dr. Kay Schallenkamp, and Joe Painter, were inducted into the BHSU Rodeo Hall of Fame this year.

As part of the 2016 Cowboys and Candlelight Dinner, BHSU Rodeo inducted three new members into the Rodeo Hall of Fame.

Rich Ham, '82, earned back-to-back Great Plains Region Team Roping championships in 1982-83 and qualified for the College National Finals Rodeo (CNFR) in team roping with partner Joe Painter. Rich ranked second in the heeling and the duo won the average at the national finals. After college Rich stayed active in rodeo and USTRC team roping.

Joe Painter, '82, qualified for CNFR in team roping in 1980; in 1981 he was the Great Plains Region Reserve Champion Calf Roper and qualified for the CNFR in steer wrestling. Joe was the Region Champion Steer Wrestler, Team Roper and Reserve All Around in 1982. He ranked fifth in the nation in team roping. Joe helped reorganize BHSU Rodeo in 2005 and served as a volunteer coach.

Dr. Kay Schallenkamp, retired BHSU president, strengthened partnerships with the rodeo community and was integral in the re-growth of the rodeo program. Through her support of rodeo students, a practice facility was secured at Seven Down Arenas becoming home of the Will Lantis Yellow Jacket Stampede and a rodeo coach was hired for the first time.



Jonah Theisen, physical science major from Kenai, Alaska, claimed the first BHSU NCAA-era title in the steeplechase during the NCAA Division II National Meet.



Madison McLaughlin, physical education major from Wall, claimed the national title in the shot put during the NCAA Division II National Meet.

## Two National Champions highlight Yellow Jacket Track & Field

The Black Hills State University track & field teams had a season to remember as they claimed two individual national champions at the 2016 NCAA Outdoor Track & Field Championships in Bradenton, Fla. Freshman Jonah Theisen and senior Madison McLaughlin each proved to be the top of the nation.

Theisen, from Kenai, Alaska, outpaced the field in the 3,000-meter steeplechase while McLaughlin, a native of Wall, had the farthest shot put in the competition.

Theisen entered the NCAA Championships with the second-fastest overall time of 8:50.63, a school record that he set weeks before at the All on the Line Nationals in Santa Clara, Calif. He won the preliminary round race at the championships in a time of 9:03.74 which gave the freshman the confidence needed to win.

In the finals, Theisen had a plan and stuck with it as the pace favored his race strategy. He stayed in the back of the pack over the first several laps then on lap six he moved up to fifth place in the 12-man field. On the bell lap, where he was sitting in third place, Theisen ran his fastest lap of the race at 1:03.30 to clear the field by more than two seconds and finished in a time of 8:53.29.

The victory was the first National Championship for the Yellow Jackets

in the NCAA era but the Green and Gold didn't wait long to add a second.

The next day, McLaughlin hit the equivalent of a walk-off grand slam in game seven of the World Series to win the shot put National Championship. McLaughlin entered the meet ranked sixth and had her first throw sail 49-10.5, good enough for third place in the first round of throws. Her second attempt bumped her to first place at 53-5, a new personal best. She had three more attempts that all fell shy of her 53-5 before setting up a dramatic set of final throws from the top-two athletes in the field.

Cassie Caswell of Pittsburg State had her final toss travel 54-7.25 to take the lead away from McLaughlin with the Yellow Jacket senior the only competitor left to throw. McLaughlin's final throw as a collegiate athlete sailed a school-record distance of 55-8.5 to win the NCAA National Championship.

McLaughlin ends her decorated career with a national championship and as a four-time All-American and a nine-time Rocky Mountain Athletic Conference champion. She also led the Yellow Jacket women's track & field team to a surprising second place finish at the RMAC Outdoor Track & Field Championship this past spring, which was hosted by BHSU, after being tabbed to finish seventh in the preseason coaches' poll.

The Yellow Jackets utilized field events to place the RMAC-era best finish as three individuals covered five championship events led by McLaughlin in the shot put and hammer throw. Sophomore McKayla Haugeberg claimed the javelin throw victory while sophomore Alexis Clark won the pole vault and high jump.

The Yellow Jackets men's cross country, indoor track & field and outdoor track & field teams finished seventh in the nation in the combined Program of the Year rankings, handed out by the U.S. Track & Field and Cross Country Coaches Association to squads that place at all three championships throughout the year, led by six-time All-American Alec Baldwin, who also closed his career at the national meet. Led by Baldwin's fifth place finish at the cross country championship, the team placed 14th overall. At the indoor track & field championships, the men's team placed 18th overall where Theisen and Baldwin both earned All-America accolades. Finally, at the outdoor championships, the men placed 25th making them the seventh-highest program to place at all three meets.

The recent successes are leading to exciting 2016-17 seasons for indoor and outdoor track & field.



### Former staff member establishes endowment for Little Jackets Learning Center

Little Jackets Learning Center has been an integral part of many lives, including Black Hills State University students, faculty, and staff members whose children attend or have attended the child care facility. One of these families is the Sara (Sterrett), '05, and Paul Elias family.

When Sara worked at BHSU in the Center for Academic Success, she knew she wanted a safe, happy environment for her two children.

"Little Jackets was always there to help me and provide education and stability for my kids especially when my husband was traveling for work full-time," said Sara.

Because of the positive experience, they decided they wanted to do something to help Little Jackets with their facility needs not met through state funding. Recently they established the Porter and Maggie's Little Jackets Endowment at BHSU in honor of their two children. When fully funded, this

endowment will provide an annual stipend to Little Jackets Learning Center for necessary equipment and improvements.

Paul said, "We wanted to give back in a way that would make a difference for years to come, and we knew an endowed fund was the best way to accomplish this goal."

To contribute to the Porter and Maggie's Little Jackets Endowment, contact University Advancement at 605-642-6385.



Sara Elias, a Black Hills State University alum and former staff member, and her husband, Paul, established the Porter and Maggie's Little Jackets Endowment at BHSU.

### Whitewood and Sturgis students to benefit from teacher's memorial

The family of Debra Rae Christensen, '83, recently contributed \$10,500 to establish the Mrs. C – Deb (Arnio) Christensen Memorial Scholarship Fund.

Deb grew up in the Lead - Deadwood area where she graduated from Lead High School and Black Hills State with a degree in education. Mrs. C taught school for 24 years, most of that time at Whitewood Elementary.

Deb's brother, Dr. Robert Arnio, '71, said staff at BHSU helped Deb gain confidence and achieve success during her college years, traits Deb then passed along to generations of her own students, becoming one of the best and most loved teachers at her school.

Robert said the idea that she could assist others at BHSU so they could blossom like her and go on to benefit another generation of students would have been monumental for Deb.

"The Mrs. C – Deb (Arnio) Scholarship was created to help others in perpetuity. Though her life was cut short by cancer, she would have never asked for more," said Robert. The Mrs. C – Deb (Arnio) Scholarship is designated for a



junior or senior majoring in elementary education and/or special education with preference given to students from Whitewood or Sturgis.

Deb (Arnio) Christensen, '83, taught at Whitewood Elementary after graduating from BHSU. Her family recently established the Mrs. C - Deb (Arnio) Christensen Memorial Scholarship Fund to be given to an education major from Whitewood or Sturgis.

### Scholarship fund archives memory of beloved librarian



Doris Phillips donated \$10,000 in her estate to benefit the Ron and Doris Phillips Scholarship Fund at BHSU. She worked in the library at BHSU for 30 years, continuing to volunteer after retirement.

Doris Phillips, longtime librarian, entrusted the BHSU Foundation with \$10,000 in her estate to benefit the Ron and Doris Phillips Scholarship Fund. In 1952, Doris was invited to apply for the opening position of head librarian at Black Hills Teachers College in Spearfish. She accepted the position, expecting to stay two or three years, but remained for thirty, retiring as Library Services Coordinator in 1982.

"Doris worked at Black Hills State for three decades and remained active with the university up until her passing last fall. She loved BHSU and BHSU loved her," said Steve Meeker, vice president of University Advancement at BHSU. "She will be missed and we appreciate her generosity over the years."

During her time at Black Hills State, Doris taught library science courses and served as faculty advisor for the YWCA from 1953-1965. She also helped establish the library at Sinte Gleska at Pine Ridge in 1978. After retirement, Doris remained active in librarianship, cataloging and filing the BHSU picture file in the Leland Case Library as a volunteer. Doris received the Special Service Award from the BHSU Alumni Association in 1999.

### Couple establishes scholarship to support community, families

Tamara and Kevin Burke recently donated \$10,000 to establish the Tamara and Kevin Burke Scholarship Fund to assist low-income families and students as they work toward a college education.

Steve Meeker, vice president of University Advancement at BHSU, said "the Burkes have been tremendous supporters of BHSU both in time and treasure. They have the fire pit at the Joy Center in their names and now a scholarship endowment. They are a couple that makes BHSU a better place and we very much appreciate all they do."

Tamara joined the Financial Benefits team in Spearfish in 1996 after more than a decade working in accounting throughout western South Dakota. In 2005 she became a full partner at Financial Benefits. Kevin has worked for the South Dakota Highway Patrol since 1989 and is currently a lieutenant.

"We wanted to give back to the community and ease the financial hardship of those who are pursuing a degree," said Tamara. "We appreciate all BHSU and Spearfish have to offer students as they further their education."



Kevin and Tamara Burke created a scholarship fund at BHSU to help students from low income families complete their college degrees.

### Photo by BHTC fireplace kindles fond memories



Janice (Pollard) Temple, '58, took a trip down memory lane during a recent visit to the Joy (Proctor) Krautschun Alumni/Foundation Welcome Center at BHSU. A vintage photo that hangs in the Center features Janice as student at Black Hills Teachers College in the 1950s. That same picture, along with the "BHTC" grill that was salvaged before Pangburn Hall was torn down, are now permanent fixtures in the building.

"I was back visiting BHSU and walking through the Joy Center. I saw this picture hanging on the wall and I said, 'my golly, that's me!' I couldn't believe it," said Janice, a former Swarm Days Queen.

The photo was taken in the 1950s for a booklet BHTC distributed to incoming freshman introducing them to the college and campus activities. Janice and her husband Bob Temple, '57, now live in California where they raised their two daughters and taught for many years.

"I love coming back to BH and remembering all the fun I had here, and the good education that gave me a teaching career," said Janice. "It feels like home. I love the Black Hills, I love Spearfish, and I love BH."

Janice (Pollard) Temple, '58, re-enacts her photo taken in the 1950s by the BHTC grill. The grill was salvaged from Pangburn Hall and now has a permanent home in the Joy Center, along with the historic photo.

▶ Watch Janice's interview at [YouTube.com/BlackHillsState](https://www.youtube.com/BlackHillsState)

**RE-MAKE  
A MEMORY!**

Re-enact a photo of you and your fellow Yellow Jackets on campus and post it to social media using @BlackHillsState or #BHSUAlumni

# CONNECT WITH BHSU!



Read about BHSU Alumni online at [BHSU.edu/Alumni](https://BHSU.edu/Alumni)

## KUDOS & ANNOUNCEMENTS

### The 40s

**Grace E. Huck, '49**, Spearfish, celebrated her 100th birthday this year. Grace, a longtime South Dakota resident and trailblazing clergywoman, was noted as the first woman in the United States to be given full clerical membership in an Annual Conference of the United Methodist Church.

### The 60s

**Ron Carlisle, '66**, Bismarck, N.D., retired after serving 11 sessions in the North Dakota Legislature. He served as a member of the House from 1991 to 2008 before being named to District 30 senate seat in 2011. Ron served as a member of the Senate's Appropriations Committee.

**John Houska, '65**, Rapid City, was inducted into the National High School Athletic Coaches Association Hall of Fame in Louisville, Ky. as a track & field coach. John was also inducted into two South Dakota Halls of Fame: The South Dakota Wrestling Coaches Association Hall of Fame and the South Dakota Cross Country Coaches Association Hall of Fame. John served as a referee for 35 years; thirty of those years he was selected to work the State AA wrestling tournament.

**Daryl Johnson, '68**, Spearfish, was re-elected to another four-year term as a Lawrence County commissioner.

**Alberta (Hook) Krush, '65**, Belle Fourche, and her husband, Pete, received the Business Lifetime Achievement award during the annual Belle Fourche Chamber of Commerce banquet. Alberta and Pete own Pete's Clothing and Western Wear.

**Richard "Dick" Termes, '64**, Spearfish, will be featured in a video series, "The Basic Elements of Drawing: From Simple to Complex." This multi-part series is designed to teach basic drawing skills and is currently being filmed on location at the Termesphere Gallery, Termes' geodesic dome studio in Spearfish. South Dakota Public Broadcasting's (SDPB) planned premiere for the series is January 2017. Major funding for this video series is provided by the Rapid City-based John T. Vucurevich Foundation.

**Charles "Chuck" Turbiville, Attended**, Deadwood, was re-elected Mayor of the City of Deadwood for a second three-year term. Chuck was also elected to a two-year term to represent District 31 in the South Dakota House of Representatives.

### The 70s

**Tony "T.R." Chytka, '77**, Belle Fourche, had his 32-inch bronze sculpture, "Remembering School Days," accepted in the 2016-2017 Yankton River Walk season. The sculpture depicts two school kids, one helping the other up on a pony, for their ride to classes.

**Penny (Johnson) Doering, '77**, Spearfish, received the 2016 Ambassador of the Year Award during the 97th annual Spearfish Area Chamber of Commerce banquet and awards ceremony. Penny recently completed her tenth year as a broker associate with RE/MAX In the Hills.

**Clair Donovan, Attended**, Spearfish was inducted into the South Dakota Wrestling Coaches Association Hall of Fame. Clair served as a referee for 28 years and the AAU president for four years.

**Loretta Engelhardt, '74 & '76**, Sedona, Ariz., published her first book. In the book, *Choose Grace, Why Now is the Time*, Loretta invites you to experience your own grace-filled life, and, with her stories and insights, she will show you the way.

**Carol (Braxter) Gee, '79 & '80**, Stone Mountain, Ga., released two new books. *Random Notes (About Life, "Stuff" and Finally Learning to Exhale)* is the third in a series that women have fondly coined 'girlfriend' books. *Random Notes* is a laugh-out-loud, fun book. In *Gilded Pearls (Vibrant Thoughts, Tips and Tidbits For A Full Life)*, Carol shares tips for recycling and repurposing everyday household items.

**Paul Higbee, '76**, Spearfish, was presented the 2016 "Tip of the Spear" Award by Visit Spearfish, Inc. Paul has been and continues to be a wealth of knowledge with respect to the history of Spearfish and the Black Hills Community. The Tip of the Spear Award is presented annually in recognition of valuable contributions to the Spearfish Tourism industry.

**Dave Paden, '75**, Denver, recently retired after 41 years in education. Dave taught two years in Spearfish, ten years in Douglas, Wyo., and completed his career after 29 years in the Adams 12 Five Star School District in Denver. Throughout his career, he taught mostly primary grades, a few years as a library specialist, a reading interventionist, a literacy coach, a clinical professor and worked as an adjunct professor for Lesley University.

**Michael Shann, '70**, Minneapolis, Minn., will produce the Mason's National Day of Celebration of the 75th Anniversary of Mount Rushmore Sept. 8. The two-hour program will take place at the amphitheater at Mount Rushmore. Michael was the producer of the Closing Ceremony for the XXII Olympic Winter Games in Sochi in 2014.

**Paul Young, '78**, Spearfish, whose term expired this year, served as a Spearfish City Councilman for 20 years.

### The 80s

**Scott Bohall, Attended**, Glendale, Ariz., was named the Glendale 2016 Citizen of the Year. The award was presented to Scott by the Mayor of Glendale for his exemplary community service to the betterment of the citizens of Glendale, Ariz.

**Jeb Clarkson, Attended**, Belle Fourche, retired from Pioneer Bank and Trust after 33 years in the family (banking) business. Jeb was the senior vice president of Pioneer Bank and Trust.

**Carol (Moeller) Edwards, '83**, Lead, was among 30 American Legion Auxiliary (ALA) volunteers who had the honor of joining 100 high school rising seniors at the 70th ALA Girls Nation in Washington, D.C., last July. Two outstanding citizens, known as "senators," were selected at 50 ALA Girls State sessions held across the country to represent their respective states at ALA Girls Nation. Carol was chosen to be a part of this year's ALA Girls Nation staff because of her exemplary service to her community and the American Legion Auxiliary. She is a member of Post 164.

**Paula Farley, '87**, Spearfish, received the Spearfish Post 164 American Legion District One Educator of the Year award. In May,

she received the South Dakota Department of the American Legion Educator of the Year award. Paula is a seventh grade social studies teacher at Spearfish Middle School.

**Robert A. Haivala, '82**, Sturgis, was appointed assistant attorney general for the State of South Dakota by Attorney General Marty Jackley. Robert works with the Unified Drug Enforcement Team in Rapid City.

**Kathy Klumb, '84**, was recognized by the City of Spearfish for 25 & 30 years of service, since she worked part time for five years at the library before moving to full-time status. Kathy is a technical services librarian.

**Kevin Nowotny, '80**, Sioux Falls, was inducted into the South Dakota Amateur Baseball Hall of Fame. Kevin played 32 years of amateur baseball (1974-2006) in South Dakota and competed in 30 state tournaments, earning all-tourney honors numerous times. He batted above .400 for at least 20 years with White Lake and Dimock and hit around 125 home runs in his career. He was a four-time All-South Dakota Intercollegiate Conference selection and a 1979 NAIA All-American at BHSC, where he batted .406 in his career and hit a school record 18 homeruns in one season.

### The 90s

**Shawn Michael Bitz, '91**, Rapid City, published the first of three novels, *Butterfly Pit Crew*, born of the author's sober reflection into his experiences with drug and alcohol abuse in his early 20s. Twenty-two years ago Shawn took up writing to keep himself awake while working night shifts at a mental hospital. Last year a product of all that midnight typing became *Butterfly Pit Crew*.

**Klinette Brandon, '93**, Powell, Wyo., was awarded a 2016 Arch Coal Golden Apple Certificate. Klinette is a special education teacher at Greybull Middle School in Greybull, Wyo. She previously served as a principal in Torrington, Wyo., before moving to Greybull three years ago.

**Todd Collins, '98**, Owatonna, Minn., was inducted into the Albert Lea High School Wall of Inspiration. The Wall, in the high school commons, was created in 2004 by the Kuphal family in honor of Josh Kuphal, a 2002 Albert Lea High School graduate who passed away from Spina bifida. Todd is a special education teacher.

**Donnelle (Kahler) Culver, '94 & '03**, Spearfish, was hired as the manager for the BHSU Jacket Zone located on Main St. in Spearfish. This is her second position with BHSU. From 1988 to 2002 she worked in the Registrar's Office as a registration officer.

**Kirk Easton, '96**, Spearfish, was hired as the new superintendent of schools for the Spearfish School District. Kirk previously served at the superintendent of schools in Lennox.

**Tim Foley, '95**, Cody, Wyo., was recently promoted to assistant superintendent for the Park County School District #6 in Cody. Tim previously served the past five years as the principal at Cody Middle School.

**Aaron Jordan, '91**, Sturgis, was promoted in March to the rank of colonel by the South Dakota Army National Guard. In 2014, he earned a Master's degree from the Army War College.

**John E. Lee, '92**, Spearfish, was elected to the Spearfish City Council. John represents Ward 3.

**Verla (Nicholas) Little, '93**, Whitewood, received the Ron Tennill Memorial Achievement Award: 2016 West River DARE (Drug Abuse Resistance Education) Officer of the Year through the South Dakota DARE Officers Association. Verla, a corporal with the Spearfish Police Department, has been a DARE instructor for two years.

**John Lopez, '97**, Lemmon, created, with scrap metals, a life-size sculpture illustrating the bear attack on Hugh Glass made known to the world through the movie "The Revenant." Hugh Glass is said to have been attacked by a grizzly bear in the Lemmon area. The piece is currently on display at Lemmon's Grand River Museum.

**Kelly Merager, '96**, Cody, Wyo., was hired as the new principal at Cody Middle School. Kelly previously served as the principal at Eastside Elementary School in Cody.

**Michael "Mike" Picore, '98**, New Castle, Colo., was recognized by National Mortgage News Magazine as one of the top 300 loan officers in the country (top one percent). Mike works with Bay Equity Home Loans out of the Glenwood Springs Branch.

**Eric Pingrey, '95, '99, & '03**, was hired as the new superintendent for the Walker-Hackensack-Akeley (WHA) Public School District. WHA is located in Cass County, Minn. Eric previously served the past seven years as the middle school principal of the Converse County School District in Wyoming.

### The 00s

**Rebecca Almy, '01**, Summerset, and her husband Jeff received the Expansion Business of the Year award during the annual Black Hills Community Economic Development (BHCED) banquet. Rebecca and Jeff own and operate Tails 'n Training.

**Melissa (McGee) Barth, '02**, Spearfish, was one of 12 winners of the Mid-America Chamber Executives (MACE) 2016 Annual Conference Scholarships. Melissa was elected to the MACE Board of Directors for a two-year term at the conference. Melissa, who began her career in 2001 with the Spearfish Area Chamber of Commerce, moved into the executive director role in 2012.

## KUDOS & ANNOUNCEMENTS

**John Bokker, '01**, Spearfish, was named the new varsity wrestling coach at Spearfish High School. John will teach fifth graders at Creekside Elementary School in Spearfish.

**Erica (Morris) Clements, '08 & '12**, Madison, has accepted a position as the marketing and foundation director at Madison Regional Health System. She previously served as associate director of public relations and marketing at Dakota State University.

**Kellie (Culbertson) Burns, '00**, Paulden, Ariz., was hired as the district executive officer for 2016-17 by the Yavapai Accommodation School District (YASD). YASD has an enrollment of about 75 students at three school sites.

**Deb (Sigman) Cano, '00 & '12**, Spearfish, was named the girls' head volleyball coach at Sturgis Brown High School (SBHS). Deb previously served as the assistant volleyball coach. She is a Mathematics and Geometry in Construction teacher at SBHS.

**Courtney (Cullum) Crosswait, '08 & '12**, Rapid City, was named the assistant principal at Rapid City Stevens High School in Rapid City. She previously served as an administrative specialist at Southwest Middle School in Rapid City. Prior to that she was a district instructional coach in Eden Prairie, Minn.

**Scott Duncan, '01**, Spearfish, has been named one of South Dakota's top agents by Wellmark Blue Cross and Blue Shield as part of the company's annual Promise Awards. The Promise Awards recognize Wellmark agents and agencies for their success during the past year as well as their dedication to serving the needs of Wellmark members. Scott is an agent with First Western Insurance in Spearfish.

**Julie (Owen) Hatling, '05 & '09**, Belle Fourche, was named the Region 7 Teacher of the Year. Julie is a fifth grade math teacher at Belle Fourche Middle School.

**Ryan Maher, '00**, Isabel, was elected and will represent District 28 in the South Dakota Senate. District 28 includes all or parts of Butte, Corson, Dewey, Harding, Perkins, and Ziebach counties. Ryan will serve a two-year term.

**Brian Shaw, '04**, Brighton, Colo., will defend his World's Strongest Man (WSM) title in 2016; details of the WSM 2016 competition were not available at the print deadline. Brian won the WSM title in 2015 and is a three-time title holder.

**Garrett Stevens, '05**, Spearfish, recently earned a Master of Science degree in Information Assurance and Computer Security from Dakota State University. Garrett is a systems software specialist at BHSU.

## KUDOS & ANNOUNCEMENTS

**Robin (Fawcett) Strain, '00**, Sturgis, retired after 32 years of teaching which includes 27 years at Sturgis Brown High School (SBHS). Over the years, she taught physical education, biology and chemistry at SBHS.

**Ryan Young, '07**, Spearfish, was chosen as the new elementary school principal in Belle Fourche. Ryan was previously the elementary school counselor in Belle Fourche.

### The 10s

**Laurel Antonmarchi, '15**, Rapid City, was accepted into the National Arts Strategies Creative Community Fellowship. The fellowship is designed for creative entrepreneurs who seek to tackle a problem within their community. Her goal is to make the arts more accessible and less intimidating to youth throughout rural South Dakota with chalk art workshops.

**Cora Baldwin, '12**, Glenham, was recently hired as the retention coordinator at Sitting Bull College in Fort Yates, N.D.

**Alisa (Eggebraaten) Bentley, '10**, Spearfish, was hired as the Spearfish Elementary Librarian for Creekside, West and Mountain View schools.

**Katrina Chord, '16**, Spearfish, was named the girls' head soccer coach at Spearfish High School. Katrina previously served three years as the assistant girls' soccer coach at Spearfish.

**Danielle "Dani" Doney, '15**, Rapid City, was hired by the Rapid City Convention & Visitors Bureau as their marketing administrative assistant.

**Rebecca "Becca" Ellis, '15**, Rapid City, recently passed all four sections of the Uniform CPA exam on her first try. Becca is employed as an accountant at Ketel Thorstenson in Rapid City.

**Caitlin Hill, '16**, Veblen, had two essays, "Home Improvement," and "The Broken Road," chosen to be published in two national publications - *Superstition Review* and *Silk Road Review*. Caitlin was accepted into the University of Idaho, where she will focus on creative non-fiction in a Master of Fine Arts Writing Program.

**Kaitlin (Wanek) Klopfenstein, '14**, Douglas, Wyo., received the New Professional Art Educator of the Year Award from the Wyoming Art Education Association. Kaitlin teaches kindergarten through second grade in Douglas.

**Travis Langer, '11**, recently accepted a position as the media information coordinator for the Los Angeles Rams NFL football team.

**Jay Page, '15**, completed his first year ranked third out of 173 students at the Arizona Summit Law School; formally known as the Phoenix School of Law.

**Joe Samuelson, '13**, led the Upton High School boys' basketball team to a 23-4 overall record. They won the Conference and Regional Championship and finished as the 1A State Runner-up.

**Jennessa Scholl, '15**, Spearfish, was hired by the City of Sturgis, in the Rally & Events Department, as their new events coordinator. Jennessa previously served as the communications & event coordinator with the Spearfish Area Chamber of Commerce.

**Nathan "Drew" Skjoldal, '10**, recently joined the new Lynn, Jackson, Schultz & Lebrun, P.C., Spearfish office (formally Brady Law firm). Drew will focus his practice in the areas of estate/business planning, probate, trust administration, and real estate. He previously practiced law with a firm in Cincinnati, Ohio.

**Chase Vogel, '15**, Washington, D.C., was hired as an account management associate with the Advisory Board Company (ABC) in Washington, D.C. ABC is a healthcare and higher education consulting firm. Chase is housed in the DC headquarters working for a team on higher education issues.

### 1883-2015

Alumni honored by the Meade School District for their years of service include: **Janis (Mathis) Anderson, '93**, (15 years); **Bev Rosenboom, Attended**, (30 years); and **Kellie (Marr) Thomas, '85**, (20 years).

Alumni honored as Teachers of the Year by the Meade School District include: **Jill (Williams) Eymmer, '93**, Whitewood Elementary School; and **Melissa (Stubstad) Pankratz, '04 & '09**, Sturgis Elementary School and Meade School District Teacher of the Year.

Meade School District Administrators **Ethan Dschaak, '97**, and **Bev Rosenboom, Attended**, were honored at the statewide conference of the South Dakota Association of Elementary School principals. **Ethan** was selected the National Distinguished Principal for S.D. The award honors one principal in each state who has a commitment to excellence, shows strong educational leadership, assumes an active role in his/her community, maintains an orderly and purposeful learning environment, and is respected by students, colleagues, parents and the community at large. Ethan has been an employee of the Meade School District for 11 years, the last seven as principal at Piedmont Valley Elementary School. **Bev** was named recipient of the Community Leader Award. This award honors and

recognizes a principal for his/her community involvement and activities, for involving the student body in community affairs, and for his/her ability to make use of resources from other educational institutions, parents, businesses, industry and service clubs. Bev has been employed by Meade School District for 30 years, the last 13 as Whitewood Elementary and Rural School principal.

Alumni honored for service by the Spearfish School District include: Retirees:

**Camile (Herigstad) Binder, '73**, (14 years); **Kathy (Kayl) Christensen, '73 & '02**, (42 years); **Jo Ann (Foster) Claggett, '78 & '84**, (28 years); **Penny (Price) Lensegrav, '74 & '02**, (29 years); **Nancy (Lenihan) Martin, '02**, (29 years); **Rebecca "Becky" (Crane) Studt, '93**, (22 years); and **Doug Syman, '85**, (31 years).

Alumni honored as Teachers of the Year by the Spearfish School District included: **Alisa (Eggebraaten) Bentley, '10**, Mountain View Elementary School; **Nadene (Page) Harr, '90 & '02**, West Elementary School; **Laurie (Miller) Anglin, '03**, Creekside Elementary School; and **Teri (Decker) Bauerly, '10 & '13**, Spearfish Middle School and Spearfish School District.

## WHAT'S NEW WITH YOU?

Got a new job? Had a baby? Send us your news and updates!

### THINGS TO INCLUDE WITH YOUR NEWS:

- GRADUATION YEAR
- MAILING ADDRESS
- PHONE NUMBER
- EMAIL ADDRESS
- SPOUSE'S NAME

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1200 University Street Unit 9506  
Spearfish, SD 57799-9506

## ENGAGEMENTS & MARRIAGES

### The 80s

**Don Sturm, Attended**, will marry Christine Allard, Oct. 1, 2016. Don drives for Johnson School Bus in the Beaver Dam, Wisc. School District. The couple will reside in Beaver Dam, Wisc.

### The 00s

**Ashley Uthe, '11**, married **Eric A. Anderson, '06**, July 8, 2016. Ashley is a teacher at Creekside Elementary School in Spearfish. Eric is a vocational instructor at Belle Fourche High School.

**Melanie Shurtz, '02**, will marry James Hill, Oct. 2, 2016 in Jackson Hole, Wyo. Melanie teaches Cambridge Language Arts for 7th and 8th grade at White Cliffs Middle School in Kingman, Ariz.

## BIRTHS

### The 90s

**Tommi Jo (Casteel), '98**, and husband Lucas Rice, Prairie City, had a baby girl, Mecarty Skye, Feb. 22, 2016. She joins siblings Levi (14), Mesa (13), Lane (11) and Mattie (9). Tommi Jo is a professional massage therapist.

### The 00s

**Amber (Riggins), '06 & '12**, and husband Jacob Cornella, Rapid City, had a baby girl, Cadence Ranea, Dec. 29, 2015. She joins big brother Jace (2). Amber is the human resources manager for Black Hills Energy.

**Venessa (Adcock), '05**, and husband Lonnie Edwards, Spokane Valley, Wash., had a baby boy, Lucas James, May 18, 2016. Venessa is a school social worker for the Spokane Public Schools.

**Jennifer "Jen" (Chrans), '00** and husband Chris Guerrero, Frisco, Tex., had a baby girl, Olivia Ellen, May 30, 2016. Jen is the director of events at the Women's Foodservice Forum.

**April (Kleinschmidt), '06**, and husband **Michael "Mike" Hobert, '06**, Hoven, had a baby boy, Beckett Neil, June 21, 2015. He joins big brothers Xavier (8) and Easton (4). April recently accepted a position as the special education director for the Hoven School District and will be one of three special education teachers. Mike is a high school social science teacher at Selby Area High School in Selby.

**Tiffanie Gebhart, '08**, married Dustin Kouf, Aug. 6, 2016. Tiffanie is the marketing coordinator at M-O Federal Credit Union in Huron. The couple resides in Huron.

### The 10s

**Sarah Stagner, '12**, married **Scott Boner, '13**, July 16, 2016. Sarah is a physical therapist at Big Country Rehab in Douglas, Wyo. Scott teaches 8th grade math in Douglas. The couple resides in Douglas.

**Abby Carley, '15**, married, **Mark Jacobs, '14**, June 25, 2016. Abby teaches 3rd and Mark teaches 2nd grade and coaches football at Lead-Deadwood.

**Lorin Anderson, '15**, married, **Nathan Naasz, Attending**, Aug. 6, 2016. Lorin is the campus visit & communication coordinator for the Office of Admissions at BHSU. Nathan plans to graduate from BHSU this December with a double major in Elementary Education and Special Education. The couple resides in Spearfish.

**Ashley Jones, '11**, married Shaun Skavang, July 2, 2016. Ashley is a 3rd grade teacher at Corral Drive Elementary School in Rapid City. The couple resides in Rapid City.

**Alicia Rath, '08 & '14**, married Peter Veinbergs, June 11, 2016. Alicia is an elementary special education teacher in the Sheridan County School District #2. The couple resides in Sheridan, Wyo.

**Taylor Guthmiller, '15**, and Dan Martin, Spearfish, had a baby boy, Keller Jackson, June 5, 2016. Taylor is the event and entertainment assistant for the Deadwood Mountain Grand.

**Jay Page, '15**, and Natasha (Root), Chandler, Ariz., had a baby boy, Parker Jay, April 19, 2016. Jay is starting his 2nd year at the Arizona Summit Law School; formally known as the Phoenix School of Law.

**Hillary (Wittenhagen), '11**, and husband Reed Perry, Littleton, Colo., had a baby girl, Isla Penelope, March 10, 2016.

**Joe Samuelson, '13**, and wife **Darian (Thompson), Attending**, Upton, Wyo., had a baby boy, Trey David, April 9, 2016. Joe is a social studies teacher at Upton Middle School and the head boys' basketball coach at Upton High School. Darian is a graduate of the University of Northern Iowa (2015) where she ran track and she is attending graduate school at Black Hills State to get her teacher certification through the Project SECOND program.

### The 10s

**Kristin (Engle), '10 & '12**, and husband Kelly Carmichael, Belle Fourche, had a baby girl, Avery Marie, April 5, 2016. She joins big sister Emersyn Lucille (3). Kristin is the head women's volleyball coach at BHSU.

**Mallory (Petersen), '11**, and husband Christopher "Chris" Dekker, Winner, had a baby girl, Evelyn Kay, Feb. 26, 2016. Mallory graduated last January from Boston University with a Master's of Music Education degree.

**Bailee (Clarkson), '11**, and husband **Wesley Fremont, Attended**, Spearfish, had a baby boy, Porter Frank, April 9, 2016. Bailee is a first grade teacher in Sundance, Wyo. Wesley is in the contracting business with Fremont Construction.

**Dakota Territory/Spearfish Normal School  
1883-1940**

Marie L. (Forde) Bevans, Attended, Independence, Kan.  
Marie E. (May) Garrett, '38, Scottsbluff, Neb.  
Flora E. (Menzel) Lee, '38 & '63, Spearfish  
Bernadette "Berny" C. (Hartman) Rose, Attended, Meadow

**Black Hills Teachers College  
1941-1963**

John "Stan" S. Ainsworth, '51, Payson, Ariz.  
Geraldine "Jerry" (Foster) Aldrich, Attended, Spearfish  
Douglas "Doug" A. Ashmore, Attended, Centralia, Wash.  
Harold "Hal" C. Baker, '55, Denver, Colo.  
Max H. Brown, '49, Spearfish  
Lorraine (Richards) Courtney, Attended, Rapid City  
Robert "Bob" D. Daane, '61, Sturgis  
Sharon M. (Gurney) Dahl, Attended, Sheridan, Wyo.  
Peggy J. (Pannell) Davis, Attended, Belle Fourche  
Darwin H. Dykes, '51, Golden, Colo.  
Sylvia L. (Fox) Evenson, Attended, Albany, Ore.  
Raymond "Ray" E. Frandsen, '57, Bismarck, N.D.  
Betty A. (Earles) Giovando, '60, Sun City West, Ariz.  
Wilma J. (Hicks) Helmer, Attended, Issaquah, Wash.  
Annie I. (Driskell) Hudson, Attended, Upton, Wyo.  
Frank E. Kincaid, Attended, Yankton  
Joseph "Joe" L. Langer, Attended, Spearfish

Margie J. (Basler) Noss, '56, Greenwood, S.C.  
William "Bill" S. Ohnemus, Jr., '58, Spearfish  
Edith F. (Lager) Olson, Attended, Mitchell  
Nancy J. (Wells) Roth, '65, Rapid City  
Thomas "Tom" Sazama, Jr., '52, Tracy, Calif.  
Glen D. Statler, '61, Fargo, N.D.  
Robert "Bob" E. Stockhouse, '47, Greeley, Colo.  
Frieda M. (Karel) Stritecky, Attended, Colome  
Ronald "Ron" L. Thorson, Attended, Rapid City  
Elaine E. (Bandt) Wismer, '54, Sioux Falls

**Black Hills State College  
1964-1988**

James "Jim" C. Anderson, Attended, Rapid City  
Jeanette C. (Raver) Auen, '81, Sturgis  
Bradley "Brad" J. Becker, '81, Littleton, Colo.  
Marlynn K. (Schieke) Belmont, '83, Spearfish  
Eileen M. (Anway) Brunssen, '70, Spearfish  
Tonna R. (Pechota) Cox, Attended, Colome  
Laurie L. (Maddox) Crawford, '87, Lusk, Wyo.  
James "Mike" M. Doyle, Jr., '70 & '74, Page, Ariz.  
Jeanne L. Enwiller, Attended, Aberdeen  
Anita K. (Johnson) Gebauer, '67, Spearfish  
Wilma "Billie" H. (Pranger) Gustafson, '71, Spearfish  
Andrea "Anne" J. Hernandez, '83, Walnut Ridge, Ark.  
Pamela "Pam" K. Hunt, '78, Rapid City

Gail M. (Flaig) Johnson, '70, Meridian, Idaho  
Scott D. Jones, Attended, Lower Brule  
Lester "Les" M. Karas, '76, Deadwood  
Donald "Don" W. Kelly, '81, Edmond, Okla.  
Randy A. Kolb, '74, Lemmon  
Markus S. Kryger, '71, Forsyth, Mo.  
Susan J. (Quevli) Melius, '83, Spearfish  
Gwenda (Sieh) Melvin, '67, Howell, Mich.  
Betty L. (Brost) O'Brien, '66, Custer  
Patrick "Pat" A. O'Day, Attended, Plankinton  
Jelene A. (Reuer) Rand, '75, Spearfish  
Joseph "Joe" W. Sam, Attended, Wakpala  
Edward "Ed" A. Slocum, '73, Eagle Butte  
Ramona K. (Hoelsing) Smith, Attended, Windsor, Colo.  
Barbara L. Soliday, '64, Spearfish  
John F. Solon, '67, Kadoka  
Charles I. White Pipe Jr., Attended, Valentine, Neb.  
Dorene H. (Bad Heart Bull) Yellow Hair, '70, Pine Ridge

**Black Hills State University  
1989-Present**

Elizabeth "Beth" M. (Wilson) Laschinger, '02, Minneapolis, Minn.  
Eric P. Mason, Attended, Rapid City  
Patricia A. (Deegan) Reif, '90, Armour  
Ray C. Sedwick Jr., Attended, Lockhart, Texas  
Delton L. Snyder, '99, Rapid City  
Anna M. (Kaiser) Westberg, Attended, Whitewood

**Former Faculty/Staff**

John R. Page, Custer  
Elizabeth "Liz" (Fritz) Ruff, '72 & '79, Spearfish



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Sipe

**Shirley A. Sipe** passed away Feb. 10, 2016, at her home in Spearfish, after a long fight with ovarian cancer. Shirley attended school at Black Hills Teachers College Normal School for first through eighth grade and graduated from Spearfish High School in 1955. She married Don Dewey Sipe in 1955 and had two children. Shirley graduated from Black Hills State College in 1966 and started working at BHSC as a secretary in the Registrar's Office. She held many positions prior to her retirement in 1996, including accountant, chief accountant, associate business manager, and at the time of her retirement was vice president of finance and administration at BHSU. Shirley was active in community affairs; she served on the board and as president for the Spearfish Chamber of Commerce, the Lookout Memorial Hospital Board and as a volunteer for Hospice. She was treasurer of the organizing committee for the Relay for Life Cancer Walk, and served on the Business Advisory Council for South Dakota Colleges and Universities.



Hicks

**Richard W. Hicks** of Spearfish passed away Feb. 28, 2016. Richard taught at Burrough's Junior High School in Detroit, Pioneer High School in Ann Arbor, and then came to Black Hills State University in 1970 as an art instructor. An introvert with a wonderful sense of humor, he was a sensitive and caring teacher whose encouragement often impacted students deeply. For several years, he volunteered to teach art to youth at Canyon Hills. During his teaching career at BHSU, he exhibited his art in various galleries throughout South Dakota. He painted several large murals in Jonas Hall on the BHSU campus during the late 1970s. Richard married Rita Schrag in June 1976 and was a supportive father and husband. He retired from BHSU in 2003. More recently, he was the president of the Dakota Artists Guild and his tenor voice joined with the BHSU Community Chorale for many years. Richard's talents were much appreciated by those attending Countryside Church where he worked on projects for special services celebrating Easter, Christmas, and other celebrations.



Cox

**Thomas P. Cox** of Spearfish died March 24, 2016. A professor emeritus of psychology, Thomas taught high school in Roy, Mont., and worked at the Oregon Zoological Research Center in Portland, The College of Great Falls in Lewiston, The State University of New York, Brooklyn, and Hunter College in New York City before moving to Black Hills State University as an assistant professor. Thomas published seminal articles about the olfactory system in mice. An award-winning teacher, he was dedicated to his students, successfully conveying his passion for experimental psychology and teaching them to do rigorous scientific research, often as undergraduate assistants in the Psychology Lab he initiated at BHSU. Students, colleagues and friends enjoyed his dry sense of humor, particularly at the end of each semester, when he hosted a celebration for all his students. A proponent of behaviorism, Thomas claimed he had never had a thought in his life. Apparently without thinking, he managed to obtain a bachelor's degree from Eastern Montana State College, a master's of art from Middle Tennessee State University, and a doctorate from the University of Manitoba.

Black Hills State University  
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## LOOKING AHEAD

Gage McSpadden “Sheriff” 5K Run/Walk  
Sept. 10

BHSU Women’s Soccer  
First Home Game in History  
Sept. 16

2006 Football Team 10th Anniversary of  
DAC-10 Championship  
Sept. 17

Rope and Stroke by Black Hills Rodeo  
Scholarship Fund, Inc.  
Sept. 26

Swarm Week  
Sept. 26 - Oct. 1

Madeline Young Speaker Series presents  
Pulitzer-Prize winning author Michael Chabon  
Oct. 5

Commencement  
Dec. 10

Arizona Yellow Jacket Golf Classic  
Jan. 28

Dates are subject to change. Please check [BHSU.edu/Events](http://BHSU.edu/Events)  
for the most up-to-date information.

For athletic events, visit [BHSUAthletics.com](http://BHSUAthletics.com)



1st Alumni Mile

## LOOKING BACK

### BHSU to celebrate 25th Alumni Mile in January 2017

BHSU alumni and friends are invited to celebrate the 25th anniversary of the BHSU Alumni Mile Run January 20-21.

For a quarter of a century, former BH track & field and cross country alumni and friends have returned to campus to participate in the Annual Alumni Mile. The event allows current student athletes to connect with BHSU athletes from the past.

On Saturday, Jan. 21, the race begins in the Donald E. Young Sports & Fitness Center Field House during the Dave Little Invitational. After the race complimentary hors d’oeuvres and drinks will be available in the Joy Center as we celebrate this milestone event. For more information contact [Tom.Wheaton@BHSU.edu](mailto:Tom.Wheaton@BHSU.edu) or (605) 642-6385. The 25th Alumni Mile is sponsored by the Stadium Sports Grill, John and Jo Heck and Clair Donovan.



2nd Alumni Mile