



Window to the West

Wall Badlands Area Chamber of Commerce

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February 2016
Volume 16: Issue 2

Schedule of Events

February 4th
City Council Meeting
6:30pm—WCC

February 7th & 21st
BINGO!
WCC— Meeting Room
Sponsored by Quinn VFW
2pm—5pm

February 8th
Monthly Chamber Meeting
Red Rock Restaurant
506 Glenn St
12:NOON

February 8th
Small Business Beginnings
WCC—501 Main St
6:00pm

February 15th
President's Day
City Offices are Closed

February 18th
City Council Meeting
6:30pm—WCC

February 22nd
Small Business Beginnings
WCC—501 Main St
6:00pm

Add your event here,
on the radio and on the website!

Country Cupboard Food Pantry

The Wall Food Bank opened it's doors five years ago on May 11, 2011. They are located at 505 Glenn St., in the building known as the "Bus Barn". The amount of people they serve will vary depending upon the time of the year, with winter being the highest. Serving the communities of Wall, Cottonwood, Creighton, Elm Springs, Milesville, Philip, Quinn and Wasta, the Wall School District donates the space and all utilities which is very generous and helpful.



The National Honor Society students work with the backpack program, filling the bags with kid friendly food and then giving them to the counselors at school when completed each week. The counselors then sees to it that students who most likely would not be able to eat over the weekend otherwise,

receives the food. Those numbers have been as high as 15, but currently is at six, which includes both schools of Wall and Philip.

When someone in need comes in, they can receive 10 pounds of food per family member, with a maximum of 40 pounds per family. Donations like, toilet paper, dish soap, hygiene products etc., are not accepted as space is very limited and they would have to keep them separate from the food.

They did just recently receive a generous donation of 400 pounds of food, so they are stocked up right now. They are always in need of volunteers, who can help during the open hours. If interested please call the Food Pantry at 279-1045.



Current Hours

Wednesday 1pm-4pm
Saturdays 9am-11am

Be a volunteer!

Wall Badlands Area Chamber of Commerce Minutes
Monday, January 11, 2016 • 12:00 PM • Red Rock Restaurant

CALL TO ORDER: President Donna Curr opened the meeting at 12:00 pm with 23 people present. Pledge of Allegiance recited. No meeting was held in December, for minutes to be approved. November minutes were not available for review by all members so they will be approved at the February meeting.

ANNOUNCEMENTS:

January 11 th	Badlands Nat'l Park Informational Meeting (Fee Increase) 6pm-8pm
January 12 th	Chamber Blood Drive 11:30am-2:30pm (sign up online or with Cindy)
January 18 th	City & Chamber Offices closed in observance of Martin Luther King Day
January 19 th –21st:	Cindy to attend Tourism Conference in Pierre
January 22nd:	Wall Ag Appreciation Event WCC, 5pm-11pm
January 25 th	Badlands Bad River Workshop
January 26th:	City Council, WCC - 6:30 pm
February 4 th :	City Council, WCC 6:30 pm

CITY OF WALL: Mayor Marty Huether was unable to attend, but reported that sales tax total for 2015 was \$1.2 million dollars. This was up a little bit over the year before.

WALL ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT: Cheyenne McGriff congratulated the Board members in their new positions. She said the Home for the Holidays Campaign kept over \$87,000 in Wall! Over 1700 cards were turned in for the drawing. Cheyenne also talked about the Small Business Beginnings classes and registration for the 6 week workshops that will be available to anyone who is, or wants to start a small business. One class of the classes will be open to anyone wanting to know a little more on Social Media Marketing. The class will be \$10 to anyone interested. The whole series is just \$75 and that includes meals and supplies. Please talk to her for more information. She is also working on Business retention and expansion Surveys. Contact her if you have not received any info yet.

SCHOOL REPORT: Niki Mohr reminded us that there will be a school board meeting this Wednesday at 6pm. They will be discussing plans for concessions, bathrooms and storage for the athletic complex. Thurs (Jan 14th) will be the end of the semester. Basketball season (boys and girls) are in full swing, as is wrestling. Check the school website for more information.

WALL LIBRARY REPORT: Theresa Schaeffer sent a report stating that the library is busy getting ready to move to a new software platform and online catalog that they will share as a member of the new Black Hills Library Consortium. The Consortium includes eleven libraries. You will be able to use the library 24/7, browse the library shelves online, place requests, and then just stop by to pick them up, or renew online. These new services are planning to start in late January or early February.

BADLANDS NATIONAL PARK: Superintendent, Mike Pflaum introduced Holly Fetzer, the new Fee Program Director and Casey Osback, Chief Park Ranger. The year-end visitation was up with an 18% increase in visitor traffic for 2015. The possible increase may be due to the 75th Motorcycle Rally, low and stable gas prices and types of media. Visitor hours are still 8am-4pm seven days a week. The park is still looking for input from the public regarding the Bison Stewardship Plan Environmental Assessment, which is a proposal to expand where the buffalo may go. Badlands Park is also considering a proposal to increase the entrance fees. They have not had an increase since 2007. Public meetings will be set up at different locations to get input.

MINUTE MAN MISSILE NHS: Joe Brehm, the new Chief of Interpretation, comes to us from Florida. He has been with the Park service for 22 years. They have had over 100 thousand visitors in 2015. The hours are still 8am-4pm seven days a week. Exhibits continue to be installed. A spring Open House is what they are shooting for, however no date has been scheduled. They do have job openings, and encourage anyone interested to go online to USAjobs.com.

FOREST SERVICE: Kurt Pindel let us know that the Visitor Center hours are still Monday thru Friday, 8am-4pm. Dennis Kuhnel will be back in a month and will be able to get us final numbers for 2015. Visitation was up for the year even though they were closed for two months during the renovation. There is more staff back on duty and positions are open. Anyone interested can go to USAjobs.com. A new Forest Service map will be made by mid-summer. The last update was over 20 years ago and they have had several land exchanges since then. Typically Wall has been more at the top of the map, but will be in a more central location on this one.

GOLDEN WEST: Jody Bielmaier wished everyone a Happy New Year, and said it was the last week of the holiday promotion at Golden West if anybody wants to make any changes. The Scholarship application process is open. For those students who may not be in the area but, their parents are, they can go online at www.goldenwest.com.



*Happy
Valentine's
Day*



Minutes continued from page 2:

WREA: Dawn Hilgenkamp shared that there is a scholarship open for students that want to go to Washington DC. They will meet Legislatures and learn about cooperatives. The deadline to apply by is Feb 25th. A new director position for District II has been filled by Chuck Sloane. There will be a 6% increase coming but only a 2% increase will be given to the people. The kilowatts cost will stay the same, but you will notice a \$2.25 increase on the base rate. Commercial prices will vary depending upon usage. On January 21st the Electro Tech Technology Expo will be held in Rapid City which WREA will be a part of. A rate calculator will be available online after Jan 22nd.

STATE ATTORNEY'S OFFICE: State Attorney, Mark Vargo informed us that one of the things that is happening is cell phones are going to darker encryption. "Going Dark" worries law enforcement, not being able to get into a phone for information, especially in an emergency, parents not being able to get info, only the person to whom the phone belongs can. Even with a court order, they are not always being able to gather or access evidence related to suspected criminals and or abductions. If you should have any questions about campaigns, since it is the season, his office would be the place to start. Homicides in Rapid City are almost doubled from the year before. Previously there were five, currently there are nine. Meth has quadrupled in the last five years causing more violence. They have finalized the MacArthur Grant application. Twenty counties will compete for the grant, but only 10 will receive the money. Up to \$2 million will be received. The hope is that Pennington County will be able to expand community service programs. Instead of low level offenders going to jail, they can be given options like work release or community service. This type of diversion saves the county money (average cost of jail stay is \$80/day) and also will not show up on a record, if all requirements are met.

COUNTRY CUPBOARD: Carol Hoffman reported that they gave out 32 Thanksgiving baskets, and 43 Christmas baskets with delivery help from the Lions Club. The baskets included turkey or ham, potatoes, corn meal mix vegetables, bread & butter and dessert. The pantry gave out 7,700 pounds of food for the year. Typically they work with an average of 45 families. The backpack program started the year with seven, but are now down to three, Philip has five. If someone comes into town and contacts a church for help they are typically given 6 gallons of gas. If they have children, then the food pantry will make sure the kids get food.

There was no old or new business.

Meeting Adjourned.

Cracker Barrel

Where does the term Cracker Barrel come from? *Cracker-barrel* refers to something 'plain, simple, and unsophisticated', especially of a philosophy. Its origins in the country stores of the late 19th-century US, where the barrels of soda crackers ended up being the site of informal discussions between customers. The philosophizing taking place over these cracker barrels would have been, presumably, of the plain and simple sort. (And I thought it was just the name of a restaurant!)



The Wall Chamber invited Legislatures from Districts 27 & 30 to attend a Cracker Barrel here in the Community Center, Thursday, January, 28, 2016. We were very fortunate to have all six of them show up. The main focus, was on teacher's salary and how it was going to be raised. All were in favor of Rep. Lance Russell's bill, **HB1130**, which will take the money (\$75 million) from the Video Lottery as it was intended in the first place. All of members were against a 1/2 cent sales tax. Some discussion was held on the Medicaid expansion as well. It was suggested that we might have another one closer to the end of the session.

Points to Ponder ... While you're busy looking for the perfect person, you'll probably miss the imperfect person who could make you perfectly happy!



Badlands National Park

Annual Pass—Only \$30.00

Valid for one year from month purchased

Senior Pass — \$10 (Lifetime pass)

National Pass — \$80

Access Pass — Certain Restrictions Ap-



Great Gift Idea!

REMEMBER: Valentine's Day February 14th

Don't just show your Valentine what they mean on the 14th

- ♥ Show them early with **Balloons, Plants, Candy** and **Fresh flowers**, starting on **Wednesday February 10th**.
- ♥ Join us for Wine Tasting with Firehouse Wines and a **20% discount** of purchases made that evening from 4:00pm until 7:00pm.
- ♥ Let us help you find that SPECIAL gift for that Special Someone in your life.

4th Avenue Floral will be open all week, also on Saturday 9:00 -5:00
and on Sunday Morning 9:00am- 12:00 noon!

Call 605-279-1115



Customer Service Quote of the Month

Your customer doesn't care how much you know until they know how much you care.

~ Damon Richards ~

DEADLINE FOR NOMINATIONS IS FEBRUARY 12, 2016

PLEASE SUBMIT TO THE CHAMBER OFFICE AT

501 MAIN ST. OR PO Box 527 WALL, SD 57790

Golden Pineapple Award

Have you had exemplary customer service in Wall, South Dakota? Has someone gone above and beyond to help you?

The Wall Badlands Area Chamber of Commerce wants to hear about your great service experiences.

In colonial times, the pineapple symbolized a sense of welcome, good cheer, and human warmth. We are looking for an individual that makes your day better and goes above and beyond your expectation. Reward your excellent service experience by nominating that individual for the 2016 Wall Badlands Area Chamber of Commerce Golden Pineapple Award.

Nominees should work or volunteer for a Wall Badlands Area Chamber of Commerce business or Organization.

I would like to nominate: _____

Describe how they provided you exceptional customer service: _____



By completing this nomination form you are giving the Wall Badlands Area Chamber of Commerce permission to share this story publicly. We will not publish your name unless we call and secure your verbal permission.

First /Last Name: _____

Phone : _____ Best time to call: _____



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Accepting Nominations for the
Wall Badlands Area Chamber of Commerce

Lifetime Achievement Award

This person has contributed their time, talent and energy to the Wall community over the years.

Please send nominations by February 12, 2016 to the Chamber office at PO Box 527, Wall SD, 57790 or drop off at 501 Main St.

Thank You!

2016 Chamber Memberships
Are Now Due!!!

Did You Know?

The tradition of spreading sawdust on the floors of bars began in Deadwood, SD as an effort to hide gold dust that would gather there.



WALL-BADLANDS AREA CHAMBER OF COMMERCE

Board of Directors:

Donna Curr— President
 Carol Hoffman—Vice President
 Jackie Heathershaw—Treasurer
 Janet Lurz
 Sheila Drees
 Dawn Hilgenkamp
 Jackie Kusser
 Juanita Schroeder
 Trisha Eisenbraun
 Cindy Schuler—Executive Director

Chamber Luncheon Meeting Locations:

Jan, Feb, Mar—*Red Rock Restaurant*
 April—*Annual Meeting*
 May—*Golf Course Mixer*
 June—*Community Center*
 July—*Wall Golf Course*
 August—*No Meeting*
 Sept, Oct, Nov—*Badlands Saloon & Grille*
 Dec—*Holiday Mixer*

The Next Chamber Meeting

will be held on

Monday, February 8th

at the

Red Rock Restaurant

506 Glenn St—Wall

12:00 Noon

Lunch specials will be offered

2016 Wall Badlands Area Chamber of Commerce Membership

4th Avenue Floral *	Corner Pantry	Pioneer Auto Show & Prairie Town *
Air Hon *	Cornerstone Industries *	Prairie Homestead *
American Legion Auxiliary *	Country Cupboard Food Pantry *	Red Rock Restaurant & Lounge
Americas Best Value Inn *	Crazy Horse Memorial *	Richard Wahlstrom/EDWARD JONES *
Anderson Investments *	Crew Agency *	Robert Sharp & Associates
Ann's Motel *	Crown Oil *	Rod Renner
Arneson Auction Service	Cutting Edge Salon *	Ruland Arena, LLC
Arrow Campground *	Dakota Mill & Grain	Rush Funeral Home *
Ascend Ag, Inc. *	Days Inn *	SanDee's
Badland Outpost	De's Oil & Propane	Senator Bruce Rampelberg
Badlands Automotive *	East Pennington Co Transit *	Shearer's Western Dakota Ranch Vac.*
Badlands Budget Host	East Pennington Conservation District *	Singing Horse Trading Post *
Badlands Harley Davidson *	East Penn County Ambulance District *	Sleepy Hollow Campground
Badlands Inn & Campground *	Econo Lodge *	St. Patrick's Catholic Church
Badlands National Park *	Evangelical Free Bible Church *	Subway
Badlands Natural History Association *	Farm Bureau Financial Services *	Sunshine Inn
Badlands Quilters *	First Interstate Bank *	SWIFTEC
Badlands Saloon & Grille *	First Lutheran Church *	Triangle Ranch B&B
Badlands Trading Post *	First Western Insurance Agency *	Two Bit Saloon & Steakhouse *
Badlands/White River KOA	Frontier Cabins	USDA Forest Service *
Best Western Plains Motel *	Gary Keyser	Wall Auto Livery *
Bev Dartt *	Gold Diggers	Wall Building Center & Construction *
Bill Bielmaier *	Hillcrest Motel *	Wall Dairy Queen
Black Hills and Badlands Tourism Assoc. *	Jitterbug Daycare	Wall Drug Store *
Black Hills Federal Credit Union *	Jonny Winn-Holsether	Wall Food Center
Broken Arrow Trading Company	Juanita Schroeder *	Wall Golf Association *
Candee Kitterman	Lakota Ways	Wall Health Services
Cedar Pass Lodge *	Larry Eisenbraun	Wall Lube & Espresso *
Circle View Guest Ranch	Mary & Myron Williams	Wall Meat Processing *
	Minuteman Missile NHS *	Wall Motel *
	Motel 6 *	Wall Rodeo Booster Club *
	Pennington County Commissioners *	Wall School District 51-5 *
	Pennington County Courant *	Wall United Methodist Church
		Welsh's Motel

*** GOLD MEMBERSHIP INVESTMENTS ***

GOLDEN WEST TELECOMMUNICATIONS *

WEST RIVER ELECTRIC ASSOCIATION *

Thank you for your investment!

* Denotes
 paid members
 of 2016