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HARTFORD

COMMUNITY GUIDE 2022 - 23



INSIDE: COMMUNITY CONTACTS | NEW BUSINESS PROFILES | BUSINESS DIRECTORY

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Front, Left to Right: John Mallinger, Sheila Brown, Amy Larson, Dave Larson, Joelle Nyenhuis

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HARTFORD COMMUNITY GUIDE



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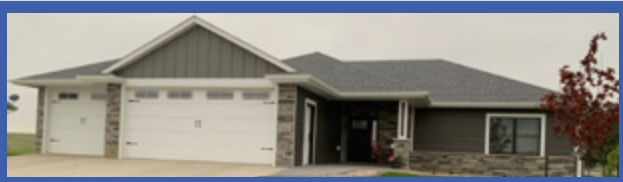
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FROM THE MAYOR

GREAT THINGS ARE ON THE HORIZON

Greetings from the City of Hartford, City Council members and myself. It is an exciting time in Hartford. The city has added two additional housing developments to address housing needs along with a bike trail expansion, downtown markets and more. Everything points towards another great year in Hartford!

In the few months since I was appointed mayor, I have been looking ahead 5-10 years to see what the city needs to work on now to make us a vibrant community in the future. We have been reviewing our Hartford Master Plan with several community leaders and will begin implementation of these plans in the months ahead. Along with the Hartford Master Plan, the city is always reviewing and updating our Capital Improvement Plan or CIP. This is a roadmap for infrastructure needs in the next five-plus years. With the help of our city engineer and ISG, we are constantly looking at the needs of Hartford. Many great things are on the horizon.

A major project on the horizon is our new wastewater treatment facility. Plans are being produced so bidding on this project can take place in early 2023. Our scheduled completion/use date is in 2025. Watch for more to come on this project in the months ahead.

The City Council recently established a Park and Rec Committee to look at quality of life needs and to gather the necessary information for presentation to the Council. In the short time this group has been meeting, our dog park is proceeding, the bike trail extension to Main Street is beginning, and discussion on additional needs at the Swenson Sports Complex have been looked at.

If you have called Hartford home for years or are just looking for that next place to live, I am confident that you will find Hartford as the place you want to be!

Whether your family has been here for generations or you are new to the area and looking for a place to call home, I am confident that you will find everything you're looking for right here in Hartford.



Arden Jones,
Hartford, SD Mayor

Arden Jones
Mayor, City of Hartford

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Left to right: Keely Mehling, Alyssa Giedd, Cindy Buss, James Buss, Kammi Clayton.

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COMMUNITY CONTACTS

HARTFORD CITY HALL

125 N. Main Avenue
Hartford, South Dakota 57033
605-528-6187

Additional information on municipal leaders, staff, permits, inspections, and more can be found at www.hartfordsd.us.

HARTFORD CITY COUNCIL

Meetings are the first and third Tuesdays of each month at 7:00 p.m. at City Hall, 125 N. Main Ave.

Arden Jones	Mayor
Travis Kuehl	City Council Ward 1
Mark Brenneman	City Council Ward 1
Chris Woslager	City Council Ward 2
Mark O'Hara	City Council Ward 2
Cindy Matson	City Council Ward 3
Jake Jass	City Council Ward 3

HARTFORD CITY ADMINISTRATION

City Administrator	Teresa Sidel
Finance Officer	Karen Wilber
Administrative Assistant	Rhonda Kuchta
Administrative Assistant	Jenny Stangeland

HARTFORD PLANNING & ZONING BOARD

Tony Randall, Chairman	Troy Jackson
Mark Anderson	Brad Miles
Tim Graham	Stacey Kutil
Michelle Kilbourn	

HARTFORD PARKS AND RECREATION BOARD

Matt Evans	Callie Tuschen
Gail Blocker	Craig Wagner
Troy Larson	Chris Woslager
Josh Mulder	

LAW ENFORCEMENT

FOR EMERGENCIES CALL 911

The City of Hartford contracts with the Minnehaha County Sheriff's Office for its police services.

For law enforcement
non-emergencies 605-367-7000

FIRE & RESCUE

FOR EMERGENCIES CALL 911

To volunteer or non-emergencies 605-528-3511

ANIMAL CONTROL

605-338-4441
www.sfhumanesociety.com

BUILDING PERMITS

Contact City Hall 605-528-6187

BUILDING PERMIT INSPECTIONS

Paul Clarke 605-366-8962
Kyle Christensen 605-681-4552

ELECTRICAL INSPECTION

State Electrical Inspector 605-201-0520

PLUMBING PERMIT

SD Plumbing Commission 605-773-3429

UTILITIES

Electrical

Sioux Valley Energy 800-234-1960

Garbage

Cressman Sanitation 605-759-3456
Novak Sanitary Services 888-866-2651

Natural Gas

MidAmerican Energy 888-427-5632

Phone/Cable/Internet

Golden West www.goldenwest.com
Midco www.midco.com

Water/Sewer

City of Hartford 605-528-6187

UTILITY LOCATES

South Dakota One Call 811

WIRING PERMITS FOR HOMEOWNERS

SD Electrical Commission 800-233-7765

YARD WASTE DISPOSAL SITE – HARTFORD RESIDENTS ONLY

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Offered the first Saturday in April through the Saturday after Thanksgiving, weather permitting.

Hours are Saturdays 9 am-4 pm, and
Tuesdays and Thursdays 4 pm-8 pm
until Sept 15th when the site will close at dusk.

HARTFORD AREA LIBRARY

605-367-6380
www.siouxlandlib.org

Hours

Tuesday 9 am – 1 pm
Wednesday 2 pm – 5 pm
Thursday 3 pm – 7 pm
Saturday 10 am – 1 pm

HARTFORD AREA TRANSIT

605-906-1483
www.hartfordsd.us/hartfordtransit



COMMUNITY CONTACTS

HARTFORD AREA CHAMBER OF COMMERCE

605.528.3338

www.hartfordsdchamber.org

info@hartfordsdchamber.org

The Hartford Area Chamber of Commerce is located in City Hall. The Chamber is made up of more than 140 members of all sizes focusing on growing the business community. Our members are a strong group of businesses, organizations, and individuals promoting a healthy business climate through leadership, networking, and education.

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

President Brittany Glanzer, Central States Mfg
VP Ashlie Matthews, Black Hills Fed. Credit Union
Treasurer ... Dr. Kim Yingst, Hartford Dental Clinic, PC
Secretary Casie Goebel, Sunshine Foods
Immed. Past President
..... Brian Grocott, Grocott Ink & Thread
Executive Director Amy M. Farr

At-Large Jen Cornman, Main Street Humboldt Bar
At-Large John Cressman, Cressman Sanitation
At-Large Frieda Fossum, Cowboy Way Church
At-Large Megan Jansick, MJ Designs
At-Large Dr. Joel Martens, ChiroSport Hartford PC DC
At-Large Keith Miller, First Premier Bank
At-Large Lana Snyder, Hartford Spinal Care
At-Large Stacy Wengler, Knotty Gnome and Beaverbuilt, Inc.
At-Large Roxy Whalen, Hartford Women of Today

HARTFORD AREA DEVELOPMENT FOUNDATION

605.528.3338

info@hartfordsdchamber.org

The Hartford Area Development Foundation is located in City Hall. Hartford is a young, growing community located directly west of the fastest growing city in South Dakota (Sioux Falls). Hartford offers a small-town experience with big city amenities. With a growing population of more than 3,400, Hartford continues to add more businesses, amenities, housing developments and benefits for residents to enjoy. The mission of the Hartford Area Development Foundation is to expand economic Quality of Life through Economic Development.

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

President
..... Justin Eich, Vista Crossings & Stomping Grounds
VP Eric Bartmann, Pro Framing, Inc.
Treasurer Blair Bathke, First Interstate Bank
Secretary ... Dave Larson, Dave & Co. – Hegg Realtors
Ex-Officio .. Daniel Hoey, West Central School District
Executive Director Amy M. Farr

At-Large Jake Droge, Open Mortgage LLC
At-Large Travis Kuehl, Travis Electric, Inc.
At-Large Keith Mattiesen, Retired
At-Large Mark O'Hara, US Bank
At-Large Chris Tuschen, Buffalo Ridge Brewing

DOWNTOWN HARTFORD, INC.

downtownhartfordinc@gmail.com

The mission of Downtown Hartford, Inc. is to revitalize the community's core through economic development, events, beautification, and historical preservation. DHI brings Hartford together downtown to "Eat local. Buy local. Grow local."

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

President Callie Tuschen, Buffalo Ridge Brewing
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... Seth LaBounty, Hartford United Methodist Church
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At Large..... Lois Kaiser, Hartford Senior Center

HARTFORD AREA SPORTS & RECREATION INC.

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Address:800 Cressman Trail
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Website:cvccsd.org

CHRIST LUTHERAN CHURCH (ELCA)

Address:701 N. Main Ave.
Phone Number:605-528-3424
Website:www.clchartford.com

COWBOY WAY CHURCH

Address:46089 263rd St.
Phone number:605-526-3646
Website:facebook.com/pages/
Cowboy-Way-Church/97645607529?ref=ts

LIGHT TO THE WORLD CHURCH

Address:1021 S Diamond Circle

ST. GEORGE CATHOLIC CHURCH

Address:408 S. Western Ave
Phone number:605-528-3902
Website:www.stgeorgehartford.com

TRINITY LUTHERAN CHURCH (LCMS)

Address:46448 263rd St.
Phone Number:605-526-3571
Website:www.hartfordtlc.com

RIVER OF LIFE MINISTRIES

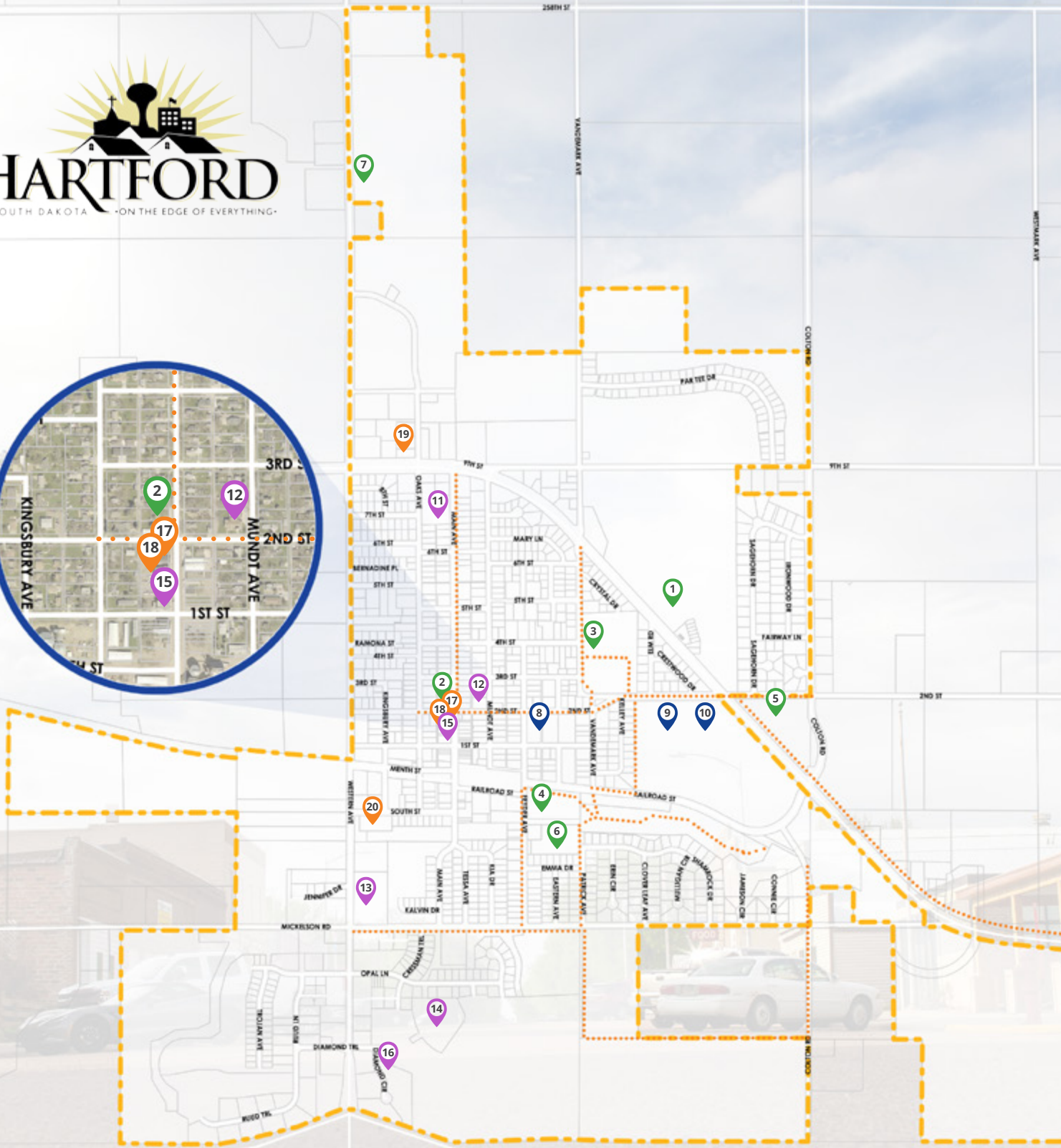
Address:101 N. Main
Phone Number:605-376-1508
Website:www.rofm.net

UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

Address:102 E 2nd St.
Phone Number:605-528-3830
Website:www.humcsd.org

ZION LUTHERAN CHURCH (ELCA)

Address:26313 462nd Ave.
Phone number:605-526-3846



PARKS

- 1 Central Valley Golf Course
- 2 Century Square Park (Veterans Memorial)
- 3 Hartford City Park & Swimming Pool
- 4 Turtle Creek Park
- 5 Hartford Cemetery
- 6 Catholic Cemetery
- 7 Swenson Park Sports Complex

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- 8 West Central Elementary School
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- 13 St. George's Catholic Church
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- 15 River of Life Ministries
- 16 Light of the World Church

OTHER AMENITIES

- 17 Hartford City Hall
- 18 West Central / Hartford Library
- 19 US Post Office
- 20 Fire Department
- ... Recreation Trail

--- Hartford City Limits

DAYCARES & PRESCHOOLS

Listed are daycares licensed or registered with the South Dakota Department of Social Services.*

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701 N Main
605-5280-3027

HAPPY HEARTS

419 Oaks Ave
605-528-3615

IMAGINATION STATION

207 S. Main Ave
605-528-5437

MELISSA MALLINGER

105 N. Kelly Ave
605-595-2959

STEPPING STONES PRESCHOOL & ENRICHMENT CENTER

412 E SD Hwy 38
605-528-3358

TRINITY CHURCH LEARNING CARE

46448 263rd St
605-526-4021

WEST CENTRAL KARE

303 E 2nd St
605-528-3215

*The City of Hartford and AGE Media do not endorse daycares or preschools. It is the responsibility of parents to verify the status and qualities of a daycare.



CITY OF HARTFORD MUNICIPAL STAFF

Seated: Finance Officer Karen Wilber, Chamber and Economic Development Director Amy M. Farr, City Administrator Teresa Sidel, Administrative Assistants Jennifer Stangeland and Rhonda Kuchta.

Standing: Public Works Superintendent Craig Wagner; Public Works Terry Hagen, Alan Brown, Neil Hanisch and Jesse O'Kane; and Building Inspector/Code Enforcer Kyle Christensen.



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PARKS & RECREATION

Photos by Vince Danh, 4Front Productions

The City of Hartford has more than 80 acres of park space for the public to enjoy. All city parks are open from 6:00 am to 11:00 pm year-round. If you have any questions, please contact City Hall by calling 605-528-6187.

Weekdays during the month of July, the City has a Summer Rec Program for children K-6th grade. With the recent hiring of a recreation director, the City hopes to expand its recreation offerings in the near future to provide opportunities for children and adults alike to do activities they love in their own community.

LYONS PARK (CITY PARK)

202 N. Vandemark Ave., Hartford, SD

Lyons Park is the City's flagship park and the location for Jamboree Days festivities as well as the Kids Summer Recreation program. Established in the early 1900s—thanks to the Lyons family—the park has continued to serve Hartford to present day. Hartford

residents commonly reserve the park's five shelters and amphitheater to host events such as family reunions, graduation parties, and other special events. Park shelters and amphitheaters can be reserved by calling City Hall. Reservations require a \$10 nonrefundable fee. Other park amenities include playground equipment, three ball diamonds, horseshoe pits, tennis courts, a basketball court, and a sand volleyball court. Horseshoes can be rented at City Hall for free (\$35 refundable cash/check deposit). Public restrooms are available and the sidewalk circles the park for recreational walking.

HARTFORD SWIMMING POOL

406 N Vandemark Ave, Hartford, SD | (605) 528-6480

Lyons Park is also home to the City Pool. The City Pool typically opens the last day of school and closes mid to late August. Season passes are available at City Hall or the pool and pass fees are \$43.00 per individual. Admission fees for children 0-4 is free and 5 & older is \$3.00. The pool also offers swimming lessons in June and July. Visit **Hartfordsd.us** or contact City Hall at 605-528-6187 about registration information.



TURTLE CREEK PARK

303 E. Railroad St.,
Hartford, SD

Turtle Creek Park is the City's newest and largest park spanning 34 acres. Turtle Creek Park offers plenty of open space for activities. The park is connected to the bike recreation trails by the apple orchard along Hartford's southern border. The park features playground equipment, a 9-hole disc golf course, and a junior ball field. Discs can be rented at City Hall for free (\$25 refundable cash/check deposit). Another park shelter is available here to be reserved, and public restrooms are conveniently available on-site.

ranging from U5-U12. Soccer space is planned to increase in the future and a concession stand/bathroom addition is planned for that section of the complex as well.

CENTURY PARK

201 N. Main Ave., Hartford, SD

Century Park is Harford's smallest park at half an acre, located downtown, it provides a quaint space of tranquility. Century Park is home to the Veterans Memorial and Hartford Time Capsule. A plaque describing Hartford's history is also located at the park as well as the flag disposal box managed by the Hartford American Legion. Benches and gazebos line the park which serves as the host to the annual Christmas tree lighting during Hartford's Hometown Christmas celebration. Stop by to learn more about Hartford's history and pay respect to Hartford's heroes.

BIKE & RECREATION TRAILS

Hartford has more than three combined miles of paved path systems for the recreation needs of residents. The path starts in Turtle Creek Park and splits off down Highway 38 and Colton Road. Hartford continues to extend the path system and add improvements yearly.

In 2019, the Bike & Recreation Committee added three trail maps at heads of the trail. Hartford also has a nature trail that begins at the eastern end of Turtle Creek Park and extends down to its southern border along the apple orchard. View the map on page 8 for more information.

SWENSON SPORTS COMPLEX

1610 N. Western Ave., Hartford, SD

Swenson Sports Complex currently has two multi-use diamonds with 300-foot fences. Two more diamonds and concession stand/bathroom are planned for the future. The SSC is also home to six soccer fields that host teams



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Photos by Callie Tuschen.

605-528-7000

Allison Jones, O.D.
David Jones, O.D.

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The Downtown Hartford Market is back in action! The farmer's market kicked off on June 2nd and will continue on Main Avenue in Downtown Hartford on the first Thursday of the month in July, August and September – plus there is an end-of-season bonus planned for Sept. 29th. Hours for the handmade/home grown market are 5:00-8:30 p.m. with shopping, food, and entertainment available.

About 30 vendors will be selling unique handmade crafts and fresh food products including seasonal produce, baked goods, farm eggs, pasture raised and organic meats, spices/seasonings, canned and pickled items, honey, soap, dog treats, yard games, woodworking, crocheted and sewn items, décor, and much more.

Downtown Market is now in its fourth year, said Callie Tuschen, market coordinator and president

of Downtown Hartford Inc. “We expect 2022 to be our biggest season yet. It’s rewarding to watch the community come together every month to shop and socialize in the heart of our town.”

There will be live music, two food trucks, and family friendly activities at every market throughout the season. New this year are touch-a-truck opportunities with the Sheriff’s Department and Hartford Area Fire & Rescue. The Sanctuary Petting Zoo will bring animals out later in the season. Youth are invited to learn about entrepreneurship by participating in the market at a reduced rate.

Entertainment and marketing expenses for Downtown Market are sponsored by Golden West Telecommunications, Travis Electric, Ace Hardware, Grocott Ink & Thread, Get n Go, and Buffalo Ridge.



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FIBER BROADBAND HAS BEEN A MAINSTAY IN HARTFORD AREA FOR NEARLY A DECADE



With fiber optic technology already in the ground here, Golden West recently upgraded its network equipment to boost speeds. Hartford area residents now enjoy speeds starting at 250 Mbps and going up to a blazing 5 Gig.

Fiber optic technology is out of this world: literally. When NASA sent Apollo 7 to orbit the moon in 1968, the crew broadcast live from outer space on televisions equipped with fiber optics. The technology was so new, it was classified as “confidential,” and operators required special security clearance.

Today, even earthbound folks enjoy the benefits of fast and secure fiber connections. Hartford area residents have had fiber optic broadband internet service as early as 2013, when Golden West began upgrading the Minnehaha County community.

FIBER BENEFITS BOTH TOWN & RURAL CUSTOMERS

Golden West recognized the superiority of fiber optics early on and made upgrading its infrastructure through the Fiber to the Home (FTTH) project a top priority. The Hartford area’s fiber upgrade nine years ago was a game-changer for people like Jesse Fonkert.

He stepped into a new role as president and CEO of Sioux Metro Growth Alliance on April 1, 2020 — just as the pandemic was gathering steam and offices were closing down. Thanks to a Golden West fiber connection, the Hartford resident was able to work remotely from home while learning the ropes.

“It’s tough starting a job in the middle of a pandemic, especially when you serve more than one municipality,” Jesse says. “Part of the job is knowing your stakeholders. Since we couldn’t meet in person, I did a lot of videoconferencing with a bunch of folks that I serve.”

Jesse’s wife, Kelsey, had started a new job in January 2020. Like her husband, she found herself working from home, too. Both were able to access important files in the cloud and relied on Zoom calls to meet with colleagues and constituents.

“Thankfully, our fiber connection is incredibly stable and strong,” Jesse says. “It allowed us both to work from home and do the best work we could under the circumstances.”

While Jesse and Kelsey live in town, rural residents outside Hartford and elsewhere also benefit from fiber connections. Misti Hostutler of Midland traveled for the first 11 years of her career in the information

technology field. Once she was hooked up to fiber, she began working from home instead.

"I am able to help on our family farm, raise our two children and still bring in a salary from my job," Misti says. "I love being able to have a career and still be able to be a stay-at-home mom and wife."

FIBER IS FUTURE-PROOF

Fiber optics are made of long, flexible strands of glass slightly thicker than a human hair. They use pulses of light to transmit data over longer distances and at higher bandwidths than copper cables, which rely on electricity. This allows for speeds that aren't only faster, but symmetrical – meaning the data speed and file transfer rates are identical for both uploads and downloads.

Fiber is limited only by other equipment in the network. With fiber already in the ground, Golden West recently upgraded its network equipment to boost speeds, allowing Hartford area residents to get the maximum benefit from their broadband connections.

With speeds here starting at 250 Mbps and going up to a blazing 5 Gig, Golden West subscribers enjoy fast, reliable, and secure connections ideally suited for today's fast-paced lifestyle. Whether telecommuting, remote learning, streaming, gaming, or taking



Jesse and Kelsey Fonkert learned the ropes at new jobs while working remotely in 2020, thanks in part to the fiber optic network Golden West invested in the Hartford area years ago. Learn how the couple adjusted to Zoom conferences at theexchangesd.com/homeward-bound.

advantage of telehealth offerings, customers are assured of strong connections — even with multiple users under a single roof. To learn more about options in Hartford, visit goldenwest.com/hartford.

To date, Golden West has placed about 9,500 miles of fiber in the ground. The cooperative is working to upgrade its entire service territory to fiber within the next five or six years.

That's one small step for man, but one giant leap for South Dakotans who depend on fast and reliable broadband connections.

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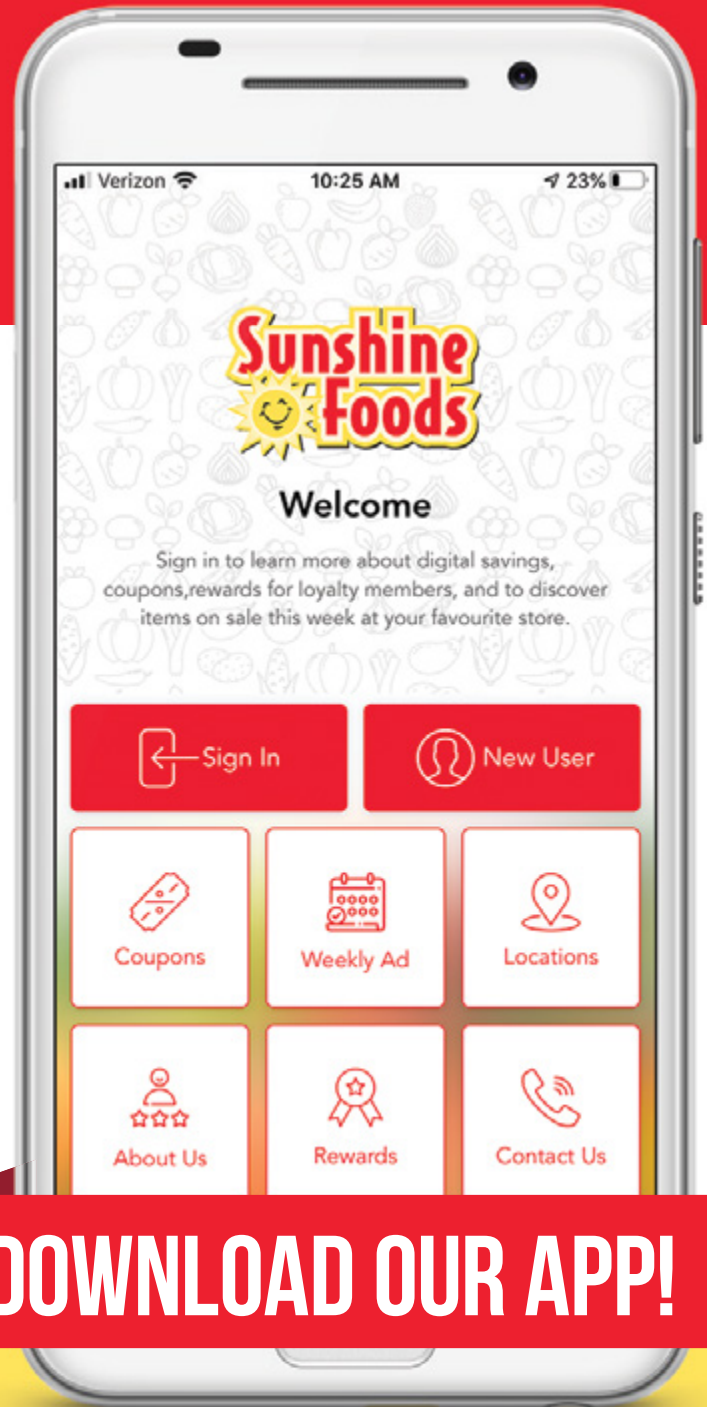
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Casey Remmers

GREAT MEAT AND TABLE-READY MEALS AT HARTFORD'S NEW CREEKSIDE MEATS

By Garrett Gross

In the fall of 2021, a vision of two friends, Casey Remmers and Troy Grocott, became a reality when Creekside Meats opened its doors in downtown Hartford. The business was seeded after a brainstorming session about 18 months earlier during the first few months of the pandemic. At that time, food supply chains were disrupted and the importance of a local supplier of meats and related products was demonstrated more than ever.

The pandemic acted as a catalyst to get the ball rolling to open Creekside Meats, but the knowledge and passion for the business was well in place much earlier. Casey Remmers originally is from Orient, S.D., where he grew up helping out at his parents' steakhouse. Being a part of a family-owned and operated business gave him the background necessary to make Creekside Meats a success.

"My parents ran their steakhouse for over 42 years," Casey said. "This is where I learned the business and how to produce great food like we provide at Creekside Meats." The new company is also a family affair as Casey's parents (who now live in the area) help at the business as do Casey's sisters and his two sons.

When Casey and Troy, who farms near Buffalo Trading Post, were looking for potential cities to start the business, they felt Hartford was the best location. "We looked at other towns in the area to start the business, but we felt Hartford made the most sense because it's a rapidly growing town and it has a strong sense of community," Casey said. This small-town feel has served them well as residents are easily able to stop by when coming home from work. It's easy in-and-out to grab a few steaks or a pre-made meal.

Creekside Meats falls under the label of "Specialty Grocery Store," which means they offer great cuts of meat as well as pre-made, table-ready meals and dishes. "All our steaks are aged in house," said Casey. "We take pride in producing a wide range of great products from local beef, pork and poultry producers in the area." Creekside Meats smokes all their meats on-site and prepares their sides and dishes on location as well.

The Hartford area community has supported the business and people are coming back to try new things all the time. "Our catering and take-out business has done



really well," he said. "For example, during the Super Bowl, we did over 100 orders for our customers' parties. Graduation season was also great for us as we smoked over 3000 pounds of pork butts."

Creekside Meats makes their own take-and-bake pizzas with options that are low carb and gluten free as well as traditional pizza selections. Casey is known for his "Casey's Steak Seasoning" which is sold in various sizes of packaging. It's labeled as steak seasoning, but it is good on pork and chicken as well.

Creekside Meats also carries items from local companies who produce various food-related products beyond just their own in-house labeled items.

The long-term plan for Creekside Meats is to grow as demand dictates and offer additional services in time. In a specialty grocer-type business, Casey said the goal of his dedicated team is to make great food and give customers a great experience every time they come in the door.

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Jackie and Lonnie Heier with their sons, Hayden and Crew.

WHAT A TREAT!

LONNIE AND JACKIE HEIER DRIVE UP TO HARTFORD WITH DQ AND THEIR FAMILY

Lonnie and Jackie Heier recently moved to the Hartford community with their sons, Crew, 16, and Hayden, 13. Re-locating from Pierre, Lonnie and Jackie were motivated by everything that makes Hartford a great place to live, raise a family and run a business. With their sons still being young enough to acclimate themselves to a new school, it seemed to be good timing because Lonnie is opening the new Dairy Queen restaurant in Hartford later this year. Everything just made sense to make Hartford their new home.

"We chose to start a new business in Hartford because of the growth potential here, and we chose to move our family to Hartford because of the reputation of the West Central School District and their history of great activities," Lonnie said.

The new Dairy Queen will be located just north of the I-90 exit across from Ace Hardware. This will be the Heier's seventh store in South Dakota. Lonnie has owned and operated Dairy Queens for 16 years with other locations in Vermillion, Winner, Martin, Eagle

Butte, Mobridge and Pierre. The Hartford store will be a full service DQ Grill & Chill which is a relatively new design concept in South Dakota – it's only the third one in the state. There will be plenty of seating inside along with the first double drive thru concept for DQ in the state. In the warmer months, guests can enjoy outdoor patio seating and shade under a pergola.



A new business like this means another dining option for local residents, but it also means more traffic coming off I-90 to stimulate the local economy with travelers visiting other Hartford businesses, too. From an employment perspective, Lonnie anticipates hiring approximately 40 team members including a general manager and other leadership roles within the store. A restaurant such as Dairy Queen will hire students as young as 14, along with people all ages from teenagers to those who may be empty-nesters or beyond.

Lonnie understands what it takes to be successful in a business like Dairy Queen. "We take pride in training our employees and put them in the best roles possible. We try to develop skills in our employees and they appreciate that," he said. "I'll be living in Hartford so I can be right there to ensure the success of the store."

He also understands the importance of being engaged with local activities, organizations and events. "We've learned that both our customers and employees appreciate when we take an active role in the community."

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Science.....	21.8
Composite.....	21.6

2021-2022 ENROLLMENT

Junior Kindergarten.....	21	Grade 9.....	106
Kindergarten.....	118	Grade 10.....	110
Grade 1.....	113	Grade 11.....	100
Grade 2.....	101	Grade 12.....	93
Grade 3.....	107	TOTAL HIGH SCHOOL.....	409
Grade 4.....	98	Sequel Transition Academy... 18	
Grade 5.....	88	Fall Academy.....	23
TOTAL ELEMENTARY.....	646	TOTAL.....	1,416
Grade 6.....	107		
Grade 7.....	106		
Grade 8.....	107		
TOTAL MIDDLE SCHOOL... 320			

FROM THE SUPERINTENDENT

SCHOOL DISTRICT GROWING, BUT KEEPS SMALL-DISTRICT FEEL

By Dan Hoey

The West Central School District (WCSD) is a wonderful place to be! Our district is growing, expanding and still maintains its "small-district" feel. The communities that represent our district, Ellis, Hartford, Humboldt and the Wall Lake area, are welcoming places and they look forward to you and your family becoming part of them.

This school year, our student enrollment grew to include 1,429 students, our largest enrollment to date. Our proximity to the largest population center in our state offers some positives, yet one of our most significant attributes is our small-town feel and the individuality afforded in each of our communities and attendance centers.

The West Central School District has four attendance centers - Hartford Elementary, Humboldt Elementary, the West Central Middle School and the West Central High School. Each is staffed by caring, competent and well-trained professionals. Our entire campus is led by people who consider your child's whole education their top priority. Social/emotional, physical/mental and cognitive/academic growth is something we take very seriously and find joy in delivering!

Our Hartford Elementary is expanding, as the WCSD board of education recently approved an approximate \$8 million dollar addition which will provide room for 200+ students. One of the many blessings of this reality is that the district was able to fund this on our own! WCSD is in strong financial condition and poised for future growth. Please be encouraged to check out what our communities and district have to offer you and your children. Now is truly a wonderful time to be a Trojan!



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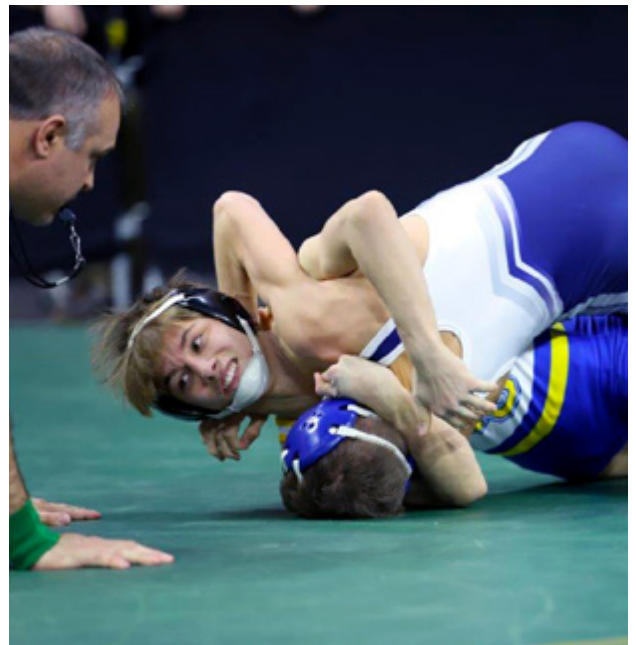
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One hundred twenty years ago, civic leaders took a vital step to protect the property and lives of Hartford area residents. In early November 1902, a meeting was held for the purpose of establishing a fire department for the city of Hartford. The Hartford Fire Department became a reality with 14 members on Nov. 17, 1902.

A play, a picnic, and some basket socials were put on as fundraisers to pay for the new Seagrave Co. fire truck. In January 1904, the department purchased a fire bell from Sioux Falls for \$21.55.

Fire department membership expanded from 20 to 30

members in 1917. In 1922, the E.A. Wendt fire took place in which the hardware and implement building burned, probably the biggest fire in Hartford history. In 1926, the department installed a siren to signal fires. It also was sounded every day to indicate 12 noon.

A farm fire board was established in 1953 to help fund the department from the rural population and the department took on the responsibility of rural fire protection. In 1985, the fire department and FIRSTHELP combined in 1985 to become Hartford Fire & Rescue.

The list of fire trucks in the early days reads like a

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history of the automobile and included:
1903 Model A hook and ladder truck; 1939
International pumper; 1952 Jeep (set up for
grass fires), 1954 International pumper; 1969
Chevrolet combination tanker/pumper; and
1969 Diamond Reo tanker.

The first building to house the fire
department was located at the corner of 2nd
and Main. In 1957, the city purchased the
Ole Voekler building just south of 2nd in the
business district and it was converted into the
city hall and fire station. The station built in
1985 was constructed with all volunteer labor.

Persons with an interest in serving the
community as a member of Hartford Area Fire
& Rescue should leave a message on the fire
station answering machine at 605-528-3511.
Matt Horn serves as chief and other officers of
Hartford Fire & Rescue are: Connor Vortheims,
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John Hanssen, James Buss, Todd Lowe and
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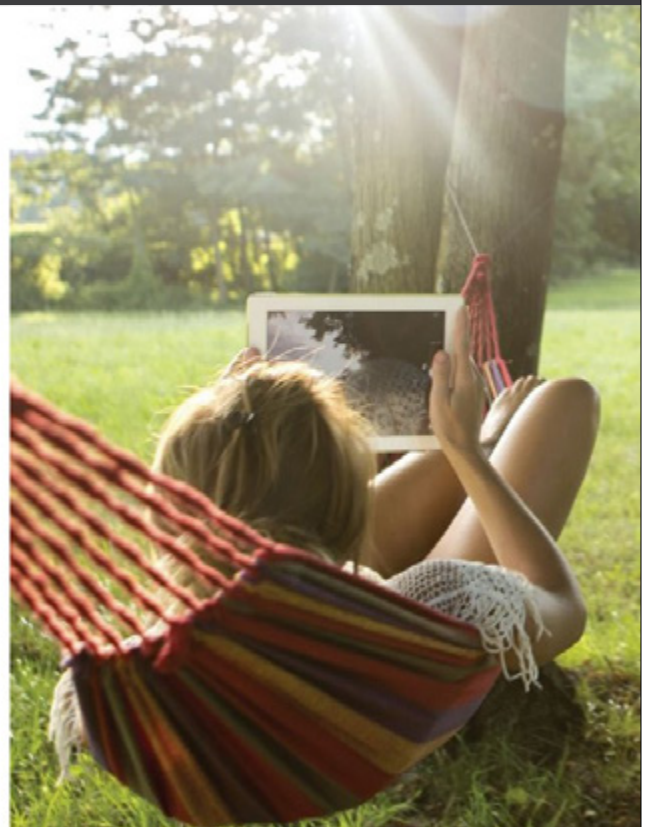
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