

A Message To The Graduating Classes Of 2015

A column by Gov. Dennis Daugaard



Congratulations to the class of 2015! To all high school, college and technical school students now approaching graduation in South Dakota, I commend you for reaching this milestone. After years of studying, taking tests and writing essays, you've finally made it. Congratulations on all you have achieved! Most of you probably already have a good idea of what you'll be doing next - what additional education you'll seek or what career you'll pursue. Whether you've decided to stay in South Dakota or pursue a career or education elsewhere, I hope you'll ultimately consider a future here in our state. There are a

number of reasons to consider living and working here. First, we have the fourth lowest unemployment rate in the nation at 3.5 percent, compared to the national rate of 5.5 percent. Job opportunities are better here than in most places. Secondly, the tax burden in South Dakota is low. We are among only a few states without an income tax, meaning you can keep more of the money you earn. Money that can repay student debt, buy a house someday or replace that car you drove into the ground in school. Third, not only do people keep more of the money they earn in South Dakota, but that money will buy more here than in other places. According to a U.S. Department of Commerce report, South Dakotans experience a very low cost of living in the United States. We don't spend as much money on housing, insurance, food and the other everyday needs. In fact, we have some of the lowest costs in the nation. In New York, California, Washington, D.C., or many other places, you will find costs that are 10 percent, 12 percent, even 18 percent higher than the national aver-

age. In South Dakota those costs are only 88 percent of the national average. Now some people will say, "There may be a low tax burden and low cost of living, but I won't get paid as much if I live in South Dakota." Actually, when it comes to per capita personal income, we fare pretty well. Nationally, we rank in the top half. And, if you adjust the per capita personal income for the low cost of living, we are the fifth best in the nation. If you adjust for lack of income taxes, we rank third in the nation. Beyond the financial reasons, though, South Dakota is a great place to live because we have a good quality of life here. Our communities are safe, our public schools are high-quality and our people are friendly. We also have clean air, clean water and beautiful scenery. And you can't put a price tag on the love and support of your family, here in South Dakota. My hope is not that you will never venture outside of our state, but rather that you would consider a more permanent future in South Dakota. Your dreams can come true - right here at home.

Union County Historical Society hosts Memorial Day Celebration May 25th, 2015

On May 25 the Union County Historical Society will host a Memorial Day celebration at the Union County Museum located at 707 W. Main St. in Elk Point, SD. The main feature will be the South Dakota's Fallen Hero's traveling display. A patriotic program will begin at noon with Joy Hemmingson as vocalist followed by a Civil War presentation by Phillip Peterson. The museum will be open during this event from 11 a.m. to 4 p.m. A free will offering meal will be served from 11:30 a.m. until 2 p.m. consisting of taverns, beans, chips, rhubarb crisp, cookies and a drink. Please be sure to attend this event as there are now many items have been added to the museums displays inside the main house and in the north display barn. Due to limited parking, please park at the Immanuel Lutheran Church parking lot, just east of the museum, and you will be transported to the museum grounds. Those with disabilities will be allowed to park near the museum. Be sure to attend this event as we will be honoring those that have served years ago up until present.

What's Happening at Newton Hills And Good Earth State Parks

Trees are blooming, birds are chirping, school is almost out, and we are getting excited for another great summer full of fun and educational programming at Newton Hills and Good Earth. Cortney and Verna will be returning to Good Earth, and Newton Hills is looking forward to you meeting our new naturalist Allie who will be joining the team with Gianna. We look forward to seeing you all out at the parks! The Newton Hills programming will kick off on Friday, May 15th with an 8:30pm movie at the amphitheater. On Saturday morning at 9am our staff is working with several folks from the Wildlife Division to have another Step Outside Day. Meet us at Lake Lakota for a morning of BB guns, archery, fishing, fur ID, trapping, and geocaching. After lunch at 2:30pm, you can meet up at the amphitheater for SD Critters where we will make a craft and talk about some local animals. At 4pm we will talk about Predator and Prey and play a fun game. At the end of the day you can reward yourself with a movie, some popcorn, and freeze pops at 8:30pm. On Sunday May 17th at 9am there will be a non-denominational worship service held at the amphitheater for all who wish to join. If you have any questions about the park or the programs for this coming weekend, do not hesitate to give us a call at (605) 987-2263 or email newtonhills@state.sd.us.

CorTrust Bank Scholarship Winners Announced

CorTrust Bank and the South Dakota Bankers Foundation are pleased to award \$1,000 scholarships to the following outstanding seniors who will be attending a South Dakota college or post-secondary school: Brandon Van Osdel, Gayville; Hanah Kappenman, Bowdle; Francine Hoffman, Leola; Keith Hurley, Sioux Falls; Kyle Stegeman, Arlington; Shanae Doerr, Aberdeen; Carly Sternhagen, Tabor; Marley Hanson, Vermillion; Cody Bremmon, Webster; Dusan Mirkovic, Mitchell; Jarid Bechen, Artesian and Lee Rose, Yankton.

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 Fill the puzzle so that every row, every column, and every section contain the numbers 1-9 without repeating a number.

		5			6	7	4
1			7		3		9
	4			5	1	2	8
4				2	9	3	
8							2
	3	2	9				6
5	6	4		1			9
2		3			5		1
9	7	1			8		

EASY EA BOOK 59 #3

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 Check next Tuesday's paper for the solution to today's puzzle.
 CH BOOK 59 #2

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