

COOPERATIVE CONNECTIONS

Hot Air Balloons

**Festival Gains
Popularity**
Pages 8-9

Go-Kart Racing
Pages 12-13

*Photo provided by
Petra Wilson, owner
of Western Horizons
Hot Air Balloons.*



Reliability



Walker Witt - CEO
wwitt@bhec.coop

Providing safe and reliable electric service is our mission. Safety is always our number one priority, but reliability is a close second. The Service Interruption Report is presented to your board each year. In 2022, the average percent of time that a service had power was 99.996%. We have been doing this interruption report in its current form for 24 years, and 2022 is tied for the second lowest.

Every outage the co-op has is documented and reviewed by operations and engineering employees to determine if the outage could have been prevented and what actions can be taken to prevent or shorten similar outages in the future. From simple solutions such as tin wrapped around the base of poles to prevent small animals from climbing, to expensive new substations, overhead to underground line conversions, and SCADA (Supervisory, Control, and Data Acquisition System) operated switches, all help improve reliability.

Reliability improvement is the result of thorough line patrol and tree cutting, improved maintenance, frequent testing and inspection programs, more technical and better equipment, sufficient capacity, and added back feeds and loops from multiple distribution and transmission sources.

Each year we do an analysis of the cost of system inspection, maintenance, and capital improvements with respect to reliability based upon service interruptions to determine a quantifiable nexus of dollars spent to the percentage of system reliability. I wish it were that easy!

The one **big** piece to the puzzle that I have missed in my analysis of system reliability over the past several years is the human piece. Garrett Hardin, a somewhat controversial ecologist and philosopher (with whom I do not agree with in many cases), did provide me with the puzzle piece I have been missing. His formula for reliability is: (TECHNOLOGY RELIABILITY) x (HUMAN RELIABILITY) = SYSTEM RELIABILITY.

The human reliability piece is truly what makes our system reliable. From our engineers at Rushmore Engineering, to our right-of-way crews, and our members that call in because something doesn't look quite right on the line, the human factor is the driver of our reliability. At Black Hills Electric Cooperative, human reliability is made up of a dedicated workforce that is well-trained, has a strong skill set, and is very committed.

Providing reliable electric service is a priority of the co-op and one that we continue to improve on each year. Of the many resources the cooperative allocates to improved reliability, the human resource is what makes it work. Thanks to all of the employees for your dedication to our co-op and your dedication to our mission. You are appreciated.

Enjoy the rest of your summer and stay safe!

Disclosure: For those of you that have thought you have read this article before, you are correct. This article is a re-write of one I did in 2018. I am a lawyer; I am always fully transparent!

CO-OP DAY

FRIDAY, AUGUST 4TH 11:00 A.M. - 2:00 P.M.

SAFETY DEMOS: 11:00 A.M. & 1:00 P.M.



FOOD FUN FRIENDS



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HEADQUARTERS**

**25191 COOPERATIVE WAY
CUSTER, SD 57730**

COOPERATIVE CONNECTIONS

BLACK HILLS ELECTRIC

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CUSTER COUNTY FFA CHAPTER



L-R: Kylee Ellerton, Kenley Parker, Leighton Sander, Addie Sander, and Addy Krittenbrink. Not pictured: Avari Dorrance & Colter Gerard.

Custer County now has an active Future Farmers of America (FFA) Chapter. FFA is a dynamic youth organization that changes lives and prepares students for premier leadership, personal growth, and career success through agricultural education. FFA develops students' potential and helps them discover their talent through hands-on experiences, which give them the tools to achieve real-world success.

FFA is not just for students who want to be production farmers; FFA also welcomes students who aspire to careers as teachers, doctors, scientists, business owners and more.

If you're interested in helping make the Custer County FFA Chapter successful, please contact Vera Ellerton at 605-673-3369.



SOUTH DAKOTA
FFA ASSOCIATION

Working Out in the Heat

Exercising outdoors is a great way to enjoy the sunshine and warmer weather of summer. But you'll need to take some extra precautions to stay safe. Here are some do's and don'ts for working out when temperatures climb.

DO: Stay hydrated

Drink plenty of water before, during and after your workout to prevent dehydration and help regulate body temperature. Nicole Thompson of the American Council on Exercise recommends slowly drinking water or sports drinks about four hours before exercising. Aim for 1 ounce for every 11 pounds of body weight – so 10 ounces for a 110-pound person or 20 ounces for a 220-pound person.

Weigh yourself before and after working out to determine how much fluid you need to replace. The Academy of Nutrition and Dietetics recommends drinking 2-3 cups of water for every pound lost.

DON'T: Drink products containing alcohol

Alcohol is a diuretic, so it contributes to dehydration.

DO: Wear lightweight and breathable clothing

Choose light-colored and loose-fitting clothes made of moisture-wicking materials. This'll help keep you cool and dry.

DON'T: Wear dark colors or heavy fabrics

Dark-colored clothing can absorb heat and trap it against your body.

DO: Wear sunscreen

The key number to look for on your sunscreen is the sun protection factor. An SPF of 15 filters out about 93% of UVB rays, according to the Environmental Protection Agency, while an SPF of 30 will filter out around 97%. Look for "broad spectrum" on the label to protect against UVA and UVB rays.

Apply sunscreen 15 or 20 minutes before going out (check the instructions on the label). Reapply every two hours – or more frequently if you're sweating a lot. Don't forget about your ears, lips and any bald spots on your scalp – they need protection, too.

DON'T: Work out during the hottest times of the day

The sun is at its strongest between 10 a.m. and 3 p.m., so try to schedule workouts for earlier in the morning or later in the afternoon. Remember, you can always work out inside and in an air-conditioned area if needed.

DO: Know the signs of heat-related illness

Symptoms of heat exhaustion include:

- Nausea and dizziness
- Headaches
- Feeling weak

A weak or rapid pulse

Cold, clammy skin

If you experience any sign of heat exhaustion, move to a cool place, loosen your clothing, put cool and wet cloths on your body or take a cool bath, and sip water, the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention says. Get medical help if your symptoms don't go away after an hour, if your symptoms worsen or if you're throwing up.

Symptoms of heatstroke include:

A body temperature of 103° F or higher

Hot, dry, bright red or damp skin

Labored breathing

A fast, strong pulse

Headache, dizziness, nausea or confusion

Loss of consciousness

Heatstroke is an emergency. If you suspect it, call 911 immediately.

DON'T: Overdo it

Adjust your workout intensity to account for the heat and listen to your body's cues. Shorter workouts are good when temperatures rise. Allow your body to get used to the heat. Then you can gradually increase your time outdoors and exercise intensity.



Don't pull the cord!

Gabrielle Clement, Age 10

Gabrielle Clement advises people it's not safe to pull the cord when disconnecting appliances from an outlet. Gabrielle is the daughter of Dustin and Michelle Clement from Box Elder, S.D., members of West River Electric Association.

Kids, send your drawing with an electrical safety tip to your local electric cooperative (address found on Page 3). If your poster is published, you'll receive a prize. All entries must include your name, age, mailing address and the names of your parents. Colored drawings are encouraged.

Savory Summer SALADS

GRAPE SALAD

Ingredients:

- 2 lbs. red seedless grapes
- 2 lbs. green seedless grapes
- 1-8 oz. cream cheese (softened)
- 1 cup sour cream
- 1 cup sugar
- 1 tsp. vanilla
- 1 cup brown sugar
- 1 cup chopped pecans

METHOD

Wash and dry grapes. Mix cream cheese and sour cream. Add sugar and vanilla. Mix well. Fold in grapes. Place in 9x13 pan. Sprinkle with brown sugar and pecans.

Angie Ruiters
Sioux Falls, S.D.

CHICKEN SALAD

Ingredients:

- 1/2 cup plain lowfat yogurt
- 2 tbsp. mayonnaise
- 1 tsp. parsley flakes
- 1/2 tsp. seasoned salt
- 1/4 tsp. pure ground black pepper
- 1/2 rotisserie chicken, cut into bite-size chunks (about 2 cups)
- 1/2 cup thinly sliced celery
- 1/4 cup chopped red onion

METHOD

Mix yogurt, mayonnaise, parsley, seasoned salt and pepper in large bowl. Add chicken, celery and onion; toss to coat well. Cover. Refrigerate at least 30 minutes or until ready to serve. Serve in sandwiches or on salad greens.

mccormick.com

CORN CUCUMBER SALAD

Ingredients:

- 2 cans whole kernel corn (drained)
- 1 cup diced, unpeeled and seeded cucumbers
- 1/4 cup chopped red onion
- 1/3 cup mayonnaise
- 2 tbsp. chopped fresh cilantro
- 2 tbsp. grated Parmesan cheese
- 2 tbsp. lime juice
- 1 tsp. paprika
- 1/2 tsp. garlic salt
- 1/4 tsp. ground cumin

METHOD

Mix corn, cucumber and onion in large bowl. Set aside. Mix remaining ingredients in small bowl until well blended. Add to corn mixture; toss lightly to coat. Cover. Refrigerate 2 hours or until ready to serve.

mccormick.com

Please send your favorite recipes to your local electric cooperative (address found on Page 3). Each recipe printed will be entered into a drawing for a prize in December 2023. All entries must include your name, mailing address, phone number and cooperative name.



2023 Youth Tour

Black Hills Electric Cooperative's student Karina Novotny participates in the 2023 Washington D.C. Youth Tour Trip

Michelle Fischer
michellef@bhec.coop

Forty teens representing 20 South Dakota electric cooperatives headed to the Washington, D.C., area June 17-23 for the 2023 Rural Electric Youth Tour, including BHEC's Youth Tour winner Karina Novotny.

The program, which can trace its existence back to a 1957 speech

by Lyndon B. Johnson where he encouraged electric cooperatives to send youth to the nation's capitol so they "can actually see what the flag stands for and represents," encourages teens to engage in their communities and learn about the importance of political involvement. More than 1,300 teens have represented the Rushmore State since South Dakota sent its first group in 1963.

The 2023 group visited many of the historic sites the region has to offer, including a Flag Day stop at Baltimore's Fort McHenry. The fort's bombardment in the War of 1812 was captured in Francis Scott Key's poem, which would eventually become the national anthem. Old Glory would play a recurring theme in the trip as students could see it at the Smithsonian's National Museum of American History and also hear an inspirational message centered on the flag from Youth Day keynote speaker Mike Schlappi, a four-time Paralympic medalist in U.S.A. men's wheelchair basketball.

Students also met with the state's congressional delegation and with Youth Tour participants from across the country while touring many of our nation's historical sites – including the National Archives, Library of Congress, Mount Vernon, U.S. Supreme Court, and many more.



Karina Novotny and other students look at the Korean War Memorial. This memorial displays the names of 43,808 US and South Korean soldiers killed during the 1950-1953 Korean War.





TAKING TO THE SKY

Balloons light up the night during the night glow event of the festival.

Fall River Hot Air Balloon Festival Gains Popularity

Jocelyn Johnson

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It's a picturesque and dramatic spectacle that's awed most people for several hundred years. Yet, spectators and pilots alike have not tired of the image. Hot air balloons have that quality of enchantment. And what better way to be enchanted than to see dozens of these balloons floating up into the sunrise of a South Dakota sky?

The annual Hot Springs Chamber of Commerce Fall River Hot Air Balloon Festival is attracting nearly 30 balloons and thousands of spectators on Aug. 25-27, 2023. The event is taking place at the airport outside of Hot Springs, S.D., where it will celebrate its 8th year of growing popularity. Festival sightseers can pack all-day-fun into their festivities by visiting the vendors, obstacle courses,

bouncy houses, and performances in Hot Springs by Magician Jared Furnau and the Wild Blue Band.

Petra Wilson, a local commercial pilot, founded the festival in 2016 before opening her own flying business – Western Horizons Hot Air Balloons.

“The way I got introduced to ballooning is a tale of serendipity,” said Wilson. “Almost 20 years ago, my husband and I attended a hot air balloon festival in Peoria, Ill., where we are asked to become crew members for a weekend. On the last flight of the weekend, he asked us if we wanted to go for a ride. The ride was absolutely stunning and from that point on we were hooked.”

Wilson became a private pilot in 2014 and a commercial pilot in 2017. In 2015, Wilson and her husband moved to Hot Springs, where she discovered she was the

only hot air balloon pilot flying in the area.

I introduced many different people to ballooning by inviting them out to watch and even crew,” Wilson said. “Some of those people became my students and eventually became hot air balloon pilots in the Hot Springs area.”

When asked how she started the festival, Wilson replied, “I decided this area was such a beautiful place to fly that I wanted to share it with all my ballooning friends and their friends, as well as locals who might appreciate the beauty of the balloons in the sky, so what better way to do this than having a balloon festival.”

The festival started with the partnership between Wilson and Olivia Mears, Executive Director for the Chamber of Commerce in Hot Springs.

Mears said, “Folks from South Dakota, California, Nebraska, Colorado, and more attend this festival. We attract private pilots who fly for their own enjoyment and commercial pilots who are licensed to carry passengers.”

Tamie Shrum, current balloon-meister for Fall River Hot Air Balloon Festival, is a commercial pilot overseeing the safety and regulation of the participating balloons. She travels the world to fly, including six countries and 37 states. Shrum owns three of her own balloons and earns her living flying passengers and training students how to fly.

“I like to do long jump flying, which is long distance flying,” said Shrum. “My longest distance is 137 miles in a three-hour flight with a top speed of 78 mph.”

Shrum explained that a considerable amount of studying goes into the preparation for a long jump flight. Everything matters – the time of year, time of day, location, and weather patterns.

“We work off of a microscopic level,” Shrum said. “A regular person might say, ‘It’s not that windy today,’ but a balloon pilot might say, ‘It’s too windy to fly today.’”

Describing how balloons fly, Shrum said, “In layman’s terms, hot air rises and cold air sinks. You put heat in the

envelope, making it hotter than ambient temperatures which allows it to lift the massive weight it’s carrying.”

“We use a burner with regular propane,” Shrum continued. “The amount of propane needed changes based upon ambient temperature, altitude of flight, and how much passenger weight is being carried.”

Balloons are simplistic in design but can be challenging to fly.

“You don’t steer a balloon... while airplanes fly against the wind, balloons fly with the wind, which can be unpredictable,” Shrum explained. “Sometimes you land in a park and sometimes you land in main street.”

“I’ve flown over Pikes Peak in Colorado



Commercial Pilot Tamie Shrum looks below on other balloons while flying.

and in Japan along with many other places,” Shrum said. “I’ve been fortunate to sightsee all over the world from 1,000 feet in the air while others are sightseeing from the surface...but South Dakota is one of the most gorgeous places to fly in.”



Commercial Pilot Petra Wilson inspects her balloon.

Ag Appreciation Day at the Central States Fair

When: August 22nd | 4pm-6pm

Where: Kjerstad Event Center
-915 Centre St.

What: -Free Meal
-Discounted Rodeo Tickets*
-RSVP required
*visit RSVP site for more details



RSVP Here:



Please come show your support in honoring these individuals for their dedication to the agriculture community. Ag Appreciation Meal will be August 22nd from 4-6pm at the Kjerstad Event Center. You must RSVP by scanning the QR code or by visiting the following link: <https://bit.ly/3CzCRNP>



Jerry Hammerquist
2023 Rural Neighbor Award
Sponsored by: Touchstone Energy Cooperatives



Bashful Bison
Agribusiness Award
Sponsored by: Elevate Rapid City



Rick Wulf
2023 Rural Neighbor Award
Sponsored by: Central States Fair

Home Health Care

Dr. Saini Provides Home Health Care for Patients

Scott Waltman

For Dr. Mona Saini, providing care to patients in their homes is incredibly satisfying.

Saini lives in Custer and works for Monument Health. She started with what's since become Monument during her residency in Rapid City about eight years ago and has been in Custer for the past five years.

She started home visits early during the COVID-19 pandemic and has kept providing the service since, she said.

Taking care of patients in their homes is convenient for those folks and a privilege for Saini. She said it feels more personal for her and helps alleviate anxiety for people who have a hard time getting to the hospital or clinic.

The disappointing part of modern medicine is that not much home health care is provided, Saini said.

The home visits are part of her work for Monument, but not the only part. She's a general practitioner and also provides prenatal care. She and the other five physicians in

Custer all do outpatient clinic, hospital and emergency room work. Not all, though, provide home health care.

Saini earned her undergraduate degree from Oakland University on the north side of Detroit and went to medical school at the Indiana School of Medicine-Fort Wayne.

“The disappointing part of modern medicine is that not much home health care is provided.”

She said she had an interest in rural health care while she was still in school, which is what led her to apply for a residency in Rapid City.

Saini's parents grew up in India, but she's found a wonderful home in Custer.



Dr. Mona Saini

Her parents are the children of farmers, and she appreciates the rural values of hard work, being humble and appreciative and family values.

“I lived in Michigan almost all my life, and I didn't even know all this was out here,” Saini said of the Black Hills area.

She appreciates the community and the opportunity to help people without them having to leave the comfort of their homes.

“I love taking care of my rural health patients,” Saini said. “I truly do”



RACING FAMILY FUN

Go-kart racers in Aberdeen are placed in divisions by age and skill to keep the races competitive. The track usually hosts races twice a month during the summer months. *Photo by Scott Waltman*

Go-kart Racing at Aberdeen Track is a Family Affair

Scott Waltman

Kevin Horn didn't set out to drive to Aberdeen several times a summer so he could race.

Instead, after seeing races on TV, the Waubay mechanic bought a go-kart for his then-9-year-old daughter. But while she was driving, the kart skidded on some wet grass and she hit the kart trailer. After that, she turned the keys over to Dad.

That was about 11 years ago. Horn took his daughter's number 9 and flipped it to make a 6, and he's been racing ever since.

Like others who race at the Aberdeen Karting Club track at the Brown County Fairgrounds, his story has a tie to family, even if it didn't work out exactly as he thought it would.

Karting, racers and organizers say, is a family affair.

Brody Griffin of Watertown is 10 and started karting three years ago.

He makes the rounds, mostly to the closest tracks in Aberdeen, Brookings and Miller. He races just about every weekend during summer, and the allure is simple. Griffin said he just likes driving.

He was named rookie of the year his first season and finished second in his division his second season in Aberdeen.

But it's not all zipping around the track and trying to pass other drivers. Griffin said he helps work on his kart with his father.

That makes sense to Landon Schott, a 24-year-old racer from Aberdeen who is one of the track's most successful drivers. Now that he's a little older, helps with public relations and social media for the track.

When Schott started racing, he said his father made it clear to him that he would be helping work on the kart and had to keep it clean. Karting can be a big financial investment, and his dad wasn't going to spend heaps of money if his son wasn't going to pitch in and be engaged.

Schott, too, said he appreciates the friendly and family atmosphere of karting.

Sponsorships are critical to both the Aberdeen track and its racers, he said. He wouldn't have been able to travel across the country racing without



Josiah Combellick serves as the event's flagman. *Photo by Scott Waltman*

having sponsors since he started driving in 2006, he said.

The Aberdeen track doesn't have any employees, and the Aberdeen Karting Club is a nonprofit group, so contributions are important, Schott said.

Rick Cartney is the vice president of the Aberdeen Karting Club and has been involved with the track since it was founded in 1996. His first race was in Aberdeen that first year, and now he gets to the track to start prep work around 9 a.m. on race days. Races usually start around 4 p.m. and last into the night.

For Cartney, the payback comes from the smiles on the faces of young racers.

"Mainly, it's for the kids," he said.

They do their best racing when they don't win, but they learn, grow and mature, Cartney said.

The Aberdeen track is between an eighth and a 10th of a mile long and is great for young racers who are just

starting out, he said.

There are races in Aberdeen a couple of times a month during summer, with the schedules of other tracks in the region taken into consideration so drivers can make it to as many races as possible. Generally, there are 30 or 40 drivers in Aberdeen, most of them young people, Cartney said.

Starting at the Aberdeen track has served Schott well. He has advanced to grand national events with both the International Karting Federation and Maxxis Kart Racing, finishing as in the top five, but never quite nabbing a championship. Last December, Schott said, he traveled to Daytona, Fla., and raced with about 70 other drivers, never finishing outside of the top 14.

"I guess maybe I'm just an adrenaline junkie," Schott said.

In 2013, as a junior driver, he won a Maxxis regional championship. The event drew drivers from across the nation and is called the Maxx Daddy, he said.

Schott said that and winning an end-of-season state championship in 2021 on his home track in Aberdeen are, at least to date, two of the highlights of his career.

He also won the state championship in 2015 in Brookings.

The state karting championships used to be in Brookings, but have been in Aberdeen in recent years. They return again this year on Aug. 12.

That event will likely draw about 200 drivers from South Dakota and surrounding states, Cartney said. A heavy bronze trophy in the shape of Mount Rushmore goes to the winner.

It will be yet another chance for the karting community to gather. Both Schott and Horn said they have made friends traveling the karting circuit. It's one of the most enjoyable parts of racing, they said, and Cartney agrees.

"These people are like a second family," he said.



Landon Schott helps prepare a go-kart before the races begin in Aberdeen on Saturday, June 17. Schott is one of the most successful racers from the Aberdeen Karting Klub. *Photo by Scott Waltman*



HARVESTING HISTORY

The manual labor of past generations of farmers and ranchers is on display each year at the James Valley Threshing Show each September in Andover. *Photo courtesy of James Valley Threshers Association*

Andover Threshing Show Focuses on History of Agriculture With an Eye to the Future

Scott Waltman

Most of the time, the population of Andover hovers somewhere around 65 people.

But during the first weekend of September, there's a parade that usually has four times as many entrants as there are residents.

And when a one-of-a-kind tractor is unveiled, well, the number of visitors swells to a tally approaching 10,000.

The annual James Valley Threshing Show is easily the biggest event in the small Day County town each year. And it's not even close.

In fact, organizers can't think of a bigger threshing show in eastern South Dakota or even across the borders into parts of North Dakota and Minnesota.

Tim Olson is president of the James Valley Threshers Association. He said the show has grown considerably since it moved from a farm just outside of Aberdeen. Most years, he estimates,

about 4,500 people attend.

Olson has been working with the show since it arrived in Andover in 1979. The first event near Aberdeen was in 1974, so he and others who are involved are already looking forward to the 50th show in 2024.

In 2018, a Case 150-horsepower steam-powered tractor that was built from scratch debuted at the James Valley Threshing Show. That year, Olson said, there were probably around 8,000 people who attended. And while many showed up for the impressive tractor, the only one of its kind in the world, they found so much more, he said.

Kevin Anderson has also been working with the event since it moved to Andover. He thinks perhaps 10,000 people attended the 2018 show to see the Case 150.

His son, Kory, led the effort to build the machine. In 2008, he started making wooden patterns out of mahogany that were used to create all of the castings for

the engine. And that was after a trip to the Case plant in Racine, Wisconsin, two years earlier where he was given a tour of the archives and paged through steam engine prints, making all the copies he wanted to guide his endeavor.

Fast-forward to last fall, after heaps of planning and building, and the Case 150 was certified as the Guinness world record for largest steam-powered tractor in operation.

Much of the work on the 750,000 behemoth was done at Anderson Industries and Dakota Foundry, both of which are based in Webster.

It can sometimes overshadow other events at the threshing show. But Olson and Kevin Anderson want visitors to know there are plenty more activities on the 65 acres owned by the threshing association.

There's the parade with more than 250 entries, a working saw mill, steam and gas plowing, threshing, a quilt show, a kiddie tractor pull, antique tractors of all kinds, a car show, spinning and weaving, blacksmith demonstrations, a toy and doll show, live music and more.

And while some people might traditionally associate tractors and fieldwork with men, that's not the case, Anderson said.



It took nearly 10 years to build a Case 150-horsepower steam-powered tractor from scratch. Photo courtesy of Kory Anderson and James Valley Threshers Association

Not with the Ladies of Steam. The program is run by women and offers other women a chance to learn about and ride an old-fashioned steam tractor.

“They don’t mind getting greasy,” Anderson said of the Ladies of Steam.

The program is a way to attract new and younger members to the association, he said.

Anderson’s love of antique tractors, especially steam tractors, is one of the reasons he’s remained active in the group through the decades. But the older generation is slowly handing things off to a younger crop of helpers.

Olson agrees. He said he used to be a young buck yelling at the older folks that they didn’t know what they were doing. Now, the tables have turned.

The threshing show is a celebration of harvest and history and a chance for friends to gather as summer comes to an end, he said.

“It’s a reflection of the past,” Olson said. “It’s the way all of our ancestors did stuff. Everything was manual labor back then.”

Last year, the Case 150 pulled a

50-bottom plow. It’s believed to be a world record, though that has yet to be verified.

The tractor will be at this year’s show, but there are no plans to attempt more records, Anderson said.

The 2023 James Valley Threshing Show will be Sept. 8, 9 and 10 at Thresherman’s Park in Andover. Admission is \$10 a day or \$25 for the entire weekend.

There’s a smaller threshing show in Twin Brooks, but some of the other regional shows have faded away.

That’s why the Andover event keeps looking to the future.

The association awards a scholarship each year that covers the tuition for a young person to attend the University of Rollag Steam School in Minnesota in spring. And organizers send out invitations to all schools within 100 miles of Andover that offer students free admission on the show’s first day.

It’s a way to share the history of agriculture and, with luck, plant a seed.

“The future of the show is the young kids,” Anderson said.



A parade with more than 250 entries each year is one of the most popular events during the James Valley Threshing Show in Andover each September. Photo courtesy of James Valley Threshers Association

REGISTER TO WIN!

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August 14-17
Turner County Fair
680 E 2nd St,
Parker, SD
605-297-4428

To have your event listed on this page, send complete information, including date, event, place and contact to your local electric cooperative. Include your name, address and daytime telephone number. Information must be submitted at least eight weeks prior to your event. Please call ahead to confirm date, time and location of event.

JULY 21-23
Winner Elks 54th Annual Rodeo
Winner, SD
605-842-5830

JULY 28-29
Farley Fest
Lake Farley Park
Milbank, SD
www.farleyfest.com

JULY 28-30
Clear Lake Days
Clear Lake, SD
clearlakedays.com

JULY 29
BBQ Pit Row and Car Show
Winner, SD
605-842-1533

JULY 30
Bergen Threshing Bee
9 a.m.
Bristol, SD
605-237-0310

AUG 4
2nd Annual Co-op Day
11 a.m.
25191 Cooperative Way

AUG 10-13
Custer County Fair
Hermosa, SD

AUG 11
Northern Bull Riding Tour Finals Bull-a-Rama
Geddes, SD
605-680-2763

AUG 13-14
Twin Brooks Threshing Show
Featuring Allis Chalmers
Twin Brooks, SD
605-880-2884

AUG 19
Yankton Extreme Bull Riding
7:30 a.m.
Yankton Rodeo Arena
Yankton, SD
605-760-2153

AUG 21
30th Annual Bishop's Cup Golf Tournament
Minnehaha Country Club and
The Country Club of Sioux Falls
Sioux Falls, SD
605-988-3765

SEPT 2
Hidewood Valley Barn Dance
7 p.m.
47236 183rd St
Clear Lake, SD

SEPT 4
Hidewood Valley Steam Threshing Show
Steam Whistle Blows
1 p.m.
47236 183rd St
Clear Lake, SD

SEPT 9-10
Hill City Quilt Show & Sale
Hill City Schoolt
Hill City, SD
605-574-2810

SEPT 16
SD Coin & Stamp Convention
Scherr-Howe Area
Mobridge, SD

SEPT 21-23
Black Hills Plein Air Paint Out
Hill City, SD
605-574-2810

SEPT 22-24
Coal Springs Threshing Bee
Meadow, SD
605-788-2229

SEPT 23
Springfield Dakota Senior Meals Fall Festival
9 a.m.
Springfield Community Building
Springfield, SD

Note: Please make sure to call ahead to verify the event is still being held.