

**SOUTH DAKOTA PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION
LIFELINE/TRIBAL LINK UP ADVERTISING/OUTREACH
ANNUAL REPORT
JULY 1, 2021**

Company: Alliance Communications Cooperative, Inc.

Address: 612 3rd Street
PO Box 349
Garretson, SD 57030

Telephone number: 605-594-3411

Company contact: Shirley Flanagan

Study Area Code: 391657, 391642, 391405

Lifeline/Tribal Link Up Advertising/Outreach Activities:



Advertise in media of general distribution.* (See attached advertisement(s).)



Letter to existing and new customers regarding the availability of Lifeline/Tribal Link Up within 1st 30 days of service.* (See attached letter.)



Company's Lifeline/Tribal Link Up information in directory.



Company's Lifeline/Tribal Link Up information available on Company website. <https://www.alliancecom.net/phone/lifeline/>



Company's information posted on USAC website.



Other (describe):

*Required

LEGAL NOTICES • LEGAL NOTICES • LEGAL NOTICES • LEGAL NOTICES

\$22,047.71; Ending Balance
\$14,951.16.

Receipts: Lunch Received on
Account 959.20, Earned Interest 5.98,
Federal Reimbursement 20047.51.

Other Enterprise Funds:
Beginning Balance \$30,559.66;
Receipts \$939.92; Disbursements
\$1022.56; Ending Balance
\$30,177.02.

Receipts: Fitness Center Fees
110.00, FAST Fees \$18.50, Earned
Interest 11.42.

Total All Funds: Beginning
Balance \$3,722,609.73; Receipts
\$1,565,613.90; Disbursements
\$395,874.60; Ending Balance
\$4,892,349.03.

Custodial Accounts: Beginning
Balance \$197,746.49; Receipts
\$26,525.31; Disbursements
\$14,567.10; Ending Balance
\$209,704.70.

November payroll by department
(2 Biweekly pay dates this month):
Instruction 112,490.38,
Paraprofessionals 33,322.02, Tech
Coordinator 4046.16, Administration
16,398.18, Clerical 6117.57, Fiscal
Services 10,477.05, Custodians
11,947.88, Transportation 9806.28,
Co-curricular 27,901.65, Food
Service 9970.53. Total 242,477.70.

Employer share of benefits --
EFTPS, social security 14,121.89,
Medicare 3302.67, SD Retirement
System, retirement contributions
13,595.66, Oppenheimer 701.75,
New York Life 33.49, Horace Mann
21.75 annuities; Sanford Health Plan/
Dakota Care 32,071.77, group health
insurance, Sanford Health Plan,
HSA contribution 78.60, Unum,
75.13, group life insurance.

General Fund:
Taylin Anderson, sub teacher
180.00, Stephanie Austerman,
official 280.00, Amy Beers, sub
teacher & para 325.00, Brett Bosn,
official & announcer 430.00,
Kimberly Cleveland, ticket seller
30.00, Deborah Dawson, sub teacher
67.50, Kelsey Dawson, substitute
teacher & para 102.00, Stefany
Dunwoody, snow removal 20.48,
Robert Eggert, activities bus driver
& route substitute 170.19, Connie
Elison, substitute teacher 262.50,
Macy Erickson, substitute teacher
200.00, Mark Galpin, ticket seller
90.00, Nick Koepsell, activity bus
driver & official 504.68, Ricko
Krynauw, substitute teacher 581.23,
Tami Kuhle, sub teacher 475.00,
Elizabeth Mullen, subteacher 300.00,

Courtney O'Connell, substitute
teacher 245.00, Chad Podhradsky,
substitute route bus driver 94.88,
Teresa Poppen, ticket seller 60.00,
McKenna Rudebusch, official
210.00, Pat Ruml, custodian 1785.00,
Ashley Schwader, sub teacher and
para 270.00, Sandra Schwader, sub
teacher 300.00, Dianne Sherman,
ticket seller 507.10, Alan Wiese,
substitute teacher & official 947.50,
Lisa Wiese, official 770.00, Gina
Wika, ticket seller 30.00, Kathy
Yanish, ticket seller 421.40,
605 Portables, portable toilets-FB
660.00, Active Heating Inc., AC &
exhaust repairs 1025.56, Martina
Albrecht, official 70.00, Alliance
Communications, telephone &
service 665.00, Amazon Capital
Services, supplies 796.94, Austreim
Landscaping Inc., winterize
irrigation 200.00, Auto Glass Guy,
windshield 325.00, Automatic
Building Controls, annual contracts
& servicing 1730.43, Antwon
Bolden, official 120.00, Kerstin
Bosn, libero tracker 300.00, Lynne
Calmus, XC starter 85.00, Canisota
School District, FB semifinal shares
1027.50, Castlewood School District,
FB quarterfinal shares 102.95,
Chester Area School, VB region
shares 168.69, Michael Clary, FB
police duty 50.00, Cole Papers Inc.,
cleaning supplies 2272.00, Colliers
International, continuing disclosure
800.00, Dakota Body Shop, repairs
5887.95, Daktronics, armory
scoreboard repair 450.00, Dells
Electric, parking lot wiring repair
3067.93, Dramstad Refrigeration &
Electric, dishwasher repair 383.56,
Adam Eggert, FB chains 190.00,
Eternal Security Products, repairs
1347.34, First National Bank-Visa,
supplies & subscriptions 640.00,
Fred J Miller Inc., instrument bell
covers 140.00, Freeman, Kludt &
Shelton, Churchill, Manolis, legal
services 644.71, Faith Genslinger,
VB book & clock 50.00, Autumn
Glanzer, VB book 220.00, Hardware
Bank, supplies 1363.68, Hault Mid-
America Sports, supplies 2367.45,
Hillyard, cleaning supplies 768.46,
David Hodges, FB chains 140.00,
Home Service Water Conditioning,
rental 20.00, Horizon Health
Care, physical 215.00, Howard
Elementary-Petty Cash, postage
55.00, Howard Farmers Coop, fuel
and supplies 2354.66, Howard City,
utilities 6947.10, Imprest - officials
1359.00, SDHSA share of funds
2651.90, JH GBB entry fee 75.00,
JH BBB entry fee 50.00, Innovative
Office Solutions, supplies 373.10,

Institutional Compliance Solutions,
training 648.00, Johnson Controls,
filters 2097.20, Abby Johnson, VB
clock 170.00, Jostens, diplomas
202.58, Kingsbury Journal,
advertising 32.00, Tamera Koppang,
consulting 149.56, Legalshield,
insurance 24.40, Linewold/Matheson,
cylinder rental 197.63, Evan Meyer,
FB chains 190.00, Mid States Audio
& Video, repairs 664.99, Lane
Miller, official 40.00, Miner County
Pioneer, publishing & supplies
899.57, Northwestern, fuels 3368.40,
Office of Weights & Measures, scale
calibration 56.00, Office Peeps,
supplies 516.06, Outlaw Graphics,
scoreboard ad 108.00, Outsoud
Productions, spotlight rental 342.40,
J.W. Pepper & Son Inc., music
selections 344.93, Plank Road
Publishing, music subscriptions
16.40, Popp Binding & Laminating,
supplies 84.00, Popplers Music,
supplies & repairs 139.16, Power
Promotions, trophies & awards
68.95, ASBDS, registration fees
25.00, Prostellor Motor Co., switch
17.50, Quill Corporation, facemasks
229.87, Realityworks, Ag Ed
supplies 5460.03, Reinhart Food
Service, supplies 58.92, Rusty's,
food and supplies 348.80, S & S
Contracting, repairs & winterizing
294.29, Sanford Health Plan,
flex fees 44.35, School Specialty,
supplies 56.78, SD Federal Property
Agency, benches 300.00, SDHSA,
oral interp judge 116.90, Dianne
Sherman, play supplies 29.29,
SHI International Corp, Windows
license 17.59, Ryan Spader, chains
& coach exam 225.00, stockd.,
gloves 171.95, Sturdevant's Auto
Parts, parts and supplies 504.90,
Taylor Music, supplies 215.18, Triotel
Communications, colony Internet
143.91, Two Way Radio Solutions,
antenna 43.98, Drew Wiese, FB
scoreboard 90.00.

Capital Outlay:

Dawson Construction Inc.,
drainage HS addition 1533.72, Follett
School Solutions, library books
474.05, Johnson Controls, ionization
elementary 11,628.00, Mid States
Audio & Video, speaker supplies
204.34, US Bank, interest 60,282.50.

Special Education Fund:

Amy Beers, substitute teacher
262.50, Kelsey Dawson, substitute
para 108.00, Sandra Falconer,
substitute teacher 180.00, Ricko
Krynauw, substitute teacher 135.00,
Ashley Schwader, sub teacher and
para 90.00, Sandra Schwader, sub

teacher 100.00, Kyra Shumaker,
substitute teacher 78.78, Mishelle
Dukich, mileage 226.80, First
National Bank-Visa, subscriptions
15.96, Howard Physical Therapy,
Nov PT services 812.25, Paula
Kingerly, mileage 50.40, Madison
Central School District, Special
Ed Director 1667.37, Madison
Community Hospital, Oct & Nov OT
services 4472.04, Prairie Lakes Ed
Coop, Nov services 2535.46, Sanford
Health Plan, flex fees 3.85.

Food Service:

Ricko Krynauw, substitute
food service worker 305.76, Bimbo
Bakeries, bread products 775.88,
Child & Adult Nutrition Services,
commodity processing 185.32,
Cintas, linen services 119.30,
Hillyard, dishwasher supplies 549.47,
Maxwell Food Equipment Inc., forks
& spoons 84.09, Prairie Farms, dairy
products 1624.05, Reinhart Food
Service, food 8463.52, Rusty's Food
Store, food 159.52.

Other Enterprise (FAST):

Macy Erickson, wages 574.95,
FAST-Petty Cash, food 65.64.

Discussion was held regarding
winter sports attendance. Spectator
limitations and mitigation
requirements established in other
school districts were discussed.
The board decided to keep
COVID procedures as is for our
district, continuing the practice
of recommending opposing teams
and local patrons to mask when
in attendance and social distance
where possible. The situation will
continue to be monitored through the
Christmas break.

Sherman reported on food
service shared staffing changes.
Unsuccessful grant application and
Governor Noem's recommended
2.4% increase for state aid.

Consensus continued Aslesen
for negotiating pricing to purchase
NFHS live streaming access making
it available for community members
to view events from home and
helping to decrease on site spectator
numbers.

Aslesen reported the necessity
to begin planning for the March
15th FFA CDE and asked the
board for input regarding number
of participating schools and if the
event should be planned. The board
instructed Aslesen and FFA Advisor
Charlene Weber to pursue plans for

the event.

Aslesen announced his
appointment by the governor to the
State Library Board.

Adult basketball will be allowed
on Wednesday nights and the fitness
center hours will return to the
schedule prior to the March 2020
school closure which is anytime
other than 6:30 a.m.-5:30 p.m. on
days when school is in session.
Armory availability for walkers was
set at 8:00 a.m. to 9:30 a.m.

Meyer moved to hire
Macy Erickson as elementary
paraprofessional at a wage of \$13.85
per hour. The motion was seconded
by Shumaker and unanimously
carried.

Meyer reported on the Buildings
and Grounds Committee meeting
discussing potential uses for the
baseball field portion of school
property. He asked board members
to talk with community members
regarding suggestions. Some ideas
discussed included a practice football
field that could also be used for
youth football and also a community
archery range. An additional garage
for vehicle storage is also considered
for the property.

Motion by Hoyer, seconded by
Miller and carried, to enter executive
session at 8:20 p.m. for personnel
matters in accordance with SDCL
1-25-2(1).

The board came out of executive
session at 8:47 p.m.

Motion to advertise a special
education teacher position for the
next school year was made by
Kampshoff, seconded by Miller and
carried.

Shumaker made the motion
to compensate Business Manager
Sherman for unused vacation, sick
and personal leave and to issue
payment for early notification of
intent to leave employment of the
school district. The motion was
seconded by Hoyer with all members
voting aye.

Motion to adjourn at 8:49 p.m.
was made by Miller, seconded by
Meyer and unanimously carried.

ATTEST:
Marcia Sherman and Kimberly
Cleveland, Business Manager

Published one time at the
approximate cost of \$121.09.
(Dec. 24, 2020)

LOW INCOME ASSISTANCE AVAILABLE TO COOPERATIVE CUSTOMERS

Financial assistance through the federal Lifeline program is available to help qualified customers afford and maintain basic telephone or broadband Internet service. Lifeline provides a monthly bill credit of \$5.25 on either one telephone service (home or wireless) or \$9.25 on Internet service (home or mobile) per qualified household. Lifeline telephone service includes unlimited local minutes within the toll-free calling area. Local residential and business telephone service costs \$18/month and includes:

- Voice grade access to the public switched network or its functional equivalent
- Minutes of use for local service provided at no additional charge to end users
- Access to the emergency services provided by local government or other public safety organizations, such as 911 and enhanced 911, to the extent the local government in an eligible carrier's service area has implemented 911 or enhanced 911 systems
- Have toll limitation services available to qualifying low-income consumers

Lifeline does not include any long distance. Long distance minutes are billed at the standard rate depending on which interexchange carrier the consumer subscribes to for long distance. Subscribers may receive the Lifeline credit on service offered in a bundle. Advertised rates do not include any applicable taxes or surcharges. Toll blocking at no charge and reduced deposits are also available.

The Lifeline program is limited to one benefit per household, consisting of either wireline or wireless service. A 2020 household is defined, for purposes of the Lifeline program, as an individual or group of individuals who live together at the same address and share income and expenses. Households currently receiving more than one Lifeline service must select a single Lifeline service provider and de-enroll from the program with any other provider(s).

Lifeline participants must recertify their eligibility every year. Lifeline is a government program. Consumers who willfully make false statements in order to obtain the benefit can be punished by fine or imprisonment or can be barred from the program. The basic services described above are offered to consumers in Alliance's cooperative service area. If you have questions, call 1-800-701-4980 or visit www.alliancecom.net.

Alliance Communications

Universal Service Advertising Annual Rate Notice

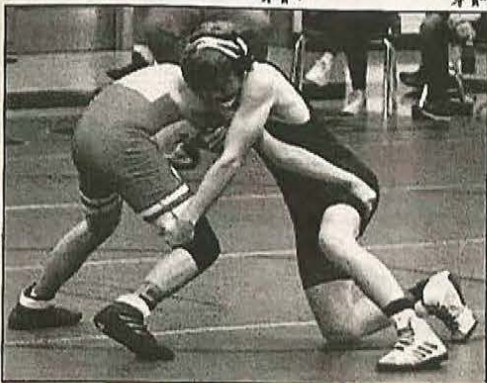
Alliance Communications is a telecommunications provider who provides basic and enhanced services within its service territory. Basic services are offered at the following rates and charges:

Monthly Service Charges

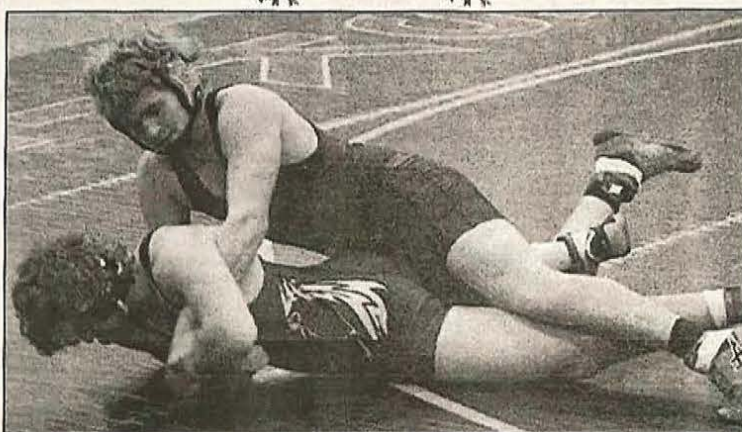
Voice Grade Residential Service	\$18.00
Voice Grade Business Service	\$18.00
Federal Subscriber Line Charge - Single Line	\$6.50
Federal Subscriber Line Charge - Multi Line	\$9.20
Local Usage	Included
Dual Tone Multi-Frequency Signaling (Touch Tone)	Included
Single-Party Service	Included
Emergency 911 Services	Varies
Operator Service	Varies
Interexchange Service (Long Distance)	Varies
Directory Assistance	Varies

Toll Blocking is available at no charge for low income customers that qualify. If you have any questions regarding the company's services and rates/charges, please contact us by visiting www.alliancecom.net or by calling 1-800-701-4980.

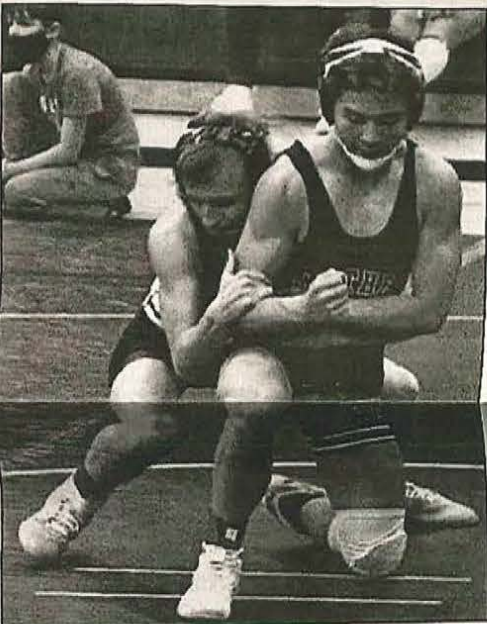
Geographic areas where Alliance services are available: Alcester, Alvord, Baltic, Brandon, Carthage, Crooks, Garretson, Howard, Hudson, Inwood, Larchwood, Lester, Lyons, Oldham, Ramona, Sherman, Valley Springs, and Rock County, MN (excluding Inside Luverne city limits).



Colton Stene wrestles at 145 pounds for Beresford/Alcester-Hudson's Wrestling Team.



Landon Schurch lost to Juan Topete of West Sioux and went on to lose in overtime to Alex Andersen of Tri-Valley.



Jovey Christensen brings down his opponent.



Aaron Larson, above, took third place in the Elk Point-Jefferson tournament with a pin of Gunnar Gunderson.



Robert Watkins won the first round wrestle-backs over Aaron Baumiller of Parkston. Watkins faced Mason Vondrak in the final, losing by a pin.

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Dual Tone Multi-Frequency Signaling (Touch Tone)	Included
Single-Party Service	Included
Emergency 911 Services	Varies
Operator Service	Varies
Interexchange Service (Long Distance)	Varies
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THANK YOU FOR SAYING YOU SAW IT IN THE SHOPPING GUIDE

Hartford Trinity Lutheran Church
LCMS

46448 263rd St., Hartford, SD
Worship Sunday 9:00am
Christian Education 10:30am
Services shown on YouTube
Pastor Nabil Nour
605-626-3671
www.hartfordtrinity.com
Established 1881
Come Worship With Us

CHRIST LUTHERAN

701 N Main Ave., Hartford, SD
www.chrluthan.com
Sunday 9:00 am
Worship 10:00 am
Christian Education 10:30 am
(PK-4th grade)
Wednesday 6:15 pm
Worship
Christian Education & Confirmation
(6-4th grade) 7:00 pm
"Lighting the Fire of Faith in Christ"

Zion Lutheran Church

26313 462nd Ave.,
Hartford, SD 57033
PO Box 367
(605) 526-3846 office
Sunday school/HS class 9:15am
Worship 10:30am
Holy Communion is served the first two
Sundays of each month.
Pastor Linda Anderson

Faith Community Church

200 S. Dakota Ave., Colton, SD
Worship Service - 9:30am
Sunday School - 10:45am
Rev. David J. Weemhoff
605.670.6224
In the Heart of our Community
with the Community on our Hearts
Join us for weekly worship!
Like us on Facebook!

Willow Creek Lutheran Church

Sunday Service Time 9:00 am
Christmas Day Service:
10 am Thursday Dec. 25th

website: wclcdellrapids.org
24795 470th Ave., Dell Rapids

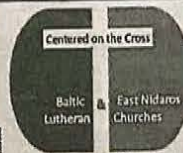
Benton Lutheran Church

Sunday Service Time 10:45 am
Christmas Eve Service:
5 pm Thursday Dec. 24th

website: bentonelca.org

46784 257th St., Crooks

Both congregations served by Pastor Tom Stadem.
Contact the joint office at bentonwillowoffice@gmail.com or call 271-7386



Pastor Randall Questad

Baltic Lutheran - 301 Nidaros Ave.
9:00 Worship
East Nidaros - 47560 252nd St.
10:30 Worship
10:30 Online Worship via Facebook
605-529-5471
nidaros@alliancecom.net
www.balticandeastnidaros.org
Follow us on Facebook!

COME WORSHIP WITH US

First Lutheran Church - 403 E. 3rd Street, Colton
605-446-3271
Worship 10:30 am
St. Jacob's Lutheran Church - 24697 458th Ave., Colton
(6m W of Colton, 1m N on 458th)
Worship 9:00am
www.coltonlutheran.com
coltonlutheranparish@gmail.com
Find Us on Facebook: @ColtonLutheranParish

Cowboy Way Church

Services every
Wednesday at 7:00pm
Bible Study Sunday at 8:30am
Sunday Services at 10am
46089 263rd St., Hartford, SD
For more information
contact Larry Fossum at
526-3647 or 351-1453.
Everyone Welcome!
www.thecowboywaychurchsd.com

WEST NIDAROS LUTHERAN CHURCH

Sharing Christ's love with all.

Online Live Stream and
In Person Worship
Sundays at 9:30 a.m.

25403 471st Ave.,
Crooks, SD 605-543-5215
Pastor Jared Rakness
www.westnidaros.org
Like us on Facebook!

**Family Memorials**
by Gibson

SD Owned & Operated
TONY GIBSON

5000 West 12th, Sioux Falls, SD 57107
or see us at the Crooks/Renner Exit
OFFICE 605-335-0980 OR 1-800-658-2294
gibsonmonuments.com
Payment plans available. We do in home appointments.
A memory in stone is a memory forever.

Klink's**Plb. & Heating**

• New construction
• Remodel • Light Commercial
Plumbing, Heating,
Installation & Repair
Colton, SD

Call 605-351-0388

ATTENTION FARM WORKERS

Help wanted on
hog & grain farm.
Will have delivery
duties. Driver's
license required.
Call 507-370-1590

HERITAGE LUTHERAN CHURCH
NALC/LCMS

Go • Make • Baptize • Teach

WORSHIP

SUNDAY - 10:00am

Bible Study 9:15am
605.582.7777
DELL RAPIDS
503 East 4th Street
Dell Rapids, SD

The Wizard says,
"There's no place like
USA.gov"

USA.gov. Your official
source for government info.
1 (800) FRO-INFO

Respectfully serving families for generations



MINNEHAHA FUNERAL HOME
A CHAIKIN GROUP
GARRETSON | 101 South Leifelt Dr.
605-594-3700
DELL RAPIDS | 104 East 4th St.
605-426-4300
BAITIC | 160 St. Olaf Ave.
605-539-5111
COLTON | 209 East 4th St.
605-446-5246

www.minnehahafuneralhome.com

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Talk to someone you love today.

FACE IT TOGETHER

POLICE REPORT cont. from page 4

• Report of a possible intoxicated driver in 2000 block of S. Spillrock Blvd., unable to locate.

SATURDAY, DEC. 19

• Assalt Sheriff's office with a vehicle in the ditch, in county.

• Motorist assist at S. Sioux Blvd. and E. Rushmore Dr.

• Douglas Leigh Brift, 33, arrested for DUI-2nd in 100 block of W. Holly Blvd.

• Medical emergencies in 800 block of E. Lark St., 1100 block of E. Teakwood St., 100 block of E. Nelson Lane, 3000 block of E. Aspen Blvd., turned over to MED-STAR.

• Report of a suspicious vehicle at S. Sunshin Ave. and E. Sunflower Circle, checked OK.

• Reckless driver at W. Holly Blvd. and Heritage Road, located, advised.

• Alarm in 1100 block of S. Parkview Blvd., checked OK.

• Noise disturbance in 400 block of N. Ninth Ave., advised.

SUNDAY, DEC. 20

• Assalt Sheriff's office with a runaway, occurred in county.

• Child custody dispute in 2400 block of E. Hogan Lane, advised.

• Two-vehicle accident in 800 block of N. Spillrock Blvd., one driver cited for failure to yield.

• CHINS reported in 100 block of W. Evergreen Dr., advised.

• Medical emergency in 200 block of S. Fifth Ave., turned over to MED-STAR.

MONDAY, DEC. 21

• Weapons violation in 300 block of S. Fifth Ave., juvenile lodged at JCC.

• Criminal entry of a motor vehicle reported in 800 block of S. Seventh Ave., advised.

• Check wall-baling of subject in 1200 block of E. Redwood Blvd., checked OK.

• Suspicious subject in 1000 block of N. Spillrock Blvd., unable to locate.

• Two-vehicle accident in 100 block of E. Holly Blvd.

• Late report of criminal entry to a motor vehicle in 600 block of S. Lakota Ave., under investigation.

• Parking violation in 100 block of W. Hackberry St., tagged.

• Check wall-baling of juvenile in 700 block of S. McHardy Road, checked OK, advised.

• Traffic hazard at W. Holly Blvd. and Heritage Road, removed from roadway.

• Thomas Jerry Baumgartner, 30, arrested for warrant service in 1700 block of W. Frontier St.

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BV ranks among most efficient SD school districts in per pupil spending

Keeley Meier
Staff writer

The Brandon Valley School Board met for their last meeting of the 2020 year on Dec. 14.

The meeting included reminders about the enrollment process for Inspiration Elementary School, which will open its doors in the fall of 2021. Letters were mailed to families that are being impacted by the boundary changes, and responses to these letters are due by Jan. 8. Central Office staff will process the boundary-impacted open enrollment requests in February.

Classroom staff at each of the district's four elementary schools were gifted laptop computers the week of Dec. 14, which were purchased at a total cost of \$194,000. A total of 250 computers were purchased with the government-provided coronavirus funds.

In his superintendent's report, Dr. Jared Larson also mentioned the topic of a potential mask mandate in Brandon. The mandate, which was not approved at the Dec. 7 city council meeting, would require Brandon citizens to wear face masks or covering in public with no enforcement or consequences for non-compliance.

"I have stated that the Brandon Valley School District does not oppose a resolution mandating the use of a cloth face covering or mask if the resolution does not include enforcement measures or consequences for individuals choosing to not adhere to the resolution," Larson said.

"In addition, I have not requested language to specifically exclude schools from the resolution," Larson continued. "Generally speaking, a non-enforced resolution mandating

masks will not specifically alter our school district's current masking strategy. We strongly recommend the use of a cloth face mask and have incentivized the use of a mask for individuals within our system, as outlined in our close contact protocol."

Larson acknowledged the "complexities surrounding this topic" and reminded people to mask up, stay home if sick, practice good hand-washing hygiene and to physically distance when possible.

Larson then stated that they would be using the girls' and boys' basketball games on Dec. 17 and 18 to evaluate the allotted four-tickets per student participant. He said if this guideline does not allow for social distancing, they will reevaluate and implement a different strategy, which will be adhered to by all winter activities.

Business Manager Paul Lundberg presented the FY20 spending report that is tabulated by the South Dakota Department of Education. The report compares the per pupil spending of school districts throughout the state.

Lundberg said that for the 2019-20 school year, BVSD ranked 143rd out of 149 schools. The year before, he said, the district ranked at 142.

"The differences in spending come from three things, in my opinion: optics (that some school districts have that we do not have), federal revenues (we don't have those either; we have a little bit) and the last thing would come from capital outlay flexibility (we utilize that at Brandon Valley on an average basis)," Lundberg said.

Lundberg said that the per pupil expenditures came out to \$7,978, whereas the state average was \$9,420.

"The comment that I would be most proud of—out of all the larger

schools—it's very, very close to the lowest spending. If not the lowest spending of all the larger schools, but there's not one of those districts that has a higher average teacher salary than Brandon Valley—lowest spending, highest average teacher salary," Lundberg said. "In my opinion, that's something to be very proud of."

Following Lundberg's report, Brandon Valley High School Principal Mark Schlekeway stepped up to the podium for some updates on the high school.

Mid-year graduation, he said, is scheduled for 7 p.m. Wednesday, Jan. 13 in the BVHS Performing Arts Center. The ceremony will feature five graduates—two more may be added to the list as well.

Schlekeway also reported that the high school's Angel Tree has received a record number of requests this year, totaling just shy of 300, all of which have been chosen. He said that teachers have been using their prep time to wrap presents and that student council members will spend time on Dec. 19 to finish the wrapping process.

Schlekeway ended his report by recognizing Randy Marso, activities director, and his upcoming retirement after 34 years in the district—23 of those years as activities director. Marso, Schlekeway said, will be missed.

Marso's retirement notice was also approved by the board.

Larson reported that Child Nutrition Services Director Gay Anderson resigned with her final day being Dec. 18. The district's current registered dietician Andrea Kruse will replace Anderson and the district is now in the hiring process for Kruse's replacement.

AREA DEATH NOTICES cont. from page 4

Harvey Fite, 72, Sioux Falls
Fidelis Robinson Haviland, 100, Sioux Falls
Marilyn Holer, 60, Sioux Falls
Joyce Jensen, 73, Viborg
Marilyn Jorgensen, 27, Hurley
Daniel Ketcham, 59, Lennox
Esther Lashier, 90, Sun City, Ariz.
Arlis Lowe, 91, Garrettsville
Irene Luikens, 87, Manno
Aristea Monroy, 65, Dall Rapids

GAY ANDERSON cont. from page 3

program, consulting with her and helping her learn the different regulations. Anderson will also continue to work with the 10 schools involved in the program.

From intern to director

"Brandon Valley is going to be in amazing hands [with Andrea]," Anderson said. "We have a Brandon [Valley] grad who has a passion for children and a passion for food, and she's taking the helm. When we hired her, it was with thoughts in mind that she would be groomed for this position down the road. I think it is important to hire with succession always in mind and who would want your job, and that is what we did."

Kruse says she's excited to continue Anderson's legacy.

"Ever since interning with her several years ago, this

has always been my dream job," Kruse said. "I have a passion for school nutrition, and I can't wait to share that with others and make my own impact on this district. I've been told several times that I 'have some big shoes to fill,' but I love the challenge and am looking forward to it!"

For Kruse, serving the school district is even more special as a Brandon Valley graduate.

"From elementary school to high school I have some pretty great memories of Brandon [Valley], and I'm honored to have the opportunity to serve a school district that played such a large part in my life years ago. I get to keep making memories in the school district, but this time it is from a different perspective," Kruse said.



Gay Anderson was named the National Child Nutrition Director in 2016. (Below) She was the driving force behind the mobile Lynx Lunch Express.



Helping students nationwide
Anderson hasn't just

helped with nutrition for kids at Brandon Valley, though. She's also helped

nationwide. In 2018, she was elected president of the School Nutrition Association, a national organization that provides low-cost, high-quality meals to students across the country. Anderson served as president until 2020.

"When you think of someone from South Dakota in a school district of almost 5,000 students, and that my peers from across the country actually chose me to be their leader was pretty amazing and humbling in realizing that, 'Oh my gosh, there's a lot to handle there,'" Anderson said. "One of my last letters written to the Secretary of Agriculture, Sonny Perdue, was, 'We need help with so many schools across the country right now. We need to provide free meals for families.' And, it's like, 'Wow, it happened!'—not on my time but we were part of that conversation—just knowing some of the

things we were able to do to make things better for kids across the country."

Anderson says she attributes her success with CNS to her staff.

"This department would not be what it is without the amazing staff—and that's where I'll get emotional—they are so dedicated, and if people knew how hard they worked on a regular basis [during] normal times, and then you take it into where we're at today," Anderson said. "These women are so dedicated and passionate to get the kids fed."

"They don't complain; they're working harder than they ever have," Anderson continued. "They just step up to the plate. When school shut down in March, we went into this remote feeding and figuring out how we were going to do this, and they were 'Where can we help? What do you need?' That's the kind of staff I have, and I'm going to truly miss them."

Anderson, whose first day with Sioux Falls School District was Monday, will miss Brandon Valley as much as Brandon Valley will miss her.

"It's been an amazing ride, and I'm going to miss Brandon Valley dearly."

Thank you

Thank you for the cards and well wishes. We had a wonderful time celebrating our 50th wedding anniversary with our family.
Barb & Jerry Schneider

LOW INCOME ASSISTANCE AVAILABLE TO COOPERATIVE CUSTOMERS

Financial assistance through the federal Lifeline program is available to help qualified customers afford and maintain basic telephone or broadband internet service. Lifeline provides a monthly bill credit of \$5.25 on either one telephone service (home or wireless) or \$9.25 on internet service (home or mobile) per qualified household. Lifeline telephone service includes unlimited local minutes within the toll-free calling area. Local residential and business telephone service costs \$18/month and includes:

- Voice grade access to the public switched network or its functional equivalent.
- Minutes of use for local service provided at no additional charge to end users.
- Access to the emergency services provided by local government or other public safety organizations, such as 911 and enhanced 911, to the extent the local government in an eligible carrier's service area has implemented 911 or enhanced 911 systems.
- Have toll limitation services available to qualifying low-income consumers.

Lifeline does not include any long distance. Long distance minutes are billed at the standard rate depending on which interexchange carrier the consumer subscribes to for long distance. Subscribers may receive the Lifeline credit on service offered in a bundle. Advertised rates do not include any applicable taxes or surcharges. Toll blocking at no charge and reduced deposits are also available.

The Lifeline program is limited to one benefit per household, consisting of either wireline or wireless service. A 2020 household is defined, for purposes of the Lifeline program, as an individual or group of individuals who live together at the same address and share income and expenses. Households currently receiving more than one Lifeline service must select a single Lifeline service provider and de-enroll from the program with any other provider(s).

Lifeline participants must recertify their eligibility every year. Lifeline is a government program. Consumers who willfully make false statements in order to obtain the benefit can be punished by fine or imprisonment or can be barred from the program. The basic services described above are offered to consumers in Alliance's cooperative service area. If you have questions, call 1-800-701-4380 or visit www.alliancemn.net.

Alliance Communications Universal Service Advertising Annual Rate Notice

Alliance Communications is a telecommunications provider who provides basic and enhanced services within its service territory. Basic services are offered at the following rates and charges:

Monthly Service Charges	
Voice Grade Residential Service	\$18.00
Voice Grade Business Service	\$18.00
Federal Subscriber Line Charge - Single Line	\$4.50
Federal Subscriber Line Charge - Multi Line	\$9.20
Local Usage	Included
Dual Tone Multi-Frequency Signaling (Touch Tone)	Included
Single Party Service	Included
Emergency 911 Services	Varies
Operator Service	Varies
Interexchange Service (Long Distance)	Varies
Directory Assistance	Varies

Toll blocking is available at no charge for low income customers that qualify. If you have any questions regarding the company's services and rates/charges, please contact us by visiting www.alliancemn.net or by calling 1-800-701-4380.

Geographic areas where Alliance services are available: Alcester, Afton, Baker, Brandon, Carthage, Crooks, Garrettsville, Howard, Hudson, Inwood, Larchwood, Lester, Lyons, Odham, Ramona, Sherman, Valley Springs, and Rock County, MN (excluding Inside Luverne city limits).

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DELIVERY NAME
DELIVERY ADDRESS
DELIVERY CITY

LOW INCOME ASSISTANCE AVAILABLE FOR QUALIFIED RESIDENTS

Dear DELIVERY NAME:

This letter is a yearly notice that Alliance is required to send to all of our cooperative customers to ensure people know about the availability of the Lifeline program. If you currently receive Lifeline benefits, you do not need to do anything at this time and can disregard this particular notice.

Lifeline is a federal government program that assists qualified low-income residents by providing a monthly reduction of \$5.25/month on phone service or \$9.25/month on broadband Internet service.

How do I know if I'm eligible? To be eligible for Lifeline assistance, you must meet income-based criteria currently defined as at or below 135 % of the Federal Poverty Guidelines (see table) OR participate in at least one of the following programs: Medicaid, Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP), Supplemental Security Income (SSI), Federal Public Housing Assistance, and Veterans and Survivors Pension Benefit

135 percent of federal poverty guidelines (As of January 2020)

1 person: \$17,226	2 people: \$23,274	3 people: \$29,322	4 people: \$35,370
5 people: \$41,418	6 people: \$47,466	7 people: \$53,514	8 people: \$59,562
For each additional person, add \$6,048			

Lifeline Rules

If you qualify, your household can get Lifeline for phone or internet service, but not both. If you get Lifeline for phone service, you can get the benefit for one mobile phone or one home phone, but not both. If you get Lifeline for internet service, you can get the benefit for your mobile phone or your home connection, but not both. If you get Lifeline for bundled phone and internet service, you can get the benefit for your mobile phone bundled service or your home bundled service, but not both.

Your household cannot get Lifeline from more than one phone or internet company. You are only allowed to get one Lifeline benefit per household, not per person. If more than one person in your household gets Lifeline, you are breaking the FCC's rules and will lose your benefit.

wired differently

What is a household? A household is a group of people who live together and share income and expenses (even if they are not related to each other).

Do not give your benefit to another person. You cannot give your Lifeline benefit to another person, even if they qualify. You must give accurate and true information on this form and on all Lifeline-related forms or questionnaires. If you give false or fraudulent information, you will lose your Lifeline benefit (i.e., de-enrollment or being barred from the program) and the United States government can take legal actions against you. This may include (but is not limited to) fines or imprisonment.

You may need to show other documents. You may need to show an official document from one of the government qualifying programs or to prove your annual income. If you qualify through a government program: copies of your state ID card and an official document from the programs you are qualifying through. (The document must contain your name.) If you qualify through your income: copies of your state ID card and pay stubs for 3 consecutive months (or other accepted documents). Visit lifelinesupport.org to see the full list of accepted documents.

How to Apply for Lifeline

Option 1: Apply online through the Lifeline National Verifier

Visit www.checklifeline.org from any computer or mobile device. You most likely will need to upload verification documents to the website if you don't qualify under the Federal Public Housing Assistance. If you're deemed eligible for benefits, contact Alliance Communications at 1-800-701-4980. The Lifeline National Verifier does not notify the provider.

Option 2: Apply in person by visiting one of our business offices

Please call ahead to make sure our office isn't closed due to Covid-19 concerns:

Brandon: 1400 E. Aspen Blvd.

Garretson: 612 Third St.

Baltic: 501 Second St.

An Alliance representative will enter your information and enroll you if you're eligible. Please bring documentation that proves you're eligible to receive Lifeline benefits.

Option 3: Apply by Mail

Complete FCC Form 5629. Then mail the application and a copy of documentation that proves you're eligible to receive Lifeline benefits to USAC at the address listed on the application.

For more information, dial 611 from any phone with Alliance service, (605) 582-6311 from your cell phone or 1-800-701-4980.

Sincerely,
Alliance Communications