



PIEDMONT PUBLIC NEWS

August 2022

Piedmont
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Office Hours are:
Monday-Thursday
9:00-5:00

Phil Anderson-Board President/Finance
Jack Parks -Board Vice President/Streets
Mike Lee – Trustee/Planning & Zoning
Phil Aitken-Trustee/Park/Code Enforcement
Jim Runyan-Trustee/Library
Diana Evans-Finance Officer
Mary Jean Voigt-Deputy Finance Officer
Megan Stietz-Library Director
Jenna Pritts-Assistant Library Director
Allison Mitchell-Assistant Library Director
Jeff Kottwitz-Water
Kyle Bertsch – Maintenance

You are Welcome to Attend:

Regular Meetings on the 1st & 3rd Tuesdays of each Month at 6:30 p.m. at City Hall
-these are formal meetings Open to the Public and Agenda items are discussed.

Planning Meetings on the 2nd & 4th Tuesdays of each Month at 6:30 p.m. at City Hall
-these are informal meetings with open forum for discussion, questions and concerns. Possible Agenda items for Regular Meetings are discussed.

Planning & Zoning Meetings on the 3rd Tuesday of each Month at 5:30 p.m.
at City Hall.

Library Board Meetings on the 4th Monday of each Month at 6:30 p.m. in the Library.

Park Board Meetings on the 2nd Wednesday of each Month at 5:30 p.m. at City Hall.

***Park Board Meetings are temporarily Canceled**

Fax Services are available during City Hall Office Hours-No Charge

Notary Services are available from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. on Mondays, Tuesdays and Thursdays – No Charge

In Office Schedule:

Mary Jean Voigt who does Water Billing and Bookkeeping is in the Office Monday thru Thursday from 11:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m.

Diana Evans who does Administrative (most everything else) is in the Office on Mondays, Tuesdays and Thursdays from 9:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m.


Phil's Corner

California here I go. It's not really true that the Californians are taking over the Black Hills. What is true is that our little town is seeing a great deal of change. I think the housing bubble is about over but it created a lot of the problems that we saw in the early part of the century. I was told by a young financial wizard that history doesn't repeat itself but it does echo and rhyme. What we have seen in the last two years is a great deal of growth and a lot of changes in ownership of housing in our community as easy money allows people to buy new homes or overpay for existing ones. I have seen quite a few instances where we have gained new residents who are totally unaware of problems with property they thought was a steal. When we incorporated Piedmont we knew that unregulated growth had resulted in a lot of inadequate utility services and a great deal of pressure on our street systems. We also have areas in the valley with a lot of older inadequate housing (usually thirty and forty year old manufactured homes). Our older housing is usually rented by people who consider only the initial outlay for rent and don't consider other factors such as support services, jobs, and cost of transportation. Any money they save is quickly eaten up by the cost of traveling to work as well as the extra time wasted commuting. The State of South Dakota is implementing a number of federal programs to increase the supply of affordable housing. Unfortunately, some of these programs are geared towards helping developers and speculators with guaranteed funding rather than the people who need the housing. Before affordable housing is built, the state is supposed to conduct a study to determine the need. To my knowledge, no such study has been done. Residential growth does not increase the tax base enough for the various entities of government to cover the cost of these services. A community requires a commercial tax base to pick up the remainder of the cost. One of the more common canards we hear from the developers and speculators is, "you won't get commercial growth until you have the population". Our community of Piedmont had a population of 200 and was surrounded by small farms and ranches when I was a child growing up in the fifties and sixties. There were more businesses in our town in those days than we have now with thousands of people living in the immediate area. The emphasis on commercial growth does not include industrial. It is imperative that we guard against industrial growth in certain areas of our community. The last thing we need is for the Piedmont Valley to become Deadwood Avenue North. State and county governments are pushing growth without considering how it impacts smaller entities of government. TIF (tax increment funded) districts in South Dakota were never meant for residential development. They were supposed to increase the tax base for all entities of government. When a policy increases population without increasing revenue it hurts the current residents. An example is fire protection. There are several housing developments in our area that have been established as TIF's. They require fire protection but the fire district receives no revenue. Another is the school district. The money for yearly operating expenses for the school is apportioned by the state. The problem arises when students from TIF districts or from open enrollment attend our beautiful new schools. We are seeing great increases in enrollment necessitating building expansion. The state does not pay for school expansion. The current residents do through capital outlay expenditures. Road districts are a cooperative effort by residents to maintain their streets. Population growth increases the travel on the roads and wear and tear, but does not raise additional revenue. Our community is a target, with developers both of residential and industrial uses, looking to turn the money of our citizens into their own. We need to work to encourage retail development and curtail uncontrolled residential development in southern Meade County.



PIEDMONT VALLEY LIBRARY

Books • Audio Books • Movies • Computers • WiFi

 Us on Facebook!

111 Second Street, Piedmont
605-718-3663

piedmont.library@hotmail.com
www.piedmontlibrary.net

Hours: Tues 10-7, Weds-Fri 10-6, Sat 9-1

“When trouble strikes, head to the Library.” – Lemony Snicket



CPR & First Aid Training Class

Smart Sitter Course is happening again. August 20th from 9-12am. For anyone who missed out last time, sign up fast. Space is very limited.



We are in need of more volunteers. If you have ever considered donating a couple hours a week working in a community environment, please stop in and fill out an application.

CURBSIDE PICKUP AVAILABLE




Preschool Story Time!

Join us every Thursday at 10 AM for a fun, preschool story time in the Library!



Bluestockings Book Club

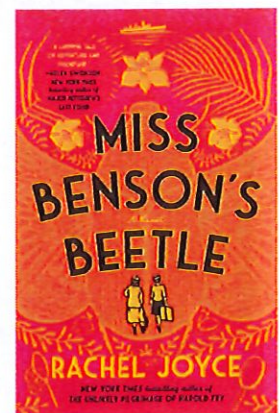
Title: Miss Benson's Beetle by Rachel Joyce

Where: @ The Library

When: Friday August 19th at 10:30AM

Who: Anyone Who Wants to Join

How: Simply stop by the library to borrow a copy of the book.



“When I got my library card, that was when my life began.”

– Rita Mae Brown

August Art Display

This month we are showcasing our Summer Reading Program art contest entries. Stop in and vote for your favorites.



Genealogy Club!

Join the genealogy club every 2nd Monday at 10 AM.

Middle School and Teen programs are taking a break in August.

- Teen Movie Night will pick back up Sept 8th at 5:00 pm.
- Middle School Book Club will pick back up Sept 16th at 3:30 pm.

HAVE A FUN REST OF YOUR SUMMER!



PIEDMONT VALLEY LIBRARY

The Piedmont Valley Library would like to congratulate Megan Stietz on being promoted to Library Director and welcome Allie Mitchell as the second Assistant Director.



My name is Allison Mitchell and I am the new Assistant Director. I grew up in the Black Hills and currently live in Rapid City. Last May, I graduated from Western Dakota Tech with an Associates in Library Science. I will be continuing my education at the University of Nebraska Omaha through their online program. In my free time I enjoy reading, swimming, and taking care of my small turtle. I am very excited to be working at the Piedmont Valley Library and look forward to what the future holds.

Park News



Are you interested in planning & helping create spaces that the future of Piedmont will enjoy?

The City is looking to form a new Park Board.

The Park Board consists of 7 members from Piedmont and the surrounding area. Meetings in the past have been held on the 2nd Wednesday of each month at Piedmont City Hall, but a new meeting date can be determined by a new Board.

Let City Hall know if you are interested.

(We have heard from a few people; we need to hear from a few more!) Thanks!

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Brick Order forms for the Park Music area
can be picked up in City Hall
Commemorate a Family Event, make a Memorial brick or
Take a look at what others have done.



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Piedmont Valley Food Pantry

Located at: Our Lady of the Black Hills Church
12365 Sturgis Rd. Piedmont SD

(Pantry is located in the basement of the Church)

Hours: Wednesday & Saturday 9:00 a.m. to 12:00 (noon)

Piedmont City Wide Yard Sale

August 12th & 13th

**(in conjunction with the Rummage Sale at
Grace United Methodist Church)**



This Photo by Unknown Author is licensed under [CC BY-SA](#)

**If you wish to participate
PLEASE let City Hall know
so we can put you on a map that will be
shared at Sale time.**

Spread the Word!! Thanks!



It is Very Important to be able to be found in an Emergency

Please be sure that your House has proper House numbers on it and that they are posted where Emergency vehicles can easily see them. We have an Ordinance for this and will be enforcing. We have had it pointed out by Fire and Sheriff that it is hard to find places in Piedmont. Having the proper number posted is very important!

Please don't let an Emergency happen before you comply!

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Bumper Stickers are available at City Hall

for those who wish to display them on your vehicle

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The Newsletter Mailing list has been recently updated. Please let the office know if we have a name wrong or that your neighbor is no longer getting a copy. If you own a property with more than one tennant (like apartments or trailer courts) we would love a list of your occupants so they can be added to our mailing list and included in the City news.

Thank You!

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**Look for the next Newsletter in October 2022!
Thanks for being a part of our beautiful little community!**

City of Piedmont
PO Box 101
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City Newsletter