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### Hall of Honor Nominations Open

The Transportation Hall of Honor Committee is accepting nominations for review and consideration for induction into the South Dakota Transportation Hall of Honor. The purpose of the Transportation Hall of Honor is to recognize individuals who have made a lasting, valuable, and/or unique contribution to South Dakota's air, highway, public transit, or rail transportation system. **Click on the graphic to access the Hall of Nomination form.**



This is a milestone year for the Committee as we prepare to induct the one hundredth person into the Hall of Honor. Contributions to consider when submitting a nomination are statewide technological innovations, political activity, legislative accomplishments, creativity, time and cost saving initiatives, and economic impact on behalf of public transportation efforts throughout South Dakota.

Anyone is welcome to submit a Transportation Hall of Honor nomination. ! Please share this recognition opportunity with fellow stakeholders throughout the transportation industry! Find the complete list of [Hall of Honor Inductees](#) located on the SDDOT website at <https://dot.sd.gov> under **Featured Resources**.

Nomination forms are also available by contacting Kari Kroll at 605-773-5105 or [kari.kroll@state.sd.us](mailto:kari.kroll@state.sd.us).

## The Secretary's Corner

### 2025 SD Airports Conference April 2-3, 2025 at The Lodge, Deadwood

Find the agenda and registration information at  
<https://dot.sd.gov/transportation/aviation/airports-conference>



This conference is for airport managers, finance officers, mayors, and other city/county personnel to learn more about how to better run their local airport. Many consultants and aviation vendors also regularly attend this conference as it is a great networking opportunity for everyone.

**This is South Dakota's 40th SD Airports Conference. The first Conference was held in 1985.**

**I want to take a moment to highlight our Aeronautics Commissioners. Since 1935, the SD Aeronautics Commission has served the state of South Dakota. And, since 1935, only 60 individuals have been appointed to this prestigious group.**

I am humbled and proud to work with these Commissioners. They have a challenging job, approving the state match for **Air Improvement Projects**, which can be difficult when faced with a limited budget.

### 2025 Aeronautics Commissioners



**Dustin Coleman**  
Rapid City



**Christopher Funk**  
Madison



**Robert Huggins**  
Sioux Falls



**Rolf Johnson**  
Mina



**Cassidy Nelson**  
Elkton



**Gerald Rieber**  
Watertown



**John Taylor**  
Sioux Falls

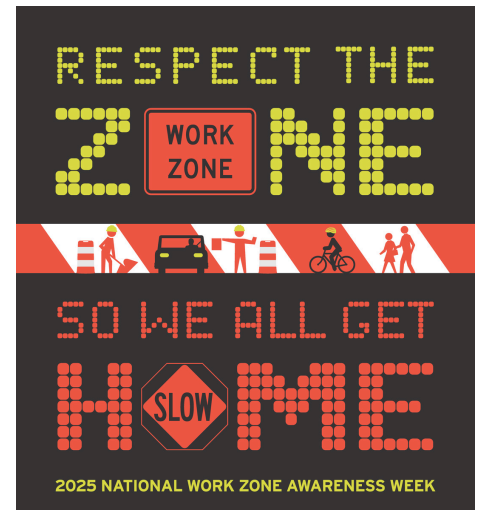
Safety in All We do is the primary core value for the SDDOT. Our focus on safety is a guiding principle for our actions and decisions. **South Dakota's airport managers are some of the best in the nation.** We know this because of the 45-category inspection we do annually. Every year we are pleased with the great job they do, and it's because of them that we can provide access to safe, beautiful airports across our state.



## National Work Zone Awareness Week (April 21 - 25, 2025)

Each year, we demonstrate support for all who work on construction projects across the state by participating in National Work Zone Awareness Week (NWZAW) in April.

The 2025 theme is **"Respect the zone, so we all get home."** Our awareness efforts emphasize the importance of personal responsibility behind the wheel. Stay tuned for more details about statewide initiatives with fellow agencies, AGC, elementary schools, and contractors. **2025 Work Zone Awareness Week posters** will also be provided to SDDOT offices.



Each year, we invite our SDDOT team to actively engage in this important safety campaign. Last year you helped kick off the "Buckle Up! Phone Down!" Driver Challenge during NWZAW! This year we are challenging each office/program to a **"Go Orange Day," office decorating contest.**

Submit your group photo in front of your decorated office (which can be inside or outside) to [dot.communications@state.sd.us](mailto:dot.communications@state.sd.us) by **Friday, March 28, 2025**. We will review and pick the winning submission and deliver the newly created **NWZAW Go Orange traveling trophy!**

All contest photos with SDDOT staff members will be shared on our website and social media platforms during "NWZAW - Go Orange Day" in April. Thank you for contributing to this vital effort of promoting driver responsibility. Your participation helps reinforce our unwavering commitment to safety for all.



The Operations Support staff in the Central Office has already begun decorating to earn the NWZAW **Go Orange** traveling trophy!



## Mentoring Minute

By: Joseph Sestak and Matt Dorfschmidt

### The Success Triangle in practice . . .

#### Expertise, Building Relationships, and Navigating the Organization

Many of us at the SDDOT are very good at our job. We chose this career (or it chose us) because of our expertise and experiences. The **Success Triangle** and mentoring relationships can help us navigate the parts of our job in which we may not be experts.

Often, we receive phone calls from the public that do not specifically pertain to our position. However, with the connections we have made, both formal and informal, we learn how to approach these situations. Most would agree these situations are less stressful when received by voicemail or email to give us more time to form a response.

Mentoring relationships can help you to deal with these situations in person through added knowledge gained from your mentor or other experts in the SDDOT. It can also give you the confidence to respond to the request even if the response is "I don't know, but I will find out and get back to you." or "I will put you in touch with the person who can help you."

By leaning on the connections made through mentoring events, you are expanding your ability to serve the public and the SDDOT as a public service business. You can build relationships with others in the SDDOT who will help you answer questions. You can gain knowledge of other employees' expertise through their presentations so you know when to ask for their help, and you can learn what is (and isn't) acceptable so you can explain the information to our customers.

You are all great at something and that is why you were hired for your job. Mentoring can help you focus on developing into a well-rounded employee and advancing your leadership within your team.

Look at the **Success Triangle** and try to determine which element could use the most improvement.

- Have you made any progress with that element or does it need more work?
- Are there ways your supervisor or coworkers can help you gain more experience with that element?

It can be as simple as leading a safety meeting to help with your presentation skills or researching a new product for possible usage within the SDDOT. Either way - find ways to gain more expertise in your field. Start small and you will be great!

The **Success Triangle** is based on the premise that for an individual to be professionally well rounded, they must be competent in three specific skill sets:



- **Building relationships** - demonstrating the ability to work effectively with others
- **Expertise** - mastering the specialized knowledge or skills that set you apart
- **Navigating the organization** - taking the responsibility to understand the organization, its culture and values - and making the effort to fit in

**Make Time for Mentoring!**



## Finance Corner: TKS Reports



The following reports are available through TKS for Supervisors & Admin Support Staff.

### DOT Equipment Mileage

- This report identifies equipment mileage totals & DOT projects based on information entered by the employee in TKS.

### DOT Duties and/or Travel Report

- This report identifies duties and travel detail based on information entered by the employee in TKS.
- This report is used for Employee travel reimbursements.

Please email Tracy Boom (central Finance office) with the requested reporting needs.

NOTE: This request is not a BHR function, rather a DOT task.



## Teams Tips: Getting the most out of Dual Monitors in a TEAMS meeting

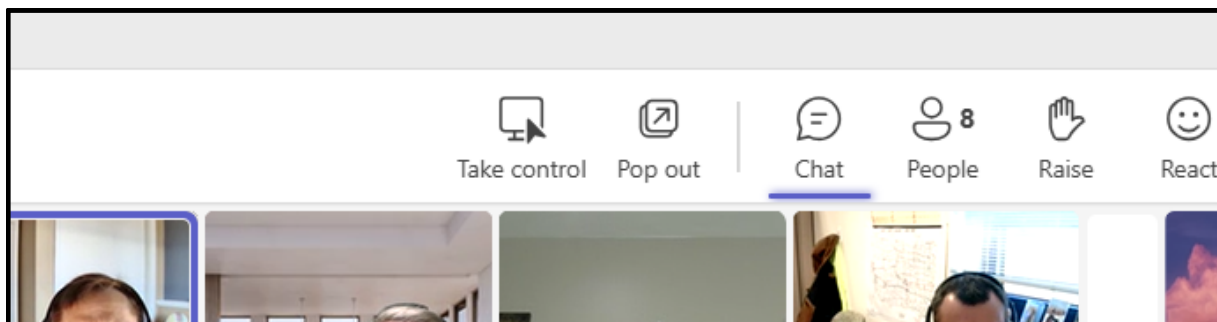
By: Dawson Lewis, Business Intelligence Specialist

If you have two monitors, or more, and are in a TEAMS meeting where the presenter is sharing their screen, you can **“pop out”** the presentation.

When the screen is being shared you will see a new menu item as shown below. The **“Pop out”** button.

Clicking that opens a new window with the shared content. You can pull that onto your bigger monitor. On your smaller monitor, you will see the presenter talking.

On the bigger monitor, the new window can be resized to fill the whole screen. Making viewing much easier.



 **TRAINING UPDATE -**Learn ~ Engage ~ Improve  
Mar 2025 (Upcoming Trainings)**PLANNING & DESIGN****ADA 101**

May 13 | 8:30 a.m. – 12 p.m. | Sioux Falls

**NHI 380129 Performance-Based Flexibility in Geometric Design**

April 29 - May 1 | 9 a.m. – 12 p.m. | Webinar

**Accommodating Pedestrians in the Work Zone**

May 13 | 1 – 3 p.m. | Sioux Falls

**FHWA Uniform Act**

July 22-24 | 8 a.m. – 5 p.m. | Pierre

**Bentley OpenRoads SignCAD Fundamentals**

Online Courses in SDLearn

**COMMUNICATION and TECHNOLOGY****It Pays to Train (IPT)**

The Training Department would like to provide an opportunity for employees to have more engagement with our staff. We will now have a quick informational Teams meeting twice a month – on the 1st and the 15th – **payday!** We will have a topic of discussion and time for questions and answers.

So, if today is the day you get paid, check out the training session on SDLearn at 11 a.m.

[Join the Microsoft Teams Meeting](#)**It Pays to Train (IPT)**

March 28 | 11 - 11:45 a.m. | Teams

April 15 | 11 - 11:45 a.m. | Teams

May 1 | 11 - 11:45 a.m. | Teams

**Dealing with Difficult Personalities**

Upon request

**New Employee Orientation**

May 20-21 | 1 p.m. - 12 p.m. | Pierre

**Computer Skills Basics**

Upon request

**SAFETY****First Aid/CPR/AED**

April 1 | 9 a.m. - 4 p.m. | Pierre

**FHWA Work Zone Mobility & Safety Self-Assessment**

April 2-3 | 1 - 3 p.m. | Rapid City

**CONSTRUCTION & MATERIALS** **Certifications expire on April 15!****MAINTENANCE****Pavement Preservation**

April 22-23 | 9:30 a.m. - 5 p.m. | Pierre

**TLN: Introduction to Roadway Materials Sampling & Testing**

March 26 | 9:30 - 10:30 a.m. | Zoom

**CDL EDLT Class A & B Theory**

April 7-9 | 8 a.m. - 4:30 p.m. | Rapid City

May 5-7 | 8 a.m. - 4:30 p.m. | Sioux Falls

**CDL Learners Permit**

April 10 | 8 a.m. - 12 p.m. | Rapid City

May 8 | 8 a.m. - 12 p.m. | Sioux Falls

**CDL EDLT Train the Trainer**

April 10 | 12:30 - 5 p.m. | Rapid City

May 8 | 12:30 - 5 p.m. | Sioux Falls

**AGC Hazardous Materials Endorsement**

April 11 | 8 a.m. - 5 p.m. | Rapid City

May 9 | 8 a.m. - 5 p.m. | Sioux Falls





## Online Health Assessment & Annual Wellness Exam

The deadline for employees (and a covered spouse) to complete the online Health Assessment and Annual Wellness Exam (with blood work) is April 1, 2025.

Employees can log in to the [LiveWellSD portal](#) to verify their rewards are complete, or complete the online Health Assessment and upload their completed Biometric Screening Form. It takes less than 15 minutes, and the primary policyholder can earn the well-being reward.



## 2025 Virtual Benefits Fair – April 3, 2025 from 9 a.m. – 1 p.m.

Come one, come all! Take time to learn more about the LiveWellSD program on April 3 from 9 a.m. – 1 p.m. **Discover all your options** and get the answers you need to prepare for important decisions about your health, flexibility, and well-being options available for you and your family in FY26.

Representatives will be available to answer your questions. **HINT HINT:** Upcoming open enrollment is May 1-15, 2025.



## BHRA Watercooler

The BHRA Watercooler gives you all the latest benefits, administration, training, and HR developments. Links to additional information can be found below!

[Click to view this month’s video.](#)



### **Additional Information:**

- Office of the State Engineer: [Website Link](#)
- Governor’s Awards of Excellence: [Website Link](#)
- Administrative Professionals’ Day: [SDLearn](#) | [Website Link](#)
- WEX Benefits Portal Login: [Website Link](#)
- Working Advantage: [Website Link](#)
- Livongo Diabetes Management: [Website Link](#)



**For more BISON updates, please visit the BISON website at <https://www.sd.gov/bison>**

Project BISON is happy to share this month’s update with you all. In this month’s KDSR you will see some great new information. The BISON team will continue to keep you in the middle of information as it becomes available.

Please take a moment to review and share the [March KDSR](#).

## SDDOT Safety News

By: Jon Johanson, Safety Manager



### SDDOT SAFETY NEWS

Distracted Driving Awareness Month

April is Distracted Driving Awareness Month according to the [National Safety Council \(NSC\)](#). A new [NSC study](#) estimates that our roads are the most dangerous they've been in years! Every day eight people lose their lives and hundreds more are injured in distraction related crashes. Each of us face distraction risks on roadways no matter if we are a motorist, cyclist, or pedestrian. If there is traffic in close proximity, it is wise to be alert to your surroundings and avoid distractions.

When it comes to driving, we are all human. It is in our nature to discover and seek knowledge, i.e., we look around a lot or rubber neck as we drive past an accident. Still, try to avoid as many distractions as possible while operating a vehicle, navigating traffic, or any other activity near traffic. Discuss the suggestions below with your colleagues and let us know if we missed any at [#DOT-SAFETY DEPARTMENT](#).

- **Commit To Driving:** Focus fully on the task at hand and avoid distractions.
- **Pull Over:** If you must complete a task such as answering your phone or joining a Teams call, pull over before you do so.
- **Dial Tone:** Put your cellphone in the glove box or back seat to avoid being tempted to take or make a call. Smart watches or in-dash systems are equally distracting and not safe alternatives to using your phone.
- **No Free Rides:** Updating directions on GPS, taking a selfie, finding your favorite podcast, or any other task that needs attention while driving can be handled by passengers. The driver should always be focused on the task of driving.
- **Ignore Your Children:** Children or pets may need your help or attention while you're driving. Help children to understand that you



can't help while you're behind the wheel. Pull over if there's a

task that needs immediate attention. Secure pets in vehicle to prevent them from becoming distractions and protect them from injury in the event of an accident.



- **Pre-Use:** Adjust your seats, mirrors, headrest, and seat belt before you leave your driveway or parking spot. Set up navigation systems before departing to avoid programming while driving.
- **Save It:** Avoid having involved or animated discussions while driving. Breaking up with your crazy soon-to-be ex during rush hour traffic could be hazardous to your health and those around you.
- **Beautification:** Shaving, applying makeup, eyebrow sculpting, and flossing are best performed elsewhere. If you must do them in the car, wait until you're safely parked before grooming yourself.
- **Road Snacks:** Nachos, hot wings or spaghetti all make for bad road snacks. Try jerky, chips, trail mix or similar snacks instead.
- **Save It:** Smoking while driving can be a major distraction, particularly if you drop a hot ember. Vapes and e-cigarettes can be just as distracting as traditional tobacco smoking products. Chewing tobacco, snuff, or any other variants including tobacco free alternatives can create distractions.
- **Fair Warning:** Prevent the need to respond to calls and texts by letting colleagues, friends and family know that you'll be driving and unable to respond.
- **Don't Bother:** If you know someone is commuting, avoid texting or calling to prevent creating a distraction. As a passenger, encourage distraction-free driving: help by offering to reply to texts or look up directions.

The monthly **SDDOT Safety News** features are also available on the [Intranet homepage](#).

As we focus on National Work Zone Awareness Month in April, I encourage all employees to complete the **Safety Council Online Defensive Driving Class for SDDOT (AFE #77D4)** training in SDLearn, especially for all new interns.

According to <https://workzonesafety.org/work-zone-data/work-zone-fatal-crashes-and-fatalities>, South Dakota has averaged two work zone fatal crashes and two work zone fatalities every year since 2013. While both "work zone fatal crashes" and "work zone fatalities" refer to deaths occurring in construction zones, "work zone fatal crashes" specifically refers to the occurrence of a crash resulting in death, while "work zone fatalities" refers to the number of deaths that occur in a work zone, regardless of whether a crash was involved.

Here are two videos that are most impactful for me:

<https://youtu.be/NCtiQhuZAYw?si=7WMNgje0iO3wjOhu>

<https://youtu.be/9csLqbVYEnE?si=qKOxgHaCKo4m6RHa>

## Public Engagement - Active Listening

Research indicates that poor listening is the norm today. **The average person is only tuned in (actively listening) about 25% of the time.** It's true in the workplace, at home, and when we engage with the public. We all can dramatically improve our listening skills! Consider the following tips, that are shared as part of the **SDDOT Public Engagement Training**.

- 1. Decide to listen.** It's obvious that good listening starts with a conscious decision to do so. Before you enter a conversation, make a decision to actively listen. Be present in the conversation!
- 2. Listen for value.** Some poor listeners excuse their behavior by saying the other person is boring or their input isn't vital. To combat the urge to tune out, look for the **HVM, the high-value moment**. You never know the precise moment an important fact or idea will be stated that will aid in the discussion!
- 3. Lean forward.** The more you physically position yourself to listen, the more you will listen. In effect, your body is saying, "I'm ready to listen. Go ahead, I'm ready to engage." Lean toward the speaker, whether in person or even on a virtual call. When you lean in, you listen in more effectively.
- 4. Look at the speaker.** If you look anywhere else, your mind will tend to drift in that direction, and your listening effectiveness goes down. When in conversation, put aside distractions, anything that tempts you to look away from the speaker. This may include trying to **send or read a text message** while listening to your colleague. You may need to **stop looking at your phone or computer** when your spouse is talking to you. Keep your eyes on the speaker and your listening will instantly improve.

### Take the Listening Assessment.

**Directions: Using the scale below, indicate your score for each statement. Complete the assessment, total your score.**

**1 = Strongly Agree      2 = Agree      3 = Disagree      4 = Strongly Disagree**

1. I find myself distracted by other things when I am supposed to listen to someone.
2. If someone is very difficult to understand, I tend to tune him/her out.
3. When listening to someone, I tend to focus on the details rather than the key points he/she is making.
4. I have a hard time listening to speakers with whom I disagree.
5. I find myself anticipating what a speaker is going to say, rather than listening to what is being said.
6. I interrupt people before they have a chance to finish what they are saying.
7. I find myself faking attention while I am actually thinking of other things not related to what the speaker is saying.
8. I have difficulty concentrating on what people are saying.
9. I let my emotions get in the way of listening to people who criticize me for something I have done.
10. I do not take notes when listening to someone's presentation.
11. After I receive the answer to my question, if the person keeps talking about an unrelated subject, I lose interest.
12. I finish sentences for the slow, deliberate talker in the interest of saving time.
13. When someone's comments are boring or uninteresting, I do not listen to them.
14. When people talk over my head, I tend to tune them out.
15. I often try to do two or more things at once, such as listen to someone and check my text messages. (Multi-task!)
16. When I am confused by what someone is saying, I am hesitant to ask clarifying questions.
17. I view listening to peoples' personal anecdotes as a waste of time rather than an opportunity to learn about them.
18. I have a tendency to daydream at meetings or in conversations, especially after having completed my part.
19. Personal problems draw my attention away from listening to what people are saying in the here and now.
20. I spend more time thinking about what I'm going to say rather than listen to what the other person is saying.
21. I don't listen as well to people who talk too fast or too slowly.
22. Sometimes I'm just too tired to listen attentively to someone.
23. Whenever I enter a meeting room, I try to sit in the back.
24. I find myself thinking about how the speaker is dressed and looks, rather than listening to what is being said.
25. Some people speak so poorly or deliver their message so ineffectively that I don't bother to listen to them.

**Total Score \_\_\_\_\_**

### **LISTENING ASSESSMENT SCORE:**

**90-100 Superior listener      80-89 Excellent listener      70-79 Good listener      60-69 Fair listener**

### **How did you do?**

If you like your score, great! If your score is less than you would like, this is the time to invest in yourself, your future, your relationships, your work, by focusing on your listening effectiveness.



# SDSU National Summer Transportation Institute (NSTI) Camps

# NATIONAL SUMMER TRANSPORTATION INSTITUTE



**SOUTH DAKOTA  
STATE UNIVERSITY**  
Jerome J. Lohr  
College of Engineering



Camp Dates:

**Option 1: June 1 – 7, 2025**

**Option 2: June 8 – 14, 2025**

All selected students will receive scholarships to attend the NSTI! The scholarship will cover the cost of on-campus housing, food, and workshops, so the camp is free! During this one-week-long summer camp, you will be introduced to different aspects of transportation engineering, such as planning, materials, and transportation modes, among other topics. You'll also have an opportunity to participate in hands-on lab activities in workshops and learn from experts about the transportation sector and the problems transportation engineers solve.

### Eligibility Criteria

- Entering grades 8–12 (as of 2024-2025 school year)
- Have a cumulative GPA of at least 2.0 (out of 4.0)
- Completed algebra (or will be qualified to enroll in coming school term)
- Interested in engineering, science, or technology



**FOR MORE INFORMATION AND  
REGISTRATION LINK:  
[HTTPS://TINYURL.COM/M7BPTNMP](https://tinyurl.com/m7bptnmp)**

**APPLICATION DEADLINE: May 10, 2025**



## Road Design's 20th Chili Cook-Off

Tuesday, March 11, 2025, marked **Road Design's 20th Annual Chili Cook-off**. It all started in Dean VanDeWiele's garage in 2003 during a Road Design family Halloween party. Soon, it became an annual event during lunch hour in the office, with only a couple of years missed.

This year included eight delicious and aromatic chilis. Tanner Fitzke, Chief Materials & Surfacing Engineer; Ryan Johnson, Sr. Specifications Engineer Operations Support; and Jason Humphrey, Pierre Region Engineer, had the difficult job of judging. Their choice was **Bill Thomas' "To Bean or Not to Bean"**. He earned a trophy, a certificate, and his name on the Road Design plaque.

Road Design staff picked **Mark Malone's chili "Delayed Flatulence" as People's Choice**. Mark earned the **"Shocky Traveling Trophy"** and a certificate. **This award is in memory of Neil Schochenmaier who was a cook-off enthusiast.**

Last, but not least, **Billy Schwarz** won a certificate and a bottle of Special S\*#t Seasoning for Best Name chosen by staff. The winning name was "D.O.G.E. – Dept of Gastronomic Excellence".

Other awesome chilis awarded ribbons:

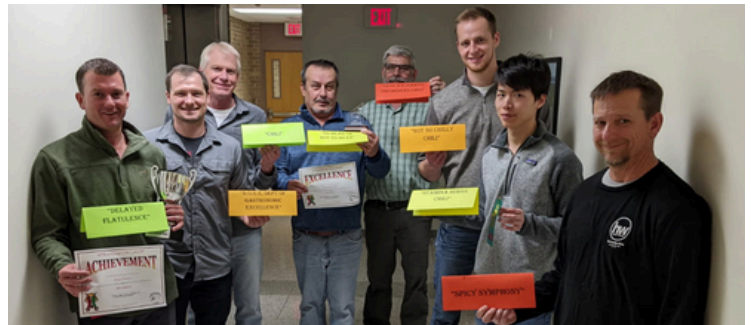
**John Fuglsang "Chili"**

**Sam Gilkerson "Gene Hackman's Unforgiven Chili"**

**Randy Gossard "Spicy Symphony"**

**Mark Liang "Stamina Surge Chili"**

**Mitch Oehme: "Not so Chilly Chili"**



This is a fun annual event with chili and dessert brought by staff. Supervisors donated paper goods, beverages, and prizes. We look forward to the 21st Road Design Chili Cook-off.



The original Road Design Chili Cook-off attendees.



Road Design enjoying chili for lunch.



The original Road Design Chili Cook-off attendees.



Judges taste-testing fine chili.



# SDDOT Employee News and Updates

## Yankton Highway Maintenance Worker Retires from Volunteer Fire Department

Chief Jai Walters (left) presented John Huber, Yankton Highway Maintenance Supervisor (right), his plaque after retiring from Menno Volunteer Fire Department after 29 years in March.



## Snowplow Contest Winners Meet Named Plows

Crystal Sayler was the 5th Annual Name the Snowplow Contest winner from the Mobridge Area. Crystal recently met her named plow. Crystal has now won back-to-back Snowplow Naming Contests with this year's winner "Polar Plow" and last year's winner "Snow Crusher."

Pictured left to right: **Jim Saylor, Herreid Highway Maintenance Worker** and driver of "Snow Crusher", his wife Crystal Sayler, and **Dale Weisbeck, Herreid Highway Maintenance Worker** and driver of "Polar Plow."



## Photos from the SDDOT Annual Bowling Tournament in Pierre





# SDDOT Employee News and Updates

## March New Hires:

- Nick Novak, Equipment Technician - Mitchell
- Jennifer Arpan, Financial Program Accountant - Pierre
- Dylan Ridgeway, Highway Maintenance Worker - Tyndall
- Tanner Willman, Journey Transportation Technician - Mitchell
- William (Joe) Uecker, Highway Maintenance Worker - Pierre
- Trey Grannes, Journey Transportation Technician - Pierre
- Blaise Hansen, Highway Construction Project Engineer - Brookings
- Eric Larsen, Engineering Manager II - Huron
- Narendrababu Pamarthi, Highway Construction Project Engineer - Yankton
- George Rosales, Journey Transportation Technician - Belle Fourche

## March Promotions and Lateral Position Changes:

- Evan Becker, Intelligent Transportation Systems - Pierre
- Alex Mitchell, Region Traffic Engineer - Aberdeen
- Brian Laymon, Lead Highway Maintenance Worker - Deadwood

## March Longevity:

- Bonnie Palmer, Senior Secretary – 20 years (Huron Area)
- Ron HighBear, Project Technician – 20 years (Watertown Area)
- Tim Blow, Equipment Shop Foreman – 25 years (Pierre Region)
- Keith Doyle, Project Technician – 25 years (Mitchell Area)
- Roger Flint, Highway Maintenance Supervisor – 25 years (Huron Area)
- Donel Lemler, Region Materials Technician – 25 years (Aberdeen Region)
- Kelly Armfield, Highway Construction Project Engineer – 35 years (Mobridge Area)



**Donel Lemler, Aberdeen Transportation Program Manager, (left) received his 25-year pin from Todd Hertel, Aberdeen Region Operations Engineer.**



**Bruce Robison, Highway Maintenance Worker, (left) received his 15-year pin from Ken Payne, Highway Maintenance Supervisor.**



# SDDOT Employee News and Updates

## March Retirements



**Scott Schneider, Aberdeen Region Design Engineering Supervisor**, retired from SDDOT in March. Scott is pictured (left) receiving his **37-year** plaque from **Mark Peterson, Aberdeen Region Engineer**. He also received an Executive Proclamation from Governor Larry Rhoden.



**Jim Dorfschmidt, Belle Fourche Transportation Project Manager**, retired from SDDOT in March after over 22 years. Jim is pictured (left) with **John Mattesen, Belle Fourche Area Engineer**.



**Trenton Claussen, son of Tanya Liska (Yankton Area Senior Secretary)** is a member of the Yankton County 4H Shooting Sports organization. Each member had the opportunity to provide an appreciation basket to a local organization or business.

Trenton provided an appreciation basket to the SDDOT staff for all of their hard work in keeping our roads safe and maintained.



## In Sympathy:



Sympathy is extended to **Phil Clements, Pierre Pavement Management Engineer**, on the recent passing of his mother-in-law.

Martha Rich passed away on March 4, 2025, in Newcastle, Wyoming.

A Memorial Service was held on Monday, March 10, 2025, at the Weston County Senior Citizen Center, with burial at Greenwood Cemetery in Newcastle, Wyoming.