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February 2023 Connecting the DOTs

Meeting their Named Plows!











- 1. **Snowmagator** Tiospa Zina Tribal School (Watertown Area)
- 2. Black Hills Cold Rush Janice Albers (Custer Area)
- 3. Betty White-Out Tayla Irwin (Rapid City Area)
- 4. Little Plow on the Prairie Sarah Wellner (Pierre Area)
- 5. Luke Ice Walker Tak Lesner (Aberdeen Area)

Find additional photos, videos, and news stories at:
https://dot.sd.gov/inside-sddot/of-interest/sddot-snowplow-naming-contest

SDDOT Mission:

To efficiently provide a safe and effective public transportation system

TATATATA

SDDOT Vision:

Better lives through better transportation by being the best



The Secretary's Corner



Providing Excellent Service - again and again!

While the photos are beautiful, winter maintenance continues to be challenged with yet another blizzard (hopefully our last of 2022-23)! I want to personally thank our snow plow operators, and all those who work behind the scenes, for providing excellent services (day and night) for our travelers. Find more storm photos, news stories, press releases at:

https://dot.sd.gov/travelers/travelers/winter-storm-information.







Our work is appreciated! A representative from the Memorial Lutheran Church in Sioux Falls brought out a basket of goodies to the Sioux Falls Area DOT; along with a thank-you card for the snowplow operators.

The card included a very nice prayer on the front. Inside it was signed by the youth group kids!

Snowplow Driver's Prayer:

Bless these drivers and the trucks they drive.
Who work to keep us safe and alive.
Look upon them and guide them on their way,
As they plow the snow, night and day.
Make their judgement sound as steel,
And guide their hands upon the wheel.
Keep them alert awake and aware,
And let them know we are glad they are there.
Through sleet, and wind, and ice and snow,
Keep them safe wherever they may go.



Thank You for ALL you do!!!! -In Christ's Love - Memorial Lutheran Church

Thanks to **Keith G. Voegeli, Highway Maintenance Supervisor**, for sharing the information and photos.

Health Benefits by Heidi Olson - Human Resource Manager Bureau of Human Resources (BHR)

Biometric Screenings and Preventive Exams with your Doctor:

To meet the biometric screening qualification for the current beneFIT Well-being program year ending March 31, 2023, register for one of the remaining on-site screening events or schedule your annual wellness preventive exam, complete the Physician Form with your doctor, and submit the form as instructed by **March 31, 2023.**

After this benefit year (July 1, 2022 – June 30, 2023), the benefits program will no longer offer on-site biometric screenings. Beginning FY24, employees can receive their numbers and meet the screening qualification by getting a preventive exam with a primary care provider. Resources are available on the BHR website to help you find providers in your local or preferred area if you do not already have one.

https://bhr.sd.gov/benefits/benefit/NextYearScreenings.pdf

Research shows that regular check-ins with a primary care provider (PCP) can lead to the early detection of major healthcare concerns. It can also keep chronic problems like diabetes, asthma, and congestive heart failure from turning into emergencies and costly hospital stays. These are invaluable intrinsic rewards. If you and your spouse (if on the plan) get a preventive exam and complete your online health assessment, the employee may earn a financial reward as well! **Details on the rewards can be found here:** https://bhr.sd.gov/benefits/benefit/.

If you receive your annual wellness exam between April 1, 2023 – March 31, 2024, you can submit your physician form for the FY24 biometric screening qualification. The FY24 physician form will be available on April 1, 2023.

Coding: Using an in-network provider greatly increase the chances of visits being coded correctly since they are familiar with what is included in a preventive exam. Wellmark has also confirmed that they are letting their network know that the State of South Dakota is no longer offering on-site biometric screenings, and they should expect to see employees seeking to establish care with a primary care provider.

A few pieces of information for you to consider:

- 1.If you feel that something should have been coded preventive, you can call your provider and ask that they submit notes to Wellmark.
- 2. When you make your appointment, be sure to designate that it's your annual preventive exam.
- 3.Take a copy of the Preventive Services list and let your doctor know that you are concerned about additional costs. For a complete list of covered preventive services, visit: https://bhr.sd.gov/benefits/FY22Files/WellmarkACAPreventive.pdf

4.If your preventive exam uncovers a health issue, and that visit then requires diagnostic services, the diagnostic services will be paid at normal plan benefit rates.

Telehealth: Flexible Solutions for a Healthier Life by Heidi Olson - Human Resource Manager Bureau of Human Resources (BHR)

Which one of us wouldn't be healthier if we just had more time? With flexible telehealth solutions from your ComPsych® GuidanceResources® program, that's no longer a problem.

GuidanceResources® gives you options, for how, when and where you access our services. Whether you have scheduling problems, an illness or injury that limits mobility, or just prefer the flexibility and accessibility of phone, video, chat, and other online tools, GuidanceResources® has you covered.

We'll Meet You Where You Are

As an alternative to traditional face-to-face counseling, you can take advantage of a variety of telehealth services, including:

- <u>Telephone Counseling:</u> If in-person counseling is not possible or not appealing to you, counseling services can be provided over the phone. Get all the benefits of speaking with a highly qualified clinician without the hassle of an office appointment.
- <u>Video Counseling:</u> Scheduled as easily as face-to-face sessions, video counseling appeals to
 those who desire an alternative to in-person counseling. All that's required is a webcam and
 software, which can be downloaded for free, to use this option. Video sessions allow
 counselors to observe nonverbal cues and responses, which are helpful to assessment and
 treatment.
- <u>Chat Counseling:</u> Real-time, scheduled chat counseling sessions are provided by licensed counselors and available through a secure portal. Have a quick question or want to share your progress? Participants can always text their counselors directly on a 24/7 basis.
- <u>Supervisor Support:</u> If you need support in your role as a supervisor, the EAP is available to provide guidance.
- What's Best for You: If your initial counselor is not a good fit you can request someone different and not be charged one of your 5 free sessions.
- <u>Prescriptions:</u> Use Dr. on Demand if you have a situation that includes potential prescriptions.

To access any service, contact your GuidanceResources® program's 24/7 toll-free number. A GuidanceConsultant® will answer your call, discuss your issue and provide you a referral to video, phone or chat counseling services.

You can also connect with a GuidanceConsultant® through our award-winning website, GuidanceResources® Online, which includes a variety of cutting-edge, interactive tools and other resources.

Call: 833-955-3403 - TTY: 800-697-0353 - Online: guidanceresources.com

Recruiting the Next Generation of the SDDOT Team

The SDDOT Team has been busy on the recruiting trail in February.













- 1. Rebecca Urban and Corey Pinkley at SDSU
- 2. Matt Brey and Matt Dorfschmidt at NDSU
- **3. Jason Baker** and **Mike Rogen** at Western Dakota Tech
- **4. Derek Ferwerda** and **Kate Sieverding** at SDSM&T
- 5. Jared Pfaff and Ty Scofield at Southeast Tech
- **6. Josh McBurnett** at Belle Fourche High School



Bruce Schroeder, Aberdeen Area Engineer, attended the Presentation College Career Fair in Aberdeen.

The PC Career Fair was held to assist staff in finding employment opportunities as the college is scheduled to close later this year.

2023 South Dakota Airports Conference The Lodge, Deadwood, SD March 29 and 30, 2023

Registration form and agenda are available on our website at: https://dot.sd.gov/transportation/aviation/airport-conference



February Mentoring Minute Make Time for Mentoring!



By John Villbrandt and Brad Remmich

- Are you struggling in areas of your job?
- Do you want to better understand your role in the organization?
- Do you need help with writing, public speaking, networking, time management, or conflict resolution?
- Do you want to better yourself?
- Are you willing to share your expertise with other people?

If you answered yes to any of these questions, the Mentoring Program is here for you.

Become a Mentee to explore the agency, expand your skills, network, or understand where you fit in.

Become a Mentor to share your expertise, help a mentee reach their goals and better the SDDOT by paying it forward.

The Mentoring Program is Mentee driven meaning you get out of it what you put into it. You will develop mentoring goals and will be the driver. The Mentor will guide you in creating a map to achieve your goals. Some of the stops to reach your destination may be to introduce you to experts, share with you their skills, guide you to training, help you understand where you fit on the map and point you in a direction needed to reach your goals.

Detours can occur on the way but if you know where you want to go, the Mentor will steer you to your destination.

Secretary Jundt will be kicking off the Mentoring Program in a March Information Interchange. Watch for details on how to sign up.

The Mentoring Committee looks forward to seeing you in the program!

Upcoming Mentoring Events:

·Mentoring Program Registration: March 10 - April 6, 2023

Make time for Mentoring!

Innovative Techniques

During the December 2022 blizzards that hit the state, **Dean VanDeWiele**, **Pierre Area Engineer and Les Winsell**, **SDDOT Pierre Area Maintenance Supervisor** noted the positive effects of snow fencing along a historical difficult stretch of S.D. Highway 1806 through Lower Brule.



Making the Most of What is Offered By Kari Kroll, Lead Well-being Champion



Whether you are on the state insurance plan or not, there are wellness opportunities that are offered to you as a DOT employee.



Deadwood Mickelson Trail Marathon/ Half Marathon/ 5 Person Relay Marathon

State employees and their family members will once again be offered a discounted price of \$85 for the half marathon or marathon. And \$250 for the 5 Person Marathon Relay until May 29th or race cap is reached.

It is a walker-friendly event, so don't let the "running" part of it stop your from entering. The courses are open for 7 hours. All finishers receive a commemorative metal. I walked the marathon a couple years ago and can tell you it's a BEAUTIFUL way to spend the day! There are water and snack stations throughout the course to keep you hydrated and your energy up.

For all the details and to register, visit www.DeadwoodMickelsonTrailMarathon.com. At checkout, please enter the following information in the "discount code" box to receive the discount rate:

- Half Marathon or Marathon: 2023Empdis
- 5 Person Marathon Relay: 2023EmpRelay

Contact: Emily Wheeler at Info@DeadwoodMickelsonTrailMarathon.com

















If you have been collecting well-being points, have you done everything you need to do before the March 31 deadline to earn rewards? Below is a checklist to help you evaluate.

- Health assessment completed
- Biometric screen completed OR annual health screen form signed by my doctor
- Double checked my rewards have you been rewarded for what you've completed?
- Started any last challenges needed to get my full benefit

If you have any question, please feel free to check with your Well-being Champion. They are here to help!

Who are the SDDOT Well-being Champions??

Kari Kroll (Central Office), Monica Ortbahn (Pierre Region/Mobridge), Luke Neville (Pierre), Doug Sherman (Winner), Alicia Bauley (Aberdeen Region), JoAnn Kayser (Aberdeen), Jeff Brink (Watertown), Bonnie Palmer (Huron), Katie Peugh (Mitchell Region/Mitchell), Tanya Liska (Yankton), Logan Patrick (Sioux Falls), Krystl Vermundson (Rapid City Region/Rapid City), Brenda Butler (Belle Fourche), and Connie Zeimet (Custer)

Public Engagement – Meeting People Where They Are ... Black Hills Stock Show and the Watertown Farm Show!

As an organization, we are trying to be more intentional about meeting people where they are! Public engagement (whether discussing plans for a construction project or winter maintenance) helps our team continually identify and respond to the needs of our customers. Community events also provide another opportunity to actively recruit for open positions! Thanks to staff members who took a shift (or two). We will continually evaluate these outreach efforts to make sure they are an efficient and effective use of time.









2022 Concrete Paving Award of Excellence

At the **2022 Concrete Conference** in Deadwood, the Pierre Area Office and Reede Construction won the **2022 Concrete Paving award of excellence** for the U.S. Highway 212 reconstruction project in Gettysburg. Photos by Misty Berg, Journey Technician, Winner Area.

Front Row L-R Nate Hedquist (Reede), Jarrad Aason (Reede), Rodney Larson (SDDOT Project Tech.),

Back Row L-R Mike Flakus (Reede Project Superintendent), Chad Howard (SDDOT Engineering Manager II), Daniel Olivarez (Reede), and Dean VanDeWiele (SDDOT Project Manager III).





Aberdeen Ride Line Provides an Invaluable Service to Aberdeen By: Patty Holm, Ride Line Administrative Assistant

It seems that every position that I have held has prepared me for the position of Administrative Assistant for Ride Line. I have been in customer service for 40 years in various companies. Contract preparation, AP/AR, payroll, vehicle maintenance tracking, inventory, sales, managing a hunting lodge and liaison for clients in a mental health clinic. I have worked in banking, public utilities, general contracting, private business, body shop detailing and road construction. All roads have led to every aspect of this position in a transit agency. The more you know about the operation of your business, the better you are prepared for the job that needs to be done. I have only been in this position for a short time but being a smaller agency, it is important to touch every corner. (Since we don't have cleaning staff, I have literally touched every corner 2).

Until I started in this position, I never realized the importance of transportation in a community. You take it for granted when you just get in your car and go to your appointment or to work or get groceries. But if you are elderly, disabled or unable to drive, you are at the mercy of others for your transportation needs. As part of the dispatch team at Ride Line I hear all of the stories from people just trying to provide for themselves. Some have no others to depend upon. Their children are no longer in the area, or they have special needs. This is true in every town, city, or urban area. Transit is truly their lifeline.

The most challenging part of transit grant management is trying to provide all of the needs of the transit agency with the funds provided. Trying to determine where the greatest need is or to predict for the future of the agency. Funds will always be the biggest challenge. Being new to the world of transit, I discovered you can't jump in in the middle. In order to understand the entire process, you need to put the puzzle together.

In 2022, Ride Line drove 183,109 miles within a 2.5-mile radius of the City of Aberdeen. We provided 66,475 rides which resulted in an average of 2.76 miles per ride.

Ride Line is a department of the City of Aberdeen. As part of the city, you are actually working with two budgets. You have the operating budget from the state of \$658,200.00 for state and federal grants and a city budget of \$829,500.00 to cover matching funds and operating costs not covered by the grants.

Ride Line was affected by the pandemic with decreased rides and revenue, but we still maintained a good enough ride count to keep our full-time drivers on the road. Our part time drivers worked when needed and we retained all employees. The biggest issue we faced and are still affected by is the fact that we could not order or receive any new buses. Our aging fleet and the need for more drivers are our biggest issues. Our ridership numbers are not only back but have increased from pre pandemic numbers.

Our current drivers at Ride Line are some of the best when it comes to caring about their passengers. They don't see them as just a number on their tablets but as someone needing the service we provide. Since we are in a smaller community, these drivers may have the same passengers every day. The drivers hear their stories and become a part of their day. They are concerned if a familiar rider is not on board for their route. They work well together as a team and will communicate in the field to determine the most efficient way to pick up a passenger. They understand our need for more drivers and work with us to provide the best service we can.

The best part of this job is the comradery with the other transit agencies and the people we work with. We all understand the problems that exist for each agency. It's like a hidden community upon the road and streets in the cities and rural areas.

Transit Day at the Capitol

SDDOT Transit Staff (L to R): Jennifer Boehm, Brenda Sharkey, Andrew Metele, Monte Meier, Terri Geigle, Bob Hofer, Kellie Beck, and lack Dokken

SDDOT Transit Staff and Providers:

Front Row (L to R) - Terry Hoffman (Community Transit of Watertown/Sisseton, Inc.-CTWSI), Kathy Holman (CTWSI), Jennifer Boehm, Brenda Sharkey, Rich Krokel (Aberdeen Ride Line), Terri Geigle, Brenda Schweitzer (Sioux Falls

Transit), Donald Sharkey (River Cities Public Transit -RCPT), and Andy Sharpe (RCPT)

Back Row (L to R) - Scott Finck (Rural Office of Community Services-ROCS), Lisa Johnson (Prairie Hills Transit), Andrew Mentele, Monte Meier, Bob Hofer, Renee

Anderson (RCPT), and Jack Dokken.

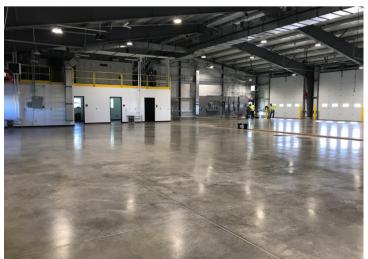




Pictured is the crew sealing the floor in the new shop at Eagle Butte on Feb. 10, 2023.

Pictured left to right: Kelly Berndt, Andrew Schuler, Jack Veit, Tiny Martin, and Jim Hyde. Photos provided by James Brooks, DOT Maintenance Supervisor 372





Engagement Starts Within

By Julie Stevenson, Strategic Communications Coordinator

Silent Quitting - yet another buzz phrase being highlighted in the media. The term "silent quitting" seems like an oxymoron to me. A person's silence (or lack of engagement) isn't silent at all. If one of our team members is disengaged; it hurts all of us, it hurts our organization. We focus a lot on public engagement and how we share information and listen to our external stakeholders. But - what about our internal stakeholders, our fellow employees? Are we committed to engagement within our organization?



Each week I receive inspirational emails called "Tuesday Tips" from Dr. Alan Zimmerman. This week's email caught my attention based on the public engagement topic, and because he quoted one of my favorites, Coach Lou Holtz.

Most know Lou from Notre Dame notoriety; but the connection Lou and I have stems from our love of the Golden Gophers! Although "love" obviously only runs so deep! As a young coach, Lou left the U of M for more money and fame at Notre Dame!

Excerpt from Alan's article follows . . . Four keys to engagement!

▶ 1. Model enthusiasm. Be a contagious force!

During a tough, rocky season, Mark Mangino, the head football coach at the University of Kansas, was the target of some very negative press. A reporter asked him if he had had a bad week. He replied, "Let me tell you something that's really important that's on my mind. I have a player, D.J. Marshall, who's in Tulsa, Oklahoma, in a cancer center. He just started his chemotherapy this week. That's called a tough week. I've had a great week." That's putting things in perspective. If you model enthusiasm, your fellow teammates will catch the same spirit.

▶ 2. Confidence

You build confidence in people by believing in them. In fact, your confidence in them often precedes their own self-confidence. Lou Holtz, the great football coach at Minnesota and Notre Dame, proved that time and again. He says, "People perform to the level expected of them. Because I demanded nothing short of greatness, the players elevated their performance far beyond anyone's expectations."

▶ 3. Empowerment

Trevor Adcock, a leader at Toyota wrote, "From my work with Toyota, I learned that I should treat my fellow employees as if they were my children. And if you actually think about it and practice that, you behave very differently toward them. As you well know, you would never let your children fail. So why would you ever let a fellow employee fail? You wouldn't. You learn to empower each other."

▶ 4. Inspiration

Pia Sundhage, the head coach of the US women's national soccer team that won two Olympic gold medals said, "The team name on the front of the jersey is much more important than the player name on the back." She inspired her players by reminding them they were part of something bigger than themselves; they were part of a great team with a great tradition.

The SDDOT is a great team with a great tradition! Please actively engage! Take time to instill enthusiasm, confidence, empowerment, and inspiration among your co-workers!

To receive Dr. Zimmerman's free weekly Tuesday Tip, go to https://www.drzimmerman.com/subscribe





TLN COURSES

ATSSA Traffic Control Technician

Feb. 28 | 9:00 am | Zoom

ATSSA Traffic Control Supervisor

Mar. 1-2 | 9:00 am | Zoom

Engineering Ethics

Mar. 15 | 9:30 am | Zoom

Critical Conversations

Mar. 16 | 9:30 am | Zoom

Project Engineer to Project Manager: Look before you Leap

Mar. 21 | 10:00 am | Zoom

Paving Equipment Innovations: What's Available, What's Coming!

Mar. 23 | 9:30 am | Zoom

REQUIRED SUPERVISORY COURSES

Civil Treatment Workplace for Leaders

Mar. 7 | 8:00 am | Pierre

Mar. 30 | 1:00 pm | Pierre

Apr. 14 | 8:00 am | Pierre

CPC: Taking the Coach Approach

Mar. 8 | 1:00 pm | Sioux Falls

Interview & Selection

Feb. 28 | 10:00 am | Teams

Mar. 28 | 10:00 am | Teams

May 10 | 1:00 pm | Pierre

We are starting to transition DOT's LMS to BHR's SDLearn. For the Single-Sign-On (SSO) to work with SDLearn your email address in Employee Space needs to reference your work email. If you have had issues logging into SDLearn using SSO, please follow these steps to check your email.

- 1. Log in to your Employee Space and Select **Proceed to Employee Space.**
- 2. Select SoSD AzureAD
- 3. Select **Edit Profile** then **Personal Information**
- 4. Double-click the email address to edit if necessary.



TECHNICAL COURSES

Welding Basics

Mar. 6-9 | 8:00 AM | WDTI Mar. 14-16 | 6:00 AM | LATI

Erosion & Sediment Control Feb. 28-Mar. 1 | Sioux Falls Mar. 14-15 | Rapid City/Box Elder (Rescheduled) Asphalt Concrete Aggregates Testing Mar. 6-7 | Pierre Earthwork Mar. 20-23 | Pierre Mar. 20-23 | Pierre ACI Field Testing Mar. 1-2 | Rapid City

	Mar. 21-22 Pierre
Concrete Paving	Asphalt Concrete Mix Design & Production
Mar. 14-16 Pierre (FULL)	Mar. 27-30 Pierre
	Asphalt Concrete Hot Mix Testing
	Mar. 8-10 Pierre

Roadway Information System (RIS) Traffic Inventory By Jeff Brosz

"Can you help me? I'm looking for traffic data for a state trunk highway." I have gotten that question a lot over the years from people in the SDDOT looking for traffic data for a State or U.S. highway or Interstate. And the answer I give is "Have you heard of the RIS Traffic File?" Here is a quick guide to the RIS Traffic Inventory.

What is the RIS Traffic Inventory? It is the source database for traffic data for any road on the state-trunk system.

Where can I find the RIS Traffic Inventory? The Traffic Inventory is part of the Roadway Information System (RIS) which also includes the MRM File, Roadway Features, Intersection Inventory, and Profile Data. You should have an icon on your computer desktop like the one on the right. Double click to open it, click the File menu, and choose Traffic Inventory.

How does it work? Enter the data class and highway you want, and then hit search. If you have a specific Mileage Reference Marker (MRM) you need, you can include that also.



Data

Class

Highway

1 010

1 010

MRM

Disp

182.63 0.000

193.21 0.000

Information

System

Hit the search button and the data screen for the highway will appear.



The data listed in each row is a segment that begins at the MRM listed and ends at the MRM below it. In the screenshot above, the current ADT of 456 is for the section of SD 10 from MRM 182.63 to MRM 193.21 (the next MRM below it).

You can see the history of each traffic section by hitting the plus by the data class of each MRM:

Highway	MRM	Disp	Section Type	Cou			Function Class			% Trucks
1 010 182.63		0.000	(R) - Rural (Major) Ca	npbell	pbell (07) - Major Collector			51	
Year	ADT		20 Year ADT	25 Year ADT	30 Ye	ar ADT	35 Year ADT	% Truc	ks Single	e Unit ucks
2021		424	517	54	0	563	586	17.5	2.2	
2020		460	661	71	3	764	814	17.5	2.2	
2019		456	655	70	7	757	807	17.5	2.2	
	1 010 Year 2021 2020	1 010 182.63 Year ADT 2021 2020	1 010 182.63 0.000 Year ADT 2021 424 2020 460	1 010 182.63 0.000 (R) - Rural (Year ADT 20 Year ADT 2021 424 517 2020 460 661	1 010 182.63 0.000 (R) - Rural (Major) Car Year ADT 20 Year ADT 25 Year ADT 2021 424 517 544 2020 460 661 713	1 010 182.63 0.000 (R) - Rural (Major) Campbell Year ADT 20 Year ADT 25 Year ADT 30 Ye 2021 424 517 540 2020 460 661 713	1 010 182.63 0.000 (R) - Rural (Major) Campbell (07) - I Year ADT 20 Year ADT 25 Year ADT 30 Year ADT 2021 424 517 540 563 2020 460 661 713 764	1 010 182.63 0.000 (R) - Rural (Major) Campbell (07) - Major Collector Year ADT 20 Year ADT 25 Year ADT 30 Year ADT 35 Year ADT 2021 424 517 540 563 586 2020 460 661 713 764 814	1 010 182.63 0.000 (R) - Rural (Major) Campbell (07) - Major Collector Year ADT 20 Year ADT 25 Year ADT 30 Year ADT 35 Year ADT % Truc 2021 424 517 540 563 586 17.5 2020 460 661 713 764 814 17.5	1 010 182.63 0.000 (R) - Rural (Major) Campbell (07) - Major Collector 51 Year ADT 20 Year ADT 25 Year ADT 30 Year ADT 35 Year ADT % Trucks Single % Trucks 2021 424 517 540 563 586 17.5 2.2 2020 460 661 713 764 814 17.5 2.2

Roadway Information System (RIS) Traffic Inventory Cont. By Jeff Brosz

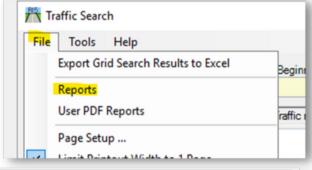
How often is the Traffic File updated? It is updated annually every January and is ready for use by

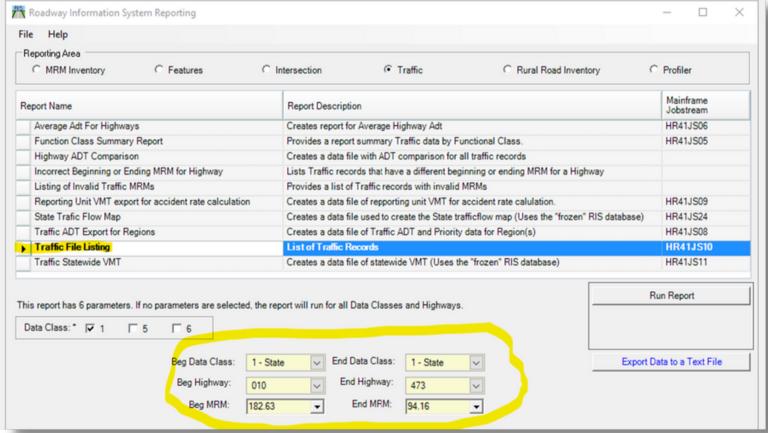
early February.

Can I export traffic information? Yes, you can.

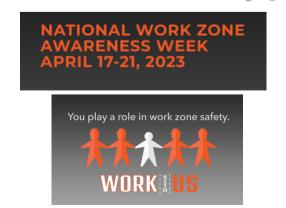
Go to the File menu and click on Reports.

Click on Traffic File Listing and fill in the beginning and ending information for your export. What is shown in the picture below would export all state highways.





Click on the button Export Data to a Text File. Enter a location and file name, then click Save. Back on the report screen, click Create Extract File to get a text file you can import into Excel.



More information about **NWZAW** will be shared with staff via future Connecting the DOTs Newsletters and Secretary Jundt's Information Interchange!

Serving Those in Need - The SDDOT Way By Kari Kroll, Executive Assistant

Looking for some fun with your officemates and a place to do good for your community?

Find a food serving opportunity!!

The Central Office prepared and served 216 meals for those in need in Pierre on February 16 at the Southeast Community Center's Banquet Dinner.

What was on the menu? Breakfast! We served pancakes, scrambled eggs, sausage links, tater tots, fruit cup and milk. Karla Engle (Legal) and Kari Kroll (Secretary's Office) spent the afternoon preparing and cooking everything before the rest of the volunteers came to serve it. (Props to Karla for her cracking of 510 eggs!) It was the first time breakfast had ever been served there for dinner and the feed back from those dining in was all positive.

Along with dinner, Dani Doorn (Project Development) and Steve Van Mullem (Bridge) serenaded the diners with beautiful violin music to add some extra ambiance. Our collection also allowed to purchase an additional 130 pounds of fresh fruit for anyone to take with on their way home.















SDDOT Employee News and Updates. . .

February Longevity:



- Nathan Loecker, Lead Highway Maintenance Worker 20 years (Yankton Area)
- Chris Voelker, Lead Highway Maintenance Worker 20 years (Sioux Falls Area/Madison)
- Jon Becker, Engineer III 35 years (Central Office/ Office of Air, Rail & Transit)
- Bob Schilling, Certification Specialist 20 years (Central Office/ Office of Materials & Surfacing)
- Shane Stewart, Lead Highway Maintenance Worker 20 years (Custer Area/ Hot Springs)
- **Sam Weisgram,** Standards and Letting Squad Engineering Manager 20 years (Central Office/ Office of Project Development)
- Lisa Rombough, Surfacing Plans Project Engineer 25 years (Central Office/ Office of Materials & Surfacing)

Bob Hofer received his 40 year pin from **Secretary Jundt**. Bob officially retired at 41 years.





Brian Wacholz, Aberdeen Region Operations Coordinator, received his 15 year pin from Todd Hertel, Aberdeen Region Operations Engineer.

Mike Sanders – Sturgis Highway Maintenance Worker celebrated his 35th work anniversary!





Jason Baker, Project Engineer, received his 10 year pin from John Gerlach, Project Engineering Manager.

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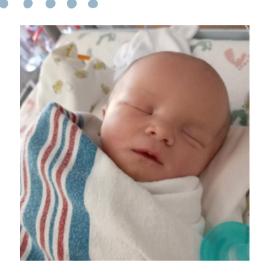
SDDOT Employee News and Updates. . .



Wyatt Ries, Lead Highway Maintenance Worker, Mitchell Area, recently received Son of the Year honors, from Sons of American Legion.

The Sons of the American Legion (SAL) is a non-profit organization of male descendants of men or women who served honorably in the U.S. Armed Forces during World War I or since December 7, 1941. Its mission is to serve U.S. veterans, the military and their families through outreach programs.

Lynette Myrna Jo Rageth was born on Feb. 7, 2023. Lynette, who is the daughter of **Rayleen Rageth, Senior Secretary, Central Office (Pierre)** weighed 7 lbs. 8 oz. and was 20" long.





Pictured is **Jeff Janke**, **Highway Maintenance Worker in Clark**, with his new granddaughter **Kinsley Elizabeth Janke**

Kinsley was born Jan. 25, 2023, weighing 6 lbs. and 14 oz.

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Pictured, in their new shirts, are the **Winner Area Impact Award winners!** They were nominated and won for the their innovative efforts to develop a recruitment video!

Front Row L-R Brad Norrid and Misty Berg Back Row L-R: Randy Vesely, Jay Lovejoy, Matt Bossert, and Mike Hausmann



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February New Hires:

Caleb Van Zee, Highway Maintenance Worker, Pierre
Allen Brown, Highway Maintenance Worker, Armour
Donald Weber, Highway Maintenance Worker, Milbank
Tucker Pankowski, Highway Maintenance Worker, Custer
Cecelia Johnson, Auditor I, Pierre
Tate Cullers, Journey Transportation Technician



February Promotions & Lateral Position Changes:

John Keyes, ROW Program Manager, Pierre
Mark King, Maintenance and Inventory Management Specialist, Pierre
Daryl Johnson, Highway Maintenance Worker, Aberdeen
Rebecka Wallingford, Grants and Electric Vehicle Infrastructure Coordinator, Pierre



Danae Berman, Auditor I, (Central Office - Pierre) married Chris Dean on Feb. 11, 2023.

Chris's mother, Marliss Dean retired from the SDDOT finance team a few years ago.

Congratulations to the newlyweds!

In Sympathy . . .

Sympathy is extended to family, friends, and co-workers of John Holzhauser. John was a SDDOT Highway Maintenance Worker in Gettysburg for 18 years.

John passed away Jan. 29, 2023, at Gilbert, AZ in the House of the Valley Hospice.

