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# HARTFORD

COMMUNITY GUIDE 2019 - 20

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## MAYOR'S WELCOME WELCOME TO HARTFORD!



Jeremy Menning, Hartford, SD Mayor

Why Hartford? The answer's easy. We have exactly what you are looking for! Whether you are looking for a place to raise a family, retire, or start a business, you will be very impressed with what you find here. So many of our residents chose Hartford because they grew up in a small town and they wanted to live and raise their family in a similar environment. That is what brought my wife, and me here 13 years ago.

With a baby on the way and living in Sioux Falls, Christy and I were nearly an hour away from the family farms we grew up on and we were looking for a place that felt more like home. Hartford is exactly that. We found that Hartford is a place where you know your neighbors and you not only see them out in their yard, you begin to see those familiar faces everywhere throughout town. You see them at church and school, in the bank, at your daycare when you are picking up your children. You develop friendships and trusting relationships. Just like that; Hartford was not just a place to live, it became home.

One thing that makes Hartford so special is the general feel that this is your town and you can have an impact and mold it. As Mayor, I see this on a regular basis. Many of us CHOSE Hartford as a place to live and with that choice comes a level of responsibility to make the community better. A couple of my favorite examples of this are Jamboree Days and Hartford Hometown Christmas. These are major community gathering events for us that are completely volunteer led. Volunteers that once said, "We used to have an event like this in my small town, I'd like to have the same type of event here." Those volunteers worked together and developed really special events for the entire community to enjoy.

This is not the type of small town that you will become bored with. I am always so impressed with how much there is to do here. For those that like to be active; we have an award winning 18 hole golf course, miles and miles of bike trails, excellent parks, local gyms and a growing sports complex. For those looking for dining and entertainment; don't forget we have several restaurants that offer everything from burgers and paninis to pizza and steak. On top of all of that we are very proud to have one of South Dakota's newest breweries and a local race track. Seriously, you won't find another small town that can offer you all that!

Lastly, I want to touch on business in Hartford. If you are thinking of starting a business, Hartford is an excellent choice. We are a pro-business community that has enjoys great local support. We are also growing at quick and steady pace. Matching that growth with being just the right distance away from Sioux Falls, your business will have enough elbow room to grow a local, loyal customer base. With everything you need right here in town our residents have love to get out and support the local fare.

We have it all. I like to say that Hartford is the best hometown anyone could ask for. Come join us, you will love it here!

*Jeremy Menning*  
Hartford Mayor



This publication was created by AGE Media & Promotion and the Hartford Area Development Foundation. For more information on the Foundation, find them on Facebook, Instagram, and twitter.



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## CITY CONTACT INFO

- Emergency..... 911
- Minnehaha County Sheriff Department  
(Non-emergencies)..... 367-7000
- Hartford Area Fire & Rescue ..... 528-3511
- Humboldt Ambulance..... 528-3000
- Hartford Sheriff Deputy ..... 528-7199
- Hartford City Hall..... 528-6187
- Hartford City Shop ..... 528-6509
- Chamber & Economic Development Director  
..... 528-3338
- Swimming Pool..... 528-6480
- Post Office ..... 528-3841

### LOCAL UTILITIES

- Water/Sewer (City of Hartford) ..... 528-6187
- Electrical (Sioux Valley Energy).... 800-234-1960
- Natural Gas (MidAmerican Energy)  
..... 888-427-5632
- Phone/Cable/Internet (Golden West)  
..... 528-3211
- GARBAGE
- Novak Sanitary Service..... 888-866-2651
- Cressman Sanitation ..... 605-759-3456

## ADVERTISER DIRECTORY

|   |    |
|---|----|
| Accord Commercial Real Estate.....          | 27 |
| Balloon Squad USA.....                      | 17 |
| Backdoor Garden.....                        | 38 |
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## DAYCARES & PRESCHOOLS

**CHRIST LUTHERAN CHURCH\***  
Ashli O’Kane  
Hartford, SD  
(605) 528-3027

**JANELLE HANDBERG**  
West Acres Area, Sioux Falls, SD  
(605) 332-9933

**HAPPY HEARTS\***  
Linda McMahon  
Hartford, SD  
(605) 528-3615

**IMAGINATION STATION\***  
Kris Johnson  
Hartford, SD  
(605) 528-5437

**JULI KETCHAM**  
Hartford, SD  
(605) 528-7219

**CATHY KROEGER**  
Hartford, SD  
(605) 528-6711

**MELISSA MALLINGER\***  
Hartford & Wall Lake Area  
(605) 595-2959

**STARK’S DAYCARE\***  
Kris Stark  
Ellis, SD area | Sioux Falls, SD  
(605) 335-7215

**STEPPING STONES PRESCHOOL & ENRICHMENT CENTER\***  
Melissa Atkins  
Hartford, SD  
(605) 528-3358

**TRINITY CHURCH LEARNING CARE\***  
Angela Hoekman  
Hartford, SD  
(605) 526-4021

**LISA WARKENTHIEN**  
Hartford, SD  
(605) 528-7365

**WEST CENTRAL KARE\***  
Hartford, SD  
(605) 528-3215

**LITTLE BLOSSOM’S PRESCHOOL**  
*(focusing on ages 3-5 years old)*  
Kristi Anderson  
*(state certified teacher)*  
Hartford, SD  
(605) 366-4686

**BECKER’S BRIGHT BEGINNINGS\***  
Humboldt, SD Area  
(605) 363-5060

**MADISON BUSSER**  
Humboldt, SD Area  
(605) 941-5809

**CRYSTAL TRAVIS**  
Humboldt, SD Area  
(605) 261-7344

*\*Denotes lincensed or registered daycare*

*\*\*The City of Hartford does not endorse any daycares. It is your responsibility to check out these daycares. This is simply a list of known daycares and may not be an up-to-date list.*

# Focused on YOU



Alyssa Giedd, James J. Buss, CPA, and Cindy Buss

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**BUSSCPA**

## LETTER FROM THE DEVELOPMENT FOUNDATION



Jesse Fonkert (Photo by Vincent Gene Photography)

Thank you for picking up a copy of *Hartford Living*. This annual publication has been put together in order to capture what it means to live in Hartford, SD. Our growing town of 3,300 is home to both families and businesses that are motivated to create a better community for tomorrow. It is the hope of the Hartford Area Development Foundation, Hartford’s economic development organization, that you find this magazine helpful in describing what it means to live in Hartford in 2019.

As the Chamber and Economic Development Director for Hartford, I have the distinct pleasure and honor of working with organizations such as the Chamber of Commerce, Development Foundation, Downtown Hartford Inc, and others to build a better Hartford. These organizations, led by members of the business community, strive towards the advancement of our region and continually challenge the status quo to make life here better. Programming such as Third Thursdays, #DiscoverHartford, Jamboree Days, the Downtown Market, Hometown Christmas and more are made possible thanks to your support of these organizations and the businesses that make them up. The hundreds of people that engage in community development foster my excitement for Hartford as we work together for a brighter future.

Thanks to this engagement, Hartford continues to attract new families and businesses. Hartford’s intimate size, proximity to Sioux Falls, its amenities (businesses, services, parks), and strategic partner West Central School District are all strengths that contribute to continued growth. While our residential growth rate hovers below 3% annually, the interest in our community has grown exponentially. Businesses are constantly looking to build here due to the favorable climate and plethora of opportunities. Families choose to build or move here in order to capitalize on an environment that produces well-rounded graduates. Every day, more stakeholders are calling Hartford home.

In 20 years, the Hartford that we know today will look different. Our community will be home to more businesses, including both services and large job-producers, and families of all ages. As we grow, it is important that we maintain a tight-knit community. With growth comes growing pains that will challenge us. I encourage you to be neighborly and take pride in your town. The future is impossible to predict but it looks bright for Hartford. Even though Hartford might expand, by working together, we can ensure that we remain a big city with a small-town heart.

*Jesse Fonkert*

*Director of Hartford Area Chamber of Commerce and Hartford Area Development Foundation*



PO BOX 730  
705 E 2nd Street  
Hartford, SD 57033

**PHONE NUMBERS**

Administration.....605-528-3217  
High School.....605-528-6236  
Middle School.....605-528-3799  
Hartford Elementary.....605-528-3215  
Humboldt Elementary.....605-528-3321

www.westcentral.k12.sd.us

# WEST CENTRAL SCHOOL DISTRICT #49-7

Serving the South Dakota communities of Hartford, Humboldt, Ellis, and the Wall Lake Area.

## WELCOME!

On behalf of the West Central School District, I encourage you to visit any of the schools in our district and to view our award-winning educational programs in action. We employ 1-to-1 technology in grades 3-12.

The Principals will be happy to give you a tour of the buildings and to explain the many educational opportunities available at West Central. If you are unable to take a tour, I recommend visiting our website at www.westcentral.k12.sd.us.

We are proud of our high levels of academic achievement, small class sizes, high quality veteran staff members, and successful extra-curricular programs. We strive daily "to prepare all students for living and learning in a changing world".

Thank you for your interest in West Central!

Brad Berens, *Superintendent*



### 2018 ACT TEST SCORES (American College Test)

|                    | West Central | State |
|--------------------|--------------|-------|
| English.....       | 21.8         | 20.8  |
| Math.....          | 20.3         | 21.6  |
| Reading.....       | 22.7         | 22.4  |
| Science.....       | 22.2         | 22.2  |
| Composite.....     | 21.9         | 21.9  |
| Number Tested..... | 89           | 6,730 |

### 2017-2018 ENROLLMENT

|                                   |            |                                 |              |
|-----------------------------------|------------|---------------------------------|--------------|
| Junior Kindergarten.....          | 21         | Grade 9.....                    | 105          |
| Kindergarten.....                 | 110        | Grade 10.....                   | 105          |
| Grade 1.....                      | 101        | Grade 11.....                   | 92           |
| Grade 2.....                      | 91         | Grade 12.....                   | 97           |
| Grade 3.....                      | 104        | <b>TOTAL HIGH SCHOOL.....</b>   | <b>399</b>   |
| Grade 4.....                      | 107        | Sequel Transition Academy... 23 |              |
| Grade 5.....                      | 103        | Fall Academy..... 21            |              |
| <b>TOTAL ELEMENTARY.....</b>      | <b>637</b> | <b>TOTAL.....</b>               | <b>1,401</b> |
| Grade 6.....                      | 100        |                                 |              |
| Grade 7.....                      | 112        |                                 |              |
| Grade 8.....                      | 109        |                                 |              |
| <b>TOTAL MIDDLE SCHOOL... 321</b> |            |                                 |              |

| TEACHER-STUDENT RATIO | Hartford Elementary | Humboldt Elementary | West Central Middle School | West Central High School |
|-----------------------|---------------------|---------------------|----------------------------|--------------------------|
|                       | 1 to 16.85          | 1 to 19.46          | 1 to 18.58                 | 1 to 20.85               |



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# PARKS & RECREATION



Bike Trails



Swenson Park



Swenson Park

The City of Hartford has more than 80 acres of park space for the public to enjoy. All city parks are open from 6:00 am to 11:00 pm year-round. If you have any questions, please contact City Hall by calling 605-528-6187.

Weekdays during the Month of June, the City has a Summer Rec Program for children K-6th grade. With the recent hiring of a Recreation Director, the City hopes to expand its recreation offerings in the near future to provide opportunities for children and adults alike to do activities they love in their own community.

## LYONS PARK (CITY PARK)

202 N. Vandemark Ave., Hartford, SD

Lyons Park is the City's flagship Park and the location for Jamboree Days festivities as well as the Kids Summer Recreation program. Established in the early 1900s—thanks to the Lyons family—the park has continued to serve Hartford to present day. Hartford residents commonly reserve the Park's five shelters and Amphitheater to host events such as family reunions, graduation parties, and other special events. Park shelters and amphitheaters can be reserved by filling out a form online at hartfordsd.us under the Parks & Pool quick link or by calling City Hall. Reservations require a \$10 nonrefundable fee. Other park amenities include playground equipment, three ball diamonds, horseshoe pits, tennis courts, a basketball court, and a sand volleyball court. Horseshoes can be rented at City Hall for free (\$35 refundable cash/check deposit). Public restrooms are available and the sidewalk circumferences the park for recreational walking.

## HARTFORD SWIMMING POOL

406 N Vandemark Ave, Hartford, SD | (605) 528-6480

Lyons Park is also home to the City Pool. The City Pool typically opens the last day of school and closes at the end of August. Season passes are available at City Hall or the pool and cost \$32.25 for individuals and \$64.50 for families. Daily passes can also be purchased at \$2.00 for children 5-18 and \$3.00 for adults ages 19 and older. Children under 5 can use the pool for free. The pool also conducts swimming lessons in June and July. Visit hartfordsd.us or contact City Hall for registration information.



Veterans Memorial at Century Park



The first weeks after welcoming a baby to your family are filled with wonder as you marvel at your newborn baby. It can also be a challenging time for families. I love helping families navigate the changes during this precious time.

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2122 S Spring Ave, Sioux Falls, SD  
facebook.com/thriveafterbirth

## TURTLE CREEK PARK

303 E. Railroad St., Hartford, SD

Turtle Creek Park is the City's newest and largest park spanning 34 acres. Turtle Creek Park offers plenty of open space for activities. The park is connected to the bike recreation trails that border the apple orchard along Hartford's southern border. The park features playground equipment, a 9-hole disc golf course, and a junior ball field. Discs can be rented at City Hall for free (\$25 refundable cash/check deposit). Another park shelter is available here to be reserved, and public restrooms are conveniently available on-site.

## SWENSON SPORTS COMPLEX

1610 N. Western Ave., Hartford, SD

Swenson Sports Complex currently has two multi-use diamonds with 300' fences. Two more diamonds and concession stand/bathroom are planned for the future. The SSC is also home to six soccer fields that host teams ranging from U5-U12. Soccer space is planned to increase in the future and a concession stand/bathroom addition is planned for that section of the complex as well.

## CENTURY PARK

201 N. Main Ave., Hartford, SD

Century Park is Hartford's smallest park at half an acre, located downtown, it provides a quaint space of tranquility. Century Park is home to the Veterans Memorial and Hartford Time Capsule. A plaque describing Hartford's history is also located at the park as well as the flag disposal box managed by the Hartford American Legion. Benches and gazebos line the park which serves as the host to the annual Christmas tree lighting during Hartford's Hometown Christmas celebration. Stop by to learn more about Hartford's history and pay respect to Hartford's heroes.

## BIKE & RECREATION TRAILS

Hartford has more than three combined miles of paved path systems for the recreation needs of residents. The path starts in Turtle Creek Park and splits off down Highway 38 and Colton Road. Hartford continues to extend the path system and add improvements yearly. In 2019, the Bike & Recreation Committee added three trail maps at heads of the trail. Hartford also has a nature trail that begins at the eastern end of Turtle Creek Park and extends down to its southern border along the apple orchard. View the map on pages 14-15 for more information.

# HARTFORD

## PAST, PRESENT, AND FUTURE



A grandson of a Civil War Veteran by the name of Garrett Rathburn buried in Hartford called seeking history for his latest book and commented, "I hope someday my work will shed some new insight on the people that were the real history makers of this country. They are not often the famous people but were the blood and muscle that built this nation. Most history tells us what happened, but it takes more digging to determine (or make educated guesses) as why it happened."

Hartford did not start as Hartford but rather was settled in 1878 and named Oaksville after Civil War Veteran Elihue Increase Oaks, who had settled south to the village in 1876 with his wife, Cornelia, the first woman of European descent to settle in the area. Elihue's brother DB followed suit in 1878 with 40 head of cattle, 10 horses, a dog, and his wife, Ellen, and their three sons.

1879 brought the Worthington and Sioux Falls Railroad through Oaksville to Salem along with a slight change. Both the gentleman with the railroad and Oaksville landowner, Charles Norton, hailed from Hartford, CT. They agreed that a depot would only be established upon the condition that the village be renamed Hartford.

John Mundt arrived in 1881 and served as the second postmaster. He left a lasting impression on Hartford by building two general stores, managing the Tuthill Lumber Co., building the first elevator west of Hartford in 1892, and in 1902, he built the only pink quartzite building. Many of those buildings still exist today; perhaps most importantly, the pink quartzite building that bears his name downtown.

On August 1, 1896, the Town of Hartford was officially incorporated into three districts with trustees Charles Feyder, George Grover, and D.B.

Oaks. Nels Haugen served as the town Clerk, and H. D. Oaks served as the treasurer. If you think these names sound familiar, then you are correct. Feyder and Oaks both have streets named in their honor, and the Haugen family continues to impact Hartford.

Much of the town was built around farming and the businesses that supported the associated ventures, Hartford Milling, Elmer Johnson Creamery, Hanson Dry Milk, and even the Mielke Farm Horse Traction Works, HD Oaks & Son, Oaks & Rich, Hartford Implement, Oaks & Babcock, and later the Lavin Hardware, Coast to Coast, and at last the Hartford Building Center.

The people of Hartford—residents, area farmers, city leaders, and business owners—are proud to live, work, and support the growth of Hartford. Residents agree the town encompasses the spirit of small-town friendliness combined with

great destinations and events that encourage people to get outdoors and build connections.

When people share a common goal, great things happen. Residents, city leaders, and business owners in Hartford share a vision for the continued expansion of the community that is so much more than just their

hometown. All the people of Hartford continue to be the cornerstone of the vitality of Hartford.

Here in Hartford, you are surrounded by friends, businesses who support your children's activities and school, and the organizations important to you.



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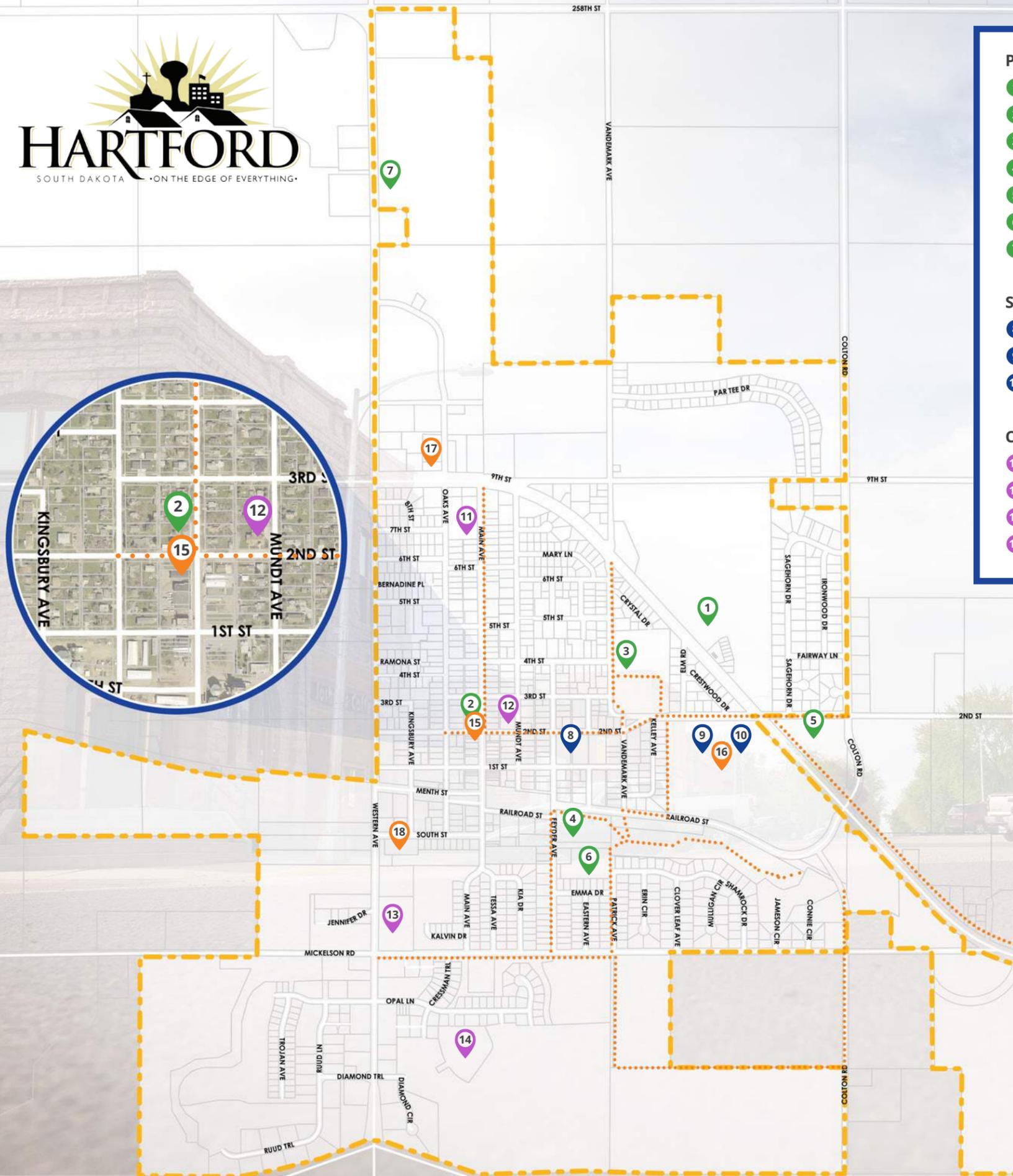
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Hartford, SD 57033





**PARKS**

- 1 Central Valley Golf Course
- 2 Century Square Park (Veterans Memorial)
- 3 Hartford City Park & Swimming Pool
- 4 Turtle Creek Park
- 5 Hartford Cemetery
- 6 Catholic Cemetery
- 7 Swenson Park Sports Complex

**SCHOOLS**

- 8 West Central Elementary School
- 9 West Central Middle School
- 10 West Central High School

**CHURCHES**

- 11 Christ Lutheran Church
- 12 Hartford United Methodist Church
- 13 St. George's Catholic Church
- 14 Central Valley Community Church

**OTHER AMENITIES**

- 15 Hartford City Hall
- 16 West Central / Hartford Library
- 17 US Post Office
- 18 Fire Department
- Recreation Trail
- Hartford City Limits

# A FREE LIBRARY CARD IS WORTH THOUSANDS

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# † HARTFORD CHURCHES

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 Phone number: ..... 605-528-6444  
 Email: ..... cvccadmin@unitelsd.com  
 Website: ..... cvccsd.org

## CHRIST LUTHERAN CHURCH (ELCA)

Address: ..... 701 N. Main Ave.  
 Phone Number: ..... 605-528-3424  
 Website: ...christlutheranchurchhartfordsd.com

## COWBOY WAY CHURCH

Address: ..... 46089 263rd St.  
 Phone number: ..... 605-351-1453  
 Email: ..... thecowboywaychurch@yahoo.com  
 Website: ..... facebook.com/pages/  
 Cowboy-Way-Church/97645607529?ref=ts

## ST. GEORGE CATHOLIC CHURCH

Address: ..... 408 S Western Ave.  
 Phone number: ..... 605-528-3902  
 Email: ..... stgeorgehartford@yahoo.com  
 Website: ..... stgeorgechurch.unitelsd.com

## TRINITY LUTHERAN CHURCH

Address: ..... 46448 263rd St.  
 Phone Number: ..... 605-526-3571  
 Email: ... pastor@trinitylutheran-hartfordsd.org  
 Website: ..... trinitylutheran-hartfordsd.org

## HARTFORD UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

Address: ..... 102 E 2nd St.  
 Phone Number: ..... 605-528-3830  
 Email: ..... humc@unitelsd.com  
 Website: ..... gbgm-umc.org/Hartford-UMC

## ZION LUTHERAN CHURCH (ELCA)

Address: ..... 26313 462nd Ave.  
 Phone number: ..... 605-526-3846



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 devin\_alfson@us.aflac.com



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## JERRY AND PAT JUENEMAN

Retired couple Jerry and Pat Jueneman have lived in Hartford for 22 years. They have two grown children: son, Cory and daughter, Kelly.

When Jerry's job brought the couple to the Sioux Falls area, they spent several months looking for housing. "We always seemed to come back to Hartford," says Pat. "We felt we were moving to a community—not just a house."

"From the first day we moved here, we have always felt at home," continues Pat. "From our neighborhood to Church to the whole community—we have always felt welcomed." She adds that the schools, churches, businesses, and housing developments are top notch plus the community has a great golf course and several great places for dining out.

Jerry enjoys the fact that the interstate is so close to travel East or West. "We feel the City itself is heading in the right direction with economic development and community involvement. It takes all of us to make a great community, and Hartford is proving that it is possible," says Pat.

Jerry and Pat Jueneman

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# COMMUNITY FAMILIES



Todd and Shala with their sons Braydon and Connor (Photo by Lynn Heath)

## TODD AND SHALA EISENBEISZ

Todd and Shala Eisenbeisz and their sons, Braydon and Connor, have lived in Hartford for nine years. Their twin boys are now 15 years old and attend West Central High School. Shala says, "Hartford is a wonderful place to raise children with great schools and teachers. The people of Hartford enjoy many amenities in town such as bike trails, golf course, parks and restaurants and support shopping local."

Hartford provides many opportunities for the family to stay busy and involved in activities that are important to them. From staying active with their church, Christ Lutheran Church, to school and recreational sports and even enjoying meals at the many restaurants in town or playing bingo at Buffalo Ridge Brewing—there is always something to do in Hartford.

Todd enjoys living close to the golf course and golfing in men's league at Central Valley. The couple's son Braydon is a member of the West Central band, including marching band, and participates in West Central football as well as recreational soccer with Dakota Alliance. Son Connor is on the high school golf team and is also involved in recreational soccer.

Shala is on the West Central Junior Achievement board and volunteers at West Central to teach Junior Achievement as well. "I am also the treasurer of the West Central Education Foundation which provides grants to West Central teachers and provides needed items to the West Central Schools and am a member of the new Hartford Area Optimist club."

"There are such great people in Hartford!" adds Shala. "It is the type of town where when you are cutting down a tree in your back yard and your neighbor—who is golfing on the

course behind your house—sees you struggling and comes off the course to help you. True story- that happened with us."



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# COMMUNITY FAMILIES



Jason and Lacey with their daughters Brooklyn and Aylah



## JASON AND LACEY ROBERTS

Hartford has been home to Jason and Lacey Roberts and their daughters, Brooklyn (10) and Aylah (8), for 12 years. The family enjoys the parks and bike trails the community offers. Their daughters attend West Central Elementary School, where Jason says the teachers are truly connected to students and more than just instructors in the classrooms. "These mentors are coaches, community members, friends and family," he adds.

Both Jason and Lacey grew up in Highmore,

S.D. and wanted to raise their children in a small community. "In Hartford, you still get 'the wave' when driving around town. The community has so much to offer—from healthcare needs to shopping and eating out, recreation and fitness, there is so much within reach without having to leave home. We all support each other."

"With leadership and people putting in the time to make and keep Hartford great, this little town is headed to great places!" says Jason.



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Left to Right: Taylor Otheim, John Mallinger, Ryan Jewett, Dave Larson, Brad Miles, Jason Zomer, Hector Jimenez, Amy Larson

# DAVE & CO. REAL ESTATE TEAM

Dave Larson, Hartford resident and real estate agent, says his favorite part about being a realtor are the people he meets. "I enjoy getting to know my clients and working with them through the buying and selling process. Everyone is looking to buy or sell for various reasons, and I like to help people."

Dave grew up in Humboldt then moved to Hartford during middle school. He attended West Central throughout his elementary and high school education. "After growing up here, I understood how great of a community Hartford is. In 2007,

my family and I moved here," he explains.

Dave earned a Business Degree from the University of South Dakota and worked for the USD ROTC program as an officer recruiter after graduating. He has been in the South Dakota Army National Guard for almost 23 years. "I am a Major in the 1/147th Field Artillery out of Watertown. I have one deployment to Afghanistan. I am now the founder and owner of the Dave & Co. Real Estate Team and lead a great team of nine realtors with various backgrounds."

"Our team really enjoys taking care of people and especially heroes; the team concept started as heroes helping heroes," continues Dave. "Many of my team members are serving or have served in the armed forces. Those who have not support our local heroes tremendously. The Dave & Co. Real Estate Team is also affiliated with the Homes for Heroes program which gives back to all veterans, police officers, firefighters, school teachers, and health care providers when they buy or sell a home. We give money back to them at closing."

**Dave says, "The Dave & Co. Real Estate Team includes:**

**AMY LARSON** – Amy and I have been married for 15 years. She is the Administrative Assistant. She keeps me and the team in line!

**JOHN MALLINGER** – John was a fantastic recruiter for the South Dakota Army National Guard a long time ago, and he knows everyone. He is also the lead for the Homes for Heroes program and lives right in Hartford.

**JASON ZOMER** – Jason is a super nice guy with a great attitude and knows a lot of people! He has lived in Hartford for quite some time.

**RYAN JEWETT** – He is an experienced realtor who has been a licensed real estate agent for quite some time. He brings a vast amount of knowledge to the team.

**BRAD MILES** – Brad is a Montrose native but now resides in Hartford. He is an Iraq veteran with an accounting background that knows real estate numbers.

**TAYLOR OLTHEIM** – Taylor is the South Dakota Air National Guard Agent and a Hartford native. He is working on completing his marketing degree from USD. Go Coyotes!

**STEVEN SKINNER** – My long distant agent who works out of Watertown and also serves full time in the South Dakota Army National Guard.

**HECTOR JIMENEZ** – Hector is the newest member to the team and is fluent in Spanish. He lives in Sioux Falls and is excited to start working with the Dave & Co. Team!

Many of us live in Hartford, and we are very involved in the community! Selling real estate isn't always as glamorous as it seems on television. Moving is often listed in the top five stressors in life. Our team prioritizes really listening to people."

Dave says the housing market in Hartford is very strong. "With so many new developments and businesses coming to the community and Sioux Falls growing so quickly, we are the perfect place for buyers and builders to come. We have that small-town feel with a ton of opportunity right here in town."



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Missy and Justin Gillespie, Owners of Gillespie Outdoor Power Equipment



# GILLESPIE OUTDOOR POWER EQUIPMENT

For the past ten years, Justin and Missy Gillespie have owned and operated Gillespie Outdoor Power Equipment in Hartford. They are a great example of a Hartford business success story. In addition to providing the leading brands of outdoor power equipment and offering top-notch service, their growth is based on their proximity to Sioux Falls. They are close enough to reach Sioux Falls consumers as well as surrounding small town and rural customers. To accommodate their growth, Gillespie Outdoor Power Equipment expanded to a new location in 2016 —now on the south edge of town, just off Exit 387.

Justin has always had an interest in mechanics. His parents operated a Feed & Seed store in a nearby community for more than 20 years, where he and his brother grew up helping with daily operations. Local farmers often hired the Gillespie brothers to walk beans, pick rock and haul square bales. Justin worked on a dairy farm for six years through middle school and high school and was involved in 4-H, FFA and team sports. Those experiences ingrained a strong work ethic, encouraged his mechanical skills and inspired an entrepreneurial spirit. "When I was a kid, there was always equipment or vehicles around, and they always seemed to need maintenance or repairs. It seemed we only had one option: to figure out a way to fix what we had on hand and make it work, or else," says Justin.

After graduating from high school, Justin went to North Dakota State College of Science to study recreational engines and outdoor power equipment

technology. For several years, he spent his summers working as a farmhand on his uncle's hog and cow/calf operation north of Hartford and winters in Steamboat Springs, Color. as a snowmobile technician at a snowmobile rental company. At the same time, he started dating Missy, a Colton, S.D. native, and soon wanted to spend more time in South Dakota.

Eventually, word got around that Justin was repairing lawn mowers, chainsaws and other machines. The word-of-mouth referrals helped Justin build a strong business. "It got to the point where I became tired of having people stop by the house at 10:00 PM," he jokes.

In late 2008, he opened his first commercial business near the antique shops off the Hartford exit. Within six months, they quickly outgrew that space and moved to the north side of the interstate, closer to town. Missy joined the company full-time in 2012. Justin says her nursing background is a pivotal asset to the business. "Maintaining communication within the business and with customers, documentation and attention to detail are very similar tasks needed to care for people." She also handles the day-to-day parts and service writing portion of the business.

In 2016, Justin and Missy move to their current facility, located at 1080 Ruud Trail. This location is large enough for their current inventory and has room for growth. "The Hartford area residents, businesses and local banking community have really supported us, and we appreciate that. That's one of the reasons for our growth," states Justin. Gillespie Outdoor Power Equipment services brands they sell including Hustler, Husqvarna, Stihl and Ferris. Justin shares, "People spend their hard-earned money with us, and in turn, we provide prompt high-quality service."

Gillespie Outdoor Power Equipment has grown to be the largest Hustler Turf Equipment dealership in the upper Midwest and one of Hustler's top ten single location dealerships. Their long-term goal is to continue to provide the best products and service to urban, rural and commercial customers alike. "Our business operates every day on two simple values: treat people the way you would want to be treated and do the right thing," shares Justin.



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Left to right: Sara Halvorson (Insurance Agent), Jennifer Lubenow (Loan Assistant), David Painter (Vice President), Linda Person (Customer Service Rep), Cole Grocott (Insurance Agent)

# RELIABANK

There are certain things in small-town life and with businesses that seem to be a natural fit. Every town needs a café or a few tables in the local gas station where people can gather to visit over a cup of coffee. Every town needs a local team or civic organization where people come together and cheer on their squad or work together to achieve a common goal. Every town needs local electricians, plumbers, carpenters, and doctors who are also area residents, parents, and grandparents. Every town also

needs a bank that partners with the residents and businesses to provide the financial backing and services for a flourishing community.

Reliabank is a South Dakota family-owned bank—headquartered out of Estelline, S.D.—with roots dating back almost 100 years. With nine locations across eastern South Dakota, including a Hartford Branch, Reliabank offers a wide range of financial services such as home mortgages, personal/business banking, insurance, and wealth management. The bank’s mission is

to provide a united team approach that collaborates on behalf of the customer. They pride themselves in filling this partnership role by providing all the big bank offerings with hometown service.

The Hartford location is led by Branch Manager, David Painter. David, a Montrose native, is active within the Hartford community. Professionally, he focuses on the commercial and agricultural accounts at the bank. “Partnering with businesses and farms in and around our community is something

we cherish. Our goal is to help all of our banking partners succeed in whatever it is they do,” he explains.

This partnership approach of building personal relationships with customers is what sets Reliabank apart from other financial institutions. Hartford business owner Vince Reilly would agree. “When we started Medicap Pharmacy 14 years ago, I met with several local banks. I told them what we were doing. I explained our needs, and we discussed various options. The team at Reliabank got back to me right away with something that fit what we needed while other banks were slowed down with committee meetings and red tape,” says Vince. “Our relationship with Reliabank over the years has only gotten stronger as David and his team continue to serve our business well. I value personal relationships in how I interact with my customers, and this is like how they work with us.”

Reliabank’s Home Mortgage team can provide a wide variety of loans for various types of customers. Dick Groeger, Mortgage Team Manager, says, “Our team is ready to make home ownership a dream come true. We have several options to assist with your purchase, refinance, or a new construction project. Hartford has some exciting residential developments happening around town, and the Reliabank team offers products to assist customers at every stage of the process and for any size home construction project.

In addition to banking services, Reliabank offers insurance options for both residential and commercial customers. These efforts are led by Hartford native Cole Grocott, who says it is nice to have one stop for customers and all their financial needs. The insurance team follows a similar partnership approach to the other departments within the bank. “We are here to help our clients prepare for the uncertainties of life by pairing insurance products to their personal and business needs,” explains Cole.

Reliabank remains committed to providing Hartford with a brighter banking experience, and they are proud to be a natural fit within the community. Dave Ebbers, Reliabank President, says, “It is great to be a part of a growing community like Hartford that mirrors our community banks’ ideas of growth for the future and being an active part of helping the community prosper.”



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# SANFORD HEALTH HARTFORD CLINIC

KEEPING HARTFORD HEALTHY: A SMALL TOWN CLINIC WITH A BIG HEART

Article and Photos Provided by Sanford Health

In a time where many small towns are slowly disappearing, the opposite seems to be happening in Hartford, South Dakota. People are moving to or are moving back to the community. And to care for this growing population is the team at the Sanford Health Clinic.

For almost 22 years, Sanford Health has been providing expert care to the people of Hartford and the surrounding area. Julie Bostic, CNP, has been here since day one.

"This is such a beautiful town," says Julie. "We're so thankful that we get to support this community. It is

just so special when you get to care for children and then see them grow into adults and start having families of their own. We really get to be with them every step of the way."

"We see our patients every day out and about in town," explains Troy Van Overbeke, PA-C, a family medicine provider in Hartford who has been with the clinic since 2002. "That's really special when you can go to the high school for a basketball game and know that you help care for every player on the court. Because when you receive care from a small town clinic, you

are more than a number on a chart. We truly know our patients, their family and their health history. In fact, in one day I had appointments with a grandmother, her son and his daughter. I got to care for three generations of the same family on the same day. I think that's pretty awesome."

For the patients at the clinic in Hartford, they not only get that small town care but they also have access to the latest in treatments and technology thanks to the clinic's connection to Sanford Health, including weekly outreach



Troy Van Overbeke, PA-C, Family Medicine



Julie Bostic, CNP, Family Medicine



Sherri Bostwick, MD, Family Medicine

appointments with Sherri Bostwick, MD.

"We offer all the same services that a clinic in Sioux Falls would," explains Troy. "From a full lab to OB care to X-rays, you can get that all done here in Hartford. But when a specialty need arises, we can quickly make appointments for patients in Sioux Falls, which is just a short drive away."

"We have such good relationships with the other Sanford Health teams in Sioux Falls," says Julie. "That means if I have a patient who needs a knee replacement, I know not only the best physician to do the job but the best physician to fit the personality of the patient."

This is just one of the many benefits of having a primary care provider that you can trust who will be there for you throughout your life.

"When you have those regular appointments with your primary care provider, we can catch some of those medical issues earlier because we have a greater insight into your health and your family history," explains Troy. "Things like high blood pressure or diabetes can be better managed and controlled when we intervene earlier rather than later. I always say that 1 ounce of prevention is worth 1 pound of cure."

"I love getting to know our patients," says Julie. "Whenever we refer our patients to other specialties, they also say that our patients are the nicest. Plus when you know someone from when they are little and have cared for them all their life, they can receive a more personalized experience when they come into the clinic. Our whole staff here is so dedicated to providing quality, confidential care and I think that is a really great asset to this community."

If you would like to make an appointment at the Sanford Health Clinic in Hartford, call (605) 312-5600. The clinic is open Monday through Friday from 7:30 a.m. until 5 p.m.

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Merlin and Sherri Goebel with their daughter, Casie (far left), and son, Jared

# SUNSHINE FOODS

By Amanda Radke | Photos by Vincent Gene Photography

Sunshine Foods is Hartford's one-stop shop for high quality foods, friendly service, great prices and community support and fellowship.

Owned and operated by local residents Merlin and Sherri Goebel, the Hartford location is just one of 14 Sunshine Foods stores in the region.

The list includes South Dakota locations, Hartford, Madison, Oacoma, Canton, Sioux Falls,

Brandon and Lennox; in Iowa at Hawarden, Rock Rapids, and Milford; and in Minnesota at Medelia, Dodge Center, Jackson, Hatfield, and Spring Valley.

"Most of these locations are located in small communities and serve as the only grocery store in town," said Merlin, who was in the grocery business in Luverne for 25 years before ultimately moving to Hartford with his wife, Sherri, in 2002. "I know Hartford residents

have many choices in an around the area to shop for groceries, but we enjoy great loyalty and support from our local community, and to us, that means a lot."

Sunshine Foods strives to get involved in local activities. Whether that's working with the high school Booster Club for discount cards, helping with local fundraisers or hiring local teens to work in the store, the community connection has helped Merlin's family-owned

business thrive in a competitive market.

Truly a family affair, the Goebels work together in this business.

Each week, the store offers freshly-cut meats in the meat department, where son Jared works as the meat manager and assistant manager.

In the bakery and deli, shoppers will find freshly-baked breads, cakes and rolls with operations overseen by daughter, Casie, who serves as the assistant manager and baker/deli manager.

"We see such great opportunity for our family-owned business in the years to come," said Merlin. "The Sioux Falls metro area is the fastest growing city in the nation. We are in a booming location so that is promising for Hartford's many business owners."

Merlin says when folks step into Sunshine Foods for the first time, many are surprised to find a full-time meat cutter and a florist department with fresh bouquets.

"They don't realize how much we have to offer," said Merlin. "We have 36 feet of fresh produce with a wide selection of fresh fruits and vegetables, 20 feet of freshly-cut meat, and we have a great selection of wine and liquor, too. Every week, we have hundreds of new specials to offer, and every purchase keeps dollars in our local economy and our community."

As Sunshine Foods celebrates its 25th year in business in 2019, Merlin reflects on being a business owner in the local community.

"South Dakota is a great place to call home and offers a great business climate for entrepreneurs," he said. "I gave a tour to the high school business class the other day, and I told the kids to find rewarding work that they love. I can honestly say I look forward to going to work and opening the store each morning. It's a challenging and rewarding business to be in, and it's great that I get to do it with my family. We appreciate the loyalty of the Hartford community, and we are truly grateful for their ongoing support."



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# DEMOGRAPHICS

## HOUSEHOLD INCOME PROFILE

| SUMMARY                | 2016  | 2021  | 2016-2021 CHANGE | 2016-2021 ANNUAL RATE |
|------------------------|-------|-------|------------------|-----------------------|
| Population             | 3,142 | 3,614 | 472              | 2.84%                 |
| Households             | 1,131 | 1,299 | 168              | 2.81%                 |
| Median Age             | 34.3  | 34.0  | -0.3             | -0.18%                |
| Average Household Size | 2.78  | 2.78  | 0                | 0                     |

| HOUSEHOLDS BY INCOME | 2016 NUMBER | 2016 PERCENT | 2021 NUMBER | 2021 PERCENT |
|----------------------|-------------|--------------|-------------|--------------|
| Households Total     | 1,132       | 100%         | 1,300       | 100%         |
| <\$15,000            | 70          | 6.2%         | 71          | 5.5%         |
| \$15,000-\$24,999    | 83          | 7.3%         | 79          | 6.1%         |
| \$25,000-\$34,999    | 105         | 9.3%         | 108         | 8.3%         |
| \$35,000-\$49,000    | 149         | 13.2%        | 60          | 4.6%         |
| \$50,000-\$74,999    | 193         | 17.0%        | 205         | 15.8%        |
| \$75,000-\$99,999    | 229         | 20.2%        | 317         | 24.4%        |
| \$100,000-\$149,999  | 257         | 22.7%        | 395         | 30.4%        |
| \$150,000-\$199,999  | 23          | 2.0%         | 35          | 2.7%         |
| \$200,000+           | 23          | 2.0%         | 30          | 2.3%         |

## 2016 HOUSEHOLDS BY INCOME AND AGE OF HOUSEHOLDER, PERCENT DISTRIBUTION

| HH INCOME BASE      | <25       | 25-34      | 35-44      |
|---------------------|-----------|------------|------------|
| Households Total    | 50 (100%) | 193 (100%) | 231 (100%) |
| <\$15,000           | 7 (14.0%) | 13 (6.7%)  | 8 (3.5%)   |
| \$15,000-\$24,999   | 5 (10.0%) | 15 (7.8%)  | 9 (3.9%)   |
| \$25,000-\$34,999   | 7 (14.0%) | 18 (9.3%)  | 15 (6.5%)  |
| \$35,000-\$49,000   | 9 (18.0%) | 29 (15.0%) | 24 (10.4%) |
| \$50,000-\$74,999   | 9 (18.0%) | 36 (18.7%) | 39 (16.9%) |
| \$75,000-\$99,999   | 6 (12.0%) | 39 (20.2%) | 51 (22.1%) |
| \$100,000-\$149,999 | 6 (12.0%) | 35 (18.1%) | 76 (32.9%) |
| \$150,000-\$199,999 | 1 (2.0%)  | 4 (2.1%)   | 5 (2.2%)   |
| \$200,000+          | 0         | 4 (2.1%)   | 4 (1.7%)   |

|                   |          |          |          |
|-------------------|----------|----------|----------|
| Median HH Income  | \$43,775 | \$62,558 | \$82,888 |
| Average HH Income | \$56,169 | \$71,794 | \$84,462 |

|            | 45-54      | 55-64      | 65-74      | 75+ |
|------------|------------|------------|------------|-----|
| 253 (100%) | 192 (100%) | 129 (100%) | 80 (100%)  |     |
| 8 (3.2%)   | 13 (6.8%)  | 5 (3.9%)   | 15 (18.8%) |     |
| 10 (4.0%)  | 12 (6.2%)  | 12 (9.3%)  | 20 (25.0%) |     |
| 16 (6.3%)  | 14 (7.3%)  | 20 (15.5%) | 15 (28.8%) |     |
| 22 (8.7%)  | 24 (12.5%) | 30 (23.3%) | 10 (12.5%) |     |
| 45 (17.8%) | 34 (17.7%) | 26 (20.2%) | 4 (5.0%)   |     |
| 66 (26.1%) | 40 (20.8%) | 17 (13.2%) | 9 (11.2%)  |     |
| 72 (28.5%) | 44 (22.9%) | 15 (11.6%) | 7 (8.8%)   |     |
| 7 (2.8%)   | 5 (2.6%)   | 2 (1.6%)   | 0          |     |
| 7 (2.8%)   | 6 (3.1%)   | 2 (1.6%)   | 0          |     |

|          |          |          |          |
|----------|----------|----------|----------|
| \$82,290 | \$73,966 | \$48,245 | \$27,567 |
| \$88,210 | \$80,472 | \$62,370 | \$41,057 |



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