#### Winter Weather

Our beautiful fall weather has gotten chilly and that means school and activity cancelations may be around the corner. Please keep the following information in mind as we move into the winter months.

#### Notification

DRPS will continue using the Brightarrow notification system. All registered parents will be notified of changes by email, text, or phone call. In addition, notices will be delivered on our mobile app and local television stations will be utilized. If you need to update your contact information, please contact the secretary at your child's school.

#### **Timing**

Our goal is to have the decision made and on the air by 6:15 a.m. or earlier. If a cancellation takes place during school hours, we will always try to provide an hour's notice before excusing students.

#### **Delayed Opening**

DRPS will utilize a 2-hour late start for the following reasons:

- allowing time for roads to be cleared, and
- providing time to observe changing weather conditions.

Keep in mind; I have to consider the entire district. Conditions can be very different from one boundary to another. I urge parents to have a backup plan should school eventually be called off for the entire day. A delayed opening can often turn into a school closing, but we need the time to determine what to do. I will do all I can to have updated closings announced by 8:00 a.m.

#### Additional Information

- Haven will be closed when school is not in session.
- AM Preschool is canceled if a delayed opening is announced.
- Breakfast is not served when school is delayed.
- Activities are canceled the entire day when school is not in session. This includes
  practices and open gyms even if the team is not school-sponsored or the sun
  comes out.
- Jeff Schmidt can be called at (605) 413-8273 for bus-related questions.

Mother nature is difficult to predict and hindsight is often a better viewpoint! Please remember that parents have the final decision as to whether their child attends school. If you decide to keep your child home, simply contact the office before school starting and our building principals will count your child as "excused by parent". Likewise, you are always able to pick your child up early if you feel conditions warrant it.

I appreciate your cooperation and patience as we move through the winter months.



Dr. Summer Schultz, Superintendent



The 2021 "Christmas for Our Kids" project is under way! This is a long-standing Dell Rapids community project started by Sue Horstmeyer and currently spearheaded by the local ESA women's organization. Because of the generosity of the Dell Rapids Community, we are able to ensure a Merry Christmas for all of our Dell Rapids kids. Here are some ways you can help ensure another successful project:

- 1. Refer a Family in Need Contact Brenda O'Hara or Lori Morris with family referrals. Self-referrals are also welcome. (Families must live within the Dell Rapids School District.) Please submit referrals to: (Brenda: Cell 201-6571 or <a href="mailto:brendaohara@outlook.com">brendaohara@outlook.com</a> Lori: Cell 359-8795 or tlmorris@goldenwest.net ).
- 2. <u>Adopt a Child or Family</u> You or your group can adopt a child or family and purchase gifts from their "wish lists". You will be anonymously matched up with a child or family, then you do the shopping, and return the gifts to us. Contact Brenda or Lori to be matched with a family.
- 3. <u>Angel Tree</u> There will be two Angel Trees set up prior to Thanksgiving with specific gift requests. Stop by **County Fair** or **First National Bank** and take a tag from the Angel Tree, do your shopping, and return the unwrapped gift under the tree **by December 12**<sup>th</sup> with the tag attached.
- 4. <u>Make a Monetary Donation</u> Monetary donations can be dropped off or mailed to "Christmas for Our Kids", First National Bank, 312 E. 4<sup>th</sup> Street, Dell Rapids, SD 57022. (NOTE: There will be no separate fundraiser at Norby's this year. All donations should be made directly to CFOK.)

We hope to have all donations collected by **December 13**<sup>th</sup> so that gifts can be sorted and distributed to the families prior to Christmas. As we enter the holiday season, please consider being part of this Dell Rapids tradition. If you have any questions please contact Brenda O'Hara at 201-6571 or <a href="mailto:brendaohara@outlook.com">brendaohara@outlook.com</a>, or Lori Morris at 359-8795 or <a href="mailto:thmorris@goldenwest.net">thmorris@goldenwest.net</a>.

## QUARRIER of the MONTH

## AUGUST Landon Ruesink



## **SEPTEMBER Payton Krumm**



### DRMS STUDENT OF THE MONTH

DRMS would like to congratulate the Students of the Month for both October & November. These students have demonstrated positive character traits in and outside of the classroom. Thank you to Lunchtime Solutions, Pinz Bowling, Buffalo Wild Wings and Pizza Ranch, for providing Students of the Month students with gift certificates for these places!



## **OCTOBER**

5th Grade: Kendal Mergen & Cutler Erickson

6th Grade: Karis Harvey & Brielle Hilmoe

7th Grade: Krin Pederson & Ellie Wanner

8th Grade: Carson Maeschen & Alyssa Diede

\*not pictured: Alyssa Diede

## DRMS STUDENT OF THE MONTH continued...



## **NOVEMBER**

5th Grade: Kade Konz & Savannah Mommer

> 6th Grade: Josie Price & Addy Witte

7th Grade: Emma Lanpher & Nolan Molskness

8th Grade: Oscar Mendoza & Tollin Peterson

## This year's TURKEY might be found on the lanes...

The Special Olympics team kicked off the school year with bowling! The team is looking forward to the Quarriers Bowling Tournament in December.



Pictured Above: Dylan Heidelberger, Seeley Geranen, Addy Jensen, Gavin Van't Hof, Adam North, Victor Beebe, Yazmin Garcia, and Juliet Braam. Not pictured- Zane Carter

## **FCCLA NEWS**

The Dell Rapids FCCLA Chapter has been busy doing a few projects to begin the school year. If students are interested in joining, they may still do so by contacting one of the members or the advisor.

On October 3 and 4, SD FCCLA Fall Leadership Training was held in Huron. Two members and advisor, Beverly Rieck, attended. Faithe Larson who is a member of the State Advocacy Leadership team attended the training for her team. Rylee Rinehart, SD FCCLA President, conducted workshops in the Rookie Training session. Ms. Rieck conducted workshops for the advisor session. 400 members and advisors from across the state attended this training to help prepare them for the year.

Through a grant received from Thrivent, the chapter coordinated the "Crockpot Project". Working with the Dell Rapids Food Pantry ten local families received a crockpot, a recipe booklet, and ingredients for one of the recipes from the booklet. With additional funds from the grant, the chapter was able to supply the food pantry with some staple items.

Adriana Urquijo, Payton Krumm, and Cara Rice presented a Halloween safety skit to the four sections of first graders at the elementary school. Little scenarios about safety precautions were presented and a discussion was conducted about the correct way to handle each of the situations presented. Treats were handed out to each student along with a handout about Halloween safety.

Halloween tray favors were made and given out to the residents of the nursing home and assisted living in Dell Rapids. Participants in the Meals on Wheels also received a tray favor.

Plans are now underway as our chapter will be hosting the Region V FCCLA meeting on Monday, December 6, at the Lutheran Church of Dell Rapids.



## Attend Trainings in Washington, DC

Nineteen members and advisors from across South Dakota attended the FCCLA Capitol Leadership and Fall Leadership Conference held in Washington, DC, on November 4-7. Attending from the Dell Rapids Chapter were Rylee Rinehart and advisor, Beverly Rieck.

Capitol Leadership prepared attendees with advocacy training and information for the Capitol Hill visit with legislators from their respective states. We were able to meet with Representative Dusty Johnson and an aide from the office of Senator Thune and Senator Rounds. Members shared Information about FCCLA and how teen-centered issues impacts our world at the local school, community, and individual level with each visit. Time for questions and remarks was also included in each meeting.

During the Fall Leadership Conference, the 700 participants from across the nation were able to able to hear two main speakers and attend workshops for youth and advisors on various topics like leadership, community service, career pathways, and teen-centered issues.

Pictured right are four of the state FCCLA officers with Representative Dusty Johnson in their meeting on Capitol Hill. From left to right is Lilly Blume, Redfield; Braxton Klocek, Belle Fourche; Representative Johnson; Rylee Rinehart, Dell Rapids; and Branden Flowers, Wessington Springs.



#### **HOLIDAY HAPPENINGS**

Housetop Hurdles, Antler Ring Toss, and Hoof Hockey...Santa's reindeer are sure having fun this season. But those aren't the only games they'll be playing this Christmas. Come see the KPrep, Kindergarten & 1st grade perform "Reindeer Games" at DRES on Thursday, December 2, 2021 at 7:00pm.





Then join us Friday, December 3, 2021 at 7:00pm as the 2nd, 3rd, and 4th grade present "Elflandia" - the land of Santa's elves - busy making toys and getting ready for Santa's yearly trip round the world to bring presents to all the deserving humans on the planet. Discover what the elves learn about humans when Santa shows up with a real living sample!

As we move into the holiday season the vocal music program is ramped up and ready to go in preparation for our annual carol concert. This performance encompasses all vocal performing ensembles at Dell Rapids which includes 5th and 6th grade vocal music which perform as one ensemble, our middle school concert choir, high school concert choir, and chamber ensemble "espresso choir". We are able to jam pack an hour of awesome music as the ensembles perform both independently and combined throughout the night. This year our performance will be on December 7th at 7:00 PM in the high school gymnatorium.



The After Prom Committee has been working hard to make plans for the 2022 After Prom Event which will be held in the early morning hours of April 3 at the Dell Rapids High School. DRHS Prom is scheduled for April 2.

Registration for After Prom will begin in January. All information regarding After Prom will be sent out via email as well as in the High School announcements.

Contributions may be sent to us at:

DRHS After Prom PO Box 83 Dell Rapids, SD 57022

All donations go directly to support the youth that attend the after prom event.

We anticipate that this year's after prom event will be filled with fun entertainment (Escape Room, Blacklight Dodgeball ..just to name a few) prizes & food.

If you have any questions, you may contact us at drhsafterprom@gmail.com. The committee would welcome the help of any junior parent as we continue to plan this event.

Thank You! DRHS After Prom Committee

#### **All-State Chorus and Orchestra**

With October gone so leaves another wonderful year of All-State Chorus and Orchestra. Last year the performance was delayed and ultimately cancelled due to covid restrictions but this year the show went on! Dell Rapids sent 8 students to Rapid City to represent our school. Olivia Gill, Halle Uphoff, Josie Geraets, Cariss Montgomery, Gunnar Chamley, Grady Lamer, Noah Larson, and Andrew Jaycox all piled into the school

minibus and rode out on Thursday, October 28th. We had 12 hours of rehearsal on Friday followed by another 5 hours on Saturday morning with an evening performance that aired live on PBS. All-State Chorus and Orchestra were the first performance that the new monument plaza hosted. If you missed it, they replay it during the Thanksgiving weekend.



#### **Honor Choir**

Every year we have 5th through 12th graders auditioning for honor choirs, festival choirs, performing solos, performing for scholarships, etc. One prestigious honor choir is the ACDA (American Choral Directors Association) Junior Honor Choir. This choir is eligible for current 7th, 8th, and 9th graders to audition for. Over 390 students auditioned across the state and Dell Rapids is proud to have three students selected! Congratulations to Olivia Gill, Grace Weiland, and Dylan Berg!



## **Dell Rapids Fine Arts Boosters needs your support!**

The Fine Arts Boosters have supported fine arts at DRHS and DRMS the last several years with purchases such as these:

- new marching band banners for both HS and MS
- custom built percussion cart for band
- flowers for All-State Choir students
- senior banners for fine arts students
- treats for pep band senior nights
- pizzas for the spring play casts and crews
- cameras and lenses for journalism
- full-page yearbook ads to support journalism
- framing and matting for the visual arts state competitions
- yearly themed shirts for the quiz bowl teams
- headsets for the directors and drama tech crew
- \$7000 donation to the school to purchase new stage curtains

For those who don't know, this group started decades ago as the DR Band Parents Association. Maybe you remember the days of turkeys in ovens all across town for the yearly turkey dinner?

Then the group expanded to support choir and became the DR Music Boosters. We facilitated all of the Yankee Candle and cookie dough fundraisers, as well as organized the yearly music dinner fundraiser to send the band and choir on their music trip every four years.

When the previous directors decided to abandon the music trips and the music dinner, we spent some time reorganizing and discussing our purpose. New directors took over the remaining student accounts and we determined that we could add support for drama, journalism, and quiz bowl to become the DR Fine Arts Boosters. It was our hope that projects and recognition for all fine arts students would draw more parents to join us.

We usually host just three fundraising events per year: the quiz bowl supper at the home meet, the Pops Concert chili supper, and the spring play dinner theatre. Thankfully, we have a community of many, many folks who have been willing to donate time and money to help us out with our fundraising events over the years. With your help, we accomplished all of the above, and more!

What we need now, though, is new officers! We have been asking for a new secretary and treasurer for several years, without any volunteers. Our current officers, Michelle Buffalo Knuppe and Renae Benda, have graciously kept going long after their fine arts students graduated, but they are ready to be done after many years on the board. My youngest fine arts student graduated last spring, and I've been on the board now for ten years, so it is time for me to be done, as well. That means we also need a new president.

We have been putting off the inevitable, but we are at a point where we need to make a tough decision on what to do next. None of us want to be the ones to officially dissolve the group, but we cannot be the ones to continue it either.

Please consider volunteering so the traditions we've started can continue! Please email me at stacy.raml@ k12.sd.us if you are interested!

## When the Holidays Aren't So Happy

While most of us strive for a holiday season that is a time of celebration and connecting with friends and family, for many the holidays can also bring stress, disappointment and reminders of past traumas. Celebrating the holidays during a worldwide pandemic has the potential to add to those negative experiences for many families.

VerywellMind offers many things to watch for this time of year that could be increasing stress. They include: 1) Doing Too Much, 2) Eating, Drinking, and Spending Too Much, 3) Too Much Togetherness, 4) Not Enough Togetherness, 5) Seasonal Affective Disorder (SAD) (<a href="https://www.verywellmind.com/understanding-and-managing-holiday-stress-3145230">https://www.verywellmind.com/understanding-and-managing-holiday-stress-3145230</a>)

The Mayo Clinic suggests ways to cope with stress and depression during the holidays:

- 1) Acknowledge your feelings, 2) Reach out, 3) Be realistic, 4) Set aside differences,
- 5) Stick to a budget, 6) Plan ahead, 7) Learn to say no, 8) Don't abandon healthy habits, 9) Take a breather, 10) Seek professional help if you need it.

(https://www.mayoclinic.org/healthy-lifestyle/stress-management/in-depth/stress/art-20047544)

IF YOU OR A LOVED ONE IS EXPERIENCING STRESS OR DEPRESSION THIS
HOLIDAY SEASON, HELP IS AVAILABLE.

CONTACT THE HELPLINE CENTER BY CALLING 211 OR TEXT ICARE TO 898211.

IF YOU ARE CONCERNED ABOUT A CHILD IN YOUR LIFE, PLEASE CONTACT YOUR SCHOOL COUNSELOR OR PREVENTION COUNSELOR.

#### Kate Telkamp

Carroll Institute Prevention Counselor ktelkamp@carrollinstitute.org 605-275-1321

**YOU ROCK!** Here are the fall recipients of the YOU ROCK award. Each staff member was nominated and presented with a YOU ROCK stone provided by LG Everist. Students and parents are encouraged to nominate a staff member for this honor. It's a simple way to show your appreciation for their work and dedication to the children of Dell Rapids. A brief nomination form can be found on the district web site.



Ms. Widman

Ms. Widman has gone above and beyond for her students! She creates fun activities for her students and makes sure that they have the supplies they need. You are amazing and your effort has not gone unnoticed. "YOU ROCK" Ms. Widman!





Sara Schoeberl

Sara goes above and beyond for the kiddos in my classroom. She sees where help is needed and is always willing to lend a hand. Our district is very lucky to have her on our staff!

#### John P. Jewett

John works very hard to help staff and students keep their technology up and running throughout the year. He works countless hours every week and often works well into the evening to make sure staff and students have what they need to make education happen. Thanks for all you do John!







You may already know, but we want to remind you, that Dell Rapids School District has been approved to offer **FREE BREAKFAST AND LUNCH MEALS TO ALL ENROLLED STUDENTS**.

#### Who can get free meals?

All K-12 students doing in-person learning at school can get free breakfast and lunch meals. For the meals to be free, all required components must be taken by the student.

#### What is being served?

Students attending school in person can receive a full breakfast and lunch meal at no cost. Second entrées, additional milk, and a la carte items are NOT free and will be charged to student accounts if students take these items.

#### Why have things kept changing?

Our program follows certain rules set at the national level by the United States Department of Agriculture (USDA). We have made changes based on what is allowed by the USDA.

#### How can I learn more?

If you have questions, please contact the school business office: Barb.Littel@k12.sd.us.



# Home of the QUARRIERS

The 8th grade volleyball team finished their season on October 12th. The girls worked hard on improving their fundamentals and applying their skills to all matches. They worked hard at practice and during the games. They were a fun group of girls to coach that improved throughout the season.

Thanks for a great year and best of luck next year!! Coach Barber

## 7th Grade Volleyball 2021



## 8th Grade Volleyball 2021



## **Ag In Action**

The second block class consisting of 26 students enrolled in the Introduction to Agriculture, Food and Natural Resources as well as the 4th block class of 22 students have been exposed to a variety of agricultural topics. During the unit on soils, students went outside and determined slope and looked at other physical properties of soil. During the unit on the FFA organization, the students had the opportunity to investigate the history, important events and people along with activities and events they could get involved in if they joined the organization. State FFA Reporter, Alexis Hughes and the State FFA Sentinel, Trinity Peterson, conducted a chapter visit on Nov. 3 and shared with students the opportunities in the FFA. A small wood project allows students to design and construct a project applying concepts learned in the classroom. During the water unit, the students will analyze water resources and pollution. The crops and horticulture unit will allow students to analyze different plant parts, functions, propagation methods and growing requirements. The students will also compare various types of livestock and production methods used to raise those animals. Both sections of this class are a semester long and will end on January 14.

The half block class offered during 3A is Wildlife and Fisheries in which the 19 students have had the opportunity to investigate the importance of fish and wildlife management, comparing life patterns of fish and wildlife, identifying economic and social issues related to fish and wildlife as well as careers in wildlife and fisheries. A field trip to the Outdoor Campus in Sioux Falls on Oct. 4 allowed the students to get a chance to try fishing at the pond. George Henry also came into the class on Oct. 19th and 20th to share his knowledge and techniques of fly fishing. Wood duck nest boxes will be constructed with materials purchased by the Dakota Puddlers group out of the Sioux Falls area and will be placed by their members in hopes wood ducks will use them. This class will also draw to a close on January 14.

The Fundamental Animal Science class is offered during the 2nd half of 3rd block or 3B and the 25 students have applied knowledge of anatomy and physiology to produce and/or manage animals in a domesticated or natural environment; recognize animal behavior to facilitate working with animals safely; provide proper nutrition to maintain animal performance; know the factors that influence an animal's reproductive cycle; identify environmental factors that affect an animal's performance. The culmination of this class will also be at the end of the

semester.

The new semester will begin on January 18 with four new agricultural courses being offered. Another section of Wildlife and Fisheries will be offered during the first half of block one. The students enrolled in this section will cover the same curriculum as the section offered in the



1st semester. Topics covered will be learning about the importance of fish and wildlife management, comparing life patterns of fish and wildlife, identifying economic and social issues related to fish and wildlife as well as careers in wildlife and fisheries.

Fundamental Plant Science will be offered as half block classes during the second half of 1st block and will last the entire semester. The students enrolled in this class will be exposed to the principles of anatomy and physiology in plants in both domesticated and natural environment, the environment to promote optimal growth in plants, fundamentals of production and harvesting of plants, pest management plans, and handling, storing and marketing of various crops.

The full block class offered during 2nd period will be Fundamental Ag Mechanics. These students will have the opportunity to investigate the basics of hydraulics and design and construct a simple hydraulic device using medical syringes as the hydraulic cylinders. Basic electricity will be covered with the students having the opportunity to wire simple electrical circuits utilizing various switches, lights and outlets. New technology in agriculture will have the students investigating the uses of GPS and GIS along with drones and robotics. This class will only last for the 3rd quarter and the 4th quarter class will be Ag Systems Technology, where students will apply principles of operation, service and maintenance to mechanical equipment.

Another section of Introduction to Agriculture, Food and Natural Resources will be offered during 3rd block to accommodate the large number of students wanting to take an agricultural class. Those students will explore the role of the FFA organization in Agriculture Education, define and discuss the concepts of natural resources, demonstrate an understanding of animal science systems, demonstrate an understanding of plant structure and function, relate basic food science technology principles to production agriculture, summarize basic food science technology, and

summarize basic principles involved in agricultural systems technology. Those students will also have the opportunity to learn about shop tools and shop safety, project design and construct a small wood project.

The 35 high school FFA members have been busy this fall with land judging and leadership events. On Sept. 16, Max Dennis, Cooper Hauglid, Dawson Hilmoe and Lane Weiland went to a land judging event near Parker to practice their land evaluation skills. The Southeast Region Land and Homesite Evaluation event was held near Brandon on Sept. 28. Those participating at that event were: Cooper Hauglid, Trent Johansen, Brynlee Kriens, Gavin Miles, Luke Randall, Haley Rydell, Brandon Schmidt, Zach Shellum and Drew Stroschein. The top four scores for Dells were Luke, Drew, Cooper and Brandon and were added together for the team score to finish in 12th place. To its owner, the FFA jacket is a physical reminder of the personal accomplishments achieved through the organization - a symbol of commitment and dedication for all who wear the corduroy. This fall 319 South Dakota FFA members from 75 chapters, received their own FFA jackets through the SD FFA Foundation Blue Jackets Bright Futures FFA Jacket Program - carrying forward that long-standing tradition of pride, dignity and honor. Jackets were sponsored by various individuals through the SD FFA Foundation program, welcoming new members into the fabric of FFA. The Dells FFA members receiving their jacket through this program were Luke Geraets and Megan Geraets. Luke's jacket was sponsored by C & B Operations and Megan's jacket was sponsored by Dell Rapids COOP Grain.

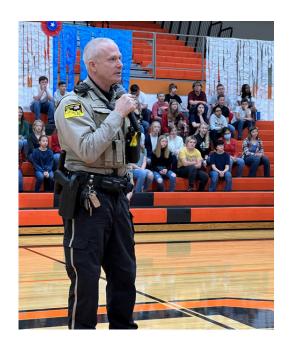


The 94th National FFA Convention and Expo was held Oct. 27-30 in Indianapolis, IN with five Dells members attending along with Mr. Wolff, the FFA Advisor and Tejana Cox, a parent chaperone. As Audrey Cox, Luke Geraets, Trent Johansen, Sierra Klein and Sydney Klein made their way toward Indianapolis, a tour of the Fair Oaks dairy farm and hog farm was taken. Once in Indianapolis, the Indianapolis Motor Speedway was toured with a lap around the "brick yard" on a bus while listening to historical information about the racetrack. The members

had the opportunity to attend various sessions, workshops and the expo which consisted of over 300 booths allowing members to visit with companies related to the agriculture industry as well as post-secondary institutions from across the country. A two-hour drive to Louisville, KY allowed the members to tour the Louisville Slugger Museum and Factory along with Churchill Downs and the Kentucky Derby Museum. The sixteen acres of school owned land that the agriculture program and the FFA is in charge of, was planted to corn by Kevin Schneiders last May.



On Nov. 2, Dean Klein and his family harvested the 2,709.71 bushels of corn and hauled it to the Dell Rapids COOP Grain. The Jackrabbit Invitational Leadership event was held on November 4 on the campus of SDSU with Katie Scherff participating in the Employment Skills event. The District 7 FFA Leadership Events will be held on Nov. 23 giving members an opportunity to sharpen their leadership skills by participating in 5 individual events which include prepared public speaking, extemporaneous speaking, employment skills, ag broadcasting and creed speaking. There are also 5 team events members can participate in which include ag issues, ag sales, marketing plan, conduct of chapter meetings and senior parliamentary procedures. Members can also apply and interview to serve as one of the six district officers for the 2021-22 year. The top two teams and the top three individuals advance on to the state event that will be held in Pierre on Dec. 5 & 6. The FFA has one main fundraiser for the entire year and that is the annual fruit sale. This year 43 agriculture students and FFA members sold the fruit, meat, cheese, nuts, pastry puffins and puff crust pizza items. The items sold should be in early to mid-December at which time all items will be sorted to ensure the highest quality and then they will be delivered. Thank you to everyone who supported this fundraiser.





















### **IMPORTANT DATES TO REMEMBER:**

#### November:

24th - 26th - Thanksgiving Break

#### December:

21st - 1:00 Early Release 22nd - Jan 2nd - Winter Break

### January:

1st - New Years Day

14th - End of 2nd Quarter

17th - NO SCHOOL - Teacher Professional Development Day



HAVE AN IMPORTANT EVENT OR ARTICLE YOU WOULD LIKE POSTED?
Put it in the Wise Owl.



Please check the Dell Rapids School Website (dr-k12.org) for School Lunch Menus and COMPLETE and up-to-date athletic and activity schedules.

Dell Rapids School District 49-3 1216 N. Garfield Avenue Dell Rapids SD 57022 Non-Profit Organization U.S. Postage Paid Dell Rapids, SD 57022 Permit No. 9

Current Resident or