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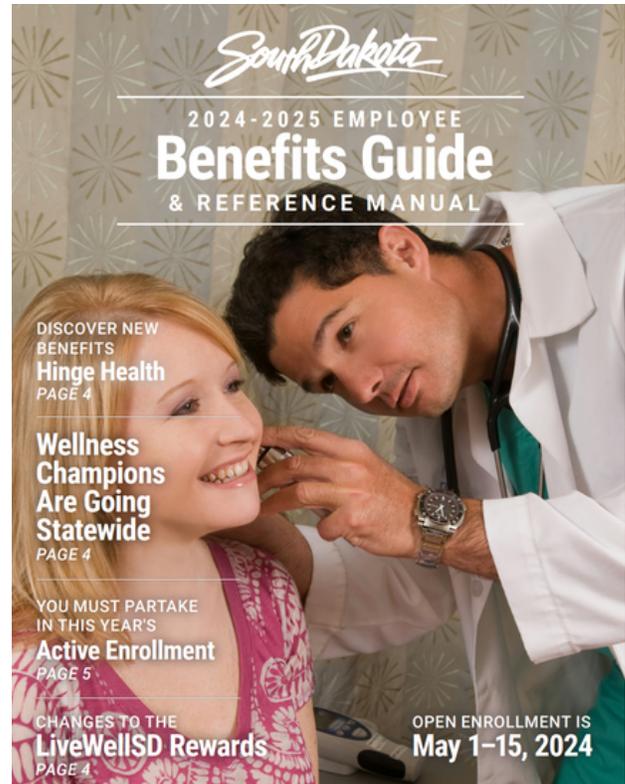
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**Open Enrollment:  
Log into Employee Space between  
May 1-15, 2024.**

**[Click Here to View a BHR Webinar!](#)**

If you do not make your elections or opt out by May 15, you will be enrolled in the Washington High Deductible Health Plan with employee-only coverage. Your spouse and/or any enrolled dependent(s) will lose coverage, and you and your family will not be enrolled in any flexible benefits.

Open Enrollment resources can be found at <https://bhr.sd.gov/fy25plans/>. As a reminder, Open Enrollment is conducted through Employee Space. Information on navigating the enrollment process will be available at <https://bhr.sd.gov/fy25oe/>.

**Please take the time to log into Employee Space before Open Enrollment to view your current benefits, dependents, and beneficiaries!**



## The Secretary's Corner



### Leadership Development

#### Leadership Development Program (LDP) – Cohort 4:

Thank you to everyone who applied for the fourth cohort of the LDP. Each cohort is purposely designed for a small-group experience to provide participants with a common core of leadership understanding and to enhance existing leadership strengths. Congratulations to Cohort #4. We look forward to working side-by-side with you through this leadership development opportunity!

Tate Anderson, Lead Highway Worker, Rapid City  
 Craig Christeson, Lead Highway Worker, Aberdeen  
 Carol Evans, Safety Coord., Pierre  
 James Hisek, Structural Engineer, Mitchell  
 Kathryn Johnson, Project Delivery Coord., Pierre  
 Chris Peters, Lead Highway Worker, Mitchell  
 Wyatt Reis, Lead Highway Worker, Winner  
 Ryon Schimke, Lead Highway Worker, Rapid City  
 Brent Valandra, Lead Highway Worker, Rapid City

Bob Carrico, Lead Highway Worker, Pierre  
 Bob DeGeest, Lead Highway Worker, Aberdeen  
 Joel Flesner, Project Engineer, Rapid City  
 Michael Johnson, Lead Highway Worker, Aberdeen  
 Corey McClelland, Structural Engineer, Mitchell  
 Shane Pullman, Senior Attorney, Pierre  
 Marcus Roth, Lead Highway Worker, Rapid City  
 Justin Smith, Lead Highway Worker, Aberdeen  
 Rebecka Wallingford, Grants/EV Coord., Pierre



Within the past few months, the Training staff sent this **Leadership Development Opportunities** poster to all Area offices to post in break rooms, shops, and office areas.

I encourage all supervisors to use this as a tool at quarterly employee check-ins to start a conversation with staff about professional development opportunities.

Click on the graphic or use the QR Code to access the playlist in SDLearn.

## LEADERSHIP DEVELOPMENT OPPORTUNITIES

**First-Time DOT Supervisors**  
 Newly promoted or assigned to a supervisor role for the first time in a career.

- *AASHTO Management Institute (Transportation specific)* - 4-day, Instructor-Led
- *NHI Maintenance Leadership Academy* - 10.5 Days, Instructor-Led + 16.75 Hours of Independent Study

**Mid-Level Supervisors - 3+ yrs**  
 Members of an organization who follow the direction of upper management while meeting the needs of those below.

- *AASHTO Leadership Institute (Transportation specific)* - 9-day, Instructor-Led

**Executives**  
 Highest level managers who communicate the vision and align the organization forward. Limited to Executive Team.

- *AASHTO Executive Institute (Transportation specific)* - 4-day, Instructor-Led

**Emerging Leaders**  
 Individuals seeking opportunities for skill development to prepare for leadership roles.

- *DOT Western States Coalition Leadership Academy* - 2-Weeks, Instructor-Led
- *DOT Leadership Development Program* - 1-Year, Instructor-Led

**Other Programs**

- *BHR Ignite Leadership* - Self-Paced
- *Performance Excellence Network (PEN) Leadership Events & Webinars* - Ongoing
- *Governor's Leadership Development Program* - 1-Year (Graduate Certificate)

Click to learn more!

Talk to your supervisor about enrolling!

# Hall of Honor Nominations Due Friday, May 24, 2024



The South Dakota Transportation Hall of Honor Committee is accepting nominations for review and consideration for induction into the 2024 South Dakota Transportation Hall of Honor.

The purpose of the Transportation Hall of Honor is to recognize individuals who have made a lasting, valuable, and/or unique contribution to South Dakota's air, highway, public transit, or rail transportation system.

The committee seeks nominees who have gained the admiration of their peers and earned distinction in the transportation field. Contributions to consider when submitting a nomination are technological innovations, political activity, legislative accomplishments, creativity, time and cost-saving initiatives, and economic impact on behalf of public transportation efforts within the state.

Anyone is welcome to submit a nomination. Hall of Honor nomination forms are available online on the SDDOT website at <https://dot.sd.gov> under the featured resources section on the home page. A list of all Hall of Honor inductees to date is also available on the SDDOT website.

[Click here](#) for a direct link to the 2024 nomination form, if you need further assistance, please contact Kari Kroll at 605-773-5105 or [kari.kroll@state.sd.us](mailto:kari.kroll@state.sd.us).

**The Hall of Honor nomination deadline is 5 p.m. (CT) on Friday, May 24, 2024.**

# American Traffic Safety Services Association: Northland Chapter "How-To" Conference

By: Christina Bennett, Construction & Maintenance Manager



The **ATSSA How-To** is a conference for roadway safety infrastructure industry professionals involved in the selection, inspection, or maintenance of all types of pavement markings, traffic signs, and temporary traffic control from Minnesota, North Dakota, and South Dakota.

There was a pre-conference workshop, Traffic Control 101, followed by several work zone-focused breakouts from teen driver safety in work zones and reducing adverse driving behaviors in work zones; work zone training using virtual reality; understanding tort liability in work zones; transportation management plans for federal aid projects; plus unique and effective case studies on portable traffic signal applications. The conference hosted sessions in other areas of traffic and safety as well, including signing (sign placement and sign maintenance & management for local agencies) and pavement marking (pavement marking retro-reflectivity requirements, pavement marking patterns and widths, human vs. machine vision, and connected and automated vehicles on the road today). There was a general session on mental health and another about driving, working, and living safe.

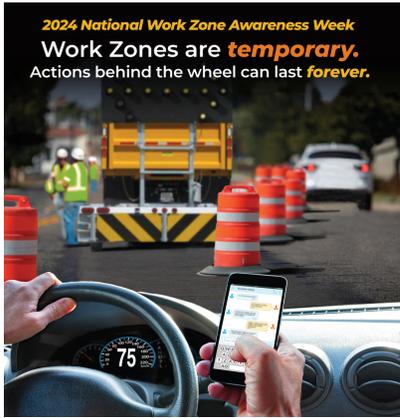
**Pierre Region Traffic Engineer, Hannah Covey**, gave the "State of the State" presentation for South Dakota during the closing general session.

**Operations Traffic Engineer, Jon Suomala**, presented SDDOT's perspective in the Permanent Signing in the Era of MASH breakout session.

**Mitchell Region Traffic Engineer, Corey Pinkley**, is the Treasurer for the ATSSA Northland Chapter Board of Directors and part of the planning committee for the conference.

Twenty-five SDDOT staff attended the event, including region traffic engineering and maintenance staff, as well as staff from the Local Government Assistance office.

The conference is a valuable opportunity for staff to exchange knowledge with industry peers, improve their skills, and stay updated on the latest technology and innovations in traffic safety. The insights they bring home can help enhance SDDOT traffic operations.



Thanks to everyone who assisted with **National Work Zone Awareness Week!** We had multiple staff participate in press events with AGC, give interviews about work zone safety, and share their personal stories through videos!

**Click the links below for more coverage of NWZAW!** Additional information about winners of the AGC Billboard Contest will be provided in the May newsletter.

- [Mike Carlson, Rapid City Area Engineer, talks about NWZAW and safety on "In the Moment" on South Dakota Public Radio](#)
- [Craig Smith, Operations Division Director, explains the importance of NWZAW on Facebook Live](#)
- [SDDOT teams participating in Go Orange Day across the state!](#)

This NWZAW staff collage below was created by Christina Bennett . . .



## What is the Special Pay Plan?

The special pay retirement program, or Special Pay Plan (SPP), is an additional retirement savings plan funded by an eligible employee's special or termination pay. The SPP is designed to provide an additional tax-deferred investment vehicle to eligible employees by delaying income taxation on contributions made to the SPP and earnings on those contributions until they are withdrawn from the plan.

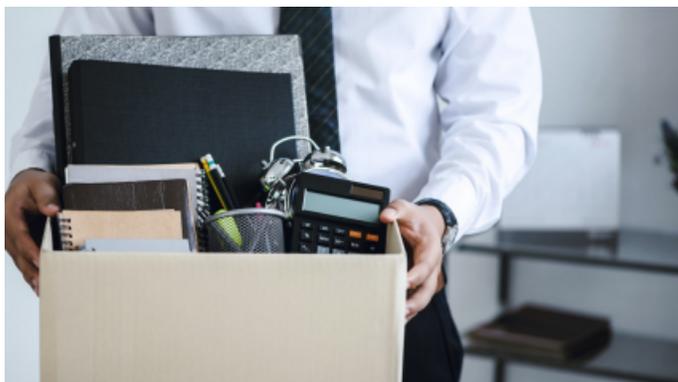
### What is Special Pay?

Special pay is compensation other than regular salary or wages accumulated by an employee that becomes payable as a lump-sum when the employee terminates employment. Special pay may include unused annual leave, unused sick leave, or other lump-sum termination pay that is eligible for contribution into the SPP.

### Who is Eligible to Participate in the SPP?

To be eligible for the SPP, three criteria must be met:

- 1) Must be an employee of the State of South Dakota, the Board of Regents, or any other employer who has elected to participate in the SPP;
- 2) Must be age 55 or have reached the first day of the calendar month prior to the employee's 55th birthday;
- 3) Must be receiving special pay of \$600 or more.



If all three criteria are met, the employee's special pay will be transferred to the SPP, as required by law. The major advantage of participating in the SPP is that the amount transferred to the SPP is excluded from the employee's gross income. This means that no Federal Insurance Contributions Act (FICA) taxes are withheld and no SDRS contributions are deducted from the amount transferred to the SPP. Amounts transferred to the SPP and any earnings are not subject to federal income tax until distributed from the plan. Plan participants are immediately 100 percent vested.

### What are the Plan Costs?

There is no cost to the participant for the first 12 months the account is open as this cost is paid by the employer. Beginning in the second year, the participant is responsible for a cost of 0.16 percent annually. This cost is in addition to management fees and/or expense charges assessed by the investment options under the SPP.

### What are the Payout Options?

Once the employer transmits the funds to the SPP, they are immediately eligible for distribution upon written request after attaining age 55. All distributions from the SPP are subject to federal income tax withholding unless they are rolled into another eligible retirement plan or IRA. Distribution options include: **Lump-sum withdrawal, partial lump-sum withdrawal, fixed-dollar amount, fixed-period payment, annuity payout options, rollover to another eligible retirement plan or IRA.** Distributions from the SPP may be subject to an additional 10 percent early withdrawal tax if taken prior to age 59 1/2.

### For More Information

Nationwide is the third-party administrator of the SPP. Nationwide is also the third-party administrator of the SDRS Supplemental Retirement Plan (SRP). The SDRSSRP office in Pierre has Retirement Specialists available to answer questions regarding both the SRP and SPP. To contact the SDRS-SRP office, please call 605-224-2230.

## Kudos to Watertown, Yankton, Mitchell, and Sioux Falls Area Crews

The reliability of my current state vehicle has been suspect from day one, but recently it failed me particularly far from the office. Namely near the Wilmot exit on I-29. A big shout out and thanks to **Matt Brey**, and **Jeff Brink's crews** who kept me working and got me home (along with **Kevin Heiman's crew** who were going to drive to Watertown to pick me up before the **Watertown crew** found me a way back and the **Sioux Falls and Mitchell shops** for finding me a vehicle and getting it to Sioux Falls).

On 4-16-24 I started an early morning so I could get done at a decent time. The job for the day was only a two-hour project but it was four hours from home. As I was leaving the Wilmot rest area the vehicle I drive stuttered and quit. Being in Jeff's area I called to see if a rescue was possible. It turned out that not only was a rescue available, but the rescuer offered to transport me to Sisseton and drive me through the project while I completed my report so I would not need to return for a second try. (Which also cut the time needed to complete the work since I was able to look up necessary landowner information on the computer while he drove to the next location). In the meantime, **Lance White** and another worker from the Watertown Area recovered my vehicle (in the rain), checked to see where it could be worked on, worked with the Sioux Falls and Mitchell shops to deliver it to them, and picked up another vehicle so I could drive home after I returned to Watertown with **Mike Will**.

A big thank you to all involved and especially Mike for sharing one of his last working days with me. Enjoy your retirement. Thanks to all involved,

### Joseph Sestak, PE

Access Management Engineer  
Aberdeen and Mitchell Regions



## Submit your graduate for the SDDOT graduation video collage:

If you or a family member has a milestone graduation this year, please send photos to Julie Stevenson **by Friday, May 10, 2024**, for the May newsletter and our annual video collage.

With the photo, please include the graduate's name, high school or college from which he/she is graduating, future plans, and your name/position as the SDDOT employee.

### Example:

Jarron Beck is graduating from T.F. Riggs High School in Pierre.

Future Plans: He will be attending SDSU to major in biology with plans to pursue pre- dentistry.

He is the son of **Kellie Beck, Director of Finance and Management, Central Office, Pierre**.



## Finance Corner

### When to use an '8'

# SUPPLY ACCOUNTS (5205XXXX)

# CAPITAL OUTLAY ACCOUNTS (5207XXXX)

## WHEN TO USE AN '8'

#### PURCHASING CONTRACTS: WHEN TO USE AN '8'

The number '8' should be used in the account number to denote any supply or capital asset which was **NOT** purchased under a Purchasing & Printing contract or on a Purchase Order. The '8' should be entered in the 7th position of the account field if this position is normally a zero; otherwise, the '8' should be entered in the 17th position. Accounts that do not require the '8' coding are denoted as **EXEMPT** in the [Chart of Accounts](#) listing. All accounts must be 8 positions long and all positions between the 7th and the 17th position must be filled with zeros.

#### ACCOUNT ENDING IN A ZERO (0)

##### EXAMPLE:

52050200 = office supplies purchased under a P & P contract

52050280 = office supplies purchased without a P & P contract

52079000 = computer hardware purchased under a P & P contract

#### ACCOUNT ENDING IN A 1, 2, or 3

##### EXAMPLE:

52052010 = lab equipment purchased under a P & P contract

52052010000000008 = lab equipment purchased without a P & P contract



## Project BISON | Mascot Announcement

The state is working toward upgrading our accounting system to a new ERP system and the state has named this upgrade Project Bison.

**BISON** stands for **Business Information System for Operational Needs**.

The January Connecting the DOT newsletter provided initial information about project BISON and ERP (Enterprise Resource Planning) system.

[https://dot.sd.gov/media/newsletters/2024/January\\_2024\\_Newsletter.pdf](https://dot.sd.gov/media/newsletters/2024/January_2024_Newsletter.pdf)

It was recently shared that the Project BISON mascot has been named, Billie Bison!

Learn more about Project BISON here: <https://www.sd.gov/bison>



**TRAINING UPDATE**

Learn ~ Engage ~ Improve  
April 2024 (Upcoming Trainings in April/May)



**NHI 135048: Countermeasure Design for Bridge Scour & Stream Instability**

May 29-31 | 8 a.m. – 5 p.m. | Pierre



**Advanced Welding**

May 20 – 23 | 8 a.m. – 5 p.m. | Mitchell

**Maintenance Management**

May 20 | 1 – 5 p.m. | May 21 | 8 a.m. - 5 p.m. and??

May 22 | 8 a.m. - 12 p.m. | Pierre

**New Employee Orientation**

May 22 | 1 - 5 p.m. and May 23 | 8 a.m. - 12 p.m. | Ft. Pierre



**Traffic Control Supervisor**

May 8-9 | 8 a.m. – 5 p.m. MT | Rapid City



**Pavement Preservation Practices for the Urban Environment & Best Practices with RAP**

April 25 | 9:30 – 11 a.m. | Zoom



NEED AN **AFE?** OR Use 76C7 for all online professional development courses

Check SDLearn course description for one specific to your class,

**TRAINING UPDATE**

Learn ~ Engage ~ Improve

April 2024

**WORKFORCE**

## Slips, Trips, Falls

Take just three minutes to watch this video designed for the health and safety of all SDDOT employees.

Today I will . . . make safety **my** priority.

<https://sdlearn.csod.com/ui/lms-learning-details/app/course/b22e329a-2766-44bd-bb1d-0979d00acd0a>

## SDDOT Recognizes Palmer, 40 Years Of Dedication

### As Printed by Krissy Johnson - Faith Independent Newspaper

What are the odds of an employee staying with the same employer for 40 years? Are any takers on a bet like that these days? Probably not! All bets aside, **Jarvis Palmer** recently celebrated 40 years with the South Dakota Department of Transportation at the Faith site, the most in the entire region.

Jarvis started this adventure in 1983 when he accepted a job with the SDDOT - Faith, with the title of Maintenance worker and a \$4.00 an hour wage. Through the years Jarvis has moved up through the three positions of promotion and is currently the Lead at the Faith site where he supervises 3 employees (**Boyd Stambach, Jesse King, and Glenn Palmer**). Jarvis shares, "It's a great place to work, especially with a great crew."

When asked about the many changes Palmer has seen through the years; "Well, the equipment has come a long way over the years. When I started we had two single axle trucks each equipped with a fixed 6 ft. junior wing on the front and a Briggs & Stratton motor on the back to distribute sand on hills and curves. Now we have five tandem axle trucks with 8-10 ft. reversible wings on the front and hydraulic sanders. The improved equipment sure makes 250 - 400 miles a day when plowing roads more efficient."

**Joel Larson, Palmer's Supervisor** shares, "Jarvis has been the best employee, he takes his work very seriously. Jarvis never misses a day we plow. He always calls to discuss weather and road conditions and is ready to get the plows out. With 60 miles of highway between Faith and Bison, that kind of dedication is very greatly appreciated." Jarvis shares he is grateful for the years he has been with SDDOT. "There have been a lot of times we have been able to help people out of a tight spot through the years and that's satisfying. But, my favorite part of the job over the past 40 years has been working with good employees and all of the people I have met along the way."



**Jarvis Palmer** (center) receives 40-year pin from **John Matthesen, Belle Fourche Area Engineer**, (left), and **Joel Larson, Highway Maintenance Supervisor** (right).

## National Summer Transportation Institute (NSTI)

The Summer Camp that takes you places! Two College Locations . . .  
NO COST for selected students!

**All selected students receive a scholarship to attend to cover the cost of on-campus food, housing, and the workshops!**

Students will explore engineering careers in transportation during the week-long residential camps sponsored by the Federal Highway Administration and administered by the South Dakota Department of Transportation.

NSTI emphasizes how math is used to design transportation systems for land, air, and water. Students will get a behind-the-scenes look at how transportation systems work, along with classroom instruction and hands-on activities in labs.

With one-on-one attention from faculty and staff, students will come away understanding the career opportunities in the transportation sector and will be encouraged to pursue college degrees that prepare them for transportation-related degree programs.



### Camp for students entering 9-12th grade!

During this one-week overnight camp, campers will Tour the Dakota Water Science Center of the US Geological Survey, the Pennington County Highway Division, and the Rapid City Regional Airport. Students will also learn about leadership development through recreational activities emphasizing team building, leadership, and communication.

**Camp Dates: June 9-14, 2024**

### For more information about the program, eligibility, and application deadline contact:

Dr. Saurav Kumar Dubey  
Project Director of the NSTI  
605-394-5171

[Saurav.KumarDubey@sdsmt.edu](mailto:Saurav.KumarDubey@sdsmt.edu)

Website:

<https://www.sdsmt.edu/Academics/Events-and-Outreach/Summer-Camps/Camp-NSTI/>

**Apply Here**



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

### Camp for students entering 8-12th grade!

During this one-week-long camp, students are introduced to different aspects of transportation engineering, such as planning, materials, and transportation modes among other topics through hands-on lab activities. Learn from experts about the transportation sector and the problems transportation engineers solve.

**Week 1 Camp Dates: June 2-8, 2024**

**Week 2 Camp Dates: June 9-15, 2024**

**Application Deadline: May 15, 2024**

Visit the website for additional program information, eligibility requirements, application process, and view camp videos!

<https://www.sdstate.edu/civil-and-environmental-engineering/national-summer-transportation-institute>

**Registration form:**

<https://www.sdstate.edu/civil-and-environmental-engineering/national-summer-transportation-institute-registration-form>

## April Mentoring Minute

By Joe Sestak and John Villbrandt

As the current mentoring session draws near the end, we would like to use this Mentoring Minute to review some of the activities the mentors and mentees have been involved in and share some of the results of the Mentoring Program.

In April 2023 the participants attended **speed mentoring** where, just like it sounds, you meet with each mentor/mentee and use a short amount of time to help determine if that person is a good match for you. After matches were made, there was a group event where mentors and mentees met and worked on the mentoring action plan.

In July there were events held in the Rapid City and Sioux Falls areas which included project and **construction-related plant tours**. These tours were well attended by the mentoring pairs. Then in September, there was an **innovation opportunities workshop** in Pierre where attendees helped to identify ideas for the DOT.

In November the group once again met as pairs at the **midpoint energizer** to discuss, direct, and in some cases redirect the progress and plans. The January event was virtual and was a very good **presentation from the Communications team**.

Finally, in March mentoring pairs met with the Executive team and attended a **commission meeting** in Pierre, and in May 2024 they will attend the **end-of-program celebration**.

### **Mentors and mentees have gained knowledge and experience through this process which has helped them to:**

- Expand networks to include employees at different levels of the SDDOT (92%),
- Gain a better understanding of values and rules (96%)
- Gain tools to be more effective (92%)
- Identify a new skill (94%)
- Supervisors of the mentees also stated that the job performance has not suffered because of the time used in the program and the mentees have gained new interpersonal and technical skills.

### **Some mentees have stated:**

- "My mentor cares greatly about the Mentoring Program itself, and in my assessment does his best to make our mentoring partnership succeed."
- "My mentor is very knowledgeable in the areas I was looking to gain more knowledge in."
- "My mentor sent me some very good info (to me) as far as what a highway maintenance supervisor does behind the scenes..."

Both mentors and mentees stated that though they met quite a bit, they would like more time to meet even more frequently! (Data Source: midpoint evaluations)

Mentoring Minute continued . . .

## April Mentoring Minute Continued

As this session closes, another one will open soon, and we will be looking for new participants. Please consider passing the knowledge you have gained in your time with the DOT to the next generation of the DOT workforce by being a mentor.

If you are looking to expand your knowledge of the Department and develop skills as an employee, please consider being a mentee. It takes both to create a strong and thriving Department of Transportation.



Pictured are **Secretary Joel Jundt and Transportation Commissioner Jaf Karim**, addressing the Mentoring participants after the Transportation Commission Meeting.



Pictured is **Craig Smith, Director of Operations**, presenting during the Executive Team/mentoring event.

### **Upcoming Mentoring Events:**

Mentoring End of Program Celebration  
 May 1, 2024, from 1- 4 p.m. (CT)  
 Casey Tibbs Rodeo Center in Ft. Pierre

**Make Time for Mentoring!**

## Recruitment - College Career Days



On Thursday, April 11, 2024, **John Vilbrandt, Mobridge Area Engineer**, attended the Sitting Bull College Career Fair.



## Winner Area Name the Snowplow Contest Winner Visits SDDOT

Monday, April 15, 2024, the **Winner Area Name the Snowplow Contest Winner**, which also finished 2nd overall in the 2024 Blizzard Bracket, visited the area shop. Pictured along with **Clearapathera** are **Kristie Hemming** and her daughter **Matlyn**. Matlyn is also the daughter of **Matt Vobr** a **Highway Maintenance Worker** in Winner.

**Gregg Ulmer, Winner Area Highway Maintenance Supervisor**, and **Bob Weeks, Winner Area Highway Maintenance Worker** greeted the winners. Bob is the driver of Clearapathera, which is a brand new truck.



## Aberdeen Gold Star Family Memorial Monument



(Pictured: **Alan Wimer** (left) and **Brett Schaible** (right) of the Leola Area

A Gold Star Family Memorial Monument is in development at Anderson Park in Aberdeen with the help of two South Dakota Department of Transportation employees. **Alan Wimer, Lead Highway Maintenance Worker in Leola**, and **Brett Schaible, Highway Maintenance Worker in Leola** are helping to give families that have lost a loved one in active duty, a place of peace to reflect on their loss.

Wimer and Schaible represent the state and their assistance with the motorcycle group called the "Old Cronies" which is sponsoring this effort along with some help from the Woody Williams Foundation. Schaible is the president of the organization "Old Cronies" and Wimer is the sergeant at arms.

"After Schaible's sister-in-law, her mother, and two brothers were recognized as a Gold Star Family, that acted as a catalyst so that our group could reach out to other families to be recognized for their sacrifice and not forgotten," said Wimer. "We just want to respect and acknowledge their loss."

This will be the third installment of the monument in the state. Currently, there are two others in Sioux Falls and Sturgis, SD. Every state in the United States has a monument including the U.S. Territory of Guam.



The groundbreaking celebration for the monument was held on April 5, 2024. For more information about the project visit <https://woodywilliams.org/monuments/abderdeen-sd.html>.

## 2024 - Quarter One Team Impact Award Recipients

### Acrow Bridge Team

The Acrow Bridge is a temporary structure used during bridge construction. The structure is owned by the SDDOT and stored in Rapid City. The bridge will be used on a project in Sioux Falls and needed to be transported to Sioux Falls this winter. This team accomplished a task that we would typically hire a contractor to do. Transporting the Acrow Bridge required a great deal of coordination, equipment, and expertise to safely transport 12 loaded semi-trailers across the state.

In the past, we have hired contractors to transport this bridge. This team has proven that we can transport the bridge across the state using our own SDDOT resources and equipment. Transporting the bridge with our staff and equipment is much more cost-effective than hiring a contractor.

## Congratulations to our 1st Quarter Team Impact Award Winner!

### Acrow Bridge Transport Team:

Tel Saucerman, Steven Theunissen, Lloyd Nickels, Andrew Hatch, Vance Valloff, Denver Lich, Keith Voegeli, Charlie Goldammer, Aaron Climer, Chris Peters, Jared Lahr, Curt Theisen, Josh Timmerman, and Josh Bethke.

[Click here to submit a team-based Impact Award.](#)  
2nd Quarter nominations due by June 30, 2024.



## SDDOT KUDOS BOARD

[View and Post Here](#)

**Do you have a co-worker or co-workers who have been doing an excellent job lately?**

Did they go above and beyond on a project or to assist someone?

Click the link above and tag a co-worker in your post, place the "@" symbol before typing their name(s).

Reminder: Don't forget to nominate co-workers for the TEAM

**[Team Impact Awards!](#)**

# SDDOT Employee News and Updates

## April 2024 Longevity:

- Arlen Prince, Highway Maintenance Worker – 20 years (Pierre Area)
- Joel Flesner, Highway Construction Project Engineer – 20 years (Belle Fourche Area)
- Jason Humphrey, Region Engineer – 30 years (Pierre Region)
- Rafe Jacobsen, Transportation Project Manager – 25 years (Aberdeen Area)
- Anthony Hoffman, Equipment Technician – 35 years (Aberdeen Area)
- Jarvis Palmer, Lead Highway Maintenance Worker – 40 years (Belle Fourche Area)



**Mark Prezler, Aberdeen Equipment Shop Foreman, (left)** presented **Tony Hoffman, Equipment Technician** with his 35-year service pin working in the Aberdeen Region Repair Shop.



**Jason Humphrey, Pierre Region Engineer, (right)** received his 30-year service pin from **Secretary, Joel Jundt.**



**Jared Fosheim, Pierre Area Highway Maintenance Supervisor,** presented **Arlen Prince, Highway Maintenance Worker (left)** with his 20-year service pin. Arlen works in the Hayes shop.



## SDDOT Employee News and Updates



**Paul Hejna** (left); **Journey Tech in Yankton** received his 10-year pin from **Kevin Heiman, Engineering Supervisor**.



### SDDOT Bowling Championship (Central Office/Pierre Area/Region)



Sunday concluded the 2024 SDDOT Bowling Championship. Bryce Kampa and John Fuglsang took home the hardware with their first-place finish.

Thanks to Laura Blotzke, State Highway Funding Specialist, for organizing the annual SDDOT Bowling League again!

Laura noted, "We had 54 teams signed up this year. We had a great turnout and had lots of spectators cheering them on weekly. It is a great way to meet new/other people in the DOT that you don't normally get to see or visit!"

**1st Place-Bryce Kampa / John Fuglsang**

- 1st Place-Bryce Kampa / John Fuglsang**
- 2nd Place -Steve Gramm / Brent Morford**
- 3rd Place - Cody Lorenz / Cody Axlund**
- 4th Place - Missy Habeck / Jason Smith**



## SDDOT Employee News and Updates

### **April New Hires:**

Mike Schmidt, Highway Construction Project Engineer - Sioux Falls  
Jon Johanson, Safety Manager - Sioux Falls  
Chad Boyd, Highway Maintenance Worker - Mission  
Brian Laymon, Highway Maintenance Worker - Deadwood  
Jeffrey Todd, Bumble Bee Driver - Pierre  
Jason Schurz, Highway Maintenance Worker - Plankinton  
Michael Derry, Highway Maintenance Worker - Belle Fourche  
Benjamin Card, Journey Transportation Tech - Bison  
Jacob Roth, Highway Maintenance Worker, Rapid City

### **April Promotions & Lateral Changes:**

Spencer Thompson, Transportation Project Manager I - Rapid City (Promotion)  
Ben Moennig, ROW Coordinator Manager - Pierre (Promotion)  
Joshua Thayer, Highway Maintenance Worker - Rapid City (Lateral)  
Joshua Timmerman, Highway Maintenance Worker - Junction City (Lateral)  
Christian Rudebusch, Highway Construction Project Engineer - Rapid City (Lateral)  
Christopher Cline, Highway Maintenance Worker - Rapid City (Lateral)  
James Hisek, Structural Engineer, Pierre (Lateral)

