

June 2025

# THE HOUSEHOLDER BULLETIN

The Monthly Newsletter of Leut Services, P.C.

## MULLER IS GOV'S AG AMBASSADOR

SD Gov. Larry Rhoden has announced Glen Muller is the 2025 Governor's Ag Ambassador. Muller serves as executive director of the South Dakota Pork Producers Council (SDPPC). He is a catalyst in the South Dakota agricultural industry and familiar face at the South Dakota Pork Congress, South Dakota State Fair, and Black Hills Stock Show & Rodeo. Before becoming the executive director of the SDPPC in 2010, he served as a board member, including president from 1991 to 1992. Muller grew up on a farrow-to-finish hog farm near Davis, South Dakota. Muller will receive the award at the 2025 Governor's Ag Summit held in Deadwood. Previous recipients include Walt Bones, Michelle Rook, Dr. Bob Thaler, Brad Greenway, Jim Woster, and Dr. Dan Gee.



Glen Muller, South Dakota Pork Producers  
Council Executive Director

*Photo by Wendy Sweetser*

## A NOTE FROM YOUR *Attorney*

Thank you to everyone who joined us at our open house. We had approximately 120 of our favorite clients and friends join us to celebrate the move. Additionally, the turnout for our Meeting on the Meeting was great. I believe each attendee gained valuable insight into their bylaws, how to run a meeting, and what "indemnification" means. We value this training service for our clients. If there is a specific topic you're interested in learning more about, or if you have a speaker in mind that you'd like to present to the Colonies, please reach out to us, and we will arrange a seminar. While I do have some future topics in mind, I greatly appreciate your recommendations on information you need to know to run an efficient operation. Once we resolve the sound issues, we will also explore the possibility of live streaming the event. *(Continued on next page)*

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# NEW USDA LEADERSHIP

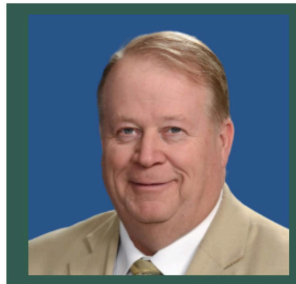
The Trump Administration has selected two South Dakotans to fill leadership roles for the Farm Service Agency (FSA) and Rural Development. Roger Chase of Huron, South Dakota, has been appointed as the executive director for SD FSA, while Lorraine Polak will serve as director for SD Rural Development. Chase's previous involvement includes serving in the SD House of Representatives from 2017 to 2024. He is also an owner and partner in Chase Grain and Cattle. Before her appointment, Polak served as a housing policy specialist for U.S. Sen. Mike Rounds.



  
Secretary Rollins Announces  
New Slate of Presidential  
Appointments at USDA

**Lorraine Polak Appointed as State Director,  
South Dakota Rural Development**

Lorraine Polak will serve as State Director for Rural Development in South Dakota. Growing up on a dairy farm in Nebraska, Lorraine has worked in public service for more than 30 years in the areas of housing and economic development serving most recently as the Housing Policy Specialist for U.S. Senator Mike Rounds.



**Roger Chase Appointed as State Executive  
Director, South Dakota Farm Service Agency**

Roger Chase will serve as State Director for the Farm Service Agency in South Dakota. He has an extensive background in both business and agriculture. He is an owner and partner in Chase Grain and Cattle with his oldest son. The farm raises diversified crops and cattle. He served as a State Representative in South Dakota from 2017-2024, conducting several leadership assignments on summer studies, and Chaired the House Agriculture and Natural Resources committee.

*Graphic from SD DANR*

## BUY STAMPS NOW

Effective Sunday, July 13, the U.S. Postal Service is increasing its rates. The following increases are set to take place:

- 1 oz. stamped letter: \$0.73 to \$0.78
- 1 oz. metered letter: \$0.69 to \$0.74
- Postcards: \$0.56 to \$0.62
- Flats (1 oz.): \$1.50 to \$1.65

*(Note from Your Attorney continued)*

We had such a great time at these events, we have decided to create a "social calendar." We truly value our clients and want to give back to them. So, mark your calendars for our "Leut" Appreciation Day on Wednesday, August 20. This event will run all day in conjunction with Dakotafest. We will have refreshments, snacks, and most importantly, air conditioning. Feel free to stop by the Shoffice to catch up on ongoing matters, grab a treat, and take a break from the summer heat. May was a crazy month: two new employees, two events, and all the "other stuff" in between. But I have a feeling this will be a great summer. As always, **Consult Your Attorney.**

*Kiera Laddy*

# LEUT APPRECIATION DAY

**WEDNESDAY, AUGUST 20  
ALL DAY**

*Stop by the Shoffice during Dakotafest to enjoy air conditioning, root beer floats, watermelon, and more.*

## SWINE 4 SALE

A judge has granted a motion to authorize the sale of the Sunterra Group's three hog farms in South Dakota to The Pork Group, Inc., a corporation affiliated with Tyson Foods. While many other pork producers showed an interest in the sale, The Pork Group was the only potential buyer that intended to purchase all assets together. One buyer was the most attractive option as it was the most biosecure-friendly option. The offer comes in at \$15 million in cash to purchase the pigs, rolling stock, and assignment of the leases. In March, Compeer filed a lawsuit against Sunterra alleging a fraudulent check-kiting scheme.



# DID YOU KNOW with Grandpa Joe

The history of Huron Colony is a bit fuzzy, perhaps because it had three names (Huron, Beadle & Byron), so bear with us. In 1906, 10 families from Bon Homme Colony established the homesite. In 1918, its members sold the property and migrated to Canada, forming Huron Colony (MB). At some point, the Dariusleuts moved in but sold the property in 1935 to move to Montana. The Huron Colony we know today came from Jamesville Colony in 1945. Today, Huron Colony raises hogs, crops, and turkeys. Huron Colony has three daughters: Hillside, Fordham, and Shamrock.



Huron Colony kitchen, still in use today.



Pr. Jacob Wollman (Huron), Pr. Mike Wipf (Spink), and Caroline Hartse, an anthropologist who studied the Hutterites.



The next generation of Huron Colony.

**THE SENSATIONAL FARM SALE OF 1935!**

**Fine 1,920 Acre Farm & Personal PROPERTY AT AUCTION**

**Tuesday, March 5th, 1935** Sale Starts 10 Sharp

Sale will be held on farm located 13 miles north of Huron, So. Dak. on gravelled State Highway No. 37

**COME EARLY!**

**DON'T MISS IT!**

**Real Estate**

**30 Head of Horses**

**Machinery, Etc.**

**25 Head of Milk Cows**

**20 HEAD OF FALL PIGS**

**200 CHICKENS**

**30 TONS LAMBED WOOL**

**Known as The Hutterische Society**

**Arthur James & Son, Auctioneers**

**Lake Byron Colony**

**J. L. Waybill, Clerk**

The advertisement when the Hutterische Society sold Lake Byron Colony.

*Thank you to our friends at Huron Colony for the pictures and for pinning down the timeline of events!*

## TRADEMARK APPROVED

Leut Services is excited to share that on May 27, "Leut Services" officially became registered with the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office. We now have legal protection to use our name exclusively. While imitation is the sincerest form of flattery, we take our business *very seriously*. Counterfeits are not cool. Our name is now listed on a national database, which provides public notice to others that they cannot use our name. Our logo will now include the (R) symbol to put others on notice of our legal protection and registration (see below).



# THE CODE

*By Rane Stehly*

Let's talk about diligence. Professional Rule of Conduct Rule 1.3 requires a lawyer to act with reasonable diligence and promptness when representing a client. This means that attorneys must stay dedicated and attentive when representing a client's best interests and must not procrastinate or put their client on the back burner. While this level of care should be expected when you are putting your faith and trust into an attorney, diligence can be easily overlooked. Diligence is especially important in lawsuits, as deadlines are crucial here. For example, let's imagine that a non-diligent attorney represents and acts as the agent for a Colony. The Colony is being sued, and as the Colony's registered agent, the attorney receives notice of the lawsuit. The attorney does not take note of this lawsuit, completely forgets about it, and does not respond. Without a response from the attorney, the Court enters a default judgment for the Plaintiff and against the Colony. Meanwhile, the Colony has no idea that they are even involved in a lawsuit, let alone that they just lost a lawsuit. Now, the Colony faces devastating consequences, all due to the attorney's lack of diligence. Here at Leut Services, we take diligence very seriously. We take the time necessary to organize deadlines to ensure your work is never put on the back burner. Each week, we have a conference call to address our ongoing deadlines and work to be done for our clients. We love to do lists, and we love getting things done. We value forward thinking. We understand the importance of staying diligent to avoid any future risks or headaches for our clients.

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## SALES TAX WEBINAR

The SD Specialty Producers Association is hosting a webinar with the SD Department of Revenue. They will discuss record-keeping considerations, payment collection, and the basics of sales tax. If you are interested, you can register for the webinar [HERE](#).

# NEW PORK PLANT

Almost one year ago, Tyson Foods announced it was closing its Perry, Iowa, pork processing plant. Now, JBS USA is building a \$135 million sausage production plant in the town. The new facility is expected to create 500 jobs. Construction is expected to start in late 2025 and be operational in late 2026. The plant expects to process 500,000 sows each year, producing 130 million pounds of sausage.

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## MOVE OVER

Starting July 1, South Dakota will implement stricter penalties for its "move over" law. The updated law requires drivers to move over for any vehicle with amber, yellow, or blue flashing lights that is either stopped or moving slowly on the roadside. This applies to emergency vehicles as well as street sweepers, tow trucks, utility vehicles, and others with hazard lights activated. Violating the law is now a class one misdemeanor, which is the same as a DUI. Offenders may face arrest. Most law enforcement vehicles are equipped with video cameras, making it highly likely that any violations will be recorded and reported.

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## VAX IS AXED

The Trump administration cancelled a contract awarded to Moderna to use toward the development of a bird flu vaccine for humans. The Biden administration had awarded Moderna \$590 million to develop the vaccine and expand clinical studies. This was in addition to the \$176 million awarded by the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services to develop and test an mRNA-based vaccine.



## FOLLOW

US ON FACEBOOK

**LEUT SERVICES, P.C.**

# HOW TO BE A NOTARY

By Kellie Ripp

What is a notary? A notary is a person commissioned by the Secretary of State who manages oaths and affirmations, takes acknowledgments, and witnesses signatures. When becoming a notary, you become a public official for the state. Typically, a notary acts as an impartial witness to ensure that a document has been signed by the individuals who are intended to sign it. A notary *DOES NOT* verify the truthfulness of the contents in a document. The following qualifications must be met to become a notary:

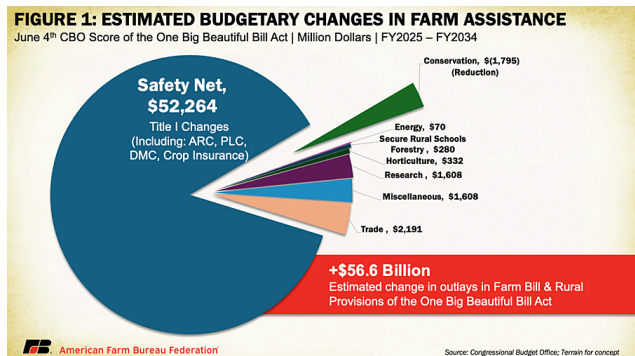
- At least 18 years of age,
- A resident of South Dakota, and
- Have not been convicted of a felony.

The first step to becoming a notary is receiving your notary seal. Next, you will complete an application, which includes two important sections, an oath and a bond. The application filing fee is \$30. When you fill out the oath, you agree to become a public official for the state. Taking this title seriously is very important. Failing to comply will result in termination. Then, you must obtain a surety bond of at least \$5,000 in liability coverage. This bond holds you responsible for damage or any misconduct that may occur. Many responsibilities come with the title, so it is essential to familiarize yourself with all the rules before committing to the position. As a notary, you must also act impartially. Because you are supposed to act as an impartial witness, you should not notarize documents for immediate family members. This is considered a conflict of interest. Some acts that will result in the termination of your notary title are the following: notarizing an already signed document, allowing other individuals to use your official seal, and continuing to notarize after your commission expires. If you, as a notary, have any doubt about the identity of the signer, you should use your best judgment and not approve the signature. This is why

we recommend asking for a government-issued photo identification card if you are not familiar with the individual. If you would like to become a notary, Leut Services would be happy to direct you to the application.

## BIG BEAUTIFUL FARM BILL

A Farm Bill may be passed before our next newsletter. You may have heard the term One Big Beautiful Bill Act in the news. What is it? It is the reconciliation bill that allows certain budget-related bills to pass with a simple majority. This Beautiful Bill includes provisions addressing commodity programs and farm-related tax policy. The House-passed version of the Beautiful Bill would increase ag program spending by \$56.6 billion over the next 10 years. It would increase price references under Price Loss Coverage (PLC), adjust formulas for Agricultural Risk Coverage (ARC), and expand crop insurance. The bill would also provide financial support to trade promotion, rural school funding, livestock biosecurity, and research and energy programs. Conservation programs like the Environmental Quality Incentives Program and the Conservation Stewardship Program would receive funding through 2031. As for specialty crops (fruit, vegetable, nut, and nursery farms), it increases funding for the Specialty Crop Block Grant Program, a grant to state ag departments to increase local specialty crop production.





## RECIPE OF THE MONTH

### Rhubarb Crisp

*This recipe is "boss tested and approved."*

5-6 cups of rhubarb, cut into 1 ½ inch pieces

¼ cup white sugar

Juice from 1 orange (about 1 TBS)

Zest from 1 orange (about 1 tsp)

¾ cup brown sugar

½ cup flour

½ tsp cinnamon

Pinch of salt

½ cup rolled oats

½ cup pecans

Heat oven to 375 degrees. Grease an 8-9-inch square baking dish or pie pan. Toss rhubarb with white sugar, orange juice, and orange zest. Spread on the bottom of the greased pan. Put one stick of room temperature butter in a bowl with brown sugar, flour, cinnamon, and salt. Mix with a fork until it starts to form a crumble. Stir in the oats and pecans. Sprinkle the topping over the rhubarb and bake until beginning to brown, for about 45-50 minutes.

*Recipe by Mark Bittman and featured in The New York Times.*



## CAFO TRAINING

SDSU Extension is hosting an environmental training session for operators of concentrated animal feeding operations (CAFOs) in Huron on June 25. If you are a recently elected secretary-treasurer or have a new turkey/hog/dairy boss and are not certified, please attend this training. [CLICK HERE](#) for the schedule and registration. If you have attended one of these sessions since June 2017, you are not required to attend.

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## EVENTS & ACTIVITIES

June 9 // Pentecost (Office Closed)

June 10 // Pentecost (Office Closed)

June 17-18 // Gov's Ag Summit (Deadwood)

June 25 // CAFO Training (Huron)

June 26 // Stockmanship & Stewardship (Watertown)

June 28-29 // Soy Street at Children's Museum of South Dakota (Brookings)

July 31 // AgPhD Field Day (Baltic, SD)

Aug. 19-21 // Dakotafest (Mitchell)

Aug. 20 // Leut Appreciation Day

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