

September 2026

THE HOUSEHOLDER BULLETIN

The Monthly Newsletter of Leut Services, P.C.

NEW ADDITION COMING SOON



New addition coming in 2027. We want to thank all our clients, friends, and family for the support! More office space and a boardroom are in the works. Pictured are Rebecka, Lela (Rebecka's daughter), Kellie, and Kiera.

A NOTE FROM YOUR *Attorney*

Growth in a community starts with people: the employees who choose to build their careers, the clients who trust the businesses, and the residents who make room for both. In August, we announced plans for an addition to the Shoffice. Because the existing building is less than two years old, that may have surprised some people. Others may have thought we outgrew the space before we even moved in. 😊 Our growth strategy is built around people: employees, clients, and community members. It is important to have room for talent to thrive, and this addition is about more than square footage. It is about creating space to add employees, increase collaboration, and add new services for the future. Most importantly, this addition would not be possible without the support of our community. Dimock is an entrepreneurial community that welcomes growth. What other small towns of around 150 people have a *(continued on next page)*

INSIDE THIS ISSUE:

- 1** Note from Your Attorney
New Addition
- 2** Eat More (Foreign) Beef
GM Investigation
- 3** DYK w/ Joe
- 4** Tripp Says No
Washington Farmer Targeted
- 5** Pro Farmer Crop Tour
Oregon CAFO Lawsuit
- 6** Recipe of the Month
Events & Activities

EAT MORE (FOREIGN) BEEF

On August 21, President Trump announced that the U.S. will allow 300,000 metric tons of ground beef to enter the country tariff-free over the next three months. The move is intended to lower consumer prices while giving American ranchers time to rebuild the national herd. Because cattle gestation is closer to nine months, the policy is likely to provide only temporary price relief while increasing access to foreign-raised beef. Cattle-state leaders, including Sen. Mike Rounds (R-S.D.), expressed disappointment in the announcement, as did industry groups such as the National Cattlemen's Beef Association. The imported beef could be sold at up to 25% below market price. Beef prices have risen steadily since 2020, and USDA's January 2025 annual Cattle Inventory Report showed the U.S. cattle inventory at its smallest level in 75 years, with total cattle and calves at 86.2 million head. While existing cattle producers have benefited from higher prices, elevated costs remain a barrier for producers looking to enter or expand in the industry.

GM INVESTIGATION

On August 21, the U.S. National Highway Traffic Safety Administration announced an expanded investigation into nearly 1 million General Motors pickups and SUVs due to a recall for engine failure. Vehicles under investigation include Cadillac Escalade, Chevrolet Silverado 1500, Suburban, Tahoe, GMC Yukon, and Sierra 1500 models equipped with 6.2L V8 L87 engines from the 2021 through 2026 model years. GM's recall remedy included engine replacement or oil-system changes. The agency is conducting an engineering analysis to determine whether the recall remedy was effective. In 2025, the company recalled about 600,000 vehicles from 2021 through 2024 model years.

(Note from Your Attorney continued)

cheese factory, vet clinic, law firm, and other local businesses? Through my career, I have witnessed communities turn away growth because it did not fit their idea of what development should look like. That mindset makes it hard for small towns to attract investment, increase revenue, and keep their populations steady. Local governments rely heavily on property tax dollars. In South Dakota, 57% of those dollars go to school districts, while the remaining 43% is distributed to counties, municipalities, townships, and other taxing districts. When local governments reject a multi-million-dollar building project because it does not meet their white picket fence image, but then raise concerns about limited revenue on their next agenda item, it's hard for me to find any sympathy for their self-inflicted dilemma. Additionally, in August, our community started the Dimock Community Foundation. Through this tax-exempt nonprofit, we will help spearhead and fund projects that keep Dimock on the map and make it a great place to call home. As a 501(c)(3) organization, people can deduct their donations to it from their tax return. This is a great incentive for people to use when doing tax planning and estate planning. This fall, we will say goodbye to our City Hall, which has been a mainstay on Main Street. We invite you to come say farewell to City Hall on Thursday, September 17, from 5 to 8 p.m. This building holds a lot of memories, and we hope you will come to reminisce with us. Light refreshments will be served, and a free will donation will be accepted to help raise funds for the new building. Main Street Dimock is a welcoming place, and we look forward to cementing our future here. As always,

Consult Your Attorney,

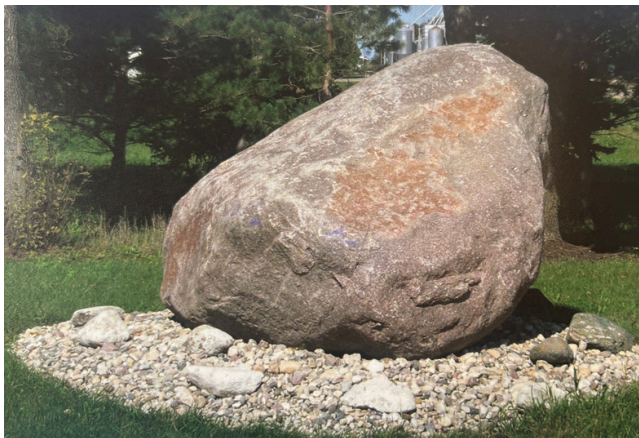
Kiera Ledy

DID YOU KNOW *with Grandpa Joe*

White Rock Colony is the sole Hutterite Colony in Roberts County, South Dakota, and is partially located on the Lake Traverse Indian Reservation. White Rock is a daughter of Rosedale Colony and was established in 1968. White Rock raises crops, turkeys, hogs, and produce. It also manufactures wooden pallets and has a welding/fabrication shop. White Rock has one daughter colony: Spring Prairie (MN).



White Rock Colony 1976



The "Rock" of White Rock



White Rock Colony's Sign

WETLAND BLOCKADE

North Dakota Sen. Kevin Cramer is placing a hold on future Trump nominees over wetland policy after the administration announced it would keep a Biden-era rule in place. The U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (FWS) said it will not move forward with changes to a policy intended to prevent drainage of wetlands protected under conservation easements, a measure designed to protect duck habitat. In July, FWS requested public comment on whether to reconsider the rule's guidelines for calculating acceptable drain placement near wetlands. However, on August 14, FWS announced that no further action was planned. In response, Sen. Cramer said he plans to block future Trump nominees when they come up for a confirmation vote. The wetland rule has significant implications for the Dakotas because much of the Prairie Pothole Region falls within the two states. The North Dakota Wildlife Federation supports the rule, while the North Dakota Farm Bureau Federation opposes it.

DEATH TO BOIS, AGAIN

On August 13, the Treasury Department issued a final rule exempting 99% of entities from beneficial ownership information (BOI) reporting requirements under the Financial Crimes Enforcement Network (FinCEN). Under the new rule, U.S. companies and U.S. persons are permanently exempt from BOI reports. Secretary Scott Bessent criticized the Biden-era rule as “a burdensome reporting requirement for millions of law-abiding business owners.” Although the rule took effect during the Biden administration, Congress passed it under the Trump administration. President Trump vetoed the bill, but Congress overrode the veto and enacted it into law. In 2025, the Treasury Department announced it would not enforce the law for U.S. citizens and domestic companies, and the new rule formalizes that position. FinCEN says it will delete information about U.S. persons, including U.S. passport and driver’s license data submitted by beneficial owners, company applicants, and FinCEN ID holders, from its database.

TRIPP SAYS NO

A proposed 10,000-unit sow confinement for Pipestone Management has raised concerns among Tripp County, South Dakota residents. Tripp County is one of 18 South Dakota counties without a zoning ordinance regulating livestock confinements. On August 11, a motion to pursue a temporary zoning ordinance died for lack of a second. About 66 people signed a petition requesting a temporary ordinance, and approximately 85 people attended a July 31 Tripp County Commission meeting. Although the county does not have a zoning ordinance, an operation of this size would still need to comply with state regulations administered by the Department of Agriculture and Natural Resources. The proposed sow barn would be owned by four families and employ 28 people.

WASHINGTON FARMER TARGETED

Joel Gross, a Washington cattle rancher, says government officials targeted him after he criticized environmental regulations on social media. Gross applied for a building permit to construct a home on his ranch, but the project was flagged because the proposed site allegedly falls within the Washington Shrubsteppe Restoration and Resiliency Initiative, a wildlife and plant corridor covering 10 million acres. Under a Habitat Mitigation Requirement and Native Growth Deed Restriction, Gross must provide a minimum 2:1 mitigation ratio for habitat loss. For example, if three acres were developed, six acres would need to be set aside and protected, essentially through a conservation easement, or Gross could buy credits in a corporate mitigation bank. Before construction, Gross must complete a habitat inspection by an accredited biologist, which can cost between \$2,000 and \$10,000. On June 25, Gross posted on Facebook about his frustrations. Although his comments were directed at the Washington Legislature, the Grant County Development Services Director responded with a 1,500-word post titled “MISINFORMATION” and said county employees received death threats after Gross spoke out. The county later issued \$200,000 in penalties and alleged that Gross was operating an industrial mine. In February, Gross received county approval to crush gravel for personal use. Gross has appealed to the Civil/Appellate Division of Grant County.

EGG ANTI-TRUST SETTLEMENT

On June 29, The Department of Justice along with 17 state attorney generals, including the state of Minnesota, filed a complaint in federal court against Cal-Main Foods, Inc., Hickman's Egg Ranch, Inc., and Versova. A settlement was reached the following day. The complaint alleges those companies coordinated bidding on egg spot markets from 2022 to 2025 to inflate the daily price quota by Urner Barry. Urner Barry is benchmark pricing used in egg supply contracts. As part of the settlement agreement, the companies will pay \$3.3 million to participating states, adopt antitrust compliance programs, and donate 53 million eggs to foodbanks, including those in Minnesota. The companies have up to 36 months to complete their end of the bargain. Of the three companies, Cal-Maine denied all wrongdoing, does not have to pay fines or penalties, but agreed to donate 30 million eggs and pay \$1.5 million.

PRO FARMER CROP TOUR

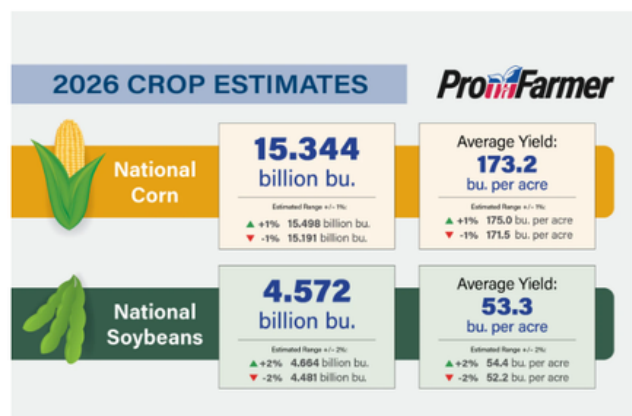
The 33rd Annual Pro Farmer Crop Tour took place in August. The tour encompassed four days, 1,569 field samples, and seven states. Minnesota took home the honors with the most expected yield increases, while all other states fell short. In the Land of 10,000 Lakes, corn yields are estimated to be 9% higher than the three-year average, and soybean pod count is 15% higher than average. For national corn production, the Pro Farmer Tour placed the 2026 corn crop at 173.2 bushels per acre compared to USDA's 180.7 bushels per acre. For soybeans, Pro Farmer estimates the national soybean yield average at 53.3 bu. per acre, with a total crop size of 4.572 billion bushels. If their estimates are correct, the soybean yield would establish a new national record.

OREGON CAFO LAWSUIT

Willamette Riverkeeper, Center for Food Safety, Animal Legal Defense Fund, and Food & Water Watch have filed a lawsuit challenging Oregon's newly adopted 2026 CAFO General Permit. Although Oregon already has extensive regulations for concentrated animal feeding operations, the groups argue the permit should require additional pollution monitoring, regulate hydrologic discharges differently, address aerial deposition, and include broader water-quality protections. Oregon's Right-to-Farm Law does not protect farms that cause serious injury to people or the environment. The 2026 general permit requires producers to submit a locally approved land-use compatibility statement, a nutrient management plan, a water supply plan, engineering and construction documents, applications, public notice, and public comments. The Oregon Department of Agriculture said it cannot respond to ongoing litigation. There are 328 CAFOs registered under the previous permit.

AUGUST WASDE

On August 12, the USDA released its World Agricultural Supply and Demand Estimates (WASDE) report. USDA reported corn yields below its previous estimate but placed corn production higher, with harvested acres at 1.2 million. Soybean yield is expected to be lower as well, but with increased production at 1.4 million harvested acres. Wheat is in line with expectations at 1.5 billion bushels.



RECIPE OF THE MONTH

Peanut Butter Protein Bites

The perfect treat for an after-school snack or the harvest crew.

1 cup rolled oats
½ cup ground flaxseed
½ cup vanilla protein powder
¼ cup shredded toasted unsweetened coconut
1/3 cup dark chocolate chips
½ cup peanut butter
1/3 cup Orland Honey
1 tsp vanilla
Sea salt

Mix together, form into balls, store in fridge.

You can substitute chocolate chips for dried fruit, as well as peanut butter for almond butter, sunflower butter, etc.



Tune in to Coffee with Kiera on Thursday, September 10, at 10 a.m. Email or text Kellie for the link. *Available to Colony clients only.*

COLORING PAGE

School is back in session, and we have another kids' activity page. We wish everyone the best of luck this year. Be kind, study hard, and have fun.

EVENTS & ACTIVITIES

Sept. 2-7 // SD State Fair

Sept. 7 // Labor Day (Office Closed)

Sept. 21 // SD CAFO Permit Hearing

Oct. 13-14 // Office Closed

Nov. 26-27 // Office Closed for Thanksgiving

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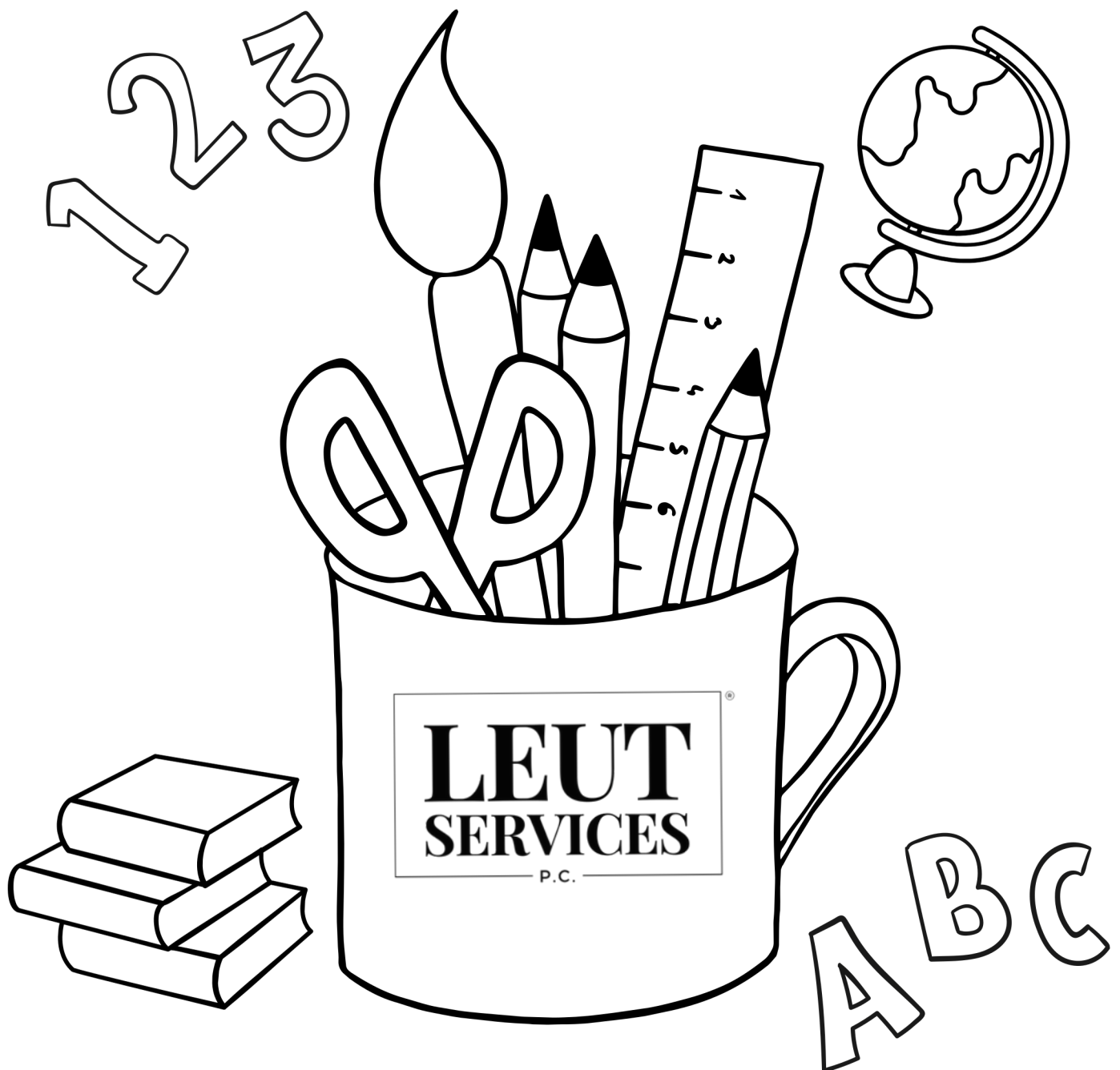
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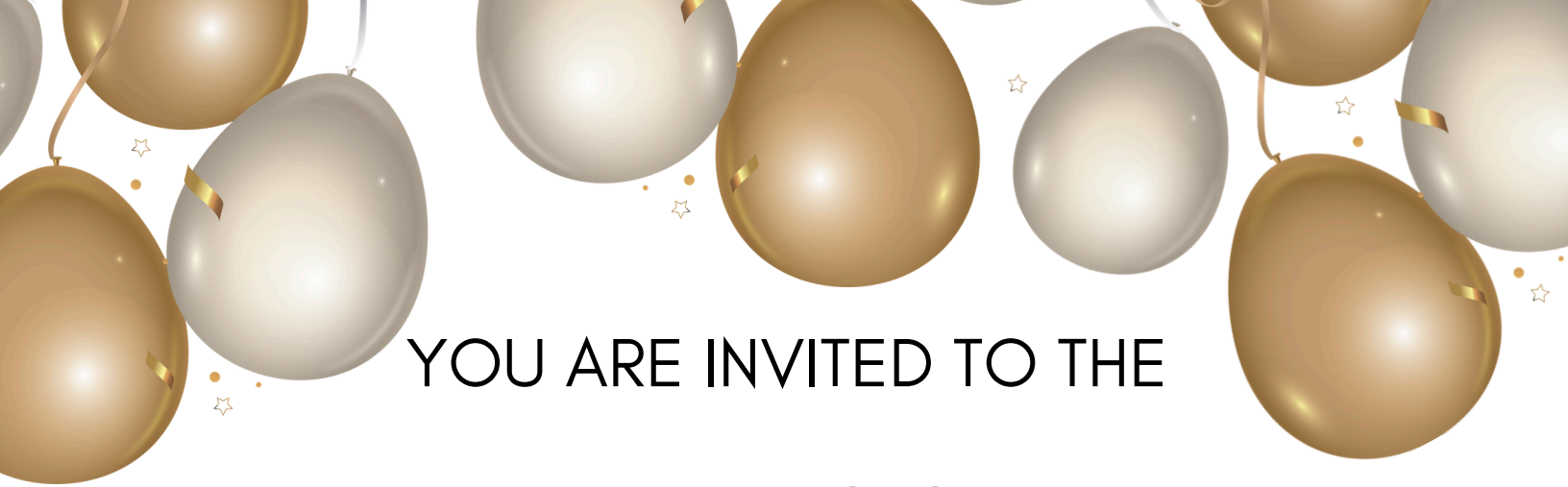
Rebecka Butz, Bookkeeping Specialist

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BACK TO SCHOOL!





YOU ARE INVITED TO THE

Farewell Party

HONORING:

DIMOCK CITY HALL

Everyone is welcome to celebrate the legacy of a building that has meant so much to our community. From Vic's Place to Hofer's Lounge, this building has been a mainstay on Main Street. Free will donations are appreciated and will be used to support the plans for a new City Hall and the Dimock Community Foundation.

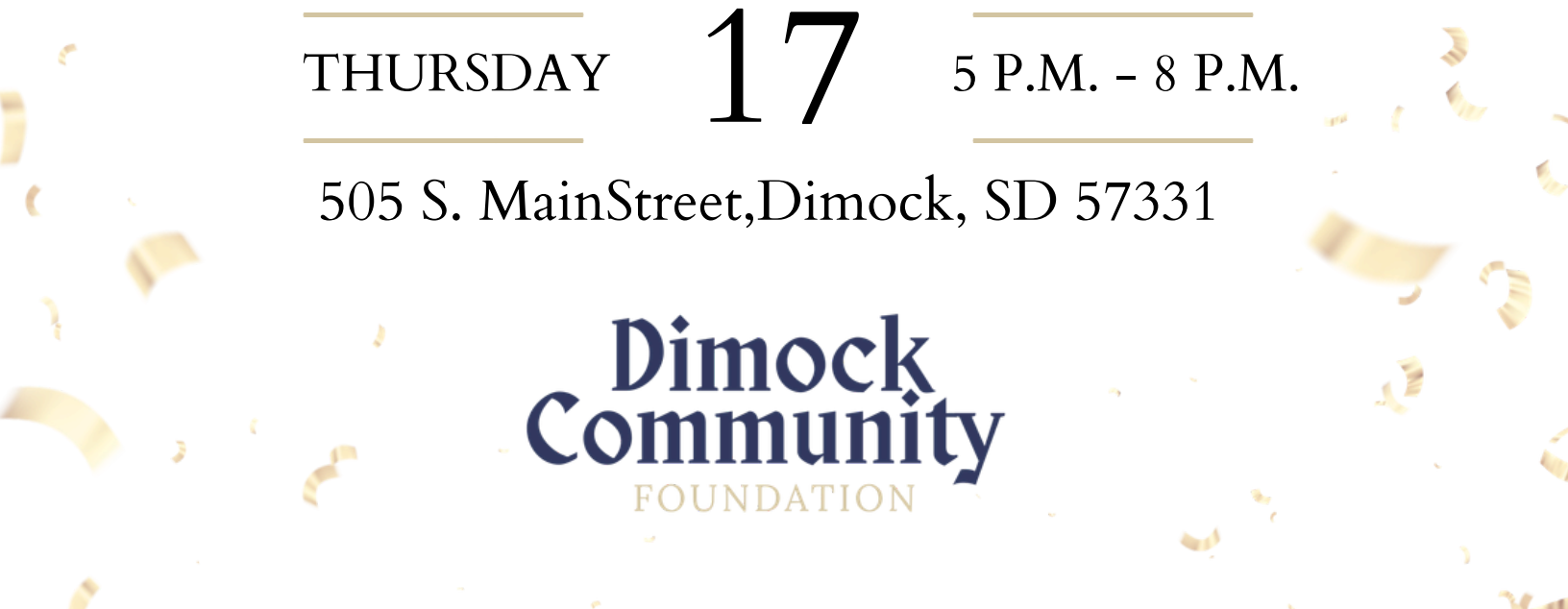
SEPTEMBER

THURSDAY

17

5 P.M. - 8 P.M.

505 S. Main Street, Dimock, SD 57331



**Dimock
Community**
FOUNDATION