

Chamber Chatter

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2026 Third Quarter Recap



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BD KINGS LANES BAR AND GRILL

When Doug and Bonnie took over BD Kings Lanes Bar and Grill in September 2025, they saw a business with room to grow and were ready to put in the work. A year later, the renovations and new events tell part of the story. The relationships they have built tell the rest.

Asked what has been most rewarding, their answer was simple: *"Meeting new customers and spending time with our current customers who have become family."* That connection has become an important part of owning the Arlington restaurant, bar, and bowling alley. People may come through the door for a meal, a game, or a gathering, but for Doug and Bonnie, getting to know them is one of the reasons the work matters.

Their first year began on September 22, 2025, when they purchased the business with a shared belief in its potential. *"We are both very hard workers and saw a lot of potential with this particular business,"* they shared.

Since then, they have made several renovations and grown both their bowling customer base and overall clientele. They are also introducing more ways for people to enjoy a night out

close to home, including music bingo, special bowling events, and a recent heavy mug challenge. The business offers parties for a variety of occasions, bringing food and entertainment together in one place.

In the kitchen, Doug and Bonnie take particular pride in their broasted chicken and gizzards. Their enthusiasm comes with high expectations for the food they serve and the experience each customer receives. *"We want them to be satisfied every single time,"* they said. For them, that means paying close attention to food before it leaves the kitchen and training new staff to deliver a consistent experience. Whether someone is visiting for the first time or returning for a familiar favorite, the goal stays the same.

Building that customer base has been their biggest challenge. Like many small business owners, they are learning as they go, working to meet different expectations while giving more people a reason to stop in. The customers who return, and the friendships that have grown along the way, are what they find most rewarding.

Their connection to the community also extends beyond the business. Doug and Bonnie donate to several local organizations and are especially passionate about Special Olympics. There is more work ahead, too. Their plans include expanding and updating the kitchen, along with completing the apartments upstairs. Those projects would continue the improvements they have been making since taking ownership.

When asked what advice they would offer someone starting a business, they emphasized commitment and patience. Their words reflect the approach they are bringing to their own first years at BD Kings Lanes: *"Put your heart and soul into it and things will happen."* They followed that with a reminder familiar to anyone who has taken on a big project: *"Remember Rome was not built in a day."*

BD Kings Lanes Bar and Grill is located at 101 South Main Street in Arlington. To learn more and keep up with events, follow BD Kings Lanes Bar and Grill on Facebook, or stop in for a meal and a game of bowling.

**Want the full story? This is just the highlight—read the complete Chamber Spotlight
at: ArlingtonChamberSD.com/spotlight**

4TH QUARTER MEETING

GUEST SPEAKERS

HEARTLAND ENERGY
Kelly Dybdahl
Director of Customer Relations

HEARTLAND ENERGY
Brooke Rollag
Director of Economic Development

Join us for our fourth-quarter meeting on
Thursday, November 19, at The Cardinal Tap.

Social time begins at 5:30 PM, with a meal
provided, followed by the meeting and guest
speakers at 6:00 PM.

Kelly Dybdahl and Brooke Rollag from
Heartland Energy will share opportunities for
local businesses and community projects.
We'll also hold nominations and elections for
our 2027 chamber leadership. Bring your
ideas and nominations!

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 **THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 19, 2026** |  **THE CARDINAL TAP**
ARLINGTON, SD |  **SOCIAL TIME 5:30 PM • MEETING 6:00 PM**

Third Quarter Update

Dear Chamber Supporters and Members,

Arlington Days brought a bigger turnout than anticipated and more events than ever before. We are grateful to the volunteers, businesses, and organizations that made the weekend possible. Each group brought something special, giving residents and visitors plenty of reasons to spend the weekend in Arlington. The pickleball tournament on the new city courts was a success. Thank you to the City of Arlington for investing in a place our community can enjoy. Our first youth basketball tournament also brought many out-of-town families who shopped with vendors and joined other activities. Thank you to everyone who organized, volunteered, participated, or came out to support the festivities.

We had a tremendous turnout for our third-quarter Chamber meeting with State Senator Casey Crabtree. The conversation about Arlington's economic development brought people together to explore opportunities for our community. We hope those discussions lead to lasting partnerships that help our businesses and community grow.

We also celebrated the ribbon cutting for Lake Norden Family Chiropractic's Arlington location on Main Street. The rain held off long enough for Chamber representatives to join Dr. Jackson Snell, Dr. Jerad Bludorn, and the team. We welcome them to Arlington's business community and appreciate their commitment to serving our area.

As the year winds down, the Chamber is preparing for a leadership transition. My wife, Christine, Treasurer Andy Brown, and I will finish our current terms but will not seek re-election. It has been an honor to serve this business community. We hope we have helped strengthen the Chamber's role in bringing businesses together, building connections, and supporting one another. Under the Chamber's bylaws, Vice President Karl Steege will move into the president's role, leaving the vice president and treasurer positions open.

Our fourth-quarter meeting will include nominations for the 2027 Chamber board. Karl Steege and Preston Singrey intend to seek re-election. Please bring forward names of people who can help guide the Chamber's next chapter or consider stepping forward yourself. We welcome new ideas and people committed to serving our business community.

Christine, Andy, and I will continue volunteering where we can. You will still see us lending a hand and supporting the people who take these efforts forward. We want the next group of leaders to succeed and bring their own ideas to the Chamber.

Seasonal work continues, too. Secretary Preston Singrey removed the flowers from the Main Street baskets for fall and is coordinating volunteers for Christmas decorating. We appreciate the work that keeps Arlington welcoming throughout the year.

The Chamber will again organize the Christmas receipt program to encourage local shopping and help with decorating around town.

We are looking for community members to lead a Christmas in Arlington committee and organize additional holiday activities and events. If you have an idea or would like to take the lead, please reach out to the Chamber at chamber@arlingtonchambersd.com.

These activities happen when people step forward to organize them. The Chamber will gladly help promote community-led events and connect volunteers. Whether you can lead an activity or help someone carry out an idea, your time makes a difference.

Thank you for supporting our local businesses and giving your time and energy to Arlington. It has been a privilege to serve alongside you, and I look forward to what we can accomplish together.

Chris Hussak
President, Arlington Area Chamber of Commerce

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Your Voice Matters

Contribute to the
Community Survey



arlingtonchambersd.com/survey



See What's Happening in the Arlington Area!

View upcoming community events or submit your own at

ArlingtonChamberSD.com/calendar