

Springfield Historical Society Scavenger Hunt Locations

August 27, 2023

Name: -----



Springfield Scavenger Hunt

Locate the spots in any order!

Hint: You may want to plan your route to find nearby spots.

✓ Find the sticker or punch at each site to show you were there!

- 1 This city resource was built in 1978 & can't be missed. It greets people as they enter Springfield
- 2 A dollar expanded the site to hold the H2O in 1914. You'll find it in the business district's backyard. It also was the site of a fire hall.
- 3 On Christmas Day 1890, Springfield residents received a unique present at the alley on Oak Street between 8th and 9th streets.
- 4 For more than 50 years, people have been getting wet here.
- 5 This was the site of Springfield's first swimming pool. Today a memorial atop the bluff honors Springfield veterans.
- 6 Find the monument that tells you the names of the Springfield colleges over the years.
- 7 This Springfield home is the only home in the community on the National Register of Historic Places. A sign is posted for you to see.
- 8 Twice this business burned ... it remains in operation today.
- 9 This public place houses a lot of red and white artifacts along with images of a dog. Don't forget your can!



Return to the community center for ICE CREAM at 3 pm to 4 pm. & the Time Capsule Reveal!

10



Bonus! - Find an aluminum can & bring to ticket booth at the museums. Recycling cans helps with museum expenses.

New Water Tower

Built in 1978 to replace the aging water tower, it recently had its original stand pipe replaced.

At 300,000 gallons, water for the city flows from the tank daily. The water plant replenishes that water daily.

Water towers serve as an identification sign for communities. Seen for miles, they are often the tallest structure in town. Springfield is unique in that it has not one, not two, but three water towers dotting the horizon. Along with the two city towers, the Department of Corrections erected a water tower to provide sufficient pressure and reserve water for the Mike Durfee State Prison. The city water plant also provides water for that tower.

SPECIAL CITY COUNCIL MEETING
Springfield, South Dakota
November 28, 1977

A special meeting of the City Council was held on November 28, 1977, at 7:00 p.m. for the opening of bids on the Water Distribution Storage EDA Project 05-01-01749. Present were Mayor Schamber and Councilmen Heusinkveld, Ludens, Preszler, Stockholm, Thomson, and Tjeerdema. Also in attendance were Robert Brotsky, Consulting Engineer from J. T. Banner and Associates, and George Martin, Contracting Engineer from Chicago Bridge and Iron Co.

Bids were submitted as specified in three categories, namely Schedule A - Spherical Single Pedestal Tank, Schedule B - Spheroidal or Ellipsoidal Tank, and Schedule C - Altitude Valve and Control System.

The following bids were received, opened and read:

Universal Tank and Iron Works, Inc., Indianapolis, Indiana: Schedule A - \$245,425; Schedule B - \$212,435; Schedule C - \$16,000.

PDM Hydrostorage, Inc., Des Moines, Iowa: Schedule A - \$249,000; Schedule B - \$188,880; Schedule C - no bid.

W. R. Neufeld Contractors, Inc., Yankton, South Dakota: Schedule A - no bid; Schedule B - no bid; Schedule C - \$12,482 (Including \$900 for Baker Valve).

Chicago Bridge and Iron Co., Chicago, Illinois: Schedule A - \$229,660; Schedule B - no bid; Schedule C - no bid.

After review of bids, Ludens moved, Thomson seconded, to note the lowest bids as follows:

Chicago Bridge and Iron Co., Schedule A - \$229,660
W. R. Neufeld Contractors, Inc., Schedule C - \$12,482

and to table acceptance of the bid contracts until approval is obtained by engineer and Economic Development Administration. All members voted Aye and motion carried.

Stockholm moved, Preszler seconded, to adjourn the meeting.

Eleanor Renner
ELEANOR RENNER
Finance Officer

Marvin G. Schamber
MARVIN G. SCHAMBER
Mayor

New Water Tower

SPECIAL CITY COUNCIL MEETING
Springfield, South Dakota
November 28, 1977

A special meeting of the City Council was held on November 28, 1977, at 7:00 p.m. for the opening of bids on the Water Distribution Storage EDA Project 05-01-01749. Present were Mayor Schamber and Councilmen Heusinkveld, Ludens, Preszler, Stockholm, Thomson, and Tjeerdma. Also in attendance were Robert Brotsky, Consulting Engineer from J. T. Banner and Associates, and George Martin, Contracting Engineer from Chicago Bridge and Iron Co.

Bids were submitted as specified in three categories, namely Schedule A - Spherical Single Pedestal Tank, Schedule B - Spheroidal or Ellipsoidal Tank, and Schedule C - Altitude Valve and Control System.

The following bids were received, opened and read:

Universal Tank and Iron Works, Inc., Indianapolis, Indiana: Schedule A - \$245,425; Schedule B - \$212,435; Schedule C - \$16,000.

PDM Hydrostorage, Inc., Des Moines, Iowa: Schedule A - \$249,000; Schedule B - \$188,880; Schedule C - no bid.

W. R. Neufeld Contractors, Inc., Yankton, South Dakota: Schedule A - no bid; Schedule B - no bid; Schedule C - \$12,482 (Including \$900 for Baker Valve).


Chicago Bridge and Iron Co., Chicago, Illinois: Schedule A - \$229,660; Schedule B - no bid; Schedule C - no bid.


After review of bids, Ludens moved, Thomson seconded, to note the lowest bids as follows:

Chicago Bridge and Iron Co., Schedule A - \$229,660
W. R. Neufeld Contractors, Inc., Schedule C - \$12,482

and to table acceptance of the bid contracts until approval is obtained by engineer and Economic Development Administration. All members voted Aye and motion carried.

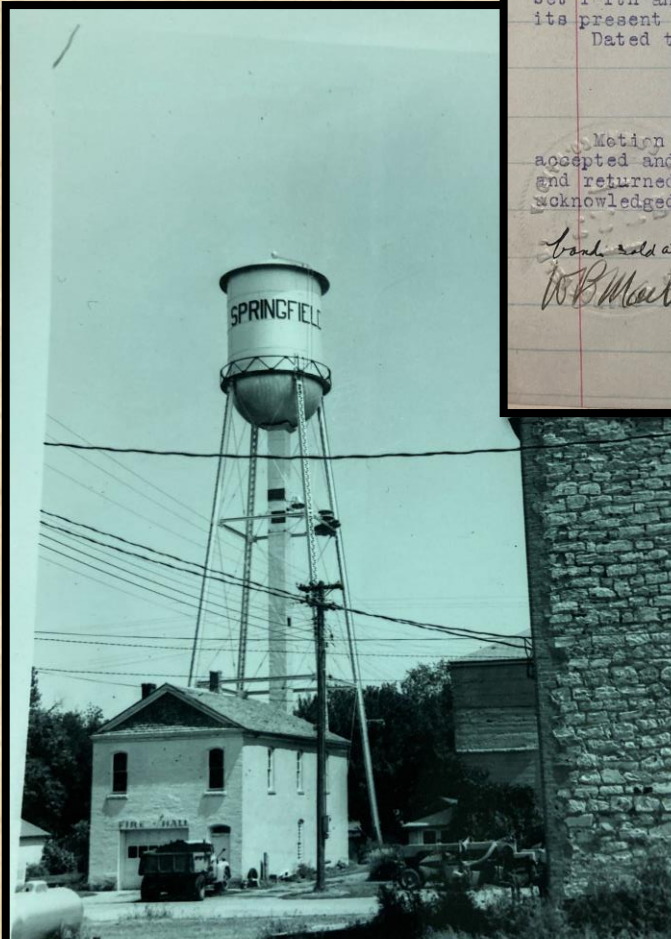
Stockholm moved, Preszler seconded, to adjourn the meeting.


MARVIN G. SCHAMBER
Mayor


ELEANOR RENNER
Finance Officer

Old Water Tower

Approved in 1914 to provide water to the fire department this 50,000 gallon water tower has seen a lot of history in its 109 years. In order to build the tower the city needed a few extra feet on the adjoining lot so they paid the owner, B.T. French, the sum of \$1 for the rent of 3 feet of his property for as long this tower stands. In today's worth, that \$1 would be about \$30. In 1915, that \$1 could buy three dozen eggs



Water tower and old fire hall, circa 1960

Resolution of the City Council from December 2, 2014 authorizing the agreement with B.T. French.

Springfield, N.D. December 2, 1914

Council met in session with Mayor in chair.
Resignation of Mr C.E. Burton as city auditor read and accepted.

Name of Wm. Kirby for Auditor taken under advisement.
C L Hill appointed to act as Auditor for Meeting.

Roll call: Michel and Helleman absent. Answered to roll call: Williams-Marvin-DeMelt and Dawes.

Specifications from Mr Bruce or right from Mr French for the perpetual right of the tract of land for the city water tower was read. The following instrument was this day received from the Queal Lbr Co:-

Whereas: B T French of Hawarden, County of Sioux, and State of Iowa, is the owner of lot 5 in Block 26 in the City of Springfield, Ben Homme County So Dak, and

WHEREAS: the City of Springfield is about to construct in said City a water tank for fire protection on Lot 6 in Block 26 in said City of Springfield, and

WHEREAS: it will be necessary for said city in the proper construction of said water tank to cause a portion of the piers for foundation of said tank to extend over the west line of lot 5 to the extent of three (3) feet, which foundation will be below the surface of the ground and will do no permanent injury to the property.

NOW THEREFORE, in consideration of one dollar (\$1.00) to him in hand paid, the said B.T. French for himself, successors and assigns, does hereby agree that said piers for foundation may extend into the property owned by him, as hereinbefore set forth and as long as said water tank shall be maintained in its present location by the city of Springfield.

Dated this 2nd day of December, 1914.

CITY OF SPRINGFIELD.

By H.M. Davison, Mayor.

Attest W.B. Martin City Auditor
B.T. French

Motion made and seconded to have a concession of B.T. French accepted and have same properly signed by Mayor and Auditor and returned to Bruce to have him get the signature of B.T. French acknowledged before a Notary Public. Bids on water works bonds were opened and

Bonds sold at 100% to H. I. Bruce, the best bidder
H. M. Davison
Mayor
W. B. Martin
Auditor



Excavation begins for Woodman Hall, located south of Old City Hall where it served as a community center until its removal in 1978.

Old fire hall before
water tower was
constructed

Old Water Tower

Springfield, S. D. Dec 2 1914

Council met in session with Mayor in chair.
Resignation of Mr C.E. Burton as city auditor read and accepted.

Name of Wm. Kirby for Auditor taken under advisement.
C L Hill appointed to act as Auditor for Meeting.
Roll call: Michel and Holleman absent. Answered to roll call: Williams-Marvin-DeMelt and Dawes.

Specifications from Mr Bruce on right from Mr French for the perpetual right of the tract of land for the city water tower was read. The following instrument was this day received from the Queal Lbr Co:-

Whereas: B T French of Hawarden, County of Sioux, and State of Iowa, is the owner of lot 5 in Block 26 in the City of Springfield, Bon Homme County So Dak, and

WHEREAS: the City of Springfield is about to construct in said City a water tank for fire protection on Lot 6 in Block 26 in said City of Springfield, and

WHEREAS: it will be necessary for said city in the proper construction of said water tank to cause a portion of the piers for foundation of said tank to extend over the west line of lot 5 to the extent of three (3) feet, which foundation will be below the surface of the ground and will do no permanent injury to the property.

NOW THEREFORE, in consideration of one dollar (\$1.00) to him in hand paid, the said E.T. French for himself, successors and assigns, does hereby agree that said piers for foundation may extend into the property owned by him, as hereinbefore set forth and as long as said water tank shall be maintained in its present location by the city of Springfield.

Dated this 2nd day of December, 1914.

CITY OF SPRINGFIELD.

By H.M. Davison, Mayor.

Attest W.B. Martin City Auditor
E.T. French

Motion made and seconded to have a session of B.T. French accepted and have same properly signed by Mayor and Auditor and returned to Bruce to have him get the signature of B.T. French acknowledged before a Notary Public. Bids on water works bonds were opened and

Bonds sold at 10% to N. I. Bruce, the best bidder H M Davison
W B Martin
auditor
Mayor

Views of Springfield from the Water Tower in 1916

What tales
this old tank
could tell!



Turning back the pages - reproduced here is a picture showing part of Springfield's Main Street in 1916 looking southwest from the water tower. Across the street on the left corner was the Chris Dinkel bakery and what is now the telephone office was the First National bank. Also shown is the former Lee Michel hardware store. On this side of the street at the left corner was the Pete Monfore Furniture Store and undertaking parlor. Next are the Odd Fellows Hall and post office. The picture is taken from a post card once owned by Floyd Spohn.



THESE PHOTOS of early-day Springfield were taken from the water tower. The top picture is looking northeast and the bottom picture northwest.

Do you
recognize
Springfield
as it was
107 years
ago.

The first artesian well in Springfield was located here

Merry Christmas Springfield! Twenty years after Ogden Marsh platted what became the town of Springfield the community needed a consistent supply of fresh water.

Ever since hitting water here in 1890 this part of Springfield has provided drinking water in one form or another.

In 1966 the current water treatment plant was constructed. Using a chemical process, Missouri River water was pumped up the hill to be treated and sent to homes and business, replacing the very hard artesian water used nearly 80 years.

Today, a new water treatment plant is under construction to replace the aging facility. Using Reverse Osmosis technology, the new plant will not use chemicals to purify the river water that will come from the two new intake lines located at the bottom of the hill.

JULY 21, 1890

City Council met to receive bids on boring an artesian well. Three bids were received. On Sept. 4, the decision was made to put down an 8 inch well on Oak Street between 8th and 9th streets. Sept. 11, the bid of Gray Brothers company of Milwaukee was accepted and they started to drill the first 8 inch well in the state. Work progressed through the fall of 1890. The first flow in the well was hit on December 25th, at a depth of 460 feet. Gray Bros. drilled to a depth of 590 feet and still had a strong flow. January 5, 1891, the City Council met with the Gray Brothers of Milwaukee, and accepted the well, and paid the bill of \$3,282.23 total cost. The Council issued bonds in \$100 denominations bearing 10% interest for 20 years subject to call before maturity. Mr. Bonesteel and Mr. Turner, who operated a mill in the vicinity of the well, put their force of laborers to work digging the ditch to the river to carry the run-off, or excess water from the well. Many wells were dug in the area immediately following the success with the Springfield well.

Swimming Pool

In the late 1960's a group of local residents formed Springfield Swimming Pool, Inc. with the goal of building a new, modern swimming pool for the community to enjoy. On July 2nd in 1971 that goal came was met when this swimming pool was turned over to the City of Springfield and formally opened. While the lifeguard pay has gone up significantly, the annual family pool pass has remained within the reach for all members of the community. Not conceived as a money making venture, the Springfield swimming pool is a vital and important part of our summers and our quality of life.

Today a liner is being installed to assist in sealing the pool and its fifty year old cement.

CITY OF SPRINGFIELD, SOUTH DAKOTA
COUNCIL MEETING

June 29, 1971

The special meeting was called to order by Mayor Schamber at 7:30 p.m. in the Community Center. Councilmen Coleman, Heusinkveld, Kreiner, Sandvick, Stockholm, and Tjeerdsma were present.

Stockholm moved that reimbursement be made to Dwight Clough for the Teener Baseball registration fee in the amount of \$15 and that \$300, one-half of the total salary of \$600 for the summer recreation program, be paid to him on June 30. Seconded by Kreiner and carried.

City Attorney Gemar presented details of a letter received from the Game, Fish, and Parks Commission regarding the sewer lift station. Before the City enters into an agreement to assume control of the lift station, Mr. Gemar will contact the South Dakota Game, Fish, and Parks Commission and the United States Corps of Engineers to determine the steps necessary in this undertaking.

A delegation from Springfield Community Pool, Inc., (Harold Halsey, Lonnn Sweet, Anita Tjeerdsma, John Uken, Neva Stockholm, and Charles Bryan) was present to discuss the transfer of the swimming pool to the City. The group indicated that they would continue in operation to assist in completing all pool facilities. Stockholm moved that the City accept ownership of the pool from the Springfield Community Pool, Inc. and assume responsibility of the operation, maintenance, and insurance of the pool. Seconded by Sandvick. Roll call vote--YEAS: Heusinkveld, Kreiner, Sandvick, Stockholm, and Tjeerdsma; NAYS: Coleman. Motion carried. The Mayor commended the members of the corporation for their tireless efforts in providing the citizens of Springfield with this pool to be dedicated on July 2, 1971.

Coleman moved that Lori Slade be hired as Head Lifeguard at a salary of \$75 per week, and Kay Schuurmans and Galen Nelson be hired as Lifeguards at a salary of \$70 per week each for a period from July 1, 1971, until school starts and that hourly wage arrangements be discussed for additional time the pool might be open. The three Lifeguards will provide all swimming instructions and will supply qualified replacements in their absence subject to the approval of the Park Committee. Seconded by Heusinkveld. Carried.

Sandvick introduced and moved the acceptance of the following schedule for pool activities:

POOL HOURS:

1:30 to 5:00 p.m. and 7:00 to 9:00 p.m. (Earlier closing may be necessary due to degree of darkness.)

Thursday night--Adult night
Lessons: 7:00 to 8:00 p.m. Swimming: 8:00 to 9:00 p.m.

LESSONS:

Monday-Wednesday-Friday
Beginners--9:00 to 10:00 a.m.
Intermediates--10:00 to 11:00 a.m.

Tuesday-Thursday
Swimmers--9:00 to 10:00 a.m.
Jr. and Sr. Lifesaving--10:00 to 11:00 a.m.

Seconded by Stockholm. Carried. The pool will not open unless the temperature is 70° or above and will be closed if thunderstorms threaten.

Coleman moved that the Council accept the prices for swimming tickets suggested by the Springfield Community Pool, Inc., as follows: Family Season Ticket, \$17.50; Individual Season Ticket, \$10.00; Adult Admission, \$.50; High School Admission, \$.35; and ~~Child~~ Admission, \$.25. Seconded by Stockholm. Carried.

Coleman moved, seconded by Stockholm, that the special meeting be adjourned. Carried.

Marvin Schamber
MARVIN SCHAMBER
Mayor

Dorothy L. Birks
DOROTHY L. BIRKS
Auditor

**Still the same – it must be
70 degrees for the pool to
open for swimmers**

Swimming Pool

CITY OF SPRINGFIELD, SOUTH DAKOTA
COUNCIL MEETING

June 29, 1971

The special meeting was called to order by Mayor Schamber at 7:30 p.m. in the Community Center. Councilmen Coleman, Heusinkveld, Kreiner, Sandvick, Stockholm, and Tjeerdsma were present.

Stockholm moved that reimbursement be made to Dwight Clough for the Teener Baseball registration fee in the amount of \$15 and that \$300, one-half of the total salary of \$600 for the summer recreation program, be paid to him on June 30. Seconded by Kreiner and carried.

City Attorney Gemar presented details of a letter received from the Game, Fish, and Parks Commission regarding the sewer lift station. Before the City enters into an agreement to assume control of the lift station, Mr. Gemar will contact the South Dakota Game, Fish, and Parks Commission and the United States Corps of Engineers to determine the steps necessary in this undertaking.

A delegation from Springfield Community Pool, Inc., (Harold Halsey, Lonn Sweet, Anita Tjeerdsma, John Uken, Neva Stockholm, and Charles Bryan) was present to discuss the transfer of the swimming pool to the City. The group indicated that they would continue in operation to assist in completing all pool facilities. Stockholm moved that the City accept ownership of the pool from the Springfield Community Pool, Inc. and assume responsibility of the operation, maintenance, and insurance of the pool. Seconded by Sandvick. Roll call vote--YEAS: Heusinkveld, Kreiner, Sandvick, Stockholm, and Tjeerdsma; NAYS: Coleman. Motion carried. The Mayor commended the members of the corporation for their tireless efforts in providing the citizens of Springfield with this pool to be dedicated on July 2, 1971.

Coleman moved that Lori Slade be hired as Head Lifeguard at a salary of \$75 per week, and Kay Schuurmans and Galen Nelson be hired as Lifeguards at a salary of \$70 per week each for a period from July 1, 1971, until school starts and that hourly wage arrangements be discussed for additional time the pool might be open. The three Lifeguards will provide all swimming instructions and will supply qualified replacements in their absence subject to the approval of the Park Committee. Seconded by Heusinkveld. Carried.

Sandvick introduced and moved the acceptance of the following schedule for pool activities:

Swimming Pool

POOL HOURS:

1:30 to 5:00 p.m. and 7:00 to 9:00 p.m. (Earlier closing may be necessary due to degree of darkness.)

Thursday night--Adult night

Lessons: 7:00 to 8:00 p.m. Swimming: 8:00 to 9:00 p.m.

LESSONS:

Monday-Wednesday-Friday

Beginners--9:00 to 10:00 a.m.

Intermediates--10:00 to 11:00 a.m.

Tuesday-Thursday

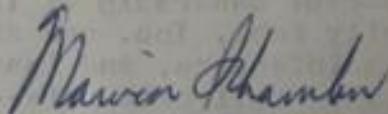
Swimmers--9:00 to 10:00 a.m.

Jr. and Sr. Lifesaving--10:00 to 11:00 a.m.

Seconded by Stockholm. Carried. The pool will not open unless the temperature is 70° or above and will be closed if thunderstorms threaten.

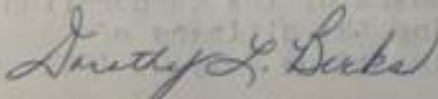
Coleman moved that the Council accept the prices for swimming tickets suggested by the Springfield Community Pool, Inc., as follows: Family Season Ticket, \$17.50; Individual Season Ticket, \$10.00; Adult Admission, \$.50; High School Admission, \$.35; and ~~Grade School~~ ^{Grade School} Admission, \$.25. Seconded by Stockholm. Carried.

Coleman moved, seconded by Stockholm, that the special meeting be adjourned. Carried.



MARVIN SCHAMBER

Mayor



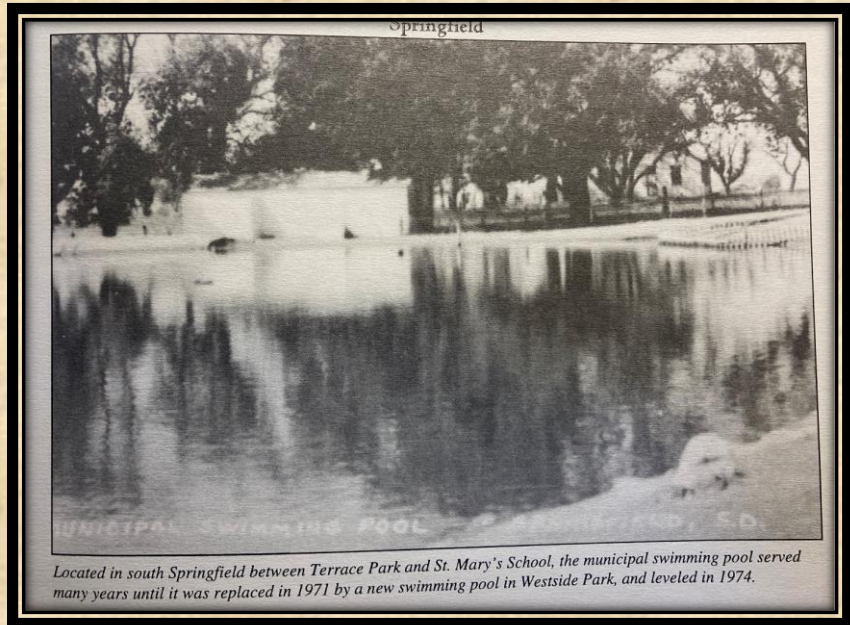
DOROTHY L. BIRKS

Auditor

Terrace Park

Over looking the Missouri River, this park has been a part of Springfield since the very early days. In the 1930's the Civilian Conservation Corp. built a bridge in the wooded area at the bottom of the park (remnants can still be seen today). Home to the swimming pool thanks to an artesian well, it was a focal point of summer activities. The water was hard and swim suits rarely made it the whole year. Today the last artesian well in Springfield refuses to be capped, sending hundreds of gallons of water down the hill daily.

In 2015 the Springfield Veterans Memorial was constructed here. Overlooking the Missouri River, the memorial is recognized as one of the most beautiful and elegant of its kind. The names engraved on the wall are those who whose uniformed service is connected to Springfield. Many of those listed served in units of the South Dakota Army National Guard based in Springfield from 1956 to 1994.



(above) The artesian water fed swimming pool was located in the northwest corner near the artesian well. The pool closed in the mid-1960's, well before the current facility at College Memorial Park opened.

(below) The Springfield Veterans Memorial on a winter day.





College Memorial Park

Renaming Westside Park:

Loukota introduced and moved, Tjeerdsma seconded, the following resolution.

WHEREAS, a number of former staff members, alumni, and friends of the former University of South Dakota at Springfield have made plans to memorialize the institution, closed by legislative action in 1984; and

WHEREAS, said group desires to contribute a monument to preserve the memory of meritorious and dedicated service such institution has provided for South Dakota and those attending said institution for almost 100 years;

BE IT HEREBY RESOLVED, that the park, heretofore referred to as Westside Park, be renamed and designated hereafter as College Memorial Park.

Upon roll call vote the following voted Aye: Dvoracek, Cimbel, Loukota, Stockholm, and Tjeerdsma; Nay: None. The resolution was declared duly approved and adopted.

Before South Dakota was a state Springfield had been selected as the location for a teachers school. Established in Territorial Law in 1881 as Southern State Normal School (The term "normal school" is based on the French école normale, a sixteenth-century model school with model classrooms where model teaching practices were taught to teacher candidates) the school was not built until 1896.

While the name may have changed in its nearly one-hundred year history, what has not changed is its effect and influence on current and former residents of Springfield and Bon Homme County. Generations of school teachers were trained at the school along with carpenters, mechanics, and welders.

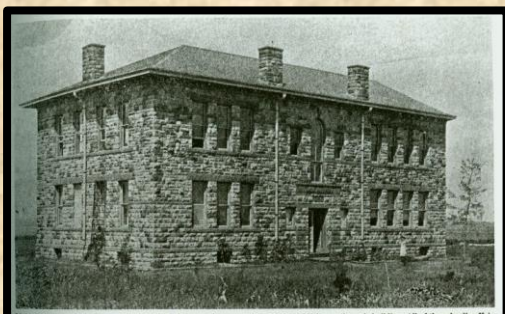
Today, Mike Durfee State Prison sits on the grounds donated by John Burbank, former governor of Dakota Territory. While a significantly different population, education in the trades continues as the prison, named for one of the college's most prolific wrestlers, Mike Durfee, who was inducted into the South Dakota Sports Hall of Fame in 2008.

Renamed College Memorial Park, for generations this area was known as West Side Park. Much of what you see today was built in the late 1960's and early 1970's as the swimming pool became a hub of summer activity for the community.

To learn more about the college, visit the Springfield College Museum operated by the Friends of Pointer.



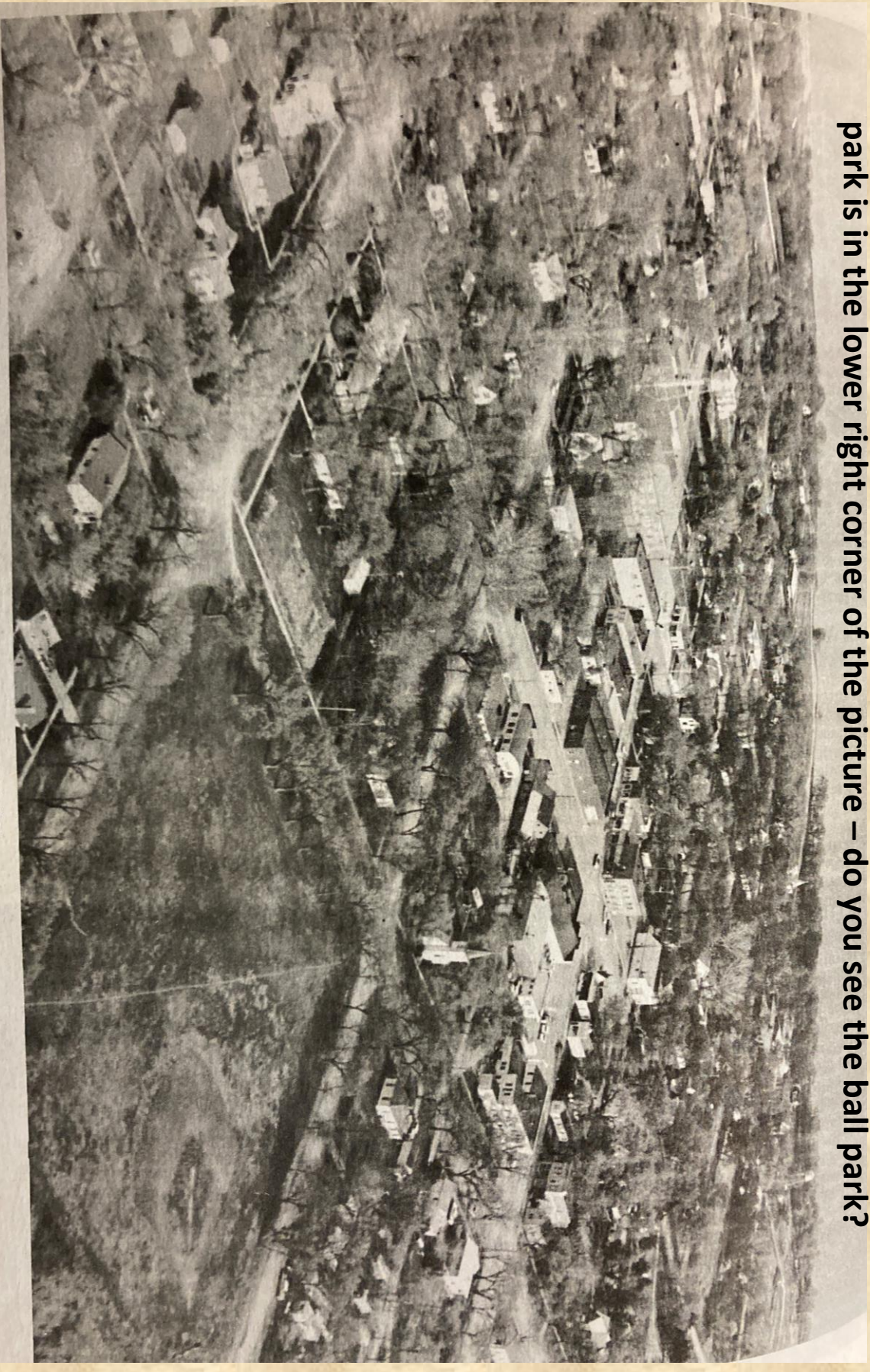
THIS PANORAMIC VIEW, believed to have been taken about 1915, shows the Southern campus in the background.



Main Hall was referred to as "The Building" for several years, as from 1896 to 1901 it was the only building. All of the school's affairs were held in it, and several men students lived in the basement. This photograph was taken on July 29, 1936. Note the openness of the grounds around the building.



Undated aerial view of Springfield (taken between 1959 (find the new fire hall on 9th street) and 1964 (do you see where the future bowling alley will be built)). West-side park is in the lower right corner of the picture – do you see the ball park?



AERIAL VIEW OF SPRINGFIELD

Monfore house

Built in 1912 in the Colonial Revival Style, the Peter and Minnie Monfore house is Springfield's lone entry into the National Register of Historic Places.

Peter Griswold Monfore built on land acquired by the Monfore family in 1872 – Peter's mother Diana Howland Monfore held the original deed when he took possession of the property.

Peter was born in Iowa in 1871. The family moved to the Springfield area in 1872.

Peter was a prominent Springfield businessman. Partnering with J.C. Young in the 1890's they built a two story building on the corner of Chestnut and 8th street, selling furniture and other wares. Peter was one of the first licensed embalmers in Bon Homme County. In 1986 he married Minnie May Flowers.

Peter died in 1950 and Minnie in 1965. Peter's grandson, Peter Howland Monfore was killed in the Korean War at the Battle of Heartbreak Ridge on September 19, 1951.

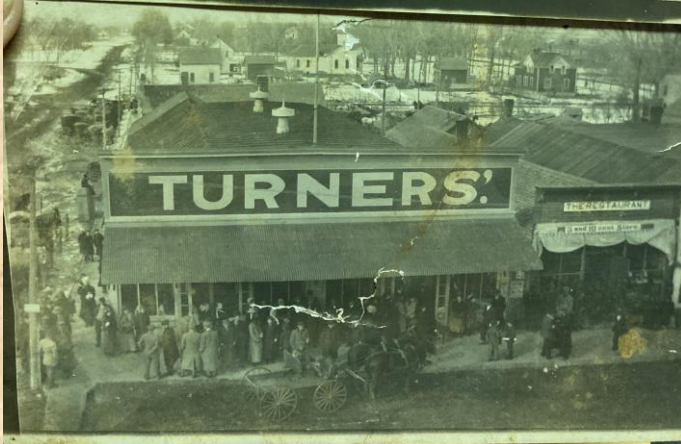
Entered onto the historic roles in 2002



Main Street/Grocery Store

John L. (J.L.) Turner was an original resident of Springfield, having moved to the new town from Genesco, NY in 1870. He immediately opened a general store at this residence. This building, located at 6th Street between Elm and Walnut burned down. He then constructed at the corner of 8th and Main (now College) Streets. For a time this was the largest mercantile business in South Dakota. In 1896 J.L.'s son John W. entered into business with his father. In the April of 1913 the store burned to the ground. The Turners did not rebuild, with J.L. at 70 years of age to old to rebuild and John W. entered into the insurance business.

Fast forward to February of 1984. During a Saturday evening blizzard on February 19th Norm's Food Market, owned by Norm Kibble, saw a fire that gutted the interior of the building. Fire departments from Avon and Tyndall, arriving behind county snow plows, assisted the Springfield Fire Department in extinguishing the blaze and saving the building. This fire could not have come at a worse time for the town, with final actions underway in Pierre to determine the fate of the University of South Dakota at Springfield. Kibble opted to sell to Tom Jones, a Viborg grocer. Jones rebuilt the store and opened in September of 1984 under the Jones. Today Doug Van Emmerick has been the owner/operator for over 20 years, keeping alive a community staple that has seen a business since before South Dakota was state.



Before and after photos of Turners' Store at the corner of 8th and Main (now College) streets



The exterior walls remain, but the interior of Norm Kibble's Springfield grocery store was a total loss following a fire last month. After hearing the good news of the sale of the University of South Dakota at Springfield to National College, Kibble has definite plans to rebuild the store, the only full-service grocery in Springfield. He isn't sure of the size or structure of the new store, but like all of the small town's businesses, Kibble is more hopeful of the economic future of main street in Springfield now that the sale is certain. According to Kaffer, McFadden



CLEAN UP CREWS were busy in the remains of Norm's Food Market Monday, and hope to finish the work by Friday, according to Norm Kibble. He said the news from Pierre, along with the fact that his wife, Dorothy, was scheduled to be released Tuesday from the hospital, should make it possible for him to make definite plans for the store soon. Leo Thomson, owner of Thompson's Clothing, which has been closed because of smoke damage, said Monday that he was waiting for action on USD/S and insurance before making future plans.

Main Street/Grocery Store

T I M E S

SPRINGFIELD, BON HOMME COUNTY, SOUTH DAKOTA

Wednesday, February 22, 1984

Fire destroys Norm's Food Market

Fire totally destroyed the interior of Norm's Food Market in Springfield early Sunday morning. Only the brick walls and roof remain after the fire which started sometime Saturday night while blizzard winds were howling.

Firemen from Springfield, Avon and Tyndall were at the scene until about 8:00 a.m. Sunday, and Springfield firemen returned in the afternoon when the smoldering remains started flaming again. The cash registers and safe were pulled from the wreckage on Sunday. The safe was retrieved with loading equipment operated by Elmer Jones.

Springfield Fire Chief Mel Ludens said the floor of the building collapsed and the roof was probably saved because it is supported by steel beams which extend all the way up from the basement floor.

State Fire Marshal Pat Harrington arrived in Springfield shortly before noon Monday to investigate the fire. He said the state Health Department would have to be notified because of the food which remained in the pile of debris.

A representative of the state Health Department was in town Monday afternoon to investigate and make recommendations for public safety. An insurance adjuster also arrived Monday.

The fire alarm was turned in by Jim and

Linda Brunz and Robert and Anita Tjeerdsma, who smelled smoke while traveling down Main Street on snowmobiles shortly after midnight.

Highway crews had to clear the roads for the Avon and Tyndall trucks to make the trip to Springfield, and high winds and intense smoke hampered the efforts of the firemen. Witnesses said the smoke was so heavy that it was impossible to see the street lights on Main Street.

Monday afternoon the city firemen were pumping about three feet of water out of the basement to enable the investigators to examine the oil furnace and compressors.

Smoke damage was believed to be extensive in Thomson's Clothing next door to the burned building. Thomson's was closed Monday because of the damages, and the owners, Leo and Norma Thomson, who were vacationing in California, were enroute home to determine the extent of damages.

Uken Drug, two doors down the street, suffered minor smoke damage, according to Glen Uken.

In addition to the firemen, many community residents spent most of the night downtown, giving whatever help they could offer. A breakfast was served to the firemen in the basement of the Community Hall, with John and Frances Palsma, Al and

Mildred Gimbel, and Wilbert and Eleanor Renner as chief cooks. They said they used about 20 dozen eggs to prepare scrambled eggs, 20 pounds of potatoes and lots of bacon and sausage. Food was donated by many residents and the wives of the many firemen, with large donations from St. Marys School for Indian Girls.

Irene Mattson and Jeanie Wynia prepared coffee for the firemen at KM Service Station throughout the early morning hours.

One of the Springfield firemen, Gary Sedlacek, suffered cuts on his hand from a broken window, but no other injuries were reported.

Norm and Dorothy Kibble, owners of the store, said Monday they weren't sure what they would do, but they had talked with representatives of the Affiliated Food Stores about opening a store at a temporary location and about rebuilding. They said they wouldn't be able to make a decision until the investigation was complete.

The Kibbles had operated the store since 1956. Dave and Angie Kibble also worked at the store.

Another store, the J.L. Turner business, located on the same property, was destroyed by fire in 1913, according to a report in the Springfield Centennial Book, which was published in 1970.

Grocery Store and the Uncertainty of USD/S – Spring 1984

Future still uncertain after fire

Owners of Norm's Food Market, which was completely destroyed by fire, and Thomson's Clothing, which suffered 100 percent smoke damage, say it's too soon for them to know what they will do in the future. Until final insurance adjustments have been made, Norm and Dorothy Kibble and Leo and Norma Thomson aren't sure what they will do.

Kibble said Monday that things aren't settled on the insurance, but he is leaning more towards rebuilding the store. He said the developments with the college over the weekend are encouraging, and that the basement of his store should be cleaned sometime this week. After the cleaning is complete, he said they will be able to determine the extent of fire damage to the basement walls.

Kibble said he is quite sure he will rebuild and he will either operate the store or find someone to lease it.

"One way or another, we'll have a grocery store in town," he said, adding that the store will probably be built at the same location. He is still investigating the possibility of opening at a temporary location, although nothing definite has been arranged.

Norma Thomson said smoke damage in the clothing store next door was 100 percent, and until the insurance adjustors have completed their work, the Thomsons won't be able to make any decisions. Cleanup crews have worked in the store, and she said they hope they can reach a decision soon.

All records of accounts receivable were destroyed in the fire at Norm's and the Kibbles are asking customers to help them settle accounts.

During the early morning fire a week ago Sunday, the Trojan's Arcade and laundromat just north of the grocery store, provided coffee for the firemen and offered use of dryers in the laundromat to dry clothing which had been soaked in attempts to control the blaze.

Social Security

A representative of the Social Security Administration will visit at the following

Springfield gets grocer once again

By MARY DUFFY
P&D Staff Writer

SPRINGFIELD — A Viborg grocer plans a September reopening of the Springfield grocery store destroyed by fire last winter. Tom and Linda Jones, owners of Jones' Jack & Jill in Viborg purchased the fire-gutted building from Norman Kibble, who opted for semi-retirement instead of rebuilding Norm's Food Market himself.

Springfield residents have been forced to shop for groceries out-of-town since the town's lone full-service grocery store was gutted by flames on Feb. 19.

"If I'd have been a younger man, I probably would have gone back into it," said Kibble. The long-time Springfield grocer said plans to locate a prison in Springfield did not affect his decision.

Likewise, the Jones' decision didn't hinge on the fate of the former University of South Dakota at Springfield. The state Board of Charities and Corrections has begun plans to place a minimum-security prison in Springfield.

Jones decided to buy the grocery store before plans had been finalized for the vacant campus, his wife said.

"The town needed a grocery store and the people have been so good to us," Mrs. Jones said.

The new store, named simply Jones', will be completely rebuilt on the inside with only the outside walls remaining from the former structure. New walls, floors and tiles have been added. All new furnishings and fixtures, including a compressor, food cases, and walk-in freezer and cooler have been added, according to Mrs. Jones.

Kibble estimates \$200,000 is being spent on renovation and stocking of the new store. No exact date has been set for the store's opening.

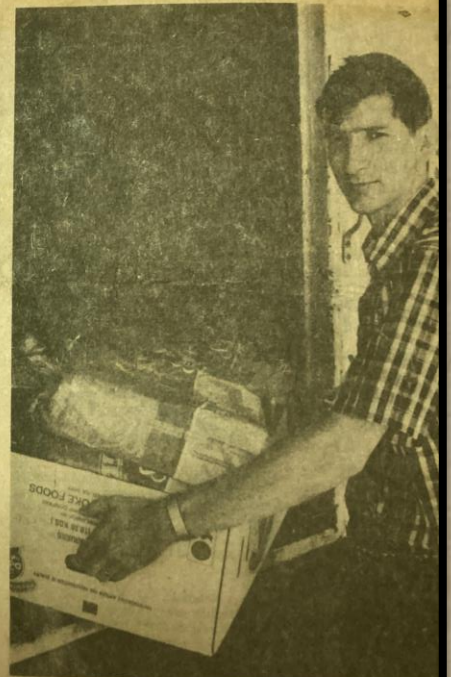
The Jones have run a grocery in Viborg for five and one-half years. "We were interested in the Springfield store before the fire...I'd say a couple of months ago they started talking about it again," Mrs. Jones said. Allen Friesen of Springfield has been hired to manage the store. The Jones will continue to reside in Viborg.

Since the fire, many Springfield shoppers have traveled to Avon, Tyndall and Yankton for groceries.

Gene's GW in Tyndall has picked up extra customers from Springfield, as has Ron Pelton, owner of Ron's Market in Avon. He said his store has noticed an increase in customers from the Springfield area.

"It has helped our business here," he said.

Pelton instituted a free delivery service for senior citizens in Springfield after Norm's Food Market burned. He makes the 20-mile trip on Thursday evenings with a van and a refrigerated truck for perishable products. On average, he carries 16 to 20 orders each week to elderly Springfield residents. Pelton plans to continue the service until the present situation of a town without a grocery store changes.



Ron Pelton, owner of Ron's Market in Avon, loads his refrigerated truck with one of the orders he hauls to Springfield senior citizens each week.

Pelton has been making the 20-mile trip to Springfield to deliver groceries since the town's only grocery store was destroyed by fire on Feb. 19.

Main Street Through the Years



NORTH SIDE OF MAIN STREET in Springfield taken around 1910.



Motorized vehicles replace wagons and buggies on Main Street in the mid-1920s (looking east).



Springfield Main Street –
mid 1980's



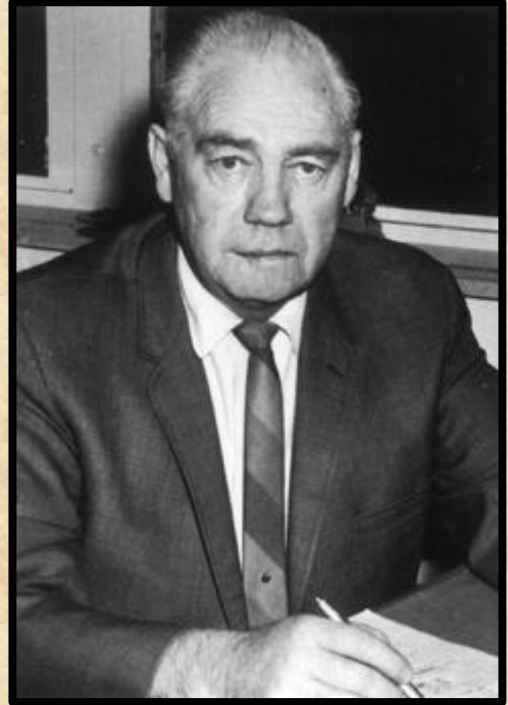
Springfield Main Street -
2008

Springfield Historical and College Museums/Jack Martin Field Ticket Booth

In the history of college sports in Springfield John (Jack) Martin is legendary. Born and raised in Springfield, he started his coaching career at Tyndall High School in 1941. Joining the US Army in 1942, he served for four years in the Pacific as an infantry officer, being awarded the Silver Start and two Bronze Stars for Valor.

In 1946 he began one of the most successful coaching terms in South Dakota history. Coaching the Southern State College football team to a record of 102 wins - 64 losses – 5 ties in his twenty years as coach. In 1976 the football field was renamed “Jack Martin Field” in his honor. In 1977, at the age of 60, Martin passed away after a two year fight with cancer.

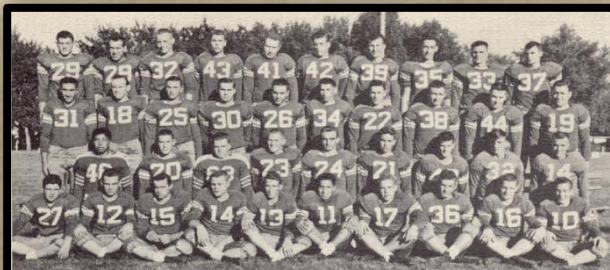
This is the ticket booth that was located at the southeast corner of the football field. Today it greets visitors to the Springfield and College Museums and serves as a depository for aluminum can donations that are used to support the operating costs of the Springfield Museum.



**John (Jack) Martin
Inducted into the
South Dakota Hall of
Fame in 1978**



(Above) Jack Martin Field – Home of the USD/S Pointers



FOOTBALL SQUAD

Back row, L. to R.: Don Baker, Jerry McElroy, Jim Lee, Melvin Schroeder, Don Sell, Don Ziska, Larry Kiel, Charles Kraft, Jim Montore, Glen Rosenbaum. Third row, L. to R.: Vernon Auch, Gale Rohr, Jim Soper, Eddie Bell, Norman Pettis, Mervyn Quitt, Francis Schneider, John Pietka, Jack Dawson, Kenneth Berunger. Second row, L. to R.: Amos BadHeartBull, Glen Rodden, Gordon Cink, Louis Kusilek, Leo Broza, Roger Ludeman, Bob Wenberg, Denny Koller, Orville Langrock. Front row, L. to R.: Birdie Schultz, Don Balfany, David Bentz, Ray Schmidt, Wayne Baker, Charles Raymond, Kaye Ludeman, Glen Tiede, Lowell Bristow, Ronald Bisseuw.

(Left)The 1954 conference champion Southern State College football team

Informational sources

- Books
 - 100 Years of Progress in Springfield. 1870-1970. Printed by the Springfield Times for the 1970 Centennial celebration.
 - Bon Homme County History. Written by the Bon Homme County Historical Society with assistance from the Herbert T. Hoover Department of History, University of South Dakota, Vermillion, SD
- Newspapers
 - Springfield Times – various issues
 - Yankton Press and Dakotan – various issues
- Websites
 - <https://sdexcellence.org/John Martin 1978>
 - <https://www.newspapers.com/article/the-daily-republic/128823060/>
 - <https://www.springfieldsdveterans.com/john-jack-martin.html>
 - <http://bobgill.com/pointer/default.htm>
 - <https://www.sdshof.com/inductees/floyd-mitchell/>
 - <https://www.bls.gov/opub/mlr/2016/article/the-life-of-american-workers-in-1915.htm>
 - <https://www.sdshof.com/inductees/mike-durfee/>
 - <https://listen.sdpb.org/arts-life/2021-11-29/the-long-gone-university-of-south-dakota-springfield>
 - <http://scenicdakotas.com/southdakota/springfield/>