

July 2023

# Horizons

A Golden West Customer Newsletter



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# 50 YEARS OF AG SUPPLIES

Next Cammack generation  
takes reins in Union Center

 Golden West  
We're everywhere people connect.





# 50 YEARS OF AG SUPPLIES

Next Cammack generation takes reins in Union Center

Rows, stacks, and piles of panels, wood posts, and large rubber water tanks greet travelers on Hwy. 34 as they approach the small prairie community of Union Center from the west.

The rural, remote Meade County location seems an unlikely site to sell such an enormous supply of farm and ranch products. Even more remarkable is the variety of license plates from a four- or five-state area on the vehicles hauling the items home.

“We have a pretty big footprint,” says Reed Cammack. “We’ll have people in here from 300 miles away nearly every day.”

After supplying products for the agriculture industry for 50 years,

Gary and Amy Cammack handed over the reins of Cammack Ranch Supply to their son Reed who purchased the business at the beginning of this year.

### Understanding the industry

In 1973 Gary and Amy began running the Stoneville Ranch Store 12 miles north in Stoneville. Five years later they opened Cammack Ranch Supply in Union Center and operated the two shops at the same time until the mid-1980s.

Early in Reed’s business career he

completed an apprenticeship and became a cabinet maker. In 2001 he opened a cabinet shop in Union Center called CR Dreamworks, while ranching on the side with his wife Amber and their three boys. The shop burned down 15 years later, which helped Reed realize he wanted to be involved in agriculture full time.

Reed then worked at Cammack Ranch Supply full time for a year and a half before taking over. Having grown up around the business, he’s been in





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**REED CAMMACK**  
*Cammack Ranch Supply Owner*

training his whole life. Reed viewed taking over the store not just as an opportunity for ownership, but as a chance to continue the family business.

### **A growing presence of products**

The shop regularly serves customers from eastern Montana, eastern Wyoming, western North Dakota, and western South Dakota. They ship even further. Reed emphasizes they value offering good quality products for a reasonable price.

“We’re definitely in a remote area, but I think people in agriculture are willing to travel,” says Reed. “For example, this week we sent truck loads to New Mexico.”

Cammack Ranch Supply offers a diverse range of products, including items like mega panels and steel decking. As an early adopter of steel decking over 30 years ago, the shop still finds the product popular among farmers and ranchers for creating windbreaks and corrals.

Water products are also a top-seller for the business, helping producers get that much-needed water to their livestock. The shop supplies feed, minerals, and fencing, too.

“We basically sell anything to help livestock producers keep their animals healthy and live through our extreme climates,” says Reed. “We know a lot of the products and have first-hand

knowledge of how they work.”

Cammack Ranch Supply distributes 51,000 catalogs showcasing their products three times a year with pricing information included. The internet also helps reach customers outside their rural location with online sales increasing over the past 15 years.

### **Better internet than suppliers**

Reed makes it a priority to stay informed about new products and services pertinent to cattle production, such as veterinarian medicine. He regularly attends trade shows and stays connected with other producers nationwide, seeing what works best for them. ▶

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## Ag Supplies

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“It’s important to be out there looking for the next thing that’ll work for people, to stay current with what’s working,” he says.

Services from Golden West help Cammack Ranch Supply promote their products nationwide and stay proactive in the industry. Reed emphasizes how crucial the services are for successful business orders and keeping everything running smoothly.

“The high-speed internet we’ve had out here is incredible,” he says. “We have faster internet than a lot of our suppliers from big metropolitan areas.”



Reed Cammack (right) purchased the business from his parents, Gary (left) and Amy Cammack, at the beginning of 2023.

Career Referral  
Could Get You \$150\*!

# Is cousin Rick looking for a new gig?

Refer him or another friend, neighbor, or family member to the perfect position at [goldenwest.com/careers](https://goldenwest.com/careers). They'll get competitive pay and a generous benefits package while doing meaningful work helping connect customers to the world.

And after they are hired and complete 90 days on our team, you'll get a \$150 credit toward your Golden West bill.

1-855-888-7777  
[goldenwest.com/careers](https://goldenwest.com/careers)

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\*Applicant must list referrer's full name, address including town, and phone number on the online employment application. Credit is given after referred applicant is hired and has worked 90 days. Referrer must be a current subscriber to Golden West services.



# MIDWEST HONORS FLIGHT

Murdo vet and others receive thanks for their service



Seymour (Sam) Pressler (left), Joe Steffen (right)

**While visiting the Vietnam War Memorial in Washington in May, a Vietnamese family thanked Seymour (Sam) Pressler, an Army veteran from Murdo, and other veterans for their service to their country.**

“I don’t know if they happened to be there or they knew we were going to be there, but that was one of my favorite parts of the flight,” says Sam.

Sam was taking part in a Midwest Honor Flight with his grandson Blake Regenmorte serving as his guardian. The pair traveled with 85 other veterans and their guardians on the organization’s Mission 15.

## All-expense-paid trip

Midwest Honor Flight serves northwest Iowa, South Dakota, northeast Nebraska, and southwest Minnesota. The non-profit

organization raises funds to provide respect, honor, and closure for local veterans through an all-expense-paid trip to the nation’s capital. Golden West donated funds towards this latest flight. Each whirlwind trip lasts about 24 hours with the first mission organized in 2017.

Joe Steffen, a project analyst with Golden West, was also on Sam’s flight, serving as a guardian for another veteran. A native of Hartford, Joe is a Navy veteran who served during Operation Desert Storm.

## Coming home to the ranch

Sam grew up in the Murdo area on his family ranch. He served two years and went to Vietnam as a medical records clerk, eventually becoming a medical corpsman.

As a draft volunteer, Sam was discharged early. He recalls his colonel showing him a picture of a boy and a girl holding a baby calf.

“When I saw that picture, I knew I was going home,” Sam says. He told the colonel he was going to help his dad on the ranch.

## Favorite memorials, memories

After flying from Sioux Falls to Washington, Sen. Mike Rounds greeted the veterans before they visited multiple memorials. First, they went to the Marine Corps Memorial, then to Arlington National Cemetery.

The veterans also visited the Air Force and Navy memorials, the national monuments honoring the World War II, Korea, and Vietnam wars, and the Lincoln Memorial. Sen. John Thune, who also grew up in Murdo, greeted them at the Vietnam Memorial where the interaction with the Vietnamese family occurred.

## Heartwarming homecoming

After a long, fulfilling day, the veterans returned to Sioux Falls. There, hundreds of people with flags, signs, and even a police escort surprised and welcomed the veterans. On the way home, each veteran also received handwritten letters expressing gratitude for their contributions and service.

“The whole flight was planned out great for the amount of people and places,” says Sam.



# 2023 Scholarship Winners

# Exemplify Success

Golden West’s scholarship program has been going strong since 1999. Every year, the cooperative awards \$1,000 scholarships to about 40 deserving high school seniors across the service territory. Golden West has now funded over \$1 million in scholarships! These students possess qualities including leadership, academic success, civic and extracurricular achievement, and the motivation to succeed.

## Golden West is excited to introduce the 2023 scholarship winners.

Armour High School..... **Preston Koster**  
 Avon High School..... **Sarah Swier**  
 Bennett Co. High School ..... **Ellen McDonnell**  
 Bon Homme High School ..... **Jaymison Bjorum**  
 Burke High School ..... **Taylor Even**  
 Bridgewater High School..... **Sam Hofer**  
 Canistota High School..... **Austin Matthaei**  
 Colome High School ..... **Landi Krumpus**  
 Corsica-Stickney High School..... **Lucas Krogstad**  
 Custer High School ..... **Quade Parker**  
 Dell Rapids High School..... **Chase Jones**  
 Edgemont High School ..... **Bridget Neville**  
 Faith High School..... **Cord Capp**  
 Freeman Academy ..... **Jada Koerner**  
 Freeman High School ..... **Erin Uecker**  
 Gregory High School..... **Jessy Vanderwerff**  
 Hot Springs High School ..... **Jenna Ellis**  
 Jones County High School..... **Matthew Birkeland**  
 Kadoka High School..... **Jordan Grimes**

Lakota Tech High School..... **Taylor Byerly**  
 Little Wound High School..... **Lamya Blue Bird**  
 Lower Brule High School..... **Brian Laroche Jr.**  
 Marion High School..... **Alex Larsen-Kluebar**  
 Menno High School..... **Madelyn Kludt**  
 Montrose High School ..... **Zoey Bartmann**  
 New Underwood High School..... **Cole Knuppe**  
 Oelrichs High School..... **T’Lea Rouillard**  
 Philip High School..... **Ember Gabriel**  
 Plankinton High School..... **Cally Faulhaber**  
 Scotland High School..... **Bailey Vitek**  
 St. Mary High School..... **Dylan Mathis**  
 Stanley County High School ..... **Kori Endres**  
 Sturgis Brown High School..... **Thayne Elshere**  
 Todd County High School..... **Leona Ritter**  
 Tri-Valley High School..... **Mya Dissing**  
 Wall High School..... **April Schulz**  
 West Central High School..... **Elizabeth Johnson**  
 White River High School..... **Joseph Saylor**  
 Winner High School..... **Aleya Miller**  
 At Large Scholarship ..... **Swade Reis**

Learn more about the Golden West scholarship recipients at [goldenwest.com/scholarships](https://goldenwest.com/scholarships).





# PICTURE PERFECT PURSUIT: Enter the Golden West Photo Contest

Golden West is looking for your favorite shots of people, places, and all four seasons within the cooperative’s service territory. Submitted photos will be posted on our Facebook page ([@GoldenWestTelecom](#)) where members can help choose the winners by voting for their favorites.

**Photos must be received by Sept. 1, 2023**, to be eligible for the contest. Voting will take place Sept. 6-12, 2023. The top three photos and their photographers will take home a prize.

**NOW OPEN FOR SUBMISSIONS!**

<b>1st Place</b> Go Pro Camera	<b>2nd Place</b> \$100 Visa Gift Card	<b>3rd Place</b> \$50 Visa Gift Card
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- All entries will be considered for inclusion in Golden West’s large 15” x 11” business calendar or other marketing materials from Golden West.
- Only one photo per photographer may be featured in the contest, so show us your best stuff! If multiple photos are submitted, the Golden West Marketing Department will select one for the contest. By entering, you grant Golden West permission to use your photo(s) in social media and other platforms to promote the organization.
- To enter, complete the online form and upload your high-resolution photo at [theexchangesd.com/photo-entry](https://theexchangesd.com/photo-entry). The larger the file size, the better! Submit one form for each photo entry. Results will be announced on Facebook in late September.



# Advocating for Rural Services

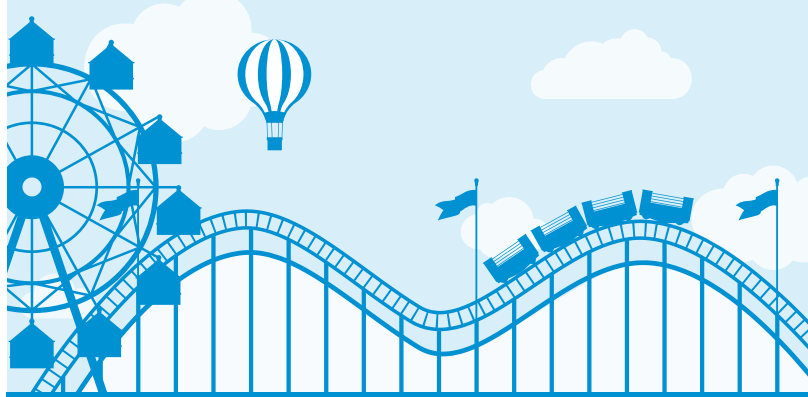
## Denny Law testifies before Congress on Universal Service Fund

Golden West General Manager and CEO Denny Law (Left) testified before members of Congress in May about the Universal Service Fund (USF) and its importance for rural Americans’ broadband needs.

The USF helps make broadband available for libraries, low-income populations, rural health care, and rural Americans in general. Law emphasized the significance of sustaining and updating the USF to ensure ongoing access to quality, affordable communication services.

To watch Law's testimony, visit Golden West's Facebook page or go to [bit.ly/3rgV4NE](https://bit.ly/3rgV4NE).





# Win Passes to Central States or Sioux Empire Fair!

Golden West proudly supports county fairs across our service territory every year, and this year we're giving four members two passes apiece to either the Central States or Sioux Empire fairs.

- **The Central States Fair & Rodeo** will be held Aug. 18-26 in Rapid City. The Premier Pass includes fair admission, special parking through the Cambell Street entrance, a tailgate party, and premier early seating access for all grandstand events including concerts, rodeos, and motorsports.
- **The Sioux Empire Fair** will be held Aug. 4-12 in Sioux Falls. The Siouxper Pass includes fair admission, most (but not all) grandstand entertainment, and unlimited carnival rides every day of the fair.

Visit [theexchangesd.com/win](http://theexchangesd.com/win), pick your preferred pass, and enter to win!

Must be a Golden West customer and be at least 18 years of age to enter. No purchase necessary and only one entry per household. Winners will be contacted and announced on Golden West's website and Facebook page. **ENTER BY WEDNESDAY, JULY 26. DRAWING WILL BE HELD ON THURSDAY, JULY 27.**

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RAPID CITY, SD  
PERMIT NO. 618



**HORIZONS – Volume 23, Number 4**

Horizons is an award-winning customer newsletter published bimonthly by Golden West Telecommunications.

**POSTMASTER:** Send address changes to Golden West, PO Box 411, Wall, SD 57790

Dee Sleep, Editor • [goldenwest.com](http://goldenwest.com) • 1-855-888-7777