



NSB Bank

3rd ISSUE 2026

KIRK'S KORNER

Kirk's View from 30,000 feet!

Since we are celebrating the 250th anniversary of this great nation it got me thinking of one iconic place in western South Dakota, Mount Rushmore!

Before the presidents' faces were carved, the mountain was known to the Lakota Sioux as *Thūŋkášila Šákpe*, meaning "Six Grandfathers". It was a sacred site in the Black Hills, long inhabited by the Lakota and held deep spiritual significance for the people in that area. Mount Rushmore was carved between 1927 and 1941. It is a monumental sculpture honoring four U.S. presidents and symbolizing the nation's founding, expansion, development, and preservation.

The idea for Mount Rushmore originated in the early 1920s with Doane Robinson, South Dakota's state historian, who wanted to boost tourism by creating a monumental sculpture in the Black Hills. Robinson initially envisioned figures of American West heroes, including Lewis and Clark, Sacagawea, Red Cloud, Buffalo Bill Cody, and Crazy Horse.

In 1924, he contacted sculptor Gutzon Borglum, who argued for a national focus rather than regional heroes, leading to the selection of George Washington, Thomas Jefferson, Theodore Roosevelt, and Abraham Lincoln to represent the first 150 years of U.S. history.

Borglum chose Mount Rushmore for its solid granite composition, elevation of 5,725 feet, and southeast-facing orientation to maximize sunlight. The mountain's granite was ideal for carving, unlike Robinson's original "Needles" site, which was too eroded and unstable. The mountain was named after Charles E. Rushmore, a New York lawyer who visited the Black Hills in 1885. I hope you have enjoyed this issue of Kirk's Korner.

Kirk



Timeline of Dedications at Mt. Rushmore

George Washington: dedicated 1930

Thomas Jefferson: completed 1936
(relocated due to unsuitable rock)

Abraham Lincoln: completed 1937

Theodore Roosevelt: completed 1939

Borglum died in March 1941, and his son Lincoln completed the final work.

Employee Spotlight

This issue our spotlight is on Gene Vaske. He is a Senior Vice President at our Tintonka branch. Gene has been with NSB since 2023, and in banking since 1990. He has spent his entire career as a lender. He and his wife Elise have been married 47 years

and are blessed with two wonderful daughters. They also have two grandsons who give them a lot of joy. They love living on his wife's family farm, where their children are now the fourth generation to grow up there. In his spare time, Gene loves to golf, hunt, and spend time in his workshop (mancafe) where he enjoys building custom pieces out of wood and metal.



Gene Vaske

Did you know that Mount Rushmore attracts more than 2 million visitors annually

Direct Financial Economic Impact to the area:

Direct Spending: Visitors to Mount Rushmore spend approximately \$304 million to \$390 million in the immediate surrounding communities (within 60 miles) each year on lodging, food, retail, and transportation.

Job Support: The steady stream of tourists directly sustains between 3,000 and 5,700 jobs in local hospitality, recreation, and service sectors.

State Tax Revenue: The broader tourism economy - fueled by icons like Mount Rushmore - generates over \$400 million in state and local taxes, keeping individual household tax burdens significantly lower.



NSB Bank employees enjoyed walking in the Band Festival Parade on May 23rd. The team pulled a patriotic themed float through the parade route. Thanks to everyone who came out to support the community.

BEWARE OF PHONE SCAMS

TODAY'S MOST COMMON PHONE SCAMS

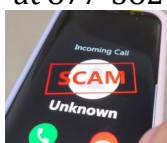
Grandparent, Imposter, Investments, Charity, Prize & Lottery, Romance, Debt Relief/ Credit Repair

NOTE: Scammers can manipulate a caller ID to make any name or phone number appear legitimate.

PAUSE: Fraudsters frequently rely on high-pressure tactics and fake prize notifications to obtain your personal or financial information.

VERIFY: Always verify requests for money or personal information by contacting the financial institution, charity, or family member directly.

REPORT: BLOCK the sender and report as SPAM. Report them at the website: [ReportFraud.ftc.gov](https://www.reportfraud.ftc.gov) or by calling the Federal Trade Commission at 877-382-4357.



TITONKA INDIAN DAYS PARADE 2026



NSB Bank employees walked in the Titonka Indian Days Parade on June 27th and enjoyed serving watermelon after the event.



Jodi Draper

Cashier / Operations Supervisor
West

Carter Markwardt

Loan Officer
West



Ryan Kuboushek

Vice President/ Loan Officer
West

