

# Deadwood's Sesquicentennial 1876-2026

## A Year of Celebration

Deadwood is commemorating its 150th anniversary with a full year of exciting events and activities. Below is the schedule of activities planned throughout 2026, honoring the city's rich history and vibrant community.



## Schedule of Activities\*

- **January 20–23: South Dakota Tourism Conference** – Deadwood Day at the Capital. This gathering will spotlight Deadwood's significance within South Dakota's tourism industry.
- **February 12: Preservation Thursday** – featuring Mike Runge & Zach Lampert
- **March 14: St. Patrick's Celebration** – Bill Walsh Day, parade, and a performance by the Singing Nuns. Celebrate Irish heritage and local traditions.
- **March 19: Preservation Thursday** – featuring Joyce Jefferson
- **April 9: Preservation Thursday** – Donovan Sprague
- **April 9: Discovery of Gold in Lead** - Proclamation
- **April 24: Arbor Day** – The community will plant 150 trees and dedicate a Liberty Tree, symbolizing our history, community unity, and freedom.
- **May 7: Preservation Thursday** – Justin Koehler
- **May 22: Save Our Tail Parade** followed by the dedication of the Dora DuFran statue, honoring an important figure in Deadwood's history.
- **May 27: Lead Deadwood Baseball and Softball Opening Ceremonies**
- **June 8: Opening of the First Newspaper(s) Exhibit**, showcasing the early press that documented Deadwood's past.
- **June 19: History On the Lawn** – featuring Chris Wimmer
- **June 19-21: Wild Bill Days** – Celebrate the life of Wild Bill Hickok with Old West demonstrations and reenactments, free live music, a vendor fair and a Father's Day hike.
- **June 14: Flag Day Activities** at Outlaw Square and a Vintage Baseball Game at Ferguson Field, featuring a traditional matchup between Deadwood and Lead.
- **July 2–5: Gold Camp Jubilee** for the 150th Celebration in Lead, including another Vintage Baseball Game at Mountain Top between Deadwood and Lead.
- **July 4 & 5: Red, White & Wu's** at Mr. Wu's
- **July 17: History On The Lawn** – featuring Paul Hedren: Sitting Bull's War
- **August 3: Recreation of the funeral of James Butler "Wild Bill" Hickok**, reenacting a significant event from Deadwood's history.
- **August 28: History On The Lawn** – J.J. Kent

- **September 11–12: Volksmarch from Lead to Deadwood** and dedication of the trail system, along with a **Chuck Wagon Cook-off and Community Picnic** for participants and residents.
- **September 24: Commemoration of the day Seth Bullock died**, reflecting on his legacy.
- **September 24: Preservation Thursday** – Dr. David Wolff
- **October 1: Dedication of the 150th Time Capsule** at the Adams Museum, preserving today's memories for future generations.
- **October 1: Preservation Thursday** – featuring Jeff Barnes
- **October 31: Trunk or Treat & Kidweird**, a festive Halloween event for children and families.
- **November 1: The 37th Anniversary of Legalized Gaming** in Deadwood, celebrating an important milestone in the city's modern history.
- **November 5: Preservation Thursday** – featuring Kuchenbecker and Milos
- **December 4: Community Christmas Gathering**, including a telegraph message from the Governor to mark the holiday season and the conclusion of the anniversary celebrations.

*\*Please note that all activities are subject to change.*