



Recreational Springs Resort



For Brett and Stephanie Marlette, living in Minneapolis was not their life-long dream. The couple, both graduates of the School of Mines in Rapid City with engineering degrees, had moved to the city for work, but after the birth of their two sons, recognized it was not where they wanted to raise their family. They debated moving to Yankton, where

between the two of them they still have several grandparents (Gar and Evelyn Timm, the late Bud and Judy Sagmoe, and the late Neal and Patricia Nielson) and because of that have made the community their second home. Brett and Steph, however, said they found their dream a little further west, in the Black Hills to be exact.

Taking a leap of faith, the Marlettes purchased Recreational Springs Resort near Lead in November of 2013.

“We have always loved being outdoors, from boating and camping on the lake down at Yankton to snowmobiling in the Hills, we just have always spent time together doing things in nature,” Stephanie said. “When Brett and I, realized we didn’t want to be in Minneapolis with our boys, Roland and Teddy, we started talking about what our dream would be. We realized we wanted to build something that we could do as a family, and eventually, give to our boys, and we wanted

to do it closer to our family in South Dakota.”

Stephanie said that the pair spent several years researching different opportunities, but when they saw Rec. Springs they knew they had found their new home.

“It just was the perfect setting to raise a family and build a successful business,” Stephanie said. “The resort had gone through several owners who had not been all-in in their efforts to make it a success and, honestly, when we bought it, the bones were there but it needed a lot of updating.”

The resort is located five miles outside of Lead and is located on the snowmobile trails in the winter and the off-road trails in the summer, providing a strong base to build the business on.

“Not going to lie to you, this was a huge investment for us, a long-term investment of time and money that we know will pay off, but these first few years we are going to be working hard to update the



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