



M I C R O P O L I T A N A W A R D

HIGH MOUNTAIN OUTFITTERS

The **Micropolitan Award** is given to a business that positively enhances the Spearfish business community via service, innovation, and expansion and continues to strive to keep Spearfish moving forward.

The first High Mountain Outfitters store opened in June of 2016 in Lead. Spearfish Creek Fly Shop was added after that first store moved from Lead to Spearfish in July of 2017. Then in November of 2018 the store moved to its current location on Jackson Blvd tripling in size. As if Justin Stephens wasn't busy enough, he then opened High Mountain Climbing Gym Spearfish in May of 2018. In addition to the Spearfish store and climbing gym, he owns and operates High Mountain Outfitters locations in Custer and Hot Springs, and in Medora, ND. Justin also has High Mountain Climbing Gym in Rapid City, Fall River Gifts & Jewelry in Hot Springs, and The Mountain Store in Hill City.

Just to keep busy, his "side job" is Organist and Director of Music at Emmanuel Episcopal Church in Rapid City. Back in the day, Justin attended the University of Wyoming, the State University of New York, and Gratz College and holds a BA, MA, and Doctorate, all in the field of Religious Studies and Ancient Religions.

He also serves on the Board of Directors of the Hot Springs Chamber and is an active member in the Spearfish, Custer, and Hill City Chambers. He is the Vice President of the Rochford Community Chapel and is a member of the Hill City Lions Club. Justin is also a very active member of the Geyser Observation and Study Association in Yellowstone.

High Mountain Outfitters and High Mountain Climbing Gym have been great additions to Spearfish's growing recreational and outdoor-focused business cluster. These businesses, as well as Justin's new Black Hills Climber's Festival, help build up Spearfish's existing outdoor recreation and active lifestyle appeal, as well as the already amazing quality of life.

As the base camp for outdoor enthusiasts, we are pleased to award Justin Stephens with the 2019 Micropolitan Award.

