



Roxsand



Why Safety Matters

Written by Cyrus Kezar, Safety Manager

As I reflect on my time with L. G. Everist, one theme continues to resonate deeply with me: safety ownership. It's not just a policy or a checklist, it's a mindset, a commitment, and a shared responsibility that defines who we are. I would like to share with you my story on "Why" safety matters to me:

I wasn't always someone who saw it that way. I was no different than most folks starting their mining careers, ambitious, confident, and convinced I had it all figured out. Safety, to me, was just another meeting. Another thing that got in the way of getting the job done. Life hadn't gotten around to humbling me quite yet.

That changed when I was tasked with overseeing a contractor drilling a deep water well for the mine I worked at. The machine was a tired old drilling rig, long past its prime, and we were behind schedule. During a site safety audit, we

flagged several hazards that needed to be addressed before continuing. The contractor's foreman agreed but asked to proceed anyway, assuring us the replacement parts were arriving any day.

Against my better judgment and ignoring the gut feeling that told me to hold the line, I gave the go-ahead. "Yeah, that should be fine," I said, "but be sure to get the part swapped out as soon as it comes in."

A few days later, one of those flagged components failed. A young man was in the line of fire. He didn't make it.

That moment changed everything for me. It was the day safety stopped being a checkbox and became a calling. It taught me that every decision carries weight, and every compromise has a cost. Safety ownership means speaking up, even when it's uncomfortable. It means trusting your instincts, honoring your responsibilities, and never assuming someone else will handle it.

Since then, I've dedicated my career to making safety personal, where every team member feels empowered to act, speak, and lead. Because safety isn't someone else's job. It's mine. It's yours. It's ours.

Let's carry that mindset forward. Let's own safety, not because we have to, but because we care. Because we believe in each other. Because we are stronger together.

[Click Here for the Spanish Version.. Haga clic aquí para la versión en español](#)



Sioux Falls Touch-a-Truck

Free and fun family event - come out next Friday, September 19th to Harmadon Park in Sioux Falls, SD for the Touch-a-Truck event hosted by the Parks and Recreation Department. Ace Ready Mix and Myrl & Roy's Paving will be in attendance giving inside looks into the equipment!

[Event Details Here](#)

Medicare Education

Following last week's Medicare Education Seminar, additional information and support can be found at the link below. You are also welcome to chat with Aaron at HUB via aaron.janssen@hubinternational.com or 605-367-6374.

[Find More Info Here](#)

Safety Training Photos

Photos below from Cyrus Kezar feature shots from safety trainings on new equipment and other operational processes.



Birthdays This Week

Matthew Nelson - Dell Rapids East

Justin Zirbel - Summit

Alex Vonhagel - D & I

Michael Taggart - Ragsdale

Wendy Steuck - Sioux Falls

Ronald Funge - East Sioux Quarry

Adam McBee - Dell Rapids West

Terry Fjellanger - Dell Rapids West

Michael Loe - Myrl & Roy's

Milestone Anniversary

Nathan Sandland - Ace Ready Mix

WARNING SIGNS OF SUICIDE:

The behaviors listed below may be some of the signs that someone is thinking about suicide.

TALKING ABOUT:



- ▷ Wanting to die
- ▷ Great guilt or shame
- ▷ Being a burden to others

FEELING:



- ▷ Empty, hopeless, trapped, or having no reason to live
- ▷ Extremely sad, more anxious, agitated, or full of rage
- ▷ Unbearable emotional or physical pain

CHANGING BEHAVIOR, SUCH AS:



- ▷ Making a plan or researching ways to die
- ▷ Taking dangerous risks such as driving extremely fast
- ▷ Withdrawing from friends, saying goodbye, giving away important items, or making a will
- ▷ Displaying extreme mood swings
- ▷ Eating or sleeping more or less
- ▷ Using drugs or alcohol more often

If these warning signs apply to you or someone you know, get help as soon as possible, particularly if the behavior is new or has increased recently.

988 Suicide & Crisis Lifeline
Call or text 988
Chat at 988lifeline.org



NIH National Institute of Mental Health

nimh.nih.gov/suicideprevention





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