

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
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Valley Queen Employees Unveil New Musical Area on Main Street Milbank

The Employee Helping Hands (EHH) Committee from Valley Queen Cheese Factory, Inc., Milbank, SD, unveiled a unique community space along Milbank's Main Street on Thursday morning, July 25. Dubbed "The Main Street Project" by the EHH Committee, the area features outdoor musical instruments that can be played and enjoyed by people of all ages and musical abilities.

The instruments are located on land owned by Valley Queen that is between the Valley Queen Human Resources department at 116 S. Main Street and Ogdahl's Barber Shop at 204 S. Main Street. Funding for the project came from the Valley Queen Charitable Foundation and from fundraisers spearheaded by the EHH Committee.

Participating in the unveiling were children from Val Waletich's Day Care in Milbank who provided a brief concert on the new kettle drum, chimes, bells, xylophone, and Pulse Tempo game. In addition to the instruments, the space features two picnic tables.

"Outdoor musical instruments are gaining popularity in communities throughout the U.S.," said Amanda Thronson, chair of Valley Queen's EHH Committee. "The instruments allow anyone to play – there are no wrong notes or rhythms – so everyone becomes an instant musician."

"The musical instruments provide a unique gathering space in downtown Milbank," explained Thronson. "Valley Queen employees are excited to be part of giving back to our community and look forward to working on enhancements to this project in the future."

The project received approval from the City of Milbank and the neighboring businesses. The space is ADA compliant and will be available to the public free of charge on a daily basis between sunrise and sunset.

Valley Queen employees who serve on the EHH Committee are as follows: Stephanie Pillatzki, Hayden Palmer, Annette VanVooren, Harry Francy, Eric Pulling, Magdiel Garcia Juarez, Israel Munoz Martinez, Taylor Jones, Thane McFarland, Ashley Frerichs, Mickey Johnson, Amanda Thronson and Jody Kuper (retired).