

SD Department of Tribal Relations

Issue # 9

October 2015

From the Secretary

This September found me on the road – a lot. While attending conferences, I was privileged to meet many interesting people and have some very positive conversations but there is nothing like coming home.

One of the reasons I took this position, is one I believe motivates many tribal leaders to assumed their responsibilities -- the desire to make our **communities** a better place, for today and tomorrow. This rationale has motivated the Department's efforts in so many areas, including juvenile justice, veteran affairs, public safety, medical access, and many more. I see many opportunities for the State and tribes to work together to make our **communities** everything we want them to be.

Special events this month include the Great Sioux Horse Effigy Return Celebration, the Code Talker Medal Displays, and Governor's Hunt. I hope to have the opportunity to visit with tribal members and leaders at these events, and at their communities!

Contact Us:
(605) 773-3415
www.sdtribalrelations.com



Attendees at the Legislative Training included Rosebud representatives; Councilmen Farmer and Yellow Hawk, Senator Troy Heinert, Secretary Steve Emery, Representative Shawn Bordeaux, RST Vice President Scott Herman, and RST Tax Commissioner Ed Clairmont.

Tribal Legislative Training

Special thanks to all that participated in this year's Tribal Legislative Training! Five tribal nations were represented on September 28th, and received information about the State's upcoming legislative session (kicking off January 12th).

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Great Sioux Horse Effigy Return Celebration

October 10 -12, 2015

No admission fee for programs at the Cultural Heritage Center, Capitol Lake Visitor Center or the State Capitol Building.

Tickets for the Effigy Banquet are available at the Cultural Heritage Center or by calling 605.773.3458

Saturday, October 10th 2015 – September 2017 at the Cultural Heritage Center

The new exhibit featuring the Great Sioux Horse Effigy and dance sticks borrowed from the State Historical Society of North Dakota and the National Museum of the American Indian will be open to the public all weekend beginning at 9:00 a.m. on Saturday, October 10th. The new exhibition of effigies will be on display for two years.

Saturday, October 10th events at Capitol Lake Visitor Center

“Plains Horse Culture” 3 programs and continual interpretation with Larry & Doris Belitz 10:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m.

Programs at 11:00 a.m., 1:00 p.m. and 2:30 p.m.

Saturday, October 10th events at Cultural Heritage Center

“The Effigy’s Travels” presentation by Daniel Brosz and Jay Smith, 11:00 a.m.

“Sitting Bull Family Story” presentation by Joyzelle Gingway Godfrey –South Dakota Humanities Council, 1:00 p.m.

“Good Earth State Park: A Journey Into the Past” presented by Verna K. Boyd – South Dakota Humanities Council, 3:00 p.m.

Demonstrations inside CHC (ongoing from 10:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m.)

Indian Games & Art with Mike Marshall

Beadwork with Alana Traversie

Horse Dance Sticks/Dolls/Cradleboards with Mary & Francis Country

Beadwork with Amber Laundreaux

Star Quilting with Jen Carter

Sunday, October 11th event at the South Dakota State Capitol Building

“Indian Hoop Dancers” 2:00 p.m. under the capitol rotunda. Limited seating available.

Sunday, October 11th events at the Cultural Heritage Center

“Make & Take Beadwork” from 1:00 to 4:00 for kids of all ages. Supplies provided.

Demonstrations inside CHC (ongoing from 1:00 p.m. to 4:00 p.m.)

Indian Games & Art with Mike Marshall

Beadwork with Alana Traversie

Horse Dance Sticks/Dolls/Cradleboards with Mary & Francis Country

Beadwork with Amber Laundreaux

Star Quilting with Jen Carter

Sunday, October 11th event at Ramkota Hotel – Pierre

Effigy Banquet

5:30 p.m. Doors Open

6:15 Dinner is served

6:45 Speakers

This fundraising Banquet features speakers Kevin Gover, the Director of the National Museum of the American Indian, and Gaylord Torrence, Senior Curator of American Indian Art at the Nelson-Atkins Museum of Art.

Tickets are available at the Cultural Heritage Center or by calling 605.773.3458. Tickets may also be purchased online at: <http://www.sdhsf.org/>

Great Sioux Horse Effigy Return Celebration Continued...

Monday, October 12th event at the Cultural Heritage Center

Open House from 1:00 to 4:00 p.m. Light refreshments.

2:00 p.m. - Special Ceremony celebrating Native American Day and welcoming the Great Sioux Horse Effigy back to South Dakota.

Lt. Governor Matt Michels will be the Master of Ceremonies for this event with special guest speakers including:

Secretary Steve Emery, SD Department of Tribal Relations
Kevin Gover, Director of the National Museum of the American Indian

Gaylord Torrence, Fred & Virginia Merrill Senior Curator of American Indian Art,

Nelson-Atkins Museum of Art

Francis Whitebird, Board of Trustees, South Dakota State Historical Society

Spiritual Leader Roy Stone of the Rosebud Sioux Reservation will lead a Cleansing Ceremony and Prayer following the guest speaker comments

Native American Focus Group for the Juvenile Justice Reinvestment Initiative Meets

September 30th saw the inauguration of the Native American Focus Group, an entity created and funded by Governor Dugaard's Juvenile Justice Reinvestment Initiative adopted by legislators in 2015. Facilitated by the South Dakota Department of Tribal Relations the Focus Group includes state personnel, legislators, educators, law enforcement, and tribal experts in juvenile probation, mental health and areas of law who will be looking at ways to reduce Native youth interactions with the State Juvenile Justice System.

Special thanks to the Focus Group members for the time they will be putting in over the course of the next eighteen months.

State Fair Survey



State Fair Survey Available for Feedback

HURON, S.D. – South Dakota State Fair officials want to know what those attending this year's event thought about the fair.

A short survey is available on the State Fair website, www.sdstatefair.com. After completing the survey, participants may enter their name in to a drawing to win a State Fair Prize Pack.

“This State Fair belongs to the people of South Dakota and we want to know what they enjoyed or what we as a team could work to improve upon” said State Fair manager Peggy Besch.

This year's theme was “Sew it. Grow it. Show it.”

For more information, contact the fair office at 800-529-0900 or find them on Facebook or Twitter.

Agriculture is South Dakota's No. 1 industry, generating \$25.6 billion in annual economic activity and employing over 115,000 South Dakotans. The South Dakota Department of Agriculture's mission is to promote, protect, preserve and improve this industry for today and tomorrow. Visit us online at <http://sdda.sd.gov> or find us on Facebook and Twitter.



From the South Dakota
Department of Environment
& Natural Resources

Sisseton-Wahpeton Oyate Water Quality Educational Forum

There is still time to register for the 2015 Tribal Transportation Safety Summit. The summit is scheduled for **October 14-15, 2015** at the **Grand River Casino & Resort in Mobridge, SD**. The Standing Rock Sioux Tribe is hosting the summit. There is no registration fee due the generosity of the host Tribe and support from the sponsor agencies. The summit is tentative scheduled to begin at 8:30 a.m. (CDT) on October 14th and end at 12:00 p.m. (CDT) on October 15th. Registration information and tentative conference agenda are found online at: <http://www.sddot.com/services/civil/tero.aspx>

Some of the topics on the tentative agenda include: update on a research project on Wildlife Vehicle Collisions; BIA Law Enforcement presentation on crash reporting; safety issues involving horizontal curves and a discussion on safety plan development and implementation best practices.

One of the highlights of past summits has been the Tribal presentations. These presentations have generated a great deal of discussion and sharing of ideas. Again this year, each Tribe is asked to give a short presentation on a best practice or success story in highway safety.

For more information about the summit, please contact June Hansen at 605-773-3540 or june.hansen@state.sd.us

Several Department of Environment and Natural Resources (DENR) staff members participated in a Water Quality Educational Forum on Sept. 16 at the Sisseton-Wahpeton College campus. The intent of the forum, which was hosted by the Sisseton-Wahpeton Oyate, was to provide information to tribal members about ground and surface water resources and programs to improve water quality.

DENR discussed the state's water rights processes; ground and surface water monitoring programs, and answered questions from tribal members.

The United States Geological Survey (USGS), Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS), Sisseton-Wahpeton Oyate (SWO) Office of Environmental Protection, Indian Health Services, and Brown Day Marshall (BDM) Rural Water System also presented information and answered questions.

An estimated 50 people attended the meeting.

New Employer Resource for Offering Workplace Accommodations

In a joint partnership, the Department of Labor and Regulation (DLR) created a [video to make employers aware](#) of workplace accommodations for all employees and applicants, including those with disabilities.

DLR collaborated with the Career Learning Center of the Black Hills, Technology & Innovation in Education and the Workforce Diversity Network of the Black Hills to demonstrate the state's commitment to quality employment for all.

“Looking for a job can be difficult. Having a disability can be a challenge. But it should not be a challenge to find employment,” said state Labor and Regulation Secretary Marcia Hultman. “It is important for all individuals to use their talents.”

Accommodations can be as simple as a footrest, screen reader or adjusted work schedule. If an accommodation can make a talented employee or applicant successful, it proves to be a valuable investment for businesses.

October is National Disability Employment Awareness Month (NDEAM). With the unemployment rate at 3.8 percent in South Dakota, it is vital for businesses to consider all job seekers for openings. Offering accommodations in the workplace is important to all employers and job seekers.

South Dakota College Application Week and the ACT

The American College Application Campaign (ACAC) is a national effort to increase the number of first-generation students and students from low-income families pursuing a college degree or other higher education credential. The primary purpose of this effort is to help high school seniors navigate the complex college admissions process and ensure they apply to at least one postsecondary institution. The effort occurs during the school day or during the evening, with a focus on students who might not otherwise apply to college.

South Dakota piloted our College Application Week last year with 9 schools. This year we have expanded to 20 schools. During the application week, students at participating high schools are eligible for up to 3 free applications to Board of Regents institutions including the technical institutes. During last year's College Application Week, the Board of Regents system received 405 applications from 234 students at the 9 participating high schools, many of whom went on to become Jump Start students. This year's College Application Week will be held November 2-6, 2015. For more information about College Application Week, please contact Molly Hall-Martin at Molly.Hall-Martin@sdbor.edu.

As students prepare to apply to college, it is important to remember to register to take the ACT. The ACT is a curriculum- and standards-based educational and career planning tool that assesses students' academic readiness for college. The ACT is required for admission to all public South Dakota universities and is preferred by many other colleges as well. The ACT is also used to determine eligibility for certain scholarships, many of which have a February 1 or earlier deadline. High School counselors typically are able to assist high school juniors and seniors in registering for and taking the ACT. The best time to take the ACT is in October, which allows students time to retest for a higher score – to meet minimum college entrance requirements or to receive a larger scholarship (more money) - in December if necessary.

If a student is testing on a national test date and can't afford the registration fee for the ACT or ACT with writing, they may be eligible for an ACT Fee Waiver. Information about the eligibility requirements and how to request a fee waiver is sent each summer to high schools. Students should work with their high school to determine their eligibility. Waivers are ONLY available through high school counselors.

TEST DATES

REGISTRATION DATES

| | |
|-------------------|--------------------|
| October 24, 2015 | September 18, 2015 |
| December 12, 2015 | November 6, 2015 |



Code Talker Medals on Display

The Oceti Sakowin Code Talker Congressional Medallion exhibit, a project of the South Dakota National Guard, is scheduled to visit several cities in October and November in observance of Native American Heritage Month. The medals are Congress' highest recognition and appreciation of people, institutions, or events. The exhibit will be open for public viewing from 10 a.m. – 3 p.m. local time on each scheduled date with an honor ceremony beginning at 11:11 a.m.

The exhibit will conclude with a special celebration on November 11th (Veterans Day) at Crazy Horse Memorial, which will include a blast honoring all veterans at 11:11 a.m. Exhibit locations and dates include:

- October 14th in Pierre at Pierre Indian Learning Center's New Gym (3001 East Sully Avenue);
- October 21st in Watertown at Lake Area Technical Institute Student Event Center, 4th Floor (1201 Arrow Avenue);
- October 28th in Sioux Falls at the Sioux Falls University Center Commons Area (4801 North Career Avenue); and
- November 11th at Crazy Horse Memorial outside Rapid City.

The South Dakota Department of Agriculture's Agricultural Mediation Program has just received recertification from USDA's Farm Service Agency.

Mediation is an alternative method of resolving agricultural disputes. The department is authorized to mediate these types of disputes: debtor/creditor, federal lands, oil and gas and water drainage. Certain areas in the Mediation Program are partially funded by a USDA grant.

"The Agricultural Mediation Program has been around since the 1980s; although it has evolved over the years and added additional areas to mediate," says Terri LaBrie, finance and mediation administrator for the department. "Mediation is a great way to resolve disputes outside of the court system. It provides a neutral third party mediator to facilitate a resolution. It's confidential and the fees are minimal compared to litigation. It wouldn't be possible to provide this program without the federal grant."

Mediation is mandatory for any agricultural credit dispute over \$50,000. Mediation is voluntary for any credit dispute under \$50,000. Mediation for the program areas of water drainage, federal lands and oil/gas are all voluntary.

"It's important for our farmers and ranchers to know this program exists with harvest approaching and the continuation of low commodity prices," says LaBrie. "Financial counseling services are also available for clients in mediation. This service is free and is an important tool when looking at options."

Water Drainage Mediation has been added to the eligible areas the department can mediate. Any owner or administrator of property that has a surface or subsurface water drainage issue can request mediation. The process and benefits for all areas of mediation are very similar.

More information on the department's Agricultural Mediation Program and any of the financial programs the department has to offer can be found at <http://sdda.sd.gov/ag-development/> or by calling the Division of Ag Development at 605.773.5436

GOVERNOR DAUGAARD VISITS OGLALA SIOUX TRIBE



On September 2nd, Governor Dugaard visited the Pine Ridge Reservation to meet with Oglala Sioux Tribal Leaders and tour programs. During this visit, Governor Dugaard discussed public safety, housing, and disaster relief efforts.

The Department of Tribal Relations extends our thanks and appreciation to President Yellow Bird Steele and his administration for their incredible generosity and hospitality!



Devils Tower: Proposals to Change the Name

On November 20, 2014, a proposal was submitted to the [United States Board on Geographic Names](#) on behalf of a spiritual leader of the Lakota Nation to change the names of the geologic feature “Devils Tower” and the populated place “Devils Tower, Wyoming.” On December 1, 2014, the President of the Oglala Sioux Tribe wrote to the Secretary of the Interior and others requesting the name “Devils Tower National Monument” be changed. In each instance the request is to change “Devils Tower” to “Bear Lodge.” More than twenty Tribes with close association to the Tower hold it sacred, and find the application of the name “Devils” to be offensive.

History of the Name

According to research conducted by the National Park Service, several historic documents recount the names “Bear Lodge,” “Bears Lodge,” and “Mato Teepee” were the names assigned to the Tower on most maps, with few exceptions, between 1874 and 1901. In 1875 Lieutenant Colonel Richard Dodge escorted the scientific expedition of geologist Walter P. Jenney through the Black Hills to determine the truth of rumors of gold initiated by General George Armstrong Custer the previous year. Dodge wrote in his 1875 journal, “The Indians call this shaft ‘The Bad God’s Tower,’ a name adopted, with proper modifications, by our surveyors.” It is speculated that a guide for Lt. Dodge was the source of this translation, and “Bear Lodge” may have been mistakenly interpreted as “Bad God’s.” As a result, “Bad God’s Tower” then became “Devils Tower.” The name “Devils Tower” was applied to maps of that era, and subsequently was used in the name of the national monument when it was proclaimed in 1906.

Who has the Authority to Change the Name

The National Park Service has no authority to change the names of the geologic feature, the populated place, or the national monument. The name of the geologic feature and the populated place may be changed by the United States Board on Geographic Names, the Congress, or the President. The name of the national monument may be changed by an act of Congress or by a Presidential Proclamation.

Update on Recent Developments

On September 16, 2015, Sen. Mike Enzi (WY) and Rep. Cynthia Lummis (WY-At Large) introduced [S. 2039](#) and [H.R. 3527](#), respectively, in the United States Congress. The purpose of both bills is to retain the name Devils Tower for both the geologic feature and the populated place. Even if these bills do not become law during the 114th Congress, as a result of their introduction, the U.S. Board on Geographic Names –in accordance with its [Policy I](#) –cannot consider any proposed name change until at least 90 days after the beginning of the next session of Congress, i.e., April 4, 2017, at the earliest. The Wyoming Board on Geographic Names also adheres to Policy I. Accordingly, neither the United States Board nor the Wyoming Board are currently accepting comments on the November 20, 2014 proposal.

Avenue for Commenting on the Proposal to Change the Name of the National Monument

Comments regarding the proposal to change the name of “Devils Tower National Monument” to “Bear Lodge National Monument” may be sent to the respective congressional representative or the White House.

<http://www.usa.gov/Contact/US-Congress.shtml>

<http://www.whitehouse.gov/contact/submit-questions-and-comments>

29TH ANNUAL

He Sapa Wacipi Na Oskate

-CHAMPIONSHIP POWWOW & FINE ARTS EXPO-



-COME DANCE WITH US-

RUSHMORE PLAZA CIVIC CENTER – RAPID CITY, SOUTH DAKOTA

2015 Black Hills Powwow



OCTOBER 9,10,11- 2015

HEAD STAFF

EYAPAHA – RUBEN LITTLE HEAD
 CO-EYAPAHA – WHITNEY RENCONTRE II
 ARENA DIRECTOR – RUSTY GILLETTE
 ARENA DIRECTOR – JUAQUIN HAMILTON
 HEAD SINGING JUDGE – J.T. SEABOY
 MISS HE SAPA WIN
 2014-15 – RACHEL KELLY
 SOUND – DALE ROBERTS
 TABULATOR – C&T TABULATING

-CHAMPIONS OF THE NORTHERN PLAINS- SINGING CONTEST

\$10,000
 \$8,000
 \$5000
 \$3000
 \$1000

-No Day Drum Money.
 ALL DRUMS THAT ARE REGISTERED
 ARE IN THE DRUM CONTEST.

EVENTS

YOUTH DAY, HAND GAME TOURNAMENT,
 WALK/RUN, FINE ARTS SHOW,
 ARCHERY TOURNAMENT, GOLF TOURNAMENT,
 MISS HE SAPA WIN CONTEST

3 DAY PASS – (13-64) \$26 (4-12) \$18
 3 DAY PASS-GROUPS 25 OR MORE \$20
 1 DAY PASS (13-64) \$15 (4-12) \$9
 OVER 65 & UNDER 4 FREE

SCHEDULE:

FRIDAY: OCTOBER 9,2015
 *9AM YOUTH DAY SYMPOSIUM –
 MAIN ARENA
 *FIRST GRAND ENTRY FRIDAY *7PM

SATURDAY: OCTOBER 10, 2015
 *1PM & *7PM GRAND ENTRIES

SUNDAY: OCTOBER 11, 2015
 *1PM GRAND ENTRY
 *POINT SYSTEM FOR ALL
 COMPETITIONS STARTS FRIDAY @ *7PM



Host HOTELS:
 TRAVELODGE RAPID CITY
 (605) 343-5383
 RAMADA RAPID CITY
 (605) 342-3322
 HILTON GARDEN INN
 (605) 791-9000

DANCE COMPETITION

JUNIOR BOYS AND GIRLS 6-12
 (\$200,\$150,\$100,\$50)
 TEEN BOYS AND GIRLS 13-17
 (\$400,\$300,\$200,\$100)
 SPLIT CATEGORIES 18-39 & 40-59
 (\$1,000, \$800, \$600, \$400, \$200)
 18 & OVER CHICKEN DANCE CATEGORY
 (\$1,000, \$800, \$600, \$400, \$200)
 GOLDEN AGE 60+
 (\$1000, \$800, \$600, \$400, \$200)
 \$85,000 IN TOTAL PRIZE MONEY!

SPECIALS

*ALBERT WHITE HAT MEN'S GOLDEN AGE 60+
 TRADITIONAL SPECIAL-
 \$1000, \$800, \$600 SPONSORED BY THE
 FRIENDS AND FAMILY OF ALBERT WHITE HAT
 *KYDD LITTLE SKY MEN'S TRADITIONAL SPECIAL –
 SPONSORED BY THE FRIENDS AND
 FAMILY OF KYDD LITTLE SKY
 *RACHEL KELLY MISS HE SAPA WIN 2014-15
 TRADITIONAL CLOTH DRESS SPECIAL
 TOTAL PRIZE PAYOUT-\$1200-
 OPEN TO ALL AGES – SPONSORED BY THE
 FRIENDS AND FAMILY OF RACHEL KELLY
 *ISAIAH STEWART MEN'S PRAIRIE CHICKEN DANCE SPECIAL
 \$1500, \$1000, \$500 & 7 CONSOLATION PRIZES-
 CASH, JACKETS, AND STARQUILTS
 STANDING STRONG FOR OUR CHILDREN TINY TOT SPECIAL
 HONORING PERCY WILLIAM REYNOLDS
 "HEHAKA HANSKA" (TALL ELK).
 Boys/Girls Division:
 1ST PLACE: CASH, TROPHY, PENDLETON JACKETS.
 4 CONSOLATION: CASH,T SHIRTS/GIFTS
 (MUST BE IN FULL REGALIA).
 (SPONSORED BY REYNOLDS AND ONE FEATHER FAMILY)

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 THE BHPWA WOULD LIKE TO GIVE A SPECIAL THANKS TO THE CITY OF RAPID CITY FOR MAKING THIS EVENT POSSIBLE.
 PO BOX 8131, RAPID CITY, SOUTH DAKOTA USA 57709 – (605) 341-0925 OFFICE

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The Three Sisters of Bio Diversity

By: USDA Rural Development Specialist/Energy Coordinator Darlene Bresson

Bio diverse crop planting has a long history. The advantages of combining corn, beans and squash, for example, are celebrated in the story of [The Three Sisters](#).

Legend has it – long before our time, three sisters lived together, but didn't get along. They each wanted to be independent and free. But the tall, strong sister was hungry and the sun burned her feet. The long, thin sister was quick but she wasn't strong and couldn't stand on her feet, so she got dirty and wet, besides being hungry. The third sister was short and fat, and hungry like her sisters.

The long, thin sister (Bean Girl) talked to her tall, strong sister, (Corn Girl) and said, "What if I feed you some good food? Would you hold me up so I don't have to lie on the ground and get all dirty?" And the short, fat sister (Squash Girl) said she would lie on Corn Girl's feet and shade them so they wouldn't get burnt. Corn Girl thought that was a wonderful idea, so the three sisters learned to work together, so everyone would be healthier and happier. And that is why Native American people plant their corn, beans, and squash together in one field – the Three Sisters!

According to William Woys Weaver of Mother Earth News, [The Three Sisters](#) are an icon of bio diversity. Corn, beans, and squash, known as The Three Sisters, have been planted together throughout history. The age-old technique benefits the plants and the soil. An excerpt from Renee's Garden, "[Celebrate the Three Sisters: Corn, Beans and Squash](#)", "Corn provides a natural pole for bean vines to climb. Beans fix nitrogen on their roots, improving the overall fertility of the plot by providing nitrogen to the following year's corn. Bean vines also help stabilize the corn plants, making them less vulnerable to blowing over in the wind. Shallow-rooted squash vines become a living mulch, shading emerging weeds and preventing soil moisture from evaporating, thereby improving the overall crops' chances of survival in dry years. Spiny squash plants also help discourage predators from approaching the corn and beans. The large amount of crop residue from this planting combination can be incorporated back into the soil at the end of the season, to build up the organic matter and improve its structure."

Did you know there's a [website](#) with a wealth of information on growing plants ([Vegetable Gardening in South Dakota](#)), starting a Farmers Market ([2015 Farmers Market Resource Manual](#)), and marketing ([Marketing Hometown America](#)), all on a site written by South Dakota experts at SDSU? Go to <http://igrow.org/> and click on Gardens or Community Development.

Did you know that USDA [Rural Development](#) has a program that can help local growers get needed equipment, develop a marketing plan, or purchase a building? The [Rural Business Development Grant](#) is a competitive grant with funds set aside specifically for Native American projects. Eligible applicants are Tribal entities, non-profits, or local governments. The purpose must be to assist a small and emerging business. An example would be a Tribe applying and using the funds to purchase commercial kitchen equipment or harvesting equipment to be leased to a small business (or individual) to be used in their garden plot and the produce sold to others. The goal is to assist small businesses, which will lead to more jobs and economic growth on the reservation. The deadline for applying is March 1, 2016.

As you're harvesting your gardens this year, think about what you could accomplish if you worked together with your neighbor and had equipment to make your job easier. If interested, talk to one of the Rural Development representatives listed below:

- Cheyenne River & Rosebud Sioux Tribes - [Clark Guthmiller](#) - 605-224-8870, Ext 120
- Crow Creek & Lower Brule Sioux Tribes - [Gary Wedel](#) - 605-996-1564, Ext. 105
- Flandreau Santee Sioux Tribe - [Dave Franssens](#) - 605-330-4515, Ext. 128
- Oglala Sioux Tribe - [Hettianne Cekalla](#) - 605-342-0301, Ext. 118
- Sisseton Wahpeton Oyate - [Darlene Bresson](#) - 605-886-8202, Ext. 120
- Standing Rock Sioux Tribe - [Dennis Rodin](#) - 701-530-2068
- Yankton Sioux Tribe - [Jolene Pravacek](#) - 605-665-2662, Ext. 116

Sacred Power, LLC Awarded High Energy Cost Grant

Agriculture Secretary Tom Vilsack awarded nine grants to help reduce energy costs for residents in remote rural areas where the cost of producing electricity is extremely high.

USDA is providing \$7.9 million through the High Energy Cost Grant program, which is administered by USDA's Rural Utilities Service. High Energy Cost Grants may be used to improve energy generation, transmission or distribution facilities in communities where the average residential cost for home energy exceeds 275 percent of the national average. Grants are available to businesses, non-profit groups, states, local governments and federally recognized Indian tribes.

In South Dakota, Sacred Power LLC will receive \$1,406,975 to install wind turbines that will provide energy at homes in the St. Francis community within the Rosebud Sioux Reservation. Each household system will include a 1.8 kilowatt Pika T701 wind turbine, and one Pika X3001 inverter to condition the power for the grid. For more information read the news

USDA is an equal opportunity provider and employer. To file a complaint of discrimination, write: USDA, Office of the Assistant Secretary for Civil Rights, Office of Adjudication, 1400 Independence Ave., SW, Washington, DC 20250-9410 or call (866) 632-9992 (Toll-free Customer Service), (800) 877-8339 (Local or Federal relay), (866) 377-8642 (Relay voice users)

Rural Development Program Deadlines

October 5, 2015

| Program | Application Deadline(s) |
|--|---|
| Rural Energy for America (REAP) | Applications accepted year round. |
| Bio refinery, Renewable Chemical, and Bio based Product Manufacturing Assistance Program (Formerly known as the Bio refinery Assistance Program) | Round one applications are due by October 1; and round two applications are due by April 1, 2016. |
| Business & Industry Loan Guarantees | Applications accepted year round. |
| Rural Business Development Grant (formally known as RBEG & RBOG) | Applications received after 06/5/2015 will be considered in 2016 funding. |
| Rural Microentrepreneur Assistance Program | Quarterly deadlines. |
| Intermediary Relending Program | Quarterly deadlines. |
| Rural Economic Development Loan and Grant Program | Monthly deadlines. |
| Value Added Producer Grant | Applications received after 07/07/2015 will be considered in 2016 funding. |
| Small Socially Disadvantaged Grant | 2016 application deadlines are unknown at this time. |
| Rural Community Development Grant | 2016 application deadlines are unknown at this time. |
| Water and Environmental Programs | On-going application cycles; can apply anytime. |
| Community Loan and Grant Programs | On-going application cycles; can apply anytime. |
| Single Family Housing Programs... 502 Very-Low and Low Direct Loans; 504 Loans and Grants; and 502 Guaranteed Rural Housing (GRH) Loan Program | On-going application cycles; can apply anytime. |
| Guaranteed Rural Rental Housing (538) | 12/31/2015 |

http://www.rd.usda.gov/files/RD_ProgramMatrix.pdf

REGISTER NOW

SD Indian Education Summit
Nov. 1-3, 2015 - Pierre, SD

Topics will cover preschool through postsecondary and highlight ways to raise academic achievement and graduation rates.

For more information, visit Indianeducation.sd.gov

Summit 2015
 #SD_IES15

Sharing Our Heritage; Building Our Future

The South Dakota Department of Education cordially invites you to attend the 12th Annual Indian Education Summit, November 1-3, at the Ramkota Conference Center in Pierre.

This year's Summit will feature:

- Keynote speakers: Joseph Marshall III, and Donald Montileaux
- Presentations on best practices from local districts around the state
- Wide variety of topics preschool through post-secondary

To register and find more information, go to: indianeducation.sd.gov/summit.aspx or contact Marta Neuman at (605) 773-8194.

Shining A Light on Youth Suicide Crisis

By Sen. John Thune

Nearly eight years after No Child Left Behind expired, I am glad Congress has finally passed legislation to reauthorize federal K-12 educational programs. The Every Child Achieves Act would reduce federal interference in education and restore control of education to the people who know their students best – parents, teachers, and school boards. Local control, not big-government Washington mandates, is the key to educational success for students around the country.

I introduced several amendments to this important legislation and was pleased that two measures related to the youth suicide crisis in Indian Country were included in the final bill.

There is no greater tragedy for a family than losing a child, sibling, or friend, especially to suicide. According to the Indian Health Service, suicide is the second leading cause of death for Native American youth in Indian Health Service areas, with a death rate four times the national average. I think it is important for us to get a better understanding of how we can address suicide prevention within our tribal communities, and this legislation was the appropriate vehicle for me to attach these amendments.

My first amendment would require federal agencies to report on efforts to address youth suicide on our reservations. The heads of relevant federal government agencies, like the Departments of Education, Interior, and Health and Human Services, would coordinate in this effort. My goal for these agencies would be to learn more about the current federal response to the high numbers of youth suicide in Indian Country, determine what types of federal resources are available to prevent and respond to these types of crises, and whether or not there are any barriers to program implementation. Tribal feedback on all of this information will be key.

My second measure would expand the use of Project School Emergency Response to Violence (Project SERV) funds to include initiating or strengthening prevention activities in cases of trauma or violence, similar to what is happening in Indian Country. Under current law, Project SERV funds can only be used to respond to crises.

My colleagues in the Senate understood the importance of these amendments, which is why both were unanimously approved. My hope is that by taking these important steps, we can shine a light on the crisis that is impacting so many of our families in South Dakota and do everything within our power to prevent tragedies like these from happening in the future.

Have News You Would Like to Share?

Contact: The Department of Tribal Relations

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Custer State Park Buffalo Roundup



Yankton Sioux Tribe Inauguration



The South Dakota Department of Tribal Relations would like to congratulate and welcome the newly elected Yankton Sioux Tribe Business & Claims Committee. Pictured above are: Chairman Robert Flying Hawk, Vice-Chairman Jody Zephier, Councilman Gregory Cournoyer Jr., Treasurer Leo O'Connor, Secretary Glenford "Sam Sully", Councilman Jason Cooke, Councilwoman Mona Wright, Councilwoman Diane Merrick, Councilwoman Roseanne Wade, and outgoing Vice Chairwoman Jean Archambeau.

