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LAKOTA TIMES

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“No Show” Noem Summit

JAMES GIAGO DAVIES
LT CONTRIBUTOR

PIERRE—Three weeks ago, South Dakota Governor Kristi Noem announced that she would be holding a “tribal public safety crisis summit” on June 24 to provide tribal law enforcement with better training. The Oglala Sioux Tribe (OST), the first of nine South Dakota reservations to recently ban Governor Noem, wasted no time in announcing that they would not be attending this summit. Only Flandreau and Standing

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Black Elk, photographed as a young man.
Courtesy of the Smithsonian Institution, National Anthropological Archives.

Surveilling the Surveyors

CONTINUED ON A3



Photo by Vi Waln.

RST Elders Honored

VI WALN
LT CONTRIBUTOR

ROSEBUD —The Rosebud Sioux Tribe coordinated a gathering for Sicangu elders to provide a meal, entertainment, social dances and honoring for tribal citizens aged 60+ years.

Organizers publicly recognized several Sicangu elders who have reached the golden age of 90+ years. They were Lois Antoine, Muriel Antoine,

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Strongman competition Coming An interview with Corey Brown

JAMES GIAGO DAVIES
LT CONTRIBUTOR

PINE RIDGE—Corey Brown made the Pine Ridge varsity basketball team as a freshman. Inside the paint, he was big, he was clever, and he was super strong. He was a fan favorite all across the state because of his signature red mohawk and explosive post play. But that strength was basketball strength, which is pretty strong, but not the kind of strength needed to lift 300 pound sandbags off the ground and then take multiple steps with that immense burden. To get that kind of strength, to compete and win in

Oglala Nations Strongest Man & Woman
August 3, 2024
Pine Ridge, SD
\$50 Entry Fee
Prizes for 1st, 2nd, 3rd
Sponsored event
Events: Max Log Lift, Max Deadlift, Dinnie Stone Carry, Yoke Carry, King of Stones
Concessions will be sold
Men's, Women's, Teen Divisions
For more info contact Corey Brown 605-944-1419 Or Follow the Facebook page for more info
Oglala Nations Strongest Man

Strong Man competition, Brown needed to hit the gym, pump the

iron, and this he has done the past couple

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Pulliam wins Oscar Howe Award

BRITTANY POOR BEAR
LT CONTRIBUTOR

This year for during the 2024 Red Cloud Indian Art Show, Patrick Joe Pulliam received the Oscar Howe Award with his ledger artwork “Guardian of the Rez”.

The Heritage Center at Mahpiya Luta/Red Cloud hosts the Art Show for ten weeks each summer. All the artwork is for sale, with the proceeds used to support individual artists as well as the work of The Heritage Center.

The show will remain active from June 1st, through August 11, 2024. Video interviews with participating art-



ists discussing their work will be shared on social media outlets and linked to the image descriptions on the Red Cloud art show website. Oglala Sioux artist,

Patrick Joe Pulliam is from the Pine Ridge Indian Reservation, who currently resides in Rapid City, South Dakota. He has been

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Oglala Lakota County Schools Plan

TOM CRASH
LT CONTRIBUTOR

BATESLAND - Over the next three months, Oglala Lakota County Schools hopes to put the finishing touches on an ambitious construction program that has added classrooms, housing units, a football field, a water tower, playgrounds and a day care center.

“This has been such an incredible opportunity for the school district,” said Brownie Eagle Bull who is in his third year as Project Director, “I’ve spent between 41 and 42 years working with

the district, started as a para, been a teacher, principal, Dean of students, 21st Century director, everything but a cook, it’s been such an honor to work towards finishing the construction projects.”

Housing units have been an important part of the project, when you’re out there recruiting teachers, having a house for them is important, added Eagle Bull, in the early stages we finished 20 two bedroom apartments, by September we hope to add 16 three bedroom duplexes, 14 six bedroom houses with finished full basements



and eight single family three bedroom homes with basements. We’re building a six unit trailer park at Rockyford School and bringing in four single wide three bedroom trailers. One of the houses is headed to Red Shirt to be a Virtual High School classroom. Betty Gibbons is the

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Surveilling the Surveyors

Continued from A1

CRAIG HOWE AND LUKAS RIEPPEL
LT CONTRIBUTOR

Almost exactly one hundred and fifty years ago, two separate groups of people traveled through Paha Sapa, the Black Hills. The first consisted of Oglalans, and it included the well-known visionary Black Elk. The second was a much larger column of heavily armed soldiers, who numbered over one thousand men and were led by George Armstrong Custer.

Their reasons for going to the Black Hills could not have been any more different. The military expedition was sent there to find gold, to make a map of the region, and to locate a suitable spot for a fort. In contrast, Black Elk and his relatives went to the Black Hills to cut lodge poles for tipis.

While the two never came face to face, they did interact

indirectly. In conversation with John Neihardt many years later, Black Elk recalled building a sweat lodge for a medicine man named Chips, who warned them that something bad was about to happen. As they fled, some “scouts reported that there were soldiers coming towards the Black Hills.” And when they returned to Fort Robinson, they told everyone “that we saw some whites going toward the Black Hills.” The assembled Lakotans agreed that something had to be done. “Crazy Horse was on the west and Sitting Bull was on the north,” Black Elk recalled, “and everyone thought they should get together and do something about the gold-diggers in the Black Hills.”

Expedition soldiers knew they were being watched. On the 6th of July, 1874, the diary of a Private named Theodore Ewert recorded

an encounter with “a party of Sioux Indians.” Although they claimed to be hunting, Ewert was certain they had been “posted here as a ‘corps of observation’ on the movements of our expedition.” Then, on the 14th of July, a journalist for the New York World claimed he saw smoke signals communicating “the line of our march and the fact that there are no more of us coming.” In his official report that day, Custer also interpreted the smoke signals “as carrying information” about “our presence and movements.”

Although they were brief, we can learn a great deal from these fleeting encounters. At the very least, it is clear that Lakotan people knew what was going on in their treaty lands. This leads to a fascinating question: how did they understand one of the most infamous military expeditions in American history.

Black Elk’s recollections, in combination with documents produced by the 1874 expedition, begin to hint at an answer.

Seen from afar, it is clear the United States Army was sent to gather intelligence in the Black Hills. Its official report described the expedition as a “reconnaissance,” and it contains pages upon pages of information about the region’s geography, topography, climate, mineral wealth, and Native people. This makes it all the more remarkable to learn that Lakotans engaged in a form of counter-surveillance.

As we approach the one hundred and fiftieth anniversary of these events, CAIRNS has teamed up with Lukas Rieppel, a historian at Brown University, to write weekly “dispatches” from the summer of 1874. We do not want to rehash well-worn stories that are better left behind.

Taking our cue from Black Elk, we want to try something different instead. By keeping a close eye on the expedition’s movements, we can learn a great deal about Lakotan history and culture. That is our goal: to surveil the surveyors, with an eye to offering new insights and interpretations about a transformative period in Lakotan history.

Every week, we will write a new column that turns the extractive goal of this expedition back on itself, mining the rich archive of documentary records that it produced to ask what it reveals about the region’s Native inhabitants. We look forward to having you along for the journey!

We are eager to hear from you! If you have any thoughts, feedback, or questions, please send us those here: <https://forms.gle/97UgpBzuSyJeoWvY6>

“NO SHOW” NOEM SUMMIT

Continued from A1

Rock said they would accept Noem’s invitation.

There is little available press coverage of the summit. Only one post-summit article pops up in search engines. If the governor’s intent was to bring

tribes together on her handpicked talking points it was only a partial success given most tribes balked, and the subsequent attendance and press coverage were minimal.

Despite being banned from all nine South

Dakota reservations, Noem said this: “I’ve had many one-on-one conversations with tribal council members and with chairmen and presidents of tribes. You would never read about it in the press, but we actually talk quite often,

and I’m grateful for the relationships that we do have.”

But one of those tribal presidents, Oglala Sioux Tribal President Frank Star Comes Out, had this to say: “This is nothing more than a divide and conquer tactic on the part of Governor Noem to deflect from her false accusations that a crisis exists because drug cartels are operating on the Sioux reservations.”

OST has been struggling to get federal funding for law enforcement on the Pine Ridge Reservation. Noem alleged that drug cartels were operating on the reservations and that tribal leadership was hostile to her involvement in addressing these operations because they were “benefiting” from the cartel.

Although Star Comes Out recently stated that drug cartels were operating on the reservation, in an effort to compel more federal funding to expand tribal law enforcement, he now cites the US Attorneys Office in Rapid City as having said that “there are no drug cartels on our reservation.” Despite this contradiction, Noem’s Monday summit did not address tribal law enforcement funding, which Star Comes Out considers to be the most pressing concern. Noem is discussing tribal law enforcement competency, but in any

of their previous efforts to provide the reservation with adequate law enforcement protection, the tribe has never stated that the problem was due to lack of training.

Addressing the need for this summit, Noem said: “South Dakota has never done this before, and I’m not sure if it’s even happened anywhere else in the country. But by hosting this training academy, specifically for tribal law enforcement officers, it will allow them to get the necessary training and certification here at home.”

Two other reservations, Crow Creek and Lower Brule, have stated that they will not be attending the governor’s summit until and unless she apologizes for remarks made about drug cartels and bad tribal parenting.

“She needs to apologize first,” said Lower Brule Chairman Clyde Estes, “before expecting tribal leaders to run up to Pierre and be sitting in the meeting when with some hurtful comments that were made about our children and their parents and our tribes.”

Crow Creek, Pine Ridge, and Lower Brule have also stated that the date of the summit conflicts with tribal recognition of the Battle of the Little Big Horn, in which a detachment of the 7th Cavalry, under

the command of Colonel George Armstrong Custer, attacked women and children, and were wiped out to a man by the warrior response.

One of the more disturbing Noem summit talking points for many Indian Law experts was this: “The best path forward for mutual aid agreements and cross-deputization.”

Noem’s close association with anti-tribe North Dakota Senator Kevin Cramer, who has championed ending tribal sovereignty from the state, puts cross-deputization in a whole new light. OST Tribal Attorney Mario Gonzalez has often pointed out that attempts by South Dakota to establish joint relations with tribal law enforcement are a back door “creeping jurisdiction” attempt to get state law enforcement authority within the border of the reservation. As it now stands, South Dakota reservations have sovereign immunity from the state, and state law enforcement has no authority on any reservation. The state has opposed tribal sovereignty ever since this sovereignty was established by Public Law 280 in 1953.

(James Giago Davies is an enrolled member of OST. Contact him at skindiesel@msn.com)

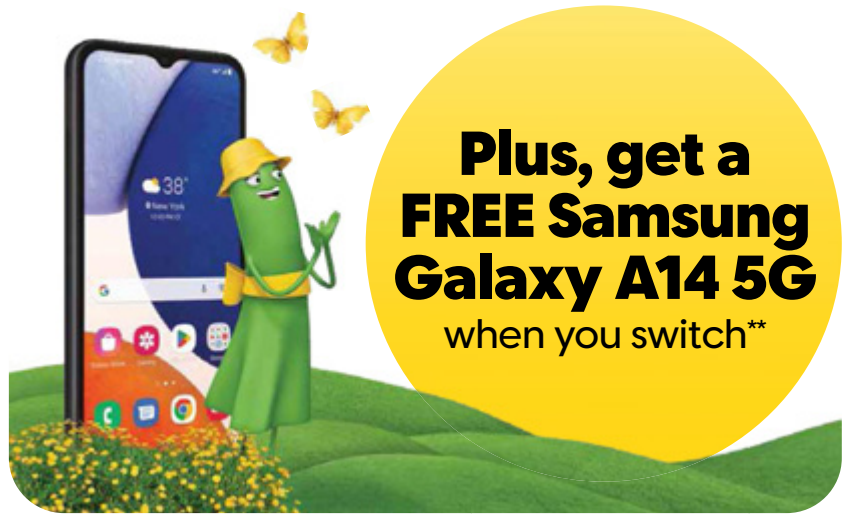
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OGLALA LAKOTA COUNTY SCHOOLS PLAN

Continued from A1

Housing Coordinator, the district is adding 58 units to the nine trailers at Batesland, five houses and four new trailers at Rockyford.

In time for the 23/24 school year, the district added to one wing and built a whole new wing at Lakota Tech high school, adding 19 classrooms and a day care center. The new football field was completed in time for a couple of Lakota Tech home games while the stands have been completed, holding 750 fans, along with a crows nest; the scoreboard was put up just this week and the finishing touches are being put on the track. At the end of May, the new water tower, holding 200,000 gallons was put into service; by tapping into the Oglala aquifer, the school campus has their own water supply, no longer

dependent on OSRWSS, allowing more water to be used elsewhere in the system and helping the district be in better control of meeting their water needs.

A new bus garage had been a priority and it’s scheduled to be completed in two weeks, the garage has two large bays and a vehicle wash for county vehicles. The garage includes two classroom areas, an automotive classroom and a welding center.

The district has used ESSER funds to finance the new construction. As part of federal stimulus funds passed by Congress, Elementary and Secondary School Emergency Relief; these funds offer schools and districts the flexibility to address their critical areas of need as they support their students, educators and families.

The district first built

new playgrounds for their four elementary schools then moved on to building playgrounds for the day care centers at Lakota Tech and Batesland and are just finishing up with the one at Rockyford, stated Eagle Bull, we’re looking at adding a softball field for the high school girls fast pitch softball team, they’ve had to practice in Pine Ridge and Rushville, we also had a request for a driving range for the high school golf teams. We’re going to need to sit down with the board, school administration and the community to look at a new five year construction plan added Brownie, at the rate of growth we’ve been experiencing, we’re going to need more classrooms in Rockyford and Wolf Creek.