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## Lakota Firefighters Spend Christmas Fighting California Wildfires

The Bureau of Indian Affairs Forestry & Wildland Fire Management Agency of Rosebud dispatched their Type 2 IA crew

Wildland Fire Management - Pine Ridge Agency sent 2 of their team members to fill the crew now battling the Thomas Fire.

281,620 acres, becoming the largest wildfire of the 2017 California wildfire season. The fire has destroyed at least 1,063 structures, while damaging an additional 280 structures. The Thomas Fire forced over 50,000 people to evacuate the area.

A total of 1,586 fire personnel from across the country have assisted with the Thomas Fire, bringing the Christmas Day containment to 86%. On December 14, Cory Iverson, a 32-year-old Cal Fire Engineer from San Diego, was killed fighting the fire in an area of rugged terrain near Fillmore, CA.

According to a December 14, 2017 online news report from the VC Star "Iverson's death is the



Photo from Facebook

### Sawyers of Rosebud's Type 2 IA Crew Battled the Thomas Fire in California

second confirmed fatality linked to the Thomas Fire. Virginia Pesola, 70, of Santa Paula, was found dead last week at the site of a car accident on Wheeler Canyon Road, which was under a mandatory evacuation order."

Members of the Rosebud BIA type 2 IA Crew who were dispatched to the Thomas Fire include Pierre Archie Blue Thunder, Troy McCloskey, Boye Blue Thunder, Adrian Yellow Kidney, Benjamin Kills In Water, Gary Nadeau, Sheldon

Larvie Sr, Tristen Herman, Jacob Moran, Daniel Bearshield, Lance Dorian, Justis Swalley, Eric Black Lance, Nicholas Larvie, Cleve Red Bird, Kelly White Lance Wahachaka Whipple, Malcolm Shot With Arrow and Tunweya Weller.



Photo by Lance Dorian

to Southern California on December 10 to the Thomas Fire burning in Santa Barbara and Ventura Counties. The BIA - Forestry &

According to the Incident Information System, a Christmas Day update stated the Thomas Fire has burned approximately

## Rosebud Sioux Tribe To Conduct Needs Assessment Survey

The Rosebud Sioux Tribe will conduct the Rosebud Needs Assessment Survey by interviewing tribal household members living on the Rosebud Reservation during January and February 2018.

The purpose of this survey is to accurately and professionally assist residents to complete a census questionnaire to reflect the correct number of tribal citizens living within the original exterior

boundaries of the Rosebud Reservation. The survey will be done by tribal census workers using electronic tablets specifically programmed to gather information.

Currently, US Census data is a major source in determining how many tribal citizens live on any given Indian Reservation in the country. However, tribal officials have long believed that US Census data does not accurately reflect the

total number of tribal citizens now living on the Rosebud Reservation.

When people think of the census, they automatically associate the federal agency with the decennial, or 10-year, population count done in the United States. However, various surveys are done every month by the US Census Bureau. Employees working for the US Census Bureau are required to take an oath to protect

the confidentiality, including personally identifiable information (PII), of the people they interview. The oath doesn't expire. US Census workers can be prosecuted for the unauthorized sharing of personal information.

Many people also don't understand what the information collected by the US Census Bureau is used for. For instance, there is a widespread myth about American Indian

Tribes receiving funding based on the total number of tribal citizens whom are enrolled. In reality, the US Census Bureau counts people where they live, not by their tribal affiliation. The US Census data is used to appropriate funding levels for states, as well as tribes.

Tribal citizens have historically been leery of sharing information with US Census workers. However, when you withhold infor-

mation from the interviewer, it hurts all of us. That is, many tribal officials believe the population data for our reservation is wrong. They have always suspected that households on the reservation are undercounted.

One scenario of a potential US Census undercount might involve public housing. For example, the Sicangu Wicoti Awayankape (SWA)

Story cont. on page 4



# Historical Trauma Expert Doubles as Indigenous Rock Star

Dr. Darryl Tonemah, a Health Psychologist of Kiowa, Comanche and Tuscarora descent, donated Christmas gifts to the students attending He Dog School last month. The gifts were purchased with proceeds from 2 benefit concerts he did in Rapid City and Sioux Falls.

"I've done over 50 benefit concerts during the past 18 years and raised over \$35,000 to donate to Indigenous children," Dr. Tonemah said.

He spent time on the Rosebud Reservation last month offering encouragement to parents and educators who are often at a loss when dealing with traumatized children. He demonstrated methods to teachers to help students who have trouble focusing on their school work.

"Trauma is not a cognitive function, you can't think your way out of it. Unfortunately, we use a cognitive process to try and heal," stated Dr. Tonemah. "For instance, take those veterans who served in Vietnam, it's now 50 years later and if they could have thought their way out of the trauma they suffered,

they would have."

"Trauma doesn't know future, it only knows now. Trauma is the unfinished cycle of energy, it is stored in our nervous system. Trauma is in the construction, or lack of options and incompleteness of a cycle. Trauma is that jolt to the survival center of the brain. We think too much. Don't rationalize fear, shame or blame!" He told the educators.

"Trauma is more than an event. Trauma often becomes a lifestyle of anger, reaction, hypervigilance and self-medication," He has worked with Indigenous communities across the United States and Canada, helping young people deal with trauma they've experienced.

"Healing occurs in the community, it doesn't happen in isolation. Trauma's job seemingly, is to keep itself alive. Trauma is stored genetically in our genetic code. Your descendants are aware of it. It's like saying I'm going to send a note to my descendants. A similar situation will trigger a gene or memory in them," he continued.

"A child is not bro-

ken or ruined," he said. "This is not a bad kid. It's just a kid who has crap at home and his body brought it to school. Start your week with prayer and end the week with prayer. There are more behavioral issues on Monday mornings and Friday afternoons because of what's going on at home."

"I am totally down with using culture, ceremony and spirituality to heal," Dr. Tonemah said. But I can't tell you to do that, it has to come from the community."

**PICTURED AT RIGHT Dr. Darryl Tonemah sits on the floor to demonstrate a technique he used with a traumatized child. BELOW He Dog School Educators pause for a photo with Dr. Tonemah.**



**CONGRATULATIONS TO MRS. LUNDERMAN ON WINNING THE 2017 RAM 3500!**

**ROSEBUD CASINO**  
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## Your Co-Workers Who Use The F Word Can Be Guilty of Sexual Harassment

By Vi Waln

Welcome to the Gregorian calendar year 2018. This is a new year for the observers of the Gregorian calendar. Many of us are looking forward to a better year than 2017.

Not all 2017 highlights were positive. For example, after decades of silence it was inspiring to see a number of women step forward to tell the world all about the predatory men who sexually harassed or assaulted them. Thank you to all the courageous women who came forward to expose those nasty men. It was kind of like watching a complicated domino set-up fall one by one to the

floor.

Sexually harassment allegations made public during 2017 showed the world the level of misconduct committed by many men elected as political representatives, as well as men claiming the power to make or break the Hollywood success of a female actress. Women who are sexually harassed must continue to come forward and share with the world how sexually deranged some men actually are. We must take back our female power.

Harassment of women by men involving sexual innuendos has been happening for centuries. When you allow a man to get

away with inappropriate behavior, like sexual harassment, he will continue to push your personal boundaries. Men can be fired from their jobs for sexual harassment so please don't be afraid to report it.

Indian country is not immune to sexual harassment. There are many women working for organizations or tribal programs on Indian reservations who suffer sexual harassment every single day. Last year, a manager working for a Rosebud Sioux Tribal program was fired from his job after a woman filed a sexual harassment complaint against him in Tribal Court.

Sexual harassment is

everywhere. Unfortunately, we also have spiritual leaders who also engage in sexual harassment. Remember, if someone's behavior offends you and it has underlying sexual connotations, it can be defied as sexual harassment.

Consequently, if you are offended by listening to someone constantly using the F word, you are being sexually harassed and should report it. It might seem hilarious to you to think of someone suffering sexual harassment at your unscrupulous use of the F word. However, you need to be cautious with your choice of words because this behavior at most work

sites, including offices on Indian reservations, is against the law. Sexual harassment is not funny.

When you stop to critically think about it, sexual harassment can lead to more sinister behavior. For example, men with zero boundaries who continue to get away with sexual harassment will have no qualms about upping the assault on women at the workplace. What men view as an innocent kiss or touch can be viewed by a woman as an unwelcome sexual assault.

So, if you are uncomfortable or offended by the behavior of a co-worker, you must take the steps neces-

sary to report it as sexual harassment. Sexual harassment can go both ways. Both men and women are victims of sexual harassment every single day. You can be subject to unlawful sexual harassment no matter the offender's gender.

The future generation of Lakota women and men is growing in our children and grandchildren. Please use the new year to teach your children and grandchildren about inappropriate sexual behavior so they will know when they are being harassed or abused. A good ancestor is a role model of appropriate behavior.

## RST Needs Assessment Survey cont. from page 1

has many HUD (US Department of Housing and Urban Development) homes in each of our communities on the Rosebud Reservation. When a tenant signs a lease, they agree to notify the SWA Occupancy Department when household members move out or when a new member(s) move in to the home.

Yet, there are SWA homes where more people are actually living in the house than are listed on the lease. Tenants know they can get in trouble for this, but they also won't turn relatives away when they need a place to stay.

US Census workers will sometimes tell

you it's against the law for them to share how many people are living in the home with anyone, including SWA. If a Census employee were to share information with SWA or the South Dakota Department of Social Services (DSS), or any other agency, they could be prosecuted due to the oath they took when they were hired. Yet, people are still reluctant to share information with US Census employees. Consequently, your reluctance to provide accurate information to tribal and federal census interviewers hurts all of us.

There are 2 ongoing surveys in our area being conducted by the

US Census Bureau. First, the Current Population Survey is a 16-month survey used to determine the unemployment rate. Households are interviewed every month for 4-months, then given a break for 8-months and interviewed again over another 4-month period. Information gathered from the CPS interview is used to determine the country's unemployment rate, which is released as a percentage by the US Department of Labor on the first Friday of every month.

Second, the American Community Survey (ACS) is an ongoing survey patterned after the decennial. The ACS is conducted

to update households interviewed during the 2010 Decennial in preparation for the 2020 Census count. The respondent will receive a survey in the mail with the option to complete it online. If the respondent fails to complete the survey, a US Census Field Representative will visit their home to do the interview. Since many homes in our area generally don't have mail delivered directly to their homes, the US Census employee must do most interviews in person.

Both the ACS and CPS surveys are done every month on the Rosebud Reservation. US Census employees are generally allowed

10-21 days to interview all the people on their list. If you have questions about why your PII is being collected, please ask the worker and they will explain what the information is going to be used for. All census surveys are important.

It might be confusing to readers to include both the US Census surveys, as well as the tribal count being conducted by the Rosebud Sioux Tribe over the next couple of months, in the same story. In any case, an updated population count, whether done by federal or tribal census workers, is crucial to funding levels.

We all value our privacy, but please know

that the information you provide to both the federal and tribal census workers will be used to lobby for more money to improve services to all of our tribal citizens. Please remember the tribal/federal census employee is only doing their job and they appreciate your cooperation.

The upcoming Rosebud Sioux Tribe census count of all tribal citizens living in the 20 communities is extremely important. Please cooperate with the census workers when they visit your home as funding levels depend on updated and accurate information regarding our tribal population.



# National Drug and Alcohol Facts Week® 11th Annual Drugs and Alcohol Chat Day. Registration is now open!

National Drug and Alcohol Facts Week® (NDAFW) is a health observance week for teens that aims to SHATTER THE MYTHS® about drug and alcohol use.

**What is National Drug and Alcohol Facts Week®?** National Drug and Alcohol Facts Week® links students with scientists and other experts to counteract the myths about drugs and alcohol that teens get from the internet, social media, TV, movies, music, or from friends. It was launched in 2010 by scientists at the National Institute on Drug Abuse (NIDA) to stimulate educational events in communities so teens can learn what

science has taught us about drug use and addiction. The National Institute on Alcohol Abuse and Alcoholism became a partner starting in 2016, and alcohol has been added as a topic area for the week. NIDA and NIAAA are part of the National Institutes of Health.

**What happens during National Drug and Alcohol Facts Week®?**

National Drug and Alcohol Facts Week® is an opportunity for teens to SHATTER THE MYTHS® about drugs and drug use. In community and school events all over America, teens, scientists and other experts come together to ask experts

questions about how drugs affect the brain, body, and behaviors.

**Teens are invited to join the conversation during the 11<sup>th</sup> Annual Drugs and Alcohol Chat Day to be held during National Drug and Alcohol Facts Week® on January 22, 2018. Registration is now open! Please sign up at <https://www.nidachat.org/register.aspx>**



National Drugs and Alcohol Chat Day is an annual live online chat held between high school students and National Institute on Drug Abuse (NIDA)

scientists during National Drug and Alcohol Facts Week®. Students from around the country ask the questions they most want the answers to about drugs and drug abuse, including drug effects, how to help friends or family that are abusing drugs, and what causes addiction. Our expert scientists give them the facts.

**How can I plan an event for National Drug and Alcohol Facts Week®?**

Check out the National Drug and Alcohol Facts Week® Website for more information. NIDA offers an online toolkit with lots of suggestions on how to plan events, how to find experts who can participate, and how to

connect with NIDA staffers who can help. The site also tells you how to register your event, and how to get free materials for teens, including the National Drug & Alcohol IQ Challenge quiz, and our popular Drugs: SHATTER THE MYTHS booklet. Tool kits explain how to focus events on all drug use, or specific drugs.

**Who are the Federal Partners for National Drug and Alcohol Facts Week®?**

NIDA and NIAAA have many federal, state and local partners working together to get the facts about drugs to teens in com-

munities all over America. Visit the Partners websites for additional information. Partners include the Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration, the White House Office of National Drug Control Policy, the Office of Safe and Healthy Students in the U.S. Department of Education and the Drug Enforcement Administration in the U.S. Department of Justice

For more information on National Drug and Alcohol Facts Week® visit the Web site: <http://teens.drugabuse.gov/national-drug-facts-week>, email [drug-facts@nida.nih.gov](mailto:drug-facts@nida.nih.gov), or call 301-443-1124.



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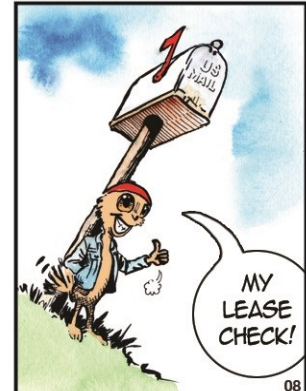

*In the end, we will remember not the words of our enemies, but the silence of our friends.*

**Martin Luther King Jr.**

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# January is National Stalking Awareness Month

By Vi Waln

January is National Stalking Awareness Month. There are about 3.4 million people over the age of 18 who are stalked each year in the United States.

I don't think many of you are aware how big of a problem stalking really is. Stalking is not limited to males stalking females. Males can stalk males and females can stalk females. Stalking can even take place over the internet. Stalking happens more often than you think and much of it is criminal.

When you are being stalked it seems like the most logical thing to do would be to call the police and file paperwork for a restraining order or a protection order. Some of us wonder how much good a piece of paper will do when the person stalking you refuses to stop. An example of stalking behavior is someone driving past your home several times in one day.

There are stalkers who travel around in packs, kind of like a pack of dogs. I know people like this. They

will follow someone around in a public building or follow them in a vehicle.

Let's say you grow weary of being followed around and go to the police department to report the stalker by filing a complaint. But some people aren't taken seriously.

For instance, sometimes the very people who are supposedly there to protect the public just laugh at you and say there is nothing they can do. Or worse yet they take the complaint of your stalker more seriously than they take your complaint. Maybe it all depends on who you know. Maybe it makes a difference if a pack of your relatives shows up at the police department when you file a complaint.

I wonder if people who stalk other people realize how psychotic they are behaving when they incessantly follow another person around. I was thinking about this and it made me wonder how many stalkers actually have extreme mental illness. Maybe they need some

type of anti-psychotic medication. If they were diagnosed with a disorder and start taking medication or seek counseling, they might feel better about themselves enough to stop following other people around. Gee, maybe they could even have a life of their own if they get on medication.

It sure seems like a waste to focus all your thoughts, attention, behaviors and resources on someone you are obsessed with or just don't like. Life is way too short for this. I don't know about all of you but I would rather focus my time on pursuing the things I like. Time spent thinking up ways to follow someone could be time spent making your own life better.

The Rosebud Sioux Tribal Law and Order Code, Title 5, Chapter 6, defines Stalking (5-6-4) as: "Any person [who] willfully, maliciously and repeatedly follows or harasses another person or who makes a credible threat to another person with the intent to place that

person in reasonable fear of death or bodily injury is guilty of Stalking. Stalking is a Class A crime."

Also, 5-6-7 states in part a "person who willfully, maliciously and repeatedly follows or harasses a child, twelve years of age or younger or who makes a credible threat to a child twelve years of age or younger with the intent to place that child in reasonable fear of death or bodily injury or to reasonably fear for the child's safety is guilty of stalking."

Harasses (5-6-5) is defined as "a knowing and willful pattern of conduct composed of a series of acts over a period of time, however short, evidencing a continuity of purpose, directed at a specific person which seriously alarms, annoys, or harasses the person and which serves no legitimate purpose."

A Credible Threat (5-6-6) is defined as "a threat made with the intent and the apparent ability to carry out threat. A credible threat need not be expressed verbally."

The National Center for Victims of Crime, Stalking Resource Center states that stalkers will: follow you and show up wherever you are; damage your home, car, or other property; monitor your phone calls or computer use; use technology, like hidden cameras or global positioning systems (GPS), to track where you go; drive by or hang out at your home, school, or work; threaten to hurt you, your family, friends, or pets; find out about you by using public records or online search services, hiring investigators, going through your garbage, or contacting friends, family, neighbors, or co-workers; posting information or spreading rumors about you on the Internet, in a public place, or by word of mouth; other actions that control, track, or frighten you. <http://www.ncvc.org/src/>

Native American women are stalked at the highest rate of any ethnic group. "While more than one million women in the United

States are stalked each year, American Indian/Alaska Native women are stalked at a rate at least twice that of any other race. Statistics established by the 1998 National Violence Against Women Survey reflect that 17 percent of American Indian and Alaska Native women are stalked in their lifetime, compared to 8.2 percent of white women, 6.5 percent of African-American women, and 4.5 percent of Asian/Pacific Islander women." [www.ncvc.org/src/](http://www.ncvc.org/src/)

If I were being stalked here on my own Rez, I would be relentless in seeking real help. I would be calling police officers daily to keep me safe. If I didn't get any response, I would start reporting the crime to my tribal council members.

If you are being stalked, I want to write your story. Call or text me at 605-319-0638. We all deserve to live in peace.

January is

## national stalking awareness month

Stalking is real. It can happen to anyone. It's dangerous. It's a crime.

**STALKING: KNOW IT. NAME IT. STOP IT.**



# The Stalking of Vulnerable Women Can Lead to Human Sex Trafficking

By Vi Waln

Lakota people living on the homelands are in denial about the prevalence of both stalking and human trafficking. Despite the denial you might have about stalking or human slavery and trafficking, they are very prevalent in our area. Stalking, slavery and trafficking could even be affecting your relatives.

Stalking is not limited to a man following a woman around. Men will stalk men and women will stalk women. This crime is committed blatantly every day here on our homelands. Law enforcement needs to take reports of stalking on our homelands more seriously.

Also, with the growing number of people addicted to various kinds of drugs on our homelands, we will likely see even more instances of human trafficking. Human trafficking is slavery. People are basically kidnapped and then sold to others for sex. There is no discrimination in human trafficking. Men, women, teenagers and children are at risk of being exploited.

In October 2014, I attended a Department of Justice Consultation on the Violence Against Women Act. Tribal leaders from several tribes were in attendance at this meeting. Brendan Johnson was

our US Attorney at that time. He was instrumental in prosecuting several offenders involved in human trafficking. Here is an excerpt of his remarks from that consultation: *"Some of the women who have disappeared have been a part of commercial sex trafficking. Here in South Dakota there have been about 20 different individuals who have received federal life sentences for commercial sex trafficking, there were 3 of them in the last 4 years. We have had close to a 100 victims of commercial sex trafficking here, 40-50% of those victims have been Native American females."*

*"Two of those victims were from the Rosebud Reservation. They had just arrived in Sioux Falls and didn't have a penny in their pocket. The trafficker picked them up on Minnesota Avenue just by the Wendy's restaurant and during their time there he would give them alcohol and drugs. Then he would bring men over from the meat packing plant to have sex with these women and they would pay him to have sex with them. If they refused he would rape them. This is something we need to work on together, we all have a role to play in stopping the sex trafficking of Native American women."*

Many of our women leave the homelands to find work in Sioux Falls, Rapid City, Pierre and other metropolitan areas. Their migration to these places is not without risk. Like Johnson stated, many arrive in these cities broke and without a place to live. They are vulnerable to active pimps, who will stalk them to take advantage of their homelessness, as well as their alcohol or drug addictions, to immediately force them into sex slavery.

Our people are the most valuable resource we have. There are so many instances occurring where Lakota people are going missing. Some of them

may have been kidnapped and sold as human slaves. Children are missing from countless communities in this country. Unfortunately, many of these missing children, teens and adults are likely being trafficked for profit as human slaves.

Our women and children are sacred. They do not deserve to be stalked or trafficked. I encourage you to help your relatives as much as you can. If they move to the city, be sure to check on their well-being with a phone call or a visit. Contact the authorities if you believe a relative or someone else is being held against their will.

Stalking  
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## WHAT IS STALKING?

While legal definitions of stalking vary from one jurisdiction to another, a good working definition of stalking is a course of conduct directed at a specific person that would cause a reasonable person to feel fear.

### STALKING VICTIMIZATION

- 7.5 million people are stalked in one year in the United States.
- 15% of women and 6% of men have experienced stalking victimization at some point during their lifetime in which they felt very fearful or believed that they or someone close to them would be harmed or killed.
- The majority of stalking victims are stalked by someone they know: 61% of female victims and 44% of male victims of stalking are stalked by a current or former intimate partner, 25% of female victims and 32% of male victims are stalked by an acquaintance.
- About half of all victims of stalking indicated that they were stalked before the age of 25. About 14% of female victims and 16% of male victims experienced stalking between the ages of 11 and 17.
- Approaching the victim or showing up in places when the victim didn't want them to be there; making unwanted telephone calls; leaving the victim unwanted messages (text or voice); and watching or following the victim from a distance, or spying on the victim with a listening device, camera, or global positioning system were the most commonly reported stalker tactics by both female and male victims of stalking.

[Matthew J. Breiding et al., "Prevalence and Characteristics of Sexual Violence, Stalking, and Intimate Partner Violence Victimization - National Intimate Partner and Sexual Violence Survey, United States, 2011," *Centers for Disease Control and Prevention Morbidity and Mortality Weekly Report*, Vol. 63, No. 8 (2014)]

- 46% of stalking victims experience at least one unwanted contact per week.
- 11% of stalking victims have been stalked for 5 years or more.

[Katrina Baum et al., "Stalking Victimization in the United States," (Washington, DC: Bureau of Justice Statistics, 2009).]

### STALKING AND INTIMATE PARTNER FEMICIDE

- 76% of intimate partner femicide victims have been stalked by their intimate partner.
- 67% had been physically abused by their intimate partner.
- 89% of femicide victims who had been physically assaulted had also been stalked in the 12 months before their murder.
- 79% of abused femicide victims reported being stalked during the same period that they were abused.
- 54% of femicide victims reported stalking to police before they were killed by their stalkers.

[Judith McFarlane et al., "Stalking and Intimate Partner Femicide," *Homicide Studies* 3, no. 4 (1999).]

Last updated January 2015

### THE STALKING RESOURCE CENTER

The mission of the Stalking Resource Center is to enhance the ability of professionals, organizations, and systems to effectively respond to stalking. The Stalking Resource Center envisions a future in which the criminal justice system and its many allied community partners will effectively collaborate and respond to stalking, improve victim safety and well-being, and hold offenders accountable. Visit us online at [www.victimsofcrime.org/src](http://www.victimsofcrime.org/src). Contact us at 202-467-8700 or [src@ncvc.org](mailto:src@ncvc.org).

This document may be reproduced only in its entirety. Any alterations must be approved by the Stalking Resource Center.

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**Stalking (5-6-4): Any persons willfully, maliciously and repeatedly follows or harass another person who makes a credible threat to another person with the intent to place that person in reasonable fear of death or bodily injury is guilty of Stalking. (5-6-4 of the RST Law & Order Code)**

**Stalking is a Class A crime (Tribal Felony) on the Rosebud Indian Reservation. A Class A crime carries a maximum penalty of a fine not to exceed Five Thousand Dollars (\$5000.00) and court costs or jail term not to exceed one (1) year or both the fine, court costs, and jail term. (5-2-3 of the RST Law & Order Code)**



# The Resilience of Our Youth Gives Me Hope By Vi Waln

The resilience of our ancestors is found in our youth. It was emotional to watch the video of Sophie Brings Plenty running on a snow packed road, carrying an eagle feather staff in the Wounded Knee Survivors Run. Indigenous young people were also a part of the Dakota 38+2 Memorial Ride, the Water Walk to bring awareness to Missing and Murdered Indigenous Women and the ride to remember the Wounded Knee Massacre.

Our people have survived with the effects of historical trauma for centuries. Consequently, there are still many of our people who

don't value education. Yet, education is what helps us learn how to heal ourselves of inter-generational trauma.

Education doesn't always mean attending the schools built by the wasicu. But we do have Indigenous health professionals who are working with our young people to help them overcome their trauma. Dr. Darryl Tonemah (Kiowa/Comanche/Tuscarora) is a psychologist who works with adults and children in numerous communities on Turtle Island. We appreciate his sacrifice in earning professional credentials. He uses his education to help our peo-

ple better understand and overcome the effects of trauma.

We would do well to educate ourselves by learning about our ancestors and embracing what they stood for. Our ancestors fought and died so we could be here today. They also carried historical trauma but they never gave up. We have to embrace our cultural heritage as a way to educate ourselves on how historical trauma affects our daily lives.

Healing from inter-generational or historical trauma isn't going to come from a pill prescribed from an Indian Health Service physician. Individuals

must work on themselves to heal from the pain carried in their DNA. Attending the ceremonies still being held in our homelands is one way to heal.

Prayer is important when we are walking the path of healing. Many of us are taught not to pray for ourselves as many believe we should only pray for others. I encourage you to pray for yourself every single day.

I've learned to pray for myself because I have to heal myself so I can be an example for people who don't understand why they are the way they are. When we suffer from historical trauma, we

will often turn to substance abuse to numb our pain. Many of our young people are severely traumatized but they don't really understand it.

It's up to the adults to show our young people the healing path. We can do that by being a positive role model. Still, it's really hard to be a positive role model when you are an adult who doesn't understand what historical trauma is. Again, we have to educate ourselves on what trauma is and how we can move forward to heal. Once you understand why you are the way you are, you can't go back.

You can only move forward into wellness.

I am truly grateful to all our relatives who continue to bring awareness to historical trauma by riding, running and walking every winter in subzero temperatures. Wopila for remembering our ancestors executed in the 19<sup>th</sup> century by the 7<sup>th</sup> Cavalry and President Lincoln. Wopila for praying for our Water. Wopila for praying for the Indigenous women who are missing and those who've been murdered. You are good relatives setting a positive example for our children.

We can heal!

## 2017 Nobel Peace Prize Forum Oslo: "Across Dividing Lines"

It was Alfred Nobel's vision that the international prizes bearing his name, and financed by his private fortune, would inspire and reward work "for the greatest benefit to mankind". The Norwegian Nobel Institute's work contributes to the spirit of the Nobel Peace Prize and the advancement international peace and security.

The Nobel Peace Prize Forum Oslo – which takes place the day after the Nobel Peace Prize award ceremony – provides a unique, global opportunity to address, as well as advance, coordinated political action on the most pressing international peace and security issues of our time.

On 11 December the Nobel Peace Prize Forum Oslo convenes a high-level internationally broadcast two-hour discussion. Over 500 international leaders gather in the beautiful and historic Aula at the University of Oslo, decorated by Edvard Munch's astonishing paintings. The Forum brings together a unique constellation of Nobel Peace Prize Laureates and other thought leaders; representatives of governments and international organizations; scholars; international civil society leaders and activists, including those building peace in fragile, conflict and post-conflict situations, business and private sector actors; journalists; and youth across the globe, including students.

The following day, the Forum will seek to bring a select

group of delegates into purposeful conversation, aiming to strategically advance work and progress on the year's selected focus area through a daylong peace congress.

2017 Nobel Peace Prize Forum Oslo will take place on 11 December 2017 – with the theme: "Across Dividing Lines".

In 1992 Nobel Peace Prize was awarded to Rigoberta Menchú for her "work for social justice and ethno-cultural reconciliation based on respect for the rights of indigenous peoples". As the Norwegian Nobel Committee noted at the time "Rigoberta Menchú stands out as a vivid symbol of peace and reconciliation across ethnic, cultural and social dividing lines, in her own country, on the American continent, and in

the world".

At the 25th Anniversary of Dr. Menchú's winning the Nobel Peace Prize and the 10th anniversary of the adoption of the UN Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples, the Nobel Peace Prize Forum Oslo will address indigenous peoples rights within the context of social justice and environmental protection and on the need to work toward peace, dialogue and reconciliation in countering violent extremism.

Dr. Menchú's keynote will reflect on the 25 years since being awarded the Nobel Peace Prize and present her views on the topic at hand. We envision her keynote address being 20-25 minutes long, followed by a 60-minute debate led by a prominent international journalist/program host. The dis-

cussion will focus on two recent examples of intrastate conflict involving indigenous peoples over energy and environmental resources. More specifically, the speakers will discuss and compare the Standing Rock conflict, which led to war-zone like conditions within the United States from September 2016 to February 2017, and a somewhat similar conflict between the indigenous Sami population in Arctic Norway and the Norwegian state. Both the Dakota tribe and the Sami people will be represented on the panel.

The Forum will take place at the "Aula" at the University of Oslo, a stunning lecturing hall decorated with original paintings by Edvard Munch. We expect an audience of up to 500 people with a variety of back-

grounds. The Forum will be broadcast live by NRK, the leading Norwegian radio and TV network, and possibly by another leading international news network. The Forum will be streamed live by Nobel Media, the global digital outreach unit of the Nobel Foundation, and made accessible across the world on YouTube. We also expect extensive coverage by international news media, present in Oslo to cover the Nobel Peace Prize Award Ceremony on 10 December.

The following day, the Forum will seek to bring a select group of delegates into purposeful conversation, under the Chatham House Rule, aiming to strategically advance work and progress on the year's selected focus area through a half-day peace congress.

See related stories on page 3 and page 10





### South Dakota Legislators

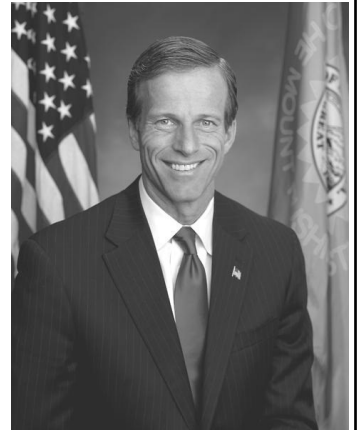
#### US Representative

**Kristi Noem**  
 1323 Longworth HOB  
 Washington DC 20515  
 (202) 225-2801  
 (855) 225-2801  
 Noem.house.gov  
 Rapid City office  
 343 Quincy St, Ste 102  
 Rapid City SD 57701  
 (605) 394-5280



#### US Senator

**John Thune**  
 US Senate SR 493  
 Washington DC 20510  
 (202) 224-2321  
 (866) 850-3855  
 Thune.senate.gov  
 Rapid City office  
 246 Founders Park Dr  
 Rapid City SD 57701  
 (605) 348-7551



#### US Senator

**Mike Rounds**  
 Russell Senate  
 Courtyard 4  
 Washington DC 20510  
 (202) 224-5842  
 Rounds.senate.gov  
 Rapid City office  
 1313 W Main St  
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PO Box 937—Rosebud, SD 57570

Email: [editor@sicanguscribe.com](mailto:editor@sicanguscribe.com) Website: [www.sicanguscribe.com](http://www.sicanguscribe.com)

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## Neutral Mediator Brings Morton County Official to Nobel Peace Forum By Brenda Norrell, Censored News

Water Protectors say Stephanie Hope Smith brought in negotiators from Morton County and the joint command, without permission of Standing Rock water protectors, or consultation with elders in 2016. Then Smith brought a Morton County official to the Nobel Peace Prize Forum, where Water Protectors were representing Chief Arvol Looking Horse.

Stephanie Hope Smith was responsible for bringing the Morton County official to the Nobel Peace Prize Forum, according to the Forum organizer. Smith was also responsible for a meeting with the joint command and a Native delegation in October of 2016. At this meeting, the joint command discussed the details of Oct. 27, 2016, which included the arrest of

Red Fawn. Roberto Borrero was at the meeting with law enforcement that day and reported, "On Monday, October 31 Grand Chief John and I met with local law enforcement officials for a briefing in the city of Mandan North Dakota. No media was permitted to attend this meeting. The meeting was arranged by Stephanie Hope Smith, a 'Neutral

Mediator' registered with North Dakota Court Administrator and led by Cass County Sheriff Paul D. Laney, the head of the joint command. The officials, 9 in all including a political representative of the county, presented an overview of the Thursday, October 27 operation."

Read more of Borrero's report: <https://www.culturalsurvival.org/news/human-rights-observer-report-mission-standing-rock-sioux-reservation>

[org/news/human-rights-observer-report-mission-standing-rock-sioux-reservation](https://www.culturalsurvival.org/news/human-rights-observer-report-mission-standing-rock-sioux-reservation)

While acting with no authority as a mediator, and describing herself at the Nobel Forum as a sacred and cultural site conciliator, Stephanie Hope Smith enabled the Morton County Commission Chairman to take the propaganda of abuse to the international arena.

In a press release (see below), Morton County Commissioner Cody Schulz said he met with Norway's Mineral Industry, which is responsible for mining, while at the Nobel Forum.

Schulz said he also negated the favorable media coverage of Standing Rock.

See related stories on page 3 and page 8

## Press Release from North Dakota's Morton County Commission

According to a press release, Morton County Commission Chairman, Cody Schulz, recently contributed to a Nobel Peace Prize Forum in Oslo, Norway focused on Indigenous rights within the context of social justice and environmental protection.

The forum, and subsequent dialogue, titled "Across Dividing Lines," was held the week of December 10. Stakeholders from the of Dakota Access

Pipeline (DAPL) protest and the Nussir copper mine conflict in the municipality of Kvalsund, Norway were invited to participate.

"It was an honor and really quite humbling to be asked to participate in the dialogue," said Schulz. "The subject matter is very important, and our recent experience surrounding the DAPL protest is particularly relevant to the broader conversation."

Schulz was able to share his experiences with forum sponsors, staff from the Nobel Institute of Norway, the President of the Sami (Indigenous Peoples of northern Norway) Parliament, and the Secretary General of the Norwegian Mineral Industry.

The forum was primarily sponsored by the global non-profit organization Peace Through Commerce (PTC). PTC believes in the power of com-

merce to create positive change. They hope to move people from single-issue solution efforts that often focus only on effects, to well-designed, coordinated, multi-sector solutions that focus on all levels of the problem: values, causes, and effects.

"My goal was to make sure that all of the facts of the situation were properly understood and the perspective of local landowners, law enforce-

ment, and emergency responders were represented because I believe the media, especially at the national and international level, did a very poor job reporting that side of the story," said Schulz. "I was really quite impressed with PTC's approach of multi-sector, multi-level engagement that looks at values, causes, and effects."

The Nobel forum was the latest in a number of events that

state and local leaders have participated in to share perspectives and promote healing.

"It is really important that we learn from what happened here over the last 18 months, and I think we also have a responsibility to help others avoid a similar situation," said Schulz. "We hope this leads to more peaceful, respectful dialogue."

See related stories on page 3 and page 8

## Buche Foods and Gus Stop Raises \$9,045.04 for Local Cancer Survivors

Buche Foods and Gus Stop team members have proven once again they can bring their "A" game when

it comes to raising funds for a good cause. "I'm humbled and very fortunate to work with such a good

group of people that truly goes above and beyond to meet our expectations" stated RF Buche, President of GF Buche Company.

Team members throughout the company also came up with their own ideas to raise additional money. For every day that team members wore their pink Breast Cancer Awareness Shirts along with "Blue Jeans," they paid \$1 to the fund.

The total dollar amount raised came to \$9,045.04 and \$10,991.36 was last year's total. Buche Foods and Gus Stop Stores have a new total of \$39,551.74 for cancer patients. To remember those 55 patients, there were 55 pink memory bags displayed in the windows of the Headquarters office in Wagner.

100% of the profit being donated to the relief fund will help defray some travel and

medical expenses incurred by area cancer survivors that are battling any type of Cancer. "If we can help someone in the local community with some of the financial pressure, then it makes it

all worthwhile" stated RF Buche.

Please contact Arlis Kafka at 605-384-3597 if you or someone you love are fighting cancer and need financial assistance.







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## Dakota Prayer Ride & Water Walk



Photo from Facebook

Participants of the Dakota Prayer Ride & Water Walk faced historical trauma together. Their journey closely followed the route our ancestors took when they fled bloodshed during the Dakota Uprising. The first day saw the runners arriving at the Sisseton Wahpeton Tribal Headquarters in Old Agency. They joined the 38+2 Riders at the Mankato Memorial site of the Dakota 38. They also ran with the 38 Runners at Fort Snelling in their 31st year to carry healing prayers at night running south to join together at the hanging site with the Ride & Water Walkers on December 26. The goal was to bring people from all over the world to help pray for our Mother Earth and her Mni Wiconi, water of life, to help build hope, so many dreams of healing can be filled. 2017 brought global awareness to the contamination of our sacred waters, as well as the growing numbers of our Murdered and Missing Indigenous Women. #MMIW

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## Dakota Prayer Ride & Water Walk



Photo from Facebook

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*Greetings to all yoga enthusiasts!*

Welcome to the yoga corner. The beginning of the New Year may inspire new years' resolutions for many optimistic people seeking healthier lifestyle choices and better health habits. This month is focused on the gastrocnemius, otherwise known as the calf muscle. We have all experienced calf cramping at one time or another and without proper stretching of this muscle a gentle tug-of-war may occur also in our upper body, not to mention intense pain when the calf is contracting. If your calf muscles are sore to the touch and your legs are aching throughout the day, choosing to do some yoga stretches can often ease the neglected calf muscles and create a better walking path to balance and pain-free

## Yoga Corner



movements. Practicing yoga regularly to the powerful calf muscles will gradually improve leg mobility, increase flexibility and keep your overall physical performance at a healthier state. At this time of the year other factors to consider that create tight calf muscles are; dehydration, electrolyte imbalance, certain prescribed medications and mineral deficiencies.

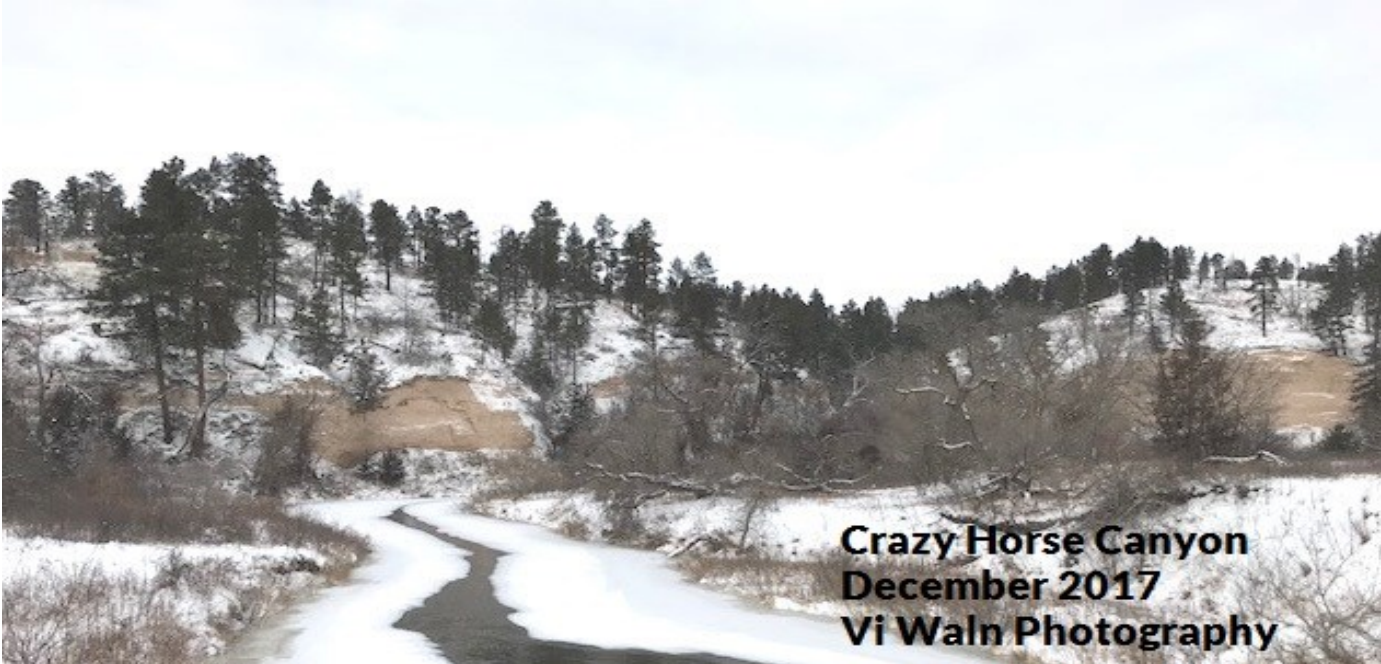
*Tip of the month*

Never force your body into any pose, but rather encour-

age your body to stretch muscle tightness, breathe and just let go of all mind busyness. Set your intentions on exactly what you wish to achieve, quiet the mind and focus on only one task- stretching the calf. Find a comfortable place sit down and extend both legs out in front of you. Create a gentle bend in the knees and bring the toes to the nose (flex only the feet forward). Feel the calf engaging then slowly reach towards the toes, holding for 4 or 5 breaths. Take it slowly. Form is more important than speed. Alternate legs until both sides feel equal. This should take about 10 minutes. Keep in mind that the first few stretches may be intense, but it gradually gets easier. Before you know it you are doing YOGA.

*The Supercali Yoga Studio*





Crazy Horse Canyon  
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*Prairie Hills*  
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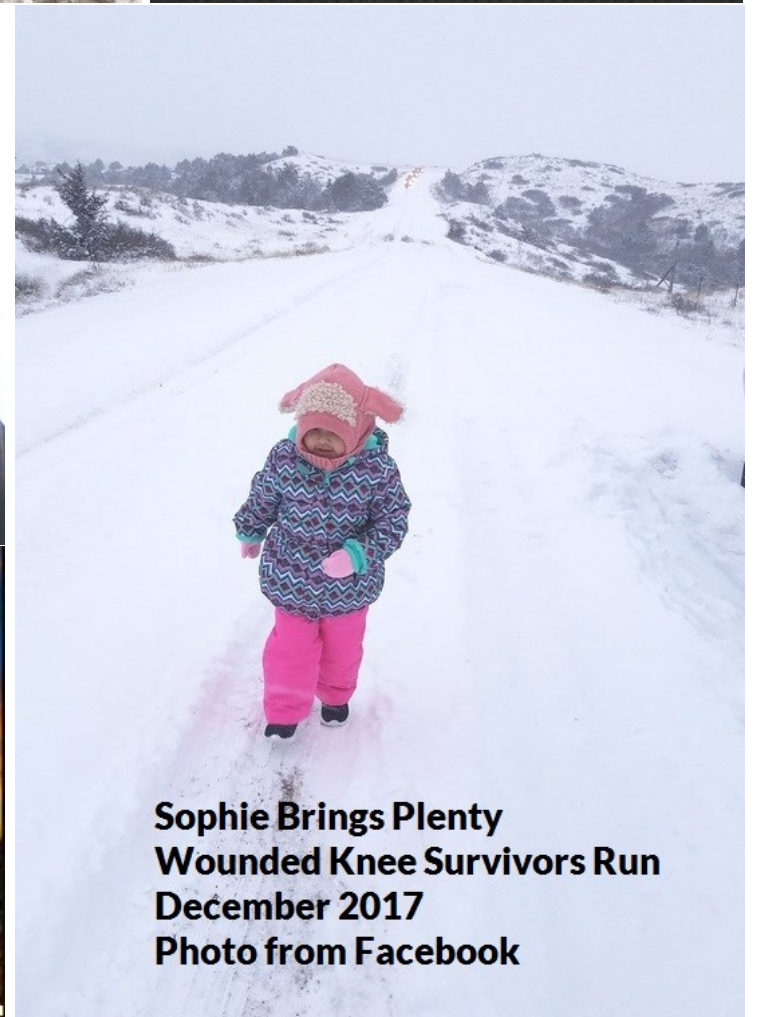
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Jeremiah Tiger  
Wounded Knee Survivors Run  
December 2017  
Photo from Facebook



Sophie Brings Plenty  
Wounded Knee Survivors Run  
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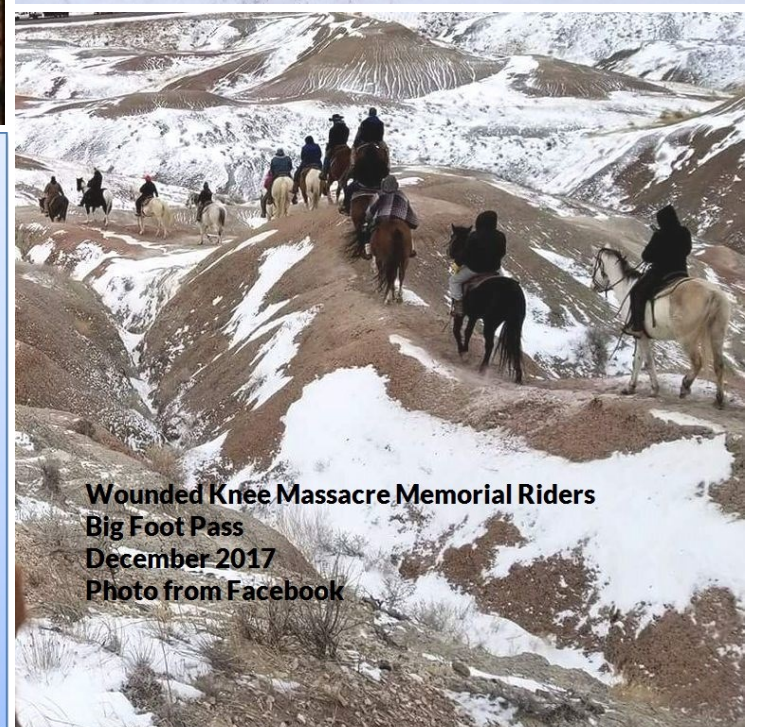
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Wounded Knee Massacre Memorial Riders  
Big Foot Pass  
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