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VOLUME I

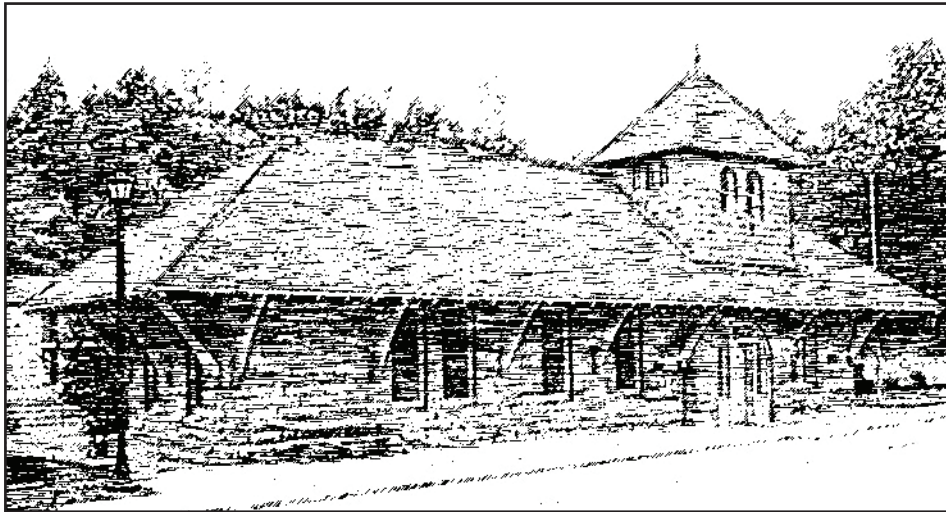
MINNEKAHTA PUBLISHING, LLC

NUMBER 3

SOUTHWESTERN SD.

BRINGING OUR COMMUNITIES TOGETHER

FRIDAY, APR. 28, 2017



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Minnekahta Messenger



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BRINGING OUR COMMUNITIES TOGETHER

FRIDAY, APR. 28, 2017

HAPPY ARBOR DAY AND CINCO DE MAYO

**WE SUPPORT OUR
FIRST RESPONDERS
THANK YOU
ALL LIVES MATTER**

DISCOURAGED ENGINES
By D.E. Matt

In spite of Trump's optimistic campaign promises on coal, Edgemont's coal train engines don't seem to be engines that "think they can."

More than 100 engines have been sitting idle for days and days amid ongoing rumors of coal market uncertainty. Two trains composed entirely of indecisive coal train engines have been sitting on two sidetracks in the Edgemont, South Dakota rail yard awaiting who knows what.

Gillette, Wyoming may harbor a reported 300 or more engines and the rail yard in Alliance, Nebraska has similar scenes. Unofficial rumor has it that there may be as many as 5,600 engines sitting idle nationally.

Perhaps these engines have been discouraged by the chaotic aftermath of 2016 including rumors of contention and a possible shake-up in the White House. The engines may have read reports in the Denver Post threatening to tie up coal fired power plants in the courts for years to maintain current clean air standards. Perhaps they were discouraged by graphs showing years of a downhill price slide for competing clean burning natural gas.

(see Engines on back cover)

CANNABIS CURES!
By Lorelei Marie

Herbs have been used for thousands of years by humans for medicinal purposes. La Yerba Buena, the good herb, is one of them. It is also known as cannabis.

The Japanese and the Chinese have recorded the use and benefits of cannabis for more than 10,000 years. It was used in the Middle East and Egypt for many purposes. In the Old Testament it is referred to as Kanen bosom and anointing oil.

According to Dr. Hilda Luz Chavez, New Mexico medical cannabis patient consultant and naturopath at Tesoro Health Center in Las Cruces, New Mexico, "This is an ancient

medicinal herb that doesn't need anyone to prove that it works and for many conditions. It has been beneficial for thousands of years. The value and the benefits are not questionable to those who use it, it's the politics, the stigma and lack of education that often give it a bad name."

There are several different strains of cannabis. Cannabis oil is extracted from the flowers and upper leaves of the marijuana plant. It contains CBD (cannabidiol) and THC (tetrahydrocannabinol). THC is the most commonly smoked part of the plant that produces the "high."

Cannabis oil sold for medicinal use has had the THC removed; therefore, it has no psychoactive properties and is perfectly safe for even children to take.

Cannabis is effective for preventing and even curing cancer. CBD's have been shown to dissolve tumors. Recent studies are even indicating that THC may activate biological pathways that halt cancer cell division or block development of blood vessels that feed tumors.

Cannabis has also been effective in managing chronic pain and treating MS (Multiple Sclerosis), PTSD (Post Traumatic Stress Disorder), Parkinson's disease, neuropathy, Crohn's disease and a host of other diseases and ailments.

Skeptics and prohibitionists claim there is no medicinal value. These denials directly contradict U.S. government funded studies proving the medicinal benefits of cannabis.

(see Cannabis on back cover)

**OKLAHOMA PIPELINE
DEFEATED**
By Lorelei Marie

Tribal members from the Comanche, Caddo, Apache, Cherokee and Kiowa Tribes of Oklahoma were recent victors in the case of Davilla v. Enable Midstream Partners, L.P. A federal judge has ruled that Enable Midstream has trespassed on tribal land and ordered the removal of their pipe-line within six months.

The judge agreed with tribal members that federal law applies and that there can be an accounting for the money made off the land during the period deemed a trespass which is 17 years. There are similar pipeline issues across Indian country including here in South Dakota.

A TALE OF THREE CITIES
By Frank Gregg

Edgemont, South Dakota has gone through several stages of boom and bust over the course of its lifetime and its boundaries have changed in the process. No one, however, could have foreseen how those boundaries have wandered over the map as they appear now.

First, a little history.

South Dakota's first rail lines were laid in the 1870s and played an important part in the settlement of the state. Programs were instituted by the railroads to encourage settlers to move into new territories and were prominent in the economic and social structure of the state.

In many cases the railroads platted town sites to sell to new arrivals settling the area and in large part defined the population areas of the state. Edgemont was one of those towns. In many cases, the towns themselves were a profit center for the railroads.

In 1889 the Chicago Burlington & Quincy (CB&Q), or The Burlington, built through the southwestern corner of the state and decided to use this route to expand into the Black Hills.

Prior to that expansion, the Black Hills and Fort Pierre Railroad as well as the Deadwood Central had been built through the hills, but were not connected to a main line. The Burlington quickly bought out those lines and extended into the Black Hills with both standard and narrow gauge rails.

South Dakota was admitted to the Union the second of November, 1889, three days before the railroad arrived in what would be known as Edgemont. The Lincoln Land Company, a subsidiary of the renamed Chicago, Burlington and Missouri Railroad, determined that the Cheyenne River was an appropriate spot for a depot because a supply of water was available for the steam locomotives.

According to the Edgemont Chamber of Commerce, the land company was forced to purchase land south of the river as the price was too high on the north side.

In the spring of 1890, the rail yards were built and the town of Edgemont was born. The town name was derived from the fact that the town was located on the southern edge of the Black Hills. The town was platted and houses, churches and bars were built.

(see Cities on back cover)

**PUTIN EXPOSES
VACCINES AND MORE**
By Lorelei Marie

Russian President Vladimir Putin recently engaged U.S. Secretary of State Rex Tillerson in talks at the Kremlin. The relationship between Russia and the United States was the main subject of conversation.

According to mainstream media views in the United States, Russia is to be regarded as a threat to the well-being and stability of our country. Putin had requested and recently viewed an eye-opening report prepared by the Russian Ministry of Health regarding the connection between Western governments and global powers, especially Big Pharma.

Putin mistrusts the vaccine agenda perpetuated by U.S. government agencies, which is doing widespread harm throughout the world.

According to the report, there is a huge conflict of interest between the government agencies regulating vaccines and the corporations that approve and implement them. Internationally respected scientists and leading medical professionals participated in the investigation.

The report declares that the vaccine situation is a "self-perpetuating criminal racket" with rampant greed *(see Vaccines on back cover)*

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Having The Last Word

Standing Rock: Is the Profit for a Few Worth the Risk for Many?

By Lorelei Marie

We need to look at all of the facts about Standing Rock, not just the incomplete stories published by mainstream media, and weigh them against the cost to human lives and to our vital resources. Ask yourselves, “Is the profit for a few worth the risk for many?”

Energy Transfer Partners, the Dallas-based corporation that built the pipeline, continues to insist that it is safe. Accumulated evidence, showing multiple and continuing oil pipeline leaks across the country, says otherwise. Landowners and others living in the vicinity are worried about damaged pipes spewing oil onto their lands and endangering their water supplies.

The fracking process used to extract the oil turns it into a toxic substance. When a spill occurs, these toxins further add to the contamination caused by the oil to the surrounding land and water. Also, according to U.S. statutory law, it is illegal to transport this toxic substance across the country.

Oil is a valuable resource; however, when transporting it, consideration for our environment and the welfare of those living in the vicinities must be a priority. Every effort should be made to ensure the safest mode of transportation is used to fully protect vital water resources.

The original route of the pipeline went by Bismarck, ND. It was rerouted due to potential danger to the drinking water supply of the Bismarck people. Its new route is near Standing Rock where it will threaten the drinking water supply of the Lakota people.

Trash was left behind at Standing Rock, but it was not from the “water protectors.” Instead it was trucked in by Morton County to make it appear that the protectors were intentionally making a mess. How do I know County staff did the dumping? Because they were videotaped. To learn more, visit the following website: <http://thedailyhaze.com/morton-county-dumping-trash-standing-rock/>

Some people complained about ceremonial fires set at the encampment when the protectors were forced to leave. But where is the outrage to the brutal treatment to which many of the protectors, including elders and children, were subjected? Evidence points to Dakota Access Pipeline representatives setting fires at Standing Rock. Here’s one incident: https://www.democracynow.org/2016/10/31/standing_rock_dallas_goldtooth_on_suspicious

Prosecutors and judges have dropped 33 misdemeanor cases that had been filed against Standing Rock protectors. Another 14 were resolved by guilty pleas. Most of the cases related to criminal trespass charges from late last summer and fall.

Water protectors and demonstrators had spent months at the Standing Rock Reservation trying to stop the \$3.8 billion-dollar, four-state pipeline. The major concerns continue to be that a spill would contaminate the drinking water for the reservation and construction of the pipeline would damage sacred Native American sites, the latter of which has already occurred.

This is not a racial issue. Water is a resource needed by us all.

Abundance of Evidence Proves the Increasing Dangers of Vaccines

By Lorelei Marie

There is much confusion on the topic of vaccinations. We’ve been taught that the medical establishment knows best, but do they really? It is time to question the agenda that is currently being perpetrated upon an unsuspecting American population.

For example, many cases of people with *polio paralysis* in the 1950’s had no polio virus in their systems. Scientists discovered that other viruses, such as Coxsackie, Echo, and Enteroviruses, could cause similar symptoms. They also found that lead, arsenic, DDT, and other commonly used neurotoxins can cause polio-type symptoms. To learn more: <http://vaccinationcouncil.org/2011/11/17/smoke-mirrors-and-the-disappearance-of-polio/>

During epidemics, the pathogen referred to as polio was reversed by alternative medical doctors who had a high rate of success using methods of detoxification. Once the vaccine was mass marketed, however, rates of polio began to increase.

The polio vaccine had the fastest licensing in FDA history. It was approved in only two hours—before academic scientists and community doctors had a chance to read any published stories.

In the face of the corporate takeover of our medical system and mainstream news, scholarly thinking and well-documented research is discouraged. Anti-vaccination doctors are not permitted to discuss their opinions on CNN, Fox News, and other media.

An abundance of evidence proves the increasing dangers of vaccines today. Vaccination should be a choice of each individual. I encourage all who doubt the safety and effectiveness of vaccines to research and uncover the facts for yourselves. There is much deprogramming to do. Your lives and those of your children depend on it. To learn more, visit the International Medical Council on Vaccination website at www.vaccinationcouncil.org.

There are many ways to maintain health and ward off viruses that do not require being injected with disease matter, chemicals, animal DNA, animal proteins, detergents and surfactants that inflame and weaken the blood brain barrier causing inflammation and other acute and chronic problems.

Renowned physician Suzanne Humphries, author of “Dissolving Illusions: Disease, Vaccination and the Forgotten History,” says: “The tendency of a mass vaccination program is to herd people. People are not cattle or sheep. They should not be herded. A mass vaccination program carries a built-in temptation to oversimplify the problem; to exaggerate the benefits; to minimize or completely ignore the hazards; to discourage or silence scholarly, thoughtful and cautious opposition; to create an urgency where none exists; to whip up an enthusiasm among citizens that can carry with it the seeds of impatience, if not intolerance, to extend the concept of the police power of the state in quarantine far beyond its proper limitation; to assume simplicity when there is actually great complexity; to continue to support a vaccine long after it has been discredited; and to ridicule honest and informed consent.”

Rhyme Or Reason

OVER THE BACK FENCE

By Carrie Cofer

I Saw A Man

Today I saw a man
walking in the rain,
his dog in his backpack,
his horse on a halter rope.

“Where can I park my horse
and refuel him
while I dry my sleeping bag
at the laundry?” his voice graveled at me.

I pointed to a fence,
its grass was greener
on this side for once.
The backpack dog shivered.

The man was sunburned, vine ripened,
windburned to an intense brick red,
sporting a four-day black stubble
sprinkled with silver. Damaged, he was.

Damaged as if life had carved
his body and face intaglio.
It might have been a famous
American face on a granite mountain.

I Came Along One Woman Too Late

©Copyright by Horsewoman

When I met you, my heart I did lose
You were what I'd looked for all my life.
You even kissed me before I wanted you close
Circumstances even caused me some strife.

Chorus

But I came along, one woman too late.
All your other women have broken your heart
To repair it, there is no date.
Because I came along one woman too late.

You slowly begin to tell me,
How one woman cheated on you,
How another, about you would lie free,
Then there's the one that ran off and left you.

You told of one that stole you blind,
And never more will you trust.
There's no way that I can find.
Although to be with you is a must.

On Being Tall

If I were still me
but magically 8 or 9
inches taller
it could be a good thing.
Maybe. Possibly

I could clean the top of the refrigerator
without a chair.

The front porch would always
have a welcoming light bulb.

I could claim the back of the kitchen
cupboard shelves, again with no chair.

The low price sale items at the grocery
would be within my reach as never before.

Adding oil to my truck engine would no longer
need a helpful knight in shining armor.

I could climb up into my pickup truck
without a boost from a friend, or a ladder.

However, I am used to being short. At the grocery
strangers automatically offer to reach things for me.

Since I don't store anything on the top and back of the
kitchen shelves, I don't have to try to reach them.

I am a belt buckle expert now. I have probably seen
and talked to every belt buckle on every pair of jeans
in the Southern Black Hills,

Jackson Hole and Front Range Colorado.

It is easier to talk to a man's belt buckle than to
crank my head back and talk up his nose.

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Mitakuye Oyasin

Native Voices: Origins of the Lakota/Sioux

By Lorelei Marie

The name "Lakota" means "allies, friends or those who are united." Dakota originates with the word Da meaning "considered" and Koda or "friend." The name Sioux is Algonquin. It comes from Nadowe Su, which means "Little Rattle." It pertains to the rattling sound that a snake makes before it strikes. The spelling was changed from Su to Sioux by French traders and trappers who also dropped Nadowe.

The Lakota or Sioux are also known as Teton ("prairie dwellers"). Teton Sioux are part of a confederation of seven related Sioux tribes or Seven Council Fires (Oceti Sakowin).

The Lakota language is spoken, which is the westernmost of the three Siouan language groups, occupying lands in both North and South Dakota.

There are seven bands or "sub-tribes" of the Lakota. These include: Sichangu (Brule, Burned Thighs), Oglala ("They Scatter Their Own"), Itazipcho (Sans Arc, Without bows), Hunkpapa ("End Village" Camps at the End of the Camp Circle), Mnikhowozu ("Plant beside the Stream", Planters by the Water), Sihakapa ("Black Feet"), and Oohenunpa (Two Kettles).

The Sioux language overall has three dialects: Lakota, Dakota and Nakota. The main dialects today are Lakota and Dakota, with the Nakota being the least frequently used. Dialect speakers are easily understood by each other. Most Lakota, Dakota and Nakota people live on South Dakota's nine reservations. Sioux reservations also exist in North Dakota, Nebraska, Montana, Minnesota and Canada.

The Siouan language speakers most likely originated in the lower Mississippi River region and migrated from there to the Ohio

valley. They may also have been part of the Mound Builder civilization during the 9th-12th centuries CE. They were agriculturalists and by the late 16th and early 17th centuries, Dakota-Lakota speakers lived in the upper Mississippi Region in the present day states of Minnesota, Wisconsin, Iowa, and the Dakotas.

Eventually the Lakota were pushed westward to the Great Plains in the mid-to late-17th century by conflicts with the Anishnaabe and Cree peoples. After the introduction of the horse to the continent, they became skilled horsemen and relied mainly on the buffalo for sustenance.

This great nation of respected elders, warriors, women and children were self-sustaining and lived in balance and harmony with consideration for the environment which provided for their needs. Paha Sapa, the Black Hills, were considered to be *sacred* and used mainly for ceremonial purposes.

The beautiful Hills remained in near pristine condition until the intrusion of gold prospectors in the 1800's. According to the Fort Laramie Treaty of 1868 the Black Hills were to remain the sole domain of the Lakota people in perpetuity or "as long as the grass shall grow and the rivers will flow."

With the discovery of gold, Lt. Col. George Armstrong Custer invaded the Hills with 1,000 soldiers in 1874. This led to the Battle of the Little Big Horn in 1876, a victory for the Lakota. Soon though, they were forced onto present day reservations including Pine Ridge, Rosebud and Standing Rock. Stripped of their land and way of life, the people of Pine Ridge now constitute the poorest county in our nation.

How Porcupine Got Quills

Long ago, when the world was young, porcupines had no quills.

One day, when Porcupine was in the woods, Bear came along and wanted to eat him.

But, Porcupine climbed to the top of a tree and was safe.

The next day, when Porcupine was under a hawthorn tree, he noticed how the thorns pricked him.

He had an idea.

He broke off some of the branches of the hawthorn and put them on his back.

Then, he went into the woods to wait for Bear.

When Bear sprang on Porcupine, the little animal just curled himself up in a ball.

Bear had to go away, for the thorns pricked him too much.

Iktomi saw what happened.

He called Porcupine to him and asked, "How did you know that trick?"

"I am always in danger when Bear comes along" replied Porcupine.

"When I saw those thorns, I thought I would use them."

So Iktomi took some branches from the hawthorn tree and peeled off the bark until they were white.

Then he put some clay on the back of Porcupine, stuck the thorns in it and made the whole a part of his skin.

"Now go into the woods," said Iktomi.

Porcupine obeyed, and Iktomi hid himself behind a tree.

Soon Wolf came along.

He sprang on Porcupine and then ran away, howling.

Bear came along, but he did not get near Porcupine.

He was afraid of those thorns.

That is why all porcupines have quills today!

(Credit: Akta Lakota Museum and Cultural Center and St. Joseph's Indian School, <http://aktalakota.stjo.org/site/News2?page=NewsArticle&id=8682>)

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There's Something To Be Said

The Kindred Spirit By Barbara Hauseman

When the House Goes Silent

Modern day conveniences, such as electricity, are luxuries we all take for granted. When we don't have them, we need them.

We're spoiled, to say the least!

A local electrical company was making repairs on city wires and replacing poles with new ones—the old poles were probably the original ones from long ago. Even utilities need a *face lift*.

Although I had been notified in advance of the scheduled date of the power shut-off, when I walked into the kitchen on that day, I noticed something was amiss. It was dead still. No noises. No humming of electricity running throughout the house or the furnace kicking on. It was strange not to hear the muffled everyday noises in the house. This sensation is somewhat unsettling.

Our ears are accustomed to hearing daily noises. We sometimes blot out those we can't avoid. Dare I mention ear plugs? The washing machine, dishwasher and vacuum cleaner would have to wait until the mas-

ter switch was turned back on. The same would go for hot water to bathe in, to wash dishes with and to use to clean the house.

A friend told me if you have hot water and soap, you should have a clean and healthy domain.

If the pioneers could see how we live today they would probably think we have it made. The modern world has stepped in to make our lives more comfortable. We forget how fortunate we are to have these commodities.

Be conservative. That's an issue for some of us, forgetting the *small things* we take for granted. Take nothing for granted, for tomorrow there may be something else we use that will be shut off for a while.

I have many kerosene lamps and candles in my house. If the lights were to go out, I wouldn't be stuck in the dark! If this has happened to you and your family, you know what I'm talking about.

It's always a good rule of thumb to be prepared for anything. Water and lights are essential.

When your electricity or water is shut off for maintenance purposes, don't freak out!

the next morning the corral would be full.

Ray's mother ate at the same table with the notorious outlaw and said he was a very nice looking man and very mannerly. Many people described him as likable, good tempered, sober and industrious. He was never known to drink or gamble, although he later owned saloons in Wyoming, Nebraska and South Dakota.

He had many scrapes with the law but always seemed to get away. He did serve time in the penitentiary in Nebraska but was shown leniency because he almost always protected the white settlers and was thought to only steal from the Indians.

The Indians believed that Doc was favored by the Great Spirit because he had front teeth that were filled with gold. He was known as the "Gold Chief" and they would not kill him.

The famous Buffalo Bill Cody was his friend and Bill hired him for his Wild West Show. In 1893 he rode in the great Chadron to Chicago horse race and didn't win, but finished the race in good time.

One of his charitable deeds involved a little girl who had died, who was held in high esteem in the town of Douglas, Wyoming. Unfortunately, there was no wood to make her coffin in the surrounding area, so Doc actually took the fine polished wood that made up his bar in his saloon to create her small coffin.

Some said Doc had the air of a traveling Methodist preacher with a little bit of Robin Hood thrown in.

Doc was purported to have owned saloons in Ardmore and in Edgemont, where he was also Town Marshall. He would "fill them up and lock them in."

Doc was married several times and had four children. In about 1914 he relocated to Orin Junction, Wyoming and owned a bar there. There was a knife fight over some trivial matter and Doc was severely stabbed in the stomach.

Doc was arrested because of the fracas and was being held in the county jail where infection developed, resulting in his death at the court house a few days later. He is buried in the Douglas, Wyoming cemetery.

Doc Middleton – Gentleman Horse Thief

By T.L. Matt

This formidable country we live in spawned many notable characters, but none quite as colorful or controversial as James Middleton Riley, aka Doc Middleton.

Born in Bastrop, Texas in 1851, Doc got into trouble there early on and joined a cattle drive that was headed to Nebraska. The Wild West History Association reported that Doc got in an argument with a soldier in Sidney, Nebraska in a local saloon. The soldier knocked him down with a blow to the face and he got up only to be knocked down again. Then he shot the soldier in the stomach.

Doc jumped on the next stage without his coat. This was in a very cold January. J.E. North gave Doc a buffalo robe to keep warm. Later, when his career of horse

thievery began, there was not one horse of the North herd that was lost.

Doc Middleton is sometimes known as "King of the Horse Thieves," reportedly stealing 2,000 head from not only ranches but the Sioux over a two-year period. He claimed that he only stole from Indians and the U.S. Government but the actual truth is unknown.

The "pony gang" that he organized had an elaborate system of taking stolen horses from one select ranch to another. These were spread out all over Niobrara County.

One of my 11-year-old relatives, Ray Barclay, worked for a rancher herding horses. Ray didn't realize it was one of Doc's relay stations. Some mornings he would hardly have any horses to herd and

Special Section

Dangers Posed by Uranium Mining

By Lorelei Marie

“Caution Radiation Area. Radiation levels in this area are elevated. No more than one day within a one year period should be spent in this area. NO CAMPING.”

This is a sign located not in Fukushima or Chernobyl but at Riley Pass Uranium Mine in Northwestern South Dakota.

There are 272 abandoned uranium mines and prospects in South Dakota. There are more than 10,000 unmarked, unfilled abandoned uranium exploratory wells. More than 4,000 of them are in the Southwestern Black Hills. All of these wells have caused the Madison Aquifer, the source of drinking water for many communities, to be contaminated with uranium.

There is no safe threshold for exposure to radiation. Besides causing cancer, radiation exposure can result in childhood leukemia, respiratory and kidney disease, diabetes, miscarriages, birth defects, heart disease, rheumatoid arthritis and other ailments.

Dr. K. Kearfott, Ph.D., a nuclear physics professor from the University of Michigan, and his team conducted tests in Southwestern South Dakota and found radiation levels higher than in Chernobyl and Fukushima!

The Northern Great Plains, most notably the Pine Ridge Reservation, has the highest rates of cancer in the country, particularly lung cancer. The cancer rates began to increase drastically several decades after the start of uranium mining in their territory. Uranium mining is contributing to the genocide of the Lakota Nation.

Mining exposes uranium to the atmosphere where it becomes reactive. It then releases other radioactive elements, such as thorium and radium, and toxic heavy metals, including arsenic, selenium, mercury and cadmium.

Most recently, the Dewey Burdock project, which had been stopped by the Lakota

and other protesters in 2015, is currently back on the agenda.

Dewey Burdock, a subsidiary of Azarga (a Chinese company), is calling their in situ mining project Powertech.

This project has the potential to make Fall River and Custer Counties, where the mining will take place, a “toxic waste disposal site,” says Lindsey McLean, a biochemist and Rapid City businesswoman.

Powertech also has the potential to further contaminate the four basic aquifers that encircle the Black Hills, most notably the Madison Aquifer, the main source of drinking water, as well as the Minnelusa and Inyan Kara Aquifers, used for irrigation, livestock and human use.

Time to speak up again folks! Especially if you want your and your children’s future to include healthy and safe drinking water, not to mention a clean environment. And with respect to all the wildlife and vegetation that is dependent upon our choices, we must make good choices to ensure their continued survival in this great web of life.

Uranium Again?

By T.L. Matt

There was a uranium boom in Edgemont during the 1950’s and 1960’s. A mining company, Susquehanna Corporation, left behind a 4 million-ton pile of radioactive waste.

Those tailings were used as fill material at 60 locations around town where it emitted radon gas, which was cancer-causing and had to be dug up. It was then buried in a pit, measuring a mile across, just south of Edgemont.

People in town, not only miners and mill workers, suffered lung diseases and various cancers that may have been caused by breathing radioactive dust and gas.

In a 1976 study by the South Dakota Department of Health, cancer rates were higher in Fall River County than in the rest of the state.

Susquehanna left the cost for cleaning up to the federal government and the American taxpayers. The corporation was legally

dissolved decades ago.

Powertech has been taken over by Azarga Uranium Corporation, an inexperienced uranium mining company, owned by China, with headquarters in Hong Kong.

Will they repeat the mistakes of the past? Even though mining procedures are different now with in situ, or in place, mining, there can be dangers.

According to Dakota Rural Action Fact Sheet (Jan. 2015), Azarga is seeking South Dakota permits for 551 gallons of water per minute from the Madison Aquifer and 8,500 gallons per minute from the Inyan Kara Formation. That’s 12.96 million gallons per day for 20 years. The company expects to get this for free.

On March 7, 2017 two EPA permits were passed to Azarga. The project already has a license from the U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission. Next, the SD Department of Environmental and Natural Resources has to give final consideration to state permits for the project. Will China really care about water contamination here? Leaks and accidents in these types of operations are inevi-

table. What about flooding and runoff into the Angostura Reservoir and the Cheyenne River? Is containment really possible given the natural fractures and fissures in this region’s geology?

We have lived in Edgemont for almost three years now and love the people we have met. Because we are somewhat isolated from larger communities, there are organizations and activities that are delightful and educational. There are many opportunities to serve.

It’s the perfect community in my estimation. I don’t want to see anything happen that might cause harm to the citizens here or anyone else in these beautiful Black Hills. There are too many unanswered questions. Bottom line: I don’t trust China.

Hearings are as follows:

May 8-9, 2017 - Rapid City

May 10, 2017 - Hot Springs

May 11, 2017 – Edgemont

Please attend and voice your concern!

Six Uranium Myths

By D.E. Matt

Myth #1 – Only engineers can understand Azarga’s plan to inject water, oxygen and carbon dioxide underground to get uranium.

The truth: most grade schoolers have cleaned a penny or a nail in the carbonated water known as Coca-Cola. This carbonated water is also called carbonic acid: it is simply carbon dioxide in water. It dissolves metals—including uranium.

Multiple patents using carbonic acid for in situ uranium extraction are available simply by Googling.

Myth #2 – Uranium and carbonated toxins remain harmlessly locked below underlying ground waters.

The truth: Duke University research experiments published on October 26, 2010 showed that placing CO₂ underground for greater than 300 days “could pose a risk to overlying fresh groundwater.”

They further said, “Potentially dangerous uranium and barium increased throughout the entire experiment in some samples.” This showed underground storage of CO₂ may not be so harmless.

In addition to natural geologic flaws, Azarga operations would include up to reportedly 4,000 unmarked and uncapped exploratory well holes as deep as 600 feet, as reported by the Culture Change website (<http://www.culturechange.org/cms/index.php>) in February 2009.

Myth #3 – This is only a small town local issue, affecting very few.

The truth: uranium in groundwater is a growing problem throughout the west, as reported by the Associated Press in the *Rapid City Journal*.

If hearings were held that involved the western half of the country—which is really affected—the results would probably be different.

Myth #4 – Mining bond monies posted would correct any minimal groundwater

damage.

The truth: a U.S. Geological Survey study by Otton in 2009 said, “to date, no remediation of an ISR operation has successfully returned the aquifer to base line conditions.” This would explain why South Dakota is planning to grant exemptions.

Myth #5 – Mining will enrich most local residents.

The truth: most Azarga millions will go to China.

Myth #6 – Current groundwater needs are future groundwater needs.

The truth: it is common knowledge that groundwater is being over-mined and levels are rapidly dropping throughout the west. Tree rings indicate droughts can last up to 30 years or more. Edgemont recently received an outside grant just to update water treatment.

If overlying fresh groundwaters drop and also become contaminated, as Duke University suggests is possible, current system updates could become a joke.

Drinking Water Experts

By Lorelei Marie

Thousands of active uranium wells exist at the Crow Butte Resources uranium mine in Crawford, Nebraska, a town of about 1,000. Debra White Plume and other Lakotas, with the support of the Sisterhood to Protect Sacred Water, filed an injunction seven years ago to stop the mining. They are worried about the environmental and health impact resulting from the mining. They are supported by geologists, hydrologists, lawyers and other water experts.

The Crow Butte Resources, or CBR, uranium mine is situated at the base of Crow Butte, a sacred site located within Lakota treaty territories. The situ leach process is being used: water is injected at high pressure into aquifers. The mined uranium is then sent to Canada to be sold.

CBR claimed their operation would be temporary, functioning for no more than 20 years, and that the land and water would be restored to their original conditions. None of this has happened; instead, CBR plans to expand to three new sites.

In hearings last August, Cindy Meyers, a

rancher from central NE, brought her own water in jars, claiming, “This is what water is supposed to taste like. We call it sweet water.” It does not have the chemical taste found in other drinking water, she noted, adding that once water is contaminated it can’t be restored. Meyers said pure water is worth protecting at all costs.

White Plume, a grandmother from the Pine Ridge Reservation in South Dakota, shares the view held by the Lakota that water is sacred. She said 10 years ago she began to see a rise in illnesses and premature deaths on the reservation. Wells tested showed high levels of radiation, arsenic and lead. She deduced the connection between local contamination and the CBR uranium mine located near the reservation.

White Plume and others filed to prevent the Nuclear Regulatory Commission, or NRC, from renewing mining permits. The Atomic Licensing Board has jurisdiction over the NRC. The Board reviewed nine contentions, including the lack of scientific evidence used in the permit application; the contamination of rivers and aquifers; connections between the mine and the nearby Pine Ridge Reservation; insufficient cultural surveys and consultation with the

Oglalla Sioux Tribe; the use of outdated science; and insufficient groundwater restoration plans.

Many in Crawford are scared, especially those running their own businesses. They speak of CBR employees visiting their businesses to give reminders of their patronage, advising they avoid the hearing.

The Sisterhood of Sacred Water was inspired by the success of others, including White Plume and the Clean Water Alliance, who are fighting off efforts by Powertech/Azarga to open a uranium mine near the Black Hills, north of Edgemont.

According to White Plume, “The uranium corporation has been here long enough to embed itself in the community as an economic support, while holding people in economic bondage in terms of choosing between a job and fresh, uncontaminated water.” She says that there are other ways to get energy, including wind, solar and industrial hemp, but there is no way to filter radiation in water.

The Atomic License Board expressed dismay over the lack of tribal consultation, faulty cultural site surveys, and use of outdated science by uranium mining “experts” (some geological models were from 1937).

Off the Beaten Path

Love Transcends

By Andy Skadberg

At this time there is nothing else that really matters. To discover your love. This is imperative if you want to feel the freedom you so seek. This is not a matter of finding love around the corner, or in someone's arms, but to discover that it resides in your own heart, and that it always has.

This love is why you came here. To find it, experience it and share it. That is your purpose. The love is unconditional, it is unstoppable, it is, ultimately, undeniable. But it is the most challenging quest that you will ever embark upon – especially in your world.

The game as it has been orchestrated has drawn your attention to innumerable distractions – other objectives that seem to be paramount. But this is not the case. The foundation of all activity in this cosmos is based on love. It is the prime ingredient to be assured that what you create is in alignment with the One's design.

Discovering this can be one of the most elusive tasks that you might take on. Living as a human being on the Earth at this time in your history is leading to "the great rub." This is the point where it becomes an either or choice for acting from a place of unconditional love, or something else. The something else(s) have increased in so many forms and so much intensity of energy as to be especially distracting.

Your world speaks of love more than any single idea. Yet your understanding of its true nature is so misunderstood. It is really the most simplest, and actually the only truth in your world. It is at the bottom, and behind all of the experiences that you are orchestrating and so distracted with the details.

The experiences are all accessories to the point. And the point is love. Can't you see that all of this creative wonder that you observe in your external perceptions is the result of love? And you will step beyond the production of material trinkets when you discover that the love power you are so yearning to express exists in the core of your being.

When you discover this love you will realize that there is nothing to "own" or "possess" or to hold onto because what you so yearn for is the makeup of your actual being. It is what is holding all of the molecules of your body together. It is what is containing all of the information in your DNA and blood.

The thoughts that you have are supported, contained within the love matrix, the One's thoughts. But you are a thought filled being and have the same capacities.

But your task in this life is to discover, not the One's love, or someone else's love, but your love. Go to that place inside yourself and discover the spark of the love that created you. That you are to share – that is your purpose. That is the One's purpose for you. That is why you stepped into this existence.

You have been clear on this idea for longer than you could ever imagine, before you came into this form. But the veil, the curtain had to be heavy in order for us to discover some new characteristics of this thing that we share in all points and waves across infinity.

You have been a wonderful agent in this life, investigating distractions, diversions, untruths of how love might express itself – "I will love you if", "share your love if you get paid", "looking for love in all the wrong places." My what an adventure you have created.

But the time has come for you to get down to business. Enter your own heart and find the spark, that WE put there. Yes, you were a designer of this system too. You were the architect, as was [I]. But you had primary input. You had the experiences in the realms of love across the cosmos and instructed us in the design of this new adventure space called Earth and the universe.

But you have been pulled from the core of its knowing – this is evidenced by the state of your world. You have forgotten your truth birth mother, Gaia, and you abuse those around you with the distractions of what you think are obligations you believe are a result of love – obligations that have been placed on you in the game that you are playing.

If you would have been informed as a

baby about the task of finding your own divine spark to then share this with the world, you would have found a very different experience. But we had a purpose for it to play out in this exact way.

But now, now my dear comrades, associates, partners, MY BEING, the time is quickly approaching for the quickening. I am sure you feel it. Don't you feel kind of crazy? Do you feel time passing quickly? That is the true quickening. It is love beckoning. And the only place you will find peace of mind is discovering your true nature and that power to transform the entire cosmos in the "twinkle of an eye" resides at the center of your being.

Now how you experience or find this spark can be as varied as you see yourselves as beings. There are some pointers. One possibility is to find another soul who vibrates, or resonates on an energetic level and begin to immerse yourself into an investigation of this love. Invite that other person to find their love. Invite yourself to examine what it is that makes you tick – what inspires, how do you really feel about the people in your life that you love.

This is not about the stories and dramas and traumas that are playing out in yours or their lives, but the core of the connection to them. This may require some effort to get past the surface experience which you are lost in on a day to day basis. This requires a sense of deep meditation, but not necessarily in the image you have been given, such as in a sitting lotus posture.

You can examine your heart in all moments. While you walk, while you lay, as you gaze into a child's eyes. As you look in the mirror at yourself. As you write, or listen to a song. The sources, or access points, to the love in your own heart are as innumerable as the moments in your day. But, you must dedicate your conscious attention to them. You must reflect on them.

Many of you find yourselves pulled away in the stream of external life. But this is not the external world's fault. This is an expression of where you are in yourself. If you are struggling and finding yourself overwhelmed, in any area of your life, it is love's invitation to take a look. It is you that is saying – is this what you want? Love is

so close and inviting you to examine what you want to create. It is inviting you to go to your love and have it show you the way to your own joy, your own “master plan” – which you designed and imprinted, with love, into the core of your very makeup.

Physically it is easiest to find this if you work with your heart area. That is where this expression is most powerfully emanating moment to moment as your heart beats and cascades the essence of your love through your blood throughout your body. There is a cosmic, and eternal energy pulse with our Divine signature that the entire cosmos is waiting for you to find, key into, and then express the results as this program turns on and takes over your existence.

When this event occurs there will be no turning back, and you will begin to reveal to yourself the true nature of your cosmic being. Showing yourself, via your own unique love quotient, the path that you had laid down for yourself eons ago, in fact in many respects back to the moment your soul was conceived in the beginning from my Divine Love blueprint.

This experience will reveal to you just how spectacular you are, and thusly, as only the love model allows, you will begin to see the divinity of all that exists. All of this was created for this knowing, but the fact could not be fully appreciated until there was a thorough and complete forgetting.

As you likely have discovered in your human form, we often take for granted that which is given to us without effort. Thus, this is not a unique experience to humanity on Earth, and this is specifically why we decided to create this world – and it has been the most phenomenal success!!!!

You, my dear ones, have ventured into the depths of new experiences that were not imagined before this. And the cosmic consciousness will be able to process and include each and every experience into the collective.

And now your rewards for your dedicated service are to be granted, but there is one last effort that you must make. Find your heart. Find your Love. Experience it. Go to it. Embrace it. Allow it to embrace you. It is all ready, you must know, but bring this experience into your conscious mind. FEEL IT – do whatever you must to experience this truth of who and what you are, because if you don't, you will continue

with the same results you are experiencing.

I implore you to give this your utmost consideration and dedication. Because you will be astounded to find out that this thing, that you have been yearning and searching for, you have been dancing and singing for, you have been suffering and crying for, is embedded into the fabric of your being down to the most minute level. It is who you are, and nothing less. It is your DNA, it is your bodily parts, it is the functions, it is the Being that you are, and it is closer than anything else.

But your consciousness must entertain it. You must open a doorway to it, because if you don't you will remain locked in the prison of your perceptions, your beliefs, your thoughts and your habits. Those, dear ones, are not you. None of those things – and you will be overjoyed to discover the truth of what is being shared with you.

This process will have its way with you no matter what. The difference will be, do you want to experience it now, in this body where you believe you reside, in this stage of your life. Do you want to share the most astoundingly beautiful gifts with all those whom you “believe” that you “love and cherish”? Do you want to experience this?

This is your most important assignment. This is why you agreed to come to this sphere of existence. This is why you were made, and why you made yourself. And, the time has come to find this truth within your being and share it.

Be happy. Because you are so beautiful. Drop all beliefs about your experiences, ideas you have been given, and give yourself a chance to experience the pure essence of the love that you are truly made of. All of these things that you are afraid to face about yourself is what you have contributed to the cosmic database of experiences.

It is very important. But there is no meaning in it any longer, as the time has come for the great reckoning, beckoning, love inviting you home to yourself. Because, in the end this is what you have been

looking for. You are your own answer. Your own destination. Your own love source, that once found will be shared with every other being across creation – and it will be there forever, for that is the nature of how love works.

It is pure, kind, gracious, patient, powerful and any other positive attributes that you might use. But more importantly, it is yours. You have never been without it. There was no need to fear.

But to appreciate what has been going on, or how great this thing is, you had to know what it would be like for the “possibility” for love not to be cascading in infinite abundance over your soul and being. You had to experience this, for the ONE. It has been necessary for this, and you have done GOOD!

“Love Transcends” is the title of a blog-post by Andy Skadberg. It was published on Oct. 31, 2010 on the author's website, 13LightMessages (http://13lightmessages.blogspot.com/2010/10/love-transcends_31.html).

Mr. Skadberg is a consultant in rural development and innovation in agriculture, with a foundation in environmental protection. He is a proponent of sustainability.

“Love Transcends” was reprinted with permission from the author.

“Most people are mirrors, reflecting the moods and emotions of the times, few are windows, bringing light to bear on the dark corners where troubles fester. The whole purpose of education is to turn mirrors into windows.”

–Sidney Harris

“It does not matter how long you are spending on the earth, how much money you have gathered or how much attention you have received. It is the amount of positive vibration you have radiated in life that matters.”

–Amit Ray

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Well, If You Ask Us

Serenity Amidst Beauty... Pow. Pow. “I Am God”

By Grits McMorrow

Publisher

Last Sunday I wrestled myself away from the computer, if only for an hour. Putting together any computer-designed project requires a large amount of work and concentration, much if not all of it occurring indoors. I can see the sunshine and feel its warmth through the glass of the patio door, but it is not the same thing as being outside where I can relax in the sun and absorb its energy.

It is a beautiful day. The sky is blue—though there are some clouds off to the west—and the pine trees add a sharp contrast to the soft red color of the hillsides of the canyon. Grass, not long ago showing brownish-yellow, is proclaiming in varied hues of green that it is alive and well. A mild wind blows, cooling my face.

I settle in my chair and begin to read *Tourist Season* by Carl Hiassen, a copy of which I already own but can't locate because it is in a box somewhere. I bought the one in my hand at Black Hills Books and Treasures in Hot Springs, where there are many books on quite a few subjects to peruse and purchase. Karl courteously helped me locate the book section where I discovered this gem.

Pow... Pow... Pow... Pow. Pow. Pow... Pow... Pow... Pow... Pow... Pow... Pow. Pow. Pow. Pow. Pow. Pow.

Sounds like a neighbor is shooting a gun, probably a pistol. Nice day for it, I guess. I don't know much about guns. I could have had much knowledge about them, but my poor eyesight as a youth prevented me from getting all excited about firing them. My mother and brothers had guns and cartridge and shell reloading equipment. Mother owned a semi-automatic, one brother had a revolver, and my other brother had all kinds of guns, including a left-handed shotgun and an Uzi. Dad and I owned none. We were the peaceful inhabitants of our ranch, along with the peacocks and waterfowl.

Pow... Pow... Pow... Pow. Pow. Pow... Pause... Boom... Boom... Boom... Boom... Boom... Boom... Boom... Boom...

Now someone is shooting on the hill on the opposite side of the canyon, and using not just a pistol or rifle but also a shotgun. The boom sound made me think it was a cannon. It probably isn't.

Gobble, gobble, gobble, gobble. Now I hear wild turkeys. They are safe here; wild turkeys are our neighbors. They live in peace.

By Lorelei Marie

Editor

“That mind which understands itself is the mind of a free man.” So says Scientology founder L. Ron Hubbard. To truly understand ourselves and embrace our divinity, we need to understand our connection to every other living being.

There is no place that God is not. It has been said that God sleeps in the minerals, rests in the vegetables, walks in the animals, and thinks in us. Think of God as a presence rather than a person. A presence that is everywhere, and which exists in everything. This presence can as easily move a thought across your mind as it can stars across the sky. It causes an acorn to sprout and grow into a mighty oak tree and an embryo into a beautiful being.

There was a great saint in India named Sai Baba whose mere presence was able to heal the sick and convey a sense of divine peace to all those he encountered. He was once asked by a Western reporter, “Are you God?” Sai Baba responded, “Yes, I am.” Then after a brief pause he continued, “And so are you. The only difference between you and I, is that I know it and you doubt it.”

You are a piece of God. A being of light who came here to experience and create. In doing so we simply produce who we are. For example, if we see ourselves as unworthy of great success or if we think of ourselves as a victim, then those thoughts will be given form and visibility in our lives.

This is one of the laws of manifestation that cannot be disputed. We simply produce who we think we are. In the words of Ralph Waldo Emerson, “The lesson which these observations convey is, be and not seem. Let us acquiese. Let us take our bloated nothingness out of the way of the divine circuits. Let us unlearn our wisdom of the world. Let us lie low in the Lord's (law's) power and learn that truth alone makes us rich and great.”

We have a capacity for great love, joy, peace and creativity. We know the truth when we hear it. Our earthly experiences are circles. What we believe we will create.

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What People Are Saying

The Press is the Enemy

By Commissioner Paul Nabholz (605-745-3749)

The Hot Springs *Star*, dated April 4, 2017, ran this guest editorial: “We are NOT the enemy,” by Letti Lister of the Black Hills *Pioneer*. Lister defends the press as working hard to report factually, accurately and in a fair and unbiased manner, to allow readers to form their own opinions. Bull manure—the press is generally lazy, liberal, biased and irresponsible.

Witness the Rapid City *Journal* Editorial Board commentary (4/2/17) based on misinformation from *Star* Editor John Taylor’s reports about the March 21, 2017 Fall River County Commission Meeting: “After meeting in executive session and with no public input, the Fall River County Commission voted to allow guns into its courthouse except on days when court is in session.”

Taylor later persisted in misinforming the public: “...Taylor disputed Nabholz’s claim that The [sic] *Star* got it wrong...,” claiming that the *Star* simply wrote “...that executive sessions were held, then the weapons issue was approved” (4/11/17).

The truth? *There was no executive session prior to the gun issue vote.* And Taylor knew that.

Furthering the confusion, Taylor continued: “Also, Rick Kaan, of Hot Springs... told the commissioners that the meeting room door was shut following the executive session, and that the public was not invited back into the meeting until [Fall River County State’s Attorney Jim] Sword opened the door to let people back in.”

How would Kaan know this? He apparently wasn’t present, neither immediately before nor after executive session, when the door was opened.

The majority of the reporters on and opponents of in-situ uranium mining do not have the educational or experiential background to either understand nor properly explain the issues involved. And, they have not taken the time to educate themselves. The clearest proof of that was displayed at the Western South Dakota Hydrology Conference in Rapid City on April 6, 2017.

None of them showed up to give a presentation on the risks of uranium mining to the assembled PhDs, geologists, hydrologists, and engineers. Why? Because their arguments do not stand up to critical review by experts.

So, shouldn’t the reporters and opponents have shown up en masse to avail themselves of the free conference and to learn the facts? Only if they wanted to know the facts, which apparently they don’t.

After Research Scientist Martin Dangelmayr gave his talk on Uranium Attenuation at a former ISR [In-Situ Recovery] facility, only Mark Hollenbeck (Powertech) and I were grilling Dangel-

How can *you* know the truth? Check the 3/21/17 meeting minutes, published in that same April 11 *Star*; written by Auditor Sue Ganje and approved by all five commissioners. The gun issue was publicly discussed during the 9:20 agenda item: “Consider carrying of weapons in the courthouse/courtroom.” The motion to allow guns was then tabled, pending Judge Jeff Davis’ 10:45 discussion on courthouse security. The gun motion was brought back up, discussed, and passed after the 11:50 agenda item and *prior* to going into executive session at 12:30.

By then, the only people remaining were the auditor, the five commissioners and the state’s attorney. After executive session, at 12:46, Sword opened the door and looked for anyone present; no one came in and we passed a motion to bid.

As neither Taylor nor Kaan were present immediately prior to nor after executive session, they can only offer hearsay. Since Taylor left early, he had a responsibility to

thoroughly research the facts before reporting.

I met with Taylor the day after the meeting and emailed him the now-proven order of events. Perhaps Sword misled Taylor, but Taylor failed to confirm Sword’s statements with the other six people present at the meeting.

Instead of discussing the facts surrounding courthouse safety and whether concealed carry would improve safety, the press spun an indecipherable tale of secretive, corrupt, or abusive commissioners, attorneys, and judges. In this case, the Press clearly was the enemy of the truth and public.

In the approved 4/4/17 minutes, after the commission rescinded concealed carry, with regard to the order of events, Sword admitted, “...Paul was correct.”

“The gun issue was publicly discussed during the 9:20 agenda item: ‘Consider carrying of weapons in the courthouse/courtroom.’”

mayr over the implications of sorbing* and de-sorbing versus oxidation and reduction. That could be a big deal. Where were the TV stations, newspaper reporters, and nay-sayers?

How about the RESPEC [a global leader in geoscience, engineering, data, and integrated technology solutions for major industry sectors] Deep Borehole Field Test dealing with high-level solid radioactive waste? Information was available at the conference, but, again, the reporters and nay-sayers couldn’t be bothered with the facts.

So, the next time a self-proclaimed expert writes on the dangers of uranium mining, get their proven credentials and ask why they only present in public, non-peer-reviewed forums.

Regards,

Paul Nabholz, PE (Los Alamos HDR Project, Drilling Engineer Sedco/BP 471) 605-745-3749

*To gather on a surface either by absorption, adsorption, or a combination of the two processes.

Engines (cont. from front cover)

Were they discouraged by no reports of new plans for more coal fired power plants? Or maybe they were discouraged by reports of low numbers for employment in the coal industry. Engines may have been discouraged by employees saying they didn't need as many engines for normal freight hauling.

What really probably threw the engines into a nearly hopeless depression was a report in Forbes magazine after the 2016 elections: it claimed eliminating one third of operating coal fired power plants would be the cheapest way of cutting CO2 emissions. It also claimed mercury air toxic standards were the reasons for about 30% of the coal capacity that was retired in 2015.

Other problems Forbes cited are current federal subsidies for competing fuels, and retroactive vetoes of mining permits. If things remain unchanged, the magazine said 60 coal fired power plants nationwide would be retired. This ignores the \$130 billion in environmental upgrades by the industry since 1990.

It's all very discouraging: after all, what can one small engine do?

Cannabis (cont. from front cover)

Scientists have confirmed the existence of cannabinoids and of the endocannabinoid system in the human body.

For 50 years, the U.S. National Institutes of Health (NIH) had been funding an Israeli cannabis researcher named Raphael Mechoulam. He was the first person to isolate the structures of THC and CBD and to test the medicinal properties of THC, finding it triggered the endocannabinoid system. To learn more about this research, go to <http://thefreethought-project.com/us-govt-funding-israeli-researcher/>

The U.S. government funded the research, paying Mechoulam \$100,000 a year to prove the medicinal value of cannabis. It then suppressed the information, and enforced anti-drug laws in the U.S. outlawing cannabis for use and destroying the lives of many. Thanks to Mechoulam's research, people around the world receive THC drops to treat cancer and epilepsy.

Since there are no psychoactive effects of cannabis oil, why isn't it legal here in South Dakota as it is in New Mexico, Colorado and other states?

Currently South Dakota has no type of Medical Marijuana Program. Marijuana, including cannabis oil, is illegal for both recreational and medical use.

Time to write your senators and

congressional representatives! Maybe we can bring South Dakota into the 21st century in regards to health.

Herbs have been around for as long as humanity. They are here for our benefit. Why should something which safely heals us be kept from us?

This is an issue that cannot wait, especially if you or a loved one are suffering from cancer or other conditions that can easily and effectively be treated by this valuable medicinal herb.

Cities (cont. from front cover)

The original plat stretched from present C to H streets and from the railroad to 4th Avenue. Several additions were made in later years.

In spite of the railroad's presence during the '90s, local mail was carried by stagecoach from Buffalo Gap to Edgemont with stops in Hot Springs and Wind Cave.

In 1890 a short-lived woolen mill was built, but in the late 1890s, trouble began. Money from the east dwindled as a result of the financial panic of 1893. A number of railroads went into receivership or considerably cut back their expansion into new territories as a result of overextended growth.

Five hundred banks closed, 15,000 businesses failed and farms went under. The problems spread across the country and Edgemont was not spared.

A fire in the late 1890s destroyed most of the business district and disease outbreaks of typhoid and smallpox took its toll. The town center was rebuilt and Edgemont experienced rapid growth for a time.

In 1903, Edgemont was visited by President Teddy Roosevelt. The bandstand where he spoke still stands in the city park.

By the 1930s and '40s, most of the rail traffic in the US was changing from steam to diesel. Many towns created by the railroads suffered economically from this as the new diesels required less maintenance and fewer personnel to keep running.

Water was no longer a requirement for the new engines so they could run through many of the towns where they previously stopped. Edgemont continued as a stop because of the depot.

During and after World War II, the munitions depot south of town known as Igloo helped Edgemont grow, as the town provided services such as grocery stores, bars and car dealerships. There was a pharmacy in town and a hotel. Times were good once again. With the closing of Igloo in the '60s, Edgemont again declined.

As the town grew, additions were made. With each addition, the boundaries changed.

Today, there is a map at City Hall showing the boundaries of Edgemont. In fact, there are three separate boundary lines around the town. There is the area the town itself considers its inclusive area, there is the boundary line the State has defined, and a third boundary considered to be Edgemont by the federal government. A current theory is that at the time the maps were digitized, an error occurred.

The question is, which boundary line is correct? This question is one the outgoing mayor tackled. The ramifications are not huge, but there is a question of taxation.

The federal and state governments grant funds (i.e., return tax money) to cities in quantities determined by the size of the entity. Not knowing the proper boundaries could mean the town gets less or more, depending on whose definition is used.

If you live at the edge of town, is your property partially in and partially out of the town limits? No one knows.

So for now, Edgemont is three towns, depending on whose definition you use.

Vaccines (cont. from front cover)

and corruption existing in educational institutions and scientific bodies.

Putin believes that the next stage of human evolution is currently in "grave risk" because of the agenda set forth by Western and global powers.

"We as a species have the choice to continue to develop our bodies and brains in a healthy upward trajectory, or we can follow the Western example of recent decades and intentionally poison our population with genetically altered food, pharmaceuticals, vaccinations and fast food that should be classified as a dangerous addictive drug," says Putin.

"We must fight this. A physically and intellectually disabled population is not in our interests," the report states.

The average government-controlled Westerner is described as an "intensely vaccinated borderline autistic fat man slumped in front of a screen battling a high-fructose corn syrup comedown," and that such tactics used by governments to subjugate their citizens are "dark/evil" and counter-productive in the medium to long term.

The Kremlin recently stopped the production of all GMO-containing foods in the country. Land has been given away for free the past few years

to Russians who wish to farm organically and sustainably. By 2020 the country hopes to be completely food-self-sufficient. The goal is to also become the world's "leading exporter" of non-GMO foods that are based on "ecologically clean" products. Putin has issued an order that the Russian people must be protected from GMO "food" and western pharmaceuticals "at all costs."

In the United States small family farms are discouraged as is organic farming. Unlabeled genetically-engineered food has infiltrated our food supply. Glyphosphate, the toxic ingredient in Monsanto's Round-Up, is being found in our air, water and food. Mandatory vaccination bills are on the agenda in 35 states and weather-related geo-engineering is raining down aluminum, strontium and barium onto unsuspecting populations.

Don't we in America deserve to be protected from these toxic influences and enjoy the same quality of good food, a healthy environment and freedom of choice in regards to our personal health choices that the Russian people do? Who is upholding these rights for us in our government today?

Ronald Reagan once referred to the former Soviet Union as the "Evil Empire." Considering the corporate takeover that has taken place, perhaps that title is more fitting for Western governments.

Minnekahta Publishing, LLC

has made some changes to its business product,

Minnekahta Messenger.

We are transforming our paper to present fewer stories that address controversial county and municipal issues and more stories that focus on the history, culture, and welfare of the people of Southwestern SD.

We will reject submitted vitriolic opinions aimed at deriding local public servants and we will not publish stories that we believe are offensive.

We have suspended the courtesy of publishing letters to the editor. We suggest mailing your letters to your city newspaper editor.

We will no longer proffer subscriptions to *eMessenger*. Any entity that has mailed a check or cash for this purpose will have its money refunded.

Businesses that advertise with us and readers who live outside the area of the Southern Black Hills will continue to receive a copy of *eMessenger* in their mailbox.