

# Flandreau Santee Sioux Tribe Monthly Newsletter March 2021

**March** - *Ista Wicayazan Wi* - (Moon of the Sore Eyes)

*The sun reflecting off the melting snow would cause tenderness and chapping to the eyes.*

## A year after COVID-19, a Sigh of Hope



A year ago, on March 13, Gov. Kristi Noem had declared a state of emergency in South Dakota, and schools closed for what ended up being the rest of the academic year.

We stayed home more and masked up if we went somewhere. We missed seeing friends and hugging family. Churches started online services, while restaurants scaled back and bars and hair salons temporarily closed. Meetings were held on Zoom or other internet platforms.

This month, more than a thousand people in Moody County have been vaccinated against the COVID-19 virus. While there still are restrictions and masks are generally recommended for a while longer, there is a collective sigh that maybe things are getting better. A sigh of hope.

Looking back on the year that will be a memory forever, here's what local people had to say. Interviews were conducted in downtown Flandreau.



Flandreau Santee Sioux Tribe Newsletter is a monthly publication by the

Flandreau Santee Sioux Tribe.

Digital photos or sending other original files is encouraged.

Deadline for submission of material is

5 work days before the 15th of each month

Flandreau Santee Sioux Tribe

Attn: Marcie Walker

P.O. Box 283

Flandreau, SD 57028

or Call: 997-3891 ext. 1251

[marcie.walker@fsst.org](mailto:marcie.walker@fsst.org)

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*The information in this newsletter have been compiled by the FSST Newsletter staff from a variety of sources, and are subject to change without notice. The FSST makes no warranties or representations whatsoever regarding the quality, content, completeness, or adequacy of such information and data. In any situation where the official printed publications of the FSST differ from the text contained in this newsletter, the official printed documents take precedence.*

*If inaccurate or otherwise inappropriate information is brought to our attention, a reasonable effort will be made to print a correction in the next month newsletter. We reserve the right to omit submissions if it is felt that the content or subject matter is inappropriate.*

#### **NEWSLETTER SUBMISSION**

##### **GUIDELINES:**

*All information submitted for newsletter must be received 5 (five) working days before the 15 of each month. We cannot guarantee inclusion of any submissions after that date in that month's newsletter. Submissions must be made in typewritten (or computer generated) format. They can be submitted directly to Marcie Walker in hardcopy, on disk or via email at:*

[marcie.walker@fsst.org](mailto:marcie.walker@fsst.org)

*The FSST reserves the right to edit submission for content and clarity when appropriate. Additionally, submissions not of a time sensitive nature may be delayed for next month newsletter*

## **How has Covid affected your life in the last year? What do you do differently?**

*"I don't leave my home unless I have to go get groceries. I stay home."*

**Juliann Perry, 52**  
Flandreau

*"I'm usually home a lot more now."*

**Michaela**  
**Corcoran, 20**  
Flandreau

*"I definitely don't go out a lot anymore. I don't go out and eat. I guess I'm more isolated. I have to take online classes. It's frustrating."*

**Veronica Bird, 17**  
Student  
Flandreau

*"Not being able to see family is the biggest thing, although we can Zoom. I can go to church, and I can go shopping. I can keep my mask on, and I'm good."*

**Jo LaPlante, 84**  
Retired  
Flandreau

*"I don't get to go out much. Being laid off for a little while, we came back and had a whole bunch of safety precautions. We had to wear masks and face shields.... Interactions with people are way down. That can kind of be depressing if you like to talk to people."*

**Ramsey Olson, 24**  
Casino employee,  
Dell Rapids

*"I don't do any socializing to speak of, haven't in the last year. I get my groceries, keep my appointments and stay home."*

**Ann Svendsen, 85**  
Tyler, Minn.

*"We sure don't go around as much as we used to. We were busier (at work) this year."*

**Paul Amdahl, 67**  
Sturdevant's manager  
Flandreau

# Alcohol and Abuse

[TRIGGER WARNING: This blog includes graphic content that some readers may find distressing. Disclaimer: The names, characters, events and incidents are fiction. Any resemblance to actual persons, living or dead, or actual events is purely coincidental.]

We know domestic violence is never okay. At StrongHearts Native Helpline, we hear many callers try to explain or make excuses for abuse. A common excuse for abuse is alcohol; victim-survivors and abusive partners blame the abuse on using alcohol. While we know using alcohol can strain a relationship, it is not the cause of domestic violence. It is also not an excuse for abusive behavior. The example below walks through such a scenario.

## *Our Favorite Bar*

Yesterday Colin and I went out for dinner and drinks. We were having a great time talking about our upcoming anniversary. Colin was about two drinks ahead of me and he started getting obnoxious and annoying. I was kind of mean to him, but I was just trying to explain to him how bad it looks for both of us when he acts like that. While we were walking home, he had his arm wrapped around my shoulders, he tripped and almost pulled me down. I angrily threw off his arm and he fell and scraped his hands. When we got home he started crying and said the way I treat him isn't okay. I feel bad about being mean to him and pushing him off me, but I wouldn't have to do those things if he didn't drink so much. Plus I was drunk and I would never push him if I was

sober.

Tonight we decided to stay in and not drink. Colin brought up last night. He said he knows he can drink too much, but he still doesn't think it is fair that I "berate" him and push him. I tried to stay calm but he can be so needy. I told him I'd never do that if we weren't drinking and I wouldn't have to do those things if he didn't drink so much. Colin said I act like that sober too, but the only times he pointed out were when he had upset me.

He brought up the time that I broke his phone. We got into a fight because he was texting someone nonstop. I asked him who it was and he said work. When he went to the bathroom, I looked at his phone and I saw that the person he was texting was "Amanda". I know all of his co-workers and none of them are named Amanda. After he came back I confronted him. He says I hit him, but if I did, I honestly don't remember. I was in such a blind rage. I was so hurt. I threw his phone, but I wasn't trying to break it. He kept saying it wasn't what I thought. He said Amanda just started working at his office last week and showed me the emails to prove it. If he just told me about all the women in his life, that wouldn't have been an issue. I know I can overreact and hurt Colin, but if he could just see the things he does that cause me to act that way, things would improve.

## *Alcohol Does Not Cause Abuse*

In this story, the narrator uses alcohol as an excuse for their abusive

behavior. They insist the reason for their abusive behavior - particularly the physical abuse, is because they are drunk. The narrator also implies they have to abuse Colin because he drinks too much. Neither of these excuses is valid. While abusive behaviors may escalate when drinking, drinking does not cause abuse, nor do anyone else's actions.

The narrator abuses Colin when they are sober. When Colin confronts them the day after drinking they blame their actions on Colin. Denying the impact or severity of past actions is a common tactic of abuse. Blaming abuse on uncontrollable emotions is equally false. Abuse is not a loss of control, it is an active choice. Abusers feel entitled to power and control over their victims.

Additionally, when the narrator broke Colin's phone, there were multiple abuse tactics present: checking his phone without permission, hitting him, throwing the phone, and blaming their actions on Colin. Regardless of substance use, the abusive partner is responsible for the abuse.

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StrongHearts Native Helpline is a culturally-appropriate and anonymous helpline for Native Americans impacted by domestic, dating and sexual violence. Advocates offer peer support and advocacy, personal safety planning, crisis intervention and referrals to Native-centered domestic violence service providers. Visit [strongheartshepline.org](http://strongheartshepline.org) for chat advocacy or call 1-844-7NATIVE (762-8483) 24/7.

# House allocates \$31.2 billion to Indian Country with passing of American Rescue Plan

Washington, DC – Native News Online – March 10, 2021 – The U.S. House of Representatives on Wednesday passed the \$1.9 trillion American Rescue Plan. The act now goes to the White House for President Joe Biden who is scheduled to sign it into law on Friday. The vote was split right down party lines. Every Democrat voted on the bill. Every Republican voted against the relief package that is supported by 75 percent of

Americans.

Of the \$1.9 trillion package, \$31.2 billion has been allocated to Indian Country. It is the largest amount of money ever allocated for American Indian/Alaska Native programs in history.

Rep. Deb Haaland (D-N.M.), in what may be her last major vote in the House of Representatives because she is likely to be confirmed as the secretary of the Dept. of the Interior next week, was proud to

cast her vote in favor of the bill.

“As someone who lived in poverty and didn’t have a savings for most of my adult life, I know what it’s like to be one emergency away from being homeless. This pandemic has put a strain on New Mexico families, hospital workers, small businesses, and many families who have lost multiple family members to this horrible virus,” Rep. Deb Haaland said. “Everyone in our state deserves to feel whole again.



## WEEKEND SPECIALS

Friday, March 19th  
Saturday, March 20th  
5 pm to 8 pm

Ribeye &  
Mushroom Risotto - \$24

Southern Fried Chicken - \$12

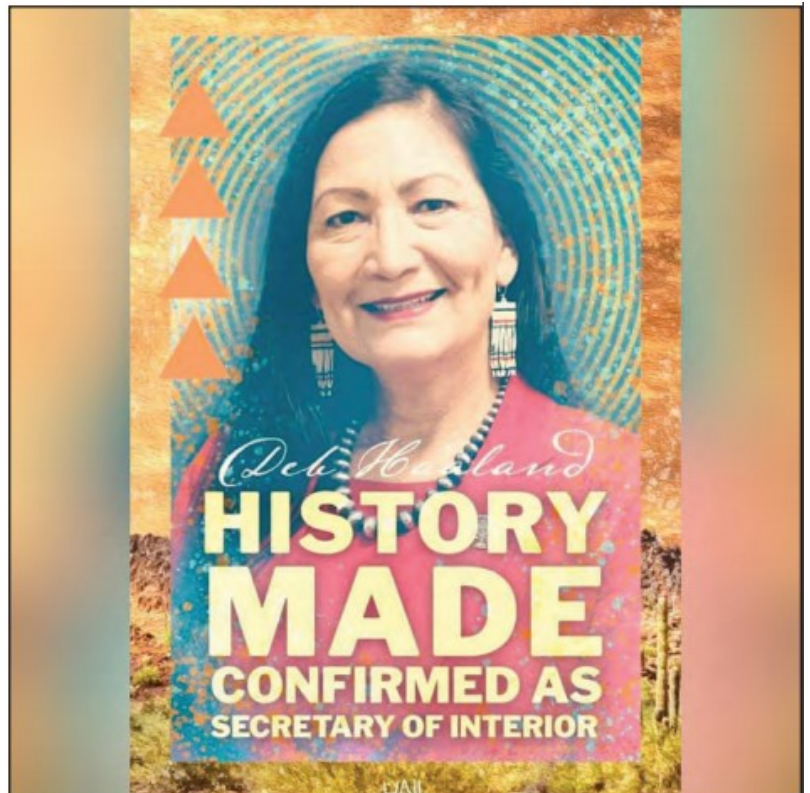
Cajun Pork Loin - \$14

Greek Salmon - \$18

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# Biden to sign \$1.9 trillion stimulus bill and urge vigilance in primetime speech

*By Jeff Mason*

Washington, DC – Reuters – March 11, 2021 – President Joe Biden will sign his \$1.9 trillion stimulus bill into law on Thursday ahead of an evening speech in which he is set to mark the one-year anniversary of the U.S. coronavirus pandemic lockdown, commemorating losses while expressing hope for the future.

Biden's signing of the legislation, called the American Rescue Plan, had initially been scheduled for Friday. The Democratic-led U.S. House of Representatives gave final congressional approval to the measure on Wednesday, handing Biden a major victory in the early months of his presidency.

The package provides \$400 billion for \$1,400 direct payments to most Americans, \$350 billion in aid to state and local governments, an expansion of the child tax credit and increased funding for COVID-19 vaccine distribution. Biden will sign it in the Oval Office at 1:30 p.m. EST (1830 GMT), the White House said.

The Democratic president, who campaigned on a promise to curb the pandemic more effectively than his Republican predecessor Donald Trump, has told Americans since his January inauguration that more deaths and pain were coming from COVID-19.

But with the vaccinated population slowly increasing, Biden

is conveying fresh hope even as he urges people to continue to be cautious to prevent further flare-ups.

Roughly 530,000 people have died from COVID-19 in the United States, and about 10% of Americans have been fully vaccinated. Biden said on Wednesday he would use his 8 p.m. EST (0100 GMT) address to discuss "what we've been through as a nation this past year."

"But more importantly, I'm going to talk about what comes next. I'm going to launch the next phase of the COVID response and explain what we will do as a government and what we will ask of the American people," Biden said.

The president is expected to warn Americans who, like people worldwide, are weary of pandemic restrictions, not to revert to normal behavior prematurely. Biden has urged continued mask wearing, social distancing and good hygiene, and he has discouraged cities and states from loosening their guidelines on large gatherings even as more localities relax restrictions.

"We cannot let our guard down now or assume that victory is inevitable. Together, we're going to get through this pandemic and usher in a healthier and more hopeful future," Biden said at an event with the chief executives of Johnson & Johnson and Merck & Co on Wednesday.

Top White House COVID-19 advisers echoed his hopeful tone.

"There is light at the end of the

tunnel," Dr. Anthony Fauci, Biden's chief medical adviser, told NBC's "Today" program on Thursday. "By the time we get into the mid to late summer, early fall, we're going to start seeing a big, big difference."

White House senior adviser Andy Slavitt said on MSNBC that he was increasingly optimistic that the country could protect its vulnerable population: "We need to do more and step on the gas the next few weeks and months to get that done, and you're going to hear that from the president tonight."

As of Wednesday morning, nearly 128 million doses of coronavirus vaccines from the three authorized U.S. providers had been distributed and nearly 96 million shots administered, government data showed.

Trump downplayed the crisis in its early stages and eschewed mask wearing, while repeatedly predicting the virus would soon disappear even as his administration pushed to speed up vaccine development. Trump and former first lady Melania Trump did not appear in a new public service announcement released on Thursday encouraging COVID-19 vaccinations and featuring all the other living former U.S. presidents and their spouses.

(Reporting by Jeff Mason; additional reporting by Andrea Shalal and Susan Heavey; Editing by Heather Timmons and Will Dunham)



# Looking Back



# Memories are Forever



# Hovland named as Associate Commissioner of National Indian Gaming Commission

WASHINGTON, D.C. February 11, 2021 – The National Indian Gaming Commission is pleased to welcome Associate Commissioner Jeannie Hovland (Flandreau Santee Sioux), appointed to a three-year term on January 17, 2021.

“I am honored by my appointment to the Commission, a wonderfully hardworking and dedicated team,” said Hovland. “I look forward to collaborating with Chairman Simermeyer and Vice-Chair Isom-Clause as the Commission continues its important role to serve and protect the integrity of Indian gaming. I will continue my commitment of respecting tribal sovereignty and I look forward to visiting with tribal leaders to learn how I can best serve them in this role.”

Hovland enjoyed a rich and varied career serving Indian Country prior to joining the NIGC. Her extensive knowledge and experience in Indian Affairs includes her 13 years serving Native American communities in South Dakota as Tribal Affairs Advisor to Senator John Thune, where she counseled Senator Thune on important legislation such as the Tribal Law and Order Act and the Code Talkers Recognition Act of 2008. From Senator Thune’s office, Hovland joined the Department of the Interior, where she served as a Senior Advisor to the Assistant Secretary for Indian Affairs.

Most recently, she served as Commissioner of the Administration for Native Americans. There she oversaw a \$57 million annual operating budget to promote self-sufficiency for American Indians, Alaska Natives, Native Hawaiians, and Pacific Islanders. As Commissioner, Hovland administered discretionary grants to support social and economic development, Native language restoration and revitalization, and environmental regulatory enhancement. Hovland created the Social and Economic Development Strategies for Growing Organizations program, which provides funding to strengthen internal governance structures and build capacity for tribes and tribal organizations. She also served as Deputy Assistant Secretary for Native American Affairs at the Administration for Children and Families, a \$58 billion operating division under the Department of Health and Human Services. While there, she provided expert and culturally appropriate advice to the Assistant Secretary on policies and strategies affecting Native Americans.

Hovland joins on the Commission Chairman E. Sequoyah Simermeyer (Coharie) and Vice-Chair Kathryn Isom-Clause (Taos Pueblo). Together, the three-member Commission will continue to implement the Agency’s priorities and principles of strengthening Indian gaming’s regulatory structure as consistent with its responsibilities under the Indian Gaming Regulatory Act.

“I look forward to working with Associate Commissioner Hovland. Her clear commitment and dedication to strengthening tribal communities will be instrumental to her contributions at the NIGC,” said Chairman Simermeyer.

“Commissioner Hovland’s career path shows a commitment to Indian Country. I look forward to working with her in our shared mission to promote tribal economic development, self-sufficiency, and strong tribal governments,” said Vice Chair Isom-Clause.

Jeannie is the daughter of Carol Robertson of Flandreau, and Eugene Hovland, Rapid City, SD and is a member of the Flandreau Santee Sioux Tribe.

“Having followed our fellow tribal member Jeannie Hovland’s career for a number of years, we at the Flandreau Santee Sioux Tribe were proud to learn of her recent appointment to the National Indian Gaming Commission,” said Flandreau Santee Sioux Tribal Chairman Tony Reider.

“Her ability and skill working under formidable circumstances has always been impressive and valuable to this community. At this time, we congratulate her on her appointment and know she will serve the commission well,” he concluded.

# Asking for temporary parklet



📷 The owners of Flandreau Bistro & Roasterie want to install a temporary parklet in the first parking spot in front of their business to provide outdoor seating for customers. The platform would be removable so it would not interfere with snow removal in winter months.

At last week's Flandreau City Council meeting, business owner Jessica Hovland asked council members whether she could install a temporary parklet in front of her business, the Flandreau Bistro & Roasterie. The deck-like structure would be in place from late May through September to provide outdoor seating and dining. It would be removed for winter months so it would not be in the way of snow removal, she said. The parklet idea is an example for downtown improvements that came up when the Flandreau Development Corporation worked with Wellmark's Healthy Hometown project. Because of the pandemic, businesses also have suffered with providing indoor seating as they worked to keep people socially distanced. Outdoor seating, as a result, has become popular. Hovland and City Administrator Jeff Pederson will look at some ideas and bring them back to the city council.





# Frederick Allen Redwing

November 8, 1963 - March 3, 2021

## Memorial Service:

Tuesday, March 9, 2021 - 7:00 P.M.  
Flandreau Santee Sioux Tribe Community Center  
Eastman Hall Flandreau, SD

Frederick Allen Redwing, age 57, of Flandreau, South Dakota Journeyed to the Spirit World on March 3rd, 2021.

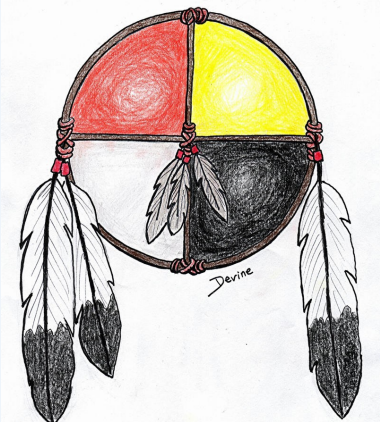
He was born in Rapid City, South Dakota, on November 8, 1963, the son of Frederick I. Redwing and Inez Hillers. Fred graduated from Flandreau Public High School and graduated from Southwestern Indian Polytechnic Institute, SIPI and Haskell University. After graduating high school from SIPI he worked in Washington, DC as a land surveyor and later returned to Flandreau to care for his mother until her passing and later graduated from Haskell University obtaining a Associates degree in IT.

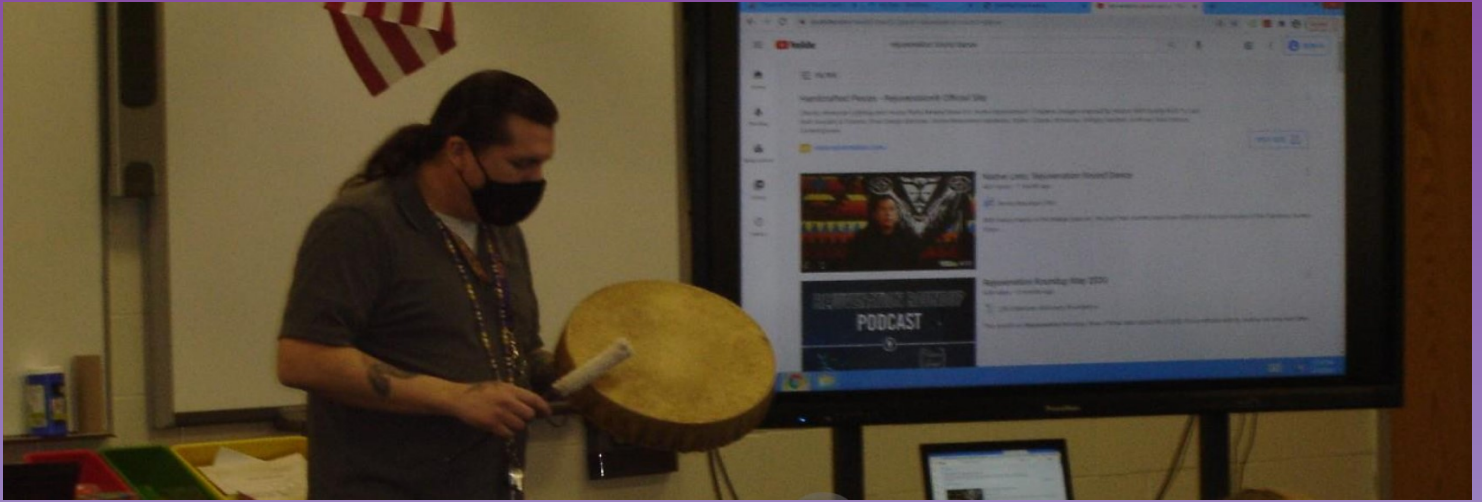
Fred worked many years at the Royal River Casino and with the Flandreau Santee Sioux Tribe.

Fred enjoyed fishing, hunting, and traveling. He loved teasing and making jokes with all his family and friends and took great pride in his homestead. He loved to share his memories of all his good times with his family and friends.

Boe is survived by his sisters: Liz Wakeman, Diane (Ray) Austin, Debra Wakeman, and Dawn (Marcus) Serrano; many nieces, nephews and other loving family and friends.

Fred is preceded in death by his parents; and brother, Francis (Stub) F. Wakeman, Jr.





## Musical Exploration

Dusty Beaulieu shares Native American music styles with elementary students.

## FHS National Honor Society 20-21!



# Words and Action

*By Governor Kristi Noem*

Pierre, SD – March 5, 2021  
– March 10th is a tough day. On March 10, 2020, South Dakota diagnosed our first 5 cases of COVID-19, including our first death. For many of us across the state, life changed that day as we adapted to slow the spread of the virus. For my family, the day had double meaning. March 10, 1994, is also the day that my dad passed away in an accident on our family farm.

My dad was a cowboy. He was the toughest person that I've ever known. Ever since I was a little girl, I wanted to grow up and be like him. When he died, I was just 22 years old, and I had to take over as general manager of the family business. The months immediately after he died were filled with unending challenges and hundreds of questions. I remember thinking repeatedly, "I wish I could just ask dad." I had no idea how we were going to keep the family business going without him. But I was determined that we weren't going to fail.

A couple of months after he

was killed, I finally got the courage to clean out his pickup. If you have a farmer or rancher in your life, you know that they often live out of their pickups. Everything important can be found in the cab.

I got to his pickup and began pulling items out of the center console and putting them in a box. I found a set of pliers, a Baby Ruth candy bar (that was his favorite), notebooks, pens, tools. And then I found a tiny tape recorder, like the kind that a doctor dictates into.

I pushed the play button and heard my dad's voice.

My eyes started to fill up with tears. I looked down into the console and saw several more tapes, almost a dozen in all. One by one, I put them in the tape recorder and listened to dad talk about crop decisions, soil types, cows, weather, markets, and what to do if we were ever caught in a tough financial situation.

I realized that here in my hands were all the answers that I needed. Straight from him. In his voice.

In that moment, I felt a strange sort of peace settle over me. Scripture talks about a "peace that

passes all understanding." It was almost as if God was saying to me, "I will provide. Stop worrying. You will be okay. Your family will be okay. I've got this."

I had the answers; I just needed to get to work.

Dad was the hardest worker that I knew. He led by example, by action. But that day, his words changed everything. I made a decision that day to be like my dad: a person of words and of action, because both matter.

That's why I ran for office. I am committed to always serving the people of this great state with both words and action. I will do what I say, and I will always tell you what I'm doing. That's why I approached this past year the way that I did.

It's been a tough year. Some South Dakota families have experienced the terrible tragedy of losing a loved-one, and my heart breaks for each of them. But no matter how tough the past year was, South Dakotans are so much tougher. And that toughness has gotten us through this marathon, together. May God bless you and your family in 2021.

## Democrats push Biden's \$1.9 trillion COVID bill through Senate on party-line vote

*By Richard Cowan, Makini Brice  
and David Morgan*

Washington, DC – Reuters – March 6, 2021 – The U.S. Senate on Saturday passed President Joe Biden's \$1.9 trillion COVID-19 relief plan in a party-line vote after an all-night session that was delayed repeatedly as the Republican minority tried but failed to push through around three dozen amendments.

The plan passed in a 50-49 vote with the support of every Democrat but no Republicans. It is one of the largest stimulus bills in U.S. history and gives Biden his first major legislative victory since taking office in

January.

The partisan victory was made possible by Democrats winning two Senate seats in Georgia special elections in January, giving them narrow control of the chamber.

Biden said on Saturday he hoped for quick passage of the revised bill by the House of Representatives so he could sign it and start sending \$1,400 direct payments to Americans.

"This plan will get checks out the door starting this month to the American people, who so desperately need the help," Biden said at the White House after the vote.

# Prairie Doc® Perspectives – A Vaccine Story for the Ages

By Kelly Evans-Hullinger, M.D.

Last summer we heard the prediction that by the end of 2020, we would have a safe, effective vaccine to the SARS-CoV-2 virus, which had only been discovered, of course, in December 2019, before causing countless deaths and mayhem in the world as we knew it. I must admit, I was skeptical.

Early in the pandemic, I learned that the fastest a vaccine had ever been developed was for the mumps virus, an effort which took four years. Even with all possible resources devoted to a COVID-19 vaccine, how could we ever do this in one year? Before I could even ponder this, however, my curiosity took me down the rabbit hole of the mumps vaccine.

Maurice Hilleman, to whom the mumps vaccine is credited, is something of a superhero in the world of virology and vaccine development. Over the course of his career, he was involved in the development of 40 vaccines, including an influenza vaccine in 1957 estimated to have prevented hundreds of thousands of deaths.

One night in 1963, Hilleman's young daughter Jeryl Lynn awoke him from sleep. She was feeling sick. Hilleman saw the telltale swelling of her salivary glands and knew she had the mumps. Mumps was a common childhood ailment, and while most children got mild illness including the classic swollen cheeks, it also caused aseptic meningitis, deafness, and infertility in males. Hilleman put Jeryl Lynn back to bed, then drove to his lab to retrieve a swab and culture media. He returned and awoke young Jeryl from her slumber to swab her mouth.

Over the next four years Hilleman cultured and tested the Jeryl Lynn strain of the mumps virus until it was safe enough to

administer without the risk of illness but still effective in generating an immune response against a normal mumps virus. Jeryl Lynn was present when her younger sister Kirsten was publicly immunized with the new mumps vaccine as a small child. As a result of Hilleman's vaccine, the United States now has only about 200 cases of mumps per year, compared to 200,000 per year before the vaccine.

Back to that COVID-19 vaccine. Well, my timeline skepticism was unwarranted. In December 2020, data published



on two separate vaccines using mRNA technology showed without ambiguity that we did have safe, effective vaccines just one year from the start of this pandemic. How so quickly? We can give credit to a



modern technology being ready for this problem and the intellectual weight of thousands of scientists around the world. I think even Maurice Hilleman, the father of modern vaccines himself, would be impressed.

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Kelly Evans-Hullinger, M.D. is part of The Prairie Doc® team of physicians and currently practices internal medicine in Brookings, South Dakota. For free and easy access to the entire Prairie Doc® library, visit [www.prairiedoc.org](http://www.prairiedoc.org) and follow Prairie Doc® on Facebook featuring On Call with the Prairie Doc® a medical Q&A show streaming on Facebook and broadcast on SDPB most Thursdays at 7 p.m. central.



# Jackley announces run for Attorney General

Pierre, SD – March 1, 2021 – Pierre, South Dakota: Marty Jackley announced today he will run for Attorney General in 2022.

“After receiving countless phone calls and emails from supporters across the state, I have decided to announce my candidacy for Attorney General”, said Marty Jackley.

“My service as Attorney General, United States Attorney and as a small-town State’s Attorney has prepared me to again undertake the important role the Attorney General has in working with law enforcement in keeping our families safe” said Jackley.

“There is nothing more important than the public’s safety - and the public’s confidence in our ability to keep our families safe. I will be working hard to earn the support of the voters once again, so I can go back to work fighting to keep South Dakota safe.” said Jackley.

Mark Barnett, a three-term Attorney General and recently retired Circuit Court Judge said, “Marty Jackley is one the best prosecutors we have ever had in South Dakota. He has an impeccable record of service and I am honored to give him my full endorsement.”

Butte County Sheriff Fred Lamphere said, “Marty has always been a strong partner with our Sheriffs, and he has my full support to be our next Attorney General.”

Clay County State’s Attorney Alexis Tracy said, “Marty’s proven experience and record as Attorney General, United States Attorney, and as a State’s Attorney is why he has my full support to be our next Attorney General.”

Marty served as South Dakota’s Attorney General, United States Attorney for South Dakota, Chairman of the Nation’s Attorneys General, Jones County State’s Attorney, and as a Special Prosecutor for the Sisseton-Wahpeton Oyate of the Lake Traverse Reservation.

Marty was raised in Sturgis with his family farm at nearby Vale SD, and graduated from the South Dakota School of Mines and Technology with his Bachelor of Science degree in Electrical Engineering with Honors. He received his law degree from the University of South Dakota School of Law.

Marty was named the South Dakota Prosecutor of the Year in 2008 from the South Dakota State’s Attorneys Association. As Attorney General, he served as the chief law enforcement officer and legal advisor for the State. Marty has served as the Chairman of the National Association of Attorneys General and the Conference of Western Attorneys General. In 2016, Marty was honored to receive the National Kelley-Wyman Outstanding Attorney General award.

In 2018, Marty successfully defended South Dakota before the Supreme Court of the United States in *South Dakota v. Wayfair*, providing Main Street businesses across South Dakota and the nation a level business playing field. He has extensive trial and appellate experience in state and federal courts having personally tried capital murder cases, a no body homicide, and the 1975 murder of Annie Mae Aquash.

Marty received the South Dakota State’s Attorneys Association Distinguished Service Award in 2019.

In January 2019, after serving as Attorney General and US Attorney, Marty returned to the Gunderson Palmer law firm as a partner opening up the Pierre branch office.



# IEN applauds confirmation of Deb Haaland as DOI Secretary

Bemidji, M.N. – March 12, 2021 – Deb Haaland leading the Department of Interior is an historic and necessary step to healing the tribal relationships with the United States. Being the first Indigenous person to head the Department of Interior, and second in a Cabinet position, we know that Haaland will help the administration find its path in confronting climate

change, addressing the COVID-19 pandemic in Indian Country, ensuring an effective economic just recovery plan for Native nations and Indigenous communities, overseeing the protection of public lands, and fulfilling treaty and statutory obligations to the first peoples of Turtle Island.

We look forward to working with Secretary Haaland and

supporting her as an Indigenous woman working to protect the sacredness of Mother Earth. Together we will continue to educate and empower Indigenous Peoples to address and develop strategies for the protection of our environment, our health, and all life forms on this planet.



**Deb Haaland was sworn in by Vice President Kamala Harris as the 54th Secretary of the Interior - Photo credit Tami Heilemann from Interior Dept.**

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## Prairie Doc® Perspectives – A Vaccine Story for the Ages

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Early in the pandemic, I learned that the fastest a vaccine had ever been developed was for the mumps virus, an effort which took four years. Even with all possible resources devoted to a COVID-19 vaccine, how could we ever do this in one year? Before I could even ponder this, however, my curiosity took me down the rabbit hole of the mumps vaccine.

Maurice Hilleman, to whom the mumps vaccine is credited, is something of a superhero in the world of virology and vaccine development. Over the course of his career, he was involved in the development of 40 vaccines, including an influenza vaccine in 1957 estimated to have prevented hundreds of thousands of deaths.

One night in 1963, Hilleman's young daughter Jeryl Lynn awoke him from sleep. She was feeling sick. Hilleman saw the telltale swelling of her salivary glands and knew she had the mumps. Mumps was a common childhood ailment, and while most children got mild illness including the classic swollen cheeks, it also caused aseptic meningitis, deafness, and infertility in males. Hilleman put Jeryl Lynn back to bed, then drove to his lab to retrieve a swab and culture media. He returned and awoke young Jeryl from her slumber to swab her mouth.

Over the next four years Hilleman cultured and tested the Jeryl Lynn strain of the mumps virus until it was safe enough to administer without the risk of

illness but still effective in generating an immune response against a normal mumps virus. Jeryl Lynn was present when her younger sister Kirsten was publicly immunized with the new mumps vaccine as a small child. As a result of Hilleman's vaccine, the United States now has only about 200 cases of mumps per year, compared to 200,000 per year before the vaccine.

Back to that COVID-19 vaccine. Well, my timeline skepticism was unwarranted. In December 2020, data published on two separate vaccines using mRNA technology showed without ambiguity that we did have safe, effective vaccines just one year from the start of this pandemic. How so quickly? We can give credit to a modern technology being ready for this problem and the intellectual weight of thousands of scientists around the world. I think even Maurice Hilleman, the father of modern vaccines himself, would be impressed.

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Kelly Evans-Hullinger, M.D. is part of The Prairie Doc® team of physicians and currently practices internal medicine in Brookings, South Dakota. For free and easy access to the entire Prairie Doc® library, visit [www.prairiedoc.org](http://www.prairiedoc.org) and follow Prairie Doc® on Facebook featuring On Call with the Prairie Doc® a medical Q&A show streaming on Facebook and broadcast on SDPB most Thursdays at 7 p.m. central.



# Officer makes drug bust



A Flandreau police officer made a drug bust late last week that yielded 12 syringes of methamphetamine.

The officer stopped a Jeep on Veterans Street near the Royal River Casino about 3 a.m. March 12.

The 29-year-old male driver from Dell Rapids was charged with driving under suspension, driving without insurance and expired license plates. He was ticketed and released.

A 31-year-old Dell Rapids woman passenger in the car was wanted on several warrants out of Lake County, including failures to appear. The officer found 12 syringes filled with meth, and the woman said they were hers, according to the police report.

She was arrested for possession of drugs and drug paraphernalia, booked through the Moody County Sheriff's Office and taken to jail in Lake County.

While it is not uncommon for local officers to find drugs during a stop, the amount that was ready for use is unusual, said Sergeant Rob Neuenfeldt with the Flandreau Police Department. "There's usually not that many needles," he said. "That's not very common."

Chief Zach Weber said his department is posting more crimes like this one on Facebook as an awareness in the community that drug offenses occur. While this stop may have yielded more syringes than normal, making drug arrests is not unusual, he said. "It's all over the place."

The case remains under investigation. A Flandreau Santee Sioux Tribe officer assisted with the stop.





# Domestic violence is not a Native American tradition.

Does your partner ever...

- Call you names or criticize you?
- Isolate you from family or friends?
- Threaten to hurt you or your children?
- Push, slap, kick or strangle you?
- Refuse to give you money for food, gas or medicine?



**STRONGHEARTS**  
Native Helpline

Get free, confidential help at  
**1-844-7NATIVE (762-8483)**  
open daily from 7 a.m. to 10 p.m. CST.

Callers after hours may connect with the National  
Domestic Violence Hotline by selecting 1.

Advocates offer peer support, crisis intervention, personalized safety planning, education on domestic violence and healthy relationships, and a connection to Tribal and Native resources.

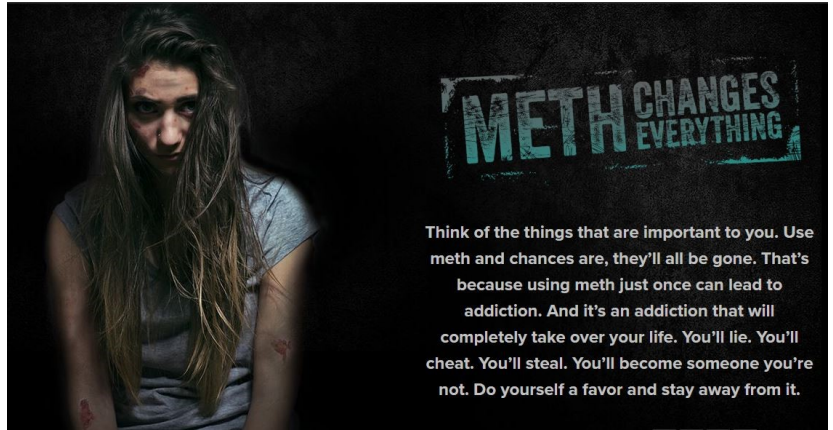
Trust. Speak. Heal. Together. | [strongheartshelpline.org](http://strongheartshelpline.org)



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## Knowing the signs of meth abuse might help you save someone's life.

- Hyperactivity
- Drastic weight loss
- Dilated pupils
- Talkativeness
- Increased distractibility
- Tooth decay and loss of teeth
- Aggression
- Irritability
- Agitation
- Grandiose behavior
- Twitchiness
- Loss of interest in normal activities, such as food, water, sex, and sleep
- Getting “sketched out,” or becoming agitated, nervous, moody, irritable, paranoid, and/or aggressive.
- Jumpy eyes
- Scratching, itching, or picking at skin
- Financial difficulties
- Not meeting financial obligations
- Absenteeism or tardiness at school or work
- Noticeable changes in behavior
- Cravings
- Social and interpersonal problems
- Impulsive behaviors
- Memory loss
- Bizarre and erratic behavior
- Repetitive behavior patterns that can last for hours, also called “tweaking” or “geeking.”
- Sleep deprivation, resulting in hallucinations, delusions, extreme paranoia, or violence



# Covid-19 in South Dakota.

Positive cases per: 100,000 people  
American Indian -16,907  
Black / African American-12,355  
Hispanic / Latino-10,338  
White-10,045  
Asian-9,943

Deaths per 100,000 people  
American Indian-281  
White-172  
Asian-120  
Hispanic / Latino-51  
Black / African American-41\*

**THIS PANDEMIC IS DISPROPORTIONATELY AFFECTING OUR COMMUNITY. PLEASE TAKE RESPONSIBILITY TO STOP THE SPREAD OF COVID-19.**

**WEAR A MASK,  
WASH YOUR HANDS &  
WATCH YOUR DISTANCE.**

[HTTPS://COVIDTRACKING.COM/DATA/STATE/SOUTH-DAKOTA](https://COVIDTRACKING.COM/DATA/STATE/SOUTH-DAKOTA)

