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Guest Contributor:

- **Mariah Pokorny** provides a short explanation of the new passport execution policies developed by the National Passport agency.



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Deeds*

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PRESIDENT'S CORNER

BY KAREN LAYHER



SDACO President & Grant
County Auditor Karen Layher

As part of Christmas season, I want to take a moment to wish you and your families a very Merry Christmas filled with hope, love, joy and peace and may your 2011 also be filled with hope, love, joy and peace.

The executive board met in Pierre on December 15 and 16 with a full agenda. Much of our meeting was spent discussing the legislative package of bills being drafted into final form for the upcoming legislative session. Our main legislation this year will be the restructuring of the Register of Deeds fee schedule to a flat

fee schedule. We will need your support and for you to contact your legislators to ask for their support in the passage of the bill. I believe this bill will have a positive impact on the banking and the abstractors associations by establishing the flat fee schedule. I want to extend a sincere **thank you** to the Task Force who has worked tirelessly on the fee schedule changes. This has been a huge undertaking and now hopefully, all of us will see the fruits of their labor.

One change in our legislative package came to light after convention. It is the need to amend SDCL 7-9-23. The passport agency in Minneapolis has a policy taking effect on May 1, 2011 which states there must be complete split or separation in the duties of Vital Records and Passports. If the office has enough staff to separate the duties, there would not be an issue. Unfortunately, most counties do not have enough staff to accomplish the new requirement. Currently, there are 18 Register of Deeds offices affected by this policy change. In an effort to keep passport facilities in the counties, SDACO will be

seeking support to amend the statute which currently allows only the Register of Deeds Office to process passports to expand the statute to allow the county commission to designate the county offices authorized to issue passports. By amending this statute we will be able to continue passport services to our local residents and keep the revenue generated by the issuance of the passports.

I would like to announce the Executive Board has established an Election Task Force comprised of the auditors who serve on the executive board. The Task Force will be available to offer assistance on election issues during the transition change for SOS-Elect Jason Gant. The task force will also be asked to follow all election legislation presented for the 2011 session. If you have any questions on proposed election law changes, please contact Kathy Glines, Shelia Hagemann, Julie Pearson, Lisa Schieffer or myself as we are committed with working with the Secretary of State Office to advance the administration of the election process.

Again, Merry Christmas and Happy New Year.

MISSION STATEMENT SOUTH DAKOTA ASSOCIATION OF COUNTY OFFICIALS

"The mission of South Dakota Association of County Officials is to promote effective and efficient county government for the citizens of South Dakota."

FROM OUR EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

BY CARRIE GONSOR

Along with the chilly South Dakota weather, December brings another level of appreciation for the dedication of South Dakota's County Officials. You have each individually worked through the challenges of your office and will enter into 2011 ready to take on a new state-wide leadership and exciting legislative session. I applaud you for your efforts and thank you for making my job fun and enjoyable!

The SDACO office has made strides towards the completion of association goals and we will end the year in a positive fashion. First, we have overcome our budget concerns and successfully addressed the challenges of replacing staff. You were informed at the 2010 SD Counties Convention that we would be drastically over our 2010 budget due to the Executive Director search and hiring a new employee. I am happy to report that cautious spending and added revenue from online advertising and the CEC Portal have allowed us to end the year on track for association growth. As best put by Ed Nill, the SDACO

Accountant and Bookkeeper, we did a wonderful job in our transition between Executive Directors.

Next, the Association is coming closer to fulfilling several of our technology goals outlined in the SDACO bylaws. We have implemented a new online education system that will help bring both technology and advanced learning into the counties. Chris Hamze, the SDACO Technology Coordinator, developed our CEC Portal, updated the SDACO Website, and rejuvenated the SDACO County Website Program. With Chris's help, we will ring in the new year with an advanced technological system in place.

Finally, the members of SDACO have identified key issues that need to be addressed in the 2011 Legislative Session. With the help of County Officials around the state, SDACO will bring five bills to the upcoming session. We have strong lines of communication with many state leaders and legislators, and we look forward to continued advocacy for South Dakota's 66 counties.

As we move into the new year, I am excited to bring SDACO to the forefront of advocacy for county government. Our



Executive Director Carrie Gonsor

association strives to teach community members, students, and local and state leaders the importance of a strong county government system. In order to reach this goal, I am committed to extend our educational services through technology and open communication.

Together we will continue to grow our strong infrastructure of competent and talented county elected officials, while extending public service to citizens around South Dakota.

Wishing you a safe and wonderful Holiday Season!

South Dakota County News

The *South Dakota County News* is the official newsletter of the South Dakota Association of County Officials.

The *South Dakota County News* is published ten times a year by the South Dakota Association of County Officials (SDACO). It is distributed to all elected county officials in South Dakota's 66 counties. Other readers include SDACO Associate Members, purchasing agents, budget and planning administrators, appointed department heads, state legislators and state agency personnel.

Companies interested in **advertising** in the *South Dakota County News* should contact Carrie Gonsor, SDACO Executive Director.

SDACO member counties may place classified ads, story ideas, articles and photographs in this newsletter at NO charge. Please send your information to SDACO@sdcounties.org.

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SDACO OFFICE HAPPENINGS

December Board Meeting

The Executive Board met for the December Board Meeting and joint Board Meeting with the SDACC and SDML. Reports were given by the President, the Parliamentarian, and the Executive Director. Items discussed included the 2011 budget, the 2011 Legislative Package, and the open Administrative Assitant/ Intern position with SDACO.

SDACO Intern: Andrew Pietrus

The Executive Board approved the hiring of an Intern to assist the Executive Director during session and over the summer. Andrew Pietrus, a graduate student from the University of South Dakota, has accepted the first Intern position. Pietrus will begin his internship on Jan. 3 and will work throughout the spring. Pietrus will be an asset to the SDACO Team.

NCCAE President's Meeting

SDACO President Karen Layher and SDACO Executive Director Carrie Gonsor will travel to the National NCCAE President's Meeting in Washington, DC on January 12-14. The President's Meeting allows South Dakota delegates to meet and interact with county officials from around the nation. Layher and Gonsor will attend business meetings and educational seminars while in DC.

TECHNOLOGY MATTERS

BY CHRIS HAMZE



SDACO Technology Coordinator
Chris Hamze



Hand County is one of the 12 counties enrolled in the SDACO County Website Program. Visit the Hand County Website today!
www.hand.sdcounties.org

Links that work for you:

SDACO Website
www.sdcounties.org

NACo Website
[Www.naco.org](http://www.naco.org)

License Plates
www.sdcars.org

Voter Information
apps.sd.gov/applications/st25cers/

SoDakLive
home.sodaklive.com/

Tip of the month:

To minimize all of the screens open on your computer, press the "Windows" and "D" keys simultaneously



As of January 1, 2010 all (12) of the current counties enrolled in the SDACO County Website Program will be transferred to the new website system. The new website system is based off of WordPress 3.0, which is used to power over 20% of all websites throughout the world.

WordPress is very user friendly and the website's content can be edited with ease. In addition, by using

plugins you can add further functionality such as Facebook integration, advanced contact forms, and calendar features.

Other services that are available are free email accounts with either your own custom domain or with a @sdcounties.org email address. Each email address has 25 GB of storage and has a very easy to use webmail access.

The SDACO County Website Program is affordable and offers all counties the ability to personalize their websites with the confidence of having web-support just one phone call away. A full listing of website services can be found on the SDACO website.

For more information or to set up your counties website through SDACO, contact the Technology Coordinator, Christ Hamze, at:

Chris@sdcounties.org

WHAT'S IN A GREETING? "HOW KOLA"

The State of South Dakota is widely known as the Mount Rushmore State, a land of infinite variety. For South Dakotans, this state is also known for the kindness shown between neighbors. The accepting and welcoming nature of South Dakota's people extends back to the original inhabitants of this land—the Sioux or Dakotah Indians.

The Dacotah Indians often greeted each other with "How kola", which means "Welcome, friends." The Dakota Territory, and later South Dakota, was named after this great tribe and the welcoming greeting of "how kola" was passed on as well. Today, "how kola" serves as the official greeting for South Dakota.*

Visitors to South Dakota are often surprised at the beauty found in our rolling plains, lustrous black hills and flowing rivers. Visitors also find the warmth of a friendly face and welcoming hand from the citizens of our fine state. May you greet your family and neighbors, and welcome visitors with "How Kola" this Holiday Season.

*Information found at: www.sd.gov/governor/main/Kids.htm

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NACO provides publications specifically geared towards educating county officials and leaders. Throughout 2010, NACO responded to the need for counties to survive during the national economic downturn. The following articles are examples of publications used to educate county officials across the nation. Find NACO publications at: www.naco.org/research/



In Sept. 2010, NACO released their latest publication highlighting county sustainability efforts in 2010. The publication, which analyses the results of a recent survey, is proving to be a valuable asset to America's counties—helping them better define, prioritize, and more fully assess their sustainability efforts.



A NACO June 2010 survey of county human resource directors and how they are preparing for changes required by the health reform law. Find out how your county compares to counties around the nation by reading [How Counties as Employers are Responding to the Health Reform Law: A NACO Survey of County Human Resource Directors.](#)



The NACO Legislative Conference is held on an annual basis in Washington, DC. This meeting brings over 2,000 elected and appointed county officials from across the country to focus on legislative issues facing county government. Attendees hear from key Administration officials and members of Congress and are offered a myriad of additional educational opportunities

addressing current and hot topic issues. A day of lobbying on Capitol Hill the last day rounds out an information packed Conference that is NOT to be missed.



Online registration is now open for NACO's 2011 Legislative Conference. .

NACO Announces 2011 Legislative Priorities

The NACO Board of Directors approved the key legislative priorities for next year and a strategic plan that guides programs for future years at its meeting Dec. 3-4. The 2011 Legislative Priorities focus on fiscal responsibility while creating jobs. The key legislative priorities are:

- Promote county fiscal relief and save jobs
- Save jobs by repealing the 3 percent tax withholding requirement passed by Congress
- Support job creating by enacting aviation and surface transportation program reauthorizations
- Support county health priorities
- Support job creation by making rural development a priority within the farm bill reauthorization, &
- Oppose job-killing unfunded mandates and preemptions

The strategic plan includes goals for 2011 through 2013. The staff will incorporate suggested changes to the plan & report to the Board at the Legislative Conference in March. The eight goals of the plan are:

- Increase member engagement
- Better demonstrate NACO's value to members
- Engage the corporate community in NACO & county programs
- Implement new ideas to improve future NACO conferences
- Transition NACO to a more digital organization
- Develop value-added, new programs & services
- Increase public awareness & understanding about counties, &
- Further stimulate staff engagement to better serve members.

South Dakota Representation on the NACO Board of Directors

Don Larson
Brookings County
 Commissioner
dlarson@brookingscountysd.gov

Nancy Hansen
Brown County
 Commissioner
nancyh@nvc.net

2011 SDACO LEGISLATIVE PACKAGE

The SDACO 2011 Legislative Package was finalized by the Executive Board at the December Board Meeting. We are pleased to bring five bills during the 2011 session, four of which initiate from the SD Counties Convention.

The following bills will be brought by SDACO:

- 1) Repeal SDCL 10-21-15 (Collecting the oldest tax first).
- 2) Restructuring of Register of Deeds Fee Schedule (Flat Fee Schedule).
- 3) Repeal SDCL 10-2-14 (Director of Equalization oath in Auditor's office).
- 4) Repeal SDCL 10-9-6 (Auditor to locate unregistered mobile homes).
- 5) Amending County employees who may execute passport applications.

The 2011 Legislative session begins on Tuesday, January 11. SDACO has brought together a strong legislative team to support our bills. Executive Director Gonsor will work with two contracted lobbyists, Mr. Roger Tellinghuisen & Mr. Eric Erickson, & the SDACO Intern to garner support for the bills. The SDACO legislative team will also track bills throughout session that will impact county officials.

Watch for weekly updates on the bills that SDACO is brining as well as the bills that SDACO is watching. The updates will be sent via email & will usually arrive on Friday afternoons.

SDACO encourages all county officials to introduce yourself to your legislators & invite legislators to your office. The goal is to educate our state leaders & legislators on what each office does for the county & the importance of a well-run county government system. County officials interact with constituents on a daily basis & greatly impact the life of many South Dakotans.

As always, if you have any questions or concerns regarding SDACO Legislation, please contact Executive Director Gonsor at (605) 224-1968.

Visit: <http://legis.state.sd.us/sessions/2011/calendar.pdf>

“One man with courage makes a majority.”

US President Andrew Jackson

SDACO Legislative Updates

As local leaders, county officials need to be part of the action in Pierre.

SDACO Legislative Updates will give you the information you need, when you need it.

Read your Legislative Update today!



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PASSPORT NEWS

By Mariah Pokorny

In 2003, the Department of State stopped designating new passport acceptance facilities that also issued birth certificates. At that time, approximately 19 Register of Deeds were "grandfathered" into passport acceptance pending further review.

Because of that review and preparation of the Western Hemisphere Travel Initiative, the Department of State has issued strict guidelines to those offices that provide the dual function of passport acceptance and birth certificate issuance. All passport acceptance facilities must be in compliance by May 1st, 2011; after that date each facility will be inspected to ensure compliance.

Options that are available:
1) Designate one or more staff members to process

passport applications. This staff person(s) must not have access to the South Dakota Department of Health Vital Records software, any birth records, or any safety paper on which birth records are



printed. This staff person could not fill in to process birth records under any circumstance.

2) Discontinue service of passport acceptance. Another

county office may apply to be designated as an acceptance facility to replace the original county facility. If your county is considering this route, it is important to not wait until the last minute - the Minneapolis Passport Agency advised that ideally these requests would be received by January. Please note that if another county office applies, that office cannot be an office that processes drivers licenses.

3) Discontinue service of passport acceptance.

Questions regarding this policy should be directed to Colin Patrick Walle, Customer Service Manager Minneapolis Passport Agency at (612) 656.5179 or pptmncs@state.gov.

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A LOOK AT 2010: THE HEALTH OF SOUTH DAKOTA'S ECONOMY

South Dakotans have risen to the challenge and have begun to recover from the nation-wide recession. The past two years have signified a drastic change in South Dakota's economy. South Dakota entered a period of economic expansion in 2001 that lasted almost seven years.

The national recession and financial crisis of 2008 brought South Dakota's economic growth to a drastic halt and plunged South Dakota's economy into recession. The economic uncertainty coupled with the rise of unemployment rates resulted in negative consumer spending and loss of confidence in state and national markets.

2010 marked the first year of improvement during the recession and signaled to many South Dakotans that the economy has entered a recovery phase.

In South Dakota, the best

measure of economic health is the growth rate of nonfarm employment. While nonfarm employment dropped in 2008 and 2009, economists forecast strong employment growth late in 2010. As a result, the slight overall increase in nonfarm employment from 2009 to 2010 indicates the economy is beginning to recover. The unemployment rate for South Dakota in October of 2010 was 4.5%, which is 5.1% below the national October rate of 9.6% and 0.2% lower than South Dakota's unemployment rate from October of 2009.

The Council of Economic Advisors (CEA), a group of

economic professors & business people from South Dakota, are optimistic that many key economic areas in South Dakota will also continue to improve. The agricultural economy is expected to resemble '09, a strong year for SD farmers & ranchers.

While 2010 will bring lower crop production, higher prices and lower production costs will be positive for the overall economy in South Dakota. Livestock producers are forecasted to have similar results. Tourism and construction have improved in slow, but steady increments

and South Dakota should end the year on a high note for both.

While South Dakota may be recovering, the CEA warns that a slide back into a national recession in 2011 will negatively impact South Dakota. "Although the US economy is over a year into the recovery phase, the recovery has been slow by historical standards.... Many economists question the strength of the current recovery based on slow output growth, government fiscal stimulus ending, large state and local government deficits, and high unemployment." South Dakota has experienced positive, albeit small, changes in the recovery phase of 2010; however, as many of you will attest to, the recovery is far from over.

* Statistics in this article found in "State of South Dakota Summary of Governor's Budget Fiscal Year 2012" by M. Michael Rounds

"Although the US economy is over a year into the recovery phase, the recovery has been slow by historical standards...."

GOVERNOR OUTLINES BUDGET PROPOSAL IN ADDRESS TO LEGISLATURE

PIERRE, S.D. – In the wake of the continuing recession and weak revenue collections, Gov. Mike Rounds has proposed a balanced state budget for Fiscal Year 2011 that funds essential services, takes care of other state needs and does not raise state taxes.

"My goal is to slow spending and allow revenues to recover," he said.

"State finances have been responsibly handled in these difficult economic times of high unemployment and drastically increased demand for state assistance through a variety of health care programs, primarily Medicaid," the Governor said. "Many families across the state are pinching their pennies to make ends meet, and state government also should do what it can to hold down spending," Gov. Rounds said.

Unemployment at its highest level since 1985 in South Dakota has led to a dramatic boost in the number of people seeking Medicaid services, and that is adding greatly to the state's financial burden, he said.

Because state revenues have been

weak, it's also necessary to revise the current budget to fill a projected shortfall of nearly \$16 million, Gov. Rounds said. That could be accomplished by a transfer of one-time revenues to fill the gap, he told a joint session of the South Dakota Legislature. This one-time use of existing cash would leave the state's reserve funds untouched through the current fiscal year, the Governor said.

Although federal stimulus funds have been prudently used and expenses carefully managed to bridge the structural deficit – or shortage of ongoing revenues to meet ongoing expenses – that budgetary shortfall is expected to be \$107 million by FY2012, the Governor warned. The state must do all it can to hold down expenses until the economy improves, he said, adding that federal stimulus funds will run out after next year.

"The weak national economy has made the annual challenge of balancing the budget more difficult than usual, but we have been able to put together a package that takes care of those who need help – the very young

and the very old – protects the public, and provides other government services," the Governor said.

The growth and increased use of federally-mandated Medicaid services, along with expiring federal stimulus funds and a larger state share of the cost of Medicaid, will cause a \$52.2 million increase in ongoing state spending in just those areas for FY2011, he said. Other areas of the budget will be cut or see no increases, Gov. Rounds said in his annual budget address.

The state general fund budget has grown less than 1 percent annually for the last two years, he said. "This year, we are cutting \$573,000 from Executive Branch agencies and departments, the Legislature and Constitutional officers, and we are also cutting 102 FTEs," Gov. Rounds said.

The Governor is proposing the use of \$31.8 million from the Property Tax Relief Fund to balance next year's budget. State reserves, in two accounts, have remained unchanged at \$107 million for the past

two years, he said. The state has been careful not to dip into reserves earlier because of the uncertain economy, he said.

The Governor's FY2011 budget proposal, totaling slightly more than \$4 billion, would use general tax revenues of \$1.182 billion, \$1.916 billion of federal funds and \$968 million of other revenues sources.

Education and social programs, such as Medicaid, comprise about 85 percent of the general fund budget, the Governor said. While revenue collections have been virtually unchanged since July 2008, combined expenses just for the cost of the Medicaid program and education will have increased more than \$100 million by July of 2011, he said.

* Slides used during the Governor's address and the FY2010 Budget Book and Summary are available at www.state.sd.us/bfm/budget/.

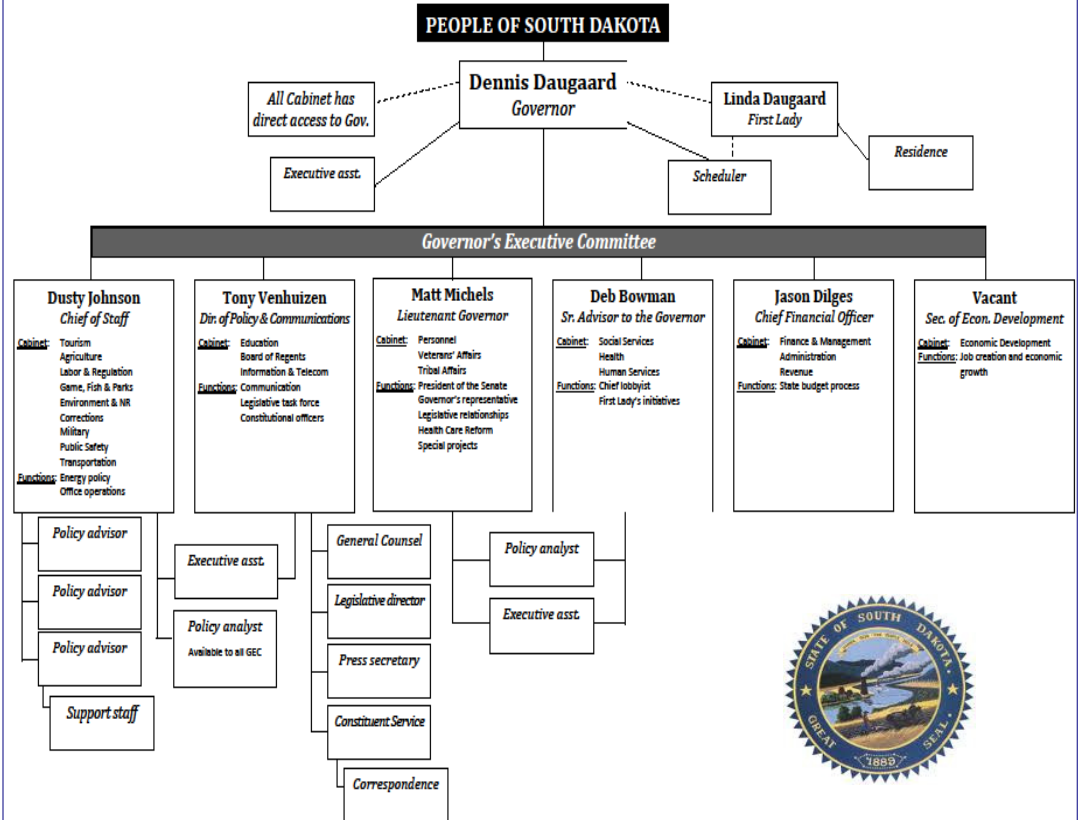
* Release date: Dec. 8, 2010

**Governor-elect
Cabinet Appointments**

- SD Dept. of Labor***
Pam Roberts, Secretary
- SD Dept of Health***
Doneen Hollingsworth,
Secretary
- SD Dept of G,F, &P***
Jeff Vonk, Secretary
- SD Dept of Environment &
Natural Resources***
Steve Pirner, Secretary
- SD Dept. of Corrections***
Tim Reisch, Secretary
- SD Dept. of Transportation***
Darin Bergquist, Secretary
- SD Dept. of Military & Vet-
eran's Affairs***
Adjutant General & Secretary,
General Steve Doohen
- SD Dept of Social Services***
Secretary Kim Malsam-
Rysdonl
- SD Bureau of Personnel***
Sandy Zinter, Commissioner
- SD Dept. of Education***
Dr. Melody Schopp, Interim
Secretary
- SD Dept. of Public Safety***
Trevor Jones, Secretary
- SD Dept of Revenue &
Regulation***
Andy Gerlach, Secretary
* David Wiest, Interim
Secretary
- SD Dept. of Agriculture***
Walt Bones, Secretary
- SD Dept. of Tourism &
State Development***
Jim Hagen, Secretary

2011 SOUTH DAKOTA LEADERSHIP

Governor's Office organizational chart



Inaugural Day Events

- 11:00 a.m. Oath of Office Ceremonies
for Legislators**
- 12:00 p.m. Oath of Office Ceremony for Governor, Lt. Governor,
and other Constitutional
and Elected Officials**
- 1:30-3:00 p.m. Receiving line**
- 6:30 p.m. Capitol Ball**
- 7:00 p.m. Grand March at Capitol Ball**
- 8:00 p.m. Inaugural Ball**

OPEN SD

OPEN SD is an internet services that provides financial information about state, county, and municipal government, in a searchable format.

The categories on the site let you preview state government spending, current salaries of individual state employees, financial documents, vendor info., and listings of job classifications.

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<http://open.sd.gov/>

January SDACO Birthdays

January

- Jan. 1st: Carol VanDerWerff, Douglas County Treasurer
 Jan. 3rd: Julie Risty, Minnehaha County Register of Deeds
 Jan 4th: Connie Atkinson, Lawrence County Auditor
 Jan. 5th: Betty McCambridge, Clay County Register of Deeds (retiring)
 Denise Deaver, Meade County Register of Deeds
 Jan. 11th: Ruby Hagen, Marshall County Treasurer
 Jan. 14th: Keith Schurr, Edmunds County Auditor
 Mel Engebretson, Fall River/ Shannon County Register of Deeds
 Jan. 15th: Lynn Brueske, Sanborn County Register of Deeds
 Jan. 16th: Nancy Sterkel, Bennett County Register of Deeds
 Jan. 20th: Sue Ganje, Fall River/ Shannon County Auditor
 Jan. 21st: Karen Doerr, Potter County Auditor
 Jan. 24th: Lesa Trabing, Hanson County Auditor
 Jan. 28th: Joan Matthaei, McCook County Treasurer
 Jan. 29th: Sandra Hemminger, Hyde County Treasurer

SOUTH DAKOTA HAPPENINGS

December

- Dec. 15th-16th: SDACO Joint Executive Board Meeting
 in Pierre, SD
 Dec. 20th: Black Hills District Legislative Meeting
 Dec. 24th: Christmas Eve
 Dec. 25th: Christmas Day
 Dec. 31st: New Year's Eve

January

- Jan. 1st: New Year's Day
 Jan. 8th: Inaugural Day Ceremonies
 in Pierre, SD
 Jan. 11th: First Day of 2011 Session
 Jan. 12-14th: NCCAE President's Meeting
 in Washington, DC

Mark your Calendars!

SD County Day

February 14, 2011

SD Capitol Rotunda, Pierre

SDACO New Officials Workshop

March 16-17, 2011

Pierre Ramkota Hotel

SDACO Spring Workshop

May 18-20, 2011

Pierre Ramkota Hotel

December 2010

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
			1	2	3	4
5	6	7	8	9	10	11
12	13	14	Executive Board Meeting 15	Executive Board Meeting 16	17	18
19	Black Hills Legislative Meeting 20	21	22	23	State Offices Closed 24	Christmas Eve 25
Christmas Day 26	27	28	29	30	State Offices Closed	

January 2011

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
						1
2	3	4	5	6	First National Election in 1789 7	2011 Inaugural 8
9	10	First day of 2011 Session 11	NCCAE President's Meeting 12	NCCAE President's Meeting 13	NCCAE President's Meeting 14	15
16	State Offices Closed for MLK Day 24	18	19	20	21	22
23	24	25	26	27	28	29
30	31					

2010 SDACO ASSOCIATE MEMEBERS

Active Data Systems

Damon Durick
2504 W 46th St
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Associate Members play an important role in the ongoing activities of the SDACO through education, fellowship, and financial support. As such, the SDACO continually strives to improve benefits Associate Members receive. Together, we can make a difference for South Dakota counties. I look forward to working with you this year & for years to come.

Carrie Gonsor, Executive Director
 South Dakota Association of County Officials



Merry Christmas

**Happy Holidays from the South Dakota
Association of County Officials**

Dear Friends,

Wishing you every happiness this Holiday Season and prosperity in the New Year. Thank you for your support of the South Dakota Association of County Officials. We look forward to working with you throughout the coming year.

All the best to you and your family,

Karen Layher
President
SDACO

CarrieGonsor
Executive Director
SDACO

South Dakota Association
of County Officials

300 E. Capitol Ave, Suite 2
Pierre, SD 57501

Phone: 605-224-1968
Fax: 605-224-9128
E-mail: sdaco@sdcounties.org

www.sdcounties.org

*Promoting effective and efficient county
government for the citizens of South Dakota*

Founded in the 1950's and incorporated in 1991, the South Dakota Association of County Officials is geared toward promoting the general welfare of county officials and to establish more uniform methods of procedure in those county offices. Our goal is to serve in an advisory capacity to the Legislature on matters of county administration and procedure.

The South Dakota Association of County Officials continually strives to help counties improve their capacity to serve their citizens. SDACO currently offers member counties these services:

- * Representation during the SD Legislative Session*
- * A voice for South Dakota in the National Association of Counties*
- * Continuing Education and Certification for County Officials*
- * Website development, service, and training*
- * Notice of Employment Opportunities in SD Counties*
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