Wo’wačiƞye

Haŋ mitakuyapi. Çaŋte waståeya napeci-yuzapi ye. Wetu ahikta he? Haŋ, eçañaŋ wetu kiŋ ahikte, keyapi. Hello my relatives. I greet you all with a warm heart and handshake. Is spring here? Yes, they say that spring is going to come soon.

One of our earliest teachers was the late Doug Peterson from Pežutazizi oyate. One of the many positive traits he had as a teacher was wo’wačiƞtaƞka – patience. He would explain meanings behind language or describe many ways to say things in Dakota. Haŋ, wo’wačiƞtaƞka ota yuhe.

One such teaching that we gained from him was a perspective of how we should approach our role(s) and work within our families and community. That was wo’wačiƞye. While at first glance in the dictionary, it means “trusting in, reliance upon, faith”. We could also include accountable and reliable. However, his explanation of this word was much deeper than that. We must use our Indigenous or Dakota world view to come to a deeper understanding of this. I found this excerpt on AIHEC’s website and believe that this explanation mirrors what elder Doug shared with us.

Thus, life becomes a journey of self-discovery. This journey requires self-discipline and the courage to follow one’s unique pathway in life. Respecting and encouraging the full development of our gifts is one of our common cultural values. Some define this value as personal sovereignty, which allows us to fulfill our destiny. However, with the freedom for self-expression there is a responsibility to respect the relationships we have within a living universe. Responsibility for maintaining harmony of life falls equally on all of us as does a responsibility to use our gifts to contribute to the community.

I like to think of it as, what the people can count on us doing in any given situation. Additionally, we must positively support each other in using our gift and encourage, mentor and nurture our children to find their gift to put to use for the greater good of our tiwahe and oyate. Our words and actions must exude wo’wačiƞtaƞka, patience that Tuŋkan Doug and wo’waŋšida, compassion that Tuŋwiŋ Yvonne demonstrated, so as not to discourage people to lose faith in themselves. Haŋ heçetu!

Taŋyaŋ ūŋ!

Teresa Peterson
Tiwaha Program

Hello! I hope everyone is having a great day today.

Last month we learned the “Dakota Alphabet”, “How is the weather today”, and “drum songs.” This month we are learning more about “Family Relations & Kinship Terms”, “Winter Counts”, and “Animals.” Through these lessons this month the Tiwahe will be making a family album, bracelets, a winter count, and a slideshow. For those of you who attend Tiwahe nights I hope you are all having fun learning the Dakota language. We Dakota Teacher Apprentices (DTAs) are all happy to teach you. Also for those who don’t attend, Tiwahe nights are every Wednesday from 6-7:30 p.m and are open to everyone of all ages to attend. We all share a meal together, learn the Dakota language, and get to see everyone from the community at least once a week. I truly encourage you to come and learn even for just one night. Even if you learn one sentence than you can teach someone that one sentence and that sentence can live on through many people.

Also, our Dakota Language Summer Camp is just around the corner and this year theme is Wo’Dakota, the 7 Dakota Values. The camp starts June 11th and will be a duration of 6 weeks every Tuesday, Wednesday, and Thursday. Each day is scheduled for a different age group Tuesdays will be girls 5th-8th grade, Wednesdays will be all the high school students, and Wednesdays will be boys 5th-8th grade. We have many activities planned out for the youth which include canoeing, tipi building, overnight camp, and many more.

If you have any questions, comments, or concerns please don’t hesitate to email or call me.

Taŋŋa Idluhapi (Take care of yourselves)
Vanessa Goodthunder
Dakota Teacher Apprentice
dw.dtavanessa@gmail.com
(507) 430-4845

Sunktanka Program

Ya’at teeh!

Hello! I hope everyone is having a great spring even with the unexpected snow that came our way. I am happy to let you know about our Šunťanka Horse Program. Our program is here to serve as a place where youth can develop horse skills and the life lessons that go along with riding a horse. Right now we are getting everything ready to start the riding season with numerous events. For our fundraisers, all proceeds go to feeding the horses, other horse care, Šunťanka Summer Camp, Family Fun Day, and the Redwood County Horse Show. This month’s events include….

May 4: Šunťanka Super Sale

Held at the VFW in Redwood Falls. Garage Sale Time: 7a.m -3p.m
Taco Sale Time: 11 a.m -3 p.m.
At this event we will be selling Indian Tacos and having a Garage Sale. Come on over and have a tasty Indian Taco or browse through our Garage Sale. If you have any gently used items that you want to donate and get rid of then just drop them off at the DW office and we’ll take care of that for you.
We do delivery for Indian Tacos as well! Just call (507) 430-8294 or (507) 430-3407 and we will take your order!

On May 18 (NOTE the change of date):
Šunťanka Kick-Off!
Held at the Redwood County Fair Grounds, Redwood Falls
Time: 10a.m-2p.m
This event is the Kick-Off to our riding season. Come on down with your families and attend our horse fun show. There will be horse games such as Find the Gummy Worm where you eat 3 gummy worms in a tub of whip cream and many more. Don’t ride horse? No worries, we will be having human games as well! Lunch will be served.
Also, the youth will sign up for our Šunťanka Program here. So come over and have a blast with your family and others from the community. The Summer Camp Schedule will be available at this event for pick-up, as well as registration forms. The theme of the Camp this summer is the 7 Dakota Values!

May 20: Kids Against Hunger
Held at the Redwood Falls Armory
Time: 5 p.m -7 p.m
We are asking for youth to volunteer and sign-up for this event to help package food for kids in need. To sign up, call or email me at the contact information below.

All Month: Casey’s Pizza Sale
We are selling Caseys Pizza Sale cards. These cards will let you buy any specialty pizza and get a FREE medium pizza with your purchase 10 times! The card is only $15! Not only are you getting a deal, but half the profits go to helping care for the horses. It’s a win-win situation. We will be selling these cards at all of our events or you can email me to get one.

Laverne Goodthunder
Lead Horse Worker
dw.suntanka@gmail.com
(507) 430-8294

Page 2

Dakota Tiwahe
Hau Mitakuyepi, Jozee Campos Emakiyapido, Koska Itoncha Hemacha. We are in the month of April and the Koska Society is still having After school tutoring, Language and Drum practice every Tuesday & Wednesday after school at the Dakota Wicohan site.

Koska Horse riding begins 2nd week in June, every Thursday from 10am-2pm

If you are interested or know youth who you want to be involved in the Koska Society programming Contact the Dakota Wicohan office or myself at (507) 430-8536 or email me at kos-kalead@gmail.com

Anpetu waste yuhapo.

Jozee Campos
Koska Coordinator
(507) 430-8536

The month of April was so much fun for the Wikoska program. We enjoyed ourselves during our college visit at University of Minnesota Morris. Also we had a chance to listen to couple inspirational Dakota women come and speak about their higher education experiences and how to pay for college. We are preparing for the summer camps here at Dakota Wicohan. Wikoska will have an opportunity to attend our horse program camp and/or Dakota language and culture camp this summer.

May 1st Financial Literacy with Dan Lemm, Dakota Wicohan board member

May 8th Digital Storytelling Workshop #3

May 15th Last day for Wikoska programming for the school year.

Grace Goldtooth-Campos
Wikoska Coordinator
(507) 430-7774
TO DONATE:

If you would like to donate to Dakota Wicohan Programs you can fill in and mail the cut out below. Or you can scan the QR code and donate via Razoo to Dakota Wicohan and the Dakota 38 Sunktanka riders.

Donations are accepted through Pay Pal, QR code scan or by email. Pay Pal email address: dakotawicohan@gmail.com or scan the QR code to donate online.

Dakota Wicohan
Donation Form

Name: ______________________________________________________  Amount: ____________________

Address: _____________________________________________________________________________

Phone: _(___)__________________________________

☐ Check here if you would like to receive our newsletter via email.

Wikoska at GirlsBest Foundation

Laverne Goodthunder took some Wikoska to the Girls Best Foundation annual get together at the WMN meeting in Minneapolis, MN on April 25th. They received many compliments on their leadership skills, speaking skills and poise. They also got high praise for the presentation board they put together and displayed. The Women’s Foundation presented Dakota Wicohan with a Community Impact Award for our commitment to making a change. The girls even found some time to go bowling, shopping and to a movie at the Mall!

Great Job to Laverne and Wikoska!!
Sunktanka Program

Kick-Off Event!!

May 18, 2013 at the RWF Fairgrounds!
- Horse Games!
- T-shirts!
- Food!
- Program sign up!
- Family Fun!

Call for more information: (507) 697-6272

Dakota Wicohan will be teaching a class on how to make a dress for Inipi (sweat). We will meet at DW every Thursday & Friday. During class we will talk about the Inipi – what it means and it’s history.
You will need to bring your own material for your dress, we will provide sewing machines. We will also store the dresses on-site until finished if you wish.
Contact Shakeena Pazi for more info: (507) 697-6272

MN Valley History Learning Center
Summer and Residential Camp
Day Camp June 10-26    Residential Camp June 28-30
Morton, MN    Fort Ridgely
9 a.m. to 3 p.m.    9 a.m. the 28th - noon
1st to 6th grade    on June 30th
7th to 11th grade
Visit the website for more information www.mvhlc.org
Or call Carl Colwell (507) 626-4279

Congratulations!

Dakota Wicohan would like to congratulate all the youth graduating this year!! Great Job!! Wishing you success in all your future endeavors!

Dakota Wicohan office will be CLOSED on May 16, 2013 to attend the Headwaters Annual Event in Minneapolis. We will be open on Friday, May 17th at 9 a.m.

Dakota Wicohan wishes everyone a Happy Memorial Day on May 27, 2013
Our office will be Closed that day as well.

Fundraising Event!

Garage Sale & Taco Sale

Saturday
May 4, 2013
7:00 a.m. to 3 p.m.
Redwood Falls VFW
825 E. Bridge Street

All proceeds will benefit the Dakota Wicohan Sunktanka Program.
The funds raised will go towards horse care, Sunktanka Summer Camp, Family Fun Day and the Redwood County Horse Show.
Your support is greatly appreciated!!
If you would like to donate gently used items for this sale you can drop them off at DW.
Items not allowed are: electronics, large furniture

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May 2013

Dakota Wicohan Program Calendar