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Local museums thank central SD law enforcement, first responders

PIERRE, S.D. -- Inspired by national events and the local "Korner Grocery Challenge," Pierre/Fort Pierre museums have planned appreciation activities to thank law enforcement and first responders in central South Dakota.

From Saturday, Sept. 3, through Friday, Sept. 16, members of the Bad River Museums organization invite law enforcement and first responders presenting an ID, along with their families, to visit participating museums at no charge and shop the gift stores with a 10 percent discount. Participating museums include the South Dakota Cultural Heritage Center, the South Dakota National Guard Museum, the Casey Tibbs South Dakota Rodeo Center, the Verendrye and Depot Museums and the South Dakota Discovery Center.

"These are the folks that keep our museums, our families and our communities safe. We want them to know we sincerely appreciate the work they do," said Kristie Maher, executive director of the South Dakota Discovery Center. "In thanks, we hope they will enjoy a little break with their families by visiting our museums."

The Depot Museum in Fort Pierre will recognize these community workers with commemorative bricks that will line the path to the museum. On Wednesday, Sept. 14, from 6:30-7:30 p.m. CDT, representatives from each group will choose the location for their brick and be treated to a museum tour. The Bad River Museum Directors will provide refreshments. All members of law enforcement, first responders and their families – as well as the general public -- are encouraged to attend.

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About the South Dakota State Historical Society

The South Dakota State Historical Society is a division of the Department of Education. The State Historical Society, an Affiliate of the Smithsonian Institution, is headquartered at the South Dakota Cultural Heritage Center in Pierre. The center houses the society's world-class museum, the archives, and the historic preservation, publishing and administrative/development offices. Call (605) 773-3458 or visit www.history.sd.gov for more information. The society also has an archaeology office in Rapid City; call (605) 394-1936 for more information.