

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:** Sept. 29, 2010

**CONTACT:** Jeff Mammenga, Media Coordinator, (605) 773-6000,  
Jeff.Mammenga@state.sd.us

## **African Americans, Ghost Stories, Airplanes, and Archives**

*Governor Proclaimed October "Archives Month"*

PIERRE, S.D. – October is your chance to learn more about aviation, ghost stories, and the first black woman in the Black Hills.

The topics are diverse, but each is connected through the South Dakota archives program. And each will be featured by the South Dakota State Historical Society next month.

October has been proclaimed by Gov. Mike Rounds as "Archives Month" in South Dakota to draw attention to preservation efforts that protect South Dakota's history.

To help South Dakotans learn more about South Dakota history and the state archives program, the State Historical Society is hosting the following activities:

### **Saturday, Oct. 2, 9 a.m.-4:30 p.m. CDT**

The State Archives at the Cultural Heritage Center in Pierre will be open to give people an extra day to do research.

### **Sunday, Oct. 3, 1 p.m. CDT**

"The Stories Behind the Story"

Author Lilah Pengra will present what she calls "A fun day at the State Archives." She will discuss her "connect the dots" biographical research in Pierre. Through the discussion, she'll share her frustrations and joys, defeats and victories and the occasional "Ah ha!" moments that culminated in the publication of her recent book, *Sarah Campbell: The first white woman in the Black Hills was African American*.

### **Sunday, Oct. 10, 1 p.m. CDT**

"Searching for Spooks: Researching Ghost Stories"

Author Lori Orser will give a presentation on her recently completed book *Spooky Creepy North Dakota* and her research on the upcoming South Dakota version.

### **Sunday, Oct. 24, 1 p.m. CDT**

"Finding South Dakota's Aviation History"

Author Norma Kraemer will give a presentation on aviation in South Dakota. It will include stories about the research that led to her recently-released book *South Dakota's First Century of Flight*. Following Kraemer's presentation, excerpts from two Division of Aeronautics films will also be shown.

All of those activities will be held at the Cultural Heritage Center, and all are free and open to the public.

Additionally, admission is free to the museum in the Cultural Heritage Center from 1-4:30 p.m. on Sunday, Oct. 3.

The State Archives is a program of the South Dakota Historical Society. The State Archives manages a collection of photographs, films, maps, books, newspapers, state and county records, as well as personal and organizational records.

State Archives staff is available to help assist with research and can be reached at (605) 773-3804 or [archref@state.sd.us](mailto:archref@state.sd.us). For more information, visit [www.history.sd.gov](http://www.history.sd.gov).

-30-

*The South Dakota State Historical Society is a division of the Department of Tourism and State Development and strives to help the state meet the goals of the 2010 Initiative by enhancing history as a tool for economic development and cultural tourism. The society 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](http://www.history.sd.gov) for more information. The society also has an archaeology office in Rapid City; call (605) 394-1936 for more information.*