

## Lt. Gov. Matt Michels Receives Public Leadership

WASHINGTON – Americans for the Arts, the nation's leading nonprofit organization for advancing the arts and arts education, and the National Lieutenant Governors Association (NLGA) will present South Dakota Lt. Governor Matt Michels with the Public Leadership in the Arts Award for State Arts Leadership, which honors a public official who has demonstrated outstanding leadership in the advancement of the arts at the state level. Michels will receive his award today at the NLGA's Annual Conference in Indianapolis, Indiana.

"The arts play an integral role in the social, educational and economic development of a state," said Robert L. Lynch, president and CEO of Americans for the Arts. "We appreciate leaders like Lieutenant Governor Michels who are actively promoting and advocating for the arts on the state level."

Michels' exposure to and appreciation of the arts began at an early age. His grandmother was a painter, and a student and close friend of Native American artist Oscar Howe, one of South Dakota's most valued and influential artists. Before entering politics, Michels obtained degrees in nursing and then law. As a nurse, Michels experienced first-hand the healing power of the arts, and remains an advocate for integrating the arts into healthcare programs.

Michels represented his legislative district as a member of the South Dakota House of Representatives for eight years from 1999 to 2006. While in the legislature, he served for two years as Speaker Pro Tempore and as Speaker of the House for four years. He was the first

person to serve two terms as Speaker since the 1950s. As a legislator, Michels was a supporter of the Art for State Buildings program and often points to the art in the Capitol Complex as examples of the importance of public art to the lives of the state's citizens.

Michels also served four years as Lieutenant Governor in Governor Dennis Daugaard's administration. The duo was re-elected to another four-year term in the fall of 2014. The Daugaard/Michels administration was proactive in promoting a permanently dedicated revenue source for the South Dakota Arts Council by advocating that a share of South Dakota's tourism promotion tax be used to support the activities of the state arts agency. Due to their efforts, the State Arts Council is financially secure for the foreseeable future.

"This is a humbling honor and I accept the award with gratitude for all the impactful tireless work of the South Dakota Arts Council and cooperating organizations in our great state," said Michels. "The arts have and continue to enrich my life and I am very appreciative for those artists who continue to give our citizens."

"Matt Michels has been a strong voice for public support of the arts throughout his political career," said Michael Pangburn, director of the South Dakota Arts Council. "We at the South Dakota Arts Council appreciate his leadership—sometimes in front leading the way, but more often quietly advocating for public policy that promotes the arts across the state. Congratulations on this well-deserved honor."

# Taking a Swing at Breast Cancer

BY REP. KRISTI NOEM

I have known Lynn Popham for a long time – more than two decades, I suppose. We've spent hours together at ball games, rodeos, and our kids' school events. She's an incredible mom to two young men, a hard worker, a trusted neighbor, and a tremendous asset to our community. Last December, Lynn learned she had Stage 2 breast cancer.

This year alone, approximately 230,000 women are expected to learn that they too must fight breast cancer, according to the latest American Cancer Society data. Just over 2,000 men will also have to battle the disease. Each of these journeys will come with highs and lows, but I have to say that so far, Lynn has weathered her diagnosis and treatments with an unbelievably positive attitude. While she has a ways to go in her journey with breast cancer, I believe her strength and perseverance for the first leg of the race

deserves recognition. This summer, I had the opportunity to give Lynn some of that well-deserved recognition.

Each year, women in Congress – both Republicans and Democrats – join to play in the Congressional Women's Softball Game against female members of the press corps. We do it as a way to increase awareness about breast cancer and help raise funds for the Young Survival Coalition, an organization that supports the women who have been diagnosed and helps move us closer to a cure. This year, I was proud to play in honor of Lynn.

Through events like this and the dedication of groups like the Young Survival Coalition, we have increased Americans' awareness about breast cancer to historic levels. One of the tangible benefits of that work has been an increase in the number of mammograms. In fact, while just 29 percent of women had gotten a mammogram in 1987, 67 percent of women had gotten one in 2010. Lynn was one of those

women.

The increase in mammography has helped more women detect their cancer early, which in turn has boosted survival rates. The American College of Radiology reports that mammography has helped reduce breast cancer mortality in the United States by nearly one-third since 1990.

As a result of early-detection efforts and stronger science, there are more than 2.8 million breast cancer survivors living in the United States today. That's incredible. Please join me in taking a swing against breast cancer this summer. Find a way to support women like Lynn and their families. Put together an early detection plan for yourself – the National Breast Cancer Foundation has a tool that can help at [www.earlydetectionplan.org](http://www.earlydetectionplan.org). Or support one of the many organizations fighting for a cure. Together, we can beat breast cancer.

## Deadline for Century & 125-Year Farms & Ranches Rapidly Approaching



Did You Know That Agriculture Is South Dakota's Number One Industry?

Huron, SD (July 8, 2015) - Farms and ranches have long been the foundation of South Dakota history. The South Dakota Farm Bureau along with the South Dakota Department of Agriculture would like to recognize and honor these South Dakota Century Farms and Ranches on September 3, 2015 at the S. D. State Fair.

To qualify for the Century Farm & Ranch award, a family must have retained continuous ownership of at least 80 acres of original farmland for 100 years or more. If the fam-

ily ownership of that land has reached the 125-year mark, they may apply to be recognized as a Quasiquintennial Farm or Ranch. Some form of documentation of the original date of purchase must be included with the application. Application forms are available online at <http://www.sdfbf.org/public/349/all-about-ag/century-quasiquintennial-farm-ranch-recognition-program> or <http://sdda.sd.gov/office-of-the-secretary/century-farms> or by calling South Dakota Farm Bureau at (605) 353-8052. The deadline for applying for this esteemed recognition is August 13, 2015.

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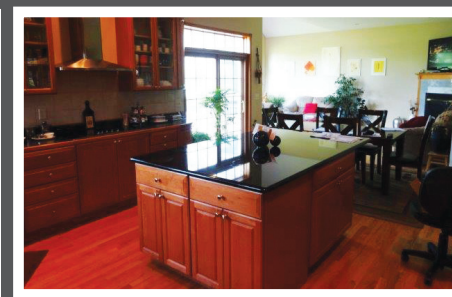
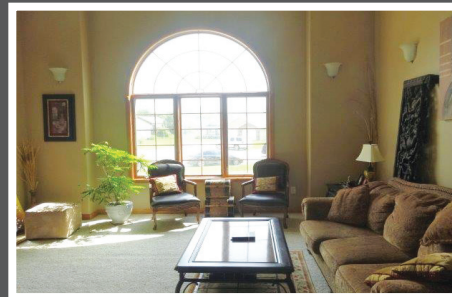
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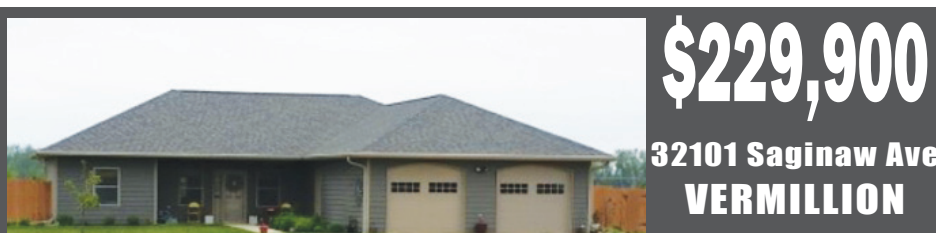
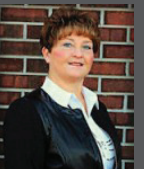


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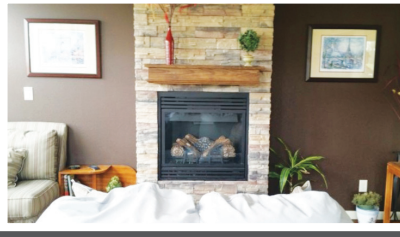


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