



# Happy New Year 2013!

## Newsletter

### Lodgepole Gallery & Tipi Village

Sharing Blackfeet culture &  
Promoting Blackfeet art since 1993

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#### Coming up next season:

*Summer Art Show, June - Sept.*

*Tipi-camp opens May 2013*

#### Local Pow Wows:

*North American Indian Days*

*Hear Butte Celebration*



*This Newsletter is dedicated to our dear friend Bob Doerk.*

## Oki Neek-Soo-Koo-Wah! (Hello Friends)

Best wishes for the new year! We made a short video production with our Best New Years Wishes to you all. Darrell is drumming and you get an impression how it looks around here late in December 2012. You can see the **video [here](#) on You Tube.**

## Last Year

[Blackfeetculturecamp  
Links](#)

[Lodgepole Gallery & Tipi Village](#)

[Kolibri Studio](#)

[Facebook](#)

[Museum Links](#)

[CM Russell Museum](#)

[Museum of Plains Indian](#)

[Friends of the Museum](#)

[Travel Links](#)

[Blackfeet Country](#)

[Trip Advisor](#)

[Travel Montana](#)

[Glacier National Park](#)



This past year was exciting as usual with different events happening and new opportunities. To begin Darrell was inducted into **Montana's Circle of American Masters of Folk Art**, an award through the Montana Arts Council.

Next came the premier of "**Glacier Park Revisited**" a film aired by PBS and made by the History Museum in Great Falls. Jim Mienert was the executive director and it was filmed last summer. Darrell was one of the featured people and was honored to make metal sculptures for recipients who supported the project.

June began what turned out to be our most successful season ever. The Red Busses from Glacier Park Inc. came each week as they had done the summer before. Many people from throughout the world stayed in our tipicamp and visited our gallery.

During the week of North American Indian Days Darrell designed a tipi for his cousin Tom Rodgers. The tipi was painted and set up within one day. Tom had hired photographers to record the process. Eventually the tipi and poles were sent to Tom's home in Alexandria, West Virginia where it will be put up.



Also during [North American Indian Days](#) a group of young people organized by **National Geographic** stayed in our tipicamp, went on a reservation tour, participated in traditional games and learned about Blackfeet culture. They created a blog page and you can see their [video here](#).

In September we assisted with the **American Indian Sign Language Conference**, which was organized by Jeff Davis from the University of Tennessee and hosted by the [Friends of the Museum of the Plains Indian](#), the Plains Indian Association, Blackfeet Tribe and Blackfeet Community College.

Our last visitors of the season was a group of Southern Siberian Natives from the Altai region. They stayed in our tipicamp and learned about Blackfeet culture. We discussed native tourism with them, because tourism is expanding in their area, and they wanted to see how we are dealing with

issues concerning cultural tourism.

## This Winter

Winter here began early, has been cold, but so far not dramatic. Shortly before Christmas and as a surprise to us, our dear friend and supporter Bob Doerk died. He worked for the [Fort Museum in Fort Benton](#) and was a living Montana history book, knowledgeable especially about early Native American / fur-trader contact.



Angelika has been working with her new camera and is producing some incredible photos and videos. Darrell is completing commissions from clients and new works for the gallery.

[Make a gift of authentic Native American art From the Lodgepole Gallery!](#)

## News from Blackfeet Country

### Oil Development

Oil drilling in short distance to Glacier National Park continues. Two of the newly contracted oil companies (Newfield, Rosetta) are fading out their activities. One of these oil exploration companies (Anschutz) plans to continue drilling and to use high volume hydraulic fracturing on the Blackfeet Reservation in close proximity to Glacier National Park.

The Park's superintendent asked for an environmental assessment of the whole area, which the Blackfeet Tribe denies due to no legal obligation. In the meantime the Blackfeet Tribal Council started new negotiations with another oil company.

If you have concerns about the industrialization of the Rocky Mountain Front here are two petitions to sign:

[White House Petition](#)

### New Grocery Store & Hotel

Past year we saw the opening of the new Glacier Family Foods, a full blown supermarket, tribally owned and financed. The 25%down payment of the loan was done with money earned from oil development. The store offers a larger variety of grocery items and is a competition for the existing IGA store, a benefit for shoppers.

Furthermore, the Blackfeet Tribe began the construction of a Holiday Inn Express hotel neighboring the Glacier Peaks Casino and Museum of the Plains Indian. The hotel will have 86 rooms, conference rooms and suites. This should be real positive for our community and was long overdue.

## Montana Government Petition

### **Cobell Land Trust Settlement**

Also it should be mentioned that the 14 year long Cobell Land Trust law case was finally settled and the disbursement of funds to the IIM (Individual Indian Moneys) account holders began in December 2012. Each account holder received a payment of \$1,000. A second disbursement will be made to account holders sometime in 2013.

### **Tribal Council**

In political news, our tribal council, which consist normally of nine persons still is only five persons strong. A decision is to be made to replace three tribal council members who have been suspended and one member who has been dismissed.

### **Constitution Reform**

A referendum that still needs to be settled is the overwhelming vote of the people to revise our tribal constitution. The constitution reform process has been stopped by the Tribal Council and needs to be revived again.

### **Tribal Enrollment**

Along those same lines is the move to put the issue of tribal enrollment to a vote of the people. For more information visit the [Blackfeet-Forever](#) webpage.

We are looking forward to a busy summer season and hope to see you this summer. Be sure to make your reservation early. Stay tuned to our Facebook page for new information concerning events happening in our community.

**Remember, if you wish that special gift for a friend or family member, then you can go to [our website](#) and make your order or [contact us](#) by email. We are looking forward to hearing from you.**

If you like to have always the latest news from Lodgepole Gallery and Tipi Village

follow us on [Facebook](#)



### *Contact Us:*

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Photos: Angelika Harden-Norman  
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**In winter our gallery is open by appointment**

**Give as a call!**

**From October to May  
our office hours are  
from 11 AM to 4 PM  
Mondays to Fridays**

We hope this letter finds you all well and happy!

Angelika Harden-Norman & Darrell Norman