

Reiss, David

From: Victor Guadagno <victorgeemail@gmail.com>
Sent: Monday, June 08, 2015 11:02 AM
To: Reiss, David
Subject: Rename Harney Peak

Dear David Reiss,

I want to express my desire to rename Harney Peak in South Dakota.

I support the name agreed upon by the local group leading the effort.

If a name is required for this request, I would support "Hinhan Kaga - Owl Mountain"

Thank You,

Victor Guadagno
Bright Blue EcoMedia

Reiss, David

From: Cathie Soderman <cathiesoderman@gmail.com>
Sent: Monday, June 08, 2015 12:47 PM
To: Reiss, David
Subject: My vote is to change the name to HINHAN KAGA (OWL MOUNTAIN)

Dear Mr. Reiss and The Board,
Please include my vote to Change The Name of Harney Peak to Hinhhan Kaga (Owl Mountain)

I am married to the descendent of William Selby Harney and know the damage Harney caused...This name change will go along way for ALL People all over the world in the name of progress, healing and reconciliation.

Thank you for all your efforts!!!

~Cathie Quigley Soderman, Boulder, Colorado PH#720-381-0747

Reiss, David

From: Joyanna Laughlin <joyannalaughlin@gmail.com>
Sent: Monday, June 08, 2015 3:39 PM
To: Reiss, David
Subject: Changing of the Name of Harney Peak

Dear Mr. Reiss:

While I do not live in South Dakota, I am a friend of Paul Stover Soderman who is a descendant of General Harney and is working with a group of Native American people to change the name of Harney Peak and restore some trust and repair wrongs from the past. I believe this group is going to present the name Hinhan Kaga Owl Mountain, and I like the idea that Native Americans be able to choose the name that the mountain will carry in the future.

Sincerely,

Joyanna Laughlin

--

Joyanna Laughlin
writer & editor
cell: 303.386.6088
email: joyannalaughlin@gmail.com
Author, The Body and Its Mansions

Reiss, David

From: Indra <elena@indra.com>
Sent: Monday, June 08, 2015 8:51 PM
To: Reiss, David
Subject: Change the name of Harney

It is long overdue to stop honoring people who were responsible for genocide and take a small step toward justice. I am one of the many non-Lakota people who support doing this, to honor the original peoples of this land and make right a historical wrong. Thank you.

Sent from my iPad
Elena Holly Klaver
United States Court Certified Interpreter, Spanish/English

Reiss, David

From: Sandy Frazier <wicahpiwin@gmail.com>
Sent: Monday, June 08, 2015 10:32 PM
To: Reiss, David
Subject: go back to the traditional name of the mountain.

The name we call this peak in the Black Hills is Hinhan Kaga. When you walk to the top you know why - the rocks look like Owls. We joined an old man named Antelope about 28 years ago to help him continue Welcoming Back the Thunders - making prayers for the world, for everyone in the world, for good rain for growing things from Mother Earth, for health, - because it is the Thunders that can give life and take it.

It has been only a few decades since all of the ceremonies were made illegal by the federal government for native people - so its important that we remember our names for our places and for our ceremonies - its amazing so much as acturally retained.

This is not only our history; it is your history too - lets preserve it.

Thank you.

Sandra Frazier
911 Jefferson St, box 484
Eagle Butte, SD 57625
605-200-0037

Reiss, David

From: Robert Bickett <robertbickett@gmail.com>
Sent: Monday, June 08, 2015 11:04 PM
To: Reiss, David
Subject: Harney Peak

My wife, Kelly, and I have lived in South Dakota for our entire lives and have enjoyed the Black Hills nearly every year and now reside in Rapid City. We are very upset that with all of the other problems our country and our state face, we are wasting time considering a name change for Harney Peak. We feel very strongly that the name ought to be left alone. The highest point in the northern hemisphere between the Rockies and the Alps should continue to be called Harney Peak. Please do not change the name.

Robert and Kelly Bickett

--

Robert Bickett
5528 Wildwood Dr
Rapid City, SD 57702
605-342-1848

Reiss, David

From: Dowell Caselli-Smith <dowell1007@gmail.com>
Sent: Monday, June 08, 2015 11:12 PM
To: Reiss, David
Subject: Hinhan Kaga
Attachments: Dear Geographical Name Board.docx

Dear Geographical Name Board:

Thank you for your preliminary change of name to Hinhan Kaga or other suitable Native American name for what is now called Harney Peak. I applaud and appreciate your courage and insight in taking this step recognizing and honoring the long history of Lakota habitation in and love of this region.

I spent over thirty years working with members of the Oglala Sioux Tribe to establish and develop Oglala Lakota College. I served as Vice President for Instruction for a total of five years and as Chair of Human Services for fifteen years. As a non-Indian teaching and living on the reservation (and sending my children to Red Cloud Indian School for five of those years), I came to know many, many Lakota individuals and families very well. I have always been impressed with the reverence and respect these friends expressed for the sacred Paha Sapa and what they represent in Lakota history and culture. I know that when a Basil Brave Heart or Laurette Pourier or a tribal chair speaks passionately about the Black Hills, about turning down the money awarded by the courts, and about the deep significance of places like Hinhan Kaga that they are truly speaking from not only their hearts but from the hearts of many, many Lakota people.

As an undergraduate history major with a doctorate in sociology, I have spent my life reading and researching the processes of cultural contact, conflict and accommodation through history. It seems to me that intercultural conflicts and accommodations tend to go through a number of phases. We are now at a point that generosity of spirit, goodwill, reconciliation, and repairing of old harms and transgressions are in the interest of us all.

Harney's family members support the change. Little Thunder's family supports the change. Whatever happened that early September morning in 1855 on Blue Water Creek, our Nation has matured since then and our common humanity with our neighbors suggests this name change is much needed and a very positive, healthy gesture to our Lakota and other diverse neighbors. Only recently have we as a nation begun to understand the devastating trauma of PTSD wartime disability in the history of nations. The significant contributions Native's have made in our armed forces complicates the nature of this historical trauma but also makes all the more compelling the ethical case for the symbolic yet deeply meaningful respect and compassion shown in renaming this significant landmark.

Please consider continuing your wonderful support of this proposition through the June 15 comment period and then through the federal process to finalize this name change for that high peak in the very heart of the sacred Black Hills of South Dakota.

Thank you again for this truly laudatory effort you have undertaken in response to Basil Braveheart's request for a name change.

Thank you kindly for your attention to my strongly felt support of the name change.

Sincerely yours,

Dowell Caselli-Smith, PhD

916 Franklin St.

Rapid City, SD 5770

(605) 721-2977

Reiss, David

From: JoAnn Gerlach <joanngerlach@gmail.com>
Sent: Monday, June 08, 2015 11:21 PM
To: Reiss, David
Subject: inquiry from SDBGN website

Dear Mr. Reiss

I am writing to you regarding the changing of the name of harney peak. This past Saturday June 6th, my family and I had the privilege of hiking harney peak. Which is something we have done 4 times in the last 25 years. My children are 5th generation South Dakotas and I am offended that you are trying to change history. General Harney and a lot of white and indian people did bad things. That does not change history. It happened. But the last 5 generations of South Dakotas have not and Harney peak is a part of there history. Why change it to pretend something didn't happen. Current white people, or indians were not killed. That is the past, but making my generation, my childrens & my future generations have to pretend history didn't happen, is they way to keep bigotry alive. Teach the history as is. Each time we hike the harney peak trail. We discuss with our children the history of the black hills, and what our ancestors must have went through. We talk about the good and the bad of both cultures. We imagine living and coping without the modern conviences we current have. I hope in another 25 years I can take my grandchildren & teach them the same things. I don't what to teach them that we had to pretend history & the last 48 years of my life harney peak was, but now is not because a communist board of appointed people or self appointed decided that we had to change history because they knew better than the American people. I am offended by your board, so can we change to to a name that represents what you are "communist dictators." How about the "New world order of commnist dictators" Why not pass a motion to put this on the ballot for the people of South Dakota to decide. You are not elected official, you do not represent South Dakota or America. I Spent 2 hours inside Harney peak tower with people from other States and SD during a thunderstorm. Some hadn't ever been there, but have heard about it and wanted to see it, some had not been there since they were kids and wanted there grandkids & kids to see it. One young man had been there with his family and now wanted his wife/girlfriend, but to see what he though was special about the hike and peak. Most go to the peak, because it is the highest peak East of the Rockies and the views not because it is named after a general. The mountain has its own history and most of todays people know that. and care about that. I am from Eastern South Dakota, and I find out from my boss who accidently read a "blip" online after I get back from my trip. Yet I and my 13 year old daughter research harney peak online, so she could learn the history of the mountain and no where did I come across it getting its name changed. Nice job of keeping this secret. I read the news all the time and it never has been widely publized what stunt you are pulling. Maybe we should change the name of Pierre to JoAnnland,because I want to. You represent Plerre, your office offends, me, so we should change the name. Sound just as stupid as your idea. Current history of being politically correct, is destroying America. No where is history, does the 8 generations later have to start paying back mistakes. Does American now have to rename everything British, since we had the revolutionary war and beat them, so we don't want to make them feel bad or beating them we are going to rename New York , London because England is offended we won the revolutionary war. Or do the Ango-saxon relatives have to now change or pay for the mistakes of England when they migrated or invaded the now England. It most ancient history they conquered people were killed and there culture extinct/ Only in America do they allow then to live had help keep they history alive and agree generations later to try to make themselves extinct and rewrite history and make nonguilty people pay for crimes from a different century.

I am a 4th generation South Dakotan,whose family has been in Aurora County since 1880. Many native American South dakotans may be a 15th generation, but we are all South Dakotans now and that should not change I visit the Black hills every 5 or 6 years. Both white and indians have there history represented. I have lived my whole life in Plankinton, SD. My grandfather told the story of an indian man that worked for him and on Saturdays he day off would walk 11 miles to town for ice cream and 11 miles back, and when he got back ice cream wouldn't be melted yet. He respected the hard working attitude and kindness that this man had that he would bring his boss (My grandfather) ice cream to say thank you. and I still tell my kids this story from 1900 to 1910 range. It teaches them that there great grandfather was a kind hardworking man that was well respected. and it teaches them that the hired man was a most respected man in my grandfathers eyes. We were an all white community when I was growing up, now we have a huge hispanic population. My daughter sings Feliz Navidad every Christmas. I didn't but it is a part of her tradition at school. She doesn't see skin color or racism. My children have white, black, asian friends. She sees herself doing what she had done since kindergarten. It is a school tradition. We don't stop singing We wish you a merry Christmas. We sing both. We don't change history, we share history and make new traditions along the way. Don't change the name of Harney Peak. Rather teach the history of Harney the good and bad.

JoAnn Gerlach
Plankinton, SD

JUN 09 2015

To the Board

Please do not change the name of Harvey Peak. That is the name 98% of the people know it as and don't feel pressure from a few squeaky wheels.

Sincerely
Wayne Hartman

Wayne Hartman
818 Major Lake Dr. P.O. Box 267
Hill City, SD 57745

Bernice A. Churchill
26124 S Fork Rd
Fairburn, SD 57738-5005

JUN 09 2015

June 5, 2015

U.S. Board of Geographic Names

I am certainly not in favor of the name "Sunkaw Kaga." It is nearly impossible to pronounce, but primarily I object because I am 87 yrs. old, grew up two miles from Red Shirt village on the Shannon, now Lakota County. My father was there since 1900, and, I never heard the name "Sunkaw Kaga" and neither have any of my native American friends.

Either leave it Harney Park, or I could be comfortable with Black Elk, a well known name.

Sincerely, Bernice Churchill

Reiss, David

From: Lyla June Johnston <lylajune@gmail.com>
Sent: Tuesday, June 09, 2015 1:20 AM
To: Reiss, David
Subject: My Vote is for Hinhan Kaga Owl Mountain

OR anything besides Harney Peak.

It would be a shame to our nation to glorify conquest, massacre and violence.

For my sake, for my children's sake, for red and for white's sake, please save us this regret...

--

Lyla Johnston
lylajune@gmail.com
(575) 779-4443

Reiss, David

From: David E. Loberg <davidloberg09@comcast.net>
Sent: Tuesday, June 09, 2015 2:37 AM
To: Reiss, David
Subject: Harney Peak Name Change

Dear Mr. Reiss,

I spent several of my growing up years living in Hill City. My father, John Loberg, founded the Rushmore State Bank in Hill City in 1946, and he had a family of five children who enjoyed spending those years in Hill City. We moved, in 1951, to Eastern SD, and then to California in 1952. As a family, some of us have always maintained subscriptions to the Hill City Prevalier News. And that is how I came to learn that a serious effort is now being made to consider alternatives for the name of Harney Peak by the South Dakota Board on Geographic Names.

I have read of some of the alternative names that are being discussed. It is my view that, until an alternative to Harney Peak develops a very strong backing by the communities that surround Harney Peak, it is best to wait for that consensus to develop before re-naming this peak, which is so often referred to as the highest point between the Rockies and the Swiss Alps. Imagine how that description set the heads of Elementary students spinning when hearing, "The Swiss Alps" applied to that familiar Harney Peak which was visible from various points around Hill City. We were always looking to see if we could see Harney Peak from wherever we happened to be hiking or walking. Let us consider the importance of that name and that experience to the youngsters of the towns that surround the Peak. I recall many times after visiting the Black Hills that I always made the ritual effort to pick out the outline of the profile of Harney Peak from the Rapid City Airport. Does that sentimental quirk of mine argue for retaining the name, "Harney?" No, but we do want to consider the special meanings that become attached to the places where our childhood concepts of place and time were formed. Just consider how that one peak is so well known by name among residents of the Black Hills above all others with exception of Mount Rushmore. Would the Board on Geographic Names consider alternatives to the name, "Mount Rushmore?" I am quite sure that idea would not even make the agenda. How many commercial interests now use "Harney Peak" in their titles just as my father did when, in 1945, he christened his bank, "the Rushmore State Bank?"

My view is that re-naming Harney Peak is pre-mature in the absence of a strong consensus for a different name. I recommend that the Board keep this issue on the agenda, but please don't be in a rush.

Watching from Napa, California.....

David E. Loberg
Napa, CA

Sent from my iPad

Reiss, David

From: Shirley Jane Hobbs <shirleyjane65@gmail.com>
Sent: Tuesday, June 09, 2015 6:27 AM
To: Reiss, David
Subject: New name for Harney Peak

Please rename Harney Peak to honor the sacred Black Hills and the Indigenous people. It's important to acknowledge wrong doings.

Shirley Jane

Shirley Jane Hobbs
13981 Cobb Road
Hermosa, SD 57744
605-517-2656

"The point is not to protect we precious few against them, but to foster an intimacy and a community among as many living beings as can plausibly constitute a living and viable ecology."

Reiss, David

From: DAVID GUERRE <daveguerre@dishmail.net>
Sent: Tuesday, June 09, 2015 8:57 AM
To: Reiss, David
Subject: Harney Peak

Good Morning David,

I prefer that the name not be changed, but if it is changed make it pronounceable. That is, Black Elk Peak, or Spotted Owl Peak. A name in English that is commonly used.

Thank you,
David Guerre
Pennington County resident

Reiss, David

From: canyoncalm <canyoncalm@yahoo.com>
Sent: Tuesday, June 09, 2015 9:15 AM
To: Reiss, David
Subject: Name Change of Harney peak

My name is Mary Kate Nelson and I live in the Black Hills of SD.

I am writing to you today to encourage the change of the name of Harney Peak to the Lakota name of Hinhan Kaga or Owl Mountain to honor the Lakota people.

I personally know Paul Soderman and am grateful for his work in honoring the ancestors and healing the wounds of his personal family heritage. This is a spiritual act of courage and recognition that does have ramifications on a level that is unseen.

Please look into your heart to make this decision and not only the numbers that are coming in.

Thank you for your position in this matter.

Respectfully,

Mary Kate Nelson

26643 Lariat Rd

Custer SD57730

605-673-4096

canyoncalm@yahoo.com

Sent from Samsung tablet

Reiss, David

From: rbdvm@frontier.com
Sent: Tuesday, June 09, 2015 11:58 AM
To: Reiss, David
Subject: name change

My husband and I have enjoyed Harney Peak for decades. As this is sacred land that was promised to the Native Americans and then taken from them, it seems only right that the name should reflect the rightful owners' culture. After all it is still just a name and the peak is just as beautiful and meaningful no matter what it is called.

Cape Canaveral has had name changes. All cities and states have renamed streets and highways. Change is inevitable and a part of reconciliation. To protest a name change based on personal ties is selfish and close minded.

Please closely consider the good that can come from this change. The inconvenience of changing maps and books is inconsequential in the big scheme of things.

Susan Brunswick



This email has been checked for viruses by Avast antivirus software.
www.avast.com

Reiss, David

From: Hank and Marianne Fridell <handm@gwtc.net>
Sent: Tuesday, June 09, 2015 12:27 PM
To: Reiss, David
Subject: Hinhan Kaga

Thank you and all board members who voted to rename Harney Peak.

There are stories in the Black Hills, Paha Sapa, that are waiting for us to listen.

The Lakota people have long understood that all people and all life are part of the great mystery of life.

Renaming the peak does not exclude, I believe it will open doors to greater understanding.

I have lived in Custer most of my life and in the Black Hills for over 46 years. Our children and now grandchildren have grown up here.

When I see the peak now, I feel the possibility of reconciliation and understanding that this renaming will bring.

With gratitude,

Marianne Fridell

Reiss, David

From: Laura Marciniak <bopeace1999@yahoo.com>
Sent: Tuesday, June 09, 2015 12:31 PM
To: Reiss, David
Subject: Change the Name

I thought the name change was already done but apparently not. Hinhan Kaga - Owl Mountain is the original name. I think it should be changed back.

Sincerely,
Laura Marciniak

Reiss, David

From: Daniel Crow <dcrow@anthemcom.com>
Sent: Tuesday, June 09, 2015 1:13 PM
To: Reiss, David
Subject: Proposed Name Change for Harney Peak

Dear Mr. Reiss,

I am writing to express my **STRONG OBJECTION** to the proposed name change for Harney Peak in the Black Hills of South Dakota. With all due respect to the Lakota, the process launched to change the name of the highest point east of the Rocky Mountains from it's familiar modern historical designation to a Lakota name (awkward to pronounce) is, at the very least, absurd and a waste of taxpayer resources and, at the very worst, an arbitrary revision of history to appease the Lakota for their fate at the hands of the U.S. Calvary in the late 1800's.

What's next? Will the life-long residents of Custer, SD (and other areas of the Black Hills named for the brave men who opened up this corner of the West) soon have to deal with a similar attempt to re-write the history of this great area?

This exercise by our government to accommodate someone's sentiment for a people who, for better or worse, were faced with a major shift in the occupation of their environment by forces superior to their own, is, in my opinion, a gross mis-use of resources that could be better applied to meaningful aide to the Lakota people to fit much more productively into the prevailing society, rather than to reinstate a remnant of a bygone era reinforcing a way that can never be again.

Respectfully submitted,
Daniel R. Crow
12710 South Highway 16
Rapid City, SD 57702
605-574-2560

Reiss, David

From: James Jesser <jameswj36@hotmail.com>
Sent: Tuesday, June 09, 2015 3:19 PM
To: Reiss, David
Subject: renaming Harney Peak

Dear Mr. Reiss,

It is my opinion that the name of Harney Peak should remain Harney Peak. There are several reasons that the name should remain.

- There will be a cost in changing the signage and maps. There is a far better ways for your board to spend its time and financial resources than renaming geographic features.
- Despite the possible dubious history of the person for whom the peak is named, people will continue to call it Harney Peak.
- The new name is unpronounceable and people will still call it Harney Peak, thus creating confusion.
- The special interest group pushing the name change does not reflect the majority of the population of South Dakota. Major name changes need to come to a state wide vote.

James Jesser
41767 202nd St.
Iroquois, SD
57353

Reiss, David

From: Kaye Augustson <kaye@hansenphysicaltherapy.com>
Sent: Tuesday, June 09, 2015 4:17 PM
To: Reiss, David
Subject: Keep Harney Peak

Good afternoon, A friend gave me a link to offer my opinion on the potential name change for Harney Peak. I would like to express my opinion that I prefer that the name be kept as it is. Personally, I favor staying with the existing name simply for tradition's sake. There is a familiarity and comfort level with keeping landmark names consistent with their original name and history. Thanks for your time!

Kaye Augustson
Rapid City, SD

June 8, 2015

JUN 10 2015

SD Board on Geographic Names
Dept. of Tribal Relations
302 E. Dakota
Pierre, SD 57501

Dear Sir/Madam,

Are you people crazy? Changing the name of Harney Peak to something a normal person can't even pronounce is nuts. History is history whether good or bad and changing the name is not going to solve any of the big problems that exist. All the time and money being spent on this wild idea could be spent toward solving the Native American problems of alcoholism, diabetes, incest and other abuses, housing and so many other problems.

Changing derogatory names of places is acceptable to me, but "Harney" is not derogatory. There were, and still are, people who were/are not nice, whether they are black, white, brown, green, pink, blue or yellow, but you can't change history by changing a name of a landmark. What has been done is done, so get over it!

Harney Peak will always remain Harney Peak no matter what the name is. Leave it alone. If this name change is allowed, will next on the list be changing the name of Custer, City, Custer County, Custer Peak, Custer Crossing, Custer Mt. – and the list goes on and on. Who knows, I may discover some Native American names that offend me – are you ready to deal with me?

I suppose this prohibitive cost is being paid for by the Native Americans who want the change – yeah right. Another taxpayer ripoff – but of course, if you don't pay any taxes, then it's FREE. I object to taxpayer money being spent on this foolishness. Leave the name alone!

Objectively,


Corinne Darrow
Custer, SD

TO: SD Board on Geographic Names

NOV 10 2013

Re: Harney Peak

Our family is satisfied with the present title, Harney Peak, and we see no purposeful or compelling reasons to change it. In fact, we would be offended with any renaming of that mountain.

Regards:

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Leon Handrick". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large initial "L".

Leon Handrick

PO Box 180

Custer, SD 57730

Reiss, David

From: Elizabeth Ayres <429lizz@gmail.com>
Sent: Wednesday, June 10, 2015 8:43 AM
To: Reiss, David
Subject: Rename Harney Peak

I am writing to implore you to rename Harney Peak. It would be appropriate to rename it "Black Elk Peak" or "Hinhan Kaga Owl Mountain," the ancestral name which stretches back several hundred years. It was a mistake to name it after a white military man.

Thank you.

Elizabeth Ayres
5137 Connecticut Dr. #4
Sacramento, CA 95841

Reiss, David

From: pamborglum@gmail.com
Sent: Wednesday, June 10, 2015 3:07 PM
To: Reiss, David
Subject: Name Change

Dear Mr. Reiss,

My name is Pam Borglum and I live in Custer County. I would like to see the mountain now called Harney Peak have its' name changed to Hinhhan Kaga (as recommended). It is time for South Dakota to heal racial wounds and this would be a magnificent start.

The majority of comments you get may be to keep the same name but that does not make it right to keep it. I am sure a majority of people in the American south in the 1960's would have felt it was fine to keep segregation in place if you had polled them during a "comment period" but that doesn't mean that it should have remained. The same is true here, it is time to change the name to something that doesn't offend our Lakota brothers and sisters.

Sincerely,
Pam Borglum
Box 167
Hermosa, SD 57744
Sent from my iPhone

Reiss, David

From: wquickbear <wquickbear@yahoo.com>
Sent: Wednesday, June 10, 2015 7:19 PM
To: Reiss, David
Subject: Renaming Harney Peak

david.reiss@state.sd.us

Dear Geographical Name Board:

Thank you for your preliminary change of name to Hinhan Kaga or other suitable Native American name.

In this final 30 day comment period there are now many more negative comments, hopefully not by design.

Some of these negative comments say "move on", "lets not confuse the tourists", "lets not confuse history"; they even criticize the Native people for failing to achieve what the majority race has achieved with all our western land, gold timber and infrastructure since the 1854 Grattan/Morman cow or ox incident.

They emphasize their long residency, their historical knowledge, and their lack of compassion for a nomadic horse/bison culture that evolved from diverse tribes in a vast untamed North America before 1492. They suggest the proponents should "learn the lesson history taught". They suggest the tribal office in Pierre has undue influence; or attempt themselves to influence the board members with croneyism, or they suggest they speak for an entire department (SDGFP), agency (SD Historical Society), nonprofit organization (Boys/Girls Club of Sioux Empire), county (Custer County Commission and Pennington County Auditor/Treasurer) or other historical or culture group.

They suggest this is an unworthy issue or renaming is too expensive in terms of signage/maps. The tribal people may also drive 80 miles an hour, but theirs is surely a different culture that in its diversity can be something the nation can treasure. Surely this is no transitory, "political correctness" fashion moment. Both the horse and the native people have been here in South Dakota for 50 million years and tens of thousands of years, respectively, according to SDSM&T museum.

Harney's family members support the change. Little Thunder's family supports the change. Whatever happened that early September morning, 1855 on Blue Water Creek, now Western NE,

the entire Nation has matured since then, and our common humanity among neighbors suggests this name change is very likely a very positive, healthy gesture to our Lakota and all other diverse neighbors. Only recently have we as a nation begun to understand the devastating trauma of PTSD wartime disability. To do nothing for either our veterans, or our tribal neighbors in this instance, would be very shortsighted to an ENTIRE culture.

Please consider continuing your wonderful support of this proposition through the June 15 comment period and then through the federal process to finalize this name change for that high peak in the very heart of the sacred Black Hills of South Dakota.

Thank you for this truly laudatory effort you have undertaken on behalf of Lakota Basil Braveheart's request for the State of South Dakota. Whether Black Elk or Crow suggestions prevail, the removal of the General's name from the peak would not have to be a negative reflection on those who do not support the name change.

Thank you kindly for your attention to my support of the name change proposal.

Yours very truly,

Wanda QuickBear

Reiss, David

From: Dave Thom <dthom@gwtc.net>
Sent: Thursday, June 11, 2015 10:08 AM
To: Reiss, David
Subject: Harney Peak re-naming proposal

SD Board of Geographic Names (via David.Reiss@state.sd.us)
Department of Tribal Relations
302 E. Dakota
Pierre, SD 57501

Dear Mr. Reiss:

I am writing let you know that I do not support the SD Board of Geographic Names' preliminary proposal to re-name Harney Peak to Hinhan Kaga (Making of Owls). Following are my comments:

- As regrettable as the actions at Ash Hollow, there were many acts of atrocity during the plains Indian wars on both sides. We cannot re-write history, particularly for those actions and by people operating under orders of the time.
- What are the implications for having to re-name Terry Peak, Custer Peak, Custer City, Custer County, Custer County (MT), Terry (MT) and many other places named for military leaders throughout the west that may or may not have had an upstanding military or social reputation?
- Would the Harney Peak Lookout managed by the USDA-Forest Service have to be re-named? It is a formal facility with a rich history tied to the CCCs. Perhaps it would be the "Harney Peak Lookout Tower" located on "Hinhan Kaga Peak"? Seems a bit complicated to me.

I am very sympathetic to the Lakota situation, have done a lot of service and church work for Lakota at Pine Ridge, and I particularly respect the Lakota Korean War veteran that initiated the proposal that he felt he had to do this "from my heart". While this is deemed an act of reconciliation, I believe there are many other ways to seek reconciliation rather than re-naming Harney Peak.

I recommend that Harney Peak not be re-named Hinhan Kaga Peak.

Thank you.

Sincerely,
Dave Thom
1219 Pine Street
Custer, SD 57730
605-673-3953 (home)
605-673-1459 (cell)
dthom@gwtc.net

JUN 11 2015

Ron Saville
28390 Sandy Lane
Wilder, ID 83676

June 7, 2015

South Dakota Board of Geographic Names
Dept. of Tribal Relations
302 East Dakota
Pierre, South Dakota 57501-3369

Board Members:

Regarding the name change of Harney Peak.....

As a person born and raised in Custer, I find it VERY OFFENSIVE to think that Harney Peak would be named anything other than HARNEY PEAK.

Please record me as **OPPOSED** to this idiotic idea.

Sincerely,



Ron Saville

Reiss, David

From: fugierranch@goldenwest.net
Sent: Thursday, June 11, 2015 1:43 PM
To: Reiss, David
Subject: Harney Peak

Hello,

I'm writing to you in regards to the renaming of Harney peak. I am in opposition to renaming it, it has been Harney Peak for such a long time and I think it would be foolish to rename it. Where does this renaming thing stop, is Custer next? How about all the streams and creeks? Let's get over it and move on, digging up bones isn't going to get us anywhere. Let's grow up and accept things for what they are, history can't be changed, it is what it is.

Leave Harney Peak alone.

Thanks, Shawn Fugier

Reiss, David

From: krobothweb@aol.com
Sent: Thursday, June 11, 2015 3:16 PM
To: Reiss, David
Subject: Changing the name of Harney Peak

Dear Mr. Reiss:

I have been visiting South Dakota since 1978, (annually since 2002) and am in close connection with the Lakota people. During my visits there, I've noticed a real lack of education and factual information about the Lakota and their history (besides The Journey Museum) in the general tourism venues of mostly white people. In fact, I took a steam train ride in the Black Hills WITH a Lakota friend. I was stunned by the guide's narration of an hour +/- and the ONLY time the Lakota were mentioned was in a footnote about "the Black Elk wilderness/state forest". The guide failed to mention anything else about the native history, territory, treaties... it was just a name tossed out in the mix of settlers, gold mining, hunting...(i.e. resource exploitation).

On this note, the famous Harney Peak should and must be changed. It is morally wrong to ascribe the peak's name to a military man who was involved with colonization and genocide of the Lakota People, plus it flies in the face of the TREATIES. The name should be changed. I favor 'Black Elk Peak' (though I don't think he would have wanted a mountain named after him. Humility is a basic Lakota teaching). I strongly encourage you to work WITH Lakota communities and ask them for guidance on this naming, which should be from THEIR history. Currently, Canada is re-mapping many regions with aboriginal place-names that reflect centuries of oral tradition. The US should follow suit. It is the Lakota's land, their history, their treaties, their decision. Not a bunch of ranchers, developers or public relations folks from a state agency. You have the opportunity to change something that is part of a very deep wound in the heart of "America."

Thank you for your consideration on this matter.

Sincerely yours,

Rev. Janet Kroboth-Weber
Intercultural Minister
2 Crescent Lane
Nanuet, NY 10954
Sent from AOL Mobile Mail