

Foods Conference In Huron Nov. 11

PIERRE — The South Dakota Department of Agriculture (SDDA) will host the first South Dakota Local Foods Conference on Nov. 11 in Huron.

In conjunction with the conference, the South Dakota State University Extension Service will host a Good Agricultural Practices (GAPs) training on Nov. 12.

The Local Foods Conference is meant to continue the dialogue on local foods among producers, consumers, school nutrition programs, grocers, restaurants and resource providers.

"The local foods movement is gaining momentum around the nation and right here in South Dakota. It's something people really want to know about," said Walt Bones, South Dakota Secretary of Agriculture. "I encourage everyone with an interest in local foods to take part in this event."

Ken Meter from the Crossroads Resource Center in Minneapolis will be the keynote speaker. Meter is an experienced food system analyst. His work integrates market analysis, business development, systems thinking, and social concerns. As president of Crossroads Resource Center, Meter has 41 years of experience in rural community capacity building.

Other topics to be covered at the Local Foods Conference are high tunnels, community gardening, food safety, Farm-to-School, community-supported agriculture, value-added agriculture products, organics and farmers' markets.

The GAPs training, conducted by Michele Schermann of the University of Minnesota, will educate producers on how to implement Good Agricultural Practices to help minimize food safety risks. Producers will learn what is necessary for a successful USDA GAP/GHP audit and begin to work on a personalized farm food safety plan which can be incorporated into a GAPs audit.

Registration information can

be obtained by visiting <http://sdda.sd.gov> and clicking on the Special Events link or calling SDDA at 605-626-3272.

The conference is a collaborative effort of SDDA, SDSU Extension Service, USDA Rural

Development, Dakota Rural Action, and Buy Fresh Buy Local South Dakota. Local foods will be offered as conference snacks and noon meal. A Taste of South Dakota reception will be held in the evening of Nov. 11.

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Humanities Event Set For Hartington

HARTINGTON, Neb. — Nebraska Humanities Council scholar Michael F. (Mac) McDonald will be presenting his program "Lewis and Clark in Song and Story" at the Hartington Public Library, 106 S. Broadway, Hartington, Neb., on Wednesday, Oct. 19.

This event is open to the public.

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