



**From the Desk of
Gail Adams
Director, OIEA**

On behalf of Secretary Salazar, I hope this newsletter will be a way to keep you informed as well as encourage dialogue about issues important in your communities.

In March and April, the Secretary celebrated Women's History Month, the 100 Anniversary of the Cherry Blossom Planting, Hispanic Heritage, and hosted multiple tourism events across the country. As we move into May, we hope to continue the conversation on our National Tourism Strategy as well as keep the conservation and energy agendas moving forward.

If you have any questions about this newsletter or in general, please feel free to contact our office at 202-208-1923.

Sincerely,

Gail Adams

U.S. Department of the Interior Office of Intergovernmental and External Affairs

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Secretary Salazar Celebrates Women's Heritage with Town Hall Meeting



BALTIMORE – Secretary of the Interior Ken Salazar hosted a town hall discussion on March 27th at the Maryland Women's Heritage Center as part of Interior's ongoing efforts to capture and tell a more inclusive story of America.

Attended by Baltimore Mayor Stephanie Rawlings-Blake, First Lady of Maryland Judge Katie O'Malley, Acting Assistant Secretary for Fish, Wildlife and Parks Rachel Jacobson, and more than 60 leaders in the women's history and heritage movement, the town hall focused on efforts to preserve and highlight the many contributions of women throughout American history.

"Interior has the unique responsibility and privilege to ensure that America's full story is told to current and future generations. This means celebrating the contributions of women throughout America's history - not just in our textbooks, but through the places that belong to all of us, like our national parks and landmarks," said Salazar.

Click [here](#) to view a video from the event. Click [here](#) to read Secretary Salazar's Op-Ed on Women's History Month featured in the Huffington Post.



Secretary Salazar Attends the 100th Anniversary of Cherry Blossom Tree Planting Ceremony

On Tuesday, March 27th, Secretary Salazar joined First Lady Michelle Obama and the Ambassador of Japan to the United States Ichiro Fujisaki for the 1912 Cherry Blossom Tree planting re-enactment ceremony along the Tidal Basin. 2012 marks the 100th anniversary since the United States received 3,000 Cherry Blossom trees—which are on our public lands—as a gift from Japan symbolizing the friendship between the two countries.



Click [here](#) to view a video of the event.

Photo Credits: Tami A. Heilemann, DOI Office of Communications

Highlights from March and April

Secretary Salazar Emphasizes Economic Importance of International Tourism at Town Hall in Philadelphia

During a town hall with local tourism and business leaders in Philadelphia on March 15th, Secretary Salazar emphasized the importance of international tourism to economic growth and job creation. The visit coincided with the 40th anniversary of the United Nations Education, Scientific and Cultural Organization's (UNESCO) World Heritage Convention.



Photo: Secretary Salazar and National Park Service employees stand in front of the Liberty Bell.

Secretary Salazar Participated in Two Events Highlighting the Role American Latinos in American History

Secretary Salazar joined Secretary of Labor Hilda Solis to honor the contributions of farm workers with the induction of the

Pioneers of the Farm Worker Movement into the Labor Hall of Honor. As part of the ceremony, the Department of Labor's auditorium was re-named to the Cesar Chavez Memorial Auditorium. Later, Salazar addressed the Hispanic Association of Colleges & Universities 17th Annual Capitol Forum.



Photo: Secretary Salazar joins Secretary Hilda Solis for the dedication of the Department of Labor's Auditorium as the Cesar Chavez Memorial Auditorium.

Salazar Meets with Local Business Leaders on How to Boost Travel & Tourism in the U.S. at Las Vegas and San Diego Roundtables

On April 4th, Secretary Salazar met with local business leaders in Las Vegas, Nevada and San Diego, California to discuss strategies to boost domestic and international travel and tourism in the United States. The tourism roundtables will help inform President Obama's initiative – launched in January – to create a new national tourism strategy focused on creating jobs by becoming even more welcoming to guests from here at home and across the globe.



Photo: Over 40 state and local government officials and local business leaders attended the town hall in Las Vegas. Amongst those in attendance were Nevada Governor Brian Sandoval, Senator Harry Reid and Chairman of BrandUSA Stephen J. Cloobek.

Secretary Salazar Awarded Cesar Chavez Legacy Award; Attends White House Community Action Summit

On April 5th, Secretary Salazar was awarded the 2012 Cesar Chavez Legacy award for his contributions to preserving and recognizing Latinos in American history. While accepting this award in Los Angeles, Secretary Salazar also participated in the White House Community Action Summit which connected senior Obama Administration officials from diverse policy areas with community leaders, business owners, and other stakeholders to discuss issues critical to the Hispanic community.

Secretary Salazar Visits North Dakota's Oil Boom; Unveils Initiatives to Accelerate Drilling Permits and Leases on Federal Lands

On April 3rd, Secretary Salazar, North Dakota Governor Jack Dalrymple, Senators Conrad and Hoeven and Congressman Berg met with Chairman Tex G. Hall and other leaders of the Three Affiliated Tribes of the Fort Berthold Reservation, where a partnership with Interior's Bureau of Indian Affairs has spurred oil production and generated massive increases in royalty revenues for the tribal government and individual land owners.



Photo: Secretary Salazar, North Dakota Governor Jack Dalrymple, Senators Conrad and Hoeven and Congressman Berg met with Chairman Tex G. Hall and other leaders of the Three Affiliated Tribes of the Fort Berthold Reservation.

Photo Credits: Tami A. Heilemann, DOI Office of Communications



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Photo: Secretary Salazar pets a rhinoceros at the San Diego Zoo. The zoo is one of the centerpieces of a local tourism industry that contributes more than \$17 billion into the city's economy and supports 160,000 jobs in the area.

Credit: Tami A. Heilemann, DOI Office of Communications

Meet the Staff: Terri Johnson, Deputy Director



Terri Johnson, Deputy Director, joined the Department of the Interior on day one, January 21, 2009. In January 2012, Terri transitioned into the position of Deputy Director in the Office of Intergovernmental and External Affairs to focus on outreach initiatives to stakeholders. During her tenure, she has developed strong relationships with stakeholders in the environmental and conservation communities and hopes to reach out to other constituencies to keep the conservation agenda moving forward.

Favorite National Park:

**San Juan Island
National Historic Park**

She began her time at Interior serving as the Special Assistant to Tom Strickland, Chief of Staff and Assistant Secretary for Fish and Wildlife and Parks. Two years later, she began serving as Secretary Salazar's Special Assistant and had a significant role in the daily operations of the Secretary's office by serving as the Acting White House Liaison, planning multiple events on behalf of the Secretary, and managing office personnel.

Prior to joining Interior, Ms. Johnson lived in Colorado for 19 years during which time she served as the Business and Communications Manager for Kobey Development, Manager of Communications and Public Policy for the Credit Union Association of Colorado, and had an extended career in the political realm working with Tom Strickland, the 1996 and 2002 Democratic nominee for U.S. Senate and the former Colorado U.S. Attorney under the Clinton Administration. Ms. Johnson received her Bachelor of Arts degree in Communications from Regis University.