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**(Neb.) - Kesselrings earn award**



By: John Thayer Posted at: 04/23/2012 01:33 PM

Mike and Linda Kesselring are the 2012 Western Nebraska Region, "Connecting Nebraska Award" recipients. The Connecting Nebraska awards are presented by the Partnership for Rural Nebraska to individuals, businesses and collaborative partnerships that have significantly impacted their region in the past year.

Mike and Linda, co-owners of High Plains Homestead, Drifter Cookshack and Bunkhouse, a family business northwest of Crawford, NE., are passionate about promotion and development of rural communities and businesses in the region. They have worked tirelessly to find ways to bring people, organizations and resources together to create greater impact for the area, encourage three tourism boards to share in representing the northern Panhandle of Nebraska at large tourism venues and helping to create and sustain events like the Intertribal Gathering at Fort Robinson and the new, Moon of the Changing Leaves 5K Run/Walk.

Mike also serves in a leadership role across the state including serving on the board of the Intertribal Gathering at Fort Robison, chairing the Western Nebraska Tourism Coalition and serving as co-chair of the Nebraska Tourism Advisory Board.

The Kesselrings know how to emphasize the "connecting" in Connecting Nebraska.

**Pictured left to right:** Nebraska First Lady, Sally Ganem; Linda and Mike Kesselring, Western Nebraska Region, Connecting Nebraska Award Honorees and G.W. "Gerry" Osborn, ServeNebraska