



# Wellbriety Indian Center News

Vol. 1, Issue 2

## THE CAMP CRIER

February 2009

### INDIAN CENTER NEWS

#### FYI

Not by design, but articles in this issue are full of info on education. It just happened to turn out that way - from our two interviewees to our community news. We hope you enjoy and learn from them all. The education of our young is very important in our culture and it might be a good time to mention that the English word education is from the Latin word *educere* which means "to draw out what is already in ... not blindly stuffed in." May we all aspire to give that kind of learning to all children.

#### Community Dinners

At the community lunch in January Minnie



Goodblanket presented a program on Inuit drumming and singing. Minnie is a medical student in Alaska and a member of a group who performs Inuit music and dances.

The next **community dinner** will be from 1 to 3 pm. **Saturday, February 21**, at the Trinity United Methodist Church,

**Minnie Goodblanket,**  
Navajo/ So. Cheyenne

701 N. 20th street. Everyone is invited, so bring a friend. There will be another great program organized by Zoe Goodblanket after lunch and WIC updates.

If you wish, you may bring a pot luck dish to share at the lunch. As a thank you to the church, our group also brings food donations for Trinity's food pantry for those in need.

#### eBay Fundraiser

We are to the point where we need donations to list on eBay. The site is moving along fine, we have a good rating, have earned good feedback, and enjoy some returning customers and numbers of lookers. We are currently trying to keep at least five items listed each week and we need fresh material. If you would like to support the

Indian Center with a tax deductible donation, please call the White Bison office at 548-1000 during business hours and leave word for someone on the WIC staff to call you about your donation. Check your closets, wardrobe, jewelry boxes or curios sitting around gathering dust and consider donating some of those items. Our customers are waiting and our bank account would be happy to have them.

#### Newsletter

Our subscription list is still growing steadily and we are receiving very positive feedback on the content. Ten year old Alycia Chavez, Navajo/ Apache, joins our youth editorial staff and has already contributed some material for this issue. We welcome her and any one with news submissions or items from the community and will print them as we have room, with a byline for the writer of articles.

We will be adding more information to page eight as we find new resources that our community may need to know about. The office staff continues to build the resource file, and this page of the newsletter will be used to get information out at least until the file is ready.

#### Youth Group

The **youth logo contest** is over and the winners will be chosen and prizes awarded at the February 18<sup>th</sup> Cultural Committee.

At the January Youth Group meeting we made Valentines for someone in the military. See the Youth pages on how you can get involved with this.

We named our group the **WICCS Youth Group**. It will go with the new logo we are creating, with the phrase "WICCS Youth Group Is Hot" around the top of the logo and "Where Culture Meets Cool" around the bottom of the logo.

The **next youth meeting** will be from **10-11 am, Feb. 14**, at Trinity United Methodist Church, 701 N. 20<sup>th</sup> St. Both the youth and parents will briefly discuss possible programs for the next three months: speakers, trips, fund raisers and community service possibilities. The ones interested in basketball will scrimmage in the gym and

there will be a couple of activity tables set up in the dining room for those not playing ball. Everyone's ideas and input is important. Parents Arnetta Hartmann and Arleta Lovern will provide treats for this meeting.

Youth **packets** will be handed out to any youths who do not have a packet yet, and new updated information will be given to everyone. Be sure to pick up your packets if you do not have one and to get the new handouts at each month's meeting.

Our youth **contact information sheet** is being updated and three or four parents will be assigned 7 or 8 families each to keep in contact with to keep everyone in the loop about what is happening in youth group. Everyone will get a copy of the new contact sheet.

#### Steering Committee

The next Steering Committee meeting will be at 6 pm, Thursday, Feb. 5 at White Bison, 6145 Lehman Dr., Ste. 200.

Both the Cultural and Steering Committee will meet together for this session to work on a vision statement for WICC.

Also on the agenda will be working on the WIC's mission state and seeomg logo created by Arnetta Hartmann with the changes suggested at last month's meeting.

#### Cultural Committee

The Cultural Committee will meet with the Steering Committee on Feb. 5 (see above.) The regular Cultural Committee meeting still will be at 6 pm, Wednesday, Feb. 18, at White Bison.

On the agenda will be choosing a winner for the youth group logo contest, scheduling meetings for the monthly dinner, elders meeting and Youth Group activities.

#### Our Thanks

Our Youth Group gratefully received a \$1500 grant from **Second Mile**, a Christian group whose individual members regularly donate money to a common fund and then select a worthy cause to give the money to. **Judy Gearhart**, a member who read about the Indian Center, came by, asked questions and then submitted a request to Second Mile on our behalf. We humbly and thankfully accept this gift.



# COMMUNITY NEWS

## The Camp Crier

### Published By

Wellbriety Indian Center  
6145 Lehman Dr., Ste. 200  
Colorado Springs, CO  
Phone: (719) 599-8630

### Web Site

[www.wellbrietyindiancenter.org](http://www.wellbrietyindiancenter.org)

**Editor:** Eulala Pegram, Creek

**Illustrator:** Arnetta Hartman, Navajo

**Photography:** Patience Low Dog

**Legal:** Sandra Mokine, Pott/  
Cherokee

Camp Crier news is a monthly online newsletter for the Pikes Peak region. Long ago, Camp Criers were respected people who went through the camp announcing important news of interest to the people.

### How to submit material:

If you are interested in submitting news to us for publication consideration, we would be glad to hear from you. Our email address is

[thecamp-crier@wellbrietyindiancenter.org](mailto:thecamp-crier@wellbrietyindiancenter.org)

Due to lack of space, we will be able to cover local news only with some small amount of national news of interest.

### Youth Newsletter Section:

#### Youth Editors:

James Low Dog, Assiniboine  
Patience Low Dog, Assiniboine  
Alycia Chavez, Navajo/Apache

The youth articles and art section of the newsletter will be created and edited by Native youth in the area and they will be the sole creators of this section. The adult editors and staff will check for good journalistic taste, standards and procedures.

Young writers and artists are encouraged to submit their articles, jokes, reviews, news and other material of interest to their Native peers. We hope to have regular information from different schools, as well as good stories, interviews, etc.

We will feature a different school in each issue for a while and we have a form for you to fill out to give your ideas about what to tell about your school. If you are interested in seeing the form, call or write us to receive a copy.

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### Title VII Program - Dist. 11

D11 is the only local school district that has a TVII Indian Education program. There are four locations where Native students are both tutored and offered cultural lessons taught by **Carolena Jackson**, Navajo, the cultural support liason for TVII.

Located in four different quadrants of the district, TVII is offered at North Middle School (central), Rudy (NE), Adams (SE), and Whittier (SW).

Carolena can be reached at 520-2364 during office hours.

### NAWA

The Native American Women's Association meets from 1-3 pm, on the second Sunday of each month at Penrose Library downtown on the SW corner of Cascade and Kiowa. On Feb. 8, after a short business meeting, the program will be presented by Carrie Howell and the **Pikes Peak Intertribal Youth Group**. They will be speaking about their group and the activities they are currently engaged in.

### UCCS

The University of Colorado at Colorado Springs has a program for students interested in eventually attending college. Called the **Pre-Collegiate Development Program (PCDP)**, it has Saturday classes especially designed to give students in middle school and beginning high school fun opportunities to learn about and prepare for going to college. It is a free, well organized program that enjoys a high enrollment and success rate. You can visit <http://www.uccs.edu/~pcdp/> and click either on the middle school or high school program. While attending the enrichment classes, students also are earning college cred-

its while still in high school, get prepared for college and meet new young people in the area. Now is the time to get involved in the program, if you are interested.

Other news from UCCS is that the American Indian Science and Engineering Society Chapter is sending two members to the national **AISES** conference in Albuquerque Feb. 12-15. Both **Sarah Batty**, Creek, and **Alvin Chee**, Navajo, will attend to represent UCCS. Marguerite Cantu, Ute/Cherokee, is the AISES sponsor. She can be reached at 255-4124.

### PPCC

The Native American student club at Pikes Peak Community College is the **Native American Student Alliance** and the president is Carisa Gonzales-Yazzie. It serves all four PPCC campuses, but meets at the Centennial campus. For info, contact Carisa at [cerisegonz77@hotmail.com](mailto:cerisegonz77@hotmail.com), or Prof. Joanna Grey, 502-3190, in the Sociology Department at Centennial campus.

There is also a support program at PPCC designed to keep minority males in college. Called Multicultural Retention Program for Men, it has programs and resources for male students and is headed by Coach **Eddie Hughes**, a retired professional basketball player. It has been a very effective support program. It is located in Room A306, Centennial Campus. Hughes' phone number are 502-2265 office, 494-7891 cell.

### COLORADO COLLEGE

CC has traditionally recruited Native students to come to their campus, especially from the southwest. The Native American Student Union is their Native club. Their sponsor is **Susie Nashida** in the Southwest Studies building on campus, 389-6649. **Rochelle Mason** is Director of Minority Student Life, 389-6338.

Their website was done by Taa Dixon, an alumnus who is one of the newsletter interviewee subjects on page 4 this month. You

can listen to the tape of Taa's presentation to new incoming students about her experiences on succeeding at Colorado College by clicking below. To see if CC would interest you, visit <http://www.tigerbca.com/2008/12/taa-dixon-speaks/>

### IDEAS FOR PARENTS

Several things in this issue lend themselves to good follow-up activity ideas. The most time sensitive one is the Valentines for the military suggestion on the youth pages. The link to find contact names is found at

[www.aicco.org/troops.asp](http://www.aicco.org/troops.asp)

See page 5 for their directions on sending cards.

If your student(s) would enjoy this kind of activity, this is a good link to know about so any card-for-holiday can be celebrated by remembering our troops. You can purchase cards, or make your own cards and envelopes, using software that most computers have today.

Suggested card making materials: paper, envelopes, drawing and coloring pens/pencils, inexpensive felt-tipped calligraphy pens (for fancy writing). These are all available at most office supply or scrap booking store.

Another option for using the newsletter with your child would be, if you have a child in middle or high school who is planning to go to college, there are several programs and contacts on this page you may want to know and talk about with them.

Also, you may want to share the articles with our two interviewees in the newsletter this month. Both of them have interesting stories about how college made such an impact on their life.

And, of course, there are all the fun activities coming up for the Youth Group. While the youth are meeting or doing their activities, parents help or meet and do their own supportive activities.

See page 8 for info on a local golf program for students.

# NATIVE NEWS FROM HERE AND THERE

## Golden Bell Award Nominee

**Eddie Three Eagle**, Cherokee/Apache, was one of seven finalists nominated for this year's Assistance League Golden Bell Award. The award is given each year to an outstanding volunteer in the community. Urban Turzi, from One Nation Walking Together nominated Eddie for this coveted community service award. The nomination cited Eddie for his willingness to use his speaking and musical talents to help raise funds to help Native people in need, both locally and on out of state reservations.

Eddie has two sons who are also gifted musically. Son Lowry Begay performs with Brule' and son Felipe Rose works as the Native in the Village People music group.

Turzi has the highest praise and admiration for Three Eagles and the job he does representing Natives in this area and in raising money for others on reservations.

## ONE WOMAN'S LEGACY

**LaDonna Tabbytite Harris**, Comanche, was one of two honorees receiving the 2009 Lifetime Legacy Award from the American Indian Society of Washington DC in January. She has been a respected and influential spokesperson advocating for Indigenous civil and economic rights all her adult life.

LaDonna was raised by her traditional grandparents and did not speak English until she started to school. She married Fred Harris, son of a share cropper, in 1949 when they were just out of high school. She worked to help send him through college and Law school, and moved with him to D.C. in 1964 when he was elected to be a U.S. Senator from Oklahoma. She raised three children living between Washington and Oklahoma.

A brief account of her legacy include founding both the Oklahomans for Indian Opportunity, the state's first intertribal organization, and the international American Indian Opportunity (AIO), which she has directed throughout its existence. She has been appointed to committees or commissions by every President since the 1960s, except Ronald Reagan. In the 1980 national election, she was the vice-presidential candidate for the Citizen's Party.

She and AIO introduced or initiated projects like the Native Council for Energy Resources Tribes (CERT), the Western Hemisphere "Peace Pipe Project," and the internet tribal webpage program called INDIANnet.

This Lifetime Legacy award honors her life and all she has accomplished.



**LaDonna Harris**, Comanche, A 2009 Lifetime Legacy Award winner

## A JOB FOR HISTORY DETECTIVES



According to a Rapid City Journal January 30, 2009 story, the History Detectives' TV program is investigating a story about a picture owned by Tim Giago, Oglala Sioux, former publisher and editor of Indian Country Today. Taken in the 1870s by Alexander Gardner, it has a message on the back written in Lakota. The message is being transcribed.

The investigators interviewed many people in their research, including Crazy Horse's descendants Doug War Eagle, Floyd Clown, Sr., Don Red Thunder and Delmar Clown. These men showed the investigators census rolls, probate records, and a catalogue of documents. War Eagle's great-grandmother was Black Shawl, a widow of Crazy Horse. They had a daughter, Afraid of Her. Crazy Horse missed being photographed in 1870 when he stayed home because of her birth when the 1870 treaty photograph was taken at Ft. Laramie. The family does have a sketch of Crazy Horse made by a Mormon missionary, but no photograph has ever been found. The Crazy Horse Museum has six photos that are claimed to be of Crazy Horse. Two are too old to be him and one wears a war bonnet, which he never wore. The museum used descriptions from five survivors, who were present at the first blast to carve the gigantic Crazy Horse monument in 1948. The TV program on the photograph findings will air this summer on History Detectives.

Is this a picture of Crazy Horse?

<http://www.rapidcityjournal.com/articles/2009/01/30/news/local/doc4980fb7f14e0c100187612.txt>

## Obama's Family



Washington Post, Photo by Michael Laris

**Hartford and Mary Black Eagle**, Crow, adopted **Barack Obama** as their son in a traditional Crow ceremony in May before his election as President. They also attended his inauguration. The Native's you saw in the inaugural parade were Crow – many of them now Obama's relatives.

At the adoption, Obama was given the name Awe Kooda Bilalxpak Kuuxshish, "One Who Helps People Throughout the Land,"

View Obama's 8 min. speech on the Crow Reservation on his policy toward Natives.

<http://www.crownews.net/2008/05/video-obama-com.html>

## A YOUNG MAN ON THE MOVE....



**Dan Bahlen**, San Carlos Apache, is an adult student at Pikes Peak Community College. He will graduate in May 2009 with 2.74 grade point average or better and an associate's degree in American Culture Studies. He has been nominated to deliver the

farewell address during the graduation commencement program.

In 2008, Dan was interviewed for a Denver Post article about the low college graduation rate and minorities. The paper used Dan as an inspiration for people to finish college. Now, his home community can recognize Dan's success as a PPCC student who is weeks away from earning his associates degree.

Dan was born April 17, 1978, at the Indian hospital in Phoenix, AZ. When he was a toddler, he moved to Colorado Springs with his mother when his parents separated. He attended schools here, moving back and forth between the Springs and Phoenix/San Carlos Reservation. From age 14-17, he attended high school at Widefield, Falcon and Sierra, off and on. He finally dropped out of high school in 1995 from Harrison High when he was a senior. By the age of sixteen he had also

decided to stay in Colorado Springs alone when his mother moved away.

He was in and out of foster homes and other juvenile institutions, hanging out with a delinquent crowd who carried guns, sold drugs and drank a lot, so he learned and practiced that behavior. This life style resulted in several brushes with the law and some jail time.

Dan reports that he was homeless from 2000 to 2008, drove a cab for a while in 2002/2003, lived under bridges along Fountain Creek and worked construction periodically. During that time he made a new habit of going to the downtown library everyday and learning how to read, do math, and recognize sentence structure for college level work. In 2005, he enrolled in school taking remedial English, learning to write paragraphs and topic sentence. At that time, he didn't know how to access any resources or finances for college.

In 2007, he went into recovery. He related to a short personal story from the Narcotics Anonymous text about "an Indian without a tribe." After entering recovery, he met Coach Eddie Hughes with the PPCC multi-cultural retention program/minority male retention program. Hughes has been mentoring Dan and offering some support at the school. He is a former pro-basketball player.

Dan also became active in the Native American Student club as treasurer at

PPCC, Down By The Creek Native AA meeting, the NA meetings and practicing Wellbriety. He has been working out of the "Indian Big Book" - the Red Road to Wellbriety. As he took more classes, gained more knowledge, found more resources, attended more support groups he was able to take more college hours and experience more success - with his personal life, as well as his education.

The meeting with Eddie Hughes was a great match between a student and a visionary program that has been very successful with many male students, including Dan. They met when Hughes saw Dan in the halls one day and talked with him about being involved with the program he headed. *(For more info on this program for retaining young minority men in college, see page 8.)*

Since then, Dan has participated and interacted with other students in the program and Hughes has asked Dan to tell his college experience story on several occasions, locally and down at CSU in Pueblo. He says Dan has been nominated for several awards during graduation exercises in May. It will be exciting to see what awards and recognitions Dan receives when he graduates, but it is also wonderful to see the successful young man he is, who takes pride in the accomplishments he has already achieved, through his own efforts and the efforts of others who have supported him in his quest. *Continued on p. 7*

## AND A YOUNG WOMEN WHO HAS ARRIVED

Although **Taa Dixon**, Cherokee, has ancestral roots in North America, Africa and Europe, her personal roots are firmly planted in Colorado Springs. She has lived here most of her life, graduated from Sierra high school and from Colorado College in 1994. Her parents are James and Lila Dixon and her only sibling is a sister, a 6<sup>th</sup> grade English teacher at a Ft. Carson elementary school, who has two children.

All Taa's family cultural backgrounds are very rich in storytelling and that is a strong element that is an important part of the career she now has as owner of 720MEDIA, the business she started here in 2000. Taa's BA degree from CC is a major in political science with a minor in urban studies, but her first job out of college was as a television producer at a Chicago station. This gave her experience in shooting videos, writing scripts and telling

a story. She also wrote a grant to write about Chicago African American women.

She reports that college was a great growing experience for her. While at CC, she launched three workshops for young people, and, at 19, she created a video-making workshop for middle school and high school students. Later, she started a public speaking workshop for teens and a golf leadership program for college students at CC.

Taa and 720MEDIA is a full service digital and marketing firm that has been called a "young team of e-business and technology pros focused on education and enabling e-business." With Taa as the entrepreneur behind it, the business has grown quickly over the nine years they have been in business. In those years they have won several awards, including Best Website Developer from Colorado Springs

Business Journal Reader's Poll.

The name 720-MEDIA refers to 360 degree images, which denotes a holistic way of looking at things. Their clients include individuals

and businesses from sports figures (which includes Navajo golfer Notah Begay's website) to celebrities, commercial enterprises, shopping malls, restaurants, real estate companies and small businesses. She also does the website for our other local motivational speaking star, D.J. Vanas, Odawa.

Taa's husband, Kevin Vicroy, is her partner in 720MEDIA. They met when he was working for the US Olympic Committee



*Continued on p. 7*

## Speak your Peace Pipe

Thanks for the suggestions for Native faces that could have been put on Mt. Rushmore. Here are some of the entries and why.

I think **Chief Pronghorn**, Assiniboine, my great, great, great grandfather should be on Rushmore. He was a great warrior and became a chief when he was age 9. When he was 7, he was one of two children who survived a smallpox epidemic that killed everyone else in his band. He did many great deeds in his life (1829-1885) for our people and our family. **James Low Dog**, Assiniboine

Here are my picks for Mt. Rushmore: Sacajawea because she helped discover the Pacific Ocean, Pocahontas because she helped find peace between the white man and the Native Americans, and Crazy Horse because he was a great leader for his people. **Alycia Chavez**,

**Next month's** opinion to sound off about is: *If you could become the tribal chairman for your nation, what changes would you make for your people...or for yourself?*

Let us hear from you!



## Native Fashion

By Patience Low Dog

Yo, found anutha Native dress on my travels thru the internet. This was inspired by the Kuchi people, who r a nomadic tribe native to Afghanistan. This design was made by designer Elizabeth Muir, who spent the past year traveling in Afghanistan and its awesome.

## GET INVOLVED AND MAKE A DIFFERENCE

How about buying or making a valentine for a military person serving our country somewhere in the world?

You can look up names of service people at the following website.

[www.aicco.org/troops.asp](http://www.aicco.org/troops.asp)

You can search there by last names, the ones with pictures or the ones who have made requests.

Information includes their name, their branch of service, rank, address, email address (and sometimes tribe.)

Be sure to sign your name and give your tribe on the card.

Anyone on the list would enjoy hearing from you. The list was made and is maintained by the American Indian Chamber of Commerce in Oklahoma.



**Jensen, Jada and Brandon Hartmann**, Tohono O'odham, show Valentines the Youth Group made for Natives in the military.

## WRESTLER INJURED

**Robert Howell Williams**, Pawnee/Sioux, sustained a broken collar bone in a wrestling competition at Doherty High School recently. He will be in a brace for a total of 4-6 weeks and that will take him out of competition for the rest of wrestling season.

Robert is a freshman at Coronado High School. In addition to wrestling, he is taking computer courses this year after playing and competing in school music groups all through grade school.

**JOK:** How do you find a dog? Put your ear to a tree and listen for a bark!

Alycia Chavez, Navajo/Apache

## She Scores - And Many Other Things

Tahnee Robinson, Northern Cheyenne, is a sophomore from Fort Washakie on the Wind River Reservation in Wyoming. She is currently the leading scorer in the NJCAA with an average 30.2 points per game.

She plays for Sheridan College and has had offers from larger schools, but she prefers to play for

Coach Frank McCarthy's team.

He calls her not only a prolific scorer, but his best defender, best passer, and best rebounder. He says she also knows the game very well.

Tahnee grew up in a traditional family and her parents were athletes in college. She was on the starting team from her freshman year and made All-State all four years in her

off reservation high school.

With all this recognition behind her, now she has set a goal of making the All American team and playing the Nationals.



**Tawnee Robinson**, Northern Cheyenne. Photo courtesy Michael Sullivan/Sheridan Press

# TEEN TOPICS PAGE

## Our Medicine Bear Program

by Briana D., Cherokee

I'd like to tell you about our Medicine Bear Program at Southern Peaks Regional Treatment Center in Canon City. The Medicine Bear Program is a group of Native American youth that go to high school and live at Southern Peaks. Once a week we attend talking circle, guided by Karen Medville, our American Indian Program Co-ordinator, and Sheryl Schwartz, our group therapist.

In the talking circle we all sit on the floor to be connected to our Mother Earth. Each of us cleanses with sage to get rid of our negative energy. Sometimes we use sweet grass, cedar, juniper, oshã (bear root), and sometimes even pitch from trees to purify the room, air and ourselves. Then we pray. Karen also gives us prayers for each day of the week written by various Native American Elders. We have group discussion on the topic of that day. Sometimes our topics are based on different videos. For example, on the subject of inter-generational trauma of boarding schools, or how embracing our culture can help us grow into a better youth. Our program is based on the Red Road to Wellbriety and

*Continued on page 7*

## PALMER HIGH SCHOOL

By Jensen Hartman

Palmer High School was the first high school in Colorado Springs. It was opened in 1875 and was named for the founder of the city of Colorado Springs, William Jackson Palmer. There is a statue of him on his horse in the middle of where Nevada Street crosses Platte Ave. in front of the high school. Since then over 36,000 students have graduated from Palmer.

Palmer classes offer several special programs besides the regular high school studies and its halls are filled with both current happenings and history.

Palmer has an International Baccalaureate and Advanced Placement programs, a tutoring center, peer tutoring and special needs classes, too. There is also a program called TRIBE, which stands for Taking Responsibility in Being Excellent. It encourages and rewards all Palmer students who work hard and do well in school.

One of the newest additions at Palmer is the new area called "Eagle Wing," a large open space where students can eat lunch and where several extra meeting rooms can be booked. Around the Eagle statue in the courtyard at Eagle Wing, there are commemorative bricks placed in the ground recognizing special people and paid for by sponsors who want to honor them.

Palmer graduates (alumni from way back) are very active in the school.

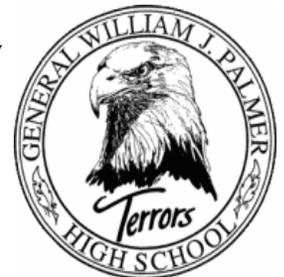
They have a display case in the hall and 2 rooms of museum space with historic Palmer items on the third floor of the main building. You can see the display case anytime, but you must make an appointment to tour the museum rooms.

You can visit the Palmer Hall of Fame featuring graduates who have become famous on the school website at [www.cshs-palmer-alumni.org/](http://www.cshs-palmer-alumni.org/) and click on HOF.

One Native in the Hall of Fame is Eddie Eagle Plume, Blackfoot (who was Charles F. Burkhardt when he graduated.) He was one of the first Native Americans to attend and graduate from the University of Colorado in Boulder. He eventually was the owner of the famous Eagle Plume's Indian Trading Post near Estes Park. He was entered in the Palmer Hall of Fame in 1996. You can read about his accomplishments on the alumni pages above.

The mascot of Palmer is an eagle named "Eaglebeak." Years ago, the mascot was a very ugly caricature of an obvious Native American with a big nose, but that version was phased out for a regal looking actual eagle who now carries that name.

Palmer usually has the highest number of Native students in any of the District Eleven High Schools.



## Out and About

**Varinia, Nathaniel and Ella Bearheart**, Sioux, Children of Brad and Gabrielle Bearheart, appeared with Arvel Byrd's Many Tribes - One Fire group during the Jan. 23-25<sup>th</sup> Colorado Indian Market at the Denver Merchandise Mart....Seen a good movie lately, or heard a good CD, etc? Write us a review and we will publish it in the youth news, along with your name....We also would like some good Native youth pictures and short articles on things of interest to you.



**Aliyah Gonzales**, Navajo, listens to Inuit music sung by Minnie Goodblanket,

## THE REST OF THE STORY

*Continued from Page 6* **Medicine Bear**

the Medicine Wheel and 12 Steps for adolescents.

Our Medicine Bear youth group also gets to participate in off-campus cultural activities. We attended the Wellbriety Pow Wow, First Nation's Day in the Garden of the Gods, and even went to see Brulé. It was an awesome concert! These trips inspire us to embrace and continue to learn about our Native American culture. Elders and other inspirational speakers come and share their wisdom and encouragement with us. We love to have visitors teach us, and have learned that we have choices we never knew about before. We have a lot of fun making Native American crafts and ornaments and learning traditional beading techniques.

Karen has done a lot for the program and for the youth. This program is very helpful to teenagers, and is a very positive way to teach Native youth about our tribes, culture and history. If we know about our Elders and their tribes, it helps us learn to embrace our traditions and to help the next generations to heal so that they can carry those traditions on for the future generations to come.

If you are interested in visiting us at Southern Peaks please contact Karen at 719-276-7509, we are excited to meet you.

*Continued from p. 4* **Dan Bahlen**

Finally, Dan spent some of the winter break volunteering at One Nation Walking Together (working with donated items and financial contributions for reservations), and working towards raising awareness about Native American rights with his Native American Rights Fund (NARF) community action tool kit. He also has attended several meetings of the Wellbriety Indian Center.

Dan has plans to pursue a BA degree in American Indian studies and a minor in pre-law at Ft. Lewis College in Durango after graduation. We wish him continued success and friendships in a world where he has earned his place with determination and hard work.

*Continued from p. 4* **Taa Dixon**

and she was working at the US Golf Association. She was looking for someone to help with starting a media business and Kevin was a good fit for the expertise she needed, so they became 60-40 partners in the business collaboration they worked out. They have worked

together nine years and have been married for seven years. They have also launched two other businesses together: Vicroy-Dixon Realty Company and Springs Office Space.com

In 2004, 720MEDIA moved into a spacious 5,000 square foot Victorian building they purchased where they have grown and lease a portion of the office space to a software development firm. It is a serene building, yet it still projects the energy and creative spirit of its owners. With two sides of outdoor windows in the reception area, their view of the mountains is gorgeous. Taa says she always begins her day with prayer and meditation in this area. That may explain why she is able to accomplish so much in the short period of time each day brings.

Outside of business, Taa also is active in several other things. Golf has been an important thing in her life, both business and personal. She managed a grant for 14 states in the Western region of the country, was recognized by Golfweek magazine as one of "Top 40 Under 40" in the country, she was honored for a nation-wide Native American junior golf initiative she organized several years back and that program still exists today. She offers a motivational talk on "Live Your Strengths" and has put a book on the subject on hold for a short time. In fact, she offers several excellent motivational talks on personal growth and business operations. She also is active in civic and social organizations locally.

As opportunities have been offered to her to represent minorities through the years, she has a strong commitment to "be a voice" and to defy stereotypes about minorities. She has a strong role model in her parents who are active in community service. Her mother is a retired school teacher, and her father is the Outreach Director for the Marian House Soup Kitchen. She herself is the current Board Chair for the Colorado College Business and Community Alliance and personally volunteers at the Marian House Outreach Program.

I think you get the impression that this young woman is very energetic. I can assure you that she is, but serenely so.

To read more things about Taa and see some of her work and college experience, visit <http://www.taadixon.com/> and <http://www.tigerbca.com/2008/12/taa-dixon-speaks/>

## Community Resources to Know About

### Resources

#### 2-1-1 Referrals for assistance:

The Wellbriety Indian Center is creating a resource list to help Native's in the area who need assistance. It is a long process and the finishing date for the project is not yet clear. However, in the meantime, we would like to furnish you with information about how to search online to get the help you may need.

**First**, follow these directions to reach an agency that may be able to help you.

**Second**, in the search box on your computer, type in <http://211colorado.org/>.

Click #5 area on the first two maps that appear.

**Third**, You should now be on the Pikes Peak United Way page. Click the words "Get Help With 2-1-1" on the top left side of the page.

**Fourth**, in the Get/Give Help With 2-1-1 area on the left side of the page, click the underlined word "search." Either type in the type of assistance you need in the top keyword box, or click one of the quick topics choices in the quick search box below. This will bring up all the agencies in the area that can help you with the needed assistance.

If you need help with this, the contact person for El Paso County is Annette Blackhart at Pikes Peak United Way, or email [tapestry@ppunitedway.org](mailto:tapestry@ppunitedway.org), or call the Call Center at 719-955-0742.

#### One Nation Walking Together:

Offers local Natives assistance through their Project Pride Program. Donated items available include **food, clothing, appliances, housewares, school supplies, medical supplies, hygiene products, building materials, furniture**... whatever they have in stock. No need for personal information, they just ask that recipients help them by working at their warehouse for an agreed amount of labor. They are located at 45-A Commerce St. Phone 329-0251, email [onenationwt@qwestoffice.net](mailto:onenationwt@qwestoffice.net), website [www.onenationwt.org/](http://www.onenationwt.org/)

#### Recycling information

**Televisions:** Sony, Samsung and LG will take back your used TV sets for free.

**Cell Phones:** Greenphone.com will buy (and resell) your old handsets. Or donate to [cellphonesforsoldiers.com](http://cellphonesforsoldiers.com).

**Computers:** Dell recycles its equipment for free; Staples will accept any drop-offs.

#### Multicultural Retention Program for Men at PPCC

Coach **Eddie Hughes**, Room A306, Centennial Campus,  
Phone: 502-2265 office 494-7891 cell

### MARK YOUR CALENDAR

**Feb. 5**, 6 pm, WICCS **Steering Committee** meeting, White Bison.

**Feb. 8**, 1-3 pm, NAWA monthly meeting, Penrose Library downtown. Pikes Peak Intertribal Youth Group will speak.

**Feb. 10**, 6 pm, **Elders Gathering**, Trinity United Methodist Church.

**Feb. 14**, 10-12 pm, WICCS **Youth Group** meets, Trinity United Methodist Church. Meeting, basketball and activity tables.

**Feb. 18**, 6 pm, WICCS **Cultural Committee** meeting, White Bison. Logo contest prizes will be awarded.

**Feb. 21**, 1-3 pm, WICCS **Community lunch**, Trinity United Methodist Church. Lunch, visiting, WICCS updates and a program.

### Educational Opportunities

If your student would be interested in a summer internship program relevant to their area of interest, there is a wide variety of twenty-six such programs listed on pages 32-40 in the Winter 2009 issues of Winds of Change. A copy of this magazine will be in the WICCS office if you want to check them out. Each lists a description of the program, deadlines, required prerequisites and contact information.

Write about a great kid for publication in the Gazette's new BreakOut section. Visit [www.gazette.com](http://www.gazette.com)

Read all the articles on page two for each of the main local higher educational institutions for some excellent programs, resources and people to help students get in and stay in local colleges, PPCC, CC, UCCS. Plus read the two interview articles for info on programs offered to students at their college.

If your student is interested in learning to play golf, there is a free local program called Linkers offered here in the spring. Students with perfect attendance win a set of golf clubs and a golf bag. This year's program already has 200 enrolled and 60 students on a waiting list. For more information about this spring/summer free golf program, visit

<http://www.juniorlinks.com/print.cfm?aid=306>

Or contact them at by phone or email.

(719) 471-4810 ext. 25 [kcockran@usga.org](mailto:kcockran@usga.org).

### KUDOS

Congratulations to the Native owned company that makes Tanka Bar, the buffalo-and-cranberry energy bar based on a traditional wasna recipe. They won an editor's choice award from The Gourmet Retailer, a respected national magazine that focuses on the gourmet and specialty food industry. The business is located in Kyle, ND.

