



# Wellbriety Indian Center News

Vol. 1, Issue 6 THE CAMP CRIER May 2009

## INDIAN CENTER NEWS

### FYI

There is one temporary change in this issue. On the youth pages, instead of a student and their school, we have three articles about three youth who should be recognized for something they have done. We will return to the student/school format in the next issue.

We want to wish our readers who are mothers or grandmothers a very happy Mother's Day!

### STEERING COMMITTEE

Four volunteers are gathering information to prepare a draft of the WICCS articles of incorporation and by-laws needed to apply for our tax exempt status. **Jean Steele, Christine Briggs, Zoe Goodblanket, and Karen Medville** will present their findings and suggestions so far on these documents at the next Steering Committee meeting on May 9 at 6 pm, White Bison, 6145 Lehman Dr.

### eBay

At the May steering committee meeting, Sharon Panning, our eBay webmaster will provide a list of all items previously listed but unsold on eBay and a decision will be made about any changes that might be needed before those items are listed again. **Watch for some bargains!**

Donations of new items to list are always welcome and we will provide a receipt for tax purposes to anyone offering donated items.

We also will be needing **new volunteers to work in the office** if you are interested in getting in on the action.

### CULTURAL COMMITTEE

Due to attrition, more work and growing programs, the cultural committee **needs more good volunteers** to

carry on what has already been started and to accommodate the size some of the programs they are responsible for have become.

These programs include the monthly community dinners, the elders gathering and all the youth group activities. The committee meets on the third Wednesday of each month to get up dates and to give input on these programs.

All three programs have great people helping - we just need a larger committee to assist in organizing and helping things run smoothly.

### Youth Group Teams and Community Dinners

The Community Dinner and the Youth Group Teams will both meet this month on **May 23** at Trinity United Methodist Church.

At **10:30 am**, the youth group will have a **fund raising basketball game** between the Youth Group and their parents (players need to be there by 10). The youth will also be selling food, drinks and other things they think up to raise money.

The community is invited to come and enjoy the game that helps them raise money for their Forgiveness Journey trip to Albuquerque on May 30-31. The youth will be sent more information about this game and also the trip when the time is closer.

The **Community Dinner** and Indian Center updates will be right after the game from **1 to 3 pm**. Everyone is invited to both events. If you can, bring food to share at the dinner. If you cannot, please come anyway.

For the dinner each month, those of us

who can try to **bring non-perishable food items** to help with Trinity's food bank, which serves anyone in need of food.

**May 30th** youth and parents will carpool to **Albuquerque**. They will take sleeping bags and stay Saturday night in St. John's Methodist Church, attend the ceremony at Santa Fe Indian School Sunday and return to the Springs on Sunday evening, May 31st.

### Elders

The Elders Gathering this month will be at **6 pm, Tuesday, May 12**, in the parlor at Trinity United Methodist Church, 701 N. 20th St. The program will be announced at a later time.

If you know of an elder who needs to be invited to these meetings, please pass their name and contact information on to the newsletter staff.

### OUR THANKS TO....

**Trinity United Methodist Church** for sharing their building facilities for three WICCS meetings each month and for hosting and attending the May 2 Forgiveness Tour blessing ceremony .... Trinity Secretary **Susie Cheesman** for her efficient scheduling of our meeting dates and places....**Berta Skelton** for her willingness to open and close the facilities when we meet.... and to Pastor **Jerry Boles** for all his hard work organizing the May 2 ceremony of community healing and blessing for the national forgiveness journey....and our new subscribers. Welcome.



# COMMUNITY NEWS

## The Camp Crier

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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 and powwow information will be a link that lists upcoming regional powwows.

### Youth Newsletter Section:

**Youth Editors:**  
*James Low Dog, Assiniboine*  
*Patience Low Dog, Assiniboine*  
*Alicia 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.

**TVII Indian Education**  
**Carolena Jackson**, Navajo, the TVII Program Coordinator, reports that the **End of Year Potluck** honoring the Native students who participated in this year's tutoring program will be **May 8, from 5-8 pm at Lincoln Elementary School**, 2727 Cascade Ave. Students and parents, as well as community supporters, are invited to bring stew, chili or another dish and join the celebration for the students. There will be dancers and drummers. Fry bread makers are also needed in the kitchen during dinner. Email Carolena at [jackscm@d11.org](mailto:jackscm@d11.org) or call 719-352-5782 if you have any questions.

### UCCS

Two Natives at UCCS won awards of recognition this spring. **Marguerite Cantu**, So. Ute/Cherokee, will be given the 2009 Outstanding Contributions to Diversity and Inclusiveness Award in a ceremony Tuesday, May 5, at the Dusty Loo Bon Vivant Theatre.

**Crystal Rizzo**, So. Ute, was the recipient of two awards at the 2009 College of Letters, Arts, and Sciences Awards Ceremony on April 27. Crystal is one of our people interviews on page seven.

### NAWA

The **NAWA Mother's Day Dinner** this year will be at 6 pm, Tuesday, **May 5 at Adams Mountain Café** in the Manitou Spa building, 934 Manitou Ave. The program will be **Sebrena Forrest**, Mohawk, who will sing and

tell stories. To RSVP, call Grace Goodeagle at 685-2521, or Jean Steele 635-8675. The menu is available at

[www.adamsmountain.com](http://www.adamsmountain.com)

You can come without a reservation if you have not made one.

NAWA will also have a **garage sale** at 3945 Allgood Dr. on Saturday, **May 9, from 7 am to late afternoon**. They will be selling **fry bread**. This is a fund raiser to support their youth scholarship program and other local projects. If you would like to donate or need directions, call Carisa at 238-7200.



### Time of No Shadows Community Ceremony

At exactly **12 noon on Saturday, May 2**, the spring solstice, a Time of No Shadows ceremony of forgiveness and healing will be held at Trinity Methodist Church, 701 N. 20th St. A ceremony for our community, it will be led by Rev. **Jerry Boles**, Navajo and pastor of the church, and Don Coyhis, Mohican, president and founder of White Bison, Inc.

Using Native presenters, songs and prayers, the ceremony will be to offer blessings for White Bison's national Wellbriety Journey of Forgiveness related to the treatment of Natives in government boarding schools. It will begin in Oregon May 16.

The ceremony here will be one teaching the same message as at the 24 scheduled stops for the Journey - We must forgive before we can heal.

The film *Our Spirits Don't Speak English: Indian Boarding Schools* will shown at 10 am be-

fore the ceremony. Everyone is invited to both events.

### PBS TV Native Series

The last two movies in the *We Shall Remain* TV series will air on **PBS Channel 8 at 8 pm** the first two Mondays of May. Dates for these are **May 4 Geronimo**, the last Native fighting force to surrender to the US Army, and **May 11 Wounded Knee**, the story of the 71 day siege in 1973 of Wounded Knee in South Dakota.

If you missed some of the earlier parts of the series, they are being streamed on the American Experience website. Visit <http://www.pbs.org/wgbh/americanexperience/onlineFilms/> and search for them alphabetically.

### SCHOLARSHIPS

By Julie Weil

As newsletter room allows, for the next few issues, we will run scholarship information for junior and senior students interested in applying for college. Here are a few. If the description sounds like it would fit you, do a search by name to get more info.

**Alpha Kappa Alpha Educational Advancement Foundation** 5656 South Stony Island Avenue, Chicago, IL 60637  
Deadline: Applications available after December 1st. Scholarship Amt: \$500 - \$1500

**American Indian Heritage Foundation Scholarship** 6051 Arlington Boulevard Falls, Church, VA 22044-2788 (603) 237-7500  
Deadline: No Requirements: Write/call for more info.  
**American Indian Scholarships** 4520 Montgomery Blvd. NW, #1B, Albuquerque, NM 87109.

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# NATIVE NEWS FROM HERE AND THERE

## LEADING COUNTRIES THROUGH TROUBLED TIMES



President Barack Obama, shakes hands with Evo Morales, full blood Aymara and President of Bolivia, April 17, 2009 during the fifth Summit of the Americas

The popular press has recently reported the pros and cons of **President Obama's** first 100 days in office. The Native press continue to report on promises and practices he is implementing that affect Native Americans the most. The report cards for both stories are much more positive than

negative. He recently met with the only Native president of any American country, **Evo Morales** of Bolivia (see above pix).

Obama also continues to staff his administration with Natives in leadership positions. The latest nominees are **Mary L. Smith**, Cherokee, who was nominated for assistant attorney general in the tax division of the Department of Justice. She is currently a partner in a female-owned law firm and also served in the Clinton administration; and **Hilary Tompkins**, Navajo, was nominated for solicitor of the Department of the Interior. She served as top attorney for Gov. Bill Richardson of New Mexico advising on Native American affairs.

Also nominated was **Rhea Suh** who is not Native, but as assistant secretary for policy, management and budget at the Interior is very knowledgeable about Indian

issues. She also was a former aide to retired Sen. Ben Nighthorse Campbell, R-CO, Northern Cheyenne.

An interesting observation is that both Obama and Morales are ethnic presidents, and both their leadership styles are bringing about results in some unexpected ways.

Obama's ethnic group is a minority with some political influence. Morales' ethnic group is a majority with no political influence. Yet, both are affecting some dramatic changes in a relatively short period. Both have had to use extreme measures to effect those changes

They are approximately the same age. Obama has had 100 days. Morales was inaugurated in 2006. Morales is the first Native person to become leader of a country so we may want to see how his culture serves him - since we will, hopefully, see one of our own lead our country someday.



### GREEN JOBS FOR RED PEOPLE

A Native owned business named Native Workplace is focused on green-collar careers for American Indians and Veterans. Their goals are: educating communities plus recruiting tribal members and veterans into training and employment nationwide.

They will be both promoting green-collar careers and training and placing Native employees in thousands of careers created by growth in renewable energy industries. The 501(c)(3) company's founder and executive director is Cristala Mussato-Allen, Caddo. The Board Chairmmman is Lee Ann TallBear, Sisseton/Wahpeton.

They have resources easily found at one location. Trainees can begin a career and get a pay check from day one. They also aim for preserving communities, respecting the land and saving Native resources.

They match trainees with job providers and offer support before, during and after certification.

Their website has nationwide listings of Native chambers of commerce, urban Indian centers and tribal colleges, names of green Native businesses, green grants for tribes, green tribal news and links to other Native environmental organizations. Check out information, jobs and training at their website: [www.nativeworkplace.com](http://www.nativeworkplace.com)

### NEW FILM ON CHICKEN SCRATCH



*The Joaquin Brothers, courtesy of Ind. Country Today*

Another example of Native Americans adapting immigrant culture to fit their own taste and lifestyle is the phenomenon of **waila** music that is distinctly southwestern Native, particularly among the O'ohdam nations, especially the Akimel and Tohono.

The name is taken for the Spanish word **baila** (dance) which they changed to **waila**, borrowed beats from polka, waltz, Mexican music, tejano, cumbias and Norteno music and came up with their own sounds on European instruments brought and taught by missionaries for music for mass, and then on accordions which were brought by immigrant railroad workers.

After electricity came to the rez in the 50s and 60s, the Joaquin Brothers were among the first to use electric guitars and keyboards during the early evolution and spread of the lively Waila music, usually called "chicken scratch" among Native people due to the dance steps. The music has a polka like sound and the dance is always a social dance.

Four generations of Joaquins have been performing waila music now and several new instruments have been added to their sound. They have played their music at Carnegie Hall and several other prestigious places. Many, many chicken scratch records are available out there. It has been a very popular dance in the southwest for several decades now.

Ron Joaquin has been performing waila music since he was four years old and reports when everyone is having a good time and dancing, it is fun to know you have made them forget their trouble for awhile. He reports that young kids like the cumbia music because it a freestyle dance where they can do their own thing.

A new video of the Joaquin family, their music and waila music has been filmed and will be shown on PBS in May after the *We Shall Remain* movie on Geronimo. It is called "Waila: Making People Happy!?" It is available for purchase from NAPT (Native American Public Television.) Dan Golding, Quechan, is the film producer. For more info [http://www.nativetelecom.org/producer\\_profile\\_daniel\\_golding](http://www.nativetelecom.org/producer_profile_daniel_golding). Also see Resources on page 8.

## Speak your Peace Pipe

Last month's question was to name a modern invention to give to Indian people from long ago. Here is a good one from Jensen Hartmann, Tohono O'odham. "Toilet paper and Jordan air shoes."

Thank Jensen!!! Good answer.

Next month's question is:

If you were a skateboarder and wanted to paint a neat Indian pix on your board, what would it look like?

Send us a picture of what it would say and look like for the next issue.

Do you have burning question you would like to have other youth respond to? Send us your suggestions and we may use it in a future issue. [thecampcrier@aol.com](mailto:thecampcrier@aol.com)

Remember the Youth Group Team has fun activities learning to gather community news for print and electronic media articles.

Come get involved in the fun.

## Native Fashion

By Patience Low Dog

'K, now these two snagin' jackets are from 10 Deep collection and they both consist of hoodies. The line has new tee designs, crew neck sweatshirts and caps. They get their inspiration from various aspects of Native American cultures.



## GET INVOLVED, MAKE A DIFFERENCE

The Youth Group will travel to Albuquerque to attend the Journey of **Forgiveness Tour** when it comes to Albuquerque on May 31. They will carpool down on Saturday, take sleeping bags to spend the night at St. John's United Methodist Church and attend the ceremony at Santa Fe Indian School on Sunday.

If you are interested in this trip, call 210-9948 or come to the May 23 meeting and learn more.

## Next Youth Group Team Meeting

The next youth group meeting will be May 23 from 10-12 at Trinity United Methodist Church. It is a **fundraising basketball game** with youth playing against their parents!!

Invite your family and friends to come and get in on the fun. If you play basketball, volunteer to be on the youth team. If you don't play, volunteer to take donations at the door or sell food and drinks to the crowd, or to cheer the teams on!

But most of all, come and have some major fun

## Move Over Anime...Make way for Native Heroes



Protector of Innocence, 2007  
Jolene Nenibay Yazzie,  
Navajo  
Photo courtesy of NMAI

The popular Japanese Anime and Manga art may have some competition that is rooted in the Native tradition of stories here but using Native talent for art and drawing in a new form.

An exhibit at the Museum of the American Indian in DC, entitled *Comic Art Indigene*, features comic artists telling Native stories through what is usually described as comics. The exhibit looks at how new Native art inspired by ancient rock art, ledger art, and pottery is blending it a new but related media for these younger artists to tell new and old stories.

The exhibit of "graphic novels, sequential storytelling, comic" panels and strips is at NMAI and will run through May 31 and features both male and female artists with at least twelve artists from several tribes, including the two shown here.

You will find Huna Smith's Fry Bread Man, Eva Mirabel's G.I. Gertie, and the political panels of



Po'Pay, from Tewa Tales of Suspense:  
By Jason Garcia, Santa Clara Pueblo.

Marty Two Bull, Sr. There are tribal tales and modern heroes represented in the work of these modern storytellers carrying on the old and creating the new.

# TEEN TOPICS PAGE

## YOUTH SMOKE DANCERS



Photo by Jerome Clark

These Seneca Youth Smoke Dancers raised most of the funds to pay for their own trip to perform at the recent 51st Annual Heard Museum Guild Indian Fair in Phoenix, Az. They led audiences in the popular social dances of their tribe, including the fun Smoke Dance.

This Dance has been described as a hyper-speed jumps and fast footwork that stops quickly. It is a free-style, fast-paced dance from the Iroquois. The dancers usually dress in traditional Iroquois dress. It is not a dance we see often in this area, but it is very popular in the northeastern tribal dances.

To hear the music and see the dance and regalia, search for Smoke Dance Competition on YouTube.

Here are a couple of links: female <http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=mcPjINdx-Mc&feature=related>  
Male <http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=quCLkkTdYag&feature=related>

## Youth Championship Skier

Simon Dumont, Passamaquoddy, is a skier who is winning free skiing medals in international competition. Simon is 22 and has been skiing since age 3.

He is from Bethel, Maine and has close ties with his Passamaquoddy family there.

He took first place in the Winter X Games big air competition this past January in Aspen, and set the



Photo courtesy of Red Bull

world quarter pipe height record in 2008. He is also a serious half pipe competitor and has his eye on that record in the near future.

He has medaled every years since 2004 in national and international events in places like Sweden, Switzerland, Japan, New Zealand, Norway, Canada and the United States.

There is a two year documentary film called "Transitions." It's about his life and it's scheduled to be released next fall.

## CANADIAN MOHAWK GOLFER

A 22 year old Canadian Mohawk is winning some impressive golf tournaments, in spite of not taking up golf until she was 15 years old.

Victoria Thompson is from the Akwesasne, Ontario, reserve and was raised on hockey, the traditional Iroquois game, until she began playing golf as a summer hobby. A woman she played with encouraged her to enter a tournament in Florida for Native Americans. She won first place in her division. In 2007, she broke two records in the City of Cornwall Golf and Country Club championship. She has won 1st or 2nd place in nearly every tournament since then.

In 2008, when she was 20, she won the gold medal in women's golf at the North American Indigenous Games in Denver.



Photo by Shannon Burns

## Out and About

**Alvin Chee**, a Navajo student from Arizona in college at UCCS, is doing a research paper on Navajo employees who worked in the present day Cragmoor Hall building at UCCS when it was a TB Sanitarium and later a nursing home. This is a little known fact today, but its part of some very important history in our community. Good luck, Alvin....**Kelly Weil Tekubbie**, Navajo/Choctaw, has been selected to go to Washington, DC for a week in 2010 with the student program People to People. We will do a later article about some of Kelly's accomplishments that made her eligible for this recognition. Congratulations, Kelly....The family of **Aash Mose**, Navajo, will honor him with a graduation party for family and friends at Bear Creek Park in May. He will be going to college in Arizona next fall.

# LIVING A CAREER...



**Brian Pille**, Lakota, is the Fire Inspector at the Air Force Academy. He was born in Boston, Mass.; however, he was taken back to Pine

Ridge, his mother's home, at the age of two and grew up there until he joined the Air Force when he was 17. He has a brother two years younger and sister 6 years younger. Their mother is Norma Tibbitts, Education Administrator at Pine Ridge, and his step father is Michael Her Many Horses.

Brian has fond memories of growing up on the Pine Ridge Reservation. He says he and his siblings traveled 40+ miles by bus one way to attend the Jesuit-run Red Cloud High School. At home, they were taught traditional Sioux crafts and learned how to cook. Living in a very rural part of the reservation ensured that the children learned and enjoyed lots of non-technical activities at home, since their nearest neighbor lived several miles away. Even though he is a very young man, Brian reports that they did not have a television until he was fourteen years old, A visit to the grandparent house was required if he wanted to watch T.V.

He was seven years old at the time of the Wounded Knee occupation in 1973. During that time, he has memories of having to travel many miles on the network of dirt roads on the rez to get essentials such as gas, diesel and food because of the restrictions on travel during this occupation.

Almost immediately after joining the Air Force, Brian began training as a fire fighter and attended the Department of Defense

Fire Fighter Academy in 1984. During his sixteen years in the military, he served DOD fire departments in Minot Air Force Base, ND, Florennes Air Force Base, Belgium, Homestead Air Force Base, Florida, Eglin Air Force Base, Florida, Altus, OK, Tinker Air Force Base in Oklahoma City, OK, and at McChord Air Force Base in Tacoma, Wash. He earned a BS Degree in Fire Science, including basics in fire combustion, fire fighting and incident management practices.

Brian and family came to the Air Force Academy in 2007 where he is currently a Fire Inspector at the main fire station on Pine Drive. His duties as Fire Inspector focus on fire prevention and includes a detail oriented annual facility inspection for fire safety of all buildings, including things like checking exit width for occupant load and exiting lighting inspection in keeping with NFPA (National Fire Protection Association) adopted codes by the Air Force, in addition to many, many other required compliance tests.

He also reports that he is good at turning out some delicious cinnamon rolls, baked bread, smoked meat, ribs and steaks when it is his turn as cook on the fire station duty roster.

Brian is also involved as a peer assessor for the Center for Public Safety Excellence. This is a volunteer position for which he is granted time off to perform. Brian has been recognized with several awards for his work, including 2009 Civilian of the Year at the Air Force Academy.

Brian met his wife, Sunshine, an Air Force medic, when he was stationed in Oklahoma. She is originally from Mission Viejo, California. They have two children. Son Emil is three and daughter Emma is 13 month old. They own a home in Tacoma and plan to live there again at some point.

Currently, Sunshine is attending college full-time for her nursing degree. Brian

speaks fondly of this opportunity to care for the children, cook for the family, and care for the house. He also works on teaching the children Lakota. He is especially enjoying reading to and working with his son on many projects, including drawing, reading skills and building a cedar plank canoe. Brian also makes wood furniture for their home. The family enjoys hiking, visiting parks and all types of physical activity.

His mother and stepfather are both very active on the rez. They both have careers but exchange visits with their oldest son. They attend powwows regularly. Michael is a traditional dancer and Norma dances yearly at Pine Ridge in her elk tooth traditional regalia.

Brian's brother and his family live at Pine Ridge. His sister and her family live nearby.

A few years ago, Brian searched the web and located his birth father who now lives in Eureka Springs, AR. They worked on getting acquainted with each other and now have a good relationship that Brian reports is very satisfying and rewarding to both.

Past finishing his fire fighting career, raising his family and someday living again in their Tacoma home, Brian and Sunshine hope to also return to Pine Ridge to work on the rez, do public service projects and perhaps help start a fire station there. When that time arrives, they should have many tales to tell their grandchildren - tales about their work, their family and their proud Lakota relatives and heritage.

He is involved with minority activities at the Air Force Academy and is willing to be a contact person to make our community newsletter known to interested military personnel and cadets stationed at the USAF Academy. He says that there are around 500 Native civilian, Air Force personnel and Cadets currently at the Air Force Academy.

## IDEAS FOR PARENTS

In honor of our article on Brian Pille, Lakota, if your child(ren) is interested in firefighters, here are some sites and places to visit.

**On line:** Golden Eagle Hotshots website has a list of tribal/ native hotshot firefighting teams that are often called from around the nation to help fight especially dangerous fires. Their website for that list is [www.gehotshots.org/native\\_american\\_hotshots/](http://www.gehotshots.org/native_american_hotshots/). The site also has other information about this organization and their work. Hotshots is what Native firefighters are called.

**Local:** The IAFF Fallen Firefighters Memorial in Colorado Springs is located at the northwest corner of Memorial Park (Hancock and Pikes Peak Ave.) Here is some information about the memorial <http://www.iaff.org/hs/ffm/about/index.aspx> and a video of one of the services honoring fallen firefighters each year <http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=giftfdDfMM0>.

You can visit the Fire Museum in Colorado Springs, located at 375 Printers Parkway (Dr. Lester L. William Fire Museum) or visit their website at <http://www.fire-museum.com/> where you can click *fire and museum links* for more museums sites or click *newsletter* to read "Smoke Trails" news.

# PREPARING FOR A CAREER

**Crystal Rizzo**, So. Ute, is the University of Colorado, Colorado Springs (UCCS) recipient of this year's Cesar Chavez Scholarship and the Outstanding Graduating Senior for the Department of Women's and Ethnic Studies (WEST). During a ceremony April 28, she was presented these latest two awards in a long list of academic recognition she has earned since she entered UCCS in the fall of 2003. She has also earned a Bachelors Degree with three majors, Women's and Ethnic Studies (highest honors), Sociology, and Political Science, as well a minor in Communications.

Crystal has attended UCCS on a full tuition scholarship from the Southern Ute Tribe in Ignacio, CO. Her six page curriculum vitae attests to how fully she has given an account of herself and her tribe's faith in her academic ability. In 2008, she was also the UCCS Office of Student Multicultural Affairs Leader of the Year.

In addition to her academic career, she was a recipient of a 2008 El Pomar Foundation Emerging Leaders Scholarship within the ethnic community. She was featured in the Fall 2006 "Winds of Change" magazine, in the local Gazette newspaper for her outstanding student leadership, and in UCCS' "The Scribe" student newspaper for leadership among students of color.

This year she has been a teacher's assistant in the newly created WEST program at UCCS. Their first year of operation has been under Dr. Becky Thompson, who has focused on hiring and teaching about Native Americans during the year. Crystal's duties as a TA include, among other things, grading papers and leading her own section of six students in a weekly one-hour discussion and journaling group in expressing observations on their personal and professional experiences and growth as teachers. She also served on the search committee to hire WEST's first Native instructor who turned out to be poet/scholar/activist Janice Gould,

Koyangk'auwi Maidu.

Although Crystal is Southern Ute, she grew up in Mobile, Alabama, after she and her two biological brothers were placed with Carolyn and Dan Rizzo, a white couple in an open adoption, which means that she grew up knowing and had contact with her biological family. While attending Oak Park Christian School she became an accomplished athlete and was also valedictorian of her senior class. Upon graduating, she was considering enrolling in three different colleges but eventually chose UCCS. She has spent her time in Colorado reacquainting herself with her tribal heritage and Native family.

Following a freshman year of inertia and non-participation, Crystal has since been involved in a multitude of activities. Since then she has blossomed into the full academic and highly involved student she is today. Her most recent venture has been attending a 6:30 am yoga class each day with WEST director Becky Thompson, and she hardly stops until her typically late bedtime. She also credits Communication Instructor, Marguerite Cantu, So. Ute/Cherokee, for the interest and encouragement that helped lead Crystal to become involved in many activities during those early years at UCCS.

She has recently started looking at graduate schools where she hopes to pursue a master's degree in Gender and Cultural Studies beginning this fall.

She is truly not all work and no play either. This semester, she and a group from UCCS joined classmate Alvin Chee on a guided tour of his family and homeland on the Navajo Rez. She expresses awe at that experience of visiting, not only the Chee home, but Monument Valley, the new Navajo Casino, Window Rock, tribal buildings, library and museum, attending a peyote ceremony, and an emotional visit to Tódáá'cognzh (Sour Water) Canyon.

In the immediate future, Crystal, Alvin and fellow classmate Sara Batty, Muscogee, will be attending the three-day Native American and Indigenous Studies Associa-



**Crystal Rizzo**, So. Ute, receives the Outstanding Graduate Senior from the WEST program at UCCS. She stands between **Andrea O. Herrera**, PhD, Assistant Dir. of WEST, and **Becky Thompson**, PhD, Director of WEST. She also received the Cesar Chavez Scholarship at the same event.

tion (NAISA) conference May 21-23 in Minneapolis, Minnesota. This is the third conference gathering for this newly formed organization. We look forward to seeing how this experience bears fruit on the three attendees and the UCCS Native student body.

As for the Native student body numbers and participation in extra curricular activities at UCCS, Crystal says efforts in recruitment of Native students is probably needed, for the UCCS pre-collegiate program and other efforts specifically aimed at our population.

If our potential college students need a role model of what a Native can achieve in the university setting, Crystal is a great example and we are fortunate to have this young lady in our community.

Crystal is not so comfortable being singled out for recognition and credits the important influence community mentors have had on her life and success. They would be happy to take partial credit for the success of this young woman, but realize that she is only partly right about that.

At any rate, there are many people in her family, tribe and community who celebrate with Crystal on this milestone in her life.

## Natives Making International News

**Dan Namigha**, Hopi-Tewa, is one of 45 international artists representing 45 nations in the TIMOTCA project art competition. Namigha represents the United States in the contest celebrating the world's diverse cultures through art. One artist is chosen to represent each country and the collection will premier at United Nations Headquarters, NY. Namigha's family is from Nampayco, the Hopi potter who is credited with rekindling the creation of Hopi art pottery. His mother and sister are also potters. His winning painting is titled "Passage & Symbolism XI. He was one of five Native American artists nominated by W. Richard West, Cheyenne/Arapahoe, former director of the National Museum of the American Indian..

## Community Resources to Know About

### Resources

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

The Wellbriety Indian Center is creating a resource list to help Natives 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 the 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 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.

#### Local Substance Abuse Treatment Centers

Go to <http://dasis3.samhsa.gov/>, click on state, fill in location info (you can just use the cities name or your zip code), click distance from your location (from 5 to 100 miles). The programs are displayed 10 at a time (there are 36 programs within 20 miles of downtown C/S).

#### Local Alcoholics Anonymous meetings

Visit here <http://www.coloradospringsaa.org/> and click on "meeting schedule" for a list of when and where meetings are going on each day of the week.

One Native American meeting is "Down By the Creek" that meets Thursdays at 7 pm. All are welcome.

#### Chicken Scratch Music

<http://www.drumbeatindianarts.com/pdfs/ChickenScratch.pdf> *Drumbeat* news on music

#### Parent's Helping Hand

You can get help when the stress of parenting is overwhelming and you need relief. For a list places that can help, follow these steps. Visit [www.springsgov.com](http://www.springsgov.com). 1. Click "public safety," 2. Then Colorado Springs Police, 3. Then select the link "the parent resource list." The list contains seven program/agencies with their contact information, cost and the help you can expect from them. All are free or sliding scale.

#### Education resources

##### Pikes Peak Community College

##### Multicultural Retention Program for Men at PPCC

Coach Eddie Hughes, Room A306, Centennial Campus,

Phone: 502-2265 office 494-7891 cell

Native American Student Alliance, Carisa Gonzales-Yazzie. [cerisegonz77@hotmail.com](mailto:cerisegonz77@hotmail.com), or Prof. Joanna Grey, 502-3190.

##### UCCS

##### Pre-Collegiate Development Program (PCDP)

Middle school and beginning high school student preparation for college. <http://www.uccs.edu/~pcdp/> Rm. 303A, 262-3039, Main Hall, Josephine Benevidez Aragon.

##### American Indian Science and Engineering Society (AISES)

All Native American students, sponsor Marguerite Cantu, Rm. CoH 3042, phone 255-4124 ext. 3042.

##### Colorado College

##### Native American Student Union

Sponsor **Susie Nashida**, Southwest Studies building, 389-6649.

**Rochelle Mason** is Director of Minority Student Life, 389-6338.

<http://www.coloradocollege.edu/students/nasu/index.htm> NASU

website, audio on CC <http://www.tigerbca.com/2008/12/taa-dixon-speaks/>

Face Space [http://www.coloradocollege.edu/students/nasu/NASU%](http://www.coloradocollege.edu/students/nasu/NASU%20Face%20Space.htm)

[20Face%20Space.htm](http://www.coloradocollege.edu/students/nasu/NASU%20Face%20Space.htm) (info on current Native students.)

##### Ft. Lewis College, Durango, CO

Offers free tuition to any Native student. Has several Native student

organizations, understanding instructors and lots of support. Info

[http://www.fortlewis.edu/student\\_life/native\\_american\\_center/](http://www.fortlewis.edu/student_life/native_american_center/scholarships_internships.aspx)

[scholarships\\_internships.aspx](http://www.fortlewis.edu/student_life/native_american_center/scholarships_internships.aspx) (scholarships)

[http://www.fortlewis.edu/student\\_life/native\\_american\\_center/](http://www.fortlewis.edu/student_life/native_american_center/clubs_organizations.aspx)

[clubs\\_organizations.aspx](http://www.fortlewis.edu/student_life/native_american_center/clubs_organizations.aspx) (Native clubs)

[http://www.fortlewis.edu/student\\_life/native\\_american\\_center/](http://www.fortlewis.edu/student_life/native_american_center/gallery.aspx)

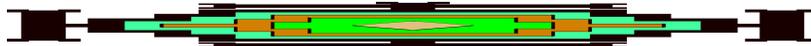
[gallery.aspx](http://www.fortlewis.edu/student_life/native_american_center/gallery.aspx) (link to video and slide show)

##### CPCD Free Preschool Program

Free pre-school education programs preschool and infant/toddlers

prepare children for school. special needs children are welcome.

Families must qualify, however income is not a limiting factor for



### MARK YOUR CALENDAR

**Sat. May 2**, 12 noon, **Time of No Shadows ceremony and blessing** (12 noon) at Trinity United Methodist Church, 701 N. 20th St.

It will precede at 10 am by the film about boarding schools, "Our Spirit Do Not Speak English." Everyone is invited to attend.

**Tues. May 5**, 6 pm, **NAWA Mother Day dinner** at Adams Mountain Café inside the Manitou Spa building at 934 Manitou Ave.

The program will feature **Sebrena Forrest**, Mohawk, who will drum, sing and tell stories.

**Thurs., May 7**, 6 pm, **WICCS Steering Committee Meeting**, White Bison, 6145 Lehman Dr.

**Sat., May 9**, 10-2, **Youth Group Teams bake and art sale** at a Wal-Mart, exact location to be announced by flyer later.

**Tues. May 12**, 6 pm, **Elders Gathering**, Trinity United Methodist Church. Everyone is invited. Program

**Wed. May 20**, **WICCS Cultural Committee Meeting**, White Bison, 6145 Lehman Dr. We are adding new members soon. This committee is in charge of the community dinners, the youth group and the elders gathering. Come and join the team.

**Sat. May 23**, 11-12 am, **Youth vs. Parents Basketball game challenge**. Trinity gym. Join the fun, donate at the door. **PLUS**

**Sat. May 23**, 1-3 pm, **WICCS Community Dinner** and update following the basketball game. Trinity dining room. Come and see the game and bring a dish to share for the lunch and updates. If you can't bring a dish, come anyway. We also use this opportunity to help Trinity by bringing non-perishable food for their **food bank** that serves anyone in need.

**Sat-Sun, May 30-31**, The Youth Group and sponsors will travel to Albuquerque to attend the Forgiveness Tour ceremony at the Santa Fe Indian School.