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Groundbreaking Ceremony for New El Reno Indian Health Center Aug. 27

EL RENO INDIAN HEALTH CENTER / pg. 4

Darlington Public School Reopens With In-Person Learning

On Thursday, Aug. 6 Darlington Public School teachers welcome back their students and parents, much like every year prior, except for two obvious exceptions. The students wore masks and were pre-screened with temperature checks.

A new “normal” many parents and students are facing as they return to in-person classrooms throughout the state.

Darlington was one of a handful of schools to open, located in El Reno, Okla., and by day four their “Return to Learn” plan was still moving forward smoothly and better than expected.

Darlington’s enrollment for the 2020-2021 school year landed about 235 students. Approximately 50 of those students chose to do virtual learning versus in-person classes.

“We didn’t promote the online learning, we just put it out there to reach out to us if there was a need because that’s the way we wanted to handle that, not just automatically jump into it, but let’s talk about it first,” Gina Musae, Darlington School principal said.

Musae said they knew some families would be calling because of true medical issues within their homes, putting them into a high risk for severe COVID-19. Also students who have asthma or their pediatricians told them it would be best not to attend because of the difficulty of wearing a mask all day and also being at high risk.

“It is frustrating for a parent that has to return to work and trying to make a decision about virtual learning … this whole situation is horrible, but if you are going to weigh a parent or grandparent dying to a student being in the classroom, I would have to choose my kid staying home. It’s an individual decision about virtual learning … this whole situation is horrible,” Musae said.

Darlington has put into place including dividing the majority of their classroom into two classes, with an assistant on one side, the teacher on the other side, with a camera that projects the teacher to a smart TV to the side where the assistant is, so the students can still see and hear their teacher.

“We are doing the majority of our daily coursework on line so they are practicing

Darlington Public School Reopens / pg. 4

Linda “Lindy” Zotigh was murdered in September 2017.

Hammon Man To Serve Life In Federal Prison for 2017 Murder

OKLAHOMA CITY Tommy Dean Bullcoming, 56, of Hammon, Okla., was sentenced Aug. 19 to life in federal prison for the first-degree felony murder of Linda “Lindy” Zotigh, and related offenses, announced U.S. Attorney Timothy J. Dowling. In addition, Bullcoming was ordered to pay $17,613 in restitution for damage to the victim’s home and vehicle as well as funeral expenses.

A five-count indictment unsealed on April 6, 2018, charged Bullcoming with crimes he committed on Sept. 6, 2017: first-degree premeditated murder, first-degree felony murder, carjacking resulting in death, kidnapping resulting in death, and arson. The indictment stated he “used force, violence, and intimidation to intentionally take an ESX350” from an Indian and that this resulted in our death. It further alleged he killed the victim “by stabbing and cutting her with a sharp object.” The arrest...
Redbone members Pat Vegas, Pete DePoe, Lolly Vegas and Sonya Sealock (Photo: Sony Music Entertainment)

The book is an intriguing telling of the high-flying career of Pat and Lolly Vegas, illuminating key pieces of American history and the political story of the Native American civil rights movement.

Pat Vegas says: "We wanted to show that our people were about this film. This visual reality is for everyone and it reminds us that the sky's the limit, it's only the view. It's something to help the young understand the old, one is silver, the other gold, both are valuable. To everyone, I'd like to say, 'Chико Уэйхако', which is 'Thank you' in Yaqui language.

The creators of the video asked for my blessing on this film. They have my blessing."

Erma Jean Wallace Brown, an Elder citizen of the Northern Arapaho Tribe of Laramie, Wyoming, has been chosen as one of this year's AARP's Indian Elder honorees. Ms. Brown, an Elder citizen of the Northern Arapaho side, was born in Coalinga, California, moved to Los Angeles in 1915 and performed for a decade on the club set as Pat and Redbone, the band she was in with her husband, the late Bill Redbone.

Redbone was the first Native American band to achieve a #1 hit on the Billboard Hot 100. The group’s defining mix of unique blend of deep funk, Tex-Mex R&B, some soul and authentically Native American beats. The group’s debut album sold millions of copies and is a top radio classic today.

So why an official video now?

"The time has come" 79-year-old Pat Vegas says from his studio in California, where he is keeping busy with new music projects.

"Back then, we did what we had to do to show our heritage. Nobody ever had a recording of ‘Come and Get Your Love,” he says. "I brought our sound and culture was the way to fight the good fight. The song has a deeper meaning of heritage. We were always fighting for recognition through our recordings.

"We were born in Coalinga, California, moved to Los Angeles in 1915 and have been around 9 or 10 years old then. But I was too young to ask about fighting over that. I was playing barefoot in the fields. I was listening to them talk in Arapaho. It was all I had ever known," Erma said softly, tears flowing as she remembers.

"I can remember the farmers would come around because we had a big farm and our household was where you would know the shotgun and when the most porridge ordering people to get off her land. Erma laughed.

"I can remember the farm involved milk cows, stopping the hogs, the chopping, the horses in the house, plowing the fields in her overall size. Erma said.

"We just lived as a regular family. We all worked and my grandma was there to help us.

"I remember crying and I didn’t want to go. I don’t know if I understood what was going on or not. We never talked about it."

"Erma said she must have been about 5 when a man by the name of Matlock came to Erma, took her mother and her grandma and said grandmother, ‘here comes the Northern Arapaho side,’ said Erma. ‘When she got there I remember her eyes and quietly said to me, ‘do you want me to go to that school and they didn’t care about it. Well … my mother and my grandma screamed and I really didn’t know what to do with us. My grandma got a number, a uniform and clothes and into her government issued uniform.

"The first day that I went, I realized it was just as clear … they gave us government issued socks and these old ugly leather shoes. I felt those shoes on my feet."

"Erma said she must have been around 20, 23 years old when that happened, but she remembers something told her in her soul, that she would be better off staying at school because that school had things that happened to her at her grandma's house, and I never left."

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Auxiliary Windsor, Windsor and colleagues, have been chosen as one of their honorees.

Wanda Hale Schubnit, Indian Country Today

Award-winning artist, Brent DeLneau, a Citizen of the Cheyenne and Arapaho Tribes, is the creator of the artwork in the new music video featuring Redbone's popular 1974 hit, "Come and Get Your Love." (Photo / David McNeal)

**Page 2**

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Public Hearing / Regular Session of the 8th Legislative Session

CONCHO, OK - On the agenda for the Regular Session of the 8th Legislative, held on August 9, 2020, two agenda items on the seven from stood out.

Agenda item six was postponed indefinitely by Cheyenne District 3 Legislator Darrell Flygman. It’s intent was to give out of state and out of district tribal members an opportunity to be present at resolutions presented at the annual Tribal Council meeting held the first Saturday in October. Currently these resolutions are mailed to members via Concho, OK’s post office and tribal members are not aware of what is happening. The resolution did allow for changes to the agendas and meetings of the Tribes.

Agenda item seven to the Tribal Council meeting for August 8, 2020 was in support of a name change for Custer County, a County within the Cheyenne and Arapaho Tribes fully supporting to change the name of Custer County, a County within the Cheyenne and Arapaho Tribes.

Tribal Resolution for Public Notice

August 8, 2020

Call for Tribal Council resolutions and Coordinator, Office of Tribal Council Applications:

Resolutions submitted to the Coordinator, Office of Tribal Council located in the east wing of the Edmond Building in Cheyenne, Oklahoma.

Email: ndonelodge@cheyenneandarapaho-nsn.gov

(P.O. Box 167 Concho, Oklahoma 73022)

For: Public Notice

Public Notice

PUBLIC NOTICE

PUBLIC NOTICE is hereby given for all other members of the Cheyenne and Arapaho Tribes.

Several horses have been reported on tribal properties and should be removed.

If you do not receive your property by Oct. 1, 2020, the Tribe will assume you have voluntarily abandoned your property and your property from tribal lands will result in their removal/distribution or auction off in order to cover costs. Each Tribal Attorney and Taxation Law, Ch. 6, § 4.133 – Public Sale of Forfeited Property.

If any persons interested in this matter, including anyone claiming ownership of these horses need to reclaim their property prior to Oct. 1, 2020. Any individual who fails to reclaim their property prior to Oct. 1, 2020 will be deemed to have willfully abandoned their property and they will be deemed to have abandoned any further rights of said property.

Federal/Tribal Law 101 - Gaming Per Cap

Hershel Gorham, Attorney-at-law

Every year around gam

ing revenue allocation plan, is a hot topic of discussion.

What is a GRAP or Tribal Revenue Allocation Plan?

In short, if an Indian tribe wishes to receive net gaming revenues, it must submit a plan to the U.S. Department of Interior (DOI) that describes how it will allocate net revenues. The requirements can be found in 25 C.F.R, Part 290.

What is an Indian Tribe?

An Indian tribe must include the following in its submitted written revenue allocation plan: (a) A statement regarding the purpose of the tribal revenue allocation plan; and (b) A tribal resolution submitted with the written request for approval of the tribal revenue allocation plan: (a) A written request for approval to the Appropriate Bureau (NIGC) to review. The NIGC is a federal body that reviews the Tribal Council’s proposed revenue allocation plan.

Accordingly, the “resolution” that the regulations require cannot be solely from the Tribal Council as it will need to include expressing the tribe’s legislative will. This legislative will process is one of the ways the tribe can participate in the Legislative Process in order to provide adequate checks and balances of protections.

In January 2004, the Tribes passed a resolution to create a GRAP for the Tribe. This GRAP was subsequently approved by the NIGC.

In 2005, the Tribe passed a resolution to amend this amendment was approved by the NIGC.

The 2006 Constitution changed this process.

Some members of the Tribal Council still believes the Tribal Council should have the sole power to amend the GRAP. This belief is based on the language used above in Legislative Will, our 2006 Constitution. The GRAP was not amended in the Legislative Process in order to provide adequate checks and balances of protections. As such, this may only be amended by the NIGC, as described above which

TRIBAL LAW 101 pg. 6

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TRIBAL LAW 101 pg. 6
Darlington School Reopens

The Cheyenne & Arapaho Tribal Tribune

Page 4

Darlington has set up a four-case scenario. The first scenario is if a student/staff member begins to show symptoms of illness and the individual is found to have come into contact with another individual or group who is sick. The second scenario is if a student/staff member tests positive for COVID-19. The third scenario is if a student/staff member reports a sick child or adult at home and the child or adult is found to have a temperature of 100 degrees or above. The fourth scenario is if a student/staff member tests positive for COVID-19 and has a negative test and/ or has returned home for 14 days.

Darlington has also gone one step further, aiming to keep a majority of students in the building at one time. The school has divided students into four groups, with each group attending school on a rotating basis. This allows for the physical distancing required by health guidelines and helps to limit the spread of the virus in the community.

Darlington has set up a four-case scenario to follow in the event there is a positive case. In scenario one, if a student/staff member tests positive for COVID-19, the school will immediately go total virtual, but if everybody goes to the virtual learning platform, they will go completely online for the first semester of the new school year and in Broken Arrow, Okla., over 4,500 students have currently enrolled for online learning in their school district.

The school is going to be right now, Musae said. “We love these kids and this is my 30th year here, so most of the kids here I had their parents and I just love each of them. They are our kids, and our kids don’t need any more of the trauma of this global health pandemic has affected some of their students … and now the trauma of this global health pandemic has been thrown into their lives. We’ve all been through a traumatic experience with this pandemic, and this is a place where our kids need to come and see their school family, see their friends, their teachers and help heal some of that trauma. Our kids have historical trauma from years and years of generational trauma that I don’t even need to mention because everyone here knows, and our kids don’t need any more of this. That’s why we felt it was important to be face to face with our kids, with masks, so we can encourage them and help them feel some sense of normalcy, or what the new normalcy is going to be right now.” Musae said.

The Cheyenne & Arapaho Tribes Department of Education continues to provide technical assistance for schools in the Cheyenne and Arapaho Tribes.

The COVID-19 one-time assistance is intended to help meet the technology need for the 2020-2021 school year. The assistance is for the purchase of a laptop, desktop, tablet, or Wi-Fi access in the home.

Head Start-12th grade students: $400

Higher Education students: $1,200

Part-Time-$500.00

Full-Time-$800.00

CADOE Assistance and Higher Education will verify students enrolled in the Cheyenne and Arapaho Tribes. Students must be enrolled for the 2020-2021 school year when applying.

Due to COVID-19 and social distancing guidelines, we encourage applicants to submit their applications online. Applications will be available Tuesday, March 10, 2020. Deadline to apply is Friday, October 30, 2020.

First grade classroom at Darlington Public School. First grade class has been split up into two classes. (Photos / Gina Musae)

Third grade classroom at Darlington Public School.
Cheyenne and Arapaho Tribes To Receive Two Bulls From Yellowstone Buffalo Transfer

The InterTribal Buffalo Council (ITBC) and the Fort Peck Assiniboine and Sioux Tribes in Montana to complete post-assurance testing. After a final negative test result, they are declared brucellosis-free by the state of Montana and the US Department of Agriculture and are cleared for travel. Yellowstone buffalo represent an important population of the National Mammal. Buffalo once numbered in the thousands, but by the 1890s, they had been reduced to less than 100 animals. The ITBC has worked with federal and state agencies to restore the species to its former range. With this transfer, the Cheyenne and Arapaho Tribes will have a direct connection to the Yellowstone buffalo, which is an important part of their cultural heritage.

Terry Davis in 1979, her second year teaching at Darlington Public School in El Reno, Okla.

GENE SNIDER / Cheyenne & Arapaho Tribal Tribune

Mr. Terry Davis has been teaching at Darlington Public School for 42 years. This photo was taken in 2017.

Latoya Lonelodge

Ms. Terry Davis / pg. 6

InterTribal Buffalo Council Ships 40 Yellowstone Buffalo to 16 Native Nations in First Transfer of Its Kind

The InterTribal Buffalo Council (ITBC) will transfer 40 Yellowstone buffalo to 16 Native Nations in the United States. These transfers will help develop and sustain Tribally managed buffalo herds while preserving the unique genetics and lineage of the largest and continuously free-ranging buffalo herd, also known as American or plains bison. These transfers are a victory of Native American Tribes and represent the culmination of nearly 30 years of advocacy by ITBC (formerly known as InterTribal Buffalo Cooperative) on behalf of its member Tribes to prevent the needless slaughter of Yellowstone buffalo.

Through the implementation of a quarantine program, buffalo are captured at the boundaries of Yellowstone National Park during the winter months. Those that test negative for the disease brucellosis may enter a quarantine protocol which varies by age and sex, and which ends with their transfer to the Fort Peck Assiniboine and Sioux Tribes in Montana to complete post-assurance testing. After a final negative test result, they are declared brucellosis-free by the state of Montana and the US Department of Agriculture and are cleared for travel. Yellowstone buffalo represent an important population of the National Mammal. Buffalo once numbered in the thousands, but by the 1890s, they had been reduced to less than 100 animals. The ITBC has worked with federal and state agencies to restore the species to its former range. With this transfer, the Cheyenne and Arapaho Tribes will have a direct connection to the Yellowstone buffalo, which is an important part of their cultural heritage.

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tens of millions across North America until their decimation by the extermination tool to subjugate Native Americans. Many Native American Tribes have been working to restore buffalo across the United States, where they now number in the tens of thousands. These buffalo managed by Yellowstone National Park have never been interbred with cattle and will be used to help increase the long-term health of many populations across Tribal lands. The sight of these magnificent animals can be of great significance to many Native Americans who disagree with management strategies, which have led to the slaughter of more than 10,000 Yellowstone buffalo since its formation in 1992, when conflict surrounding their growing population escalated between the National Park Service, the state of Montana, and the US Department of Agriculture. In 1994, ITBC presented the first quarantine proposal to Yellowstone National Park, with both the Choctaw Nation and Fort Belknap Tribes offering land and resources to support the development of quarantine facilities. Quarantine has been well-supported by the public throughout the last 25 years, but did not come to fruition until 2018, when the quarantine facility built by the Fort Peck Tribes (and funded in part by ITBC) was approved for use in post-quarantine assurance testing. Since then, quarantine operations have saved over 200 buffalo from slaughter.

ITBC is a federally chartered Tribal organization with a membership of 69 federally recognized Tribes from 19 states whose mission is to restore buffalo to Indian Country to preserve our cultural, traditional, and spiritual relationship for future generations. To reestablish healthy buffalo populations on Tribal lands is to reestablish hope for Indian people. Returning buffalo to Tribal lands will help to heal the land, the animal, and the spirit of Indian people.

Ms. Davis's retirement

Ms. Davis is one of the most creative and structured teachers she has seen. “She’s very strict, her pronunciation of spelling and punctuation and reading are the things she’s most well-known for,” Musae said. With faculty missing Davis’ presence during prep time for school, Musae said that the news was also devastating to the Darlington community.

“We knew that she had not been feeling well, she had been in a lot of pain the last couple of weeks and what was wrong and there were all kinds of complications with doctors during COVID … that was kind of scary. So our staff took it pretty hard that she wasn’t going to be returning and that she was sick,” Musae said.

In showing their support for Davis, Musae said they started by posting on Facebook, allowing former students of Davis’ to comment and share experiences of their own. With Darlington having a large population of Cheyenne and Arapaho students, many of Davis’ students were Native.

“I would screen those and text them to her and then she would respond and laugh and cry and enjoy them, they remember every person. I mean there were people on that Facebook post that I hadn’t communicated with in my goodness, they still remember her,” Musae said.

On a post shared by the Darlington Facebook page, comments were written by former Darlington students, one comment being made by former student and Cheyenne and Arapaho citizen Sony Hoffman.

“Ms. Davis was one of my favorite teachers. She would play records for us so we could dance and she helped form my love of Elvis Presley. She also taught me how to color the correct way and I taught my kids to color the same way. She also made me feel like I was so important to all that I can’t go through my day without thinking of her. My love and prayers are being sent to Ms. Davis.”

Another comment posted on Facebook by former student and Cheyenne and Arapaho citizen Denelle Island said, “I love Mrs. Davis. She was one of my favorite teachers. She would play records for us so we could dance and she helped form my love of Elvis Presley. She also taught me how to color the correct way and I taught my kids to color the same way. She also made me feel like I was so important to all that I can’t go through my day without thinking of her. My love and prayers are being sent to Ms. Davis.”

The Facebook page continued to overflow with comments made by Davis’ former students, sharing their favorite memories and time spent with Davis while attending Darlington.

During the time Davis became ill, Musae said Davis was working on personal development with the Darlington staff.

“Teaching things that she knows about, reading and handwriting, things that are across the spectrum, across time and it’s still very applicable, she was still doing small reading groups everyday and the kids absolutely loved her because she’s very animated, and the way she instructs and shows them how to pronounce in their reading and how to put inflection in it,” Musae said.

With Davis’ presence being missed on the first day of classes at Darlington, Davis said that it was the first time since 1978 that she wasn’t there to begin the school year. Throughout her teaching career, she said she has never felt so close to children than while teaching at Darlington.

While Davis grew up in the Del City and Midwest City areas in Oklahoma, she began her teaching career in Montgomery, Calif., after graduating from Oklahoma City University in 1965. Davis said that’s where she taught first grade.

“Then I moved to Atlanta Ga., and in Atlanta I taught fifth grade, then I decided I wanted to be a math teacher so I flew for United Air- lines in Chicago, Ill., that was in Aug 1976 for about four months and I wanted to return to Atlanta and teach school again so I did and taught first grade for the rest of 1967,” Davis said.

Davis said in 1968 when she got married, she moved back to Oklahoma City and taught fifth grade in Del City for five years. When she had her first child she took time off from teaching and moved to her husband’s hometown of El Reno, Okla., where she began teaching at Darlington in 1978. Davis described her time working at Darlington as indescribable.

“It’s been like a family based environment, you work with people and when they retire it’s like one of their children or maybe a daughter-in-law replaces them, it stays in the family, it’s a very family feeling out there. The children are warm and loving, you get to know them.

Ms. Davis / pg. 9
ARAPAHO ELDER

possessing marijuana with intent to distribute. He was sentenced in that case on Dec. 5, 2017, Bullcoming pleaded guilty in federal court to

showing that he then drove her vehicle back to her home, which he set on fire. There is no parole in the federal prison system.

Evidence at trial showed that he used to talk about something

dian school but she had it going on. Some time after her divorce Erma

and they would not shut the school down, so when I say I am blessed, I mean I lived here growing up we were so

build they were beautiful, they were like nothing I had ever seen before.

She had three dining rooms and a playroom … anyway we got to stay

erica I thought the only Indians were

Arpahee's and I got to the top and I just

her mother.

as a military wife … I loved Ger -

as a college student there but she had a

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both the victims and the Cheyenne and Arapaho Tribal Tribune.

4.5 years … yes I am truly blessed.

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in amending our GRAP. Although former Governor Boswell vetoed this resolution, the Legis-

The availability of health care services the clinics was able to provide on-site. We are thrilled to

majority of the Cheyenne and Arapaho Tribes, to provide care that is tailored to the unique needs of the

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Fourth of July During Coronavirus Pandemic

WASHINGTON, D.C.) The Smithsonian’s National Museum of the American Indian will host a virtual event Wednesday, Nov. 11, 2020, to mark the completion of the National Native American Veterans Memorial. The event will also acknowledge the service and sacrifice of Native veterans and their families.

The museum planned to host a dedication ceremony and veterans’ procession to mark the memorial’s completion but has postponed these events due to current health and safety guidelines. The museum will reschedule both events when it is safe to do so.

On Saturday Sept. 20, 2019 a groundbreaking marked an historical day for the first National Native American Veterans Memorial on the National Mall in Washington, D.C.

Under tranquil blue skies, a translucent canopy was erected in front of the National Museum of the American Indian setting the stage for the beginning of a long awaited memorial recognizing the military service of Native Americans in the United States Armed Forces.

After the passing of the legislation authorizing the memorial was signed in 2013, the museum began to move forward on the project. Over a span of 18 months project leaders held 35 meetings across the country talking to more than 1,200 veterans and their families gathering information about what they wanted out of the memorial.

A call for design concepts was sent out, and out of 120 proposals submitted, the jurors chose Pratt’s design concept, “Warriors’ Circle of Honor.” Pratt, a citizen of the Cheyenne and Arapaho Tribes and a US Marine Corps Vietnam Veteran design concept embraces the spirituality essence of Native people and the four elements, water, fire, earth and wind.

“It has been all the support of the museum, our design team, the architects, everyone working together and diligently to make this happen. I am so honored to be a veteran and honored to have this opportunity to be here today. But I knew when we came here the first time to pick our location this was the place. We were all gathered where you all are sitting now and the Creator sent a hawk and it came down, he landed on my location, then he flew up right over here and he stayed there, for over an hour he sat there and watched us. I could not believe it. The Creator had sent spirit to bless us and he stayed there the whole time. It was so amazing,” Pratt said during the groundbreaking ceremony in 2019.

About the Memorial

As commissioned by Congress, the National Museum of the American Indian will establish a National Native American Veterans Memorial on its grounds. This will be the first national landmark in Washington, D.C., to focus on the contributions of American Indians, Alaska Natives and Native Hawaiians who have served in the military. The memorial design is by Harvey Pratt, citizen of the Cheyenne and Arapaho Tribes of Oklahoma, a multimedia artist, retired forensic artist and Marine Corps Vietnam veteran.

About the Museum

In partnership with Native peoples and their allies, the National Museum of the American Indian fosters a richer shared human experience through a more informed understanding of Native peoples. The museum in Washington, D.C., is located on the National Mall at Fourth Street and Independence Avenue S.W. Connect with the museum on Facebook, Twitter, Instagram and AmericanIndian.si.edu.