

Inside This Edition

CNA	1
NICC Staff Training	2
Eagles	3
Spotlight on Principles of Marketing	4
Meeting with other Nebraska community colleges	5
All Staff Meeting	6
Student of the Year	7
Letters to John	8
NICC Employees	9
Living With Meth	9
Food Sovereignty	10
NICC Student Witnesses Argument at Supreme Court	11
Visitors on KZYK Radio	12
NICC	13
American Indian Higher Ed Consortium	14
Santee Salsa Celebration!	15-16
Coming Soon!	16
NICC Student Wins Iowa's Miss Amazing	17
Faculty Attends Water Conference	18
Alumni	19
Connecting the Dots	20
Quilting Class	21
Indian Civil Rights	22-24
Why Visit NICC Campus Libraries	24
First ICWA Class Held at NICC	25-27
Genoa U.S. Indian School	28-31

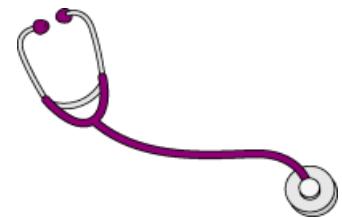
Nebraska Indian Community College Newsletter

Certified Nursing Assistant Program New at NICC

May 2016

Nebraska Indian Community College received a five year grant from the Administration for Native Americans: Sustainable Employment and Economic Development Strategies (ANA SEEDS) that provides Certified Nursing Assistant (CNA) training for the Santee Sioux and Omaha Nations and surrounding communities. During this first year, Methodist School of Nursing in Omaha partnered with NICC. By the end of

the year, NICC hopes to establish its own CNA program. So far twenty students have passed their state certification and are ready for employment. Several have indicated continuing education in the medical field. Eileen Johnson, nursing instructor, at the Santee Campus stated, "I hope people realize that these students are priceless gems and have so much to offer the community."



NICC Staff Training

On December 18 the NICC staff reported to the Sioux City Museum for an all day training. The agenda included presentations on social media, mental illness and suicide prevention, and active shooter preparedness.

Lynn Herr, University of Lincoln, reported on social media and talked about things that can be done to pep up the NICC digital print. She encouraged NICC team members to use this as a tool to get students know who NICC is and what we have to offer. The team talked about unruly visitors, guest procedure, and some suggestions were made for night time when there is commonly only one person on campuses.

Donna Wolf, an enrolled member of the Santee Sioux Tribe and a suicide survivor, talked about mental illness and suicide prevention. Donna's son completed suicide.

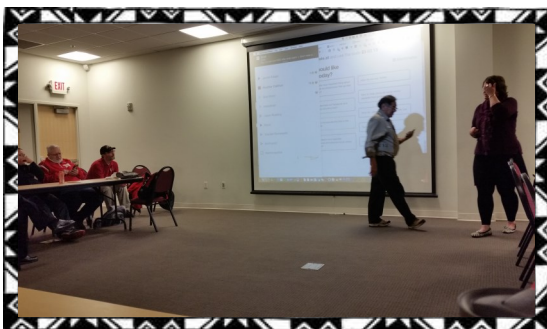
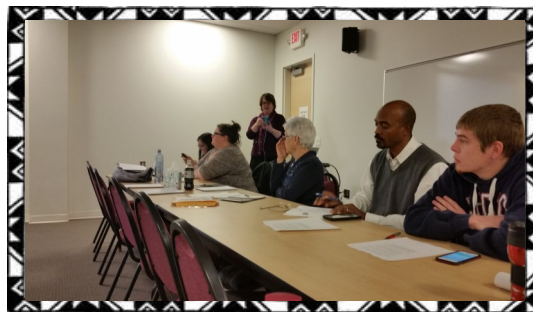
Chad Sheehan, a 21 year veteran of Law Enforcement who currently works for the Sioux City, IA police department as Crime Prevention and Public Information Of-

fice, presented his "S.A.V.E. Yourself" program which provided training in surviving an active shooter situation. The police usually arrive on the scene eight minutes after a 911 call is made. The best chance you have for surviving an incident is taking control of your own destiny.

Several employees asked to do a long teaching and working seminar with Lynn Herr since there is more technology at NICC that we know what to do with! This all staff training was a great time to collaborate as a team and to wind down from a busy term. There were some belly laughs when discussing hitting a shooter with a chair and there were sincere touching movements when speaking about lost loved ones. Learning as a team is a great time to grow!



"One of the first hurdles to overcome is denial. This idea that it is not going to happen where we live. It's a small town. It's Nebraska. It's Iowa. It's not going to happen here. O that is one of the most difficult things to make people realize and face. It can happen anywhere." Chad Sheehan



NICC Eagle Watch



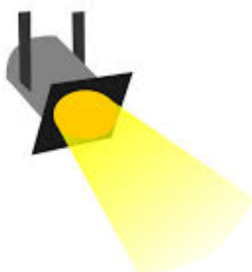
NICC Vocational Counselor Paul Fowler - spotted these 3 baldies and one golden having a meal while in he was driving to the Macy Campus on February 17th.

Paul said that when he turned to go back to his vehicle, he saw “at least 6 more baldies in the trees.”

Thank you Paul for photographing and sharing this great moment in nature with us!

Please submit your “Eagle Watch” pics to our NICC newsletter for all to enjoy!!!!





Spotlight on Business 217

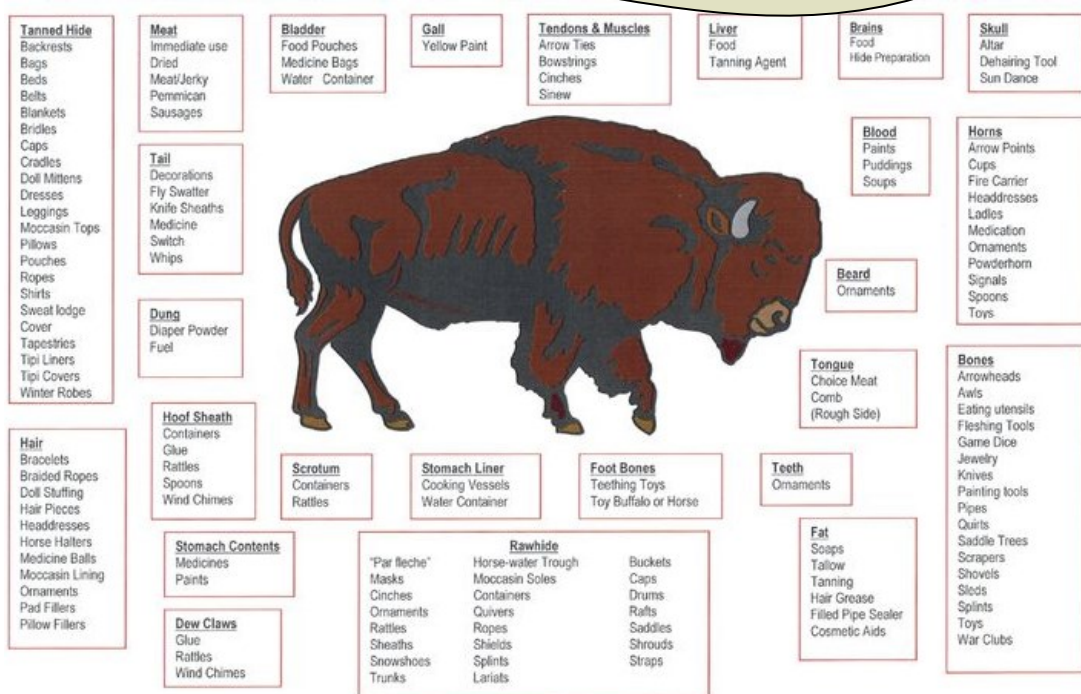
Principles of Marketing

NICC students in the Spring Principles of Marketing class are applying the concepts from instructor lecture and reading their learning package. Each week the students are presented with current business marketing topics in the news. The students interact with each other and reflect their current thinking on the subject matter.

The NICC Business 217 students have been assigned to analyze a real world marketing situation and develop a marketing plan. The students will engage with local beef and buffalo producers who would like to sell their goods and services to the Omaha and Santee Sioux Nation tribal members. The seller's goal is to promote self-sufficiency amongst tribal members. Currently,

in the tribal community beef is raised locally, but is sold outside the community. The buffalo meat producers are not meeting current demand. The local meat producers are requesting a marketing plan to help them facilitate the exchange of their quality goods and services between the tribal community and the sellers. *Submitted by Jerome Proctor, Adjunct Faculty*

Do You Know the Traditional Uses of the Buffalo



NICC Meeting with Other Community Colleges on Placement Assessments

Wanda Henke, Student Support, Lisa Beans, General Liberal Arts Professor, and John Singer, Science/Math Professor have worked Fall and Spring Semesters with representatives from other Nebraska Community Colleges to identify and research student placement assessments. Four options were researched: College Success, Accuplacer, NWEA-MAP, and TABE.

During the last meeting on February 5 at Central Community College in Grand Island there was an unanimous recommendation made to move forward with ACCUPLACER which will replace COMPASS in all Nebraska Community and Tribal Colleges starting in

2017.

Also at that meeting, several faculty expressed interest in testing the assessment and the drafted placement scores within their foundation education courses. After experimenting with the new scores, another meeting will be held on April 1 via WebEx. Finally there will be a statewide meeting in mid-April with AC-CUPLACER to begin testing setup.

*ACCUPLACER, a web-based program, is a suite of tests that will quickly, accurately, and efficiently assess reading, writing, and math. The results of the assessment, in conjunction with a student's academic back-



©Toons4Biz * illustrationsOf.com/7803

ground, goals, and interests, are used by academic advisors and counselors to place the student into a college course that meets the student's skill level.

MATH

ASSESSMENT
INFO

READING

Writing

All-Staff NICC Meeting Held in South Sioux City

The Nebraska Indian Community College Staff met at the Cardinal Conference Center in South Sioux City on Friday, February 26 and Saturday, February 27. The agenda included topics about the Higher Learning Commission Accreditation.

Friday's agenda:

Mary John, Academic Dean made known general information about the Higher Learning Commission and assessment basics. The Commission accredits degree-granting post-secondary educational institutions in the North Central region of the United States. Each criterion for accreditation was examined carefully showing NICC evidence and assurance argument with the help of Micheal Oltrogge, NICC President, Lisa Beans, General Liberal Arts Professor, and John Singer, Math/Science Professor.

Dawne Price, Dean of Student Services reported on a student opinion survey and federal compliance. The survey concerned part-time and full-

time students. NICC has more part-time students than full-time students. Subject matter under Federal Compliance encompasses credits, program length, tuition, institutional records of student complaints, transfer policies, Title IV program, financial responsibilities, academic progress and attendance policies coupled with campus crime information, and financial aid.

John Singer, Math/Science Professor along with Mary Johnson displayed the digital program which relays NICC information to the Higher Learning Commission.

Saturday's agenda:

The staff attended the NICC Board of Directors Meeting.

Mary Johnson and Micheal Oltrogge presented in detail results from recent accreditation visits at other Tribal College and Universities.

Discussion was held in regard to how to inform NICC students of the

Higher Learning Commission visit and process plus campus clean up.

The two days of learning about the accreditation process was an eye-opening experience to all attending in a very informative way.



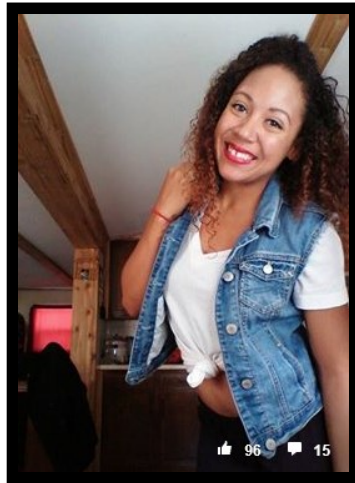
STAFF

Two NICC Students Honored as American Indian College Fund Students of the Year Award (SOY)

Christina Coffman and Falon Tomez Nebraska Indian Community College students, were awarded Student of the Year (SOY). The SOY award is sponsored by Adolph Coors Foundation.

The students must meet the following criteria:

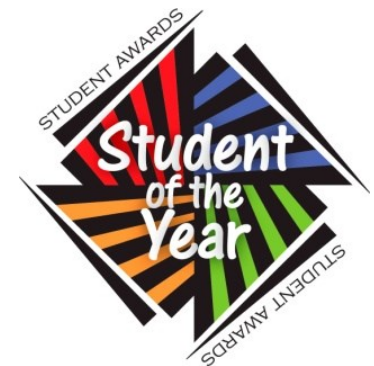
- ◇ Full time status suggested
- ◇ Student should have demonstrated community service and volunteer work, and a commitment to serving the community after graduation
- ◇ Student must have a minimum 3.0 cumulative GPA
- ◇ At two-year colleges, students must not have received a previous associate's degree
- ◇ Recipient must be American Indian or Alaska Native



Christina Coffman



Falon Tomez



Letters to John



During the fall 2015 semester, students in the Native American Literature course had been reading John Trudell's poetry and writings and had watched his videos listening to his songs. It was known that John was ill and Professor Lisa Beans suggested that the class write to uplift John and share with him what his writings personally meant to them.

Jim Hallum asked for prayer



for John and shared one of the last photographs posted

on Facebook on December 6th. John died on December 8th. He never received the students' letters.

To honor John in our NICC Newsletter, here are a few excerpts from the students' letters to him:

Marilyn Blackhawk:

"I hope to someday to have the confidence that you have.

You have touched many people and I'm sure encouraged many from your writings and speeches."

Adrianna Hoffman:

"I am writing you to express my thanks for your words of motivation and guidance. What you spoke about made me rethink what I have been doing with me life.

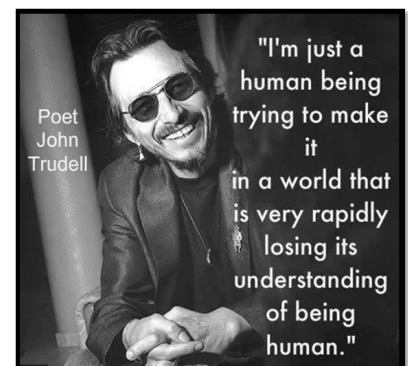
Little by little I am learning my place in this world and that my voice matters as

well as all Natives. I understand that I have a mission to accomplish and I cannot forget that."

Sigovia Hoving:

"They (your videos) have made my perspective change on the way I view the world "humans" themselves.

I plan on staying in touch with your poetry because you keep it real, and offer so much knowledge in one poem and many more, you influence many people by being a respected, spiritual humble man. Again, we will pray for your health and strength through this journey, and you are in our hearts."



With respects to John's family and friends

NICC Employee Update

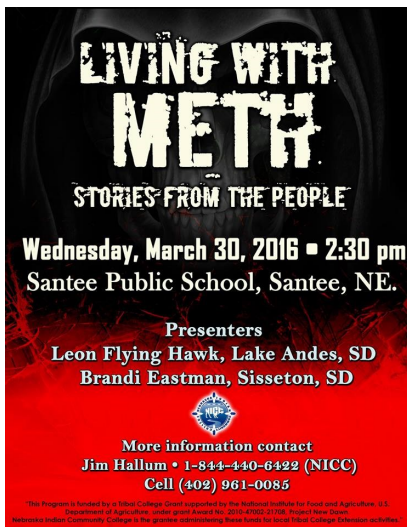


Teresa Eilerts has been named the Business Office Director at Nebraska Indian Community College. She graduated from Morningside College in Sioux City, IA, in 2008 with a Bachelor of Science Degree/Accounting and earned an Associate of Applied Science Degree-Business Manage-

ment, Specialist from Western Iowa Tech Community College, Sioux City, IA, on May 2006. Teresa has worked for Nebraska Indian College since 2011 in Accounts Payable and recently Director of Sponsored Programs.

Congratulations!

Living With Meth



On March 30th The Nebraska Indian Community College Tribal Extension hosted a presentation called “Living with Meth” at the Santee Community School in

Santee, NE.

Speakers from the Sisseton and Ihanktowan reservations in South Dakota, Brandi Eastman and Leon Flying Hawk told of their experiences of living with addiction, how easily it was for them get started and the hardships of day to day living with the drug, and their struggles to quit.

It was heartbreaking to hear the stories but also there were rays of hope when the applause came from the Santee Community when they were told how long they had been free of the monster called meth.

Also speaking was Jody Zephier from Wagner,

South Dakota. She shared on how she had formed a boys and girls club there so that the youth in her area could have a safe place to stay. This club was formed for the children of addicts. One member from the boys and girls club shared with the crowd the daily struggles of living with addicts. Both speakers also let the youth here know that they were not alone and to never give up hope.

All in all it was a very good presentation with good attendance and respect shown to the presenters and speakers.

James Hallum

USDA Tribal Extension

This Program is funded in part by a Nebraska Indian Community College Tribal College Grant, Project New Dawn, supported by the National Institute for Food and Agriculture, U.S. Department of Agriculture, under grant Award No. 2014-47002-22149.

Food Sovereignty at NICC

“The Traditional Food Course offered at Nebraska Indian Community College provides students the chance to explore the food systems of Native American Tribes in the surrounding region, both before and after colonization. The course gives particular focus to the connection between traditional foods and food systems and Native health.”

Connectedness, Relatedness, Interdependency, and Reciprocity are seen even in gardening. Wynema Morris and I have shared a passion for healthy eating and NICC students: Food Sovereignty, being in charge of what you eat and protecting what knowledge is sacred. The Tribal College Journal Food Sovereignty issue in 2011 (?) shared a large variety of Tribal College plans and successes in this topic. That ignited a passion for NICC gardens and native foods.

Gardening classes include American Indian philosophy and learning of elders growing technique, such as scattered planting tech-

niques. Fresh garden produce is made available for the NICC family and the community, and student involvement in cooking example recipes, food preservation were facilitated. We have practiced three sisters gardening (at Macy and SSC), have taught and learned corn drying and chokecherry patty- making as well as learning hominy-making and the construction of Medicine Wheels (through NICC Extension) at the 3 campuses. Nebraska Indian Community College was acknowledged in these passions by the W. K. Kellogg Foundation.



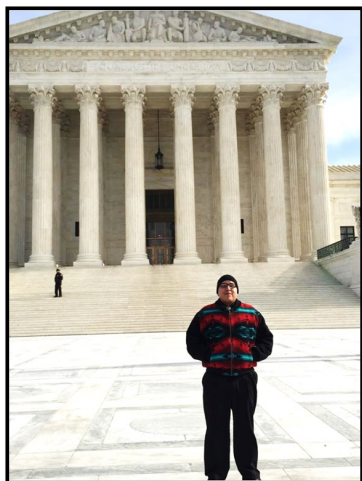
THREE SISTERS

The Three Sisters are corn, beans, and squash.

They all work together. The corn stalk serves as a pole for the beans, the beans help to add nitrogen to the soil that the corn needs, and the squash provides a ground cover of shade that helps the soil retain moisture.



NICC Student Mykal Grant Witnessed Oral Arguments at The Supreme Court for the Nebraska VS Parker Case



I want to thank Garan and the Omaha Tribe for this Opportunity:

"I would not have had this experience if I was not an NICC student," explained Mykal Grant. "I received a call from Garan Coons asking if I could help him film a documentary of the Omaha's case that was going before the Supreme Court. The oral arguments were on January 20th. I believe this was the third case in history to go before the Supreme Court from an Indian Tribe. I want to thank Garan and the tribe for this opportunity.

I don't know how to explain it-but they were like Gods in their robes sitting in their chairs:

"It did not fully hit me until we were in front of the Supreme Court Justices. My eyes were opened. It was unreal how they were set up. They were like Gods in their robes sitting in their chairs. There was much security everywhere."

Mykal feels there is a good chance the Omaha's will win the case:

We had a very good attorney who showed the utmost respect to the Justices.

I feel we have a good chance to win this case because our attorney knew what to do to emphasize to the Justices that we are a small tribe and not trying to exercise sovereignty over Pender, but to reinforce the tax code for the alcohol sold. Our attorney went back to the 1883 Treaty to tell them that Congress never moved the boundary line of our reservation.

The attorney for Pender argued that Pender is not in the Omaha Reservation boundaries and should not be taxed"

Thank you Mykal, for shar-

ing your experience attending this historic event! We look forward to the documentary you assisted in filming with Garan!!!!!!!!!!

Interesting Facts Supreme Court



1. Who was the first Chief Justice of the United States?
2. Who was the first female to serve on the Court?
3. Counting the Chief Justice, how many justices are on the Supreme Court?
4. How long can a Supreme Court justice serve?
5. Which two justices were first confirmed by a unanimous vote of the Senate?

ANSWERS

1. John Jay
2. Sandra Day O'Connor
3. 9
4. As long as they choose
5. Antonin Scalia and Anthony Kennedy

Visitors on NICC'S KZYK Radio, Santee Campus

On March 9th KZYK Santee Radio had the pleasure of two famous visitors coming to the studio. They were both part of the Santee Good Health and Wellness Days empowering the People through education for a healthier people.



Left to Right: Billy Mills, Jim Hallum

One of the visitors was the famous Billy Mills from Pine Ridge, South Dakota, who was the winner of the 10,000 meter race in the 1964 Olympics.

While in the studio he had really good words to share on how to live and thrive. Billy spoke of his upbringing, where he was from and the hardships. It was a very good interview and his parting words for everyone out there struggling in their dai-

ly lives—Never forget your dream. We all have a dream and too many times we lose sight of that dream and before we know it we are old. Very good words from a very positive role model.

We also had the pleasure of interviewing Kibbe Conti (Lakota). She is well known across Indian Country for her work with her medicine wheel diet called the Lakota Foodway.

She spoke of what the people use to eat and what we eat now plus the causes of diabetes and ways we can combat it. She said the easiest way to prevent diabetes is through diet and the kinds of food that we consume on a daily basis along with portion size. Lastly and most importantly, exercise. That we have to start being the mobile people we once were.

It was very humbling to interview two people that offer so much across Indian Country

and also I feel very lucky to have met them and had the pleasure of speaking and being part of their lives.

*Jim Hallum
USDA Tribal Extension*



Kibbe Conti



Nebraska Indian Community College

For the past 40 years, the Nebraska Indian Community College (NICC) has been and remains dedicated to planting the seeds of knowledge through unique and cultural relevant educational experiences. Our aim is to provide you with a quality learning experience and to equip you with the skills and knowledge that you will need in the profession of your choice. These experiences are geared toward all Umonhon (Omaha), Isanti (Santee Dakota), and other learners attending classes at one of our three campuses. NICC is open to all who are willing to enhance and improve their lives.

NICC is accredited by the Higher Learning commission of the North Central Association of Colleges and Schools.

Macy (S.Campus)	Santee (W.Campus)
1111 Hwy 75	415 North River Rd.
Macy, NE 68039	Niobrara, NE 68760
402-494-2311	402-494-2311

So.Sioux City (N.Campus)
2605 1/2 Dakota Ave.
So.Sioux City, NE 68776
402-494-2311



The Right Direction

We're on the web!
www.thenicc.edu

American Indian Higher Education Consortium AIHEC 2016



Twelve NICC students attended AIHEC in Minneapolis, March 13-17. The students included Christina Coffman, Thomasina Whipple, Ashley Coons, Crystal Ross, Chris Ross, Guadalupe Wolfe, LaTara Tyndall, Mercedes Sandoval, Rose Buffalo Chief, Mykal Grant, Mackenzie Grant and Falon Torrez. This was the largest group of students that NICC has sent to AIHEC. NICC was a host school and ran the hand game tournament. Students competed in volleyball, archery, speech, chess, slam poetry, creative writing, and hand games. The volleyball team placed third in the tournament and Christina Coffman placed in the TCJ Creative Writing Award. The volleyball team, Christina and Falon Torrez (for her service on AIHEC Student Congress) were recognized at the awards banquet. Congratulations on all their hard work!



Santee Salsa Celebration: Canning and Jamming in Santee, Nebraska



There is nothing like making fresh salsa with veggies picked right from the garden. Tomatoes, onions, jalapenos, and green peppers are just some of the most popular items you'll find growing in Santee family gardens, perfect for anyone's salsa making desires. And you don't need much space to grow all the ingredients to have fresh salsa all summer (and winter) long too. While our Santee gardeners worked hard last summer growing and harvesting fresh produce, they have also been gathering at NICC to learn how to preserve the fruits of their labors.

In August 2015, Santee residents came together to learn how to make and can salsa using fresh veggies straight from their gardens. Workshop partic-

ipants went through the whole process of picking their own veggies, chopping up all the ingredients, preparing and canning salsa. The bright colors of the vegetables and the sounds of the chopping combined with the room full of energetic people made it fun and welcoming. We shared a meal made from fresh produce from the garden and prepared by our local chef and community elder, Faye Rouillard.

The gathering was led by our very own Santee community resident, Kristine Flyinghawk. Kristine is a 5th grade teacher at the Santee Community School. She learned how to preserve fresh produce from her mom when she was growing up and was happy and excited to be passing this skill on to her community members.

Kristine is also a vendor and

small business woman, selling homemade jams, pickles, salsas and fresh baked good at Santee's Community Market this past year at the Ohiya Casino. We will be launching a monthly art show and community market starting in June 2016, so be sure to look out for us!

With 30 people in attendance, it turned out to be one of our most successful gatherings. We have held workshops on pickling, making and canning salsa, peach and strawberry jam. But, the salsa canning really spiced up our summer workshops. Workshop participants reminisced about the old times when they would make huge batches of canned salsa or stewed tomatoes with their families to last all winter.

Our preservation workshops are part of a larger project called the Santee Communi-

Continued on next page

Salsa Celebration Continued from page 15

ty Foods Project. The Nebraska Indian Community College and the Center for Rural Affairs have partnered up to create greater access to fresh foods and promote small businesses in Santee. We are helping local residents take back control and access of fresh produce.

We also launched a new addition to the project called Woyute Was'te (Good Food) Baskets. Similar to a (CSA) community supported agriculture distribution, we have been working with Santee gardeners and local producers from surrounding villages to cre-

ate and sell \$5 & \$10 baskets of fresh, local, affordable and chemical free produce. On average, we sold 25-30 baskets during the height of the summer. Over \$200-\$300 worth of produce was sold weekly in Santee. This provides the Baskets market opportunity for our Santee gardeners to grow food and sell any extra they have through the baskets program or the community market, providing extra income for their families. Santee is excited to see what new workshops and opportunities lie ahead as we head into spring.



"This Program is funded in part by a Tribal College Grant supported by the National Institute for Food and Agriculture, U.S. Department of Agriculture, under grant Award No. 2010-47002-21709, Project New Dawn. Nebraska Indian Community College is the grantee administering these funds for local Tribal College Extension program."

COMING SOON!

We are very excited, investigating and planning for a passion of NICC Extension--- Plant Medicines, a new course proposal in the Native American Studies Department. We found three great syllabi from Oklahoma, Montana, and Wisconsin Tribal Colleges! Seneca Elder Carolyn Carlson and I share excitement about the possibilities.

Submitted by Dawn Hair

Adjunct Faculty



NICC Student Marikza Hahn Wins Iowa's Miss Amazing Pageant!!!!



thought maybe I would have a shot at it. When they announced my name, I got scared at first, but then they came to me and it hit me that I had won! It feels good to be the winner and I am proud of myself."

As part of Miss Amazing's year-long responsibilities, Marikza explained that she will have to "do talks, interviews, and help out by volunteering at activities."

On January 30th NICC student Marikza Hahn was crowned Iowa's "Miss Amazing" at the Pageant held at the Western Iowa Tech Arts Center in Council Bluff. Marikza is in her first year in NICC's Early Childhood Program stating: "I am working hard to graduate."

"I spent weeks practicing my dance for the Miss Amazing Pageant. My song was from the 1950's "Rock Around the Clock." I participated in an interview and was asked questions about my hobbies, plans and the classes I take. When there were four of us for Miss Amazing, I

Originally started in Omaha, Nebraska in 2007, the Miss Amazing Pageant was founded by then 13 year old Jordan Somer. Jordan had been actively involved as a volunteer with Special Olympics and wanted to have a pageant that celebrated girls with disabilities. Miss Amazing Pageants are now held in 29 states. Posted on their website:

www.missamazing2016.com



click control/enter

Submitted by the Roving Reporter



Faculty Attends North Central Region Water Network 2016 Conference



Hank Miller, NICC's Math/Science Division Head traveled to Lincoln on March 21st and 22nd to attend the North Central Regional Water Network 2016 Conference, ***"From Science to Success: Bridging the Gap Between Knowledge and Practice in Water Resource Management."*** The conference was directed towards our land grant institutions with in a twelve state area



and dealt with water resource management. The following was our task:

Overview:

Extension programs across the North Central Region have a lot to offer to the people we serve and to our colleagues across the region. The purpose of this year's conference is to strengthen our ability to "get to impact" – to learn more about what we can do in the context of the land-grant mission to increase the adoption of best water resource management practices. The conference brought Extension educators and researchers together to 1) meet and learn from their colleagues; 2) meet and learn from partners; and 3) deepen working relationships among participants to address high priority areas for water research and outreach.

Topics of Focus:

- ♦ Watershed leadership and management
- ♦ Agricultural irrigation
- ♦ Managing agricultural

drainage water

- ♦ Climate change in agriculture and community development
- ♦ Youth and water literacy and stewardship
- ♦ Other topics chosen by conference participants

Conference Objectives:

- ♦ Increase awareness of water related issues, research, and Extension programs providing benefits across the North Central Region
- ♦ Strengthen professional networks among land grant universities, agency, industry, and NGO partners
- ♦ Strengthening water and outreach in the North Central Region
- ♦ Provide feedback for Network Leadership and Extension Directors on direction of the North Central Region Water Network



*Images from the North Central Region Water Network website <http://northcentralwater.org/>



Todd Runnels 1994 NICC Graduate

After graduating from NICC, I started College at Wayne State College in Wayne, NE. It took me 4 years to graduate at Wayne. I took minimum credit hours, usually 12 to 15 per semester and worked part time most of the time. I worked at the SST Parks & Wildlife Office, Dakota Tiwahe Service Unit; I did some carpenter work, and was a janitor at the Santee Community School during the time that I went to Wayne. For fun I was involved with the Santee Sioux Tribe powwow committee during this time.

I decided to go into teaching right away. I could see that there was a need for an Industrial Technology

Teacher in Santee at the school. I wanted that job so I went for it! I would recommend that a student look around your community and see what is needed. In Santee we need Teachers, Nurses, Police Officers, Social Workers, Business Managers, Carpenters, Electricians, Plumbers, and numerous other positions. If a person were to have the education to have the job they want they should be first in line for that job. Without the education a person has nothing more than the next person to qualify them for anything. I would like to add that having a career and the status of being a professional with benefits offers a great deal of security that you might not otherwise enjoy working in a low skill easy entry position.

If an NICC Graduate decides to go on to a college of any kind, they will have to give it all they have to make it. Late nights doing homework, sick kids, broke down car, no money, who knows what you might

have to overcome to make it. Usually no one cares about any excuse you might have, it's on you! You have to check your pride at the door. I'm certain I was the dumbest one in some of my classes, but I'm certain I was the most persistent. I flunked out one semester and lost my financial aid. I had to pay for my classes the next time to keep going. That was a hard lesson.

I hope this short story of my educational journey will help someone. The journey has never really ended. I'm trying still to finish a Master's Degree someday soon.

Sincerely,

Todd Runnels – NICC Graduate



Connecting the Dots

The 9th and 10th grade students from Niobrara Public Schools and Santee Community Schools participated in “Connecting the Dots: A Career Exploration Day” on April 7, 2016 at the Niobrara Public School. This program was brought to the schools through a partnership between the Nebraskan Indian Community College (NICC) and Nebraska Extension to help area youth gain a better grasp on their future.

The interactive career exploration simulation program is designed to help students learn more about careers of interest as well as how to “connect the dots” from where they are now through postsecondary study, to the workplace. They experience a “real life” simulation to learning how their high school choices impact their post-secondary study and their workplace experiences.



They came to the event with a specific career field they felt they were interested in. They then had the opportunity to learn more about their favorite careers and possibly some careers they had never considered. They were able to learn about the importance of networking as they begin to prepare for their careers, especially with the local business presenters that came in from the community to talk and teach the youth about their specific career. These local professionals included people from a variety of fields such as economic development, nursing home management, and education. Through breakout sessions they built work readiness skills including resume building and evaluation and personality traits. All these ways of having fun learning together help them learn more about themselves and how that might relate to a future career.

For more information about “Connecting the Dots” programming contact your local extension office or ask a local student about their experience.



Quilting Classes at South Sioux City Campus

A picture can
tell a thousand
words, but a
few words can
change its story

— Sebastyne Young

Nebraska Indian Community College Tribal Extension Program offered a two week quilting class at South Sioux City Campus. The class was taught by Patty Provost. Patty is an NICC alumna having received her associate's degree in Early Childhood in 1991. Patty's quilts have been given as NICC honoring gifts.

Why quilting Classes? According to Jim Halum, Extension Agent, "Quilting instruction is needed in our communities because quilting is becoming a lost art!" Classes will also be offered in Santee and Macy at a later date.



Patty Provost



This Program is funded in part by a Nebraska Indian Community College Tribal College Grant, Project New Dawn, supported by the National Institute for Food and Agriculture, U.S. Department of Agriculture, under grant Award No. 2014-47002-22149

Indian Civil Rights & Standing Bear Knowledge Boards at NICC



This hand is not the color of yours, but if I pierce it, I shall feel pain. If you pierce your hand, you also feel pain. The blood that will flow from mine will be the same color as yours. I am a man. The same God made us both."

- Chief Standing Bear (picture: www.travelok.com)

Many know of the Civil Rights efforts and successes of Martin Luther King. In Indian Country, all should know of the sacrifices and efforts of Chief Standing Bear.

Maⁿ chu' – Naⁿ zhiⁿ - Standing Bear of the Ponca Nation - was "declared a person" under the U.S. Constitution in 1879 winning the writ of habeas corpus he had filed permitting him to return to the Niobrara lands to bury his son. The case is known as: Chief Standing Bear Case *United States ex rel. Standing Bear v. Crook*, 25 F. Cas. 695 (C.C. Neb. 1879)

On May 12, 1879, U.S. District of Nebraska Judge Elmer S. Dundy made his

tory when he ruled that Standing Bear, a Ponca chief, had the right to be considered a person under the U.S. Constitution. <http://www.lb8.uscourts.gov/publicservices/histsociety/neb-chiefstandingbear.html>

Known as an "Indian Human Rights" landmark case, the ruling did not allow all Indians to travel off of their reservations as many had hoped. Only Standing Bear was permitted to return to Nebraska. Six months later his brother, Big Snake, would visit with the Cheyenne, be arrested by military soldiers and be controversially killed.



In 1877, a Ponca Delegation of 10 went to Washington, DC. Standing Bear is seated third from the left and his brother Big Snake is standing far left, raising his fist – which has often been interpreted as a sign of "Indian Power." He would be suspiciously killed two years later by a soldier in 1879, six months after his brother – Standing Bear – was considered a "person."

This spring semester, three Indian Civil Rights knowledge boards - honoring Standing Bear and the Ponca Nation - where hung at NICC's campus sites. The boards also provide information on: the Ponca Museum which houses Standing Bear's Eagle Bonnet, his 22 foot sculpture in Oklahoma, the Standing Bear Trail (retracing his footsteps) and information about the Standing Bear Journey for Justice Scholarship Fund which was begun in 2012.

Continued on page 23

Indian Civil Rights Continued from page 22

Throughout the years, Ponca Nation students have attended NICC but it was only three years ago that the Standing Bear Journey for Justice Scholarship Fund was available for application. Since then several students have submitted for the scholarship fund but none have yet to receive it. Let's hope an NICC student can receive this scholarship in the future!!!



NICC Sioux Campus Student Rose Buffalo Chief shared (SSC): "Te-Hunga is how you pronounce my last name in the Dhegiha language. I have a relative that is retracing the honorable Chief Standing Bear's footsteps. My grandparents on my father's side were both Ponca tribal members. I feel proud to board at

NICC as it brings a lot of knowledge of the Poncas. Most people don't know much history about Standing Bear and the Ponca people."



SSC student Dabian Spotted Wood shared: "A lot of my family are enrolled as Poncas and Spotted Wood is a Ponca name. I think it is great to have a knowledge board that acknowledges and honors Chief Standing Bear and what he went through and what the people went through."



SSC student Ora Parker is a direct descendant of Stand-

ing Bear on her father's side. Although Ora is an enrolled member of the Omaha Nation, she explained: "I have enough Ponca to be enrolled in that Nation also."

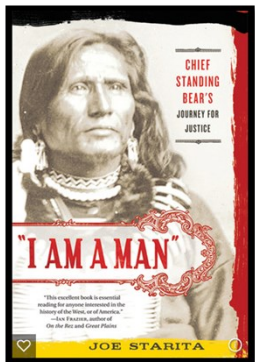
What is Ora's response to the knowledge board? "I am grateful a board has been made on the Poncas and on Chief Standing Bear."



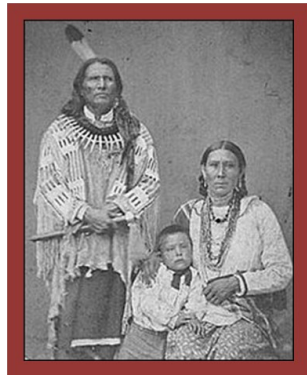
Santee Student Marissa Wright with Chief Standing Bear Board at Santee Campus is also of Ponca lineage.

Continued on page 24

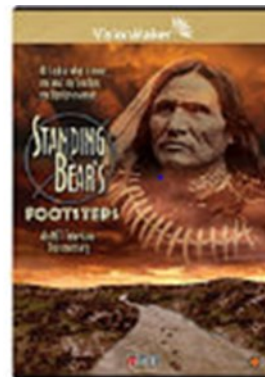
Indian Civil Rights Continued from page 23



READ



<https://upload.wikimedia.org>



WATCH

For more information - please visit the following website:

<http://www.lb8.uscourts.gov/pubsandservices/histsociety/neb-chiefstandingbear.html>

Submitted by Darla Korol

Visit Campus Libraries



What will I find when I visit NICC Campus Libraries?

- ⇒ You will find a friendly librarian who will assist your quest for information.
- ⇒ You will find a spot to spend a quiet afternoon reading newspapers or

magazines.

- ⇒ You will find computers to use to keep in touch with relatives on Face Book.
- ⇒ You will find books on every imaginable topic for children, teenagers, and adults. **You can check out books for free.**
- ⇒ You will find genealogy resources.
- ⇒ You will find free Wi-Fi.
- ⇒ You will find children playing games, reading, coloring, or other activities
- ⇒ You will find a place to do

homework.

- ⇒ You will find someone to exchange information, news, or ideas.
- ⇒ You will find a safe space.

"Libraries are our friends."
– [Neil Gaiman](#)



"Reading strengthens my mind and helps with pre-game calm." -
LeBron James

First Indian Child Welfare Act (ICWA) Class Held at NICC

“Myth: ICWA is a race-based law.”

False. ICWA, like other federal Indian legislation, is based on the **unique political status of tribes and Indian people**, not race. This status—established by Congress, the Constitution, statutes, and treaties—has been affirmed and reaffirmed by U.S. Supreme Court decisions for 200 years.”

What is ICWA?

ICWA stands for The **Indian Child Welfare Act** of 1978 (ICWA) ((Pub.L. 95–608, 92 Stat. 3069, enacted November 8, 1978), codified at 25 U.S.C. §§ 1901–1963.) It is a Federal law that governs jurisdiction over the removal of Native American (Indian) children from their families.

(en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Indian_Child_Welfare_Act)



NICC Alumni Recommends Course:

Offering an ICWA course was highly recommended by NICC alumni, Ms. Gwen Owen Porter, BSW, who had been an ICWA specialist for the Omaha Nation. In previous semesters, NICC students had also been asking for a course to learn about this Indian Child Welfare law. Based on Gwen’s recommendation and the students’ requests, an ICWA special topics course proposal was submitted and was subsequently approved for the fall of 2015. Dean Mary Johnson permitted enrollment for both NAS and HSC students.

This course provided information specific to: the historical context of the legislation; the law’s guideline’s

including the 2015 legal updates; the ICWA specific to Nebraska tribes; recent court cases challenging the ICWA and the requirements to become an ICWA worker.

Three students - Siqoyia Hoving, Jamie Lerma and Eliza Thomas - successfully completed the course. They benefited from the knowledge provided by a course guest speaker; by conference attendance at the “Healing Our Community – 13 Years of Honoring Lost Children” (sponsored by Briar Cliff University) and by participating in the **Honoring Lost Children March**.



ICWA Course Guest

Speaker: NICC adjunct instructor, Mrs. Misty Frazier, provided information to the students on the Ne-

Continued on next page

ICWA Continued from page 25

member of the coalition which is comprised of the designated ICWA workers from the four Nebraska Tribes (Isanti Dakota, Omaha, Ponca and Winnebago.) This coalition has been actively advocating for the correct application of the ICWA with the State of Nebraska government. As Director of Social Services for the Santee Nation, Misty provided the students with information on ICWA processes specific to the Santee Nation.

Early in the ICWA course, the students had learned of the advocacy efforts of Sandy White Hawk, founder of and Director of the First Nations Repatriation Institute and current member of the *Truth, Healing & Reconciliation Commission for Board School Abuses*. It was a blessing for the NICC students to hear Sandy White Hawk's presentation as she had not been designated as a guest speaker, but shared her knowledge when a family emergency prevented the original presenter from attending.

Students from Paul Fowlers's Student Success Strategies course also attended the conference. From left to right: Kendra Miller, Seanna

Redwing, Sandy White Hawk, Ora Parker, and Joshua Marshall.



Having known Sandy previously, it was an honor for NICC faculty member, Darla Korol, to reconnect with her at the conference.



Sandy White Hawk shared that she returns to Iowa every year to participate in the Honoring the Lost Children's March.



she has been marching for the lost children for six years: "My little relative was killed while in the foster care system. I started walking for him, but now, I walk for all of the lost children in the foster care system."



SSC student **Siqoyia Hoving** shared that: "ICWA is a huge deal and it could make difference for a family. I learned how much ICWA workers are needed."



Siqoyia was honored to be with Mr. Frank LaMere - the founder of the Memorial March to Honor Lost Children - and participated in the march alongside of her mother.

Ora Parker explained why

Continued on page 27

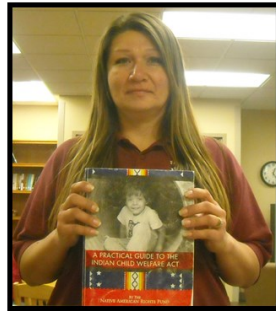
ICWA Continued from page 26



SSC student **Jamie Lerma** attended the training session by Dr. Larry Burd (Director of the Fetal Alcohol Syndrome Center at the University of North Dakota School of Medicine) on *Fetal Alcohol Spectrum Disorders Across the Lifespan*.

She commented on her learning experience in the first ICWA course held at NICC: “I kind of knew, but didn’t know that ICWA was that old of a law. Around here, especially in Iowa, I see a lot of racism in the DHHS system. This class opened my eyes up more how the system doesn’t obey ICWA and it explained what people are going through. I recommend this become an ongoing class in NICC’s Native American Studies program. I have

heard other students wish they would have taken the class.”



Santee Student - Eliza Thomas with ICWA Text

For a previous class, Santee student, **Eliza Thomas** had “shadowed” an ICWA worker at the Santee Reservation DTSU (Dakota Tiwaha Service Unit.) She shared that taking the class helped her to not assume. “I wanted to learn more about ICWA. I enjoyed the class and it helped me to understand better. Please put this course in the NAS curriculum. You need this on a reservation.”

At the semester’s end, students were given a small “Our Children Are Not Yours to Take – Respect the Indian Child Welfare Act” poster.

They continued to follow ICWA cases into the 2016 spring semester.

For more information please visit:

- Top 10 ICWA Myths Fact Sheet at: http://www.nicwa.org/Indian_Child_Welfare_Act/documents/Top%2010%20ICWA%20Myths.pdf
- National Indian Child Welfare Organization: <http://www.nicwa.org/>
- Nebraska ICWA Coalition: <https://www.neappleseed.org/wp-content/uploads/downloads/2012/09/NE-ICWA-Coalition-Suggestions.pdf>
- Truth and Reconciliation Commission – U.S. Boarding Schools <http://docs.lakotalaw.org/Truth%20Reconciliation%20Report.pdf>
- Free poster download: <http://lakotapeopleslawproject.tumblr.com/post/58096103522/honor-the-treaties-new-website-free-posters-for>

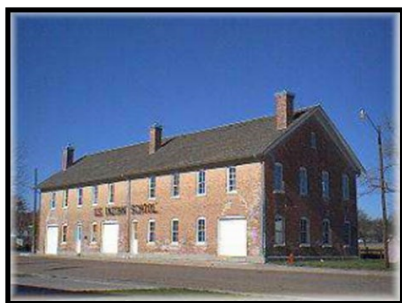


free download ICWA poster

Photo contributors: Paul Fowler, Siqoyia Hoving, Ora Parker and Wanda Henke

NICC Students Remember and Honor the Ancestors sent to the Genoa U.S. Indian School

This semester, students in the Native American Studies 1890 to Present history course requested a field trip to the Genoa U.S. Indian School Museum in Genoa, NE. As the 4th Federal Indian Boarding School it was opened in 1884 and became one of the longest operating, closing in 1934.



Now a National Historic Site, the Genoa U.S. Indian School Interpretive Center (which was once the Manual Training building) exists as a museum and research center. It also hosts the annual Genoa U.S. Indian School Reunion.

Students from four other NICC courses were also invited to participate in the field trip. Because the NICC bus provided transport, additional space was available and invitations were extended to all NICC employees. Attend-

ance by community elders was also welcome.

Twenty-one students, faculty, staff and one community member, Mr. Donald Grant, traveled on April 11th to Genoa, NE. Mr. Grant offered a prayer on the bus before the departure and expressed gratitude that; "NICC was providing this opportunity for the students to learn about their ancestors who were students at Genoa."

Star Quilt Presentation to Honor the Ancestors



NICC is the first tribal college to visit this historical site. A star quilt was presented by the students to honor the ancestors who were sent there.

It was made clear to the museum staff from the statement of Wynema Morris that: *"the quilt serves as both a reminder of who these students were and what they went through as*

dictated by the federal policy of 'Kill the Indian – Save the Man.' This honoring is to show that Indians are now in control of their own education."

NICC alumni and quilt maker Patti Provost is a Genoa Indian School descendant. Patti's grandmother and her mother's grand sister came from Wisconsin to Genoa. Her aunt died while at Genoa. Patti explained that her giving the quilt to the Museum is also a memorial to all of the children who died there.

Once the quilt is mounted at the interpretive center, statements from both Wynema and Patti will accompany it.



Omaha Nation Elder, Mr. Donald Grant, was presented a red fleece blanket by the Museum Foundation Director. He immediately

Continued on page 29

Genoa U.S. Indian School continued

announced that he was donating it to NICC. Mr. Grant is a descendant of Genoa graduates.



Wolf Family Scholarship

Ms. Nancy Carlson, Chair of the Scholarship Committee, explained the history of the \$1,000.00 Wolf Family Scholarship for the descendants of Genoa students.

To date, no NICC students have received the scholarship. One of the eligibility requirements is: *"The student must express an interest in the history of the Genoa Indian School."*

One student informed a Museum staff member that she had applied previously for this scholarship, but had not been awarded. It was recommended that she should reapply and write of her experience during this field trip to meet that eligibility requirement. This recommendation was extended to

all of the NICC students who are descendants and advancing in their education.

Tribal Nation Flags

Children from over 46 tribal nations ranging in age from 4-21 were at Genoa during its 50 year existence. The Museum staff had written to the tribes to ask if they wanted to send their flags to remember their children who went to Genoa. Not thinking they would receive many, they now have the second largest display of tribal nation flags in the country, displaying flags from over 40 nations.



NICC Santee student, Derek La Pointe, proudly stood with the Santee Sioux Tribal flag. His Grandmother Laura Jones and Grandfather Virgil LaPointe met and graduated from Genoa in 1928 and soon married on the Santee Indian Reser-

vation. He shared that he plans a return future visit to



the Museum with his father. Several students commented how the "scale model" enabled them to visualize how large the boarding school was (320 acres.) It helped them to increase their understanding of the experiences of their ancestors at Genoa.

Life Changing Experiences

Students who did not know they had ancestors at the Genoa School were successfully able to locate information with the kind assistance of the Museum staff. After going through names of her Yankton lineage, Dabian Spotted Wood found no records of ancestors. However, when she offered names of her Ponca lineage, she found her mother's, mother's father. She shared

Continued on page 30

Genoa U.S. Indian School Continued

this information with her family.

For those who did know they had ancestors, all available ancestor information was kindly provided from Museum staff from the growing research data base.

Rose Buffalo Chief knew she had ancestors who were at Genoa, but was given information about additional family members that she did not know had been there.



She found pictures of her grandparents throughout the interpretive center and was proud to stand under the Ponca Nation flag.

Several students have children who are currently the same age as when their an-

cestors entered Genoa. Understanding their ancestors' aloneness and sadness in leaving their tribal communities and families was deeply felt by the descendants.

As a way to honor their ancestor's experiences at Genoa, descendants were also given the choice to have their picture taken to be placed in their ancestor's archives.

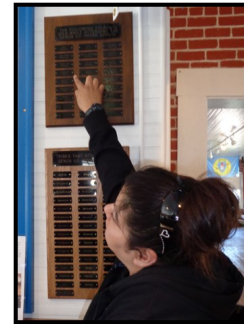


Tobacco and Prayer Offerings

Tobacco was laid down at the memorial stone that was dedicated by Mr. Charles Lone Wolf in the mid 1980's.

The memorial stone states: ***"In Memory of the Native Americans who attended the Genoa U.S. Indian School - 1884-1934. Especially those who died and may have been buried near***

here."



Memorial Plaque

On the memorial plaque to the children who died at Genoa, SSC student Jamie Lerma points to the name of her ancestor who died at age 11 and who was the aunt of Patti Provost. Remembering her relative's young death, Jamie has had great concern for the lack of information on the graves of the children buried there. Patti has shared with Jamie that the family does not know where the child is buried.

Train Tracks

Tobacco was also offered at a difficult area to visit - the remaining brick entrance from the train platform and tracks located several blocks from the site of the School. As thousands of children exited the trains, they walked under that brick entrance into an unknown that

Genoa U.S. Indian School Continued

would forever impact their Indian identities.

The students decided that they wanted to take a picture at the train tracks site to – as one student shared – “let them see we have come to remember them.”



April 11, 2016 – Honoring the Ancestors at Genoa

Attending the field trip:
Students: Rose Buffalo Chief, Siqoya Hoving, MacKenzie Grant, Mykal Grant, Derek LaPointe, Jamie Lerma, Jessie Mondragon, Norman Robinson, Crystal Ross, Dabian Spotted Wood, Foster Webster.
Community Member: Mr. Donald Grant. NICC faculty and staff: Mike Berger,

Carolyn Carlson, Paul Fowler (ACE Bus Driver), Dawn Hair, Qudsia Hussaini, Darla Korol, Nicole Parker (and daughters), Susan Tyndall and Chris Walker.



Attitude of Gratitude

Thanks to all NICC faculty and supervisors for excusing the students from classes and employees from work. The field trip provided a way for descendants to get in touch with their family histories.

In addition to Derek, another student had learned that their grandparents had met at Genoa and upon graduation, married. For others, the information provided by the Museum brought a greater understanding as a way to begin sharing information that had been too painful to talk about.

As a result of visiting the Museum, experiencing the

kindness of the Museum staff and being encouraged to make a return visit, participants shared that they do plan to return to the Museum with the family members. They hope that by bringing their family members to the 27th Reunion on August 13th, more information can be learned and shared.

Again, a heartfelt thanks to all whom supportively prayed for this field trip.

It ended with a prayer of gratitude.

*Respectfully submitted by
Darla Korol*

*Photographic assistants:
Mike Berger & Jamie Lerma*

Photographs of Museum & memorial stone in public domain