

# Morning Star News

## Chief Dull Knife College Newsletter

### CDKC Benefits from Productive Visit by Northwest Commission

By Bill Wertman

Chief Dull Knife College hosted an accreditation review by the Northwest Commission on Colleges and Universities from April 11-13, 2011.

Regional accreditation of postsecondary institutions such as CDKC is a voluntary, non-governmental, self-regulatory process of quality assurance and institutional improvement.

The full scale evaluation of the college involved

eight evaluators from throughout the seven-state northwest region. Each of the evaluators works in a two-year institution of higher education. Collectively, they provided CDKC with valuable insights and recommendations as well as the opportunity for productive interaction with peers.

The college feels that the newly revised accreditation standards and self-study process will provide an effective guideline for



systemic planning and improvement.

The College would like to express its appreciation to the board, administration, faculty, staff, students and community members who participated in this very meaningful and positive experience.

### Math Department Recognized for Being a Model of Success

By Cori Thatcher

With the help of Bob Madsen, the math department at CDKC submitted a proposal to the Penn Graduate School of Education for its Minority-Serving Institutions "Models of Success" grant competition.

CDKC was one of just 9 schools chosen from across the country to receive \$50,000 towards increasing the academic success rates of its students.

To earn the award, CDKC had to demonstrate that it is implementing innovative approaches to instruction that are contributing to the greater success of its students.

Math instructors showed that improvements they have made to the math curriculum over the last three years have led to an average 20% increase in the passing rates of math stu-

dents, up from about a 50% passing rate to about a 70% passing rate.

The award will be used to continue to improve the basic math and intro algebra curricula. Changes will include restructuring certain courses and incorporating more hands-on, real-world problems and projects into CDKC's math classes.

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### Did You Know?

CDKC is offering a course in sustainable housing technologies this summer. See p. 6 for course details...

# Faces of Chief Dull Knife College

For this end-of-year edition of Morning Star News, we asked past graduates of CDKC to share some of their experiences from college and to discuss how their time at CDKC has shaped their lives and their careers.



**Audrey Arpan: Assistant Librarian**  
A.A. Chief Dull Knife College, B.S. Rocky Mountain College

***What year did you graduate?***

I graduated on May 11, 2004, from CDKC with an Associate of Arts degree and a Business Option.

***What was your favorite experience or memory from your time as a student at CDKC?***

My favorite experience was Dennis Bauer's Philosophy class. It really made me think about what I believe and helped me to sort out my perspective on life.

***What was most challenging for you as a student at CDKC and how did you overcome the challenge?***

The most challenging thing for me was balancing family life and school. I am a single mom with two kids and I am taking care of my aging mom. I had to deal with sickness, working while

going to school, and my mom's stroke the semester before I graduated. CDKC staff and faculty were very supportive in helping me overcome some of these challenges. I felt that they cared about me personally and gave me good advice so I could make the right decisions. A supportive family is very important too and mine was great!

***How has your education at CDKC contributed to your success in life?***

One of the big things for me was that my self-esteem got a huge boost because I actually had that piece of paper that said, "I did it!" But also, I became an employee at CDKC soon after graduation and have worked here for 5 ½ years. Going to school has helped me be more responsible and has opened up many doors in life.

***What advice can you give to those now graduating from CDKC?***

My advice to students now graduating is: now that you made it this far, it isn't much farther to get your bachelor's, and for me that was the fun part. Also, now that you gained some important life skills, improve on them and then teach them to others.

***What advice can you give to those still in school?***

Make sure there are people around you who support your educational goals, and use the people at the college (seriously, they want to help you). Most important of all, don't stop when you come to challenges in your life; just remember that we all have them and if we (the former graduates) did it then so can you!!



**Devin Wertman: Financial Aid Director**  
A.A. Chief Dull Knife College, B.S. Rocky Mountain College

***What year did you graduate?***

In 2005

***What was your favorite experience or memory from your time as a student at CDKC?***

My favorite memory/lesson was every class I attended at CDKC, as it was a "real life" experience that served as an additional element to my higher education.

***What was most challenging for you as a student at CDKC and how did you***

***overcome the challenge?***

Having enough time to spend on coursework and/or doing the activities I wanted to do...but that is and continues to be Life.

***How has your education at CDKC contributed to your success in life?***

Education regardless of where I received it has been invaluable in everything I have accomplished in life. If I didn't have the resources CDKC provided me I probably wouldn't be where I am today.

***What advice can you give to those now graduating from CDKC?***

Life will take you as far as you let it; don't ever be afraid to be that person who stands up for something you believe in.

***What advice can you give to those still in school?***

Make sure to take a variety of courses in your first few years. The courses you take may not fit into your major but will shed light on what else is out there.

# Student Corner

## Stickgames Create Lasting Memories for Junior Handgamers

By Misty Dawn Pipe

I never got involved with handgames until Spring Semester 2010 at Chief Dull Knife College. I was a recent widow and going to school to try to keep positive. I wasn't smiling or laughing anymore because I was sad and thought it was wrong to have a good time since I was in mourning. Handgames gave me a reason to laugh and smile again.

Having a good time with good people and keeping my spirits up, handgames brought light into my darkness. I have been introduced to many styles of handgames since then and most recently to "Crow Style."

With the Northern Cheyenne Junior Handgame Team, I have traveled to Rosebud, SD; Pine Ridge, SD; Rapid City, SD; Browning, MT; Rocky Boy, MT; Crow Agency, MT; Pheonix, AZ; Coeur d'Alene, ID; and I plan to attend another one in Tulalip, WA, with Derek in August where the total prize money is \$100,000.

I would like to send a special thank you to those that taught me the love of the game and encouraged me to stay with it: Allen Clubfoot, Derek Knowshisgun, Kinsley Walksalong, and April Haugen. There are many others whom I appreciate just as much, but those few really stuck beside me during some of the hardest times in my life, and for that I am deeply grateful.



*Northern Cheyenne Junior Handgame Team*



*Misty Pipe and Kinsley Walksalong*



*From left to right: Misty Pipe, Derek Knowshisgun, Allen Clubfoot, and Kinsley Walksalong*

By Kinsley Walksalong

Hello! I would like to share with you a little bit about how I became involved with stickgames. In 2009, when I first enrolled at CDKC, I was registering for my courses when I saw that a handgame class was offered with the chance of competing on the CDKC handgame team at the AIHEC conference in Missoula, M.T. Allen Clubfoot and Derek Knowshisgun were the instructors at the time. I was excited! I always wanted to learn how to play the different styles of stickgames and to catch on to the beautiful songs the players sing. My first day of handgame class I got hooked! Thankfully, that year I did get pick for the handgame team to compete at AIHEC. The following year we also competed in Phoenix, AZ, where our team took 4th place out of 20 teams. It is one of the best memories of my life. I want to give thanks to the staff at CDKC for their support, and much love and respect to my handgame family.

## 1st Annual Cheyenne Language Bowl

Congratulations to the winners!!

### High School Competition

*1st place:* Colstrip High School (Swift Hawks), Coach Bill Briggs

*2nd place:* Lame Deer High School (Star Nation 1), Coach Larry Medicine Bull

*3rd place:* St. Labre High School, Coach Adeline Fox

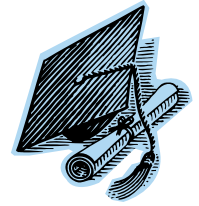
### College Competition

*1st place:* The Birds; *2nd place:* The Animals; *3rd place:* The Shoes



# Chief Dull Knife College Class of 2011

Congratulations to our students who will be earning their associate's degrees this May!



Darnelia Blackwolf  
Joey R. DiTonno  
George Benjamin Elkshouder III  
Marty Lynn Ewing  
Channon Nicole Freemont  
Everdean R. Goodluck, Sr.  
Rhea Larae Harris  
Edwin Jones  
Georgiann L. Kellum  
Delrae King  
Albert Lee LaRance  
Tamaria B. Littlebear  
Dalrae Dawn Medicinehorse  
Chennille Alexius Olson  
Misty D. Pipe

## CDKC Graduation 2011

*Commencement will be held on  
Monday, May 9, at 6PM  
in the Allen Rowland Gymnasium*

### Class Motto

*Take pride in how far you have come,  
have faith in how far you will go.*

### Class Flower

*Blue Carnation*

Wayne Gerald Roundstone  
Chahoristah Rowland  
Kristina Grace Salois  
Rhonda L. Salois-Sankey  
Stella Jean Seminole  
Monique R. Shotgun  
Crystalynn Rose Shoulderblade  
Wendale C. Shoulderblade  
Charmayne Jules Spang  
Morgan Arthur Stewart  
Emily B. Walksalong  
Kinsley F. Walksalong  
Anna M. Weaselbear  
Tamara D. Weaselbear

## Words of Wisdom: CDKC graduates share their plans, memories, and advice

What are your plans after graduation?

"I plan to attend The University of Montana where I will hopefully enter their physical therapy program."

~ Charmayne Spang

"I plan on continuing my education in the science field."

~ Wayne Roundstone

"I plan to attend a four-year university and earn my bachelor's degree in nursing."

~ Rhea Harris

"I am planning to take on-line classes for my B.A. at MSU-Bozeman. I want to stay with my job at Head Start, as my job is very important in the community."

~ Crystalynn Shoulderblade

"Work and save up for future schooling."

~ Tamaria Littlebear

"My plans and career goals are already in place. I enrolled at U of Mary out of Bismarck, ND, and started working at the Board of Health."

~ Anna Weaselbear

What was the most challenging part of school for you?

"Raising children and being a full-time student."

~ Wayne Roundstone

"Taking care of my baby and keeping up my studies."

~ Anna Weaselbear

"Finding funding."

~ Kristina Salois

"A quiet place to study away from school. Transportation and living with other people."

~ Morgan Stewart

How did you overcome the challenges?

"Belief in a brighter future."

~ Wayne Roundstone

"By getting to know my teachers more, getting my work done by the due dates, and keeping up with all my classes."

~ Wendale Shoulderblade

"By working hard at getting my homework done before I left the college, so when I got home it was just time for my baby."

~ Anna Weaselbear

## Words of Wisdom: CDKC graduates share their plans, memories, and advice

“I had to balance my time with CDKC, Head Start, and my family. I attended class every day and studied; also, good communication with instructors is very important”

~ *Crystalynn Shoulderblade*

“By taking matters into my own hands and by help from Teri Dahle (thanks Teri!).”

~ *Kristina Salois*

“By applying for each and every scholarship that came out.”

~ *Dalrae Medicinehorse*

“I had to study really hard to get through math, even going to summer school—but I passed!”

~ *Tamara Weaselbear*

“Even when I lost every note I took, I said ‘they’re not gonna keep me from doing what I feel I need to do to better my life style and conditions.’”

~ *Morgan Stewart*

What is your favorite memory from CDKC?

“In Phoenix, AZ, when we went down for the American Indian Education Conference and just had a blast.”

~ *Charmayne Spang*

“Cheyenne Fear Factor.”

~ *Tamaria Littlebear*

“When Robert Shotgunn asked me to be a representative for CDKC for Native American Day in New Jersey. We were taken on a tour of Times Square in New York.”

~ *Wayne Roundstone*

“Meeting Lou Diamond Philips!”

~ *Chahoristah Rowland*

“When the college gave me a ‘hovose-naha’enenestotse’ computer.”

~ *George Elkshoulder III*

“Hanging out in the book store when I wasn’t in class with my good friend Janelle, and also my guitar class (thanks Vince for really teaching me how to rock out!).”

~ *Kristina Salois*

“Attending Cheyenne language class with Bert. He made it fun and challenging.”

~ *Rhea Harris*

“Being in Kate Bertin’s classes. She made them fun to be in.”

~ *Tamara Weaselbear*

“Seeing my name on the graduation list. Yeah! Woo-hoo!”

~ *Dalrae Medicinehorse*

What advice would you give to current CDKC students as they work towards graduation?

“The will to win, the desire to succeed, the urge to reach your full potential, these are the keys that will unlock the door to personal excellence.”

~ *Eddie Robinson, quoted by Charmayne Spang*

“Stay up on top of your schooling no matter how hard it gets; there will always be something standing in the way—find a way to overcome it.”

~ *Wendale Shoulderblade*

“Stay focused throughout each semester. Attendance and studying is very important. Take a break once in awhile then refocus.”

~ *Crystalynn Shoulderblade*

“Don’t give up. Staff at CDKC will work with you in receiving higher learning. Get involved with activities; it will help you in staying in school. Come to school and do your homework; it will be way easier and a lot more fun.”

~ *Morgan Stewart*

No matter how hard it gets...

**NEVER GIVE UP!**

~ *Dalrae Medicinehorse*

“Work hard, don’t give up, and talk to your advisor when you feel like giving up.”

~ *Tamara Weaselbear*

“Do whatever it takes to finish. When someone tells you, ‘you can’t do it,’ don’t believe it!”

~ *Albert LaRance*

“I would encourage future and current CDKC students to work hard because it pays off to get good grades; don’t ever give up.”

~ *Anna Weaselbear*

“Stick it out because before you know it, it’ll be all over.”

~ *Chahoristah Rowland*

## News and Announcements

### Summer Session Classes

**1st Session: May 16-June 24**  
**2nd Session: July 5-August 12**

There will be two sessions of summer classes this year at CDKC. A full course load is being offered during each session.

Stop by the registration office or call Maria at 477-6215 ext. 107 or Thelma at ext. 105 for more information.

*Registration is now open for all interested students and community members!*

### Awards Banquet

**May 5, 6PM**  
**Lame Deer High School Foyer**

Come honor CDKC students who have excelled in academics and extra-curricular activities during the 2010-11 school year. Tickets for the banquet dinner, catered by Famous Dave's, can be purchased at the door.

### Summer Course SC 299

### Sustainable Building Technologies



This 3-credit course will run from June 13–July 14.

Learn about green housing technologies that save money and the environment. Conduct home energy assessments for money-saving home improvements.

Meeting times will be Monday through Thursday, 5PM-7PM. There will be no class during the 4th of July Powwow.

*Stop by CDKC to register for the course or talk to Cori in Room 200 to find out more information.*

### Payroll Addresses

Please let Shelly know in the Business Office if you have any changes to your address or information so that she can update her files!

## News from Dr. J: Woodenlegs Library Receives a Facelift

By Joan Hantz

### *Library Improvements*

Dr. John Woodenlegs Library now has a new look. New carpet has been installed and the front wall has been knocked out. New furniture is arriving next month. A new roof and furnace are in the plans as well.

The library has also received new computers from a Department of Defense grant submitted by the IT department at CDKC. The library is very appreciative of the new additions and we wish to thank Bill Wertman and Jeff Hooker for their support for the library.

### *Summer Youth Program*

Are you thinking about the Summer Youth Program? We sure are. Henri



Thompson and Joan Hantz are working on the schedules, which will be completed next week. Get your children enrolled for fun and free activities. Star Nayeia will be performing and will do a workshop on healthy eating. Star's performance will be June 7<sup>th</sup> at the Library.

### *Mother's Day Drawing*

Hey Moms, Dr. J is having a drawing just for you in honor of Mother's Day! During the month of May, whenever you return a book to the library your name will be put in a drawing. So drop by the library and grab a couple of books to relax with because you deserve it, Mom!! Drawing will be held May 25<sup>th</sup>.

*Bored? Check out the library and check out a book or DVD!*

New arrivals come in every day. Wonderful summer reading and DVDs are sure to keep the whole family entertained. The library staff appreciates your patronage and continuing support.

*Interested in helping with the next newsletter?  
See Cori in Room 200!*

### **Chief Dull Knife College**

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