

**Book Review:**

"I am a Man, Chief Standing Bear's Journey for Justice"

· [See page 5.](#)

**Lakota and Berenstain Bears**

Lakota language is coming to Berenstain Bears. [See page 5.](#)

**Leo Davis: A Role Model at MSU**

Inspiring story of pure strength. \ [See page 5.](#)



October 2010

[Nebraska Department of Education](#)

Office of Multicultural/Native American Education

[www.education.ne.gov/mce](http://www.education.ne.gov/mce)

## Be intentional: Make Time to Celebrate American Indian Culture and Contributions

*We are not asking that our children be educated at the expense of any other child. We are asking that our children be educated as well as any other child.*

### Editorial by Carol Remp

When you are working on a doctorate degree you read a lot. Then when you get done reading you read some more. And after that...well you get the idea. Fortunately I have been able to make some time to read a couple of books for pleasure that are also interesting books for my dissertation. It was while finishing *I Am a Man: Chief Standing Bear's Journey for Justice* by Joe Starita that I was able to put into words what I wanted to share in this month's editorial.

At the end of *I Am A Man*, Larry Wright, Jr., Chairman of the Ponca Tribe of Nebraska and a former history teacher at Lincoln High in Lincoln was speaking about what he taught in his history classes. He said he wanted his students to know some of the things he has learned from his elders. He said it is important for our children to know about George Washington and Abraham Lincoln because these are important stories. He went on to say, "But there are some other stories worth knowing, too. What's more American than loving your country, your homeland this much? What's more American than loving your son and the traditions of

your people so much that you would risk everything to honor a promise? What's more American than preferring death in a freedom flight home to dying slowly as a prisoner in a place you hate, a place you have no connection to? I mean, this is a man who took on the US Government on a different kind of battlefield—and he won. When you think about it, it's one of the best American stories we have." (pg 235)

Very often I hear that we all need to just get along. We all need to just be Americans. If we would do that we would not need to set aside special days or months to celebrate one culture over another. I hear that American Indians "aren't the only poor kids" so "why do they get special treatment?" There are many organizations who would have us believe that by focusing on strategies for promoting our historically underserved and lowest performing students we are leaving out other students who deserve the assistance too. I would argue that a clear and thorough study of federal policy needs to be completed. The treaties that the United States government entered into with American Indian tribes make specific provisions for our children's education.

We are not asking that our children be educated at the expense of any other child. We are asking that our children be educated as well as any other child.

This idea however goes hand in hand with the need to educate all children about American Indian's in an authentic and accurate way. This brings me back to Mr. Wright's comments. There are many, many contributions to American History that are also part of the story of the American Indian. They help us to better and more clearly understand who we are as a nation today. Ideally these would be blended into the curriculum in an on-going manner along with the histories of all diverse populations but realistically this is not happening. So I advocate for teachers and school districts to take some time in November to be intentional about integrating American Indian culture, stories, and history into your curriculum. Be intentional about sharing with your students the contributions to the building of this country that are part of American Indian culture. Share the stories of the WWII code talkers, the land that was given up in order to propagate western expansion, the structure of tribal governments—past and present, the ideas of Generosity, Bravery, Wisdom, and Respect for yourself, your family and the world around you.

**Family Literacy**

It starts NOW and with you at home. See how important it is your child's development... [See page 5.](#)

**Why Parents Say NO**

Government doesn't monitor but you as the parent can. [See page 6](#)

**Native American Month-Nov**

Make a Difference Day-Oct 23  
World Kindness Week-Nov 8-15  
National family Volunteer Day-Nov. 20  
National Teens Don't Text & Drive-Nov 21-27



## Student Grant and Scholarship Time

[See page 6](#)

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**ROOM**  
-For rent-  
Call owner

**“Service to others is the rent you pay for your room here on earth.”  
Muhammad Ali**

# “Pride in Our Heritage. Honor to Our Ancestors”

## 2010 Theme for Native American Heritage Month selected by the Bureau of Indian Affairs

At the turn of the century Dr. Arthur C. Parker, a Seneca Indian persuaded the Boy Scouts of America to set aside a day for the “First Americans.”

The Congress of American Indian Association in 1915 approved an American Indian Day plan.

December 14, 1915, Red Fox James, a Blackfoot Indian,

presented the White House documents supporting a Native American Day. Red Fox rode his horse from state to state receive support for a Native American Day. There is no record of what transpired.

Several states began adopting their own dates soon after in 1916; New York being the first.

In 1976, Jerry Elliott wrote legislation that was signed by President Gerald Forde to declare October 10-16, 1976. President George H. W. Bush expanded the recognition to one month and selected November.



The Native American culture influenced much of the United States and especially the Midwest.

## NEBRASKA. . . OUR HERITAGE BEGINS WITH YOU

There is so much information regarding the Native American influence in Nebraska and the Midwest. Thousands of documents, photos and historical notations.

Our state Capitol embraces the Native American culture, never letting anyone forget the positive enrichment Native Americans had on Nebraska.

The first humans on Nebraska soil were the Paleo Indians from New Mexico region. Archeologists have found camp sites dates far back as 8,000 to 11,5000 years ago around the Scottsbluff area. The group followed the mammoth animals to grasslands across the lower U.S. When the winters returned the Paleo left the region.

This summer we witnessed the building of the earth lodge at The Great Platte River Archway. In thirteen days two tribes, blending together, teaching the other ancient skills, passing them along generation to generation. More stores being told, more history being written.



*The Great Platte River Archway Lodge  
construction June 2010*

# Educator Resources



*Pawnee Scouts, Blue  
Hawk and Coming  
Around with the Herd*

## Notable Native Americans with Nebraska Tribal Affiliations

Black Horn  
Crazy Horse  
Angel De Cora Dietz  
Chief Waukon Decorah  
Echo Hawk  
Glory of the Morning  
Chief High Hawk  
Chief Hollow Horn Bear  
Francis LaFlesche  
Chief Joseph LeFlesche Picotte  
Susan LaFlesche Picotte  
Red Cloud  
Chief Standing Bear

### All Levels/All Ages

Library of Congress: [nativeamericanheritagemonth.gov/teachers/](http://nativeamericanheritagemonth.gov/teachers/)

[Indians.org](http://Indians.org) (www.indians.org)

Fact Monster [www.factmonster.com](http://www.factmonster.com)

Smithsonian National Museum <http://www.nmai.si.edu/subpage.cfm?subpage=exhibitions&second=online>

### Activities for Elementary

[apples4theteacher.com/native-american/](http://apples4theteacher.com/native-american/)

Smithsonian Education

National Museum of the American Indian

TeacherVision (www.teacher.vision.fen.com)

### NEBRASKA History

Nebraska State Historical Society

Trailblazer Magazine

[www.nebraskahistory.org/museum/teachers/material/trailblz/ntb1.pdf](http://www.nebraskahistory.org/museum/teachers/material/trailblz/ntb1.pdf)

[www.nebraskahistory.org/museum/teachers/material/trailblz/ntb12.pdf](http://www.nebraskahistory.org/museum/teachers/material/trailblz/ntb12.pdf)

[www.nebraskahistory.org/museum/teachers/material/trailblz/ntb16.pdf](http://www.nebraskahistory.org/museum/teachers/material/trailblz/ntb16.pdf)

[The Nebraska Indian Wars Reader, 1865-1877](#)

University of Nebraska-Lincoln Umo<sup>ho</sup> Indian Heritage

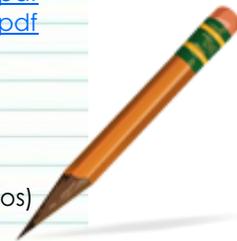
[omahatribe.unl.edu](http://omahatribe.unl.edu)

[Nebraskastudies.org](http://Nebraskastudies.org) (fantastic website with complete history and photos)

[The Great Platte River Road Archway](#)

[www.nebraskahumanities.org/speakers/trunks.html](http://www.nebraskahumanities.org/speakers/trunks.html)

Tribal Encounter kits





**“Attitude is a little thing that makes a big difference.”  
Winston Churchill**

## They Called the Spirits

The flute. They are used in spirit calling, in prayer, for dance and while traveling. The third oldest musical instrument dating back to 620 and 670 AD.

Most cultures used the drum to send messages, to dance, to express. Drums date prior to the flute and as the same, made with a variety of woods and environmental elements.

During archaeological digs, remnants of flutes are hard to find. Early flutes were constructed from perishable materials and eroded through

the centuries or bone. Travelers from the 1700s are the first to mention flutes in their writing and using the term bone whistles.



*Flutes can have 2 to 8  
eights holes*

The Lakota legend of the first flute said a young man was jilted by a pretty girl. As he sat a woodpecker peck at holes, tap, tap, tap and on cedar branch.

When the limb fell to the earth, the woodpecker continued pecking holes. The young lad heard musical notes, beautiful music.

The young woman also heard the music and ran through the forest to investigate. When she

found the young man playing the flute the woodpecker has just left, she feel in love with him.

There are numerous legends as to the origin of the Native American flute from all tribes. Each tribe has their town style of flute and purpose. Each original in design as their pottery, beading and lifestyles. Each serving an important purpose in history.

<http://www.zadjik.com/flutes/>

<http://cedarmesa.com/flutehistory.html>

[http://wind-dancer-flutes.com/History\\_of\\_the\\_native\\_american\\_f.htm](http://wind-dancer-flutes.com/History_of_the_native_american_f.htm)

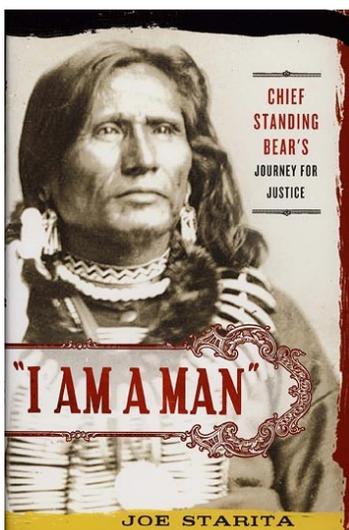
## Book Review Book Review

Lincoln City Libraries selected *I Am a Man: Chief Standing Bear's Journey for Justice* as the 2010 One Book One Lincoln selection. I have wanted to read this book since it was published and just didn't make time for it until now. I am glad that I read it so shortly after finishing Nathaniel Philbrick's *The Last Stand* (which was reviewed in the August edition of *The Drum*) for several reasons. First is because within an historical timeline the culminations of the two events follow each other. Another reason is because of one character who is central to both events: General George Crook.

While reading *The Last Stand* I kept thinking "this stuff wasn't in my history books." As I read *I Am a Man* I felt that even more strongly. I cannot help but wonder why? The authors of these books have done extensive research of the events they wrote about and then wrote in a way that is very engaging. I felt as if I was really involved in the events although they occurred over 125 years ago.

*I Am a Man* would be an excellent addition to the eighth grade curriculum. The reading level would match most eighth graders readability. It could also be used to supplement a Nebraska history course either within Social Studies or English. This book could also be used in a high school government class or American History class when studying about American Indians, westward expansion, or tribal law or history. Suggestions for how to use *I Am a Man* and *The Last Stand* in a multidisciplinary setting are on my website. Discussion questions and additional resources are also available on the One Book One Lincoln website at: <http://www.lincolnlibraries.org/depts/bookguide/obol/obol2010/front.htm>

Whether you choose to use this book as a read aloud in upper elementary, integrate it into a middle school or high school curriculum or read it for your own pleasure or knowledge I highly recommend *I Am a Man*. You will gain historical knowledge and current context about the on-going plight of American Indians across the country.



## Leo Davis a role model at MSU

Over 270 pounds of pure strength. The strength to endure the bruising but this bruising is from racial slurs and negative comments about his Native American heritage.

Davis has been featured in numerous articles as a power house on and off the field at Montana State University. He is president of the Native American student Caucus and a roll model for the entire campus. Davis claims relation to six tribes, Southern and Northern Piegan, Blood, Blackfeet, Lakota and Colville.

This month Montana State University features Leo on their website. What an inspiration for youth to read.

<http://www.montana.edu/cpa/news/nwview.php?article=8772>



*"No doubt. I have always wanted to be that guy that others looked up to," said Davis. "Being a role model for Native Americans has always been important to me..." "Growing up, my parents instilled in us a need to know who we are and where we came from, we grew up traditional."*



Research demonstrates—it works!!! Family literacy has a large influence on literacy development if began as a FAMILY (St. Pierre, Layzar & Barnes).

Literacy is not just reading and writing. Literacy is not being able to say though ten syllable words. It gives us the skills to socially be able to speak and interact. It doesn't begin in kindergarten but at birth.

54% of the American parents do not actively expose children to books.

Parent make reading a special family event. Turn off the television, computer and the iPods. Take turns reading aloud, discuss the pictures if you are reading to a young child. Play word games like Boggle and Scrabble if they are in

elementary or middle school.

National Center for Family Literacy  
[www.familit.org](http://www.familit.org)

Thinkfinity Literacy Network  
<http://literacynetwork.verizon.org>

National Institute for Literacy  
<http://www.nifl.gov>

Parent Resource-International Reading Association  
[www.reading.org](http://www.reading.org)



<http://www.pbs.org/wgbh/amex/weshallremain/>

Behind the Scenes is a documentary of the film makers of We Shall Remain. Meet the cast and crew.

Click on "more about the project" on the website and explore the teacher resources which include an extensive teacher guide for social studies and standards.

Fall of 2011, South Dakota Public Television will begin to broadcast twenty episodes of the cartoon series translated into Lakota. This marks the first in history children's cartoons have been translated into a Native American language.

The Lakota language has many hand movements and this will be a visual to individuals as they learn the language.

Wilhelm Meya, executive director of Lakota Language Consortium said the goal is to use modern cartoon as an educational tool. DVD and teacher's guide will be relaxed next summer. Less than 10% of the 125,000 Lakota in the region speak their language.



Lakota Language Project: [www.lakota.org/html/about.html](http://www.lakota.org/html/about.html)

## Lakota Language to Berenstain Bears



**"Time is the most valuable coin in your life. You and you alone will determine how that coin will be spent. Be careful that you don't let other people spend it for you."**  
**John Dryden**

Submitted by Judge Ernestine Gray,  
 Judge, Orleans Parish Juvenile Court  
 and RYI Board Member

Raising children can be very difficult and stressful – it is not easy. Parenting comes with huge responsibility and is perhaps the most important role that a person can have.

Parents have to take responsibility for the life they have created and bought into the world. Once the child is born it is the responsibility of the parent to raise him or her properly.

It was not the government, grandparents, schools, babysitters, day-care workers or friends who brought your child into the world. And none of the

### Why Parents should say



**Read the entire article at Reclaiming Youth International online**

[www.reclaiming.com/content/node/145](http://www.reclaiming.com/content/node/145)

above should be given primary responsibility of raising your children. Government should support parents by providing schools that educate, adequate health care, and safe recreation centers. Parents must do the heavy lifting ... the really hard work. They have got to be there twenty-four/ seven.

The government won't turn off the TV; government won't read to them, government won't monitor their curfew, their peers, their school attendance or their grades.

## 2010 Native Women & Youth in Ag Annual Writing Competition

Topic: Do your reservation farmers and ranchers feed you?

**Who Is Eligible?** Young Native American Women & Men who will be entering grades 9-12 in the Fall of 2010. Graduates of May-August 2010 are also eligible to enter. Must be a member of a Federally Recognized Tribe.

**Deadline: November 5, 2010.**

Visit our website under Grants—and sub title Student Grants for all the information

[www.education.ne.gov/mce](http://www.education.ne.gov/mce)

**Coca-Cola Scholars: Deadline October 31.** High school seniors carrying a minimum GPA of 3.0 can apply for four-year achievement-based scholarships offered by the Coca-Cola Scholars Foundation. Each year, 250 four-year scholarships of \$10,000 and \$20,000 are awarded through this program.

<https://www.coca-colascholars.org/cokeWeb/>

**Intel Science Talent Search: Deadline November 18.** The Intel Science Talent Search is a scholarship contest in which the best and brightest high school seniors can demonstrate their research projects for the chance to win a \$100,000 college scholarship. Each year, 40 finalists are selected to present their research at a week-long national conference. Finalists receive \$5,000 scholarships and have a chance to compete for the grand prize award.

<http://sciserv.org/sts/>

**Gates Millennium Scholars: Deadline January 11.** The Gates Millennium Scholars Program, funded by the Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation, awards scholarships to minority students who are eligible to receive Federal Pell Grants and have achieved academic excellence in high school. The scholarship helps students cover the portion of their college costs not funded by other grant and scholarship awards. Scholarship applicants must be nominated by an educator familiar with their academic backgrounds. <http://www.gmsp.org/>

**DELL Open November 1-January 15.** The Dell Scholars Program, sponsored by the Michael and Susan Dell Foundation, carries an award of \$20,000 to help students complete their college educations. High school seniors who have financial need and plan to enroll immediately in bachelor's degree programs can qualify by enrolling in approved college readiness programs as high school students and completing a Dell Scholars scholarship application online. Applications open on November 1 and the deadline is January 15. <http://www.dellscholars.org/public/>

## Student Scholarships



Description	Award	Eligibility	Deadline
<p><b>NEA Foundation/EP: C2i:</b> The NEA Foundation and the U.S. Department of Education have launched the Challenge to Innovate, or C2i, initiative to encourage all public school educators to identify and solve education's most pressing classroom problems. C2i is a web-based invitation that will be housed on the Department of Education's Open Innovation portal. The best ideas will receive cash awards from the NEA Foundation and may be selected for further development. . <a href="http://www.neafoundation.org/pages/educators/grant-programs/c2i-the-nea-foundations-challenge-to-innovate/">http://www.neafoundation.org/pages/educators/grant-programs/c2i-the-nea-foundations-challenge-to-innovate/</a></p>	<p>Max \$5,000</p>	<p>Public School Educators</p>	<p>October 19</p>
<p><b>CVS Caremark: Community Grants:</b> CVS Caremark Community Grants give funds to nonprofit organizations for programs targeting children with disabilities, programs focusing on health and rehabilitation services, public schools promoting a greater level of inclusion in student activities and extracurricular programs, and initiatives that give greater access to physical movement and play. Additionally, some contributions are made to organizations that provide uninsured individuals with needed care, in particular programs where the care received is of higher quality and delivered by providers who participate in accountable community health care programs. <a href="http://info.cvscaremark.com/community/our-impact/community-grants">http://info.cvscaremark.com/community/our-impact/community-grants</a></p>	<p>Max \$5,000</p>	<p>Nonprofits targeting children with disabilities; public schools with programs for children under age 18 with disabilities.</p>	<p>October 31</p>
<p><b>State Farm/NYLC: Project Ignition:</b> State Farm and the National Youth Leadership Council are sponsoring Project Ignition, which funds programs that give high school students and their teachers the chance to work together to address the issue of teen driver safety. <a href="http://www.sfprojectignition.com/">http://www.sfprojectignition.com/</a></p>	<p>Max \$2,000</p>	<p>Students Grades 9-12</p>	<p>November 15</p>
<p><b>The College Board: Costas Awards:</b> The Bob Costas Awards for the Teaching of Creative Writing support exceptional teachers who through their innovative teaching methods motivate their students to write. Winning teachers are awarded grants to enhance successful projects currently underway. Projects can be carried out in school (public or nonpublic), through an after-school writing workshop, or during a summer program. <a href="http://professionals.collegeboard.com/k-12/awards/costas">http://professionals.collegeboard.com/k-12/awards/costas</a></p>	<p>Max \$3,000</p>	<p>Teachers from all academic disciplines grades 6-12.</p>	<p>November 19</p>
<p><b>The College Board: Inspiration Awards:</b> The Inspiration Awards celebrate America's most improved high schools, those that have improved their academic environment and helped their students achieve the promise of a higher education by initiating unique programs and creating partnerships among teachers, parents, community organizations, and local businesses. <a href="http://professionals.collegeboard.com/k-12/awards/inspiration">http://professionals.collegeboard.com/k-12/awards/inspiration</a></p>	<p>Max \$25,000</p>	<p>Secondary schools (public and nonpublic) in which 40% or more receive free or reduced-price lunches</p>	<p>November 19</p>



## Opportunities rolling in for educators and schools

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“Kids: they dance before they learn there is anything that isn’t music.”  
William Cox

November	Native American Heritage Month
	Family Togetherness Month
Oct. 18-24	Freedom from Bullies Week
Oct. 23	Make a Difference Day
Oct. 23	School Library Day
Nov. 1	National Family Literacy Day
Nov. 8-15	World Kindness Week
Nov. 9	National Young Reader’s day
Nov. 14-20	American Education Week
Nov. 20	National Family Volunteer Day
Nov. 21-27	National Teens Don’t Text & Drive Week

## Plan Ahead



### Teacher and Student Workshops

Lied Center-Lincoln  
[www.liedcenter.org](http://www.liedcenter.org)

Student matinees scheduled at nominal fee of \$4.00 per individual.

Midsummer Night’s Dream, November 2010

Alice in Wonderland, February 2011

Disney’s Choo Choo Soul, March 2011

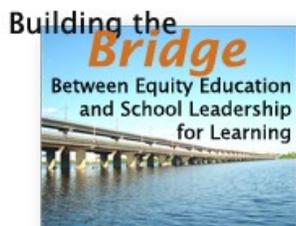
Teacher workshops scheduled:

1. Dramatizing the Content with Curriculum Based Readers Theatre, teachers of grades 5-12
2. Poetry Off the Page, teachers of grades 5-8

Teacher resources:

1. Kennedy Center Partners in Education Program Performance Guides
2. Professional Development for Teachers
3. Professional Development for Teaching Artists

November 9–10, 2010  
Kearney NE  
Kearney Holiday Inn



Research to Action Forum

Visit our website for complete information and registration.

[www.education.ne.gov/MCE/ActionForum.html](http://www.education.ne.gov/MCE/ActionForum.html)

REGISTRATION ENDS SOON

# Motivating Unmotivated Students



Native American Symposium  
November 1, 2010  
Wayne State College  
Sponsors

Nebraska Department of Education and ESU 1  
Register by calling 402-471-4677 or  
[peg.kirby@nebraska.gov](mailto:peg.kirby@nebraska.gov)

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