



Volunteer workers put the finishing touches on new playground equipment for the children at the Nurturing Center group home. The project was a gift from the American Indian Partnership with money raised through the Blackfeet Children's Christmas Fund.

New outdoor play equipment donated to Nurturing Center

By GREGG PAISLEY
For the Glacier Reporter

Big people with big hearts showed up at the Nurturing Center to do something good for little people, now with happy hearts. Volunteers last week assembled much-needed outdoor play equipment for the kids at the group home.

The work party included John and Kathy Schmid, Lockley Joe Bremner, Wendy Bremner Running Crane, and Custom Harvesting Crew Jon Detweiler, Curran Howell, Katie Schmid, Kate Wenger and Kirsten Detweiler.

The commercial-quality play equipment should last for many years and was a gift from the American Indian Partnership (AIP), who raised the money through their Blackfeet Children's Christmas Fund. The purchase was made possible by a large donation from Tony Sitzmann, whose donations over the years have provided hundreds of gifts for Blackfeet children.

A spokesman for AIP said Sitzmann has

made major contributions every year since the Blackfeet Children's Christmas Fund began in 2009 and never specifies how his donations are to be spent. But this year unbeknownst to him, his contribution covered most of the cost of the outdoor play equipment AIP had hoped to purchase for the Nurturing Center. So, thank you, Tony!

AIP also recently ordered a climbing dome for delivery in November. This Christmas they hope to raise enough money in addition to their usual annual gift giving to purchase more toys, play and activity equipment and electronics for the kids at the Nurturing Center, as well as for other group and foster homes and households with large numbers of children.

AIP also wants to thank Wendy and Lockley who, for three years in a row, have volunteered and done much of the planning and legwork to ensure donor money is spent in a way that brings the most joy, fun and positive impact to the neediest Blackfeet children on the reservation.



Remember our Past... Build Our Future

Big Sky Pathway Health Science Cluster Seminar

Friday, October 24
3-6 p.m.

Blackfeet Community College – South Wind Lodge

Who Should Attend?

Public School Officials, Public School Academic Counselors, College Officials, and College Academic Counselors

Why You Should Attend?

To assist in the high school student's career pathway into Blackfeet Community College

CEUs Offered/Stipends For First 30 Attendees

Guest Speakers Include:

- ✍ Explanation Of Big Sky Pathways/Programs Of Study – Renee Harris OPI
- ✍ Rigorous Programs Of Study – Charla Merja University Of Great Falls
- ✍ Global & State Realities in EMT/EMR – Joel Henderson MSU-College Of Great Falls Paramedic Degree Program
- ✍ Connecting Education And Economic Development – Jesse Harwood Glacier County EMT Services
- ✍ Nursing Department- Julie Lindsey Blackfeet Community College

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Blackfeet Community College



Lea Whitford Fights For Us,

Because She's One of Us.

The daughter of a veteran, Lea is a member of the Blackfeet Nation and taught at Blackfeet Community College and Browning High School. She ranches on the reservation and is an experienced small business owner. She understands our families and fights for our priorities.



Experienced and Effective

Lea worked with both parties to balance the budget and fought to pass the Montana Indian Language Preservation Act, which provides critical funding to Montana tribes.



Expanding Health Care in Indian Country

Lea knows we need to expand access to healthcare in Indian Country. She'll put her experience to work for us by fighting to expand Medicaid coverage in Montana.

Montana Native Vote



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Lea Whitford for District 8