

Speak your Peace Pipe

We are going to suspend the monthly question in this space for a while until we can get some feedback as to what you would like to see in the Speak Your Peace Pipe column. If you have an opinion, let us know.

This time you can try your hand at writing captions for cartoons, so here is the first one. It will get your brains thinking of both art and writing, so let's see how this goes. We will do an exercise on this at the next Youth group for those interested. Here is the first one.

Write your own caption:



UNITY TRAINS YOUTH WHO WANT TO BE LEADERS

The 1,100 Native youth from 24 states and Canada attending the yearly five day **United National Indian Tribal Youth (UNITY)** conference this summer in Albuquerque had fun and heard some good advise about making positive changes in their home communities.

“There is no right way to do the wrong thing. Do what is right.” was from **Joe Garcia**, Ohkay Owingeh, president of the National Congress of American Indians.

“I went to one of the best universities in the country, but my best teachers were those back home who didn't speak a word of English,” was from **Regis Pecos**, Cochiti,



Native Fashion

By Patience Low Dog

This Native Chick is wearin' a cap and T-shirt sold by Tribal Gear, an Indian owned Clothing business. Their catalog is online.

Cool and comfortable. I could wear this in the summer.

GET INVOLVED AND MAKE A DIFFERENCE

You can make baked goods to sell at the Woodland Park Powwow. Then you can help the Youth Group man the Indian Center table during the powwow. It will be on Saturday, September 5th, from 9 to 6 pm, but you can work just an hour or two between dancing and shopping the other vendor booths. To donate or volunteer, call 685-1019 or email christine@exit66.com



Former college roommates, **Notah Begay**, Navajo, and **Tiger Woods**, Choctaw, raise money for Native Youth health and sports programs through the Notah Begay III Foundation golf tournament. Tiger won.

graduate of Princeton University, former governor of his tribe and a UNITY alumni.

Alvin Warren, cabinet secretary for Indian Affairs to New Mexico Governor Bill Richardson told them to prepare for leadership roles within their tribes because every contribution they make counts.

LaDonna Harris, Comanche, founder of Americans for Indian Opportunity, challenged them to prepare themselves for thinking and working globally in the near future.

The theme for the youth conference this year was “Diverse We Are, United We Stand, Together We Rise.”



Photo by Mary Kim Titla

The Alliance for a Healthier Generation talks to Native kids about healthy eating at the UNITY Conference in Albuquerque in July.

The UNITY program trains youth to be leaders, to identify their resources and to apply them daily in their lives and future. www.unityinc.org/

TEEN TOPICS PAGE

Kids Start Their Own Business!



10-year-old **Hubie Dayish** melts chocolate for candy.

They just wanted to go to the movies. It turned into a very lucrative business owned and operated by Navajo and Ute youth 8 to 15 year olds in Utah.

It was a VISTA volunteer, Elaine Borgen, they approached about earning some money for the movies. She challenged them to figure out a way to earn some money, they brainstormed with her and decided making “lollipops” would be a good money earner - and they were off and running.

They named their business Lickety Split Chocolate Studio and Borgen helped them create a non-profit business and learn the technology to create cheap yet unique chocolate molds to shape the chocolate in.

Parents were asked to serve as the legal company owners and they

were organized into a Limited Liability Company (LLC) business.

The youth are tutored four days a week by Borgen and they must maintain at least a 2.5 grade point average. Most keep at least a 3.0 average.

The Utah Tech Corp, a VISTA supported program, provides each student a computer to help with their homework. The Small Business Development Center provides them business training and support.

Lickety Split Chocolate now has their offices in Blanding, Utah, and their business is averaging \$10,000 a year in earnings.

They recently filled a large \$3,000 order for one customer that showed their chops at organization and production. According to 15 year old CEO Andrew Dayish, Navajo, “Of course we can (fill big orders), we are only limited by our imagination.”

The Navajo Wedding Basket lollipops (in the vase), are their most popular item.

The



Many hands make light work at Lickety Split

youth work hard, and they still are excelling as much in their school work as in their business.

None of the kids in Lickety Split are eighteen years old yet.

Borgen says “It’s great to look back several years and see these kids who spent hours watching TV and playing computer games now working up a strategic business plan, conducting staff meetings, developing a website and meeting with top business and government officials.”

With the children on record as company owners, they are listed as a minority owned Native American business.

Each day ends with a team meeting where they discuss progress and new strategies to make and sell chocolate.

They are indeed an impressive group. Find out more about the students and their wares at:

www.licketysplitchocolate.com/



Navajo Wedding Basket Pottery And Chocolate Lollipops

A Gift Set from Lickety Split

Out and About

Lots of kids are off to a good start in a brand new grade, so congratulations to you all...We have been out of touch with the **Larkin children**, so here is where they are now. **Nyasia** is a freshman in Mitchell High School, **Chyra** is in eighth grade at Mt. Vista Charter School, along with his niece, **Kashyus**. Keep in touch.

We are looking forward to working with some of you out there on doing an article about your school, so let us know if you would be interested in working on that with us. If you have any news about any special things you are doing in school, pass them along to us and we will put you in print. Cheerleading, football, basketball, track, drama, etc. We want to know what is going on out there.