



VIGOROUSLY ACADEMIC 🐾 BEAUTIFULLY DIVERSE 🐾 THOROUGHLY CHRISTIAN

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All Charged Up

Rehoboth Alumna uses renewable-energy development to make future brighter for American Indian tribes

By Ollie Reed Jr. / *Albuquerque Journal*
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For several days this week Sandra Begay will be with the Nooksack, a small, American Indian tribe in northwest Washington state, about 12 miles south of the Canadian border.

"I'll tell them that the world for their tribe, for their kids, will be better if they are generating their own energy," Begay said during an interview at her northeast Albuquerque townhouse. "We can talk about solar panels. Sustainable energy can save money they could use to buy computers for their children."

Begay, 60, who is Diné (Navajo), works for Sandia National Laboratories as the labs' lead staffer in a program that assists American Indian tribes with renewable energy developments.

In the last 22 years, she has worked with 20 tribes across the country, from Acoma Pueblo and the Crow Nation to the Turtle



Sandra Begay-Campbell ('84?) works at Sandia Labs in sustainable energy projects.
photo by Jon Austria | *Albuquerque Journal*

Mountain Chippewa and the White Mountain Apache.

"The big focus is on strategic energy planning," said Begay, who has degrees in civil and structural engineering. "We go to tribes all across the country and help them look for a 10-year vision, strategies and action plans."

Pretty analytical

Begay grew up in Gallup, the daughter of Edward T. Begay, who served as vice chairman and, later, speaker of the Navajo Nation, and Cecilia Damon Begay, who was an Indian Health Service nurse for 30 years. Her older sister, Sharlene Begay-Platero, is the Industrial Development Representative for the Navajo Nation.

"I lived in Gallup when I was young, but my dad was a tribal council member for Church Rock, so I was on the reservation **p.2 »**

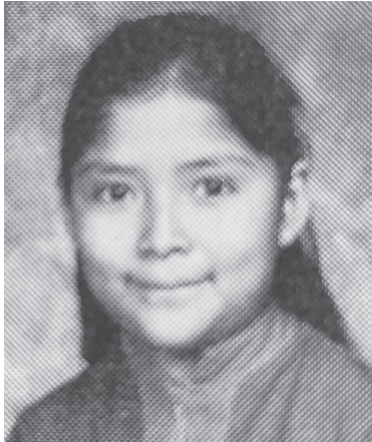
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most Sundays, playing in the dirt," Begay said. "Most of my dad's family still lives in those canyons off of Red Rock Park."

She attended 12 years of classes at Rehoboth (New Mexico) Christian School, near Gallup. Her parents had been sweethearts when they were students at the school, which was founded by the Christian Reformed Church in 1903 as



Sandra's school photos through her years as a student at Rehoboth Christian School.



Rehoboth Mission School.

Begay recalls visiting with her first-grade teacher years after graduating from Rehoboth Christian High School.

"She told me, 'You used to sit quietly, do all your work and when you were done, you'd come up and ask for more work,'" Begay said. "I finally figured out I'm pretty analytical, pretty introverted. I'm quiet, but like a sponge. In school, it was 'How do I solve problems?'" Begay did play briefly for the school basketball team. "My mom wanted me to get more exercise," she said. "But every time I fouled someone, I'd say, 'I'm sorry.'" Told she was not supposed to be apologizing for fouls, Begay decided basketball was not for her and became a cheerleader instead.

"That went against my introverted nature," she said.

"But I can be loud now when I want. I can show emotion, even though I'm usually very stoic. And I can be a cheerleader for people when I need to be."



Sandra was a quiet, hardworking student while at Rehoboth, who eventually did cheerleading in high school.

Right: Sandra (center) holding a solar panel with students in the Sandia-Department of Energy Indian Energy Internship Program which she initiated in 2001.

Photo: Randy Montoya | Sandia Labs

Just me

Begay said when she was in fourth grade, a teacher asked her what she wanted to do, and she said she wanted to be an architect — until she found out architects did a lot of rendering. She doesn't consider artistic endeavors to

be among her strong suits.

"There's this stereotype that all Native Americans are artistic, but I proved that wrong," she said.

So, her teacher suggested she might want to be an engineer. He told her engineers worked with architects, that engineers made sure buildings did not fall down. Begay liked the sound of that.

After finishing at Rehoboth Christian, she went to Calvin College (now Calvin University), a Christian Reformed Church institution in Grand Rapids, Michigan, because her best friend was going there and because Begay's parents had also attended the college.

But she only lasted one semester at Calvin, before coming home and enrolling at the University of New Mexico.

"I needed my family to get through engineering school," she said. "I went to UNM-Gallup for two years. I took every class I could take there and then transferred to UNM's main campus. I needed to find my self-confidence. I had lost it in Michigan."

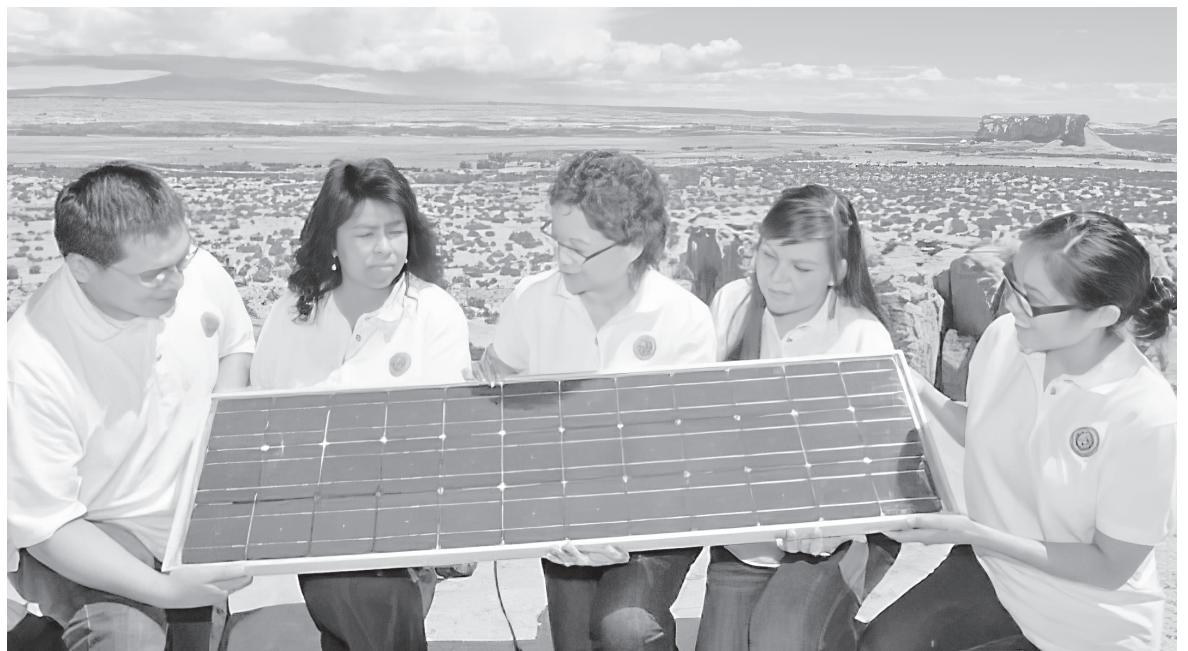
Need to heal

After earning a bachelor of science in civil engineering at UNM in 1987, she worked at Lawrence Livermore National Laboratories in California before pursuing a master's degree at Stanford. She selected Stanford in part because it had a pronounced American Indian community. That, however, turned out to be of little comfort.

"My studies were so intense, I did not have a chance to interact with that community," she said. "And I was the only woman of color in a male-dominated engineering department. I felt isolated, alone. I struggled."

But this time she persisted.

"I had a full fellowship," she said. "I had to finish. Stanford is one of the top three structural engineering schools. I p.3 »



Our Alumni

by Bob Ippel

A Legacy of Achievement and Character

Any 120-year-old school would have a vast network of alumni, and Rehoboth Christian School is no exception. I may be a little biased, but I am constantly amazed by the accomplishments of Rehoboth's former students. Even in the past months, I have had the gift of alumni stories come across my desk. Robert Cupp '03 was busy with location scouting in the Sandia Mountains for a Netflix movie being filmed in New Mexico. The pioneering work of Sandra Begay '81 in renewable energy was displayed on the front page of the Albuquerque Journal. Tim Feddes '06, who has dedicated the past ten years to missionary work in the Himalayas, sent an email update. Rehoboth's director of community life, Verlena Livingston '96, reminded me of her years as student council and class president back in the 1990s. Dr. Phil Kamps



Verlena Livingston '96: Director of Community Life at RCS

'57 dropped off his memoirs and shared memories of his Rehoboth school days and his life as a physician in Gallup. Lyla June Johnston called to share that her grandmother and Rehoboth alumna Florence McGabe passed away at the age of 100 after dedicating her life to the world of education. What a gift to be able to witness the contributions of Rehoboth alumni!

While the various vocations of our alumni are certainly something to celebrate, I am equally moved by the outstanding character of our alumni. Each person

mentioned above is so much more than what they do; they are people of character. It brings immense joy to meet former students who have grown into loving and caring parents. Witnessing the compassion of alumni who are raising children of relatives or others because of their deep care is truly heartwarming. It is also so inspiring to find out about all the nonprofits started by Rehoboth alumni. Many are actively involved in worship leadership, whether through preaching or music.



Dr. Phil Kamps '57 with medical students

Furthermore, our alumni are dedicated to pursuing justice through efforts in racial



Tim Feddes '06 and family serve as missionaries in the Himalayas.

reconciliation, environmental conservation, and the celebration of cultural identity. Whether they are working on the railroad or in the classroom, participating in rodeo events, or sharing their art, Rehoboth alumni demonstrate a character that reflects their Creator.

Paradoxically, I have also been able to witness the resilience and strength of our alumni during times of struggle. Honest and raw encounters dealing with job loss, depression, marital

strife, addictions, doubt, and painful past experiences at Rehoboth have deepened the connections with our alumni. I am moved when I hear about alumni who still reach out to current or retired staff for support, encouragement, or guidance. It is a privilege to be part of the lifelong journey of Rehoboth alumni. How humbling it is to be a part of a community that not only celebrates the accomplishments but also cares about the hurting hearts of its alumni!

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did want that challenge. But I had to remember who I am and that I will always be unique in situations."

She left Stanford in 1991 with a master's of science in structural engineering with an emphasis on earthquake engineering.

Building leaders

After Stanford, Begay worked

at Los Alamos National Laboratory before going to Sandia in 1992. Except for taking a year's leave of absence in 2019 to serve as director of the city of Albuquerque's Environmental Health Department, she has been at Sandia ever since.

In 2001, she initiated the Sandia-DOE (Department of Energy) Indian Energy

Internship Program for American Indian students studying engineering, energy and the environment. She has mentored 50 students in that program.

More to do

Begay's childhood home in Gallup had electricity and running water, but the homes of her relatives on the reser-

vation did not.

Her work on the Navajo Reservation has made solar-powered electricity available to many more than 500 residences, and large solar plants or farms on the reservation are generating energy there as well as surplus energy that can be sold to cities such as Phoenix; Tucson; Las Vegas, Nevada; and L.A.

But there are still 13,000 homes on the Navajo Reservation without electricity.

"I think I have made a difference on the Navajo Reservation and for many other tribes that have participated in strategic energy planning," Begay said. "But there's a lot more to do."

Making Their Mark

by Lois Harvey

Three Alumni Find Success in Art and Business

Jessica Schell Jonkman '04, Jennifer Schell Berg '11, and Tressa Harvey Weidenaar '00, are three Rehoboth Christian School alumni who have taken their interests and then developed them to a professional level of designing, publishing and promoting their art.

After graduating from Rehoboth in 2004, Jessica Jonkman married RCS alumnus Brian Jonkman. They eventually settled in Albuquerque, New Mexico, where they are raising their three children. After completing her degree in history and education and working as a teacher, Jess felt she needed a career that would allow her to stay at home to care for their daughter who was born with Down Syndrome and had other medical

issues that needed dedicated care. Growing up on the Navajo reservation, surrounded by the silver and turquoise jewelry in her family's business, Chee's Indian Store, Jessica was inspired to pursue the art of silversmithing, following in the footsteps of her maternal grandfather. She has developed an extraordinary style of combining the old techniques of her grandfather with the new, more contemporary designs. Jess has always had the desire to work with her hands and believes that "God, the Creator, gives us a heart and desire to create beautiful things."

Jennifer Berg, younger sister of Jessica, graduated from Rehoboth in 2011 and married RCS alumnus Anders Berg. Jen completed her degree in Community and Regional Planning, but after starting a family, and raising two small children, Jen's interest turned to knitting, a hobby she began while in college. Jennifer finds joy in the knitting field, and this has led to it becoming her career,

which allows her to be at home with her children and also to teach and travel to promote her designs. Jen saw a lack of Native representation in the knitwear world which led her to designing patterns inspired by the beauty of the Navajo country around her. In her knitting business Jen has felt God moving in her life through the connections she makes with others, even though she sometimes feels alone in the industry. She says, "I know that God understands this and has me in this place for a purpose...and to remember that all the glory goes to Him."



Tressa Weidenaar '00

Tressa Harvey Weidenaar graduated from Rehoboth in 2000 and then pursued a degree in education at UNM. She was hired as the mid-school math teacher at Rehoboth where she met and married RCS English teacher Seth Weidenaar. After the birth of their daughter, Tressa left her teaching job and pursued her interest in knitting which she learned from her maternal grandmother as a



Jess Jonkman ('04) and some of her jewelry



Jennifer Berg ('11) wears one of her Native design sweaters, with various items she has made below.



Saving Healthcare

Alumna is God's Agent for Change in Gallup

by Gail DeYoung

What does one do when the hospital that was a big part of your life begins to fall apart? What does one do when a forced change after 25 years of service, leads to the end of a vital community career as hospital chaplain? How does one emotionally respond to watching hundreds of lives lost to Covid only to be shut out of the job that had asked you to risk your life to minister to others?

For Rehoboth Christian School alumna Kris Pikaart '88, it has meant starting over and becoming God's agent for change within a medical

community that was on the brink of disaster. Rehoboth McKinley Christian Hospital through years of mismanagement was on the verge of declaring bankruptcy, or worse, simply shutting down. In a community where 45% of the population has only the emergency room as their health care provider, medical leaders joined forces to start from the ground up and built Gallup Community Health where Kris currently serves as director of operations.

Kris quotes Richard Rohr as she reflects on the incredible events that brought her into leadership at Gallup Community Health. "The best criticism of the bad is the practice of the better."

Gallup Community Health is a non-profit primary care clinic serving Gallup and McKinley County, determined to make excellent healthcare accessible to all. It is composed of a self-sacrificing group of 15 doctors and 20 other staff members that has answered the need, and Gallup healthcare is stronger for it. Rejection is indeed God's protection!

As a student at RCS, Kris's talks with pastors Rolf Veenstra and Larry Doornbos were part of the catalyst for her pursuit of theology in college and seminary. "RCS

did a good job of helping me search for answers to the big questions. I was positioned to think through issues and feel safe doing it." She continued her study, becoming a chaplain which then led her back to Gallup, New Mexico, and Rehoboth McKinley Christian Hospital. Kris also served as a part-time counselor at Rehoboth Christian

High School and is also a sought after preacher to fill in at area church services.

Kris is married to Sanjay Choudhrie, a champion for the homeless in Gallup. Their daughter Daya '21 is studying public health at the University of New Mexico, and daughter Lysie is a senior at RCS.



Kris Pikaart is the Director of Operations at Gallup Community Health

TFT Conference Gathers at Rehoboth

For the last six years, Rehoboth has been diligently implementing a philosophy of education called Teaching for Transformation, or TFT for short—a systematic way to integrate Christian faith into our teaching and learning. This year, the TFT facilitators asked to hold their annual conference at Rehoboth, and from November 29 to December 2, 2023, 120 educators from the extensive TFT network descended onto our campus for a training intensive

that would equip them as coaches for their colleagues at their own schools.

Some conference goers spent a pre-conference day out on the Navajo Nation Reservation experiencing and learning about the work of various Christian organizations in our area. They also had the chance to walk through classes here at Rehoboth—observing our teachers in action and conducting mini coaching sessions with them. In the evenings, they were treated to great meals and a cultural



TFT conference attendees working with clean water in Thoreau NM experience of Native flute and traditional dancing. It's always affirming to hear people from outside our

school notice and appreciate the intentionality of our work with our students, and we were grateful to share a

slice of our efforts with the larger Christian education community by hosting the TFT conference.

Family of Grads

The Carlises: Leadership, Labor, Loyalty

by Ron Polinder

Notice the plural—Carlises. That's because we go back five generations to tell of a medicine man named Hosteen Cowboy who became friends with missionary Andrew VanderWagen over a century ago. They respected each other and recognized how much they had in common. Hosteen saw the importance of schooling and concluded the Rehoboth Mission taught an outlook on life that would best serve his son, Ed Cowboy.

Ed Cowboy went through the 6th grade at Rehoboth, but then there came along an Ed Cowboy Jr. '58. Dad remembered that Rehoboth was a good school and the right place for his boy. Thus enters a second generation who attended and flourished—who caught on to the mission of the mission school. Years later he wrote a memoir in which he set forth so clearly what teachers and coaches, pastors and Rehoboth Superintendent Jacob Bosscher instilled in him. Ed Cowboy Jr.'s high school years provided a well-rounded education, a good basketball team, and a sweetheart, Dorothy Bowman, from a Christian family in Tohatchi. He then went to the Marines, and university and all the way through law school. There he changed his name

to Carlisle, which sounded more professional. As a young Navajo with training in law and jobs plentiful, Ed Carlisle worked for the Bureau of Indian Affairs (BIA) for most of his career.

When moving from Albuquerque to Gallup, Ed and Dorothy enrolled their three elementary children at Rehoboth. While there are numerous parts of his professional life worthy of exploration, his work on the RCS School Board was exemplary. The Rehoboth School Board was formed in 1974 and given responsibility for the day-to-day operation of the school. Ed Carlisle was elected to the board in the late 70's and was soon chosen as chair. He brought skill and good judgment to the task.

Gord Kamps, who filled the role of Rehoboth superintendent from 1982-90, was equally grateful for Ed Carlisle's style. "He was an excellent leader of the RCS Board. The transition to an independent school had many twists and turns, but Ed wanted to move forward as a leader who stood up for Christ and for things that were good for his people." Ed's leadership was crucial to sustaining Rehoboth during this time of major transition.

The three Carlisle kids did well with



The Carlisle family has been involved with Rehoboth for five generations.

their Rehoboth education. Ladonna '84 earned a degree from New Mexico State (NMSU) and spent her entire career working in agriculture and range management. Then came twins: Danielle '85, who married Rehoboth grad David Slim '82 and focused on mothering and working in medical records; and Donovan Carlisle '85, who with his certificate in surveying, worked 25 years with the roads department for the BIA, and then nine years ago came to work at Rehoboth.

Donovan, with his wife Audrey, have five children, who followed the Carlisle pattern: attending Rehoboth Christian School and making post high school education a priority. Alex Carlisle '08, attended NMSU, majoring in agriculture and is now working in Arizona's Natural Resources and Agriculture Department. Ashley Mueller '13 headed to Colorado State and studied Fish and

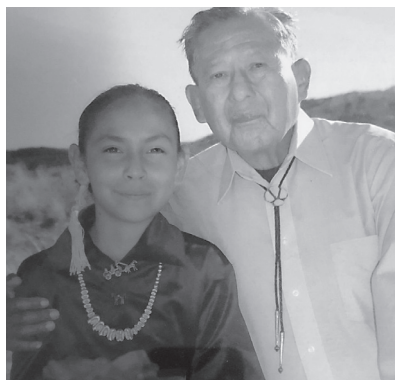
Wildlife Management, now working in that field in Colorado. Cheyanne Carlisle '18, went to New Mexico State University (NMSU), earning a degree in animal science, then to New Mexico Highlands University for her Master's in Curriculum. She now teaches mid-school science in Las Vegas, New Mexico. Dally Carlisle '21 studies agriculture at NMSU, and continues to raise and show beef cattle at various fairs. Dylane Carlisle attended Rehoboth and also hopes to study agriculture at NMSU.

Beyond his day job at Rehoboth, Donovan has always engaged in ranching on land inherited from both sides of his family. There is another dimension to Donovan's life—he's a spiritual man, which is seen in conversation, in his prayers for his family, for churches and for Rehoboth.

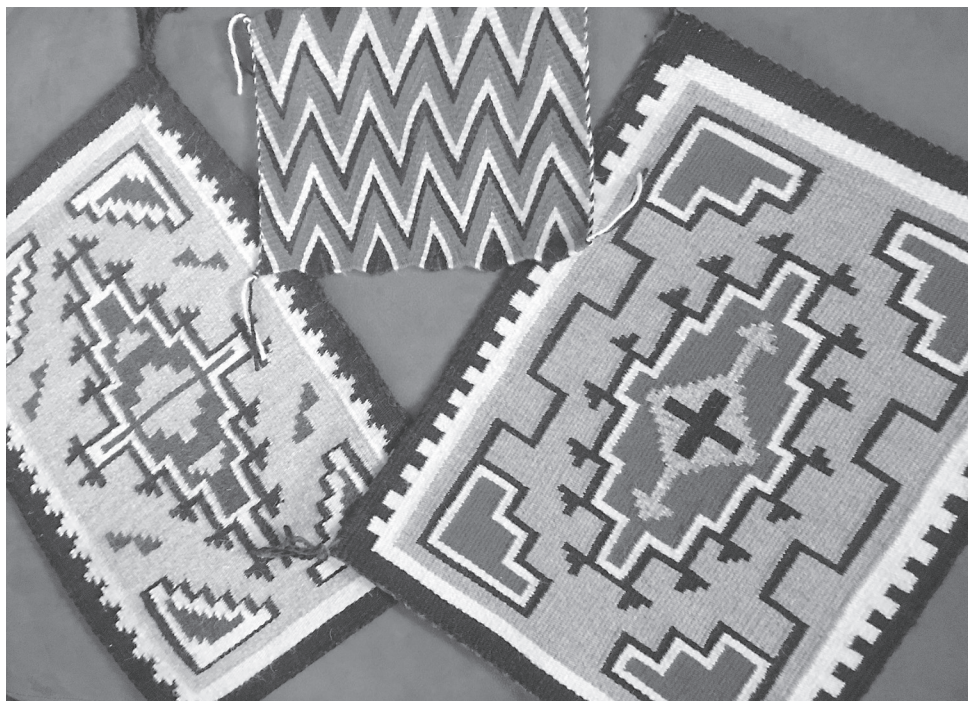
Rehoboth Christian School has been blessed by a century of Carlisle leadership, labor and loyalty.



Dally Carlisle, far right, showing his prized steer



Ed Carlisle with his granddaughter, Cheyanne



Some of Tressa Weidenaar's rugs, woven in the traditional Navajo style.

» p.4 young child. This interest quickly grew. She and Jennifer had connected through their common interests and both saw a lack of Native representation in the knitwear field. They began developing and publishing knitting patterns and designs together, particularly designs with a Native flair. Tressa soon began designing and sharing her patterns and teaching classes in a variety of workshops. Both she and Jennifer have their work featured in some significant knitwear magazines, promoting indigenous involvement in the knitting world. Tressa has also fulfilled a lifelong desire to weave in the traditional style of the Navajo weavers. Her paternal great-grandmother was an accomplished weaver. After her great-grandmother passed away Tressa took a weaving class taught by veteran weavers. She soon became enamored with the intricacies and designs of the weaving art. Tressa believes "God created people to be creative, and when we use our hands to create beautiful things, this reflects God's beauty and glorifies Him."

All three women have used their gifts to show God's handiwork and attribute their abilities of crafting and designing to being born into families steeped in Native American art. They have all sensed an urgency to continue these traditions and have successfully demonstrated old and new ways to carry on those Native values.

Saying Goodbye to Alfredo

Alfredo Gutierrez, 68 years old, loved being part of the Rehoboth Christian School transportation team. Always the first one in the bus garage to open the doors and start the coffee, he would sit in his favorite chair, greeting drivers in Spanish and doing radio checks with them until he began his 20-mile Gallup route. Alfredo seldom missed work since coming to Rehoboth in 2015. On Friday, February 9, the Rehoboth community was shocked to hear of Alfredo's passing after a brief illness.



Beloved bus driver passed away suddenly in February after a brief illness.

On the following Monday morning, members of the Gutierrez family joined the bus drivers and other Rehoboth staff members in the drivers' lounge, a space that meant so much to Alfredo. With tears, the family entered Alfredo's other world and then climbed the steps into Bus 1, always known as "Alfredo's bus." Alfredo's worlds came together! The drivers reminisced about his coffee, cooking, fishing, Spanish lessons and teasing. His loved ones shared that Rehoboth was Alfredo's other family, and his role at Rehoboth was not just a job, but a calling.

While the broader Rehoboth community has demonstrated its love for Alfredo in gifts and cards, the Gutierrez family requested the participation of the school's six route buses in the procession from the church to Alfredo's final resting place. Those who loved Alfredo Gutierrez have been comforted with the reality that nothing, not even death, can separate us from the love of God.

NIEA Convention

Every year, educators at Indigenous schools around the United States gather for the National Indian Education Association conference. This year's NIEA event took place in Albuquerque, New Mexico, so we knew we had to take advantage of the opportunity to attend.

On October 18, 2023, Rehoboth took the day off from school in order to send its entire staff to Educators Day at the conference. Teachers, aides, and administrators attended a huge variety of presentations that all provided ideas for engaging and equipping our Native American students. Eight members of the RCS staff remained in Albuquerque to attend the remaining three days of the conference as well.

Themes that emerged from our time at the NIEA sessions include: incorporating storytelling into our pedagogy; elevating Native language in our classes; marking special occasions with ceremonies, rhythms, and rituals; and employing the circular learning cycle in our courses. It has been gratifying to see the Rehoboth faculty trying out new ideas already, and we look forward to continued growth out of this work.

RETIREMENT CELEBRATION

Save The Date! May 28, 2024

Join us in celebrating and wishing Bob and Mary Ippel, who have dedicated over 30 years to Rehoboth Christian School, a happy retirement. There will be more details to follow.

CALLING ALL FORMER RCS CHOIR MEMBERS!

There will be a special gathering for the event. Please scan the QR code to fill out a participation form

Homecoming '24



Back to the 90's Day: Lizzy Brochey, Cayleen Hurley, Aunika Becenti



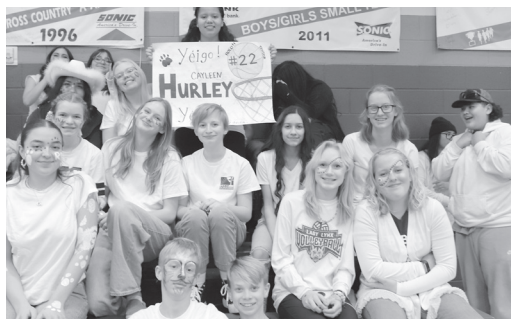
Barbie Day: Zoe Claw and Megan Zwiers



Twin Day: Kaleb Vail and Liam Bia match



The varsity boys huddle during the homecoming game.



Our student section was in full force for the game!



Varsity girls basketball team poses for a photo before their game.



Sporting their Rehoboth Lynx apparel for Spirit Day.



**Freshmen Class Representatives
Emma Lee and Jonah Jones**



**Sophomore Class Representatives
Mary Helen Brown and Josh Lytle**



**Junior Class Representatives
Lilli Briggs and Clayton VanSlooten.**



**Senior Class Representatives
Jayme Ide and Silas Bell**

Volunteers

Long Term Volunteers

Wes Brower reached out to Rehoboth Christian School in the summer of 2019, following the passing of his wife Ruth, offering his services to assist in the finance department. Wes arrived at Rehoboth in January, 2020, having retired as the accountant for Baker Book House and has been faithfully supporting the Rehoboth finance department with his expertise ever since. He typically spends four months on campus and then works remotely from Michigan for the remainder of the year. Wes reflects, "Rehoboth gives me purpose, and hopefully I am able to help the school out in the accounting area. Of course, the Navajo culture and the landscape are unique for someone coming from Michigan, but I've come to realize that Rehoboth is now my second home. I'm glad the Holy Spirit has led me here."

Jack and Cindy Ippel's most recent connection with Rehoboth began in 2013, when Jack filled a mid-school language arts position. Their first time in Rehoboth was in 1973 when Jack spent a semester of student-teaching as a part of his Calvin music education degree. Cindy volunteered as an aide in the 4th and 5th grade. The "Land of Enchantment" had caught them. They came back with their four children for Jack to fill the vocal music position from 1988-1990. Jack and Cindy love that they have been able to serve again at Rehoboth during their retirement. "We appreciate the great work and commitment of the staff members and also know that our work coming alongside them is so appreciated." As long-term volunteers they assist in the advancement office, maintenance and music departments.

Jim Holwerda has also served as a long-term volunteer since retiring from his teaching career at Rehoboth four years ago, working one-on-one with a student that is a part of the SALT program. "I began working with Deondre when he came to Rehoboth in 6th grade. It has been a joy to see his progress over the years and to work with his parents who are deeply committed to helping Deondre become all he was meant to be. That inspires me to this commitment."



Thank you, Volunteers!

Long Term

Jack and Cindy Ippel
Wes Brower
Jim Holwerda

Volunteers

Gary and Marcia Van Ee
James and Jean Veltkamp
Kurt and Carla Mast
Uko and Jane Zylstra
Mark and Donna Genzink
Paul Oester
Randy and Beth Zylstra
Ben and Ramona Beversluis
Mike and Krista Arendsen
Steve Eggebeen
Mart Hollebeek
Steve and Sue Kass
Dave and Marla Koetje
Scott Zwiers and Lisa Brouwer
Ivan and Lois Van Dusseldorp
Ken and Vera IntVeld
Betty Nikkel
James and Sarah Dirksen
Dave and Joy Koning
Jill Morren
Lloyd and Jan Dozeman

Volunteer Groups

Phoenix Christian School

Volunteers are Valued and Needed!

Throughout its 120-year history, Rehoboth Christian School has relied on the financial support of thousands of faithful individuals and churches throughout the United States. What often goes unnoticed, but is equally as valuable, is the many volunteers who have come alongside the Rehoboth staff.

Volunteers have been coming to Rehoboth for decades now, their time of service here spanning many years, even decades. Singles or couples, youth groups or church families, retirees or students taking gap years, all arrive with the same purpose in mind, that of using their gifts of time

and talent to help Rehoboth. Whether aiding or tutoring in the school, helping with food prep and serving in the dining hall, assisting the maintenance department in its day-to-day operations, or working in the administration offices, our volunteers are an endless stream of good gifts!

Recently, the Rehoboth administration has seen the value of having long-term volunteers who could commit to a longer period, coming for a semester or several times throughout the school year. If you are interested in volunteering either short-term or long term, contact our volunteer coordinator at volunteer@rcsnm.org.

Gifts Given in Memory & Honor

In memory of Henry J Evenhouse

Mr. and Mrs. Bob and Deanne Bolt

In memory of Kenneth Barrera

Ms. Susan Jasperson

In memory of Ellen Bosma

Mr. Wilfred Bosma

In memory of Kathy Bouman

Cascade Fellowship CRC

In memory of Don Braschler

Mrs. Joyce Braschler

In memory of Luke Bruining

Mr. and Mrs. Ronald and Vivian Faith Talsma

In memory of Jeanette Smith

Ms. Mary R. Cook

In memory of Virginia Cook

Ms. Mary R. Cook

In memory of Joanne Heyns DeJong

Mrs. Deanne Tigchelaar

In memory of Merle Den Bleyker

Dr. and Mrs. Arie and Olga Leder

In memory of Don Doorn

Cascade Fellowship CRC

In memory of Dale Dykema

Miss Marcia A. Kuipers

Ms. Janice Klaynik

Mr. and Mrs. Elwyn and Linda Beeksvort

In memory of Joyce Dykstra

Mr. and Mrs. Dale and Norma Schuitema

Mr. and Mrs. Jared and Ashley Dykstra

Mr. and Mrs. Jason and Sian Zylstra

Dr. and Mrs. Richard and Elaine Stam

Mr. and Mrs. William and Janet Marshall

Mr. and Jerry and Dykstra

Mr. Harvis Gemmen

Mr. John M. Sytsema

Ms. Melvina Musket

Ms. Joyce VanDellen

Dr. and Mrs. Michael and Kristi Pikaart

Mr. and Mrs. Alan and Janice Vanhaitsma

Ms. Debra Gerrits

Mrs. Lois R. VandenBosch

In memory of Adrian Ekdome

Mrs. Irene E. Ekdome

In memory of Barbara Fauble

Mr. and Mrs. Ronald and Vivian Faith Talsma

In memory of Thomas and Marian Grant

Mr. and Mrs. Douglas and Kathleen Geenen

In memory of Jacob and Kathryn Hekman

Ms. Carole Miller

In memory of Steven Hoekman

Mr. and Mrs. Mark and Giny Hoekman

In memory of Sally Hoekstra

Cascade Fellowship CRC

In memory of Jack Holtvluwer

Mr. and Mrs. Tim and Pam Koeze

In memory of George and Sena Houtman

Mr. and Mrs. Eugene and Susan Corbett

In memory of Dr. and Mrs. Lee and Matilda Huizenga

Mr. and Mrs. Philip and Marie Huizenga

In memory of Tena Bosma Huizenga

Mr. and Mrs. Ken and Sarah Zylstra

Mr. and Mrs. Don and Elizabeth Veenendaal

Mrs. Shirley TenNapel

In memory of Sue Perry Hutcheson

Mr. and Mrs. James and Karen Montemayor

Ms. Phyllis Wilkey

In memory of Henry and Marian Ippel

Mr. H. R. VandeRiet

In memory of William Jasperson

Ms. Susan Jasperson

In memory of Johanna Kromminga and Agnes Kromminga-Steigenga

Mrs. Mary K. Rhee

In memory of Mary Jean Kruis

Mr. and Mrs. Jerry and Annette Broersma

In memory of Emily Lee

Mrs. Violet Henry

Mr. and Mrs. Gerard and Esther Koster

In memory of Arnold Miedema

Mr. and Mrs. Brent and Denise Miedema

In memory of Gerald Oosterhouse

Hope College Nursing Department

Mr. and Mrs. David and Mary Godfrey

Mr. and Mrs. Stephen and Janet Weeda

In memory of Philip Persenaire

Mrs. Lois J. Persenaire

In memory of Mina and Colleen Polinder

Mr. and Mrs. Sherman and Phyllis Polinder

In memory of John Ruiter

Mrs. Lois Ruiter

In memory of Bob Slager

Mr. and Mrs. Ronald and Vivian Faith Talsma

In memory of Rev. Ron Spriker

Mrs. Shirley TenNapel

In memory of James H. Talsma

Mr. and Mrs. Ronald and Vivian Faith Talsma

In memory of Lorraine Tapahonso Gleason

Ms. Sue Tapahonso

In memory of Tony Templeman

Mrs. Janice Templeman

In memory of Roger and Marcia Tubergen

Ms. Jane Schroeder
Mr. and Mrs. Ryan and Christine Kroese
Mr. and Mrs. James and Luanne Wuestewald
Mr. and Mrs. Kevin and Pamela VanEngelenhoven
Sully Christian School Heidi's students
Mrs. and Mr. Karleen and Jason Stotz
Ms. Edna Wuestewald
Mr. and Mrs. Jeff and Sharon Wuestewald
Mrs. and Mr. Kim and Steve Van't Hul
Mr. and Mrs. Loren and Jane Bittner
Mr. and Mrs. Bob and Daryl Baar
Ms. Bertha Vos
Ms. Debra Dykema
Mr. and Mrs. Terry and Ladene Veldhouse
Mr. and Mrs. Mike and Kathy Ragels
Mr. and Mrs. Dan and Gretta Van Schepen
Mr. and Mrs. Dean and Deanna VerSteeg

In memory of Dale VanderVeen
Mrs. Edith N. VanderVeen

In memory of Hildred "Hildi" VanderVeen
Mr. and Mrs. Martin and Mary Hollebeek
Mrs. Joyce VanderMolen
Mr. and Mrs. Jack and Cindy Ippel
Mr. and Mrs. Roy and Marjorie VanderKlok

In memory of John VanLaar
Cascade Fellowship CRC

In memory of Rolf and Nella Veenstra
Mr. and Mrs. Ronald and Vivian Faith Talsma

In memory of Estella Vis
Mr. Allen Vis

In memory of Carol Voss
Ms. Esther S. Voss

In memory of Carolyn Weeda
Mr. and Mrs. Stephen and Janet Weeda

In memory of Jacob Westmaas
Cascade Fellowship CRC

In memory of Nick and Deloris Wolterstorff
Ms. Ronda VanDrunen

In honor of Betty Nikkel
Mr. and Mrs. Marion and Janice VanSoelen

In honor of Martin and Ruth Cunningham
Mr. and Mrs. Edward and Tara Cunningham

In honor of Phil and Betty Kamps
Mr. and Mrs. Eugene and Susan Corbett

In honor of Stan and Grace Pikaart
Mr. and Mrs. Daniel and Helen Lautenbach

SALT Program Update

We are planning for the staffing and programming needs for the SALT (Students All Learning Together) program for next school year. This year we have been able to expand our program and accept students with more significant needs. Our staff has also grown to help support the expansion of the SALT program, ensuring that all students get the support they need and find belonging here at Rehoboth. We are currently able to offer speech, occupational, and physical therapies, as well as life skills experiences through community work study placements. Going forward, our goal is to maintain our current program and provide quality support and services to our students.

The total anticipated budget for the SALT program for the 24-25 school year is \$485,000. We project that after this school year's expenses, \$170,000 will remain in the SALT fund, leaving an anticipated financial need of \$315,000 to be raised for the next school year. Please consider a gift to help Rehoboth continue to be a place where students can all learn together! If you would like to know how you can help support the SALT program, please reach out to Emily Jeninga, SALT Program Director at ejeninga@rcsnm.org.

Keith Kuipers Gym Project

Progress on the Keith Kuipers Gym project continues. The final design package is complete, and progress is continuing on a refined construction budget. The estimated remaining need is \$750,000 - \$800,000 due to additional sitework and paving that will be required by the City of Gallup. We look forward to kicking off the next phase of this capital campaign very soon!

Rehoboth Solar

We have been overwhelmed by the generous gifts we have received to complete the funding for the first solar project on Rehoboth's campus! The \$143,000 that has been given will allow us to have a 68.2kW photovoltaic system installed on our middle school roof. We anticipate electrical utility savings of \$15,000 annually! The contractor will begin the installation later in the springtime and we hope to begin saving before school is out for summer.

Advancement Needs

Tuition Assistance

Through February 26, 2024, we have received gifts towards our Tuition Assistance Fund totalling \$1,468,000. This represents 79% of our budgeted need of \$1,862,500 for this current school year. Please consider a gift in the coming months to

help us with the remaining need of \$394,500. We are grateful for the generosity that has been shown to our school and community this school year so that we are able to provide income based tuition assistance to 72% of our students at an average of \$3,880/student. Thank you!



Contact Us

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Donations and Advancement
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Dave Sytsma, Advancement Officer
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(616) 283-4495

Band Tour'24

Maze

Sunday, April 7

9:30am Brookfield CRC, Brookfield, WI
6:00pm Orland Park CRC, Orland Park, IL

Monday, April 8

Hillcrest CRC- Hudsonville, MI
5:00pm - 6:30pm Navajo Taco Meal
7:00pm - Program

Tuesday, April 9

Taylor University- Upland, IN
7:00pm - Program - Rediger Chapel Auditorium

Wednesday, April 10

First CRC, Demotte, IN
5:00pm - 6:30pm Navajo Taco Meal
7:00pm - Program

Friday, April 12

Winnebago Reformed Church, Winnebago, NE
5:30pm - Navajo Taco Meal and Program

Scan the code
for more info:



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Alumnus Making Movies

Robert Cupp's '03 journey in the world of film has been nothing short of remarkable. Encouraged by his Rehoboth High School teacher Seth Weidenaar to pursue a college education, Robert graduated from UNM with a Bachelors in Cinematography, opening the doors to countless opportunities in the film industry. Robert's career as a production assistant led him to work with such companies as Netflix, Nickelodeon, Paramount, and Disney.

Robert's impressive portfolio includes work on acclaimed series *Breaking Bad* and *Better Call Saul*, as well as blockbuster films *Lone Ranger* and *Dark Winds*. New Mexico's diverse landscape has provided Robert with the perfect backdrop for his work as a location scout, whether it be mountains, deserts, cities, ranches, or reservations.

Robert specializes in every aspect of securing locations, from coordinating logistics to keeping the "locals" happy. His exceptional people skills allow him to excel at his work. We are always amazed at the unique journey of each of our alumni!

Rehoboth alumnus Robert Cupp '03 and actor Saginaw Grant filming *Breaking Bad* on location in To'hajiilee, NM.



Alumni Edition

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CHRISTIAN SCHOOL
VIGOROUSLY ACADEMIC BEAUTIFULLY DIVERSE THOROUGHLY CHRISTIAN