



Figure 1. A February senior class meeting.

Native American Basketry

Baskets were important in the daily life of early Native Americans. Baskets were made for general storage, fishing, and hauling objects. Typically baskets were made from natural materials available locally (Fig. 2). Geometric designs were often woven into baskets, and some Apache baskets were waterproofed with pine pitch to carry water and other liquids. Click [here](#) and listen to



Figure 2. Examples of Native American baskets in the Sherman Museum. Baskets from the Tohono O'Odham (Papago), Arizona (right) and Pima, Arizona (left) tribes.

Lorene Sisquoc, director of the Clarke Center and the Sherman Indian Museum, discuss Native American basketry.

From The Editor

A WASC (Western Association of Schools and Colleges) accreditation committee visited Sherman on March 14, 2019. Their visit was to follow up on a Sherman Progress Report submitted to them in early February. This progress report discussed the significant developments and ongoing school improvements at Sherman over the past year. The committee spent one day visiting with the principal, leadership team, teachers, staff, and students. The visiting committee recommended to extend school accreditation for two more years.

As another academic year winds down the minds of graduating seniors will start to envision that final walk across the auditorium stage in front of families and friends. It will be emotional. Over half of our seniors plan to attend a college or university. However, for some seniors life after Sherman is uncertain. Career choices? New challenges in other locations? Decisions, decisions, decisions. This year 88 seniors are expected to graduate from Sherman and take that walk and finally make those decisions (Fig. 1).

Please visit our YouTube Channel to enjoy prior video clips published in The Sherman Times. Click [here](#) for our YouTube Channel.



RIMS AVID Write Off Contest

The RIMS AVID group consists of schools in the Riverside, Inyo, Mono, and San Bernardino school districts. Each year RIMS AVID students participate in a region-wide timed written essay competition. Winning compositions at each school are submitted for judging at the regional level. This year junior Tatiana Eakon composed the winning essay from Sherman Indian High School. Her essay presented below focused on the question if colleges and universities should be free to all students. Tatiana is from Unalakleet, Alaska and a member of the Inupiat Tribe. She is active in the Sherman AVID program and a member of the National Honor Society. Later this semester Tatiana along with other RIM AVID essay winners will be recognized at an awards ceremony.

By Tatiana Eakon

Do you believe that college should be free to anyone who wished to attend? In my opinion, I believe that college shouldn't be free at all. If college were free to anyone, I firmly believe that not everyone will live up to the expectations of college life. Some people, more than others, would take too much advantage of this opportunity that is very rare in today's society. Not everyone would take college seriously if it were free. The very thought of college appearing to be "free" is actually quite terrifying. Only because the fact that students would take advantage of this kind of opportunity and since they're not funding the college, some would believe that it would be okay to "slack off" because they don't have anything to lose.

As said in the article, "Why States Should Abandon the 'Free College' Movement" in paragraph four, while "free community college for all" programs promise to increase the number of college graduates for relatively little cost, national data reveal it to be a poor strategy. According to a recent study by Indiana University, only 30 percent of community college students completed their two-year program within six years, and only 77 percent completed a bachelor's degree at a four-year institution within a six-year time frame. More significantly, almost half of all first-time community college students—47.3 percent—stopped attending without earning any type of degree. This clearly shows that the students were not as dedicated as they would've been if they had to pay a significant amount of

TABLE 1	
Sherman Indian High School	
Week of March 4th – 10th, 2019	
<p>Monday</p> <p>5th period Native Traditions – Building 5B</p> <p>6th and 7th period Museum /Archival Studies Class at Museum</p> <p>SIM Open 1:00pm to 5:00pm</p> <p>4:30pm -6:00pm Clarke Center Open for students</p> <p>I.R.G. Activities:</p> <p>7:00pm – 8:15pm – Fancy Shawl Dance Lessons at Bennett Hall</p>	<p>Thursday</p> <p>5th period Native Traditions – Building 5B</p> <p>6th and 7th period Museum /Archival Studies Class at Museum</p> <p>SIM Open 1:00pm to 4:00pm</p> <p>4:30pm Daughters of Tradition meeting at San Manuel. Sign up in dorm and meet SUV behind Wauneka with a pass. 14 girls max.</p> <p style="text-align: center;">(Clarke Culture Center is closed today)</p>
<p>Tuesday</p> <p>5th period Native Traditions – Building 5B</p> <p>6th and 7th period Museum /Archival Studies Class at Museum (Veterans Project)</p> <p>SIM Open 1:00pm to 5:00pm</p> <p>3:30 -7:00pm – Indigenous Fashion and Design Classroom is open for on-going projects.</p> <p>4:00pm –Clarke Center is open for on-going Arts and Craft projects.</p> <p>5:00pm-6:00pm Language Center open for Kiowa Language study group</p> <p>I.R.G. Hour Activities:</p> <p>CCC is open for on-going Arts and Craft projects, library room open for games.</p>	<p>Friday</p> <p>5th period Native Traditions – Building 5B</p> <p>6th and 7th period Museum /Archival Studies Class at Clarke Culture Center.</p> <p>3:30 -7:00pm – Indigenous Fashion and Design Classroom open for on-going projects</p> <p>3:45pm CCC Open until last check-in</p> <p>3:45pm INDIGITIZE FILM MAKING Workshop!</p> <p>5:00pm Choice dorm Talking Circle CCC</p> <p>5:00pm Guitar Lessons with Miracle Dolls CCC</p>
<p>Wednesday</p> <p>5th period Native Traditions – Building 5B</p> <p>6th and 7th period Museum /Archival Studies Class at Museum</p> <p>SIM Open 1:00pm to 5:00pm</p> <p>3:30 -4:30pm – Indigenous Fashion and Design Classroom and Language Center is open for on-going projects and research.</p> <p>4:00pm – 6:45pm Clarke Center is open for on-going craft projects.</p> <p>I.R.G. Hour Activities:</p> <p>Powwow Night at Bennett Hall: 7:00-8:30pm – Drum, fun contests, Open Mic and singing/dancing.</p>	<p>Saturday</p> <p>2:00pm – 4:00pm - Workshop in Auditorium with Standing Rock filmmaker Myron Dewey. (extra credit and community service hours given)</p> <p>7:00pm - 8:30pm</p> <p>Film screening in the Auditorium of Awake: A Dream from Standing Rock</p>
<p>Sunday</p> <p>12:00pm – 7:00pm Clarke Center Open for on-going arts and crafts.</p>	<p>Sunday</p> <p>12:00pm – 7:00pm Clarke Center Open for on-going arts and crafts.</p> <p>SIM – Sherman Indian Museum</p> <p>CCC – Clarke Culture Center</p> <p>BH – Bennett Hall</p> <p>NTC –Native Traditions Classroom</p> <p>ILC – Indigenous Language Center (Building 62 room 103)</p> <p>IFD – Indigenous Fashion and Design Classroom (Building 62 room 101)</p> <p>CPO – Culture Programs Office in Academic Building room 109</p>

Native Cultural Activities

The various Native cultural activities offered at Sherman enriches the all-round education of our students. Many of these activities are organized by Native American scholar and leader Ms. Lorene Sisquoc. A sample of these weekly activities is presented in **Table 1** above.

money for their education.

I strongly believe that it is very important that we pay for our college education because colleges are not only providing knowledge for us to learn, they are providing us with knowledge that will follow us throughout our lives. What we learn in college plays a very significant role in our future careers. The reason we attend college is to gain knowledge that will be required for us to qualify for a career position. Colleges are giving us an education that will forever be a part of our everyday lives. They are instilling knowledge into our brains that we will put to use, it will

never go to waste.

With all the reasons I have stated, I hope I have made my point clear. Attending college is a once-in-a-lifetime opportunity. It is up to you to attend. We need to realize that college is not something to take advantage of. Receiving a college education is very much essential in today's society, so I believe it is important for us to give back to society in some way, to show appreciation to society for providing us with knowledge that will be important to our lives.



Figure 3. *Left:* Native Studies and Tribal Government teacher Josh Hathaway. *Right:* Corianna Yoe misses no “details” in the book she is reading.

Sherman’s Poets

Click [here](#) to hear Native Studies and Tribal Government teacher Josh Hathaway (Fig. 3) read you his powerful poem titled “Ancestors Cries”. Click [here](#) to hear recent National Honor Society inductee sophomore Corianna Yoe (Fig. 3) present to you her video poem production “details”.

2019 Sherman NHS Ceremony

The National Honor Society (NHS) was founded in 1921 to honor American high school students that display outstanding scholarship, leadership, service, and character. Today there are more than 16,000 NHS chapters in every state as well as Europe, South America, and Asia. Our Sherman Indian High School NHS Chapter was founded in 2003. On March 4, 2019 thirteen students were welcomed into the Sherman NHS chapter at a short after school ceremony in the library. The Master of Ceremony was Kiani Quiver and the invited speaker was Sherman Athletic Director Ms. Kara Schwab. Ms. Gena Hasson’s Floral Design class provided beautiful flower arrangements for the front table. The thirteen new NHS member included: Lianna Barajas, Mikaela Benson, Truchell Calabaza, Grace Dwarf, Arthur Griego, Chastity Miller, Juan Riley, Monica Tock Too, Latrice Tso, Nolan Vigil, Olivia Willis, and Corianna Yoe.

These new members joined our thirteen current NHS members: Tatiana Eakon, Timara Gordon, Erika Guzman, Christina Hodge, Teela Hunter, Iverson Ivins, Leighanna Jake, Mikail Morgan, Kiani Quiver, Rayne Ramirez, Krista Wasson, Edward White Eagle, and Raven Yellowhorse. For the first time we videotaped our NHS Induction Ceremony for parents, guardians, and family members who could not attend this event. Click [here](#) to watch and celebrate the accomplishments of our students.

Our National Honor Society members recently visited the California Science and Natural History Museums in Exposition Park, Los Angeles. One of the featured exhibits at the California Science Center is the space shuttle “Endeavour” (Fig. 4). The Endeavour was the fifth and last shuttle used by NASA and flew 25 missions from 1992 to 2011.



Figure 4. The space shuttle “Endeavour” at the California Science Center.

Is The A Way to Stop Acid Rain?

By Truchell Calabaza

Acidic rain was first discovered in the early 1850s by a scientist named Robert Angus Smith, who is also known as the “father of acid rain”. Robert was a Scottish chemist who investigated numerous environmental issues. Though acid rain was discovered in the early 1850s it was not seriously studied by scientists until the late 1960s. What is acidic rain? Acidic rain can be caused by natural sources such as volcanoes, but it is mainly caused by a chemical reaction of (SO₂) sulfur dioxide and (NO_x) nitrogen oxide gases that are combined and released into the atmosphere. After it is released into the atmosphere, it mixes and reacts with water, oxygen, and other chemicals to form acidic pollutants, such as sulfuric acid and nitric acid. These acids are then scattered over large areas because of wind patterns and fall back to the ground in many forms of precipitation like rain, snow, clouds, and fog.

Acidic rain can cause many problems not only for plants and animals but humans as well. The pollution that causes acidic rain can also create tiny sulfur and nitrate acid particles. People’s health is at risk when people inhale these particles. These particles can cause respiratory diseases in one’s body, such as asthma, pneumonia, bronchitis, severe lung damage, and even heart attacks.

Acidic rain can harm many forests. Acidic rain can also cause aluminum to be released into the soil or water which can be toxic for animals and trees. Trees located in higher elevations have a greater risk of being exposed to clouds and fog. These clouds and fog contain greater amounts of acid than rain and snow and may remove important nutrients from tree leaves

Our Changing Planet

The earth is a beautiful place to live on. Unfortunately, pollution and the over consumption and destruction of our natural resources are not only destroying our beautiful planet but us as well. Acid rain and the mass production of livestock are directly and indirectly contributing to the massive collapse of life on our changing planet. These two topics are now discussed by concerned Sherman students.

“Humankind has not woven the web of life.
We are but one thread within it.
Whatever we do to the web, we do to ourselves.
All things are bound together.
All things are connected.”

Chief Seattle, (Siáhl)
Duwamish and Suquamish Tribes
1854

and needles. This loss of nutrients makes it easier for infections, insects, and cold weather to damage trees and forests. Dead and dying trees in a forest is a common sign of acidic rain. Without acidic rain, most lakes have a pH level near 6.5. Acidic rain, however, has caused streams and lakes in the Northeast United States and other places to have a much lower pH level.

statues, monuments, and cars. The acids cause the paint to peel and stone statues to appear old or worn down, which reduces their value and beauty. Acidic rain is an international problem and occurs most commonly in the Northeastern United States, Eastern Europe, and increasingly in parts of China and India.

There are several solutions to reduce manmade acidic rain. According to the EPA, the first major step is reducing emissions from vehicles, factories, and electric generation. This can be done by restricting the use of fossil fuels and focusing on cleaner and more sustainable and renewable energy sources such a solar, wind power, or natural gas. Also, each person could do their part by reducing their vehicle use, and instead use public transportation.

People could also reduce their uses of electricity and switch to a solar plan. Many electricity companies offer solar packages to their customers that require no installation and low costs. Removing sulfur from coal before it is burnt is another way of reducing acid rain. Sadly, today it would be very difficult because of cost to completely stop acid rain. However, greater efforts must be made to greatly reduce this worldwide problem.

These particles can cause respiratory diseases in one’s body, such as asthma, pneumonia, bronchitis, severe lung damage, and even heart attacks.

Acid-sensitive plants and animals are killed by the lower pH. Some low pH lakes have no fish. In addition, with the aluminum being released into the soil it sooner or later ends up in the streams and lakes. This soluble aluminum is deadly to aquatic wildlife, including phytoplankton, mayflies, rainbow trout, small mouth bass, frogs, spotted salamanders, crayfish, and other creatures that are part of the aquatic and wetlands food webs.

Acidic rain can damage buildings,

Cowspiracy

By Leighanna Jake

When you think of global warming, rising carbon dioxide levels, air pollution, or any other environmental issues, you tend to believe they're caused by the burning of fossil fuels and human activity. However, most people do not know our Earth is being destroyed from animal agriculture and the mass raising of livestock. Livestock is a cause of global warming but few people are talking about this issue. Animal agriculture also is destroying ecosystems around the world at a rapid rate and governments and big businesses choose not to discuss this topic to the public.

There are a few people in this world who care about this topic and want to save our Earth, such as Kip Andersen. Mr. Andersen created a recent documentary titled "Cowspiracy". In his film he discusses the major causes of animal agriculture, interviews companies and the meat industry, and relates how we can be more sustainable to save our Earth.

The negative effects of raising livestock are many and includes rapidly consuming the Amazon rainforest, creating ocean dead zones, habitat destruction, and species extinction. The introduction of the film "Cowspiracy" reveals that "animal agriculture is responsible for eighteen percent of greenhouse emissions, more than the combined exhaust from all transportation". This statement means raising livestock produces more greenhouse gases than carbon dioxide from automobiles. Raising livestock is also very water intensive and just in the United States alone this industry consumes thirty-four trillion gallons of water yearly. That is a lot of fresh water. In the meat industry a one quarter pound hamburger takes directly and indirectly six-hundred gallons of water to produce (water footprint) and for one pound of beef it takes two thousand and five hundred gallons of water to

produce. Surprisingly, raising livestock consumes a lot of the Earth's fresh water supply. As beef is the number one meat product that is consumed globally it takes approximately eight months of land usage, feed, and water to raise livestock.

The reason why companies refuse to discuss animal agriculture is because they are business and they are profiting. They want the public to worry about natural gas, oil production, fracking, and believe these are the main industries that use huge amounts of water.

Another issue with animal agriculture is overgrazing on land that leads to habitat destruction. Land-based animal agriculture also leads to nitrogen flooded dead zones in the ocean. Still no one talks about it.

Environmental organizations such as NRDC, the Climate Reality Project, Greenpeace, and Oceana refused to have an interview with Mr. Andersen in his film. Instead they chose to keep quiet on the negative aspects of the livestock industry.

Another ecosystem that is being affected from animal agriculture is

The Amazon is a major source of oxygen and CO₂ consumption on planet earth.

the Amazon rainforest. The Amazon is a major source of oxygen and CO₂ consumption on planet earth. Every day thousands of native plants, trees, and insects are lost due to the clearing of the rainforest trees for soybean production and cattle grazing. There have been one hundred thirty-six million acres of the rainforest cleared just for animal agriculture. The Amazon could be gone within the next ten years. A few people know all this destruction is caused from raising livestock. There have been people in the past who protested against the Amazon rainforest destruction. Unfortunately, over one thousand ecology activists have been

killed in the last twenty years in Brazil. One American nun, Dorothy Stang, spoke out against cattle ranching and in 2005 she was shot by a gunman who was likely hired by the Brazilian cattle industry.

Another important component of the mass production of livestock is human overpopulation. In the year 1812 there were one billion people, in the year 1912 there were five billion, and in the year 2012 there were seven billion people. Did you know two hundred sixteen thousand more people are born to the planet every day? With this huge population increase there is also an increased need for more meat and dairy products. This leads to an increase in resource consumption and greenhouse gases. Human overpopulation is leading to the increase of animal agriculture.

The most sustainable solution to this issue would be having people significantly reduce eating livestock, or better, switch to a plant based diet. Dr. Michael Klaper stated in the film "Cowspiracy" that becoming vegan would save the earth. Dr. Klaper said "yes all the nutrients are there in the plant kingdom". This means you can still get the same nutrients by eating a plant based diet that you obtain when you consume meat and dairy products. By switching to a vegan diet one person per day can save hundreds of gallons of water, many acres of forest land, and one animal's life.

In summary, "if we didn't breed them then we wouldn't have to feed them. If we didn't have to feed them then we wouldn't have to devote all this land to grazing, legumes, water, and so forth to feed them. So then forests could come back. The oceans would come back. The rivers would run clean again. The air would come back. Our health would return". This statement is from the film "Cowspiracy". We need to become more sustainable and reduce or eliminate cattle grazing and animal agriculture so we can have a future.

Athletic Zone

Sherman Baseball – 2019

Baseball is a sport that stretches across time uniting cities, towns, players, and fans of all ages. By the late 19th century baseball was recognized as the national sport of the United States. It is again that time of the season for America's pastime. This season the Sherman baseball team returns five starters including Co-Captains 3rd baseman senior Ruben Murphy and 2nd baseman senior Damian Dugan (Fig. 5). The team excitedly looks forward to again competing in the Arrowhead League. Recently Head Coach Matt Townsend summed up his take on the upcoming season—"with the incoming new players and experience of our returning squad, this should make for an exciting Sherman baseball season". Come out to the field and enjoy Sherman baseball this season. Click [here](#) and join coaches Townsend and Camacho and three veteran players discuss Sherman baseball.



Figure 5. The 2019 Sherman Baseball Team. **Back row, left to right:** Coach Camacho, Jeremy Vigil, Andre Benton, Hunter Begay, Allen Lewis, Kerwin Nez, Delroy Clark, Meldon Valdo, Damian Dugan, and Coach Townsend. **Front Row:** Lopaka Vasquez, Christopher Jones, Arrow Franco, Ruben Murphy, Deandre John, Jasper Bell, Zion Ethelbah, and Kylee Layran.



Figure 6. Pitcher Teela Hunter bearing down for a strike in a game between the Lady Braves and the Native American high school, Noli.

Lady Braves Softball

Last year the Sherman Indian High School softball team tied for second place in the Arrowhead League. Lost through graduation from this year's team is Wahela Gregg, the 2018 Offensive Player of the Year in the Arrowhead League. This year's squad is composed of a mixture of new and veteran players who are led by returning All-League performers Teela Hunter and Ellikaya Lopez (Fig. 6). The team includes Makayla Antone, Truchell Calabaza, Teela Hunter, Trina Hunter, Ohitika Looking Horse, Asiari Lopez, Ellikaya Lopez, Reynese Maldonado, Jasmine Parrra, Nadia Stacey, Camile Talavera, Arin Wasson, and Krista Wasson. The managers are Grace Dwarf, Kylie Laughlin, Merrena Manzanares, and Shaniesha Pete. Click [here](#) and watch Head Coach and 2018 Arrowhead Softball Coach of the Year Michelle Laramie and Tri-Captains Teela Hunter, Ellikaya Lopez, and Krista Wasson discuss Lady Braves Softball.

The Back Forty



Figure 7. *Top Left:* Sherman FFA members and Advisor Desiree Trapp pose for a picture at the National Date Festival and Fair, Indio. *Back Row, left to right:* Mariah Alex, Shania Holloway, Ashuntia Jimmie, Joney Henry, Maylene Ramires, Lamando Salvicio. *Front Row:* Ms. Desiree Trapp, Makiya Lee, Olivia Willis, Hope Staley, Marissa Manheimer. *Front:* Rope Manygoats. *Top Right:* These FFA members know that a good wash precedes the shearing of lambs. *Left to right:* Marissa Manheimer, Rope Manygoats, Maylene Ramires, and Lamando Salvicio. *Center Left:* As we predicted in the October 2018 issue of The Sherman Times - Olivia Willis was born to show livestock. Olivia (left) in the show ring with her lamb. *Center Right:* Proud Sherman FFA members show off their champion 6th place chapter lambs. *Back left to right:* Lamando Salvicio, Joney Henry, Ashuntia Jimmie, Olivia Willis, Shania Holloway. *Front Row:* Hope Staley and Makiya Lee. *Lower Left:* Olivia Willis with her 8th place lamb showmanship ribbon. *Lower Right:* Tense moments in the goat showmanship event (*Right*) Rope Manygoats.

The Back Forty

Sherman FFA at Indio

Our new Sherman FFA program got off to a remarkable start this year. In mid-February eleven members of the chapter spent six days attending the National Date Festival and Fair in Indio California (Fig. 7). At the fair our Sherman FFA member competed against other Southern California FFA chapters with their lamb and goat projects. The hard work of advisor Desiree Trapp and her students over the past several months was rewarded at the fair. Olivia Willis and Shania Holloway placed 8th and 9th place, respectively, in the lamb novice showmanship (Fig. 7). Their awards reflected their ability to handle and present their lambs in the show ring. Hope Staley's lamb placed first in lamb conformation in the feeder class and was judged Reserve Champion feeder lamb. Overall our chapter earned 6th place in the lamb team conformation competition (Fig. 7). Sherman's individual lamb and goat conformation and breed desirability placings follows.

Lamb placings: Tia Jimmie 4th in market class, Hope Staley 1st in feeder class and Reserve Champion feeder lamb, Joney Henry 2nd in market class, Lamando Salvicio 2nd in feeder class, Makiya Lee 3rd in market class, Olivia Willis 5th in market class, Shania Holloway 7th in market class.

Goat placings: Maylene Ramires 8th in market class, Mariah Alex 2nd feeder class, Marissa Manheimer 3rd feeder class, Rope Manygoats 3rd feeder class.

On Saturday, February 23rd, five Sherman lambs were auctioned off at the fair. We congratulate all Sherman members for their fine performances at Indio.

Floral Design Course

Floral design is the art of using plant material and dried or live flowers to create an aesthetically pleasing composition. The composition or product takes into artistic consideration lines, form, space, color, balance, harmony, and unity. There has been an increasing interest in floral design careers in recent years. Colleges and online sites now offer training in this area. Pathways teacher Gena Hasson's course "The Art and History of Floral Design" allows our students to gain an understanding of this art and also to develop their own floral design styles. Students learn to fashion flower bouquets, flower arrangements (flowers in vases), and to spray paint flowers for casual or formal events. Students graduating from this course with a C grade or better obtain a certificate of completion. The Pathways program also offers internships for serious students interested in a position in the floral design industry. Click [here](#) to observe Gena's class preparing flower bouquets and arrangements for their annual Sherman Valentine's Day sale (Fig. 8).



Figure 8. Olivia Willis and Juan Riley agree that nothing says it better than Sherman flowers on Valentine's Day.



Figure 9. Left: Officer Campos, Shayna American Horse, and Teacher David Heard prior to a Saturday ride-along. **Right:** Teacher David Heard, Officer Campos, and ride-along participant Tyrell Clawson.

Ride-Alongs

This semester, students in David Heard's Criminal Justice Internship Program are participating in ride-alongs with the San Bernardino Sheriff's Department in Highland City. Each Saturday students spend a ten-hour shift with Deputy Sheriff Campos during his tour of duty (Fig. 9). Deputy Campos is also the San Bernardino Explorer Coordinator. In the ride-alongs our students obtain a firsthand perspective of modern law enforcement and a better understanding of the challenges and rewards of a police officer's role in a community. The ride-along program is coordinated by Sergeant Dean, also of the San Bernardino Sheriff Department.

You Are Under Arrest

In today's high tech society, one might think all crimes are solved quickly by using DNA analysis, drone data, tracking cell phones, street intersection cameras, facial recognition cameras, GPS technology, computer data bases with endless biometric data, or some out of the park game changing forensic technology. Such is the stuff of creative writing mind in Hollywood. If you believe that DNA evidence can and does solve all criminal cases, think again. Recent data from Great Britain revealed that less than one-half of one percent of crimes solved there are from matching crime scene DNA to a person's profile in a DNA database. In reality the time tested strategies of interviewing witnesses, collecting physical evidence, and interrogating suspects continues to be the mainstay of building cases against perpetrators. Not to be overlooked is the importance of the skillsets and tireless efforts of the detectives working a case. In other words, the methodical efforts of detectives usually break cases wide open. If everything falls into place a detective might be able to casually dismantle a suspect's alibi.

This semester, students in Mr. Heard's Criminal Justice Class have been assigned a series of fictitious crimes on campus to solve. These planned crimes allow students hands-on experience in visiting crime scenes, writing up reports, conducting research, interviewing witnesses and suspects, making arrests, and participating in a mock trial (Fig. 10). Click [HERE](#) to watch the video.



Figure 10. The Pathways Criminal Justice class hosting a mock trial.



THE SHERMAN TIMES

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MISSION STATEMENT

The Sherman Community empowers Native students through opportunities to find their purpose at school and in life.

MIND • BODY • EMOTION • SPIRIT