

# Diné College to offer bachelor's in agricultural science

**TSAILÉ, Ariz.** – Diné College will offer a bachelor's degree in agricultural science beginning in January that will focus on animal, plant and general science, according to a college news release. The matter has been well received by the Navajo Nation's agricultural enterprise, the release says. "This new agri-science degree combines the best of two areas of specialty at Diné College – science and traditional knowledge," said Monty Roessel, president of Diné College. "A student

with this degree will be armed to join the transformation of Navajo food sovereignty that is happening on the reservation right now." Benita Litson, executive director of the Diné College Land Grant Office, said LGO's role in the new degree is to help the Navajo Nation's next generation of farmers and ranchers improve the Navajo agricultural way of life. Litson said the first bachelor's degree in agricultural science will be handed out in 2023.

"This degree program is uniquely developed to help one make best management practices in livestock, horticulture and rangelands," Litson said. "As we know, most Navajo who own livestock also have a farm plot and utilize rangelands, therefore becoming well-rounded in all areas will greatly benefit individuals." Litson noted a new agricultural and horticultural hub to support crop and livestock production will soon be built at the college's Shiprock

South Campus. The construction is a result of \$400,000 in capital outlay funds approved by the New Mexico Legislature for architecture, design and construction. "(Navajo Agricultural Products Industry) is in need of a younger group of farmers educated in the agricultural sciences and agribusiness field," Peter Deswood, chairman of the board of directors at NAPI, said. "We have an older group of farmers who are nearing retirement."



Students at Tobe Turpen Elementary in Gallup are shown in 2018 with bicycle helmets provided by Eve's Fund in partnership with ThinkFirst Navajo and the New Mexico Brain Advisory Group.

## Eve's Fund marks namesake's birth

**FARMINGTON** – Forty-five years ago on Nov. 4, 1974, Eve Erin Crowell, a beloved daughter, sister, niece, cousin, friend and colleague, was born in Boston. Eve grew into a beautiful and intelligent woman. On Feb. 24, 2005, she died tragically. She had just turned 30. Today, her legacy is remembered through the Eve's Fund for Native American Health Initiatives, a nonprofit created by her family in her memory. Her mother, Barbara Crowell Roy, a nurse and mental health counselor, wrote, "Eve had a special place in her heart for Native Americans and people with disabilities and her dad and I wanted to honor that spirit. We knew that is what Eve would have wanted." Developing Eve's Fund became

a full-time career for her parents, Barbara and Bob, and they have succeeded in creating an award winning nonprofit that sponsors programs in literacy, injury prevention and educational scholarships for Native youth, who live primarily on or near the Navajo Nation. Eve's Fund has developed a strong community presence and has had a positive impact on over 55,000 Navajo children and teens. "Every year, on this day, we celebrate Eve's birth and life," the family said in a news release. "With the work being done in her name through Eve's Fund, we celebrate the thousands of Native American children who have been served by our literacy, injury prevention and educational initiatives." Information: 800-646-2952 or [evercrowellfund.org](http://evercrowellfund.org).

## In memory

A heart-shaped statue with the names of the 58 people who were killed by a gunman on Oct. 1, 2017, at the Route 91 Harvest music festival are displayed at the Las Vegas Community Healing Garden in Las Vegas, Nev.



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Walls display a variety of photos and quotes to honor the 58 people who were killed on Oct. 1, 2017, during the Route 91 Harvest music festival in Las Vegas, Nev. The garden was dedicated on Oct. 1.



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A photo of Lisa Romero-Muniz of Gallup is displayed on a remembrance wall at the Las Vegas Community Healing Garden on Oct. 27 in Las Vegas, Nev.

RIGHT: A photo collage of the late Lisa Romero-Muniz from Gallup is on a post at the Las Vegas Community Healing Garden on Oct. 27 in Las Vegas, Nev. Romero-Muniz, along with 57 other people, was killed by a gunman on Oct. 1, 2017, during the Route 91 Harvest music festival. The memorial garden was dedicated on Oct. 1 this fall.



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