



Community to Community —Paying It Forward

NORTHERN ARAPAHO TRIBE RECEIVES EMS UNIT THROUGH LARAMIE CITY COUNCIL DONATION

Dean, and Skip Johnson, prepared the EMA unit for the new owners by stocking it with everything from bandages to gasoline. Tribal Health Director, Allison Sage, smiled and said, “It was like Christmas.”

Tribal representatives traveled to Laramie in mid-July, welcomed by Laramie’s Mayor

and City Council. Representatives included Northern Arapaho Tribal Health Director, Allison Sage; Tribal Health Eyeglasses Specialist, Penny Robertson; and Ethete First Responders Mavis Willow, Ian Wolf Arrow, and Bill Armor. Representing the State EMS Office was Senior Trainer Bob Dean. They presented a Native American Ceremonial Star Quilt (*photo, upper left*) of thanks to the City of Laramie.

Mayor Paulekas greeted the group that evening, saying, “The Laramie community is rich in so many ways, and yet faces the same challenges as other communities to find resources to provide services. The City of Laramie has been honored to “pay-it-forward” to help increase the level of medical services available to the Arapaho Tribe of the Wind River Indian Reservation.

“We’d like to thank our Albany County Legislative delegation and the State Lands and Investment Board for providing grant opportunities for financing critical public safety apparatus for our community, and the State EMS Office for partnering with the City to make this transfer possible.

“It is gratifying that Laramie’s ambulance has been put to good use in a lower-volume service area and continues to benefit residents of the Great State of Wyoming.”

In 2012, the City of Laramie was awarded funding through the State Lands and Investment Board (SLIB) to replace an emergency medical ambulance (EMA) unit that had been destroyed by an accident. In discussion, the City Council agreed that the previous EMA might be useful to a smaller Wyoming agency with a less intense call load. Council voted unanimously to forego the ambulance’s small trade-in value, and instead donate the unit.

Emergency service agencies throughout the State struggle to pay for operations and equipment. Donation of the EMA allows the State’s investment to continue paying dividends for residents. The EMA unit, partially paid for by SLIB monies, became available for donation in late 2012.

Soon thereafter, the State of Wyoming Office of EMS, who vetted interested Wyoming organizations, determined the Northern Arapaho Tribe emergency medical agency would benefit from the donation.

The State Manager of Emergency Medical Services, Andy Gineapp, with assistance from Kelli Perrotti, Bob



Mayor Paulekas (2nd from right) and City Councilman Klaus Hanson (far left), along with City Manager Jordan (3rd from right) and Assistant City Manager Derragon (far right), traveled to Ethete, meeting with Northern Arapaho Tribal Elders and the First Responders Team (center, and who made the ceremonial quilt) including Arapaho Tribal Health Director Allison Sage (2nd from left). The EMS Unit frames the June 2013 gathering.