

## Sycuan Hot Shots

Fighting Fires Before They Start

Fire season is here. And unbeknownst to residents of San Diego County, the Sycuan Golden Eagles Hot Shots have been on the fire lines, even when the flames have been no where in sight.

“Just because you don’t see the planes flying, the smoke or flames, it doesn’t mean our guys aren’t working to protect San Diegans,” said Hank Murphy, Fire Chief of the Sycuan Fire Department.

The Hot Shots make up a unit within the Sycuan Fire Department. Its crews have been performing back-breaking work on a daily basis; they’ve been put-

ting in long hours every day to prevent another fire storm in San Diego.

They use chain saws, weed whackers and other tools to clear debris and dead vegetation from hillsides, ravines and canyons. It’s a simple arrangement, the city of San Diego puts up the money, and the Hot Shots provide the manpower to get the job done.

It’s not easy work, cutting down this “fire

fuel” is strenuous, exhausting and tedious work; it must be done by hand to obtain the best results.

**It’s impressive to witness the dedication of these selfless firefighters, as they perform a very difficult job as they fight fires before they start.**

SEE **Hot Shots**, page 3



Two members of Sycuan’s Golden Eagles Hot Shots crew inspect the landscape as they clear a large canyon in the Golden Hill area of San Diego.

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## House Passes Baca Legislation to Establish Native American Heritage Day

Bill Will Designate Friday After Thanksgiving as Day of Tribute

WASHINGTON, DC – Late last night, the House of Representatives unanimously passed legislation introduced by Congressman Joe Baca (D-Rialto), and supported by the National Indian Gaming Association (NIGA) and 184 federally recognized tribes, to designate the Friday after Thanksgiving as Native American Heritage Day. The Native American Heritage Day Bill, H.J. Res. 62, designates Friday, November 28, 2008, as a day to pay tribute to Native Americans for their many contributions to the United States.

“Native Americans have enriched American culture throughout their proud history,” said Rep. Baca. “It is critical we recognize these contributions and ensure all Americans are properly educated on the heritage and achievements of Native Americans.”

“Since my time in the California State Legislature, I have fought to ensure

Native Americans receive the recognition they deserve,” continue Rep. Baca. “After introducing the legislation that established Native American Day in California, I am proud that both the House and Senate have passed my legislation to create a national day of recognition, which now awaits the President’s signature to become law. I thank my good friend James Ramos, now Chairman of the San Manuel Band of Mission Indians, for standing with me from the beginning on this long journey to ensure the contributions of Native Americans are recognized



Congressman Joe Baca

and appreciated by all.”

The Native American Heritage Day Bill encourages Americans of all backgrounds to observe Friday, November 28, as Native American Heritage Day, through appropriate ceremonies and activities. It also encourages public elementary and secondary schools to enhance student understanding of Native Americans by providing classroom instruction focusing on their history, achievements, and contributions. As a state Assemblyman, Rep. Baca introduced the legislation that established the fourth Friday of

September as Native American Day in California – which became state law in 1998.

SEE **Heritage Day**, page 13

# Soaring Eagles Volunteers

## Make it Real - Make it Good

By Roy Cook

Well, let me tell you how great the Wednesday October 15, 2008 evening is. There is a great turnout of children and community members, volunteers and observers. We have many community members Indian and non-Indian that brings their heart and skill for the benefit of our Indian children. Juan Castellanos, IHRC Executive Director, set up the sound system with Dwight Lomayestas help. Dwight, Executive Director of the American Indian Recruitment, AIR program, came in to announce that the services are in place and the program is started at SDSU and USD.

There is a great response to the excellent description of the pow wow protocol and tradition by our Master of Ceremony, Randy Edmonds, SCAIR Senior Advisor. Richard Parker volunteered to be the Arena Director for the mock pow wow. Chuck Caddote and



Tina Morales encouraged the dancers and showed them by example. Eileen George and Vera Tucker stepped in to guide the dancers in the grand entry. It was the real deal for the first time for many of our young dancers.

American Indian Warriors member Joaquin Sandoval brought in the American flag in representation of the Honor Guard. Randy Edmonds provided the blessing and called on the San Diego Inter-Tribal Singers: Richard Decrane, Frank Gastelum, Ben Nance and Roy Cook, SCAIR contract writer, to sing the appropriate Flag song and Victory song. All volunteers, unpaid but greatly appre-



ciated, for the Indian children – our future.

For the children, think about that and what can be accomplished and what might happen if someone is irresponsible. We are touching the life of each child that is attending the Soaring Eagles Dance and Regalia classes. This is a wonderful opportunity. There is also an emergent sense of Indian community. There are aspects of tribalism, Indian culture, song, laughter and, in the mix, critics too. More parents need to be respectfully watchful of all the children. Some are too timid and fearful of what someone might say if we correct another persons' child. Some, I am sorry to say, seem to just not care to monitor or mentor until something dramatic occurs and then everyone wants to know who to blame. We are all responsible to keep

our children safe.

Real good eats too! Debbie Razo prepared and set out the pot luck offerings: Spaghetti, tossed salad, macaroni salad, fresh green beans in a yummy sauce, chilaquillas, punch and hot coffee mmm, Later there is a birthday cake for Melissa Aleman and another

er cake brought in by El Bisarra, from the AI Health clinic, in appreciation of the Soaring Eagles participation at the Student Wellness Conference a while back.

We sang a bunch of good songs and the dancers, most of them, gave it their all and danced to the best of their abilities. We ended the evening with the very popular snake and buffalo dances. Again, thanks to all the great volunteers that make the big difference for the, SCAIR sponsored, Soaring Eagles Dance night.

All are invited to attend and PARTICIPATE. Normal Heights Community Center at 4649 Hawley Blvd. San Diego CA 619-281-5964. Free to the public but it is a POT LUCK so bring something good to share.

## Chuey's Restaurant Sold

Chuey's Restaurant, the decades-old restaurant in Barrio Logan familiar to countless satisfied San Diego diners has been sold for \$2.6 million to the San Diego Community College District as the site for the new Cesar Chavez campus of the district's Continuing Education Program.

The college district was the successful bidder for the property at a Trustee Sale held on October 10, 2008. The property is located at 1901-1911 Main Street in San Diego. The rectangular site is approximately 39,315 square feet on which the 18,048 square-foot Chuey's Restaurant building and a 556 square-foot garage are located.

Frank De La Rosa, the past owner of Chuey's Restaurant said of the purchase by the college district, "We are glad that the community will benefit from the educational programs that will be offered at the new campus."

District Chancellor Constance Carroll noted, "The acquisition of this property is important for our district for two reasons. We will be able to build a major continuing education campus for local residents named after Cesar Chavez. And, we will be able to include some of the Aztec Brewery artifacts in this facility as well as other celebrations of the area's rich culture."

The new campus, including the acquisition cost of the land, is projected

to be approximately \$42 million with construction planned to begin in 2010. The first students should be able to attend classes at the new campus in mid-2012. The new campus will consolidate the programs currently offered at the nearby smaller Cesar Chavez campus and the Center City campus. It is funded by the San Diego taxpayer supported Proposition S.

The new Cesar Chavez campus will be a Campus of Excellence for Allied Health occupations. It will also offer English as a Second Language (ESL) classes, Adult Basic Education (ABE), Business Information Technology (BIT), Parent Education, and Older Adult Education. A Small Business Incubator Center will be established. In addition, there will be a Multi-Purpose room and Administrative Offices.

According to Board of Trustees Executive Vice President Rich Grosch, "This is an opportunity to build, with local citizen input, a high quality educational facility that will enhance the community and enrich the lives of its residents."

Board of Trustee member Maria Nieto Senour added, "'Chuey's' is a name that has long been associated with the many positive attributes of Barrio Logan. We are pleased that the location of the new Cesar Chavez Continuing Education Campus will add to positive legacy that began with Chuey's."



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Hot Shot crews pay attention to the native vegetation to make sure they're not cutting down precious plants.

### Hot Shots

Continued from page 1

"We're happy to do it, and we get the job done while taking care of the landscape, so we don't create an erosion problem down the road," said Jose Deza, Captain with the Sycuan Hot Shots.

The crews pay extra attention to the native vegetation to make sure they're not cutting down precious plants. And they don't just cut everything in sight. "We only cut down the dead, dried materials from trees, hedges and bushes," said Deza.

Thanks to Captain Deza and the other Sycuan Hot Shots, communities such as

Scripps Ranch, Tierrasanta, Poway, Golden Hill and many others are now safer thanks to this on-going brush-clearing operation.

It's impressive to witness the dedication of these selfless firefighters, as they perform a very difficult job as they fight fires before they start.

Residents can do this same type of work on their own properties. Captain Deza recommends doing it in the morning when it's cool, having a shovel close by to put dirt on a fire, should a spark ignite the brush. He also suggests having a cell phone to call someone immediately, if a fire gets going while clearing brush from your home.

Sycuan communications

## World's Largest Food Fishery in Danger of Collapse

### Dwindling Food Supply Puts Endangered Steller Sea Lions, Fishing Jobs in Jeopardy

WASHINGTON - A new survey conducted by the National Marine Fisheries Service reveals that populations of Alaska pollock, the world's largest food fishery, have dropped 50 percent since last year. Pollock is America's most ubiquitous seafood product, found in McDonald's fish sandwiches, frozen fish sticks, fish and chips, and imitation crabmeat. The assessment revealed that Bering Sea pollock stocks have declined to their lowest level on record—a startling development for a fishery NMFS' chief scientist recently called "one of the most successfully managed species in the world" and that has earned a Marine Stewardship Council certification. In December, the North Pacific Fishery Management Council will set the new pollock catch limits for 2009. Scientists and conservationists have warned that unless the Council reduces fishing pressure on pollock, a vital forage species for fur seals, whales, and endangered Steller sea lions, the entire Bering Sea ecosystem could be in jeopardy of collapse. This would prove devastating for the state's commercial fishermen and traditional coastal communities that depend on a healthy ocean for their livelihoods. "Economic pressures to keep on fishing at such high levels have overwhelmed common sense," said Dr. Jeremy

Jackson, Director of the Center for Marine Biodiversity and Conservation at the Scripps Institution of Oceanography. "With the huge uncertainties inherent in fisheries models, a far more precautionary, ecosystem-based approach is required. Otherwise, fisheries managers are gambling with the health of our oceans and coastal communities." Over the past several years, the pollock fishery has experienced poor juvenile survival rates and dwindling populations, forcing the council to reduce harvests in the past two fishing seasons. But experts say these actions have been inadequate, failing to prevent further declines. In order to restore the fishery's health, the allowable catch must be cut in half, fishing on spawning populations suspended, and marine reserves established to protect critical habitats. "We are on the cusp of one of the largest fishery collapses in history," said John Hocevar, Greenpeace Oceans Campaign Director. "It may still be possible to prevent disaster, but the North Pacific Fishery Management Council must take swift and decisive action when they meet in December." For background on the pollock fishery, see our report at: [www.greenpeace.org/usa/rethinking](http://www.greenpeace.org/usa/rethinking) Contact: John Hocevar, Greenpeace USA Oceans Campaign

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## American Indian Killers

Ernie C. Salgado Jr. · Soboba Tribal Member · indianvoices@hotmail.com

Alcohol is the Single Most Dangerous Drug on the Plant and is legally sold in almost every town, city and state in the country and even on some reservations in the country. Alcohol abuse in the Native American community is epidemic and the leading cause of death of the tribal youth than any other drug.

Methamphetamine is the second leading drug of choice among the drug users, which is combined with the legal drug of alcohol in the nation today. Substance abuse is not confined to the southern California Indian Reservation population nor is it a gender, racial or age issue it is an epidemic of massive magnitude in the nation.

It must be kept in mind when developing a long-term substance abuse strategy to understand the nature of the combination of drugs that are being abused by the users, the effect on the users and the long-term commitment of resources that is required to implement a successful program to curb substance abuse within the Native American target population.

According to Methamphetamine Data collected through Indian Health Services RPMS Patient Care Component (PCC) and Behavioral Health (BHS) reporting system Methamphetamine encounters have been increasing steadily since 1997.

The number of methamphetamine related encounters documented in 2004 were 6,875. 9,577 were reported for the year 2005. It is frightening to realize this is a 39.3% annual increase from the year 2004 to 2005. The numbers being collected in 2006 appear to demonstrate this upward trend is continuing.

The same report also included other information that should cause great concern. Of special interest is a list of the states documenting the greatest methamphetamine use of which California and specifically southern California is among the highest number of methamphetamine related encounters reported.

Given these statistics and the proximity of the 100 plus Indian Reservations and Rancherias in California to major cities it would be a fair conclusion that access to methamphetamine for the Native American Tribal population is a given.

Unduplicated patient count by age and sex related to methamphetamine use shows an increase of methamphetamine abuse between the ages of 10 to 65 years old. Of this group, women between the ages of 15 to 54 years of age represent the largest segment reporting incidences of methamphetamine use.

What is Meth? Methamphetamine (known on the street as "speed," "meth,"

"crank," "crystal-meth," and "glass") is a central nervous system stimulant of the amphetamine family. Like cocaine, it is a powerful "upper" that produces alertness, and elation, along with a variety of adverse reactions. The effects of methamphetamine, however, are much longer lasting than the effects of cocaine, yet the cost is much the same.

For that reason, methamphetamine is sometimes called the "poor man's cocaine."

As with many drugs, methamphetamine, if prescribed by a physician, is legally available in the United States for the treatment of attention deficit disorders (ADD) and obesity.

Unfortunately, much of the methamphetamine available on the street is illicit methamphetamine from clandestine laboratories in the United States. Production originally concentrated in clandestine labs throughout the Western and Southwestern United States, but has spread to the Central United States and beyond. In addition to the clandestine laboratories in the United States, organized crime groups in Mexico appear responsible for increased methamphetamine production on both sides of the border during the 1990's. What is Meth? above reprinted

from the website: lifeormeth.com. Ed.

Risk Profile of Population: Alcohol and substance abuse continue to be an issue of significant concern within the tribal population. Historically, teen pregnancy in San Diego County teen birth rates has exceeded state and national

averages. For example, the California teen birth rate (per 1000) for 1997-1999 was 53.3, whereas for San Diego County, the average was significantly higher at 61.2. This trend does not appear to be changing. Approximately 3,245 mothers under the age of 20 gave birth in 2000 (rate of 62.8). Equally distressing, according to a 2000 Kaiser Daily

Reproductive Health Report, Native American teen birth rates in California are one the rise; in fact, Native American teens have the dubious distinction of being the only racial or ethnic group in the state to see an increase in teen pregnancies. In 1998, the Native American teen birth rate increased by 6.4% from 1997, whereas in that same period, births fell by 5.3% for whites, 6.4% for Hispanics, and 8.7% for blacks. In 2000, approximately 38 Native

SEE **Indian Killers**, page 10

### Alcohol and substance abuse continue to be an issue of significant concern within the tribal population

## Anita Bye Named Sycuan's Director of Community Development

EL CAJON, CA (October 21, 2008) – Anita Bye has been promoted to Director of Community Development for Sycuan.

"Anita has raised the Tribe's and the Casino's charitable giving and community awareness to unprecedented heights. Her professionalism and dedication to these efforts are exemplary," said Michael Tabor, Director of Marketing for Sycuan Casino.

For the past three and a half years, Bye had served as Manager of Community Development, becoming an integral part of Sycuan's gift-giving efforts. She was also responsible for assembling and mobilizing Sycuan's volunteer programs in the community.


Bye has become a recognized figure throughout the San Diego region and is known as Sycuan's ambassador.

Bye is very generous with her own time as well. Throughout the year, she participates in a large number of charitable endeavors and events. Bye is also a Board Director with the East County Chamber of Commerce, the Boys and Girls Clubs of East County, and is a Symphony Star member with the San Diego Symphony.

Open 24/7 and just 30 minutes from downtown San Diego, Sycuan Casino

offers an array of exciting gaming activities, entertainment and delicious food. In addition to our 2,000-plus slots, we have a total of 63 table games, including blackjack, pai gow, and mini baccarat in addition to a 24-table non-smoking poker room. The 1,250-seat Bingo Palace provides traditional and video bingo. Sycuan's Showcase Theatre features great shows and concerts in an intimate, up-close-and-personal venue. And customers have a choice of dining in our international buffet, Wachena Falls Café, Sunset Deli or Bingo Snack Bar.

The Sycuan Tribal Government operates the region's premier Indian gaming and resort facilities, the Sycuan Casino and Sycuan Resort. Sycuan demonstrates its strong commitment to the San Diego region through its support of civic and charitable organizations. The Tribe also seeks to reinvest back into the San Diego community with a progressive business development effort. The Tribe also owns and operates Sycuan Ringside Promotions; the country's first tribally owned boxing promotion company. Sycuan Funds is a publicly traded and professionally managed mutual fund. Combined, these enterprises now employ nearly 4,000 San Diegans.



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## Fig Tree John

Ernie C. Salgado Jr. · Soboba Tribal Member · indianvoices@hotmail.com

Fact or fiction? "Fig Tree John" is listed on the Internet by several writers expressed interest in the myth or fact of "Fig Tree John" as he was named because he was credited with planting the first fig tree in the Coachella Valley.

Yes, for us Indians "Fig Tree John" was a real person. His real name was John Razon and he was a tribal member of the Torres Martinez Band of Cahuilla Indians. He was also the Tribal Spokesman for the Torres Martinez Tribal Council during the 1920's. He was also a member of the Mission Indian Federation. He was listed on the government records as one of the Fifty-seven (57) Federation leaders arrested and charged with "conspiracy against the government" in 1923 a year before citizenship was granted to the American Indians.

Little is known about Mr. Razon because the Mission Indian Federation went underground after the mass arrest and subsequent release when the charges were dropped for lack of any evidence. However, the Government through the Bureau of Indian Affairs continued to harass and undermine the effort of the Federation.

What is interesting is that many of the descendants of the early Tribal Leaders that were members of Mission Indian Federations continue to lead their tribes today. However, this article is dedicated to the ancestors of John "Fig Tree John" Razon.

John "Fig Tree John" Razon had two children a boy, John Razon Jr. and a girl, Minnie Mack Razon. Not much is known about their early childhood or where they went to school.

Both siblings married and moved to the San Jacinto Valley. John Jr. married Clemencia "Clementine" Silvas a member of the Soboba Band of Mission Indians (Soboba Band of Luiseno Indians as the name was changed a few year back). Ms. Clemencia Silvas also had a brother, Leandro "Lee" Silvis. Minnie Mack married a gentleman from the Pechanga Band of Mission Indians, William "Bill" Miranda.

The Razon family made their home on

the Soboba Reservation while the Miranda family live in the city of San Jacinto on Santa Fe St. near the cross St. of Esplanade, just three miles west of the Soboba Indian Reservation. Both had large families that attended the San Jacinto schools.

Ms. Clemencia Razon was active in the Soboba politics and also served on the Tribal Council, as did her twin daughters Martina and Lupe. Lupe married Dee Boniface who was also a member of the Soboba tribe. Sandy "Boniface" Arres, Lupe and Dee's daughter served on the Soboba Tribal Council.

Martina "Tina" married Lester Lopez from Torres Martinez. Their eldest son Arthur Lopez was enrolled at Torres Martinez and served as the Tribal Chairman. Carl and Darrel Lopez were enrolled at Soboba and both served on the Soboba Tribal Council, Carl as the Tribal Spokesman and Darrel on the Tribal Council.

Another daughter of John and "Clementine" May married a non-Indian and their daughter; Maxine Resvaloso was enrolled at Torres Martinez and is currently serving on the Tribal Council.

Another grandson of John Jr. and Calmencia Razon, Gordon Placencia was recently elected to the Soboba Band of Luiseno Indians Tribal Council and is the son of Irene "Razon" Placencia.

Leroy "Lukas McCain" Miranda is the eldest son of Minnie Mack and William "Bill" Miranda. He married a lady from the Pala Indian reservation, Donna Lavado. Their son Leroy Miranda Jr. is currently the Vice-Chairman for the Pala Band of Mission Indians as well as the leader of the cultural resurgence of the tribe. (The nickname "Lukas McCain" is another story for another time.)

John "Fig Tree John" Razon may not only have planted the first fig tree in the Coachella Valley his legacy continues to have a direct positive impact on at least three southern California Indian Reservations, Soboba, Torres Martinez and Pala.

Like Sonny & Cher's song "The Beat Goes On"

**The power of our belief system is incredible. The power of faith is a very natural power. How do we have faith? Inside of our minds we form a mental picture with our self talk. Self talk is recorded in our minds in three dimensions - words that trigger a picture, which has a feeling or an emotion attached to it. Once we get the words and the picture, it is the emotion that makes the idea turn into a belief. You get the right emotion by saying things from the heart. The heart is the source of emotions which can cause unbelievable things to happen.**

**Great Spirit, with You everything is possible.**

– Wallace Black Elk, LAKOTA

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## Soboba Teen traces D-Day steps of great-grandfather

Ernie C. Salgado Jr. • Soboba Tribal Member • indianvoices@hotmail.com

Corryn (Salgado) Flores, a Soboba teenager, wrote an essay when she was 13-year-old exploring the irony of her great-grandfather's service during World War II even though he was not born an American citizen and her subsequent trip to Normandy, France this summer and the site of the D-Day battleground where her great-grandfather, Ernest Salgado, Sr. landed on Omaha Beach, Normandy with the invasion forces on June 6, 1944. And ironically the same day his youngest son Richard was born.

Corryn's essay recounted the irony of her 88-year-old great-grandfather being born on October 16, 1920 four years before citizenship was granted to American Indians in 1924. Before that, American Indians only had the right to apply for citizenship, and even that right was granted years after the Fourteenth Amendment to the United States Constitution intended to secure full citizenship rights of former slaves but didn't include American Indians. It was proposed on June 13, 1866, and ratified on July 9, 1868.

Corryn said her education began when she was required to write an essay for the American Legion's annual contest when she was an eighth-grader at St. Hyacinth Academy in San Jacinto. The essay was judged as the winner of the contest along with letters of congratulation from Sen. Barbara Boxer and Rep. Jerry Lewis and a cash prize.

This year, she was selected as a People to People International student ambassador through a rigorous qualifying program that included interviews, an essay, and monthly meetings. "The effort was worth it," she said, "because it gave her the opportunity to walk the sand at Omaha Beach, where her great-grandfather was among the D-Day landing forces, and to stand on the cliffs overlooking the beaches of Normandy." Her and the other students viewed the wreckage of battle left where it was as a way of remembering the sacrifices made there, and even crawled through the same narrow bunker passageways used by those long-ago soldiers.

Post Commander, Robert L. Sigala of Post 848 said the legionnaires decided to honor Ernest Salgado Sr. for his wartime service in part because of his great-granddaughter, Corryn Flores, now 15. Mr. Salgado was honored with a din-

ner, attended by about 80 family members and legionnaires and members of their families, and he was presented with an award for his service.



**SERVICE HONORED:** Ernest Salgado Sr. sits among family, friends, and well-wishers at American Legion Post 848 in San Jacinto.

In addition to his service on Normandy Mr. Salgado participated in four other major campaigns through out Europe. He was also awarded a Bronze Star Medal, Combat Infantryman Badge along with other Campaign Medals.

"We have a tendency to forget there are people in harm's way around the world," Sigala said, as

well as the contributions made by those who wore the uniform before them.

The experience, she said, gave her an appreciation for the contributions of the soldiers that most people know only from history books. "We never get credit for anything we've done," Corryn said of American Indians. "Native Americans have only been recognized for the bad things we've done."

Corryn and her parents, Becky and Chris Flores, live on the Soboba Indian Reservation, where Salgado's son, Robert Salgado Sr., has been the Soboba tribal chairman for many years and his youngest daughter Rose also serves on the Tribal Council as well. His other two son's Ernie Jr. and Richard are also veterans. "I am proud of all of them," said Becky Flores, granddaughter of Ernest Salgado Sr. "I think we take our soldiers for granted."

She recalls few conversations with her grandfather's about his service when she was growing up. "Grandpa didn't talk much about his activities in the war," she said. "The things you had to do to survive is not something you share at the dinner table."

Sigala said time is running out to honor those who fought off the Japanese and German threats during World War II. "We're losing about 1,500 veterans a month," he said. "They don't teach their history much any more."

Corryn gave her great-grandfather a copy of the essay, which he hung on his wall, and, when she got back from her two-week trip to Europe, presented him a collage of photos of the way the old battlegrounds look today.

When Corryn returned from her two-week trip to Europe she gave her great-grandfather a collection of photos of the way Omaha Beach looks today. She also gave her him a copy of the essay, which he hung on his living room wall.

## Indian Medical Health Director to Discuss Experiences of a Tribal Doctor at UCSD Native American Celebration

Pathways to Life: Experiences of a Tribal Doctor will be addressed when Dan Calac, M.D., medical director of the Indian Health Council, Inc., (IHC) speaks Nov. 7 at the University of California, San Diego.

Part of UC San Diego's 2008 California Native American Day Celebration, the event will be from 6 to 8 p.m. in the Comunidad Room of the Cross-Cultural Center. It is free and open to the public.

Born and raised on the Pauma Indian Reservation, since 2003 Calac has served as medical director of IHC, a consortium of nine tribes dedicated to the continual betterment of Indian health, wholeness, and well-being. IHC has a main facility adjacent to the Rincon reservation in Pauma Valley and the Santa Ysabel Community Health Center located on the Santa Ysabel Reservation.

Under Calac's direction, IHC provides on-site and outreach services and programs to the North San Diego County reservations of Inaja-Cosmit, La Jolla, Los Coyotes, Mesa Grande, Pala, Pauma, Rincon, San Pasqual, and Santa Ysabel. These services range from prenatal to geriatric; from child and adult fitness and diabetes clinics to substance abuse prevention and domestic violence programs, and from mammograms and eye clinics to outreach health fairs and environmental health services.

Calac began his quest to a pathway in

medicine as a tribal doctor with a degree in biology from San Diego State University. He went on to receive his medical degree from Harvard Medical School and did both internship and residency in combined internal medicine and pediatrics at UCLA.

Calac is a member of the American Medical Society and a member and scholar of the Massachusetts Medical Society. He was an Arthur Ashe Foundation Fellow at Harvard AIDS Institute, and has received an Indian Health Service scholarship and a Community Service Award. He served as a co-principle investigator for the Preventing Underage Drinking by Southwest Indians Program sponsored by the National Institute on Alcohol Abuse and Alcoholism (NIAAA). Currently, he is a principle investigator with the California Native American Research Centers for Health (NARCH) whose goals are to increase the quantity and quality of research on the health of Native Americans in California and to increase the number of Native American students and faculty in California universities.

Calac lives in Escondido with his wife and three children.

For further information on the Calac talk, e-mail cferro@ucsd.edu. For more information on the California Native American Day Celebration visit the website at <http://blink.ucsd.edu/go/nativeamerican>.



**SCAIR**  
Southern California American Indian Resource Center, Inc.  
2218 Alpine Boulevard, Alpine CA 91901  
Telephone: 619.445.9236 \* Fax 619.445.9885  
WWW.SCAIR.ORG \* Email: scair@hotmail.com

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## Rose Red Elk International Star Singing for the Next Seven Generations

Rose Red Elk also known as Red Feather Woman, has a way with words. She remembers being fascinated by stories that she learned from her parents when she was a child. She was born on the Ft. Peck Reservation on the North East region of Montana and is an enrolled member of the Assiniboine/Sioux Tribes. Her father, Sioux and Mother Assiniborine passed on tales that she remembers today.

Rose's grandmother's was full blood Sioux, who married Archie Red Elk. Rose chose to use her maternal grandmother's name. She received her traditional name which she also uses as her stage name, Red Feather Woman.

Red Feather Woman was given to her by her grandpa, Joseph Flying By, a traditional medician man for Little Eagle South Dakota. Before he left his earth walk many years ago, he honored with her traditional name. He told her that the Red Feather Warrior Society was still in tact today. He was a member of this society after World War II. The Red Feather Warrior Society was for those warriors who had been wounded in battle. He would wear a red feather in ceremonies and pow wows.

She became accustomed to storytelling. She loved to listen to elders tell stories as a child. This seem to carry over into adulthood.

Rose Red Elk was also musical, teaching herself to play the organ and piano and falling in love with the guitar that she finally acquired. These were talents and skills that she paid little attention to as a young person, taking them for granted.

But now as an accomplished and professional Storyteller and Singer she realizes that that her childhood avocation was actually the foundation for what was to become her life's path.

A path that has led to international acclaim and celebrity

Just how Rose Red Elk got to this point in her life is a story in itself based on intuitive determination and perhaps Divine Intervention.

In her early childhood she followed



Rose Red Elk also known as Red Feather Woman

her mother, off the reservation and grew up in East Texas. Living off the reservation opened up a world free from the social limitations that often accompanies reservation life.

She excelled as a student

It was not until she was a student at Texas A&M University did her leadership and artistic talent blossom. There was no American Indian club on campus. At the urging of her Anthropology professor she teamed up with another interested student and started a dance team and drum group. Native students became interested and began to participate. The group caught on and soon was a social highlight on campus.

During one production there was an interruption in the performance due to a costume change. Red Elk seized the moment to fill the scheduling gap by telling a story. The timing was excellent and the audience loved it. Thus her storytelling career was born.

The compassionate/leadership side of Rose Red Elk not only comes through in

her artistic self. Her wish to be of assistance to the less fortunate fed her desire to become a lawyer.

Although she has not yet attained that goal she did make a major contribution to the cause of Civil Rights.

In 1995 she was awarded an internship, sponsored by the American University, in Washington DC. Out of the students who attended from all across the US, she excelled in her Project.

Rose's Project was based on the fact at the university she attended, Texas A&M did not consider Native Americans a minority therefore did not allow students to apply for graduate scholarships that were being supported by the US Department of Education. After taking the advice of her Profost, she set out to do a survey on the top 12 universities in Texas. The results were that the top schools, both University of Texas and Texas A&M did not give scholarships to Native Americans.

With these results she filed a civil complaint with the United States Justice Department in the Civil Rights department. On January 16, 1995, Martin Luther King Day, Rose Red Elk story hit the front page of the Houston Post.

The repercusión of this news, caused the Texas Education Board to reevaluate how the scholarship Money was appropriated. Changes were made with the help of a loan warrior, Rose Red Elk/Red Feather Woman.

Rose felt her calling was in law. After

receiving her BS in Sociology from Texas A&M, August 26 1995 she up-rooted her four children and moved to Louisville, Colorado to prepare to attend CU Law School in Boulder, CO.

In Boulder her daughter was approached by a spiritual medicine woman who requested consultation with Rose Red Feather. The artist agreed to meet with her. She was told by the spiritual woman that her purpose in life was to use her talents to bring her people together and that her calling and destiny was to set the tone for preservation of an ancient culture.

Rose Red Feather took these words to heart, determined to act on them.

After an enormous effort and personal sacrifice her first Storytelling break through was in 2006 when was nominated and won a Native American Music Award for Storytelling. Since that time this multi-talented artist has been invited to Turkey where she toured the country visiting 7 cities. Izmire, Manias, Aydin, Mugla, Denizli, Isparta, and ended in the Capital Ankara. Her final show was in the Ambassador's home.

She has toured Pakistan. The providences included, Karachi, Lahore, Peshawar and Islamabad. She received national media coverage with great reviews of her stories and music.

Recently, Red Feather Woman has been invited to Japan in May of 2009. She has been asked to visit and perform in Fukuoka, Osaka, Sapparo, Nagoya and Tokyo.

As Rose embarks on this new adventure and opportunity, she feels blessed to share her culture with indigenous people of all ages around the world. "What an honor it is to be called "Red Indian", she says proudly. This is how they address her ethnicity in their part of the globe. Regardless of the label, Red Feather Woman says "I am proud to be Native American, the true Americans".

Rose Red Elks fans and admirers can look forward to hearing more from this amazing musician. ...she has given her word.

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## Indian Killers

Continued from page 4

American teens gave birth in San Diego County.

Self-Destructive and Illegal Behaviors: A 2001 study by US Department of Health and Human Services report that Native American youth are repeatedly exposed to opportunities to participate in self-destructive and illegal behaviors.

Recent data point to a pattern of reckless living among Native American youth in Indian Country. Motor vehicle and other accidents are the leading cause of death among Native American youth ages 15-24, whose rate of death due to accidents is almost three times higher than the rate for the total U.S. population (USDHHS, 1999). Data also indicate the presence of despair. Suicide is the second leading cause of death for Native American youth in the 15-24 age group.

Mortality Rates In 1997, related to alcoholism were high among Native American populations. In 1996 Chronic liver disease and cirrhosis of the liver was the 5th leading cause of death for Native American men and the 6th leading cause of death for Native American women in 1993. (National Minority AIDS Council 1999). Among Native Americans, the highest rates of gonorrhea for males were for those ages 20-24 (224.6 per 100,000) and among females for those ages 15-19 (554 per 100,000)

According to the CDC, in 1997, more than half (53%) of all Native Americans with AIDS resided in five states at the time of their AIDS diagnosis: California (25%), Oklahoma (11%), Washington (7%), Arizona (6%), and Alaska (4%). Additionally, the five metropolitan statistical areas with the highest percentages of Native Americans with AIDS were San Francisco, CA (6%), Los Angeles-Long Beach, CA (6%), Seattle-Bellevue-Everett, WA (4%), Tulsa, OK (4%), and San Diego, CA (3%) (National Minority AIDS Council, 1999).

The Average Life Expectancy of Native Americans is 65 years; for all other Americans it is 76 years. The average annual income of the Native American is 61% of the national average. An estimated fifty thousand Native American families living in the Southwest live in substandard housing, often without running water, electricity or adequate facilities. Native American infant mortality is almost double that of the national average. The suicide rate of Native American adults is 1.7 times greater than the national average. Suicide among school age Native Americans is 3 to 5 times the national average. Native American females ages 15-34 were reported of

dying of cirrhosis of the liver at a rate 37 times greater than white females of the same age group.

Native Americans are one of the most isolated minority groups in America. Our history is one of abuse by the majority population leading to the loss of culture, land, language, and self-determination. Most of the target tribes are located on government-designated reservations in rural areas far removed from the general population and the land they once inhabited.

The destruction of the Native American family structure has meant less parental and tribal influence, increased sexual behavior among youth, more pregnant teens, and growth in the number of families without fathers. For instance, recent census figures reveal that single female-households.

As a Result of the Information Above, the primary focus should be on educating the tribal youth and community on the dangers related to the use of alcohol and methamphetamine. The secondary focus should be to assisting the tribal population with alcohol and methamphetamine abuse by providing rehabilitation and support.

Taking on Alcohol Substance Abuse

within the Indian Tribal communities will require a well organized collaborative effort between the Tribal Governments, reservation tribal communities at large, local, county and state health provides, law enforcement and rehabilitation service providers. A long-term commitment to providing the resource in the manifestation of facilities, funding and professional expertise are other key components for developing and sustaining a "Long-Term Comprehensive Plan" to combat substance abuse by tribal members.

The development of goal, objective, activities and timelines for a "Long-Term Comprehensive Plan" to meet the challenge of eradicating substance abuse on the target southern California Indian Reservations are invalid without the resources and the commitment of a meaningful collaborative effort between the Tribal Governments, reservation tribal communities at large, local, county and state health provides, law enforcement and rehabilitation service providers.

Tribal Priorities will need to change making the prevention of alcohol and substance abuse a top priority. The challenge must be a collaborative effort between all the tribes because they are not isolated from each other. The tribes will also need to make a long-term commitment to providing the financial resources to insure that the desired results are realized, saving our youth.

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**The Average  
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65 years; for all  
other Americans  
it is 76 years.**

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## Reservation Transportation Authority

### Serving Southern California Tribes

In Southern California, Native American tribes, the California Department of Transportation (Caltrans), and the San Diego Association of Governments (SANDAG) are taking an active approach to building relationships and improving coordination in transportation planning. Tribal governments established the Reservation Transportation Authority (RTA), a consortium of 24 tribes, in order to pool resources and more effectively coordinate on transportation issues. By working together in a regional organization, tribes have developed a greater voice to articulate their transportation needs. The benefits of this approach are exemplified by a planning study that will be conducted cooperatively by the RTA and Caltrans District 11 in San Diego County.

**Reservation Transportation Authority**  
28860 Old Town Front Street  
Temecula, CA.  
Phone: 951-308-1442

## Introducing Navajo Executive Producer PONY VIGIL

[www.gaiapod.com](http://www.gaiapod.com)

Pony has been developing cutting edge Media content and continues to find new and innovative ways to push media distribution into the Global Awareness sphere since the breakout of the IT technology within the Silicon Valley Glory Years...

Having an extended knowledge in IT and this being merged with a true gift of being able to understand the ever-changing global needs of becoming more and more earth conscious, has made it possible for Pony to develop several protocols and mediums to get Innovative Indigenous art to the masses...

Pony continues to draw from an innate need stemming from his tribal / native roots to move forward usually ahead of the regular thinking patterns of today's technology,

On this very journey emerged Pony Pictures, Dream TV, DJ Tribe, Native Soul and the latest addition to Pony's inventions of global conscious mediums Gaiapod.

Pony's wonderful expertise, vision and talent was available and noted in the following projects which will give you an overall but yet limited idea to Pony's capabilities...

Pony worked with Deep Light, in

Beverly Hills, CA as a Producer and Introducing the 3d monitors and camera, for Native American Gaming (no glasses needed), he was also the Executive Producer & Designer of Wild Card the 3d Blackjack game.

Pony was part of Midnight Movies, in Culver City, CA – as 1st AD and served "The Undead 3D" Assistant to Director and Line Producer.

Within the above continued Pony to be and remain Self Employed, in Santa Monica, CA – creating and offering Film and web production as a Content provider and also served for the co-creation with local production companies

Those including events such as Earth Dance, in Los Angeles, CA – where Pony served as the Network Producer, the event promoted 3 million people in 200 cities world wide producing networking a global synchronization for a 5-minute world peace meditation.

Pony is also part still today of Native Soul Productions, a Company that brings forth the acoustical tribal sounds that echo thru the rhythms' of the earth, working also with the likes such as Yaya Lakshmi, he is the Producer of engineering, production and recording additionally sings, chants and gives life with a truly amazing voice that breaks into ones spirit, within this is Pony responsible for managing the stage and recording studios.

In "Discover Navajo", in Salt Lake City, UT – Pony served as the Executive Co- Producer .Pony was directly involved and responsible for the tribal

relations at the 2002 Winter Olympic Games which he assisted with Multimedia Cultural production, he was part of the Maui Rose Research Communications program, in Lahaina, HI - as the Technical Director, where he implemented

Administration and research for web and data based browsers.

Santa Fe Creative's, in Santa Fe, NM – Pony served as the Producer.

One of Pony's biggest accomplishments that he himself finds to be one of the most gratifying experiences of his life was being an active part of "World Song" which he was part in the creation to build the largest children's choir in the world.

Pony Build several models for self-sustainability in rural communities, he was part of the Familiarization Tours, in NM – and served as a Director and Associate Producer.

At "Indian Market" Santa Fe/ he served as the Associate producer, FAM (familiarization Tours) New Mexico Film Commission

The Native Shopping Network, in Cut Bank, MT – Pony served as the Executive Producer & Director, he produced the shopping network for Satellite television, build the Set Building & it's Design.

Pony worked with Sony Pictures on "Geronimo", in Moab, UT – and served as the Talent and Documentary Director

As an actor Pony too is seasoned as he worked as a Rider & stuntman

(Geronimo) within several Native American casted productions.

Pony's extensive vision for peace, global awareness and unity has exposed him to almost any facet of Media Production within these, he also was responsible for the coordination of the Sacred Run International between the US and Canada – as the Executive Producer & Advanced Coordinator ,he coordinated 65 to 150 runners for earth & cultural preservation. Introduced the Internet to Indian tribes, and worked on Digital Media, in Santa Cruz, CA – which he was part of the 3D Game Research & Development

Pony created Virtual Reality 3d world applications, integrating avatars and multi media for motion pictures. Such as "Lawn Mower Man"

Within all of these very impressive accomplishments, is Pony, still today involved as a seasoned web designer, earth activist, musician, actor, producer and director, his goal remaining to bring about a global change by shifting the interest to doing away, with harming the earths environments, bringing about a change to give Indigenous People specifically Native American youth and artists a means to creatively give birth to their talents, he produces, directs, and ongoing invents different out of the box thought patterns, that will continue to push forward in the fight, for harmony, peace and earth consciousness!

For more information, about Pony's work or to contact Pony directly please visit; <http://www.gaiapod.com/>

## Introducing R.J. JOESPH

[moccasinpathproductions.com](http://moccasinpathproductions.com)

R.J. Joseph, of Cree heritage, grew up in Calgary, Alberta, Canada. As the youngest of eleven children, he spent his childhood surrounded by multiple generations of extended family. The kitchen became a teaching circle, where parents, grandparents, aunts and uncles instilled lessons of culture as well as traditional and spiritual values.

It is upon this foundation that R.J. built Moccasin Path Productions as a way to protect the richness of his Native American roots.

R.J. continued the education begun in his mother's kitchen, by listening to the wisdoms of gifted Storytellers. These Elders instilled belief, pride and a personal understanding of his place in the world, as well as the importance for all people to know their background.

R.J.'s passion for history and his sensitivity to this endangered oral art form now have an outlet – film. R.J.'s career began fifteen years ago in front of the camera as a Native American Actor and Stuntman, featured in well-known pieces such as Thunderheart with Val Kilmer, Iron Will and Desperado among others.

He became intrigued with directing,

working with legends of the industry like Woody Allen, Charles Haid, Michael Apted and Sam Sheppard.

By marrying his vast experience in the film industry with his extensive knowledge of Native American history, R.J. has taken his filmmaking career into a new realm as a historian and preservationist of indigenous culture.

R.J. has the rare gift of uncovering the essence of a person or an issue and capturing their spirit on film. And as is tradition, the torch has now passed. It is his turn to share the richness and beauty of his culture. R.J. is a modern-day Storyteller.

R.J. now is a renowned film producer, director, writer and photographer, with an ongoing drive to share his passion, vision and gifts, to bring about the much needed changes pertaining to Indian Country, issues and his people.

For more information about R.J. visit his website at <http://www.moccasinpathproductions.com/> and you can contact me for assistance with your local & overall programming and event line-up with Native American artists, actors and performers Nationwide.

Cherrie Richardson Collazo  
Gaia Global Marketing  
An Evolution in Freelance Marketing & PR Consulting  
[crichardson66@comcast.net](mailto:crichardson66@comcast.net)

## NOTICE

**There is a very scary thing going on in the schools right now that we all need to be aware of... a new drug known as 'strawberry quick'.**

There is a type of crystal meth going around that looks like strawberry pop rocks (the candy that sizzles and 'pops' in your mouth). It also smells like strawberry and it is being handed out to kids in school yards. They are calling it strawberry

meth or strawberry quick.

Kids are ingesting this thinking that it is candy and being rushed off to the hospital in dire condition. It also comes in chocolate, peanut butter, cola, cherry, grape and orange.

Please instruct your children not to accept candy from strangers and not to accept candy that looks like this from a friend (who may have been given it and believed it is candy) and to take any that they may have to a teacher, principal, etc. immediately.

## Turn Your Vacations into Donations!

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## CALENDAR of EVENTS

### THE GREAT AMERICAN INDIAN EXPOSITION & POW-WOW

**November 14-16, 2008**

Saturday 11 a.m. – 8 p.m.

Sunday 11 a.m. – 6 p.m.

The Showplace

3000 Mechanicsville Turnpike

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promoter: (252) 257-5383 or

powwow@vance.net

### THE PUBLIC THEATER ANNOUNCES SECOND NATIVE THEATER FESTIVAL

**November 12-15**

The Public Theater

425 Lafayette Street, NY, NY 10003

212.539.8500

The Public's Native Theater Festival is made possible through the generous support of the Ford Foundation. The Public Theater (Artistic Director Oskar Eustis; Executive Director Andrew D. Hamingson) is proud to announce the return of the Native Theater Festival, a four day festival dedicated to presenting extraordinary theatrical work by Native theater artists from the U.S. and Canada. Now in its second year, the Native Theater Festival will run November 12 to November 15 at The Public Theater and will feature three free readings of new works by Native playwrights followed by post-show discussions; a concert by Native and African-American singer Martha Redbone; topical field discussions on issues of particular concern to artists in the Native theater community; and a conversation with Oskar Eustis and other artists on politics and performance that will be open to the general public.

All events (with the exclusion of Martha Redbone's concert at Joe's Pub, which requires advance tickets) will be completely free and open to the public, though advance reservations are strongly encouraged. Tickets can be reserved at The Public box office or by calling (212) 967-7555.

As The Public Theater enters its 53rd season, it continues to be dedicated to achieving artistic excellence and developing an American theater that is accessible and relevant to all people.

### JOIN THE CARAVAN OF SUPPORT TO BIG MOUNTAIN RESISTANCE COMMUNITIES OF BLACK MESA, AZ. November 22-29, 2008

We are currently putting together efforts to bring a caravan of work crews that will be converging from across the country to support residents of the Big Mountain regions of Black Mesa who, on behalf of their peoples, their sacred ancestral lands, and future generations, continue to carry out their staunch resistance to the efforts of the US Government, which is acting in the interests of the Peabody Coal Company to devastate whole communities & ecosystems, and greatly de-stabilize our planet's climate for the profit of an elite few.

At this moment the decision makers in Washington D.C. are planning ways to expand their occupation of tribal lands to extract mineral & other resources. The coal companies have a long history of and continue to fund both the Republican and Democratic parties because they have huge interests at stake. Peabody Coal, the world's largest coal company, is currently pushing through plans to massively expand dirty coal strip-mining operations which has destroyed land and water aquifers, completely dug up burials, sacred areas, and shrines designated specifically for offerings, preventing religious practices.

By assisting with direct, on-land projects with these Sovereign communities, you are helping families resist an illegal occupation and to stay on their lands, who serve as the very blockade to coal mining! "The Big Mountain matriarchal leaders always believed that resisting forced relocation will eventually benefit all ecological systems, including the human race." Bahe Keediniihii, Dineh organizer and translator states. "Continued residency by families throughout the Big Mountain region has a significant role in the intervention of Peabody's future plan for Black Mesa coal to be the major source of unsustainable energy, the growing dependency on fossil fuel, and escalating green house gas emissions. We will continue to fight to defend our homelands."

With the guidance of Black Mesa residents, the aim of this caravan is to bring support to their communities before the approaching cold winter months. Please visit the BMIS website for an in-depth guide on how to prepare for your stay and what supplies are needed for work projects.

Host or attend regional organizational meetings in your area! The Caravans' coordinators are located in Prescott, Phoenix, Flagstaff, Tuba City, Colorado, Portland, Ohio, New York, and San Francisco's Bay Area. The meeting locations and dates are being posted at the BMIS website as coordinators set them up.. You can download a registration form off of our website.

Take a stand in support of communities on the front lines of resistance now!

Indigenous & land-based peoples have maintained the understanding that our collective survival is deeply dependent on our relationship to Mother Earth. Victory in protecting and reclaiming the Earth will require a broad movement that can help bridge cultures, issues, & nations.

Come together to strengthen our solidarity and find ways to work together to protect Black Mesa & our Mother Earth for all life.

Give Back To Mother Earth! Give Back To Future Generations!

Please contact us:

P.O. Box 23501, Flagstaff, Arizona 86002

Message Voice Mail: 928.773.8086

Email: blackmesais@riseup.net

Web: www.blackmesais.org

In Solidarity,

Black Mesa Indigenous Support

*Black Mesa Indigenous Support (BMIS) is a grassroots, all-volunteer organization dedicated to working with and supporting the indigenous peoples of Black Mesa in their Struggle for Life and Land who are targeted by & resisting unjust large-scale coal mining operations and forced relocation policies of the US government.*

## Thirteen-year-old Pianist Brings Audience Members to their Feet

### San Diego Chamber Orchestra's Season Opening Concert

Thirteen-year-old prodigy pianist Rossina Grieco stunned audience members of the San Diego Chamber Orchestra with her technical prowess and a musicality and emotional performance far beyond her years as she performed Franz Xaver Mozart's Piano Concert No. 2 with the Orchestra.

Audience members at the St. Paul's Cathedral venue on Friday night, October 3, spontaneously jumped to their feet, clapping and shouting bravos, after the first movement.

The concert, titled "The Mozarts: All in the Family," was billed as the Orchestra's Biotech Night as it featured music composed by three generations of Mozarts: Leopold, Wolfgang Amadeus and Franz Xaver. The performance included a short discussion about "nature versus nurture," led by Joe Beechem, Ph.D., Vice President of Research Laboratory and Chief Technology Officer at Invitrogen Corporation.

Franz Xaver Mozart's Piano Concerto No. 2 is rarely played, according to Maestro Jung-Ho Pak who explained how difficult it was to even find the music, but audience members in all three of the Orchestra's venues (St. Paul's, La Jolla and Rancho Santa Fe) clearly appreciated the music. Leopold's Symphony in D Major, a favorite of his, had a bright and buoyant quality that captured the ears of those listening. The final piece of the evening was Wolfgang's Symphony No. 36 (Linz), beautifully played by the Orchestra of thirty-plus professional musicians.

Rossina, although considered a child prodigy from the age of eight when she

won the San Diego Symphony Orchestra's "Hot Shots" competition as the youngest winner ever, showed the audiences a down-to-earth and vibrant personality, that of a normal, happy

teenager, as she took to the microphone with some comments about the joy and connection she felt with the Orchestra and Maestro Pak during their

rehearsals and concerts.

On Tuesday, October 7, at The Inn at Rancho Santa Fe, Sina was a guest on the Orchestra's "For the Love of Music" talk show series, modeled after Bravo's Inside the Actors Studio and hosted by Jung-Ho Pak. She captured the hearts of the attendees as she gave them glimpses inside her life with a poise and confidence rarely seen by someone her age. She credited her parents, Tom and Molly Grieco, with giving her the loving "nurturing" that has contributed to her success, and she talked about her passion for showing her generation the joy and emotion that can come with classical music. "Connecting with the Orchestra and with the audience is what it's all about," she said.

Born in San Diego into a musical family of chamber music and opera, she began studying piano at the age of four. After a period of time, "Sina" became the student of Luba Ugorski, an accomplished pianist and teacher from the St. Petersburg Conservatory of Music. In 2004 Sina was invited to perform on the radio show From the Top that spotlights pre-college-age musicians throughout the country.

Sina has performed with major orchestras in China and Europe as well as in the United States.

**San Diego Chamber Orchestra**  
**www.sdco.org**



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## Breaking the Silence in Bukavu

I write to you from Bukavu, Democratic Republic of Congo (DRC). I write living in the midst of the greatest violence and despair and the greatest possibility. I think if we learn anything in the work we do it is that being able to stand in the center of opposites is what eventually makes us free and compassionate. The DRC reminds me of this everyday.

On September 12th and 19th, we had the V-Day/ UNICEF "BREAKING THE SILENCE" events in Goma and Bukavu in alliance with local groups and activists. We had a great victory. Throughout the two days there were probably between 800-1000 people who attended the event including Senior Congolese government officials, key Ambassadors to the DRC, senior UN officials, civil society, survivors of sexual violence, and campaign activists. There were theater performances and school choirs, and excellent singers. This was an historic event. Women survivors publicly told their stories of sexual violence. Each one took the stage with such grace, such confidence, such heart and such courage. The testimonies went on for several hours. The emotion in the audience was so powerful. Activists offered boxes of Kleenex. Many men were crying. In Goma I sat and held a man who was a pastor who openly wept. Afterwards, there were some speeches. But my favorite moment was a when the women were honored at the end with pink scarves (made in Paris) with the words "I am a Survivor. I can do anything" written in French. As they were

given their scarves, I saw a sea of pink liberation. Every single survivor reported that after the experience she felt free. So many people came together in the communities. Just about every grassroots NGO group participated in this events (psychosocial, legal, medical). Women For Women made a wonderful meal and displayed their beautiful crafts. Many reported never knowing about the horrific stories and we could see in the reaction of Government officials, (one even wrote a poem) that they were moved, hopefully to action. The activist and survivor community were empowered. There were all kinds of international press, the BBC and local African media. Stories are out on the wires.

And, holding the opposite, our hospital, the Panzi Hospital, was attacked by a mob, shattering windows, cars and spirits. It goes like that here, but we move forward. We move back, we move forward. But what's important is that we are in this together for the long haul, for the people, for the women of the DRC and for all women across this planet who are being undermined and violated in the global epidemic of femicide. After the attack, as I marched in protest with V-Day staff members and the members of

Panzi Hospital, I felt their anger at the insecurity of the hospital but what I also felt was the depth of their dedication to the women, to protecting them and healing them and transforming them and

**Women  
survivors  
publicly told  
their stories of  
sexual violence.  
Each one took  
the stage with  
such grace,  
such confidence,  
such heart and  
such courage**

their country. As I marched, I also felt all of you with me. The V-Day movement is alive here, in the DRC.

Our campaign, STOP RAPING OUR GREATEST RESOURCE: POWER TO THE WOMEN AND GIRLS OF THE DRC has already had serious impact throughout the country. 90 forums, run by our partner UNICEF in cooperation with local grassroots groups, have energized people across the countryside in North Kivu, educating many activists who

are now bringing the message of ending sexual violence to schools, churches, tribal leaders and religious leaders. In some places, they are even beginning to see a lessening of violence. At the same time the catastrophic war in DRC continues—over 3500 women were raped between January and June of this year in North Kivu alone.

As I write to you, I quote one survivor, Janet, who was raped so violently that the rapist pulled the leg out of her socket (she will be permanently handicapped), who, when I asked her if she

was afraid to tell her story, said "I've always been courageous. Always will be courageous. If the military want to kill me for telling my story, I am ready to die." These words have moved me to be braver, to be more outspoken, to be more strategic, to include more people in making the DRC safe and free for women. For making the world safe and free for women in every corner of this planet.

I urge you to read everything you can about the DRC (please see our resources page). I urge you to fight with all your heart and to find your connection to the women of the DRC as you have found your connection to the women of New Orleans and Iraq and Juarez and Afghanistan, and the other places V-Day brings us. It is in our connection and solidarity that we will find our freedom and power. The Congo is the heart of Africa and Africa is, in many ways, the heart of the world. What happens to the women here affects the flow of life throughout the planet. When we find the way (and we will) to end the violence here we will have created a template and a vision that can be transferred and used everywhere.

I encourage you to break the silence as the women in Goma and Bukavu have done. Remember that the shame of being raped is not ours, but that of the perpetrators. Remember that when we speak the truth, we free everyone to do the same.

With V-Love, Eve  
Bukavu, Democratic Republic of Congo

Over 90% of women in prison have experienced violence in their lives. (Women in Prison Project, 2005)

One-third of incarcerated women report child sexual abuse and 20% to 34% report abuse by an adult intimate partner; they have multiple abuse histories and are three to four times more likely than male prisoners to have abuse histories. (Gilfus, Mary. "Women's Experiences of Abuse as a Risk Factor for

Incarceration." VAWnet Applied Research Forum. (December 2002)

An estimated 56% of the abused women in prison said that their abuse had included a rape, and another 13% reported an attempted rape.

## Women in Prison The Link Between Incarceration and Violence

(Trace L. Snell, Women in Prison, Survey of State Prison Inmates, 1991. Bureau of Statistics: March 1994, p.6.)

The women in prison who reported abuse were more likely to be in prison for a violent offense

(42% reported prior abuse) and less likely to be serving a sentence for a drug offense (25%) or a property offense (25%). (Tracy L. Snell, Women in Prison, Survey of State Prison Inmates, 1991 Bureau of Justice Statistics)

As many as 90% of the women in jail today for killing men had been battered by those men. (Allison Bass, "Women far less likely to kill than men; no one sure why," The Boston Globe.

## Heritage Day

Continued from page 1

H.J. Res. 62 was originally passed by the House of Representatives on November 13, 2007. The bill was passed with technical adjustments by unanimous consent in the U.S. Senate on September 22, 2008. Last night, the House of Representatives unanimously voted to pass the legislation again, this time including the adjustments from the Senate.

"This bill will help to preserve the great history and legacy of Native Americans," added Rep. Baca. "Native Americans and their ancestors have

played a vital role in the formation of our nation. They have fought with valor and died in every American war dating back to the Revolutionary War. We must encourage greater awareness of the significant role they have played in America's history. I urge the President to take quick action and sign this important legislation into law."

The Native American Heritage Day Bill is strongly supported by NIGA and its 184 federally recognized member tribes throughout the nation. Congressman Baca has been an active member of the Native American Caucus in the House of Representatives since first coming to Congress in 1999.



"... Let us put our minds together and see what future we can make for our children..."

Chief Joseph, Nez Perce

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"Progress Through Education"

# UPTOWN VIEW

The 5<sup>th</sup> Story

UPTown View of the 702 • Edited by Kena Adams • 702-787-6365 • kenaadams@indianvoices.net



**KENA ADAMS**  
Citizen Journalist...  
shaping the future  
of community news  
and information.

## Journalistic Achievement

Stephens Media President Sherman Frederick, a former Review-Journal reporter, editor and publisher, was honored by his college alma mater Saturday Oct 25th with the Dwight Patterson Alumnus of the Year award from Northern Arizona University.

He worked at the student newspaper The LumberJack before graduating in 1977 with a bachelor's degree in journalism. During his time as editor, the paper won several regional and national awards, and Frederick "distinguished himself as one of the most dedicated and committed editors" in the paper's history, according to a school news release.

Former Northern Arizona University journalism professor David Bennett said Frederick was one of the best students he ever taught, "yet he was humble and unpretentious."

After graduating magna cum laude from the Flagstaff, Ariz., campus, Frederick was hired as a reporter at the Review-Journal. He was promoted to city editor before being named the editor at the Hawaii Tribune-Herald in Hilo, then publisher at The Daily News in Alamogordo, N.M.

He returned to Las Vegas in 1988 as editor of the Review-Journal. Four years later he was named publisher, a position he held until becoming president of Stephens Media Group in 1999.

Stephens Media Group is now Stephens Media, which owns the Review-Journal and other newspapers in nine states.

Frederick is a past president of the Nevada Press Association and a member of the organization's Hall of Fame.

The Las Vegas Uptown View commends Sherman Fredrick for his accomplishments.



## Pet Tip of the Month

...go adopt an animal in need of a loving home. So many animals are thrown away as if they have no feelings at all. Yes people, animals are mammals too, so I'm sure they feel just as we do. Pictured above is a lovely brown tiger Domestic Shorthair about 5 months old. For more information on this beautiful feline please contact The Animal Foundation at 702-384-3333. Tiger's id is A329127.

## 33rd Annual Indian Finals Rodeo

October 10th, 11th and 12th the South Point Events Center hosted the 33rd Annual Indian Nationals Rodeo (INFR). The event fulfilled a cowboys dream with barrel racing, bull riding, calf roping, bareback and steer wrestling. There was a multitude of vendors selling everything from authentic Indian Jewelry to hand made saddles and tack. Sunday The Eagle River Dance Group, a local Las Vegas dance team, wowed the spectators with traditional dress and dance. I asked the Seminole Junior Rodeo Queen Asthon Baxley from Florida how she liked it here in Sin City? "It's been a great experience; I've enjoyed myself and wish all the contestants good luck." She informed me that the Senior Queen was away at college and sends her greetings.



Seminole Junior Rodeo Queen, Asthon Baxley

There was a multitude of Tribes in attendance from all over the United States and Canada; Seminole, Blackfoot, Navajo, Creed, Ogallala Lakota and the Ute Tribe just to name a few. Chelsea Tuni from Nevada, world champion Colleen Crawler and Carter Yellowbird both from Canada and Doug Lawrence from South Dakota traveled many miles to spotlight their rodeo skills to the Las Vegas community.

Thirty years ago 5 people united several regional Indian Rodeo Associations from the United States and Canada to form INFR. This year they teamed up with Indian Learning Company (ILC) and awarded college scholarships to seven INFR members whom are attending college this year. The INFR feels that higher education is an important aspect to a person's life.

For the official results and information



Friends and Family members here to support their nephew Carter Yellowbird all the way from Canada

on the next INFR event held in Arizona please visit the INFR website @ <http://www.infr.org>. Next years event is scheduled at the South Point on November 12-15, 2009. Hope to see you there.



## Wynn Win Situation

The PEST (Prevent Employers from Seizing Tips) Committee was created in 2007 in response to a radical policy change by Steve Wynn, president of Wynn-Las Vegas that mandated the confiscation of a substantial portion of casino dealer's tips and the subsequent redistribution of them to the resort's supervisory personnel. Our task force was named the Committee to Prevent Employers from Seizing Tips, now known as the PEST Committee to signify our goal.

Our group and other tip earner groups presented the problem to the legislature and asked that they uphold the original intent of the law by making it more explicit and thereby putting an end to this abuse. They refused and followed the dictates of the Wynn special interest lobby. Next we addressed the problem to the Labor Commission and the courts. In all cases we were stopped by the influence of

Mr. Wynn's special interest lobbies.

The only path left open to us was the citizen's guaranteed right to present an initiative petition to the voters. Again, Wynn's group used every tactic possible to thwart our efforts to get the question before the people. But in spite of the power and the money used against us, we continue to fight. That is the reason we are opening the PEST Office in the Commercial Center. We intend to continue our fight until justice triumphs.

P.O. Box 71961

Las Vegas, NV 89170

(702) 474-9766

## Word on the street

Word on the street is that our illustrious city is flat broke. Yes Las Vegas, gaming capitol of the United States is BROKE. Considering the financial crisis I'm not surprised, but am surprised that the city plans to cut our budget by 20 million this fiscal year. October 6th City Council held an all day meeting discussing this issue and plans to cut an additional 30 million in the next fiscal year and over 150 million in the next 5 years. With unemployment at its highest rate in 23 years topping out at 7.3 percent Las Vegas is preparing to be in a world of hurt, so brace yourself people and let your heart guide you not the love of money because Las Vegas doesn't have any.

Office Space for Lease located in Commercial Center Shopping Center. Prices slashed as low as 50 cents per square foot. Management team onsite. Contact Judy at 702.598.0200 or e-mail her at [DrJudy@thepropertyshoppe.com](mailto:DrJudy@thepropertyshoppe.com).

ATTENTION LADIES:

Come network with other women who enjoy motorcycling. We are a diverse group of riders and all are welcome. Come have some fun and enjoy real freedom, motorcycling! For more information call 702.787.6365 or email [kena89104@yahoo.com](mailto:kena89104@yahoo.com).

F Street is closed and the Historic Westside Community is seeking citizen support. The city closed the street without the knowledge of the residents. For more information or support contact Beatrice Turner at 702.648.1783.

**Pubic Announcement or events always welcome. Please submit any announcement by the 20th of the month to [indianvoices@gmail.com](mailto:indianvoices@gmail.com) or call 702-787-6365.**

## Bill Pickett Invitational Finals Rodeo Returns to Las Vegas!

Las Vegas, is playing host to The Bill Pickett Invitational Finals Rodeo. This rodeo is composed of African American cowboys and cowgirls who have qualified for our finals rodeo and will compete for the largest purse in Black Rodeo history! It's a Rodeo, African American Style!

South Point Hotel & Casino  
Las Vegas

**Saturday, November 22, 2008**

**1:30 pm (A Praise Rodeo)  
and 7:30 pm**

National Finals Assistant:

Lynn Dillard-Wright  
702.755.3442 or 818.429.7228  
[www.billpickettrodeo.com/lv](http://www.billpickettrodeo.com/lv)

## Colorado Wolf & Wildlife Center - One Woman's Dedication to the Wild

By Darlene M. Kobobel - Founder of Colorado Wolf & Wildlife Center

It all started in 1993...

Actually, it started in 1962 when I was born and I was considered to be of the human species. However, I just wanted to live with dogs, horses and coyotes. All my life I wanted to rescue animals and help them anyway that I could. The turning point was when I was in the 4th grade and a dog strayed onto the playground. I saw some of the school boys run over to the dog, ganged up on him and they started kicking him until he was crying from fear and pain. I ran over to the dog and shielded him with my body as the boys continued to kick the dog and me. I screamed for the teacher and the viciousness finally ceased. I whispered in the dogs' ear that someday when I grew up I would create a place to rescue animals and I would be a voice for him.

I moved to Colorado on February 25, 1993. I started doing some volunteer work at the Divide, Colorado animal shelter when it was a "kill shelter". My job as a volunteer was to take dogs down to PetSmart for adoption. The animals that I worked with were ones that had one day left to live.

I gathered 4 dogs, put them in my Pathfinder and was ready to head down the mountain pass when I decided to get a water bowl. I opened the door to the

isolation room where supplies were kept and to my right in one of the kennels was this beautiful silver gray female wolf dog by the name of Chinook.

According to her informational sheet that was hanging on the door she was only two years old, no prior convictions just guilty of her breed. Not being aware that wolf dogs (aka wolf hybrids) were not available for adoption, I got her leash and decided to take her with me for adoption. At that moment, the animal control officer advised me that she could not go and that she was scheduled for euthanasia.

My heart sank and I could not see this animal being put to death so I asked him if I could adopt her as a special favor to me? He told me to go to PetSmart with the dogs and when I got back to shelter if she was still there then I could have her.

When I returned, the animal control officer looked down at his watch and told me that if I wanted this animal I would need to take her at that moment



Darlene Kobobel - founder of Colorado Wolf & Wildlife Center in Divide, CO.

which I did. I felt lucky for him to surrender her to me so I was sure not to offer any information as to where I lived such as a 1-room studio cabin that I was renting, had two dogs already and if the landlord were to catch me with this wolf, he would give me less than two weeks to find a home for her or to face eviction.

To make a very long story shorter, I found a place in Lake George, Colorado with 8.5 acres. My husband at the time helped me to fence in 5 acres and I decided that I was going to be a "rescue center". I placed a large sign in my front yard that said; "WOLF HYBRID RESCUE CENTER". I tell people to NEVER say the

word "rescue" unless you are prepared to do just that. My first week, I rescued 17 animals and was overwhelmed. I lived at that location for 10 years until 2002 when we endured the Hayman fire which burned over 137,000 acres and forced us to evacuate in 3 hours. We moved to a ranch in Florissant, CO. and lived in a horse barn with wolves for

several weeks until the new Center was constructed. The lease was suppose to be indefinite however, conditions with the landlord made it impossible to live there and after only 3.5 years of rebuilding, we had to move. All of the money and hard work was gone and I was uncertain of where to go and how to survive. I was on my own, but when I would look in the eyes of those babies I knew I had to find a way no matter what. Chinook was my inspiration before and now she was again. I, by a miracle found a bank president through a sister friend of mine who believed in me and gave me a loan just on my track record for this property. Now the fun started sort of speak. I guess three times is a charm. I signed the papers on the deed in January 2006.

This is our final and permanent home. This Center, all of the animal residents, and the education would not be possible without the love of so many volunteers and a beautiful and special wolf by the name of Chinook.

We currently have 16 wolves, 2 coyotes, 4 red fox and 5 swift fox living at the Colorado Wolf & Wildlife Center, and survive solely on donations.

We give educational tours 4 times a day, by reservation only.... It's truly an experience of a lifetime.

P.O. Box 713, Divide, CO 80814  
719-687-9742 · wolfeducation.org

## Baskets and Botany at Tecolote Canyon

By Roy Cook



San Diego City Park and Friends of Tecolote Nature Center is celebrated this October 11, 2008 from 9am to 4pm with the traditions of the Original Americans, the Kumeyaay. The Baskets and Botany event offers tribal songs and craft activities. Richard Bugbee and Martha Rodriguez are in the Tecolote outdoor park display area. Vickie Gambala, San Diego Unified School District Title VII Indian Education program children corner inside was a big hit for all ages! Projects included Dream catchers' Cherokee baskets, Kumeyaay bears and a decorated traveling bag. Her sister Martha Estrada from Corona and Connie Grey Bull, Jaye Osawa, parents, assists her and participants of the SCAIR Soaring Eagles dance program and Tribal TANF.

The first Native American presentation is at 10 am by: Running Grunion, Abel Silva is a delight for young and old. His lighthearted view of history and the humanity of the Tribal people of Southern California is the best kind of teaching-with a smile.

Marla Gilmore, Nature Center Director escorted Ms Donna Frye, San Diego City Councilperson thru the center just as the Wildcat singers were presenting. Marla had invited Jon Meza Cuero, to sing Wildcat songs. We were able to present five singers for the 11 am presentation: Henry Mendibles, Ben Nance, Jon Meza Cuero, Roy Cook and Stan Rodriguez. Jon has been singing the Niemai, Gato, Wildcat songs of the Tipai-Kumeyaay for over seventy years. For more on the Wildcat songs and Jon Meza Cuero or Traditional Southern California Bird songs in general go to: <http://americanindian-source.com/wildcatpresents.html>

Eons ago, more than 50,000 years or more, the Kumeyaay Indians lived all along the coast and canyons of San Diego. They found food and shelter in Tecolote Canyon. It has been designated as a cartographic feature on area maps for nearly two centuries and was given the Hispanic name Tecolote, or owl, for the diminutive raptor that lives in this canyon.

The City of San Diego acquired this land and it was dedicated on April 1, 1978. The new park was officially named Tecolote Canyon Natural Park and the first members of the Tecolote Canyon Citizens' Advisory Committee were sworn in.

Maybe we will see you at the next American Indian Tribal event.  
Ah woo mah, mehan.

## AIM San Diego

Native American chaplain Hector Frank contacted AIM October 19, 2008. He expressed some incidences with the prison's Correctional Officers continued harrasment towards Native Americans nad the spiritual program.

He reported that a Ms. Carol Jackson, San Quentin State Prison employee and a volunteer for the Native American programs was arrested and place in handcuffs and hauled off by County Sheriffs officers to jail. The Correctional Officer had confriscated ceremonial medicine (Angelica) used in the Sweat Lodge ceremony and they determined it to be heroin. At that time the process to have her arrested and escorted out of the prison occurred. This

was medicine we use in the ceremonies not heroin but the lack of respect of your ways and the traditional ceremonies again has bee disrupted and categorized as being unlawful.

Chaplan Hector Frank also reported taht the Sqan Quentin State Prison Warden had been deni3ed apporal from Sacramento to build upon the Upper Yard's Sweat Lodge ceremonial grounds which ahve been in place since 1976. This was a great victory for the Natie American prisoners and the tribal people opposing this move by the San Quentin State Prison Warden.

Rev. Hector Frank can be contacted at the San Quetntin State Prison at (415)454-1460 ext. 5302.for further information regarding this continued descretion of our ceremonial rites.



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for more  
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(866) 428-0901**

# An American Indian Program

Temporary Assistance for Families in Need

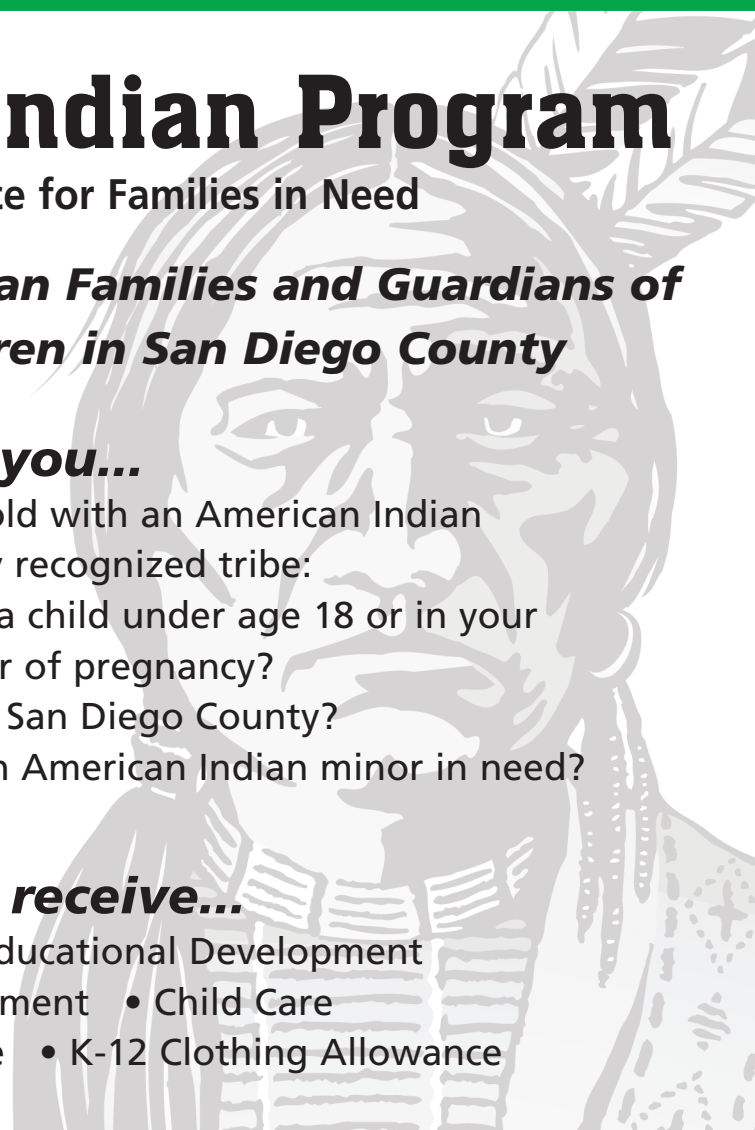
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  - Residing within San Diego County?
- Low income or guardian of an American Indian minor in need?

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**Directions:**  
HWY 10 East to Beaumont  
Exit, HWY 79 to  
Ramona Expressway,  
left to Lake Park,  
right on Soboba Road.

HWY 215 South,  
exit Ramona Expressway,  
east to Lake Park,  
right on Soboba Road.

HWY 215 North,  
exit Ramona Expressway,  
east to Lake Park,  
right on Soboba Road.

