

Eileen George Following Sacred Path

Head Woman Dancer American Indian Culture Days

When Eileen George first set foot on San Diego Kumeyaay land she brought with her an abundance of life skills and knowledge that has enhanced not only the Natives in the area but the San Diego community at large. As an Insurance Nurse Specialist and registered nurse, many have benefited from her caring spirit.

Eileen George is from the Choctaw Indian reservation in Choctaw, Mississippi. Her parents were the late Baxter and Grace York, members of the Mississippi Band of Choctaw Indians. She has four brothers (two deceased) and four sisters. She is married to Arnold George (Dine) and has two children, Jon and Billie. While on the Choctaw reservation, Eileen George formed the Native American Girl Scouts with the late Lee Bacon in high school.

Since arriving in California, Eileen has never abandoned her native roots and has always been involved with programs and activities attached to her heritage. She developed the Choctaw Institute of Culture in Lemon Grove, CA. to promote the language survival of tribes. In spring and summer, she promotes Mississippi Choctaw Stickball, which encompasses a clothing exchange and barter program. She is also the past vice president Walk the Red Road. Along with Gene Buckman and others, they formed the first NASA Group in California, the Native American Student Association at Cal State L.A. She has been involved with the Clara Baptist Choctaw Language Class, the Fontana, Indian Center language class in Fontana, Ca and San Diego State Choctaw Telecourse at the request of Choctaw Nation of Oklahoma Chief Gregory Pyle, consulting and promoting the Choctaw language program in California.

As head woman dancer for the 21st

Annual American Indian Culture Days Celebration, May 9th – 10 in Balboa Park in San Diego, she will share her dancing with us when she steps into the sacred circle. She dances Eastern Cloth, Buckskin, Choctaw Social Dancing, Stomp Dancing and is an Eastern Blanket dancer.

Whether the Choctaws are historically a maternalistic society can be debated by scholars. What is undebatable is that Eileen George is the epitome of a caring, involved, civic minded community member, who often is the first to step up to the plate to meet a challenge that will benefit others. We honor Eileen George and the kinship based heritage that she represents. As the niece of (Chief) Miko Beasley and Lena Denson of the Mississippi Band of Choctaw Indians, she encourages everyone to be involved in all phases of Native American culture.



Eileen George, a community treasure.

“We are born to Okla Homa, a Chahta people. Chahta is one tribe. In this tribe we have two spirits as taught through elders, ceremonies, ball games, politics and community life. Continual happi-

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★ LAS VEGAS ★
COVERAGE INSIDE

SCAIR Soaring Eagles are Head Staff at Wellness Social Pow Wow

by Roy Cook

Monday evening; April 6, 2009 at the University of Oklahoma 8th Annual Native Women and Men Wellness Conference in the Town and County Mission Valley the Soaring Eagle Dancers enjoyed the opportunity to express our culture and traditions. For a timeless four hours we are, once again, in the circle of life. This circle contains aspects of the good red road that we lightly place our feet to. This circle is the entry path to that special place and songs that inspires us to dance beyond our physical selves. This evening there are many songs from good drums: Green River and the San Diego Inter-Tribal Singers. Everyone has an ample opportunity to dance and enjoy being what we are, Indian people.

The Soaring Eagle dancers are all San Diego area Indian children. Their outfits are colorful and worn with pride. Many

are produced by a combined effort of their families. The San Diego American Indian Warriors Association attends for the gourd dance led by Richard Van Dyke Parker and is the Honor Color Guard. The Emcee, Randy Edmonds, acknowledged our Military Warriors now serving and past veterans of many campaigns. One can live a lifetime in shorter periods of time but for these good four hours in San Diego, California many of us had a dandy time. Edward 'Chuck' Cadotte is the Arena Director for this dance.

Dance has always played an important role in Plains Indian cultures, as a central element in both religious and secular life. Less than 100 years ago, powwows did not exist, as we know them today. The continuity of culture



Soaring Eagles perform at Wellness Conference.

has endured and Indian dance tradition will continue to remain and evolve though a variety of dance traditions that would eventually be defined as the modern powwow today. Among these traditions were summer gatherings of ceremonial and social dances, healing, memorial and warrior society dances held to honor and bring protection upon their members.

Both these traditions, along with many other American Indian practices, underwent severe restrictions during the

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SCAIR Soaring Eagles

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last century when the United States government, in its effort to prohibit certain Indian ceremonies, banned a number of dance-based traditions. Despite these bans, however, Plains Indian dancing did not entirely disappear. Ceremonies and dances went “underground” and were held on the far reaches of reservations in secret, or were masked as other types of events entirely. In these forms dance continued to play a part in Plains Indian life, although a quiet one, during this culturally repressive time.

It was not until 1933 that the government lifted its oppressive religion and cultural bans on American Indian Art and Dance could once again take an active, public place in American Indian life. At the end of World War II with the return of Indian soldiers from abroad, the warrior society dances of the past century began to acquire new meaning. Additionally, returning Korea and Cold War warriors were honored at powwows or “Homecoming Dances,” as they were sometimes called on the Southern Plains, which included the songs, dances and regalia of earlier traditional warrior societies. Most prominently represented by the popular Gourd Clan Societies introduced by the Kiowa.

Outside of the dance arena important social ties and customs were also rebuilt,

including the honoring of elders, naming and adoption ceremonies, the reception of families back into public life following a period of mourning, and a general bonding between families and friends. The general structure of these early powwows resembled the summer dance celebrations of the past century and included the use of a camp crier, Eyapaha or announcer, the gathering of families to camp out at celebration grounds, and important social interaction among the participants.

Before 1950, the term “powwow” was used only on the Southern Plains in reference to American Indian gatherings and celebrations of song and dance. However, powwows gained further prominence in the 1950s and 1960s throughout the Northern Plains region when Sioux, Crow, and Blackfeet tribes began to sponsor Wachipi, Intertribal gatherings for fun and dancing. Members of elite warrior societies, mostly based on the Omaha Heluska, held the original dances. This Omaha tribal origin is frequently acknowledged. There were a variety of names used by different tribes for these dances. Among them are Omaha Dance used by the Sioux, Hot Dance used by the Crow and Dakota Dance by the Cree.

Urban powwows have continued to grow over the last sixty years; whereas 70 years ago most powwows took place on reservations, some of the biggest are now held in convention centers and

gyms in large cities around the country. Today, the powwow is both a community gathering and cultural celebration. It is not a commercial event, nor is it purely “entertainment.” It is an important spiritual and social gathering of people to celebrate American Indian traditions, dance and social customs.

Although the warrior societies and early Plains “Homecoming” powwows of the past were primarily the domain of male dancers, today’s powwows are open to everyone: men, women, and even small children. This family participation by: Elders, men and women and the ever popular “tiny tots” indicates that not only are music and dance alive and well in Plains Indian culture, but that they will continue to play an important role for generations to come. “Honor Dances,” “Specials” and “Giveaways” recognize the importance of families and individuals participating in the powwow and honor them for their commitment.

Powwows help to keep song and dance a very real and contemporary part of Native American life. At the same time, the changes that powwows go through help to make them a living art form. It is important to realize that recent innovations and shared styles are not less traditional nor “unauthentic,” as dance dress styles and details still mark personal heritage as well as individual taste. We shall continue to ‘Remain’ and be who we are Indian people.

From Pain to Epiphany

Shaman at Viejas

It was not too many years ago that Anthony Pico, former chairman of the Viejas reservation was finding it hard to walk as a result pain from back surgery. It was a condition that he, more or less, stoically resigned himself to and as a former Marine dealt with in a manly way.




Marcos Nunez, apprentice of Don Martin of Peru.

It was when his girlfriend, (now his wife) encouraged him to explore alternative healing practices that he found himself in Peru, undergoing ancient Peruvian healing practices at the hands of Shamans Don Martin Pinedo and his apprentice Marco Nunez.

This personal healing journey was life altering for Anthony Pico. Not only did he find relief from his physical torment, but he also found true friendship in his therapists who opened up a celebration of life that transcends the egoistic domain of problems/solutions, right/wrong and the desire to possess.

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WE SHALL REMAIN

MAY 2009 on PBS

Don't miss the next airing of *We Shall Remain*
Two episodes are airing in May (*Geronimo* and *Wounded Knee*)

Episode four: Geronimo
Mon., May 4, 2009 at 9pm on PBS (check local listings). Written, produced and directed by Dustinn Craig (White Mountain Apache/Navajo) and Sarah Colt

In February of 1909, the indomitable Chiricahua Apache medicine man Geronimo lay on his deathbed. He summoned his nephew to his side, whispering, “I should never have surrendered. I should have fought until I was the last man alive.” It was an admission of regret from a man whose insistent pursuit of military resistance in the face of overwhelming odds confounded not only his Mexican and American enemies, but many of his fellow Apaches as well. Born around 1820, Geronimo grew into a leading warrior and healer. But after his tribe was relocated to an Arizona reservation in 1872, he became a focus of the fury of terrified white settlers, and of the growing tensions that divided Apaches struggling to survive under almost unen-

urable pressures. To angry whites, Geronimo became the archfiend, perpetrator of unspeakable savage cruelties. To his supporters, he remained the embodiment of proud resistance, the upholder of the old Chiricahua ways.

Episode five: Wounded Knee
Monday, May 11, 2009 at 9pm on PBS (check local listings). Produced by Stanley Nelson, Written by Marcia Smith; Co-produced by Julianna Brannum (Comanche)

On the night of Feb. 27, 1973, fifty-four cars rolled, horns blaring, into a small hamlet on the Pine Ridge Indian Reservation. Within hours, some 200 Oglala Lakota and American Indian Movement (AIM) activists had seized the few major buildings in town and police had cordoned off the area. The occupation of Wounded Knee had begun. Demanding redress for grievances—some going back more than 100 years—the protesters captured the world’s attention for 71 gripping

days.

With heavily armed federal troops tightening a cordon around meagerly supplied, cold, hungry Indians, the event invited media comparisons with the massacre of Indian men, women, and children at Wounded Knee almost a century earlier. In telling the story of this iconic moment, the final episode of *We Shall Remain* will examine the broad political and economic forces that led to the emergence of AIM in the late 1960s as well as the immediate events—a murder and an apparent miscarriage of justice—that triggered the takeover.

Though the federal government failed to make good on many of the promises that ended the siege, the event succeeded in bringing the desperate conditions of Indian reservation life to the nation’s attention. Perhaps even more important, it proved that despite centuries of encroachment, warfare, and neglect, Indians remained a vital force in the life of America.


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Advisory Board: Esther Abrahamo, Deborah Hood

Editor: Rose Davis

Roving Correspondent: Andrew Barbano

Outside Support: Mel Vernon

LV Entertainment Writer: Z. Z. Zorn

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Indian Health Outreach: Shelly Minkley

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Writer: Cynthia Conger

Reporter de Espectaculos: Omar DeSantiago

Reporter de Espectaculos: Michelle Banuet

Proofreader: Mary Lou Finley

Graphic Artist: Elaine Hall

Member of the Society of Professional Journalists

Las Vegas, NV
702-787-6365

111 South 35th St.
San Diego, CA 92113
(619) 234-4753

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Saving Native American languages

by Jane O'Brien, BBC News, Washington

More than 2,400 languages around the world are in danger of extinction, according to Unesco, and the US is second only to India in having the highest number of endangered languages.

The US has already lost more than a third of the indigenous languages that existed before European colonization, and the remaining 192 are classed by Unesco as ranging between "unsafe" and "extinct".

As recently as 2008, the Alaskan tongue Eyak became officially extinct with the death of Marie Smith Jones, the last native speaker.

"We need more funding and more effort to return these languages to everyday use," says Fred Nahwooksy, of the National Museum of the American Indian.

"We are making progress but money needs to be spent on revitalising languages, not just documenting them. A lot of tribal communities say that is a defeatist attitude, as if these languages are expected to become extinct."

Historical roots

Some 40 languages, mainly in California and Oklahoma, where thousands of Indians were forced to relocate as part of the notorious 19th Century Trail of Tears, have fewer than 10 native speakers.

"Part of the issue is that tribal groups themselves don't always believe their languages are endangered until they're down to the last handful of speakers. But progress is being made through immersion schools, because if you teach children when they're young it will stay with them as adults and that's the future," says Mr Nahwooksy, a Comanche.

Such schools have become a model in Hawaii.

But the islanders' indigenous language is still classed by Unesco as critically endangered because only 1,000 people speak it.

The decline in American Indian languages has historical roots: in the mid-19th Century, the US government adopted a policy of Americanising Indian children by removing them from their homes and culture.

"Language is the distillation of hundreds, if not thousands of years of experience of a collective... So when the language disappears you're really throwing away that whole library of knowledge"
Rachel Nez Navajo speaker

Within a few generations most had forgotten their native tongues.

But even so-called "dead" languages can be brought back to life.

The Wampanoag Indians of Massachusetts were the first to greet the pilgrims of the Mayflower - but until

recently their language had not been spoken for a century.

In 1993, tribeswoman Jessie Little Doe Baird began researching and collecting word stems.

Now her daughter is the first native speaker in six generations and other children are learning.

Modern challenges to language survival remain.

"We said back in the 80s that technology was killing our language and now every home has a television," says Inee Yang Slaughter, director of the Indigenous Language Institute in Santa Fe, New Mexico.

"While on the one hand that's a welcome sign of technology, it's also brought English into homes and pushed out traditional story-telling and family time together. The language has dissipated - and that's just a small example of the sorts of challenges we face."

Encouraged

There is a growing movement in the US to try to revitalise indigenous languages, but regaining the trust of community elders who were often punished for speaking their own language can be a problem.

Many now have to be persuaded to pass it on to a younger generation.

"In many situations it's having to be taught as a second language because there isn't an environment where the language is used every day," says Ms Slaughter.

"Communities have had to adopt programmes that are classroom-based and there is a lack of teachers and materials."

Ms Slaughter says she is encouraged that young people are showing a greater interest in learning their native tongues.

But interest alone may not be enough as the search for jobs forces people to leave the only communities where such languages are spoken.

"People seem to understand how important it is to preserve tangible heritage like the Seven Wonders of the World. Well, language may not be visible, but it's just as rich and just as important to humanity"
Inee Yang Slaughter

"I don't live near home so I don't have the language incorporated into my everyday life," says Rachel Nez, a native Navajo speaker from Arizona.

"To have that I would have to move back to the reservation and be there all the time - but if I did that I wouldn't be able to do what I can do here."

With 120,000 speakers, Navajo is considered "unsafe" by Unesco rather than actively endangered.

But its survival is still dependent on bringing up a new generation of speakers who, like Rachel, see language as an integral part of their cultural identity.

"A lot of history, culture and ceremo-

ny is held within the language.

Sometimes I'll come across Navajo people who don't speak it, and it's really hard for me to accept that they're Navajo because they don't share that thing and those experiences with me," she says.

"Language is the distillation of hundreds, if not thousands of years of experience of a collective. It's considered sacred knowledge. So when the language disappears you're really throwing away that whole library of knowledge."

Unique voice

While the American media is often blamed for undermining other languages and cultures, the same technology might become the native languages' best chance for survival.

Native American filmmaking is a growing industry, providing a unique voice for communities that are often wary of being photographed or recorded in any form.

In New Mexico, Tewa children are allowed to make audio recordings of their personal stories and experiences as part of oral history projects, but they must seek permission from the elders before the material can be shown outside the community.

"Some cultures have been extremely invaded," says Elizabeth Weatherford, head of the Film and Video Center at the National Museum of the American Indian in New York.

"They have had lots taken but little given back."

She is also director of the Native American Film and Video Festival which celebrates its 30th anniversary this year.

Dozens of native language films are being shown, including the first to be written entirely in Alaska's Inupiaq language.

Sikumi/On the Ice, by Andrew Okpeaha Maclean, premiered at the Sundance Film Festival and was short listed for an Academy Award.

"Anything that can activate young people who have been saturated by the American media is really important," says Ms Weatherford.

"Film making can make them empowered by the use of language in their own world. It's the transmission of language through culture and there's an effortlessness to it."

Some academics have argued that the demise of a language is simply part of social development and evolution. But Ms Slaughter disagrees.

"People seem to understand how important it is to preserve tangible heritage like the Seven Wonders of the World. Well, language may not be visible, but it's just as rich and just as important to humanity."

Shaman

Continued from page 2

The process of personal integration and self actualization had such a profound effect on Pico that he committed to sharing and promoting the Peruvian Shamans.

Their debut to this area took place on the grounds of the Viejas Reservation in the already rarified air of the Viejas Mountains.

The four day event offered participants the opportunity to participate and experience the spiritual offerings of the healers from Peru.

The former Viejas Chairman expressed thankful appreciation for all the support that he received from the local tribes who donated money and resources for the event.

Anthony Pico, who now walks with a limber gate, says, "I can't say for sure if my healing is the result of the curative powers of these ancient practices. All I know is that it works. I can't say how or why. I just know it works."

Pow Wow Days

MAY 15, 16 & 17

Traditional Indian Health Gathering
Pala Rey Youth Camp
10779 Pala Rd
Pala, CA

MAY 16

Medicine Ways Conference &
Birdsinging Gathering
9am -10pm
UC Riverside Commons
Riverside, CA

MAY 26

UCR Warriors Pow wow
UCR Sports Center - UC Riverside
Campus
Event Begins at 10 Grand Entry 1pm
and 7pm

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.

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

Grow GREENS Instead of Grass!

by Bobby Glanton Smith

Believe it or not, soaring fuel prices might be the best thing that could ever happen to your health and well-being. We may finally come back to our senses and produce food where it should be grown – in our yards and locally. I don't know about you, but I'd rather drink muddy water and sleep in a hollow log before I make another trip to a super market and pay nearly five dollars per pound for produce that has been shipped over a thousand miles and has literally ZERO nutritional value.

Runaway fuel prices are forcing Americans to rethink every aspect of our lives. We no longer have the luxury of wasting precious natural resources or

indiscriminately purchasing vehicles that consume fossil fuels. A trip to the gas station leaves most Americans short on cash for the consumer spending that our economy has relied on to prosper. Instead of the going to the movies or out to eat, that money now goes into the gas tank. Our spending habits have been adversely affected by the price of oil and there is no denying it.

Why grow greens instead of grass? Before the energy crisis most Americans could afford to overlook the value of localized food economies. We became enamored with the convenience of going to a large supermarket chain store and the limitless variety of produce that was available and seemingly reasonable prices. Never mind the quality of the

food was always suspect – think about it – how FRESH could produce be if it was shipped at least several hundreds of miles from its origin? Not only is the food from most major supermarkets less than nutritional, it circumvents the growth of local farms and local markets.

Thanks to the fuel crisis we now have an opportunity to improve the quality of food we consume and energize local economies. There is a gentleman that I've known for the past five years who is one of the foremost authorities in the world on local food production (his name is Adonijah). He is in the process of turning lawns into food producing landscape – in the heart of the Crenshaw District. These are residences that are being transformed to produce enough fruit and vegetables to sustain many families.

Local food economies will be essential

and profitable in the very near future. More importantly, as the so-called Green Movement evolves it will empower communities through innovation, job creation and entrepreneurial opportunities. The Native American communities have practiced harmonious kinship with the land since the beginning of time; we are finally seeing the rest of the world acknowledge how essential it is to protect the Earth and live within more reasonable kinship with the planet. The first step towards ecological balance can be the conversion of ornamental landscaping into edible landscaping. The benefits are immense: we can teach the young to love the land and in the process change our environment for the better.

If you are interested in learning more about converting grass into greens, email me at bobby_glanton@yahoo.com

Petroleum

Although few people are aware of it today, petroleum was once considered an effective natural remedy not only in the Middle East but in many parts of the world. Oil upwelling and gas vents were known anciently in present day Kuwait, Iraq, Azerbaijan, Turkmenistan, and Uzbekistan. Natural deposits of thickened petroleum (also called "bitumen") seeped from openings on land or floated

to the surface of lakes. It was easy to gather and was used as a building material, waterproofing material, lubricant, adhesive, medicine, fuel illuminant and fumigant, and even as a weapon.

The All-Encompassing Dictionary (Al-Qamusal-Mubit), written in Makkay in the 15th century by Abu Tahir al-Fayruzabadi a scholar of Persian descent, reveals that oil was commonly sold as medicine and as a fuel for lighting and that it was used as an incendiary in a type of military flame thrower.

In the Kitchen:

Petrolatum a- a natural, odorless, tasteless unguent distilled from petroleum and then purified – is sometimes used in bakery products as a release agent. Petrolatum meets us Food and Drug Administration requirements for medicinal, cosmetic formula and animal food use, and is also approved for direct contact with food.

Remedies

The Book of the Powers of Remedies, a medical text prepared by Masarjawah, a prominent physician living in Basra, Iraq, during the seventh century, described the benefits of ingesting oil for fighting disease and infection. Masarjawah wrote: "Warm naphtha, specially water-white naphtha, when ingested in small doses, is excellent for suppressing cough, or asthma, bladder discomfort and arthritis."

The All-Encompassing Dictionary states "The best grade of naphtha is the water-white. It is a good solvent, ad diluent and an expectorant. Taken internally, it relieves cramps and aches of the belly, and, when applied topically, it can soothe skin rashes and infections,"

Vicks VapoRub, a nasal decongestant, cough suppressant and topical analgesic, contains petrolatum, and other salves, suppositories and cosmetic products also benefit from the consistency contributed by petrolatums.

Akkadian clay tablets from about 2200 BC referred to crude oil as naptu, from which derives the root of the Arabic nat.

William Rockefeller, father of John D. Rockefeller, sold bottles of raw petroleum to country folk as a cure for cancer.

Petroleum is used today in homeopathic medicine to treat motion sickness, eczema and other skin problems, nausea and diarrhea.

Obama's Earth Day: Where Maytags once rolled off the line, towers for wind turbines are now made


Highlighting the priorities of renewable energy and sustainability, President Obama and his administration kicked off Earth Day at a wind-turbine power plant in Newton, Iowa. "The choice we face is not between saving our environment and saving our economy — it's a choice between prosperity and decline," Obama said.

Obama sees the plant, which employs 91 people and expects the creation of 100 more jobs in the next two years, "as a model of how the nation's manufacturing economy can be transformed to accommodate a renewable energy future," Michael A. Fletcher reports for The Washington Post. "While the plant is creating jobs, its scale pales" next to the old Maytag plant that once employed 1,800 in the same building, Fletcher notes.

Obama was accompanied by Agriculture Secretary Tom Vilsack, a former Iowa governor, who announced \$144.3 million in loans and grants for infrastructure improvements to improve water availability and quality. For the USDA release, click here. Meanwhile, Energy Secretary Steven Chu and Labor Secretary Hilda Solis contributed their own Earth Day thoughts in an op-ed piece. They wrote that a 'green' revolution will lay the foundation for sustainable change: "By providing the training that will turn 20th century blue-collar jobs into secure 21st century green-collar jobs, we are paving a pathway out of poverty; strengthening urban and rural communities; rebuilding a strong middle class; and protecting the health of our citizens and planet."

STEWART FATHER'S DAY POWWOW

JUNE 19-21, 2009 CARSON CITY, NEVADA



Master of Ceremonies: ▶ Gridley Hilpert Sun Valley, NV	Arena Director: ▶ Sam Johnson Sun Valley, NV	Head Man: ▶ Alex Graves Fort Hall, ID	Head Woman: ▶ Darlene Imus Wadsworth, NV	Head Teen Boy: ▶ Dustin Sam Owyhee, NV	Head Teen Girl: ▶ Cassie Weed Fallon, NV	Head Drum: ▶ Cliff Eagle Singers Salt Lake City, UT
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Free Admission Open to the Public Dry Camping is Available No Alcohol or Drugs Food / Indian Tacos
(We will accept the first 4 completed and paid food vendor applications. Other food vendors may be accepted, but are prohibited from selling fry bread or Indian tacos.)


Grand Entry Times: Friday 7:00pm Saturday: 1:00pm and 7:00pm Sunday: 1:00pm

Activities:

- Competition dancing - must be in full regalia to accept award
- Stewart Alumni recognition
- Stewart Powwow Princess
- Raffle and 50/50 Arts & craft vendors
- Special events & exhibits

General Information:
Call Sherry Rupert at 775.687.8333 or email at srupert@nic.nv.gov

Vendor Information:
Call Chris Gibbons at 775.687.8333 or email at cgibbons@nic.nv.gov



The Stewart Father's Day Powwow Committee, Stewart Alumni Committee, Nevada Indian Commission and State of Nevada are not liable for accidents, injuries or short funded travelers.

Honeybees Continue to Vanish: Don't Blame Aliens — It's Our Addiction to Pesticides That's at Fault

by Evaggelos Vallianatos, TruthOut.org

When I was teaching at Humboldt State University in northern California 20 years ago, I invited a beekeeper to talk to my students. He said that each time he took his bees to southern California to pollinate other farmers' crops, he would lose a third of his bees to sprays. In 2009, the loss ranges all the way to 60 percent.

Honeybees have been in terrible straits.

A little history explains this tragedy.

For millennia, honeybees lived in symbiotic relationship with societies all over the world.

The Greeks loved them. In the eighth century BCE, the epic poet Hesiod considered them gifts of the gods to just farmers. And in the fourth century of our era, the Greek mathematician Pappos admired their hexagonal cells, crediting them with "geometrical forethought."

However, industrialized agriculture is not friendly to honeybees.

In 1974, the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency licensed the nerve gas parathion trapped into nylon bubbles the size of pollen particles.

What makes this microencapsulated formulation more dangerous to bees

than the technical material is the very technology of the "time release" microcapsule.

This acutely toxic insecticide, born of chemical warfare, would be on the surface of the flower for several days. The foraging bee, if alive after its visit to the beautiful white flowers of almonds, for example, laden with invisible spheres of asphyxiating gas, would be bringing back to its home pollen and nectar mixed with parathion.

It is possible that the nectar, which the bee makes into honey, and the pollen, might end up in some food store to be bought and eaten by human beings.

Beekeepers are well aware of what is happening to their bees, including the potential that their honey may not be fit for humans.

Moreover, many beekeepers do not throw away the honey, pollen and wax of colonies destroyed by encapsulated parathion or other poisons. They melt the wax for new combs: And they sell both honey and pollen to the public.

Government "regulators" know about this danger.

An academic expert, Carl Johansen, professor of entomology at Washington State University in Pullman, Washington, called the microencapsulated methyl

parathion "the most destructive bee poisoning insecticide ever developed."

In 1976, the U.S. Department of Agriculture published a report by one of its former employees, S. E. McGregor, a honeybee expert who documented that about a third of what we eat benefits from honeybee pollination. This includes vegetables, oilseeds and domesticated animals eating bee-pollinated hay.

In 2007, the value of food dependent on honeybees was \$15 billion in the United States.

McGregor also pointed out that insect-pollinated legumes collect nitrogen from the air, storing it in their roots and enriching the soil. In addition, insect pollination makes the crops more wholesome and abundant. He advised the farmer he should never forget that "no cultural practice will cause fruit or seed to set if its pollination is neglected."

In addition, McGregor blamed the chemical industry for seducing the farmers to its potent toxins. He said:

"[P]esticides are like dope drugs. The more they are used the more powerful the next one must be to give satisfaction" and therein develops the spiraling effect, the pesticide treadmill. The chemical salesman, in pressuring the grower to use his product, practically assumes the role of the "dope pusher." Once the vic-

tim, the grower, is "hooked," he becomes a steady and an ever-increasing user.

No government agency listened to McGregor.

The result of America's pesticide treadmill is that now, in 2009, honeybees and other pollinators are moving towards extinction.

In October 2006, the U.S. National Research Council warned of the "demonstrably downward" trends in the populations of pollinators. For the first time since 1922, American farmers are renting imported bees for their crops. They are even buying bees from Australia.

Honeybees, the National Academies report said, pollinate more than 90 crops in America, but have declined by 30 percent in the last 20 years alone. The scientists who wrote the report expressed alarm at the precipitous decline of the pollinators.

Unfortunately, this made no difference to EPA, which failed to ban the microencapsulated parathion that is so deadly to honeybees.

Bee experts know that insecticides cause brain damage to the bees, disorienting them, making it often impossible for them to find their way home.

This is a consequence of decades of agribusiness warfare against nature and, in time, honeybees. In addition, beekeepers truck billions of bees all over the country for pollination, depriving them of good food, stressing them enormously, and, very possibly, injuring their health.

Observatory names three asteroids for tribal words

by Onell R. Soto, Union-Tribune Staff Writer

SAN DIEGO COUNTY, CA — The Palomar Observatory is honoring the area's native people by using Luiseño words to name three asteroids discovered by one of its scientists.

The asteroids, rocky objects less than a mile across that orbit the sun and sometimes cross the Earth's path, will be

named after the words from creation stories from the Luiseño Indians, who live in the areas surrounding Palomar Mountain.

The asteroids, discovered about 20 years ago, were recently named Tukmit, which means Father Sky, Tomaiyowit, which means Earth Mother, and Kwila, or black oak, one of the First People descended from Father Sky and Earth Mother.

In the creation story, the First People became all the people, animals, plants and inanimate objects of the earth.

The asteroids were named with the help of the Pauma band, Luiseño Indians

who began working with the observatory about two years ago as it was planning a casino expansion. Observatory staff members struck up a relationship with the tribe's education department.

The asteroids are worth tracking to ensure they don't come into a collision course with Earth, observatory spokesman Scott Kardel said. They cannot be seen with the naked eye.

Tribal Chairman Chris Devers said he hoped to get a glimpse of the asteroids at the observatory.

"It would be something to be able to see it," he said.

There are thousands of asteroids, but

it's not easy to get a name on one, Kardel said. "It's still a pretty select group of people and places that have an asteroid named after them."

The asteroids were discovered from 1987 to 1991 by Jean Mueller, who is now the senior operator of the 200-inch Hale Telescope, but at the time was using the 48-inch Samuel Oschin Telescope.

Mueller has discovered 11 other asteroids, 15 comets and 107 supernovas, or exploding stars.

She suggested the names to a committee of the International Astronomical Union, which signs off on namings.

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San Diego Black Contractors the Architects of Community

They are building more than high-rises and apartment complexes at the San Diego Black Contractors Association. They are developing the human architecture for a more durable superstructure than brick and mortar. They are building relationships and community.

An incident involving an enrollee in the Black Contractors Association's Apprentice program and two San Diego police offi-



Abdur-Rahim Hameed expresses his concerns about recent police activity in the community

cers resulted in the student being choked nearly to death. In response to the outrage, Hammed called for a meeting with Police Chief William Lansdown and other responsible community leaders to come together to discuss why Kyle Moore who is related to the Archie Moore family, was apparently unjustly attacked by the police. After being thrown to the ground by one officer and choked by the other Kyle was taken to jail for three days

SEE **SD Black Contractors**, page 12

Barona Tribe unveils new scholarship for students studying the environment and sustainability

SAN DIEGO, CA – In an effort to encourage local students to create a sustainable future in San Diego, the Barona Band of Mission Indians has introduced the **Barona Sustainable Environment Scholarship**. The scholarship is the latest initiative as part of the Barona Valley Environmental Sustainability Program on the reservation and at Barona Resort & Casino. The program includes a state-of-the-art water reclamation plant, water recovery program, landscaping and wildlife preservation, golf course turf reduction, resort conservation programs – carpooling, recycling and energy efficient practices – and community outreach to increase awareness of eco-friendly events and awards.

The scholarship is available to college students with a passion for the environment who are pursuing careers in horticulture, turf grass management, natural resources, or environmental sciences industries. The Tribe will award four finalists \$1,000 and one of the four finalists will receive an additional \$1,000, based on a personal interview. The scholarship funds can be used to supplement

costs incurred through tuition, books and living expenses. The application deadline is July 15 and the winners will be announced on August 1.

“Our respect for the environment is an important part of our Tribe’s heritage,” said Edwin “Thorpe” Romero, chairman of the Barona Band of Mission Indians. “This scholarship was created to inspire future generations of San Diegans to help protect our region’s precious resources.”

In order to be eligible to apply for the scholarship, applicants must be studying a field related to horticulture studies, turf grass management, natural resources management or environmental sciences at a two or more year accredited college and university. In addition, applicants must have successfully completed a minimum of 30 semester units, with a minimum of 15 semester units of coursework from a field of study related to the environment. Applicants must be a full-time student with a minimum of 12 credits per semester and an overall GPA of 3.0 or higher.

For additional information and to download the application, please visit

communityrelations.barona.com. Applications must be postmarked by July 15 and mailed to:

Barona Resort & Casino
c/o Barona Sustainable Environment
Scholarship Program
Scholarship Selection Committee
1932 Wildcat Canyon Road
Lakeside, CA 92040

The scholarships will be awarded based on the student’s application, references and recommendations. All applications will be reviewed by the Barona Scholarship Selection Committee consisting of representatives from the Barona Band of Mission Indians and Barona Resort & Casino.

The Barona Band of Mission Indians, recognized by the United States government as a sovereign nation, has lived on the Barona Indian Reservation in rural eastern San Diego County since 1932. Prior to that, the Tribe lived on the Capitan Grande Reservation, established in 1875 by the federal government. Long before, the Tribe traveled across Southern California in tune with the seasons and what nature provided. Today, the sovereign government is serving its Tribal members, their families, and sharing with the San Diego region. For more information, visit www.barona-nsn.gov.

Ramona Band of Cahuilla Indians to Receive Environmental Achievement Award

SAN FRANCISCO, CA - The Ramona Band of Cahuilla Indians was chosen to receive a 2009 Environmental Achievement Award from the United States Environmental Protection Agency in recognition of the Tribe’s exceptional work and commitment to protecting the environment.

Each year, the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency celebrates and recognizes outstanding environmental advocates who have made significant contributions toward enhancing and protecting the quality of our environment. The Ramona Band will receive its Award later today at a ceremony in San Francisco, California.

“It is a great pleasure and honor that we can recognize the innovative and

important environmental work achieved by this year’s impressive group of organizations and individuals, and the example they set for all of us to follow,” said Laura Yoshii, the U.S. EPA’s acting administrator for the Pacific Southwest region. “This year’s winners and nominees have made superb efforts to protect and preserve our air, water and land, and increased awareness of the environmental challenges we all face.”

The Ramona Band was chosen from among 200+ nominees for its efforts to live completely “off-grid”. Ramona tribal members and their families live in homes which are powered by a hybrid electrical system consisting of solar arrays and wind turbines. A hybrid elec-

trical system will also be used to power the Ramona Band’s Eco Tourism Project.

“The Ramona Band is honored to be recognized for its efforts”, stated Tribal Chairman Joseph Hamilton. “Our decision to live greener was borne out of necessity and our respect for the environment, and we hope that what we have done can be used as a model for other communities.”

In addition to the current hybrid systems that power the Tribe’s homes and community buildings, the Ramona Band plans to develop and install additional “green living” systems on its reservation that can be adapted for use in communities that wish to live green and totally off-grid.

Cherokee nominated for position at the Department of Justice

Mary L. Smith, a member of the Cherokee Nation of Oklahoma, has been named as a nominee for assistant attorney general in the tax division at the Department of Justice. She is currently a partner at Schoeman, Updike, Kaufman & Scharf LLP, a female-owned law firm.

Smith previously served in the Clinton White House where she was responsible for overseeing a number of policy areas including domestic violence, tax issues, equal pay, Internet gambling, civil rights and Native-focused issues. She was the highest-ranking Native American in the White House during the Clinton administration.

Hilary Tompkins, a member of the Navajo Nation, has been named as a nominee for solicitor of the Department of the Interior. She was previously a top lawyer to Gov. Bill Richardson of New Mexico from 2003 – 2008, providing expertise within the governor’s office on Native American affairs. She formerly worked in a legal capacity for several Indian nations.

Obama has also nominated Rhea Suh as assistant secretary for policy, management and budget at the interior. Well-versed in Indian issues, she is a former aide to retired Sen. Ben Nighthorse Campbell, R-Colo., a member of the Northern Cheyenne Tribe of Montana.

**“When we can heal ourselves,
we also heal our ancestors,
our grandmothers,
our grandfathers and our
children. When we heal ourselves,
we heal Mother Earth.”**

- Rita Pitka Blumenstein
Yup’ik Great Grandmother

The Ramona Band is investigating other ways to live greener by using existing and emerging technologies, as well as expanding upon their existing infrastructure to meet the needs of future generations. All of this is being done as the Tribe meets the challenge of balancing its economic and social needs with its respect for traditions and the environment.

Please visit: <http://ramonaband.com/> for more information about the Ramona Band of Cahuilla Indians and its Eco Tourism Project.

For additional information on the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency Environmental Achievement Awards: www.epa.gov/region09/awards/index.html

New Competition Will Award \$60,000 to Native Writers

NCAI Partners with Alaska Federation of Natives' Newest Initiative that Challenges

Native Thinkers to Share Economic & Political Insights

WASHINGTON, D.C. – The Alaska Federation of Natives (AFN), in partnership with the National Congress of American Indians (NCAI), is launching a new national initiative in the tradition of its successful Alaska Marketplace Competition.

Native Insight: Thoughts on Recession, Recovery & Opportunity is a writing competition crafted to tap the wisdom and ingenuity of our Native communities, and to encourage Native thinkers to go public with their perspectives on the challenges and opportunities in our current economic and political landscape.

"The Native Insight Competition originated with a surprise announcement during the 2008 AFN Convention," said AFN President Julie Kitka, "A great friend of Alaska invited members of the Native community to share their fresh ideas about the challenges and opportunities of the current economic climate in writing – and he volunteered thousands of his own hard-earned dollars to seed the pool of award money."

When the competition winners are announced in October 2009, \$60,000 will be distributed among three Alaska Native winners and three Native

Hawaiian/Lower 48 winners, with opportunities for their winning essays to be published in Native journals and magazines across the United States. Along with NCAI, AFN is also partnering with the Council for Native Hawaiian Advancement to reach Native communities across the nation.

"Overcoming the challenges currently facing the US economy will require a major shift in the way our economic system works," said Jackie Johnson Pata, Executive Director of NCAI, "Native communities are great resources that remain largely untapped by mainstream decision-makers. The Native Insight Competition will provide Native thinkers a voice in the national economic dialogue."

The competition is open to Alaska Natives, Native Hawaiians and American Indians of all ages. 500-1,600 word essays are due September 15, 2009. Essays must address one or more of three writing prompts focused on how the Native community can support economic renewal, what it will take for the American economy to rebound, and what the American leadership can do to jump-start recovery. Visit www.nativeinsight.org for more information about this exciting new competition.

Founded in 1944, the National Congress of American Indians is the oldest, largest and most representative American Indian and Alaska Native organization in the country. NCAI advocates on behalf of tribal governments, promoting strong tribal-federal government-to-government policies, and promoting a better understanding among the general public regarding American Indian and Alaska Native governments, people and rights.

Dance 4 Health at Malcolm X Library

3 International Dance Styles
– 1 Hot Salsa Music Concert Finale

Saturdays, May 2 and 16, 2:00 – 5:00 pm
Sundays, May, 10 and 24, 2:00 – 5:00 pm

FREE West African, Salsa, & Belly Dance Classes

Dance for the health of it during May, Month of Dance @ Malcolm X Library Classes will last 50 minutes. You can either take one, two, or all three. Master dance instructors: Aminisha, Dennard Clendenin and Morwenna Assaf will help you to renew body and spirit with dancing's tremendous physical and mental health benefits. Space is limited. Please call (619) 527-3405 to register. Light refreshments provided.

21st Annual American Indian Culture Days

Saturday & Sunday • May 9th and 10th 2009 • 10 AM to 6PM

Red Warrior Singers Southern Drum
Dancing Cloud Singers Northern Drum
Eileen George – Head Woman Dancer
Richard Van Dyke Parker – Head Man Dancer
Violet DeCrane & Cheyenne Kellis – Head Girl Dancers
Steven Gloria & Austin Black Fox – Head Boy Dancers
American Indian Warriors Associating Color Guard
Ivan Sam - Head Gourd Dancer
Randy Edmonds – Master of Ceremonies

Tom Gamboa – Arena Director
Leroy Elliot – Honored Elder
Manzanita Band of the Kumeyaay Nation
Gourd Dancing – 11:00 AM
Grand Entry – 12 Noon
American Indian Arts a& Crafts Booths
Children's Corner- Fry Bread & Indian Tacos
Information 619-281-5964
Park Blvd & Presidents Way
Balboa Park, San Diego, CA 92101

Ivan D. Sam - Head Gourd Dancer

Ivan Sam is honored to fulfill the responsibility of Head Gourd Dancer for the San Diego American Indian Culture Days Pow wow. Ivan is an enrolled member of the Dine' Nation. He comes from the Kii'ya'aanii' Clan (Towering House People), born for To'he'gliinii Clan (Water That Flows Together People), his paternal grandfather is from the Maii'deshgiizh'nii Clan (Wolf Pass People), and his maternal grandfather is from the Ta'ba'haa' Clan (Near the Water People). Therefore, that makes him full Dine'.

He is a veteran of the Desert Storm Era. His military service is with the U.S. Navy. He was an aviation electrician for two deployments to the Persian Gulf on the USS Dwight D. Eisenhower and the USS George Washington and many detachments around the world. He has held leadership positions with the

American Indian Warriors Association and is currently President of the AIWA organization.

He is originally from the Hunters Point, Az., near Window Rock area of the Navajo Nation. His wife is from Rocky Ridge, Az., near the Tuba City area of the Navajo Nation. They and their two sons live in the Rancho San Diego area.

Ivan is pursuing his education at Mesa College and has been the President of the Society for Advancement of Chicanos and Native Americans in Science club.

Ivan is fortunate to have a traditional background and was raised by his grandparents. He has participated in Yei Bi Chei, Enemy Way, and Native American ceremonies.

His personal hope is, "Haa'zhoni naa'haas glii' do' le' (Beauty will be all around us again!) Also for all to have a good time dancing on our Mother Earth, Finally a safe journey and good health for all when they return to their homes.

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North Park Farmers Market



The Farmers Market has returned to North Park! Come out and join us every Thursday at the new location in the parking lot behind CVS (32nd Street and University Avenue). The market takes place every Thursday, rain or shine, and will be open from 3 p.m. to sunset in the spring and summer; winter and fall hours are 2p.m. to dark.

Our market features over 30 independent vendors each week. Fresh, locally grown seasonal and organic produce will be sold, along with San Diego County grown flowers, handmade arts and crafts, and a large selection of prepared gourmet foods. Live music will also provide atmosphere and entertainment to this long awaited weekly

event.

The North Park Farmers Market is a gathering place to meet friends and members of the community, get the latest information on local events and projects, and celebrate being part of the same neighborhood. Mark your calendars today!

For more information about the North Park Farmers Market, please call North Park Main Street at (619) 294-2501.



Shovel Ready and Too Small to Fail



BCA

The monthly Chat N Chew event held at the Black Contractors Association headquarters, 6125 Imperial Avenue brought contractors and interested parties together for a lively discussion and networking session facilitated by Abdur-Rahim Hameed.

ACLU of San Diego & Imperial Counties ACTION SUMMIT: Reclaiming Our Voices

An afternoon with civil rights icon,
Rep. John Lewis
Sunday, April 19, 2009, Jacobs Center



Cheryl Alethia Phelps, her mother Shirley Jenkins-Phelps, with John Lewis.



Abdur-Rahim Hameed with the San Diego Black Contractors Association.



NAACP President Lei-Chala I. Wilson (2nd from left) was a panelist on the Action Summit with Congressman John Lewis.



Representative John Lewis addressing the crowd.



ACLU Volunteers



Shirley Jenkins-Phelps, Congressman Bob Filner, Cheryl Alethia Phelps and ACLU Staff Member Andrea Guerrero.

Hip Hop Photography Through an American Indian Lens

Ernie Paniccioli Bridging the Cultural Divide

by Cherrie Richardson Collazzo

Spring has ushered in a new day. So much for old style politics and revolution. Indian Voices invites you to explore the exciting cultural cutting edge. FYI here is some information that you probably did not know. Indian Voices, Hip-Hop and Old School Photography. That's Right!!!!

What would you say if we were to tell you that the most profound impact on the entire Hip-Hop Industry was and very much still is tied to a Native American man?

Well buckle your seatbelts, do not adjust your headphones, you heard correctly and we are about to take you on a journey into this Native legends life, Ernie Paniccioli.

Ernie Paniccioli known within the industry and his peers, family and friends as Brother Ernie, is the epitome of the hip-hop culture. He is a seasoned, gritty artist and renaissance man, whose art has covered everything and everyone within the hip-hop industry to date. This article is a very special one, for it will take you on a journey that is very much Native, very much a revolution, very much art, and definitely American!

Brother Ernie was born in the late 40's in Brooklyn New York to a full blooded Cree mother and Italian father. As an urban Indian that found the hardships of a profound existence early in life. Brother Ernie, no longer feeling like a child left home at the age of 13 to relieve his mother of another mouth to feed. He sought refuge as many inner-city kids do, on the streets of Brooklyn. He grew up in a time when gang wars, color issues, racism and post WWII issues were plaguing this country. He wound up homeless on the streets of New York and joined a gang in his pre-teens, a choice that at that time saved his life. Not being able to identify with anything or anyone, from a cultural point of view, and not belonging to anything or anyone, he faced the brutalities that came with the era, ethnic gang wars, racism and ridicule. He wound up finding acceptance and shelter within one of the Brooklyn gangs.

Brother Ernie's journey is not the storybook type which so many times is interpreted as the "rags to riches" story. It is one that demonstrates that the will to survive, the will to connect to ones own spirit, and the will to not be bound by the bias of human conditioning is truly all one needs to achieve great things and to soar, as Brother Ernie did.

Today still regarded as the most premier hip-hop photographer in America. He began his journey into this realm in 1973 when his 35mm camera became the brush and easel and the onset of

graffiti on the streets of New York his canvas.

Just recently Brother Ernie and I had the pleasure to spend some time together. During a conversation, he shared with me that those times were like a premonition of things to come for him. He was drawn by the art and it evoked the artist within him, He captured the voices and spirits of those that left their stories on the New York City buildings, subways, and whatever medium they felt needed to be their place of expression. Brother Ernie started to take photographs of the people that coincided with the dawn of a new time at hand, namely hip-hop artists, MC's, rappers, and street dancers.

From Grandmaster Flash at the Roxy (a popular Manhattan nightclub of the late 70's and early 1980s), to the athletic moves of the legendary Rock Steady Crew, to the fresh faces of Queen Latifah, Tupac Shakur, The Notorious B.I.G., Eminem, and Lauren Hill. Salt'n Peppa, TLC. You name it if they were Hip-Hop he shot them.

Having been in the forefront of documenting the greatest cultural movement since Rock and Roll in the 1950s, Brother Ernie also became a painter, public speaker, and historian. He photographed a number of popular figures beyond hip hop, such as Frank Sinatra, Liza Minelli, and John F. Kennedy, Jr., Britney Spears, Ricky Martin, and more.

In 1989 Brother Ernie became the chief photographer for Word Up! Magazine. His work has appeared in The New York Times, Time Magazine Newsweek, Life, Rolling Stone, Spin, Vibe, Ebony, The Source and XXL. Beyond this he entered the television arena. His credits include MTV and VH1, an uncountable number of radio appearances and speaking engagements.

Brother Ernie included writing into his collective art palette and merged them with images which can be found in numerous books, such as: Turn Up The Volume, A Celebration of Black Music (UCLA Fowler Museum of Cultural History), Rap and Hip Hop, The Voice of A Generation (The Rosen Publishing Group). Lift Every Voice and Sing (Random House).

He was chosen by KRS1 to be the spokesman for The Temple of Hip Hop at The United Nations at the Hip Hop Peace conference in May of 2001. He was also the moderator at the Meeting of



Ernie Paniccioli legendary Hip Hop photographer

the Minds at the Zulu Nation 27th Anniversary. He was the co-moderator of The Zulu Nation's 3 day Indigenous Peoples Conference in October 2008.

This Native American's hip-hop photography was on display and featured right outside the Rock and Roll Hall of Fame for The Roots, Rhymes

and Rage exhibit in 1999. It was and a featured part of that same exhibition at The Brooklyn Museum of Art in 2002.

In 2002 Brother Ernie and Kevin Powell published a book documenting thirty years of his Hip Hop photography called "Who Shot Ya" (Amistad Press).

Many have accredited Brother Ernie with their love, respect and admiration. Quotes to testify this can be found in numerous articles, such as the ones below:

"We the Hip Hop World Nation and Beyond Earth must always respect our brother for what he has offered to us and that is his science of taking fantastic pictures of our world. All praise due to the Supreme Force for our warrior, father, thinker, teacher, speaker, historian, and powerful photographer. The Hip Hop Photo King"

Afrika Bambaataa, Universal Zulu Nation:

"Mr. Paniccioli documented the only true representation of authentic hip hop history to date. He photographed the rise of the greatest inner city movement of the last 27 years of the 20th Century. The God of Hip Hop photography."

KRS1, The Temple of Hip Hop:

"Ernie Paniccioli has been that archivist of the urban emotion covering the years leading to the millennium and beyond. His work and integrity and hustle have long provided that window to the Hip Hop world that was necessary to exchange the culture way before big budget videos. We thank him for pushing our faces to the world"

Chuck D, Public Enemy: "Truly the Master Photographer of Hip Hop."

Charlie Ahern: "Wild Style" and "yes yes y'all" "The career of photographer Ernie Paniccioli has documented the remarkable thirty year history of hip hop. Many visitors to the exhibition "Hip Hop Nation: Roots, Rhymes and Rage" at the Brooklyn Museum in 2000 had the opportunity to see a small slice

Congratulations to Tim Giago and the Native Sun Newspaper

The Native Sun Newspaper is hardly a month old but it is already serving a role model for commitment, passion and the creative spirit. Through his journalistic skills and endurance Tim Giago has indelibly branded himself as a forerunner, master journalist by creating and founding the first independently owned Indian newspaper in the United States.

In 1979, his "Notes from Indian Country" in the Rapid City, South Dakota Journal became the first Indian voice in a South Dakota newspaper. In 1981, he began the Lakota Times. In 1998, he sold the paper (now called Indian Country Today) to the Oneida Nation. The endeavor was a boon for aspiring Indian writers.

Over the years that he ran the paper, a number of Native Americans who worked for him later became successful in journalism.

During his writing and publishing career, Giago has won the H. L. Menken Award, the University of Missouri Distinguished Journalism Award, and a Harvard University Neiman Fellowship.

Once ignited the creative spirit is not easily dampened

After retiring for five years he decided to jump back into the world of ink by debuting his new publication the Native Sun on April Fools Day 2009

He says, "Retirement isn't all it is cracked up to be. If one has a job that is not a job, but a joy, leaving it is difficult. I am excited and looking forward to serving the Indian nations of America with a newspaper they will truly enjoy reading."

Thank you Tim Giago for following your path back to the Fourth Estate.

*"Everything really is equal.
The Creator doesn't look at me any
better than He looks at the trees.
We're all the same."
~ Janice Sundown Hattet, SENECA*

Sometimes humans think we are the center of the Universe. Sometimes we think we are above or better than other people or things. The Great Spirit made a set of Laws and Principles by which all things should live. Everybody and everything lives by the same Laws. We are all made of atoms just like the trees. The life force in the middle of the atom is the life force of the Great Mystery. It is the same for everything. We are all equal in the eyes of the Creator.

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ILACSD Cleanup Makes Clean Sweep from Creek to Bay

SAN DIEGO COUNTY, CA – Volunteers of all ages showed their love for a clean San Diego today by taking part in the 7th Annual Creek to Bay Cleanup. These dedicated community members volunteered their time at 63 cleanup sites spread out countywide, proving that “green” starts in San Diego.

With cleanup site totals still trickling in, coordinators at I Love A Clean San Diego (ILACSD) expect to surpass last year's volunteer totals with over 4,000 participants countywide. Temporary dumpsters were filled to the brim countywide, with many inland sites reporting thousands of pounds of debris. The most common items collected included cigarette butts, plastic grocery bags and plastic beverage bottles proving that single use disposable items continue to plague our region. Hundreds of discarded tires and abandoned hazardous waste were identified at many inland cleanup sites.

On the other hand, most unusual items this year included a trophy from 1911, a disco ball, and a wallet full of money!

ILACSD's army of volunteers make a tremendous impact by donating just a few hours of their time, while setting a positive example each year to an expanding cross-section of community members. With more and more volunteers joining in at this event each year, San Diegans embody an infectious spread of environmental stewardship and community pride.

I Love A Clean San Diego hosted the Creek to Bay kickoff event at Southcrest Community Park in an effort to shed some light on an often overlooked problem facing San Diego's watersheds. Urban runoff and debris not only cause health concerns for affected neighborhoods, but this debris eventually travels to the coast through rivers, creeks, and storm drains where it contaminates the ocean. Approximately 80% of marine debris originates at such inland areas and ILACSD is proud of all volunteers today; especially those who helped stop this harmful pollution upstream.

Over 350 volunteers at Southcrest Community Park were greeted by KFMB Channel 8's Natasha Stenbock and Carlo

Cecchetto to kick off the event, before heading out to cleanup the park, the nearby portion of Chollas Creek, and surrounding neighborhood. In addition to the cleanup, volunteers beautified the community through planting activities and storm drain stenciling. By stenciling a warning message, “No Dumping, Goes to Ocean” on storm drain inlets, volunteers will prevent future incidences of littering and illegal dumping in order to preserve all of their hard work cleaning up at this event. I Love A Clean San Diego coordinates the stenciling program year round for volunteers through a partnership with City of San Diego Think Blue.

Beautification activities like these cleanups, planting, and storm drain stenciling projects took place here in San Diego today, and across the country through Keep America Beautiful's Great American Cleanup. I Love A Clean San Diego is proud to represent San Diego County through the inclusion of the Creek to Bay Cleanup in this nationwide event that instills and spreads activism to over 30,000 communities.

These accomplishments would not have been possible without our dedicated sponsors' support. Thanks are due to the 2009 event sponsors, including title spon-

sors San Diego County Board of Supervisors Greg Cox and Pam Slater Price and City of San Diego Think Blue, with additional support from Time Warner Cable, KFMB Channel 8's Earth 8 Campaign, Allied Waste Services, San Diego Bay Watershed Group, the Barona Band of Mission Indians, Sony, Kashi., SeaWorld, Sea Life Aquarium, Ellen Browning Scripps Foundation, Birch Aquarium at Scripps, AMC Theaters, Ocean Minded, RBF Consulting, Kohl's, Cubic Transportation Systems, Wilson Sonsini Goodrich & Rosati Foundation, City of Poway, City of Escondido, General Dynamics NASSCO, Dog Beach Dog Wash, KPRI, and Keep America Beautiful.

A diversified environmental education organization operating throughout San Diego County, I love A Clean San Diego offers a broad range of expertise in public education and outreach, event coordination, and community relations. ILACSD promotes awareness of environmental issues including resource conservation, waster reduction and recycling, community enhancement, and pollution prevention. For more information about I Love A Clean San Diego, visit www.cleansd.org or call 1-800-237-BLUE.

KPBS Presents: SAN DIEGO IN RECESSION

An Envision San Diego Special Presentation

SAN DIEGO, CA – As the recession deepens in San Diego County, more families are finding themselves standing in food lines and losing their jobs and homes. In the San Diego Unified School District – the second largest district in the state of California - nearly 60 percent of all families are eligible for the free and reduced-cost lunch program. More than 900 children in this one school district are homeless. Some families are living in their cars, others in shelters and motels. KPBS Television presents, San Diego in Recession, a special documentary on the new face of the homeless and the hungry, Wednesday April 29 at 7 p.m., produced in high definition.

Join host Joanne Faryon as she explores how the recession has taken its toll on the working poor in San Diego County, and on those who never expected to be poor. She'll introduce you to a man living in a tattered RV on the streets of San Diego, a father laid off from his job earlier this year who is down to the last of his savings and a mother living with her four-year-old son in a homeless shelter while she searches for a job.

About Envision San Diego

The goal of Envision San Diego is to identify key issues within the community and capture the human face to illuminate the story through its citizens. Each 30-minute documentary broadcast creates a comprehensive dialogue featuring various opinions to help guide the discussion to

identify solutions.

Under the Envision San Diego banner, KPBS produces television, radio and web content with its media partners to discuss and analyze large ideas that are normally not explored in depth by news sta-

tions and print journalists.

For more information about Envision San Diego and to participate in the dialogue about how the recession is impacting San Diego County visit www.kpbs.org/envision.

Opening Our Doors to the Community

SAN DIEGO, CA. – The Arc of San Diego's North Shores Vocational Center is holding an Arc Awareness Night on Wednesday, May 20, 2009 at 9575 Aero Drive in San Diego. This is an opportunity for The Arc of San Diego to open its doors to the public and provide information about quality, comprehensive programs for community members. This event will be open to the community from 5:30 p.m. to 7:30 p.m. Refreshments will be provided.

This event will feature tours of the facility, a resource fair, and a formal program. The Arc of San Diego's North Shores location provides more than 34,500 service hours to people with disabilities each year.

The Arc of San Diego is the largest,

most comprehensive provider of services to people with disabilities in San Diego County. The organization was founded in 1951 by parents concerned about the lack of services for children with developmental disabilities. It has since grown to seven major centers, twelve group homes, and one respite house. Arc directly impacts the lives of more than 2,500 people with disabilities throughout San Diego County. For more information on Arc Awareness Night or the programs available through The Arc of San Diego's North Shores Vocational Center please contact John McKee at (858) 571-0881 or by email at JMckee@arc-sd.com. For more details on The Arc of San Diego, please log on to www.arc-sd.com.

AFFORDABLE SENIOR APARTMENTS

Lovely 85-Unit senior apartment complex will soon have apartments available. Must be 62 or older with income of \$28,900.00 or less for one person or \$33,050.00 or less for two persons. Rent includes utilities, laundry facility and recreation areas. Equal Housing Opportunity.

For information Please Call
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Monday- Friday from 9am-12pm and 1pm-3:30pm
Location: 12219 Roberts Way Lakeside CA 92040



ATTENTION SENIORS HOUSING OPPORTUNITY

Low income senior apartment complex in Chula Vista is taking applications for waiting list. Applicants must be 62 year of age or older and meet HUD very low income limits.

To receive an application packet, contact
Congregational Tower, 288 F St.;
Chula Vista, CA 91910, (619) 420-8700.

All applications must be completed in full to be eligible for placement on the waiting list. Placement on the waiting list will be based on the date and time the fully-completed application is received.

EQUAL HOUSING OPPORTUNITY



SD Black Contractors

Continued from page 6

and released without charges

The meeting included Chief Lansdown, Captain McKinney, Captain Tony McElory, ACLU Executive Director Kevin Keenan, Rose Davis, Indian Voices Darlene Farden and Letitia Flynn.

Abdur-Rahim Hameed placed three questions on the table. 1 - Are white cops over reacting when they approach black males. 2. - What is the recent record of these two cops on these kinds of incidents. 3 - Are some white cops still promoting hatred toward the Black Male?

The gathering was lively and interactive reflecting the deep concerns regarding police conduct in the Black community. It ended cordially with Chief Lansdown expressing his appreciation for the opportunity to meet with the

community and pointed out that it is face to face meetings such as this that offer avenues to iron out difficulties between the police department and the citizens. Without pointing out specific details of the case Chief Lansdown indicated that it would go through a thorough review process which includes a citizen's review board. He also pointed out that it was a similar, though larger and vociferous, meeting held several years ago at the same BCA facility when an outraged community vigorously expressed concerns about police brutality in the Black community. That meeting, Lansdown said, resulted in a review and revision of the department's policies and procedures related to policing the community.

As this case continues to be investigated it is clear that community involvement and objective dialogue is good medicine for all of us.

Eileen George

Continued from page 1

ness is through all stages of living of our Chahta life. We continually live each day. Our culture and, language is forever evolving as we continue to celebrate our family reunions, stickball, games, songs and dances. As we bead and make our craft to enjoy it's beauty, we are evolving our future generation into a new world

but the link is there to our past. People sometime do not comprehend the Chahta world. We live daily to honor our past generations and the new generation as well. We are one Okla Homa, Red People."

As we step forward into the next phase of our history, we can be grateful that individuals such as Eileen George are here to guide us along the way.

Ya ko ke

Gambling and the Law®: Of Course It's A Depression

"Buy when there is blood in the streets, even if the blood is your own." ~ Baron Nathan Rothschild

There is a generally accepted definition of an economic recession – a decline in gross domestic product for two consecutive quarters. But people don't agree on what is a depression until years after the fact.

There is a difference, like the distinction between neurosis and psychosis. A neurotic may have problems, even severe, distressing ones. But a psychotic has at least temporarily lost touch with reality.

The legal gaming industry is facing a psychotic global economy.

Take, for example, Penn National Gaming. In mid-2008, Penn Gaming was in the final stages of being acquired, when banks decided to cut off all financing for corporate takeovers. But Penn Gaming's lawyers had done a great job writing in protections. The banks panicked, and gave Penn Gaming \$1.475 billion to not buy the company.

The stock market reacted by driving the price of Penn Gaming's common shares down from the mid-\$40s to \$11.82. With about 90 million shares outstanding, this gave the company a market capitalization of \$1 billion: a strange valuation for a company making money, with little debt and a treasure chest of more than \$1.4 billion in cash.

We don't yet have many Bushvilles, like the homeless's shanty towns named Hoovervilles, after the last American President whose incompetence led to a depression. But we do have literally millions of homes in foreclosures, tens of millions of people without work, and charity food banks running out of basic necessities.

Unlike a recession, a depression is worldwide. In January of this year, the Bank of England cut its interest rate to 1.5%, the lowest rate in its 315 year history. The situation was even worse in the U.S., where the yield on three-month treasury bills actually went negative: In December 2008, investors were willing to pay the federal government to hold their money, rather than risk putting it in banks.

Economic depressions have immediate impacts on gaming law. I have had more than one large U.S. investor hire me to advise them about bankruptcy procedures – in Macau. Gaming companies are so international that bondholders of American casino companies want to know about loans secured by property in Asia.

A depression is marked by deflation. Sellers become desperate; prices drop below cost. Casino hotel rooms in Las Vegas are now going for \$22.00 a day – free, for local residents.

In a depression, virtually all business dries up. Atlantic City casino revenue fell 18.7% in December 2008; Las Vegas Strip dropped 23%. In fact, by every measure, this is the worst downturn since gaming was made legal in Nevada in 1931: average room rates, visitor volume, convention attendance and total revenue have plummeted.

Whether or not gaming ever was recession proof is somewhat irrelevant. In a depression nearly everyone loses. Plus, a company that makes a majority of its revenue from non-gaming sources, such as expensive restaurants, designer shops and overpriced Cirque du Soliel shows, is more susceptible to cutbacks in disposable income.

Many casino companies were hit with dual disasters. They were involved in multi-billion dollar expansions and corporate takeovers right when business dried up and the credit markets froze. Some of those loans require periodic payments, minimum cash flows and high equity to debt ratios.

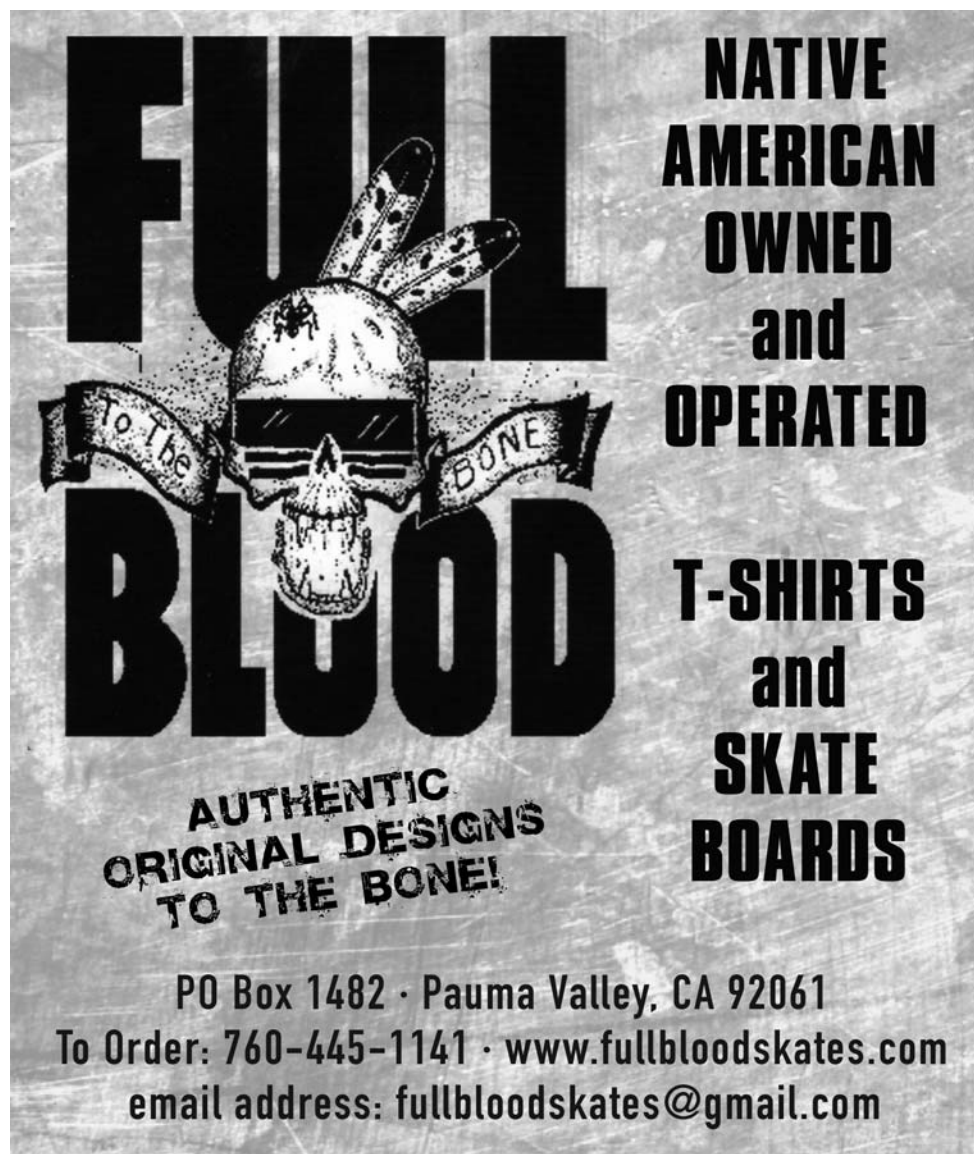
As with the last depression, stock markets crashing have made things far worse. Every gaming company has been hit. The common stock of MGM Mirage dropped 94% over the last year, and the Las Vegas Sands was worse – it fell 97%.

Trump Entertainment forced out the Donald immediately before declaring bankruptcy. Herbst Gaming, Greektown Holdings, Legends Gaming, Magna Entertainment, Progressive Gaming and Tropicana Entertainment have also filed. Station Casinos, Empire Resorts, UTGR Inc., Majestic HoldCo., and even MGM is tottering (pushed by its partner, Dubai World) and Harrah's Entertainment is trying to swap up to \$2.8 billion in new notes due in 2018 for debt coming due next year.

Economic depressions can cause industries to topple like dominoes. Casinos aren't buying as many new slot machines, so manufacturers don't need as many parts from their various suppliers. This hurts not only the manufacturers and suppliers, but the truck drivers who deliver the goods.

Gaming companies are cutting back on service, even to high-rollers, and laying off employees. The few with cash or available credit, like Penn Gaming, are buying back their stock or looking to pick up brand name casinos at bargain prices. The rest are trying to survive.

All segments of the industry are looking for ways to save money. One of the most interesting, legally, are gaming tribes reexamining their compacts. The most dramatic example was the startling announcement from Sycuan, near San Diego, that it would forego both building a second casino and expanding its 2,000 slot machines to 7,500. Instead,



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Gambling and the Law®

Continued from page 12

the tribe will be putting in Class II machines. The primary reason, besides business being slow and money for expansion being hard to get, is that the tribe had agreed to give the state of California 25% of its slot machine revenue, but nothing on its Class II devices.

The good news is that some credit is still available, at least for deals that are a sure thing. Lakes Entertainment had no trouble getting financing to buy the first 2,000 slot machines, of potentially 7,500, for the Red Hawk Casino it opened near Sacramento, California in December 2008.

For governments, operators and entrepreneurs, the picture is mixed.

Every level of government is looking to find ways of balancing their budgets. Gambling is seen as a painless tax. Unfortunately, this means that politicians' first reaction is to raise taxes.

On the other hand, depressions call for desperate measures. New Jersey may be the only jurisdiction in North America to ever roll back a smoking ban – for Atlantic City casinos.

I have been hired by government officials in two states that are looking at major expansions of legal gambling.

In one case, I was retained to recommend the tax rate. I told them it is vital that the tax be significantly below the

psychologically devastating barrier of 50%, if private industry is going to invest millions of dollars in the expansion.

In the other state, I analyzed and gave my recommendations on legal issues surrounding the introduction of slot machines and other casino games.

It also appears likely that intra-state Internet poker will come to California. The state is desperate for tax revenue, and a bill, with many co-sponsors, will be introduced in the next few weeks.

Even the U.S. federal government is backing off of its opposition to Internet gaming. Congress, led by Harry Reid, Majority Leader of the U.S. Senate and Senator from Nevada, and Barney Frank, a powerful member of the House who believes the federal government should not be telling people what to do in their own homes, will again push to amend the Unlawful Internet Gambling Enforcement Act.

Just as soon as they get us out of this second Great Depression.

Professor I Nelson Rose is recognized as one of the world's leading authorities on gambling law and is a consultant and expert witness for governments and industry. His latest books, Internet Gaming Law (1st & 2nd editions) and Gaming Law: Cases and Materials, are available through his website, www.GamblingAndTheLaw.com.

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The San Diego County Community Coalition Welcome, Progressive Patriots of San Diego!

We are embarked on a public information campaign to improve social, economic, cultural and political relations in our community. We have three Public Access TV shows on COX and five Internet TV stations! Peace, justice and alternative energy sources are on the agenda.

No matter if you are Republican, Democratic, Libertarian, no matter your sexual preference, progressive, culture, gender, religion ... you are welcomed.

- We encourage ethical outlooks vs. moral outlooks. Moral outlooks differ by religion. Our basic ethical outlooks are very similar.
- We are working for the good of the citizens of San Diego County.
- We facilitate communications.
- We create synergy and more efficient cooperation to effect change.
- We help those struggling against poverty.
- We create alliances as advocates for peace and justice.
- We believe in supporting our veterans while fighting tyranny.
- We fight for a clean environment and alternative energy sources.
- We are fighting to reform the prison system and give previously incarcerated people a chance.
- We oppose human trafficking and exploitation.

Justice. Peace. Tolerance. Prosperity. Join us. Don't sit on the sideline.

Learn more about this Meetup Group
3925 Ohio St., San Diego, CA 92105
<http://www.meetup.com/sdcommunitycoalition>

Southern California Tribal Chairmen's Association JOB POSTING (Closing Date: May 8, 2009)

Position: Legislative Researcher
Department: Executive
Reports To: Executive Director

Hourly Wage Range: \$18.00 (Min.) \$23.00 (Mid.) \$26.00 (Max.)

Summary of Duties:

Participates in planning, conducting, and analyzing research of legislative issues, including existing or proposed laws, regulations, and rulings that have a direct or indirect impact on SCTCA specifically, or the Native American communities we serve in general. Utilizes internet, telephone, and in-person contacts to gather information, data, and statistics. Manages the compilation of data, including establishing, storing, and maintaining electronic and paper files. Drafts comprehensive research reports and presents them on a regular basis to the Executive Director.

SEND RESUME TO: Human Resources
Fax: (760) 742-8610 • Email: hr@sctca.net

Hip Hop

Continued from page 10

of his work. Now his entire career is captured in the compelling photographs in this volume, along with an autobiographical narrative presenting his life, from his boyhood on the streets of Brooklyn to his role as the pre-eminent photographer of hip hop”

Arnold Lehman, Ph.D., Director, Brooklyn Museum of Art, Brooklyn, New York:

“For Ernie Paniccioli to focus his camera on his subjects as well as make successful environmental portraits offers the reader a clearer understanding of how Ernie's visibility as a photographer is respected in this community.

An impressive project, it will make a unique contribution to the complex lives of photographers, hip hop culture, fashion and performance art...”

Deborah Willis, Author, Reflections in Black: A History of Black Photographers:

“An artist with a camera, Ernie Paniccioli's photographs have not only documented but helped define hip-hop style. His understanding of where the music has been and his beliefs regarding where it should go gives his work an edge, a personality that brings something special out of his subjects.

Ernie's passion comes through in his work, and the stories recounted herein in word and images, gives us insight into

the person behind the camera as well as the subjects being photographed.”

Jim Fricke, Senior Curator, Experience Music Project, Seattle, Washington:

A couple of years ago Brother Ernie agreed to have his life told in documentary form and to allow his good friend Dion Ashman of Our Gang Productions produce a film that would stand true to what Brother Ernie stands for and embodies. And so it was that "The Other Side of Hip Hop-The Sixth Element" was born, an award winning documentary that won the Best Documentary Award at the 2007, Big Apple Film Festival at Tribeca and Official Selection in the San Diego Black Film Festival; now screening all across the nation.

I actually went to one of the screenings with my children just a couple of weeks ago here in New Jersey. I personally recommend to anyone that believes in the power of the spirit of people. It would appeal to those that feel that music, dance, and art overall can create a haven for the mind, and that expression in the form of art is exhilarating. If you have children then they need to be exposed to positive and powerful stimulus. I suggest you go and see The Other Side of Hip-Hop and meet the panel that most likely is available.

Hip-hop has become a very known and regular outlet for many Native American youth, Musicians trendsetters like Litefoot, Warparty, Savage Family,

BigTrub are benchmarks in the Native Hip-Hop Industry. Many of our young ones are using the method of being an MC to tell what is going on, on our reservations, just like in the late 70's the 80's and still today. It is through hip-hop that stories are being told, messages sent and truth is told, not always pleasant, mostly gritty and raw. It is not what one would like to hear, and boy is that not fitting for what most reservation life is?

But there is more to this, as the scales have to be balanced. And Brother Ernie explained this clearly. There is a delicate medium within his work, the industry and being Native American. It is about overcoming the odds, and not falling into any traps that at times can wait at the other side of success. It is staying true to oneself but also to be as open as the sky. “I am a simple man living in a complex world” he very often says about himself.

I felt compelled to write this piece, because it is important that the world realizes of us in just how intertwined all of us are, no matter what ethnic heritage runs through our veins, or what we surround ourselves with. Most I am sure you have no idea that it is a Native American man that is not a youngster but an elder that is considered a hip hop icon.

Who would have thought?!

There is a rather old “verse” and if you know at least a little hip-hop then you will know it and feel me on this

one; “Well if you don't know ... Now you know”

As much as Brother Ernie is engulfed in the hip-hop, world he also stands strong within his Native American communities. He speaks at universities nationally about our rights, human rights, collaborating within our local New York and Tri-State Native communities. His pride in his Cree heritage is openly shown. As he usually wears some sort of Native Pride shirt, a choker and his hair in either in a ponytail or braids.

Brother Ernie's work can be found all over. Please visit his websites following at the end, His books are an amazing testament of diversity at its best. Consider adding them into your homes collection. They can be found at www.lulu.com. Drop this elder a line. The next time (for those of us that are a little older) you hear or see your son or daughter being an MC, Rapping, Popping or Krumping (a form of dance) tell them that Brother Ernie a Cree brother and elder is hip-hop!

From the days of Rakim all the way into MosDef, Romeo and Bow Wow; Litefoot, Warparty, The Savage Family and so on, As our Indian Voices carry forth think of it this way, hip-hop being a modern version of story telling which is one of the Indigenous ways of cultural preservation and entertainment.

<http://hiphophotherside.com>
www.myspace.com/brotherernie
www.lulu.com

UPTOWN VIEW

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.

MC CORNER

Uptown View is proud to announce, MC Corner, in homage of the growing number of motorcyclists and motorcycle clubs here in Las Vegas.



Indian Voices Visit's China Town; Judge Cynthia Leung Event

The Las Vegas Taiwan Association and the Silver State Compassion Kindness Foundation put together the Judge Cynthia Leung Event April 2nd.



Attendees at the gala Silver State Compassion Kindness Foundation event.

The event was held at the Emperor's Garden lactated in China Town. Indian Voices along with Native Rollerz and Southern Paiute Tribal Chairman Phil Swain were cordially invited. Also in attendance, Dr. Joe Heck for Governor, Robert Torres from Associated Pilipino

Press Photographers and the Chair of The City of Las Vegas Art's Commission, as well as others. Judge Cynthia Leung was appointed to Judge Toy R. Gregory's seat, February 2008, (Department 1 Las Vegas Municipal Court) after his unexpected passing from a heart attack. He had a long history here in Las Vegas working beside his father, Toy R. Gregory Sr., as far back as 1958. During the event the late Toy R.

Gregory's wife stood up and spoke, "It is such an honor to be here and I wish Judge Leung the best of luck." I asked Judge Leung how it felt to have the late Judge Gregory's wife here to support her, there were no words to describe Judge

Leung's feelings, she was overwhelmed. Judge Leung says she knows she has some big shoes to fill but feels quite confident.

With strong educational credentials, 13 years of practice in a wide variety of legal settings and 9 years as a prosecutor and extensive administrative practice, Judge Leung has what it takes for Las Vegas Municipal Court Department 1. So Indian Voices asks, "What about our diverse communities, what is it that you have to offer so many already being oppressed?" As Barbara Lee Woolen (Sponsor) put it, "I want someone with integrity to run our state, it's very important that our diverse community be represented fairly, which is why I support Judge Leung so much."

Judge Leung is proud to oversee a program called WIN. Women in Need is a program to help women battle drug addiction, keep them off the streets and to provide schooling and jobs instead of incarceration. Judge Leung says one thing she respects about this town is that if you work hard it provides a multitude of opportunities. "I never imagined I would have come this far and feel so honored to be in a position where I can truly make a difference in society."

New casting information for Twilight Saga New Moon

Summit Entertainment announced that Native American/First Nation actors Chaske Spencer, Bronson Pelletier, Alex Meraz, Kiowa Gordon and Tyson Houseman have signed on to star as the members of the wolf pack in THE TWILIGHT SAGA: NEW MOON.

In the film, the wolf pack defends humans against vampires although they have a tribal history intricately entwined with Edward Cullen and his family. The wolf pack members will join Kristen Stewart, Robert Pattinson and fellow wolf pack member Taylor Lautner in the film directed by Chris Weitz which will be released domestically November 20, 2009. The wolf pack is important as it is the protection between vampire and humans. I think you will find this pack of guys will foot the bill just fine. The hopes of an actor cast in a movie such as popu-

lar as "New Moon" is that it will lead to a bigger career, with more opportunities. Lets look at each actor, see where he has been and where he might go. Chaske Spencer actually played Dracula off Broadway, a bit ironic. His name is pronounced Cash-k. It means first son in the Lakota language. A very good looking young man and a fine pick for the wolf pack. Bronson Pelletier is a Canadian born Cree and most of his experience is in Canadian TV. The could be a huge break for Bronson. Alex Meraz who is Purepeacha (tarasco) first national

Michoacan, Mexico, has a whole lot going for him. In his short time on earth he has taught at schools and community centers everything from Art to Breakdancing and mask-making. He has worked with many renowned choreographers. This part is a stepping stone to a whole new facet of his career. Kiowa Gordon, I could find little info on Kiowa. So his career will be on an upswing for sure. Courtesy of Native Rollerz. Are you a Native American with talent?

Call Native Rollerz today at 702.467.7861 or email nativerollerz2006@yahoo.com

Hair-Cutting Ceremony; Western Apache

The Spring following the PUTTING ON MOCCASINS ceremony, a child has a brief hair-cutting rite. A shaman applies cattail pollen ritually to the child's cheeks and forehead four times and then closely crops the hair while praying for the child's long life. The Apache believe that children should undergo this ceremony at least once but ideally during the successive springs.

To All F Street Supporters:

Congratulations on a successful protest march. Associated Press has picked up the story and sent it out to all video outlets. Please applaud yourself for making history and for obtaining national attention. Enjoy the two videos on our site: www.westlv.org

The next F Street meeting will be on Monday, April 27, 2009

Also, plan to attend the City of Las Vegas' meeting at Doolittle on April 30th at 6

Public Announcements

- Indian Taco Wednesday's-Moapa Travel Plaza-All day--Exit 75 I15N
- Native Dance Class-Dula Gym-6:30 pm-702.229.6307
- No Rez 1 AA Mtngs-Native American Community Services 3909 Maryland Pkwy-702.369.8642
- Stewart's Fathers Day POW WOW- June 19th-21st-Carson City, Nevada

Where can I get my copy of Indian Voices?

- Big Mama's Rib Shack - Las Vegas Indian Center - Family Motorcycle Club/all located on Bonanza Rd.
- Soul Brothers Motorcycle Club/Jackson Ave.
- Uptown Choppers/Martin Luther King
- Las Vegas - Flamingo - North Las Vegas libraries
- Paiute Smoke Shop/Main S.t
- Moapa Travel Plaza/I15N exit 75
- Native American Community Services - Starbucks-Dairy Queen-Rick's Smoke Shop/Maryland Pkwy.
- Moapa Band of Paiutes Vocational Rehabilitation-Las Vegas Tribune/Karen Ave.
- Indoor Swap Meet-Mario's Westside Market, Lake Mead Dr.
- Urban Voice Magazine-CSN Tax/Owens Ave.
- Nevada Desert Experience/Bartlett St.
- Moapa Indian Reservation

Nevada Tourism's new mobile Web site provides travel information for people 'on the go'

CARSON CITY, N. — The Nevada Commission on Tourism (NCOT) has launched a new mobile Web site geared especially for mobile phones and devices that provides instant information about where to stay and what to do in Nevada cities, Lt. Gov. Brian K. Krolicki said today.

Just click on <http://nv.mobi>, select a city, and get an overview, listings for lodging, events, things to do and weather. Cities are listed alphabetically from Austin to Winnemucca. Click on lodging and get hotels, motels, bed and breakfast inns and RV parks, with addresses and phone numbers that place a call with another click.

"Nevada is proud to be on the cutting edge of this new technology that couldn't be more convenient for the traveler," Krolicki, NCOT chair, said. "We reach out to people around the world, and what better way to put tourist information at their fingertips than with mobile sites visitors can access anywhere, anytime."

The site also provides information about NCOT and an opportunity to subscribe to a free NCOT e-newsletter and

order a Visitors Guide. The same information is available on NCOT's regular Web site, www.TravelNevada.com, but is presented on the mobile site in a format for viewing on the small screens of mobile devices.

The site <http://nv.mobi> made its debut at the CTIA (Cellular Telecommunications Industry Association) wireless convention in Las Vegas April 1 where dotMobi, the company behind the mobile Internet address created for all mobile phones, announced that NCOT was the first state tourism agency to receive a sought-after, simpler two-letter domain.

NCOT introduced its first mobile Web sites, <http://nvski.mobi> and <http://nvroads.mobi>, last October to provide travelers with mobile access to current road and ski conditions. The information comes directly from the Nevada Department of Transportation and ski resorts at Reno, Lake Tahoe, Elko and Las Vegas, which offers skiing an hour away at the Mt. Charleston area.

The dotMobi company says there are 40 million active mobile Web users in the United States alone.

The Importance of Increasing Indian Health Services

by Harry Reid, U.S. Senator Nevada
Special to Indian Voices

Each year Congress has an opportunity to improve the lives of Americans when we emphasize our priorities in the federal budget.

Nevada's tribal and other leaders regularly share their budgetary priorities with me and the President's team. Their priorities are clear: strengthen Native American communities by improving health care, public safety, and natural resource use and management.

The fundamental building block of Nevada's communities is the health of our residents. Unfortunately, there are persistent health disparities that exist in Nevada's rural and tribal areas. I worked to increase the budget authority for the Indian Health Service an additional \$200 million over the President's requested amount for Fiscal Year 2010. With this increase, the Indian Health Service's budget would increase to more than \$4 billion – more than 15 percent higher than the enacted 2009 level for the Indian Health Service.

Through speaking with Nevada's tribal leaders and health directors, I understand the importance of increasing the Indian Health Service's budget and annual appropriations. I will do all I can to fund the agency to its full authority, particularly

focusing on increasing contract health funding. Because we don't have an Indian Health Service hospital in Nevada, our tribes and eligible Native Americans rely on private health providers for health services. Tribes and Indian Health Services pay for these services with contract health funds. We need to increase the amount of contract health funds so that health care isn't rationed for our Native Americans.

I am also working to increase support for tribal law enforcement. We increased the budget authority by another \$100 million to strengthen tribal courts, detention centers and policy programs helping Nevada's tribes protect their communities. I am also working with the Senate Committee on Indian Affairs on the Tribal Law and Order Act, which supports tribal community law enforcement, to increase accountability and combat domestic violence and drug-related crimes on Nevada's reservations.

The budget represents our priorities as a nation. We fund the projects and initiatives that most help Americans. The needs of Nevada's tribal communities are a priority of mine and by increasing our commitment to work with these nations on improving health care, law enforcement and educational opportunities, we can build a stronger, healthier Nevada.

Did you know? March was Math Madness Month for Math Geeks

by John T. Stephens III M.A.

For those of you who are not math majors or fans of numerical equations, the third month of the year boasts of two holidays celebrating the very school subject that is the cornerstone of computer geekdom. Tuesday, 03/03/09 was the math holiday known as Square Root Day because the square root of nine is three and is a day which occurs only nine times in each century. Saturday, March 14, (03/14) was Pi Day in the United States.

Pi is usually written as 3.14 and in U.S. shorthand for the writing of dates is month/day/year (03/14/09) which makes 3/14 excluding the year (09) Pi. The formulae for calculating the area of a circle is Pi times the radius squared or $Area = \pi \times R^2$ where the radius is the distance between the center of the circle to its outer edge or half the diameter which is designated by a straight line dividing the circle. The ratio of the circumference to the radius of all circles is approximately 22/7 which is a fraction that converts to the decimal 3.14 with the decimal places continuing on forever never reaching zero. Albert Einstein, famed mathematician and author of $E=mc^2$, was born March 14, 1879.

N.Y. Congressman Plans Bill Banning Internet-Usage Billing

Rep. Massa Drafting Legislation to Outlaw Caps on Broadband Services

by Todd Spangle, Multichannel News

A New York Congressman wants to make it illegal for Internet service providers to charge subscribers based on the amount of data they download.

Rep. Eric Massa (D-N.Y.) last Friday officially announced that he is drafting legislation that would "prohibit unfair tiered price structures from Internet providers."

"I am taking a leadership position on this issue because of all the phone calls, e-mails and faxes I've received from my district and all over the country," Massa said in a statement April 10.

The proposed law is in response to Time Warner Cable's plans to expand its trials of metered broadband service to four markets, including in the Rochester, N.Y., area which includes Massa's district. The freshman congressman last week blasted the MSO's plans as "monopolistic" and alleged it would force consumers to pay more.

The Massa Broadband Internet Fairness Act will also "address the importance of helping broadband providers create jobs and increase their

bandwidth while increasing competition in areas currently served by only one provider," according to the congressman's announcement.

Time Warner Cable representatives did not comment on Massa's proposed legislation.

Last Thursday, Time Warner Cable announced revisions to its consumption-based billing trials, including a cap on overage charges at \$75 per month and a \$15-per-month tier for subscribers who use less than 1 Gigabyte per month.

Massa noted, however, that for a consumer to receive the same unlimited Internet service currently offered for about \$40 per month would cost \$150 per month under the new plan.

Time Warner Cable has "yet to explain how increased Internet usage increases their costs," Massa said, adding "while I favor a business's right to maximize their profit potential, I believe safeguards must be put in place when a business has a monopoly on a specific region."

The MSO has defended the plan as being a fairer approach than simply raising rates for all subscribers to offset costs, and the company has likened the new pricing model to those used by wireless-phone carriers.

"Rather than raising prices on all customers or limiting usage, we think the fairest approach is to move to a tiered model in which users pay more if they use more," Landel Hobbs, Time Warner Cable chief operating officer, said in a statement April 9.

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Ute Indian tribe defends lawsuit filed against tribe by former chief tribal judge

Non-renewal of Former Tribal Judge's Contract Prompts Unlawful Lawsuit against the Ute Indian Tribe

Uintah and Ouray Reservation — The Ute Indian Tribe Business Committee of the Uintah and Ouray Reservation of Northern Utah (the "Ute Tribe" or "Tribe") announced today that it will defend the Tribe against a lawsuit filed by the Former Chief Judge of the Ute Indian Court, Larry Kee Yazzie. According to Mr. Yazzie's filing against the Tribe, the Tribe had entered into a permanent contract appointing Mr. Yazzie as the Chief Judge of the Ute Indian Tribal Court for an indefinite period of time, and the Tribe had allegedly breached this contract by not providing Mr. Yazzie with proper notice prior to termination. Mr. Yazzie, a non-Tribal member, had in fact been appointed to the bench to serve a one year term, contrary to his claim to a permanent contract. Yazzie had approached the Business Committee at the end of that year seeking a renewal of his contract. Neither the Tribe's Constitution nor Judicial Ordinance provides for permanent appointments to the Tribe's Judiciary, and there is no past precedent where the Tribe has allowed for the permanent appointment of its Chief Judge or even for Associate Judges that serve as members of the Tribe's Judiciary.

The Tribal Business Committee deter-

mined that it would not renew Mr. Yazzie's contract because the Tribe had recently discovered in a background check that the former Judge had been convicted of conduct unbecoming a member of the judiciary. "Mr. Yazzie had numerous convictions for DUI and other related offenses." Irene C. Cuch, Vice Chairperson of the Tribal Business Committee, said. "In addition, he had misinformed the Business Committee that he was a fully licensed member in good standing of the state bar, when in fact this was not the case." An examination of the Utah State Bar Membership indicates that at the time that Mr. Yazzie was hired as Chief Judge and during his entire term of appointment to the bench, he had been on inactive status with the bar and was not fully licensed. Mr. Yazzie's contract clearly stated that "[t]he Judge stipulates that he is a fully licensed member in good standing of a state bar."

Mr. Yazzie also claims that he was terminated from his employment as Chief Judge of the Tribe for political reasons. In response to such allegations, the Tribe's Vice Chairperson commented: "the Tribe is appalled that Mr. Yazzie would allege he was released for his sentencing practices while on the bench for cases that had involved individuals related to the Business Committee." "The Business Committee has never interfered with the role and function of the Ute Indian Tribal

Court, and Mr. Yazzie had always been given full support and autonomy to operate the Tribe's Court system as he saw fit." "The Ute Tribal Business Committee had determined that Mr. Yazzie's criminal background and misrepresentations to the Tribe did not meet the ethical standards of conduct expected of an officer of the Court, especially for someone serving as Chief Judge of the Tribe's Judiciary, and his contract was not renewed for a second year."

The Tribe had also entered into a stipulated severance agreement with the former Judge in which the Tribe had paid Mr. Yazzie for work that would have occurred within a sixty-day period of time, with

payment made in lieu of the sixty day notice that would have otherwise applied had his contract remained in effect. The Tribe also provided Mr. Yazzie with a letter of reference to help him secure future employment. "Mr. Yazzie accepted the letter and payments that the Tribe had given to him in good faith, and then came back to the Tribe demanding more money, which we refused to provide" the Vice Chairperson said. "We believe Mr. Yazzie was treated fairly and justly by the Tribe in this matter...honorable people do not bring a lawsuit against the Tribe only so that they can get more money after they have accepted a settlement that was offered in good faith."

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