

Back to School in Escondido and Pala

By Gary Taylor, Reporting for SCTCA TANF

Southern California Tribal Chairmen's Association (SCTCA) held its annual Back to School Orientation in mid-July for children and parents from Pala to Escondido.

About 100 children and family members attended the festive event at the San Marcos Community Center. Students attended educational workshops and watched presentations that included traditional Native American dance and drumming. Students also received awards for academic excellence and attendance for the previous school year. At the end of the event, all students received new backpacks filled with school supplies for the upcoming year.

"The Back to School Orientation was a collaborative effort between Escondido TANF and Pala TANE," said Karin Giron, Education Coordinator at Escondido TANF. "This year's theme was 'Catching Your Dreams'".

Giron said students completed a 'Dream Catcher' page that assisted them in identifying their Web of Support, Strengths,



Challenges and Dreams. "During the orientation, the Dream Catcher forms were displayed and several children came onstage to share their dreams," she noted.

Before any of the workshops began, the children and family members watched traditional Native American dance performed by Sonya Rodriguez and her son and daughter. At one point, Rodriguez had everyone in the audience get up and join them in a Round Dance that moved across the length of the main hall in the Community Center.

She also told the students and parents to "understand what it means to be Native American, what our culture is, what are traditions are."

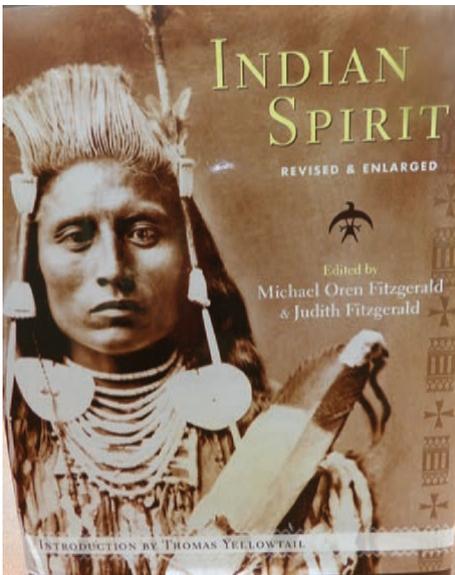
"We should all stand proud as Native Americans," Rodriguez said. "Children – learn what our traditions are. Parents – teach your children what our traditions are. We should all know."

Rodriguez also showed several girls some beginning dance steps at an outside stage following her performance. While that was going on, younger students attended a Zumba dance class and teenagers participated in a workshop sponsored by the

(More inside.)

Indian Spirit: Reflections of Native American Belief

Contributed by Colleen Turner, SCTCA TANF



Indian Spirit is a book co-authored by Michael and Judith Fitzgerald, who spent years in the 1970s researching Native American spirituality.

The result was a 143-page book of collected wisdom and thoughts from Native Americans, including those who are well-known – *Sitting Bull*, *Crazy Horse* – and lesser-known – *Black Bear* and *Crazy Thunder*.

The book was revised and enlarged in 2006, and its publication included dozens of historical black and white photographs of Native Americans, usually alongside their quotes.

The following passages are excerpts from *Indian Spirit*, in the direct words of the Indian leaders who spoke them:

We saw the Great Spirit's work in almost everything: sun, moon, trees, wind, and mountains. Sometimes we approached Him through these things. Was that so bad? I think we have a true belief in the Supreme Being, a stronger faith than that of most whites who have called us pagans.... Indians living close to nature and nature's ruler are not living in darkness.

Did you know that trees talk? Well they do. They talk to each other, and they will talk

(Continued on page 2)



The Southern California Tribal Chairmen's Association (SCTCA) publishes the Tribal Temporary Assistance for Needy Families (TANF) Newsletter throughout the year at:

SCTCA / TANF
P.O. Box 1470
Valley Center, CA 92082
E-mail: newsletter@sctca.net
(760) 746-0901 Ext. 100

The newsletter is designed and printed by Tribal Print Source, a division of SCTCA.

The purpose of the Tribal TANF Newsletter is to provide the tribal communities with information about services provided by the TANF Programs and other important issues concerning our rural/urban communities and families.

SCTCA provides services to San Diego and Santa Barbara Counties and the following reservations:

Barona	Cahuilla
Campo	Ewilaapaayp
Inaja/Cosmit	Jamul
La Jolla	La Posta
Los Coyotes	Manzanita
Mesa Grande	Pala
Pauma	Rincon
San Pasqual	Santa Ysabel
Santa Ynez	Sycuan
Viejas	

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Contributor: Colleen Turner
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“We saw the Great Spirit’s work in almost everything: sun, moon, trees, wind, and mountains. Sometimes we approached Him through these things. Was that so bad?”

(Continued from page 1)

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Indian Health Council of Rincon.

Giron said the the Back to School Orientation promotes education excellence to encourage Native American youth to meet their educational goals. During the event, students who received a 3.50 GPA or above and/or a 100% attendance rate were recognized with awards and certificates of achievement.

“We are proud of all the students who are working towards their personal educational goals,” Giron said. “Back to School promotes educational excellence by preparing both parents and youth for the upcoming school year by reinforcing TANF requirements for school-age children.”

The four-hour presentation also provided mandatory TANF requirements for school-aged children regarding attendance, grades and report cards.

(Continued from page 1)

Indian Spirit: Reflections of Native American Belief

to you if you listen. Trouble is, white people don’t listen. They never learned to listen to the Indians so I don’t suppose they’ll listen to other voices in nature. But I have learned a lot from trees: sometimes about the weather, sometimes about animals, sometimes about the Great Spirit.

Walking Buffalo
Stoney

We did not ask you white men to come here. The Great Spirit gave us this country as a home... The Great Spirit gave us plenty of land to live on, and buffalo, deer, antelope, and other game.... The Great Spirit did not make us to work, but to live by hunting. You white men can work if you want to. We do not interfere with you, and again you say, why do you not become civilized? We do not want your civilization! We would live as our fathers did, and their fathers before them.

Crazy Horse
Oglala Lakota

Whenever, in the course of the daily hunt, the red hunter comes upon a scene that is strikingly beautiful and sublime – a black thunder-cloud with the rainbow’s glowing arch above the mountain: a white waterfall in the heart of a green gorge; a vast prairie tinged with the blood-red of sunset – he pauses for an instant in the attitude of worship. He sees no need for setting apart one day in seven as a holy day, since to him all days are God’s.

Ohiyesa
Wahpeton Dakota



All the Indians pray to God for life, and try to find out a good road, and do nothing wrong in this life. This is what we want, and to pray to God. But you did not believe us. You should say nothing against our religion, for we say nothing against yours. You pray to God. So do all of us Indians, as well as the Whites. We both pray to only one God, who made us all.

Sitting Bull
Hunkpapa Sioux

A Summer of Powwows and Gatherings



Tribes throughout San Diego County will be holding Powwows, Gatherings and Peon Tournaments in August and September.

The annual events are a celebration of Native American culture and will be held at the following reservations this summer:

AUGUST

- August 1: Santa Ysabel Iipay Nation Gathering and Peon Tournament
- August 7,8: Barona Cultural Gathering (Peon on Saturday)
- August 14,15: Rincon Fiesta (Peon on Saturday)
- August 22: Viejas Gathering and Peon Tournament
- August 28, 29, 30: Honoring Traditions Powwow at Pala

SEPTEMBER

- September 4,5,6: Barona Powwow (No Peon)
- September 11,12,13: Sycuan Powwow (Kids Peon on Friday and Adults Peon on Saturday)

For additional information, contact tribes by phone or look for updates on tribal web sites. 🖱️

– Contributed by Karin Giron,
Education Coordinator, SCTCA TANF

— DISPATCHES —

San Marcos

And so there was Sandra Toscano, who I had not seen in at least seven years, sitting at a table outside the San Marcos Community Center.

It was July, it was hot and humid, but that didn't matter much to Toscano. She motioned me over, gave me a hug – and immediately told me what she was doing.

“Have you heard of FASD?” she asked, pointing to several brochures and handouts describing Fetal Alcohol Spectrum Disorder. Yes, I said, I've heard about it – but not that much, I admitted.

Toscano – who works with the Rincon Indian Health Council – knows quite a bit about FASD. And she believes all of us – especially Native Americans – should know more.

“We're trying to increase awareness about FASD,” she said, handing me a brochure. “It's such an important health issue – but not a lot of people know about it or all the complications and problems.”

The brochures were blunt:

“Alcohol causes more damage to the developing fetus than any other substance, including marijuana, heroin and cocaine.” – Institute of Medicine, cited by Teresa Kellerman

“FASD affects an estimated 40,000 infants each year – more than Spina Bifida, Down Syndrome and Muscular Dystrophy combined.” – National Organization on Fetal Alcohol Syndrome

“Alcohol use during pregnancy is the leading known cause of developmental disability and birth defects in the United States.” – National Organization on Fetal Alcohol Syndrome

And this:

“Damage can occur in various regions of the brain. The areas that might be affected depend on which areas are developing at the time the alcohol is consumed. Since the brain and the central nervous system are developing throughout the entire pregnancy, the baby's brain is always vulnerable to damage from alcohol exposure.” – FASD and the Brain: How Prenatal Alcohol Exposure Affects Development of the Brain

Another of Toscano's handouts – which included startling images of an infant's brain damaged by FASD - cited medical studies that concluded because the developing baby's organs are not fully formed, it can't process alcohol like the mother. As a result, alcohol stops the baby from getting the oxygen and nutrients it needs for its brain to develop normally.

And there's this complication, once again cited by the National Organization on Fetal Alcohol Syndrome: *Any woman is at risk of having a child with an FASD if she drinks alcohol during pregnancy. Alcohol can harm an embryo or fetus at any time, even before a woman knows she is pregnant.*

So what to do? Toscano's IHC handout for Native Americans included three reminders:

Pregnancy is a Sacred Time.

If you are pregnant, don't drink alcohol!

If you know someone who is pregnant, help them not to drink alcohol.

And finally, there was this:

“FASD is 100% preventable. If a woman does not drink alcohol during pregnancy, she will not have a baby with FASD.”

So there is some knowledge about FASD, courtesy of Sandra Toscano, who was reminding us about some things we owe our children - even before they're born.



- GARY TAYLOR

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GREAT JOB!

Escondido TANF Academic Awards:

Alabama Evans, Lipay Nation of Santa Ysabel
Kindergarten: 4.0 GPA

Adalyn Nelson, La Jolla Band of Luiseño Indians
1st Grade: 3.63 GPA

Shelby Ruise, La Jolla Band of Luiseño Indians
2nd Grade: 3.75 GPA

Carmenita Bonanno, 4th Grade: 3.52 GPA

Faith Lopez, San Pasqual Band of Mission Indians
4th Grade: 3.68 GPA

Kendra Nelson, La Jolla Band of Luiseño Indians
11th Grade: 3.5 GPA



Pala TANF Academic Awards:

Diamond Nava, 1st grade, Pala,
3.6 GPA/100% attendance

Alicia Montoya, Kindergarten, Pala,
3.84 GPA/100% attendance

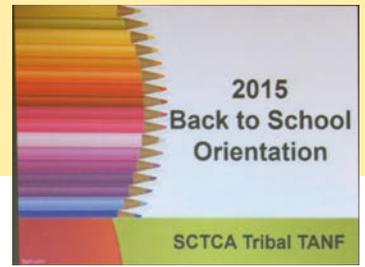
Jayleen Walsh, 2nd grade, La Jolla, 3.7 GPA

Victoria Lira, 5th grade, Pala,
3.71 GPA/100% attendance

Nashay Alto, 2nd grade, Mesa Grande, 3.79 GPA

Celina Morales, 3rd grade, San Pasqual, 3.79 GPA

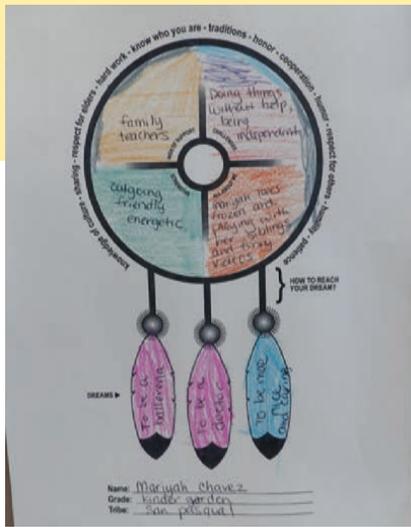
Escondido and Pala



AWESOME!



Back to School in Escondido and Pala





Native American Students Attend SIHC Conference



Dozens of Native American students attended the Southern Indian Health Youth Conference in mid-July at San Diego State University.

The students – mostly teens in high school – traveled from throughout the county to the day-long event. The conference featured speakers and presentations on Native American culture, traditions, history and education. Students also were given tours of the college campus.

The conference – sponsored by the Southern Indian Health Council (SIHC) in cooperation with San Diego State – was designed to give Native American youth an opportunity to learn about tribal culture in a college setting.

– GARY TAYLOR



A Few More Kicks – And Then On To College

Tyler Vargas is on his way this fall to Western New Mexico University - but not before one last high school game.

Tyler, 17, played at the 25th Annual Alex Spanos All-Star Classic – North vs. South – in early July at Mesa College in San Diego. The 2015 Ramona High graduate handled all the kicking duties during the game, including kickoffs, punts, field goals and extra points.

The evening game – sponsored by San Diego Chargers owner Alex Spanos – drew a crowd of about 2,000 and featured football All-Stars from throughout San Diego County high schools. Several of the players – including Tyler – will be competing at the collegiate level in the fall. During the game, Tyler drilled two long punts in the first half for the North. He also boomed several kicks through the uprights from 40 and 50 yards during second-half warm-ups.

Tyler – a member of the Lipay Nation - has lived his entire life on the Santa Ysabel Indian Reservation with his parents John and Rebecca and younger sister Britney. He received an athletic scholarship earlier this year from Western New Mexico to play football at the NCAA Division II school. Tyler is scheduled to leave Friday Aug. 7 to travel to the university. His first team practice is scheduled the very next day.

The Western New Mexico University Mustangs will travel to the University of San Diego on Sept. 12 for their second game of the 2015 season. Tyler will be a redshirt freshman this fall and is expected to be the team's kicker next year.

- GARY TAYLOR



Class Calendars

AUGUST 2015

Rincon

Two Directions, Inc.



SCTCA Two Directions • 38 Claudina Lane, Rincon, CA • Jan. 1st – June 30th

Phone: (760) 749-1196 • Fax: (760) 749-9152 • Email: 2dir@millenia.com

Space #8 – Classroom 1 Classes:

MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY
DMV Preparation 10:45AM–12:45PM Laura Rizza	Life Skills 8:30AM–10:30AM Beth Moffat GROUP 1		Life Skills 8:30AM–10:30AM Beth Moffat GROUP 2	Tribal Culture 8:30AM–10:30AM Bonnie Salgado
	Culture Class 10:45AM–12:45PM Bonnie Salgado		Tribal Culture 10:45AM–12:45PM Bonnie Salgado	Indep. Tribal Culture 10:45AM–12:45PM
	Independent Culture 1PM–4PM		Indep. Tribal Culture 1PM–4PM	

Space #8 – Classroom 2 Classes:

MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY
Study Hall	Study Hall	Study Hall	Study Hall	MATH TUTORIAL 9:45AM–12:45PM Monika
Diploma / GED 10:45AM–1:45PM Monika	Study Hall	Diploma / GED 10:45AM–1:45PM Monika	Study Hall	
Study Hall	Study Hall	Study Hall	Study Hall	

Space #39 – Computer Lab Classes:

MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY
MICROSOFT Word 8:30AM–10:30AM Wanda	MICROSOFT Word 8:30AM–10:30AM Wanda	Intro to PC's 8:30AM–10:30AM Charles	MICROSOFT Word 8:30AM–10:30AM Wanda	Keyboarding 8:30AM–10:30AM Wanda
MICROSOFT Excel 10:45AM–12:45PM Wanda	MICROSOFT Excel 10:45AM–12:45PM Wanda	Intro to PC's 10:45AM–12:45PM Charles	MICROSOFT Excel 10:45AM–12:45PM Wanda	Keyboarding 10:45AM–12:45PM Wanda
Computers Lab 1PM–3PM Wanda 3PM–4PM Open Lab	Computers Lab 1PM–3PM Wanda 3PM–4PM Open Lab	Computers Lab 1PM–4PM OPEN LAB	Computers Lab 1PM–3PM Wanda 3PM–4PM Open Lab	Computer Class closed @ 12:45PM on Fridays

Two Directions Computer Labs are open at all times during business hours. Make sure to sign in and out to receive work participation hours.

Escondido

Escondido – SCTCA TANF • 201 E. Grand Ave., Suite 2D, Escondido, CA 92025
Office Hours Monday - Friday, 8:30am–4:00pm • Phone: (760) 737-0113 • Fax: (760) 737-0581

MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY
ABE/GED 9AM–11AM Spanish 9AM–11AM Phillip Roy/ Health Care 9AM–11AM Keyboarding 9AM–12PM Reading Horizons 9AM–10AM & 12PM–2PM Applied Skill Practice (GED) 11:30AM–1:30PM Open Lab/Job Search /Applied Skills 8:30AM–4PM (VARIES BY CLIENT)	Life Skills/ What Color Is My Parachute 9AM–11AM Life Skills/ Practical Life Skills 11:30AM–1:30PM Math Refresher 9AM–11AM Open Lab/ Job Search/ Applied Skills 8:30AM–4PM (VARIES BY CLIENT)	ABE/GED 9AM–11AM Spanish 9AM–11AM Math Refresher 9AM–11AM Keyboarding 8:30AM–12PM Reading Horizons 9AM–10AM Computer Skills (GED Prep) 11:30AM–1:30PM Open Lab/Job Search 8:30AM–4PM (VARIES BY CLIENT)	Phillip Roy/ Welding 9AM–1:30PM Reading Horizons 9AM–11AM 11AM–1PM Computer Skills (General) 11AM–2PM Open Lab/Job Search /Applied Skills 8:30AM–4PM (VARIES BY CLIENT)	Spanish 9AM–11AM Phillip Roy/ Clerical Office 9AM–11AM & 11:30AM–1:30PM Keyboarding 9AM–12PM Reading Horizons 11AM–1PM Open Lab/Job Search 8:30AM–4PM (VARIES BY CLIENT)

To sign up, contact: Kayleigh Omish-Guachena, Training Director at (760) 737-0113 ext.10, kguachena@bgassociatesinc.com

El Cajon

SCAIR Learning Center • 239 E. Main Street, El Cajon, CA 92020
Office Hours Monday - Friday, 9am–4pm • Phone: (619) 328-0676

MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY
Academic Tutoring (All Subjects) 9AM–3PM/BALLARD CENTER Parenting Training 9AM–4PM Job Readiness 9AM–4PM Career Development 9AM–4PM Individual Training Plan 9AM–4PM Counseling Services 9AM–4PM Microsoft Computer Certification Training 10AM–NOON & NOON–2PM Pathways Training 8/3, 8/10, 8/17, 8/24, 8/31: NOON–1PM	Job Readiness 9AM–4PM Career Development 9AM–4PM Individual Training Plan 9AM–4PM Counseling Services 9AM–4PM Microsoft Computer Certification Training 10AM–NOON & NOON–2PM Academic Tutoring (All Subjects) 10:30AM–5:30PM Academic Tutoring (All Subjects) 11AM–3PM/BALLARD CENTER Ready to Work Training 8/18: 12:30PM–1:30PM Sacred Pipe TUPE Program 8/4, 8/11, 8/18, 8/25: 4PM–6PM Sacred Pipe TUPE Presentation 8/25: 10AM–11AM	Academic Tutoring (All Subjects) 9AM–3PM/BALLARD CENTER Job Readiness 9AM–4PM Career Development 9AM–4PM Individual Training Plan 9AM–4PM Counseling Services 9AM–4PM Microsoft Computer Certification Training 10AM–NOON & NOON–2PM Women's Circle 8/5, 8/12: NOON–2PM Ready to Work Training 8/19: 12:30PM–1:30PM	Academic Tutoring (All Subjects) 9AM–4PM Parenting Training 9AM–4PM Job Readiness 9AM–4PM Career Development 9AM–4PM Individual Training Plan 9AM–4PM Counseling Services 9AM–4PM Microsoft Computer Certification Training 10AM–NOON & NOON–2PM Sacred Pipe TUPE Program (SDAIHYC) 8/6, 8/20: 4PM–6PM	Job Readiness 9AM–4PM Career Development 9AM–4PM Individual Training Plan 9AM–4PM Counseling Services 9AM–4PM Structured Computer Lab 9AM–4PM Academic Tutoring (All Subjects) 9AM–3PM

Santa Ynez

Santa Ynez – SCTCA TANF • 185 W. Hwy 246, Suite 102, Buellton, CA 93427
 Office Hours Monday - Friday, 8am–4:30pm • Phone: (805) 688-1756 • Fax: (805) 688-6827

MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY
Monday Office Hours: 8AM - 4:30PM	Career Building 9AM	Life Skills 9AM	Parenting 9AM	Friday Office Hours: 8AM - 4:30PM
	Open Lab/ Job Search 12:30PM-2PM	Open Lab/ Job Search 12:30PM-2PM	Open Lab/ Job Search 12:30PM-2PM	
	Basic Computers Skills 2PM	Career Networking 2PM	Basic Computers Skills 2PM	

Manzanita

Manzanita SCTCA Tribal Training Program • 39 A Crestwood, Boulevard, CA
 Phone: (619) 766-3236

MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY
Culture/ Entrepreneurial Class 9AM-12PM	GED Prep 10AM-1PM	World of Work 9AM-12PM	GED Prep 10AM-1PM	Tutorial 9AM-12PM
Native Arts & Crafts 12:30PM-3:30PM	Computers 10AM-1PM	GED Prep 12:30PM-3:30PM	Computers 10AM-1PM	
	Parenting Class 12:30PM-3:30PM			

COMMODITY Distribution Schedule

August 2015



DATE	LOCATION	TIME
August 6, Thursday	Barona Viejas	9 am – 10 am 11 am – 12 noon
August 10, Monday	Los Coyotes La Jolla	9 am – 10 am 11 am – 12 noon
August 12, Wednesday	Mesa Grande Santa Ysabel/Inaja	9 am – 10:30 am 11 am – 12:30 pm
August 13, Thursday	San Pasqual	9 am – 12 noon
August 17, Monday	Manzanita/La Posta Old Campo	9:45 am – 11 am 11:30 am – 12:30 pm
August 19, Wednesday	Rincon	9 am – 12 noon
August 20, Thursday	Pauma Pechanga	9 am – 10 am 11 am – 12 noon
August 24, Monday	Campo	10 am – 12:30 pm
August 26, Wednesday	Pala	9 am – 11:30 pm



Coming in September:

- What did students from the Native Youth Success Program (NYSP) do this summer?
- Where did they go and what did they learn?
- How many students were involved?

In our next issue, read about – and see the photographs – of NYSP’s summer adventures.