

TANF Newsletter

Tribal Temporary Assistance for Needy Families

December 2021 - Volume 24 Issue 12



By Josh Murphy, HISET Diploma Instructor, Two Directions, Inc.

"It's tough, but you just have to push through. You can't run away from the hard stuff. Even when the hard stuff gets tougher."

This well-earned wisdom emanates from a young woman who has courageously faced innumerable personal, family and societal challenges – not to mention the havoc wreaked by COVID-19 (Coronavirus) -overcoming each hurdle one-by-one to earn her high school diploma.

The culmination of this four-year journey for Jocelynn Chaloux took place at the Escondido High School District Boardroom on June 24, 2021. It was a night on which the school board responded to a racist event directed at Orange Glen students by affirming its support for equity and the safety and well-being of its student population.

But the multiple news outlets covering the event missed out on one of the brightest spots of the evening: a group of young adults donned in shimmering blue gowns and lined up neatly outside the same building that had housed the heated debate just moments earlier. These proud and happy students comprised the graduating class of 2020 and 2021 from Escondido Adult School.

After wading through hours of online homework and Zoom meetings while dealing with all the chaos involving pandemic-era life, their time of recognition was finally upon them. The magical musical notes signaling the start of their commencement ceremonial march began. The boardroom swelled with an outpouring of pride and love for these stellar students from parents, friends, loved ones and school staff, who were gathered to capacity.

Among the 40 graduates wearing square hats with cascading gold tassels was Jocelynn.



Jocelynn Chaloux and her son Qeweewish Photo by Jerri Mazzetti

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At Pala and Escondido TANF, Halloween Brings out the Children

By Brenda Bequette, Education Coordinator, SCTCA TANF Pala and Karin Giron, Education Coordinator, SCTCA TANF Escondido



Children celebrating Halloween at SCTCA TANF Pala

It was two days before Halloween, and the children were out 'Trunk-or-Treating' at Southern California Tribal Chairmen's Association (SCTCA) TANF Pala.

Yes – 'Trunk or Treat.' Several Pala TANF staffers decorated the trunks of their vehicles with scary Halloween themes. But the trunks were also filled with candy and treats – and that's what the children wanted.

Pala TANF had a total of 20 children come through with their families. They did great in staying in their groups as they walked around in their costumes. There were 12 or 13 places where our TANF families could find a trunk and/or departments that handed out treats.

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

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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:

Agua Caliente La Posta San Pasqual Barona Los Coyotes Santa Rosa Cahuilla Manzanita Santa Ysabel Campo Mesa Grande Santa Ynez Ewiiaapaayp Pala Soboba Inaja/Cosmit Pauma Svcuan Jamul Rincon Torres Martinez La Jolla San Manuel Viejas

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Publisher: SCTCA Editor: Gary P. Taylor

SCTCA Newsletter Contributor: Karin Giron

submissions added to our newsletter.

Contributor: Colleen Turner, Editor and Contributor, 1998-2018

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A Determined Mother Completes Four-Year Journey

Her journey to this seat in the second row of graduates had begun at age 19, when she entered Josh Murphy's classroom on the Two Directions campus during her second trimester of pregnancy. Her goal was to complete the final five classes that remained on her transcript since leaving high school. She'd hoped to get it done in one semester before she gave birth to a beautiful baby girl- her first.

While she did finish one class before becoming a mom, there were four more that remained. A lot of time and life changes transpired before Jocelynn returned to that Two Directions classroom. It was now 2019 and she was a 21-year-old single mother of two, but still determined to "get this thing hammered out," as she often said.

By Summer 2020, Jocelynn completed two English classes. The end was in sight, but fresh challenges kept the finish line a moving target.

In Fall 2020, Jocelynn returned to school with renewed determination and locked into her final two history classes. Due to COVID-19 protocols, she and her Two Directions/Escondido Adult School teacher conducted twice weekly Zoom checkins in addition to the class and homework hours she needed to stay on pace.

Family Support and TANF Assistance Provide Time and Space to Excel

Omnipresent throughout Jocelynn's academic pursuits was the loyal support of her family- especially her grandma, who would often watch her children while Jocelynn put in long hours writing essays and learning about Federalism. In addition to her grandmother's inspiration and support over these demanding four years, financial assistance from Southern California Tribal Chairmen's Association (SCTCA) TANF enabled her to concentrate on her studies.

She relates, "I love my kids, but needed time and space so that I could better myself and become a better mom. TANF really helped me with this."

"Jocelynn Chaloux epitomizes the kind of student that Two Directions, Inc. is so pleased to support," says Two Direction Business Manager Claudina Schroeder. "It is our mission, our privilege and our pleasure to provide classes to TANF participants in North County Indian Country. The classes will increase their employability and life skills to prepare them for self-sufficiency and employment. Therein lies the key to improving the quality of life for individuals and our community."

Jocelynn reports, "On my journey to completing my diploma, my main goal was to be able to see It through and feel proud of myself for doing so. I was determined to finish; it made me feel accomplished and so happy to level up. I'm moving on to bigger and better things, and this is just the beginning for me."

Indeed it is. Jocelynn has already enrolled in classes for Palomar College in San Marcos. All of us associated with this extraordinary young woman who has persevered amid a sea of challenges concur as we say, "You go, Jocelynn!

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At Pala and Escondido TANF, Halloween Brings out the Children

At Escondido TANF, there was an October Family Engagement Activity. It was self-directed activity that families completed in the comfort of their home. Each family was provided an activity kit that included two arts and crafts activities that not only require full family engagement, but promote wellness through art. Families were also provided additional resources about overall wellness (physical, spiritual, mental and emotional), parenting during the pandemic, and self-care strategies for the whole family).



A TANF family dressed up for Halloween

National Indian Council on Aging: Social Isolation an issue for Tribal elders

Contributed by the National Indian Council on Aging launches #ConnectedIndigenousElders campaign

Looking to address the issue of social isolation and loneliness among American Indian and Alaska Native elders, the National Indian Council on Aging (NICOA) launched a national campaign in September to educate Native families about the health concern and offer resources.

In addition to elders, the Connected Indigenous Elders campaign targets caregivers, youth and tribal leaders to engage and remind them that they all play an important role in our elders' mental wellbeing and physical health. One study showed that prolonged social isolation was as harmful as smoking 15 cigarettes a day and is more harmful than obesity.

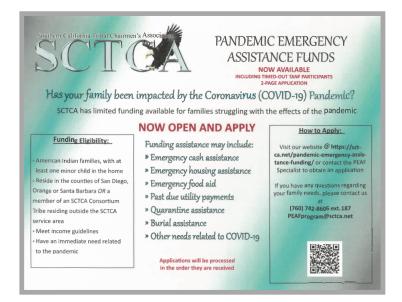
About one-fourth of adults 65 and older are considered to be socially isolated. Older adults are at increased risk for loneliness and social isolation because they are more likely to face factors such as living alone, the loss of family or friends, chronic illness, and hearing loss, according to the Centers for Disease Control (CDC).

"We know that elders who are socially connected live longer, have less health problems and can have some protection from mental health issues such as dementia and Alzheimer's," NICOA Executive Director Larry Curley said. "Our elders are our culture and language keepers — they are the foundation of our communities."

Audio and video public service announcements about the issue, which intensified in many tribal nations during the height of COVID-19, will play on tribal radio stations across the country, including on Indian Health Service's waiting room cable service, GoodHealthTV.

The three-month campaign - funded by a grant from the CDC Foundation - points to resources such as how to detect depression and tips for elders on how to stay socially connected on connectedindigenouselders.org. The website also contains information for caregivers, who are often family members juggling work, children and multiple responsibilities.

#ConnectedIndigenousElders also persuades youth, who are encouraged to enter an online contest on how they engage with their elders, to learn from and help take care of tribal knowledge keepers. Tribal leaders as decision-makers for elder programs will also be engaged.



DISPATCHES ——

Montana



Earl Old Person

In Memoriam Earl Old Person, 1929-2021

Earl Old Person, who was the longest-serving elected tribal official in the United States, died in early October. He was 92.

Old Person — a former Blackfeet Chief - died at the Blackfeet Community Hospital in Montana after a prolonged battle with cancer. "A chapter of our history has come to a close," the Blackfeet tribe said in a statement following his death. In his life, the tribal elder had met every U.S. President since Dwight Eisenhower. He also met the British Royal Family and the Shah of Iran, the tribe noted.

Old Person was elected to his first term as a tribal council member in 1954, at the age of 25, and had been chief of the Blackfeet in 1978, according to the *Great Falls Tribune*. He was born on April 13, 1929, to a large family led by parents Juniper and Milly (Bear Medicine) Old Person. He grew up learning traditional Blackfeet stories, song and dance and spoke Blackfoot as his first language.

His nephew Terry Tatsey told *Montana Public Radio* he remembered his uncle "as a dedicated family man that enjoyed the ranching lifestyle and had a deep love of horse culture." Tatsey said Old Person lived by three Blackfeet words he heard every morning growing up in the 1930s.

"They would all say in their language 'Iltahmiskinatoonii niipowaht iikakiima', and what that means is good morning, get up, try hard," his nephew said. Old Person also told the *Tribune* last year, "Don't be afraid of one another, our young people need to know that. Help one another out. Uplift each other and if you can protect someone, do it. We have spiritual ways. There's someone looking down on us."

Old Person became the chief of the tribe in 1978, but also had a storied career as a political leader for the tribe. He served on the Blackfeet Tribal Business Council for decades, starting in the 1950s. He became the president of the National Congress of American Indians from 1969 to 1971, and worked on national pieces of legislation like the American Indian Religious Freedom Act of 1978, which ensured access to traditional sites and the freedom to worship through ceremonies, the *Tribune* noted.

"In addition to encouraging unity and tribal culture, Old Person was a leading advocate for access to higher education. Though he never attended college himself, Old Person holds an honorary doctorate of human letters from the University of Montana, which, in 1991, endowed a \$5,000 scholarship in his name for Blackfeet students attending the university in Missoula," the paper reported.

Montana Senator Jon Tester declared that "Chief Old Person was a fierce advocate for the Blackfeet Nation and all of Indian Country for his entire life, and the world is a better place because he was in it. He will never be replaced, and we are holding his loved ones and the Blackfeet people in our hearts."

At Annual Banquet, AIR Honors Students, Mentors – and a Longtime Tribal Leader

By Gary P. Taylor, SCTCA TANF

At the 28th annual American Indian Recruitment (AIR) Awards Banquet in early November, Jayden Chaloux had a simple but heartfelt message for her family.

"First and foremost, I would like to thank my family for constantly pushing me to become a better version of myself and endlessly loving me," she said.

Chaloux (San Pasqual Band of Mission Indians) was one of three Native American students honored by AIR at its banquet in the Bordeaux Room in the South Tower of Harrah's Resort and Casino in Rincon. The three-hour evening event- which included Birdsingers from the Viejas Band of Kumeyaay Indians - drew more than 150 students, family members, tribal leaders and educators.

Chaloux – along with Makayla Hernandez (Pechanga Band of Luiseno Indians) and Ihpaa Martinez (also from San Pasqual) received AIR's Student Leadership Award.

A Community Leadership Award was presented to longtime tribal leader Kenny Meza, former Chairman of the Jamul Indian Village. Meza- who was recognized for his decades of work on behalf of the Jamul tribe and for serving the larger Native American community in San Diego County – received one of the biggest ovations of the night as he accepted his award.

A second Community Leadership Award was given to Linda Ruis (lipay Nation of Santa Ysabel) in recognition of her work in social services and on behalf of tribal families. AIR's Mentor Leadership Award was given to Jennifer Rodriguez (Tule River Tribe) for mentoring AIR students.

AIR was founded by Dwight Lomayesva and his wife Devon in 1993. The program "aimed to change Indian education by increasing high school graduation rates, promote higher education and create a network of Native people who will work towards improving our tribal nations," according to the Lomayesvas.

Since its inception, Dwight Lomayesva noted that "over 2,500 Native youth have gone through our program and they have come from all over Southern California. Students have gone on to be admitted to Stanford, Brown, the University of Pennsylvania, University of Arizona, Humboldt State, UCLA, San Diego State, University of San Diego, Brandies University, Georgetown, California State University San Marcos and many others.

"A greater measurement of success is seeing our students participating in cultural events and choosing to give back to their community as nurses, Tribal Police, or within their tribal administration. Today, you can see AIR students participating in Tribal Government, as Tribal Council members and as Tribal Chairman."

In her remarks, Chaloux not only thanked her family but also expressed her gratitude to AIR.

"The AIR program has provided me with more knowledge on the Native American well-being and tribal governance," she told the audience. "I plan to utilize this knowledge in not only my future career, but also to give back to my community by providing better opportunities for our tribal citizens and government.



Jayden Chaloux, with her AIR Student Leadership Award



Kenny Meza, AIR Community Leadership Award recipient



Ihpaa Martinez, AIR Student Leadership Award winner



AIR Banquet, Bordeaux Room at Harrah's in Rincon

(Continued from page 4)

"I'd like to give a huge thank you to Deana Willis and my Ed Center mentors because they have challenged me academically and have always been available whether it be an assignment or (when) I needed to vent about life.

"...Coming from the San Pasqual reservation, where there are constant obstacles and trauma, it hasn't always been easy but it has made me want to work harder to achieve my goals. Gaining an education at UC Irvine and majoring in Criminology with a minor in Native American studies is my optimum aspiration so that I can return to my tribe and correct injustices."

Hernandez and Martinez also delivered short speeches at the banquet, both declaring their thanks to AIR, their families and other teachers and mentors who helped them succeed in their academic achievements over the years.

Pradeep Khosla, University of California San Diego Chancellor, also spoke at the event. He said the university has been working with AIR for years to bring Native American students to the campus.

"We have a great relationship with AIR," Khosla declared. He noted Native American students are a priority at the university.

"If you are a tribal member and you get into UCSD, you are virtually assured of a loan-free education," he emphasized. The Chancellor said more than 60 such offers had been made to Native American students in the previous academic year.



Eshash Morales, Miss UCSD Powwow Princess





SCTCA Tribal TANF: Seeking to Assist And Support Native American Families

Editor's note: The following article about Southern California Tribal Chairmen's Association (SCTCA) Tribal TANF was published in the 2019 TANF Participant Calendar. It is reprinted here in its entirety.

Tribal TANF (Temporary Assistance for Needy Families) is a grant-funded program that provides a variety of temporary benefits and services to low-income federally-recognized tribes, American Indian and Alaska Native families, with an emphasis on employment.

Tribal TANF temporarily provides families with monthly cash assistance to help take care of their basic living needs, while simultaneously working with the adults in the home to gain or maintain employment that will sustain their family long-term.

Our staff works with each family to develop a personalized plan together to assist them in succeeding in their employment field. The plan identifies how job-ready each adult on the case is and what he or she needs to obtain or maintain employment or advance within their employment field. The plan also identifies any challenges the family may have that may prevent them from succeeding and develops goals and steps to overcome those challenges.

As for job readiness, an adult is job-ready if he or she has the work experience or training to enter into a job. Folks may want to complete additional training or obtain a degree before entering into employment, but the family's immediate needs are addressed first. Therefore, we put all our energy into supporting the family where it is currently at

Our staff works very close with each family to assist in every way possible to encourage the family in a direction of self-sufficiency. This accomplishment not only strengthens the family but also strengthens the community.

"The Southern California
Tribal Chairmen's
Association (SCTCA) offers
the Tribal TANF program to
all Native American families
residing in the counties of
San Diego, Santa Barbara
and Orange."





Empowering Families... Strengthening Communities...

Tribal Temporary Assistance for Needy Families (TANF) is a federal and state funded program that provides cash assistance and supportive services to Native American families who are in need.

The Southern California Tribal Chairmen's Association (SCTCA) offers the **Tribal TANF** program to all Native American families residing in the counties of San Diego, Santa Barbara and Orange.

Services provided include:

- Monthly Cash Aid Assistance
- Training Opportunities
- Job Preparation / Job Search
- Assistance with overcoming employment challenges
- Child Care Assistance
- Transportation Assistance for training activities
- Academic Incentives
- Family Engagement and Empowerment Activities
- Adult & Family Counseling Services

In order to be eligible for the **Tribal TANF** program, you must meet the following criteria:

- One member of the household must be able to provide proof of membership or lineal descendancy from a federally recognized tribe or the California Judgment Rolls
- Have a minor dependent in your home or be a single Native American woman in your third trimester of pregnancy
- Reside within San Diego County, Santa Barbara County or Orange County
- Meet the income qualifications *May differ for non-parent caretaker
- · Submit required verifications

www.sctca.net

Native American Christmas: A Celebration of Family - and Giving

By Gary P. Taylor, SCTCA TANF

"In many communities and homes, Christian customs are interwoven with Native culture as a means of expressing Christmas in a uniquely Native way. The importance of giving is a cultural tradition among most tribes. Even in times of famine and destitution, Native people have made sure their families, the old, and orphans were taken care of. This mindset prevails into the present. Gift-giving is appropriate whenever a tribal social or ceremonial gathering takes place."

- Smithsonian Magazine, in a 2020 article on Native American Christmas celebrations

Someone once said, "Christmas is for children – and on Christmas Day, we are all children."

There is, of course, so much about Christmas that appeals to virtually everyone.

There is the celebration itself: of family, exemplified by the birth of Jesus, his parents Joseph and Mary watching over him in a manger.

There are the days and nights of preparation for the day – a day not only of celebration but of giving.

There are shopping trips to buy gifts, friends arriving for dinners; family members – some not seen for months or even years – coming home.

There is the anticipation of that man in the red suit with a long white beard, his impending arrival with presents and gifts and other unexpected things.

But there is also the arrival of things that are expected: the wide eyes of children on Christmas morning; the loving smiles of tribal elders at seeing their children and grandchildren; the laughter and tears at shared memories of times long, long ago.

In that sense, then, it is true: On Christmas, at least for one day, we are all children.

On this and the following page are pictures from past Christmas celebrations, both on and off the reservation. Some were tribal events; others were moments with participants from Southern California Tribal Chairmen's Association (SCTCA) TANF. In each picture, there is a part of Christmas, both seen and unseen.











The Comanches Face a Brutal Enemy: Captain Jack and the Texas Rangers

By Gary P. Taylor, SCTCA TANF

"The Rangers were a rough bunch. They drank hard and liked killing and fist-fighting and knife-fighting and executing people they deemed criminals or enemies. As time went by, and so many of them were killed, creating a sort of natural selection in their ranks, they got even rougher, more brutal, and more aggressive."

- S.C. Gwynne, in his book Empire of the Summer Moon

The Comanches were the most fierce – and feared – tribe in the Southwestern territories in the mid-19th century.

It had been that way for generations, long before the arrival of the white man.

But when settlers began to move in on Comanche territory in the 1840s, they were stunned by the ferocity of the attacks against them. Comanches — masters of warfare on horseback, armed with arrows and lances — routed many scouting parties and destroyed countless settlements.

Their tactics – attacking without fear in the early dawn or even at night, or in well-planned bloody ambushes leaving scores dead – terrified settlers.

In 1840, a young man was assigned head of the San Antonio station of the Texas Rangers. He would become one of the Comanches' most brutal enemies. His name was Captain John Coffee Hays.

As Gwynne noted in *Empire of the Summer Moon*, describing the Rangers and Hays:

...And so it was remarkable that this group of violent, often illiterate, and unmanageable border ruffians should give its full and unswerving allegiance to a quiet, slender 23-year-old with a smooth, boyish face and sad eyes and a high-pitched voice who looked younger than his years. His name was John Coffee Hays. He was called Jack."

His method of attack, Gwynne wrote, was simple.

"Hays preferred surprise – killing them, just as the Comanches preferred to do, in their villages while they slept. He had learned the fundamental lesson of Plains warfare: It was either victory or death. The Indians gave no quarter, and the Rangers rarely did, either. There was no expectation of honorable surrender."

A writer who knew Hays said of the man: "The little Tennessean would seem to be another man when the cry 'Indians' was raised. He would mount a horse and assume the appearance of a different being. With him it was charge, and war to the knife, and the Indians were whipped every time they attacked his party."

At first, the Comanches regarded Hays' fearlessness as a curiosity; when they met in skirmishes and fights, they were impressed with his fighting spirit but did not fear him or his Rangers.

Within a few years, that would change.

In Hays, the Comanches were confronting an enemy they had never seen before. As Gwynne wrote:

"Hays's men would sleep fully clothed and fully armed, ready to fight at a minute's notice. They crossed rivers even in freezing weather, swimming by the side of their horses. None of the behavior had any precedent in American military history. No cavalry anywhere could bridle and saddle a horse in less time than the Rangers."



Captain John "Jack" Coffee Hays

And by June of 1844, Hays and his Rangers had something else the Comanches had never seen before: Samuel Colt's newlypatented, five-chambered revolving pistol.

"The Indians now faced the prospect of being blasted from horseback by guns that never emptied; the whites could now fight entirely mounted against their foes with weapons whose frequency of firing nearly matched that of the Comanche (arrows)," wrote Gwynne.

In June of 1844, 75 Comanche warriors engaged Hays and 15 Rangers in the hill country west of what is now Austin, Texas. It marked the first time the Rangers had taken their Colt pistols into battle with the Comanches.

The result was decisive.

In a fight that lasted several hours (now known as the Battle of Walker's Creek) Comanche attacks, counter-attacks and fighting from defensive positions were countered by the overwhelming firepower of the new firearm. More than 20 Comanches were killed; many more were wounded. The Rangers suffered one death and several wounded.

The Comanches retreated in the face of their losses, grieving after the death of their chief from a gunshot wound inflicted by a Ranger's Colt.

Of the battle, Gwynne concluded: "...Walker's Creek was a minor military engagement that became one of the defining moments in the history of Texas and of the American West. Indeed, it can be argued that before Jack Hays arrived in San Antonio, Americans in the West went about largely on foot and carried Kentucky rifles. By the time he left in 1849, anybody going West was mounted and carrying a holstered six-shooter. Walker's Creek was the beginning of that change."

Hays - scourge of the Comanches - died at his wife's estate in Oakland, California in 1883. He was 66 years old.

A Veteran of Three Wars, Kiowa Warrior Was Most Decorated Native American

By Gary P. Taylor, SCTCA TANF



First Sgt. Pascal Cleatus Poolaw Sr., holding flag at Kiowa Honoring Ceremony

On the Eleventh of November, the United States celebrated Veteran's Day.

Across the country, Americans honored the men and women who have served in the Armed Forces of the United States.

Among those honored were the fallen – including First Sgt. Pascal Cleatus Poolaw Sr., a Kiowa who died in combat in Vietnam in 1967.

Poolaw holds the distinction of being recognized as the most decorated Native American soldier, with 42 medals and citations.

As noted on a U.S. Army website – American Indians in the U.S. Army: "Poolaw was awarded four Silver Stars and five Bronze Stars. He also earned three Purple Hearts, one for each of the wars in which he fought- World War II, Korea, and Vietnam. The fourth Silver Star was awarded posthumously after Poolaw died during action in Vietnam on Nov. 7, 1967."

On the day of his death, Poolaw's unit-Company C, 1st Battalion, 26th Infantry- was part of a search and destroy mission near the village of Loc Ninh. According to *American Indians in the U.S. Army*:

"The unit was attacked by numerically superior Viet Cong force. Under a hail of fire, Poolaw raced to the lead squad, exposed all the way, and deployed the squad there to lay down a base of fire... This action saved countless lives, but Poolaw wasn't finished.

"He continued moving among the troops, making sure they were positioned properly pulling casualties back to the lines despite being wounded himself. He was mortally wounded as he pulled another casualty back to the lines."

Poolaw had served almost four months in Vietnam before the fatal combat operation. In a letter he wrote just before his death, Poolaw said his job was more important than his life.

American Indians in the U.S. Army noted his wife Irene, in her eulogy at Poolaw's funeral at the Fort Sill Post Cemetery, echoed those sentiments. "He has followed the trail of the great chiefs," she said. "His people hold him in honor and highest esteem. He has given his life for the people and the country he loved so much."

Poolaw's courage in combat was part of a remarkable family history stretching to World War II. In that war, the younger Poolaw had served with his two brothers and his father.

In Vietnam, Poolaw also served with his son Pascal Cleatus Poolaw Jr., and another son, Lindy Poolaw. Before Poolaw arrived in Vietnam in 1967, his son Pascal — already in country in combat - had been seriously wounded. He had been hit by a mine and his leg was shredded with metal fragments. The wounds were so serious his right leg was amputated below the knee.

Poolaw's son Lindy was deployed to Vietnam just one day before his father arrived on the West Coast, preparing for his own departure. Poolaw had volunteered to fight in Vietnam in the hope of serving in place of Lindy (U.S. Army regulations prohibited two members of the same family from serving in combat at the same time without their consent).

They both went to Vietnam. Lindy survived the war. His father did not.

Again, according to American Indians in the U.S. Army: "The example of Poolaw's bravery and devotion lives on at Fort Sill, where he served for a year before going to Vietnam. Poolaw Hall at Sheridan Road was named after him and contains an exhibit dedicated to the American Indian Soldier."

In a tribute to Poolaw, *The Veteran's Site* proclaimed:

"Pascal Cleatus Poolaw Sr. was a warrior in the fullest sense of that word. He was a warrior for his family, his people, and his country. Indeed, his heroism was defined by his love of family, of the traditions of his people, and the United States of America. To have carried this love out in service through three of the 20th century's most bloody conflicts is a feat of heroism unlike any other. He was a humble man who dedicated his entire life to causes much larger than himself."

The Kiowa warrior – born in Anadarko, Oklahoma – was 47 when he died.

Kumeyaay Culture, Tradition Honored at Expansion of Old Town San Diego State Historic Park

By Gary P. Taylor, SCTCA TANF



Tribal leaders at dedication at Old Town in San Diego

On a sun-drenched late October afternoon, more than 200 tribal members, state and local political leaders and guests attended the Grand Opening of a new Native American Interpretive gathering area at Old Town in San Diego.

The new area- called *lipay* $^{\sim}$ *Tipai Kumeyaay Mut Niihepok, Land of the First People* – was officially dedicated in an hour-long ceremony Oct. 26. Tribal leaders from Jamul, Santa Ysabel, Barona, Mesa Grande, Sycuan, Campo, Viejas, Manzanita and San Pasqual were in attendance at the State Park ceremony.

At the beginning of the event, Birdsingers sang traditional songs before a crowd that had gathered in the early afternoon in what is now part of Old Town San Diego State Historic Park.

"We stand upon thousands of generations of Kumeyaay footsteps, in honor and respect to that history and the ancient values they passed down to us. We celebrate the dedication of this tranquil, welcoming space where our Ancestors lived, loved, died and wrote our history in the land," said Chairman of the Kumeyaay Diegueño Land Conservancy Johnny Eagle-Spirit Elliott.

In a statement before the ceremony, California Senate President pro Tempore Toni Atkins said, "This beautiful new park is an opportunity to rightfully honor our past and celebrate the Kumeyaay who first called this region along the San Diego River home. I am incredibly proud of this effort and appreciate the hard work of San Diego's 18 tribes, in partnership with the California State Parks and the Legislature, who dedicated decades to making this vision a reality. Once again, history has shown us a path forward to a more inclusive future."

According to the California Department of Parks and Recreation, the new Native American Old Town gathering area includes several features, including:

- Interpretive elements, such as a Native American interpretive public gathering area for events and ceremonies, trilingual displays (Kumeyaay, Spanish and English) and art features.
- Lighting and seating.
- Landscaping, including native trees, ground cover and a dry riverbed.
- Enhanced pedestrian circulation system with stabilized accessible pathways.
- Shaded structures.

On its website, Parks and Recreation noted, "One of the exhibits illustrates the constellation of the stars of the Kumeyaay. For the Kumeyaay people, the constellations represent stories of creation, life lessons and harmony in the celestial cycles. The circular mosaic located near the center shows the summer sky. The sand painting was chosen since the artwork was painted on the ground. Sand paintings traditionally include symbols for geographic features as a type of mapping. Four circles on the outer ring represent key features that frame the location of San Diego. Together, the symbols and colors of the mosaic represent the time and place that traditional Kumeyaay lifeways changed forever when Spanish colonists arrived in San Diego."

Parks and Recreation confirmed it worked with "the Kumeyaay Nation, who established the Old Town Working Group with representatives from the Kumeyaay Diegueño Land Conservancy, Kumeyaay Heritage Preservation Committee, and Kumeyaay Cultural Repatriation Committee, and tribal members from the Barona, Campo, Jamul, Manzanita, Mesa Grande, San Pasqual, Sycuan and Viejas bands of the Kumeyaay Nation."

The Old Town Working Group was also instrumental in providing an opportunity for the Kumeyaay Nation to interpret their culture and their connections to the San Diego River and Old Town San Diego, added Parks and Recreation.

Dedication of *Iipay' Tipai Kumeyaay Mut Niihepok* comes three years after California State Parks began demolition of the former Caltrans District 11 Office Complex built in 1952. The Complex encompassed an area of approximately 2.5 acres. The new Native American gathering area was part of a \$5.9 million project just completed on the old Caltrans site.



Class Calendars







TWO DIRECTIONS COMPUTER LABS ARE OPEN AT ALL TIMES DURING BUSINESS HOURS.

MAKE SURE TO SIGN IN AND OUT TO RECEIVE WORK PARTICIPATION HOURS.

35008 Pala Temecula Road PMB 4 Pala, CA 92059 Phone (760) 749-1196 Fax(760) 749-9152 Email: staff@twodirections.com

OFFICE CLOSURES:

Friday, December 24, 2021

and

Monday, December 27, 2021

for Christmas

DECEMBER 2021 CALENDAR

BG ASSOCIATES INC. 201 E. GRAND AVE., SUITE 2D ESCONDIDO, CA 92025

PH: (760) 737-0113 FX: (760) 737-0581 **BGASSOCIATESINC.COM** MONDAY-FRIDAY 8:30AM-4:00PM

BG ASSOCIATES INC. PROVIDES INDIVIDUALIZED LEARNING TO **ACCOMMODATE THE** SCHEDULE & NEEDS OF PARTICIPANTS.

CLASSES & TIMES ARE SUBJECT TO CHANGE DUE TO COVID 19 RESTRICTIONS

FOR CLASS INFORMATION, CONTACT KAYLEIGH at KGUACHENA@BGASSOCIATESINC.COM.

MONDAY TUESDAY WEDNESDAY **THURSDAY FRIDAY** IN PERSON CLASSES IN PERSON CLASSES **IN PERSON CLASSES IN PERSON CLASSES** IN PERSON CLASSES *OPEN LAB / JOB SEARCH / APPLIED SKILLS APPLIED SKILLS APPLIED SKILLS APPLIED SKILLS APPLIED SKILLS 8:30AM-4PM (VARIES BY CLIENT) VIRTUAL CLASSES VIRTUAL CLASSES VIRTUAL CLASSES VIRTUAL CLASSES VIRTUAL CLASSES **IN PERSON AND VIRTUAL** IN PERSON AND VIRTUAL **IN PERSON AND VIRTUAL** IN PERSON AND VIRTUAL IN PERSON AND VIRTUAL LIFE SKILLS: SPANISH (via Zoom, Google Meet, or other form of virtual face to face meeting) WHAT COLOR IS MY PARACHUTE COMPUTER SKILLS (GENERAL) 9AM-11AM (available online/app & 9AM-11AM (available online/app & 9AM-11AM (available online/app & 9AM-12PM (via Zoom, Google Meet, can be tracked by instructor) can be tracked by instructor) or other form of virtual face to face PHILLIP ROY: Are You Ready to 9-11AM PRACTICAL LIFE SKILLS PHILLIP ROY: Are You Ready to PHILLIP ROY: HEALTH CARE Own Your Own Business? 9AM-11AM (lessons can be emailed) Own Your Own Business? 9AM-11AM (lessons can be emailed) 9AM-11AM (lessons can be emailed) 11:30AM-1:30PM PHILLIP ROY: HEALTH CARE KEYBOARDING KEYBOARDING SPANISH KEYBOARDING 9AM-12PM (available online & can be tracked by instructor) 9AM-12PM (available online & can 9AM-12PM (available online & can be tracked by instructor) 9AM-11AM (ailable online/app & MATH/ENGLISH REFRESHER be tracked by instructor) can be tracked by instructor) 12PM-2PM (via Zoom, Google Meet, or other form of virtual face to face ABE/GED ABE/GED ABE/GED SELE-SUFFICIENCY: 9AM-11AM (via Zoom, Google Meet, 9AM-11AM (via Zoom, Google 9AM-11AM (via Zoom, Google Meet, or other form of virtual face to FINANCIAL FREEDOM or other form of virtual face to face 9AM-11AM (via Zoom, Google Meet, or other form of virtual face to face Meet, or other form of virtual face to meeting) face meeting) *TUTORING ASSISTANCE face meeting) (BY APPOINTMENT ONLY via Zoom, Google Meet, or other form of virtual APPLIED SKILL PRACTICE (GED) meeting) COMPUTER SKILLS (GED) APPLIED SKILL PRACTICE (GED) 11:30AM-1:30PM (via Zoom, Google Meet, or other form of virtual 11:30AM-1:30PM (via Zoom, Google Meet, or other form of virtual face to face meeting) 11:30AM-1:30PM (via Zoom KEYBOARDING face to face meeting) Google Meet, or other form of virtual face to face meeting) face to face meeting) 9AM-12PM (available online & can be *TUTORING ASSISTANCE *TUTORING ASSISTANCE *TUTORING ASSISTANCE (<u>BY APPOINTMENT ONLY</u> via Zoom, Google Meet, or other form of virtual face to face meeting) *TUTORING ASSISTANCE (BY APPOINTMENT ONLY via Zoom, Google Meet, or other form of virtual (BY APPOINTMENT ONLY via (BY APPOINTMENT ONLY via Zoom, Google Meet, or other form of virtual Google Meet, or other form of virtual face to face meeting) face to face meeting)

DECEMBER 2021

SCAIR Weekly Calendar Serving the Native American **Community Since 1997**



SCAIR Inc 239 E. Main St. | El Cajon, CA 92020 Monday-Friday | 8:00am-4:30pm 888.21.SCAIR | 619.328.0676 www.SCAIRInc.org

MONDAY

face to face meeting)

8:00am-4:30pm In-Person or Virtual Classes Available

Career Training Services Computer Training Services Academic Tutorial Services **Cultural Education Emergency Supportive Services** Life Skills Training Youth Services

Appointment via Tele-Medicine Only

Counseling Services

THURSDAY

8:00am-4:30pm In-Person or Virtual Classes Available

Career Training Services Computer Training Services Academic Tutorial Services Cultural Education **Emergency Supportive Services** Life Skills Training Youth Services

Appointment via Tele-Medicine Only

Counseling Services

TUESDAY

8:00am-4:30pm or Virtual Classes Available

Career Training Services Computer Training Services Academic Tutorial Services Cultural Education **Emergency Supportive Services** Life Skills Training Youth Services

Appointment via Tele-Medicine Only

Counseling Services

FRIDAY

8:00am-4:30pm In-Person or Virtual Classes Available

Career Training Services Computer Training Services Academic Tutorial Services Cultural Education **Emergency Supportive Services** Life Skills Training Youth Services

Appointment via Tele-Medicine Only

Counseling Services

12/24 | SCAIR Closed For Christmas

12/31 | SCAIR Closed New Year's Eve

WEDNESDAY

8:00am-4:30pm In-Person or Virtual Classes Available

Career Training Services Computer Training Services Academic Tutorial Services Cultural Education **Emergency Supportive Services** Life Skills Training Youth Services

Appointment via Tele-Medicine Only

Counseling Services

Please visit www.SCAIRInc.org for more information about SCAIR's 8 Programs:

> Native NetWORKS Program Tribal TANF Program

American Indian Education Centers (AIEC) Program

Sacred Pipe Tobacco-Use Prevention Education (TUPE) Program

Howka Community Service Block Grant (CSBG) Program

Emergency Food & Shelter Program

DECEMBER 2021

Santa Ynez

Santa Ynez – SCTCA TANF • 185 W. Highway 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
Office Hours: 8AM - 4:30PM	Office Hours: 8ам - 4:30рм	Office Hours: 8ам - 4:30рм	Office Hours: 8ам - 4:30рм	Office Hours: 8ам - 4:30рм
	Career Development 10am - 1pm*	Parenting 1pm - 3pm*	Career Development 10am - 1pm*	
JOB SEARCH**	Job Search**	Job Search**	Job Search**	Job Search**

^{*} By Appointment Only

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 9 _{АМ} –12 _{РМ}
G/ =	Computers	GED Prep	Computers	
Native Arts & Crafts 12:30pm-3:30pm	10ам–1рм	12:30рм-3:30рм	10ам–1рм	
	Parenting Class			
	12:30рм-3:30рм			

Commodity Distribution Schedule December 2021



DATE	LOCATION	TIME
DECEMBER 2, THURSDAY	CAMPO	10 AM – 12 PM
DECEMBER 6, MONDAY	SAN PASQUAL	8 AM – 12 PM
DECEMBER 7, TUESDAY	LOS COYOTES LA JOLLA	9 AM – 10 AM 11 AM – 12 PM
DECEMBER 9, THURSDAY	RINCON	8 AM – 12 PM
DECEMBER 13, MONDAY	PECHANGA PAUMA	9 AM – 10 AM 10:30 AM –11:30 AM
DECEMBER 14, TUESDAY	PALA	9 AM – 11:30 AM
DECEMBER 16, THURSDAY	MANZANITA/LA POSTA OLD CAMPO	9:45 AM – 11 AM 11:30 AM -12:30 PM
DECEMBER 20, MONDAY	VIEJAS BARONA	9 AM – 10 AM 11 AM – 12 PM
DECEMBER 21, TUESDAY	MESA GRANDE SANTA YSABEL	9 AM – 10 AM 11 AM – 12 PM

^{**} Must be Pre-Approved



Coming in January:

- SCTCA TANF Newsletter Best Pictures of the Year
- Employment Prospects in 2022
- Remembering the Native American Termination Policy