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(760)873-3584  
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### Bishop Tribal Court Opens By Joyce Alvey

**A**pril 21, 2009, was an historical date for the Bishop Paiute Tribe. The Bishop Paiute Tribal Court opened; Judge Bill Kockenmeister heard two civil cases. Initially, the Bishop Paiute Tribal Court will be hearing civil cases that involve land disputes, property disputes, rental disputes and evictions, and temporary restraining orders. At this present time, court will be held once a month, on Tuesdays. If needed, court dates will be increased to two days a month. Court staff was prepared and ready for the first court date. They had just returned from a week long training session, "Full Court" developed by Justice Systems, Inc., in Albuquerque, NM, on the court's case management system. The Full Court system is sophisticated case management software that is being used in all levels of jurisdiction in twenty-three states.



Judge Bill Kockenmeister, Joyce Alvey and Michael Allen  
Photo by Staff

This first court date was attended by Tribal members, and others, who were interested in seeing how the new Tribal Court would function. There was positive feedback from those attending regarding the professionalism of the court staff. The court staff was very nervous and excited

about this first court session and hopes to help tribal members in feeling comfortable and confident in using the court.

Court staff is made up of Judge Bill Kockenmeister; Joyce Alvey, Court Clerk; and

Michael Allen, Temporary Bailiff & Process Server. If you have any questions regarding the court process, please contact Joyce Alvey at 873-3584, Ext. 261 or e-mail her at: [joyce.alvey@bishoppaiute.org](mailto:joyce.alvey@bishoppaiute.org).

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Teri Cawelti  
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04/21/2009

### Modular Foundations By Sophi Beym

**A**ccording to a study by the United States Geological Survey (USGS), in the Owens Valley, the average earthquake in the last 100 years has been a magnitude 6.1. And according to the Bishop Paiute Housing Survey of 2007, 35% of the homes are modular, manufactured, or mobile.

This raises an important fact – homes installed after the year 2000 are installed to State of California and Inyo County Seismic standards. The rest are not. Without real foundations, mobile homes are vulnerable to wind and seismic forces, ground settling and other conditions. Even without earthquakes, manufactured housing had long been infamous for cracking and tilting, as well as for floors that separate, windows that jam and other problems that mysteriously appear over time.

In 2000, President Clinton signed the Manufactured Improvement Act of 2000. This amounted to a new Housing and Urban Development (HUD) code that mandated tougher standards for foundations.

In order to address this potential problem, the Bishop Paiute Tribe Emergency Management Program will be submitting a project for grant funding to FEMA through the Pre-Disaster Mitigation Project program. This will enable the Bishop Paiute Tribe to contract with companies like On The Level Contractors to inspect, retrofit and certify each modular, manufactured, or mobile home to California seismic codes. On The Level contractors have worked with the Chumash Tribe of Santa Yanez, Agua Caliente Band of Cahuilla Indians and Cahuilla Tribes of Coachella Valley.

So, what's the first step? Inspection. Located on the back of the home is a small (1-1/2" x 3-1/2") tag that identifies your home. This registration tag is similar to the tag on your vehicle – it is the home's birth certificate and can be used to reference the home after it has been inspected and retrofit.

Second, the homes that are found to have non-seismic foundations can be retrofit to meet 2000 State standards.

Third step – each home that is seismically retrofit will be issued a certificate of compliance and considered mitigated against potentially harmful damage after a seismic event.

Pre-Disaster Mitigation funding from FEMA can provide safe, seismically sound housing for up to 1/3 of the residents on the Bishop Paiute Reservation.

### Construction Permits

Prior to commencing any construction project that is valued over five thousand dollars (Project cost > \$5,000.00) or for those projects where digging/disturbing the ground will occur, that are located within the exterior boundaries of the Bishop Paiute Reservation, certain agencies must be notified and a construction permit must be issued by the Bishop Paiute Tribe. Contact the Tribal Office to obtain the permit form.

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# Bishop Paiute Water & Sewer Department By Lee Cox

**T**his is a reminder that watering hours are in effect as follows: **5:00 am to 10:00 am and 5:00 pm to 10:00 pm.**

Those persons found in non-compliance with the mandated schedule will be subject to the following actions taken by the Bishop Paiute Tribal Council:

- ◆ First Violation—Written Warning
- ◆ Second Violation—\$25 fine
- ◆ Third Violation—\$50 fine
- ◆ Fourth Violation—Your water will be shut off.

The Water and Sewer staff will be monitoring these hours and requests that water users help monitor each other, especially in the evening. If a user is seen in non-compliance, please call our office at **873-6638**. Your call will remain anonymous; simply tell us the person, day, and time. We will do our best to verify the complaint. If we are not in the office or it's the weekend, please leave a message on the answering machine with the pertinent information.

### ILLEGAL HOOK-UP INVESTIGATION

If you see Water and Sewer staff in your yard in the upcoming months, do not be alarmed. We are only trying to verify the number of legal/illegal hook-ups on the reservation. If you have questions about this please call our office at **873- 6638**.



# 2009 Career Expo—Focus on the Future By Lori Lopez

**T**he 2009 Career Expo was a success. There were over 80 participants in the workshop and approximately 70 people came to the Job Fair. This year's event was sponsored by several community organizations both on and off the reservation. It was one of the largest collaborative events in recent history.

Employment Services; and Kris Hohag, M.Ed. from University of Washington; finished the day. The topics covered on the first day ranged from choosing a career to which path to take and capped off by Mr. Hohag's motivational speech of "Refining our passion and focus to create the future". On day two, the participants were able to choose from different workshops that were all taught by local business members. The participants learned how to fill out job applications and write a resume, how to clean up their act and expunge their records, what resources are in the community to help them succeed, as well as dressing for success and enhancing their interviewing skills.

The Career Expo helped prepare many people for the Job Fair at the end of the week at Cerro Coso Community College. While there were 20 vendors at the Job Fair and few jobs to offer, the attendance was decent and the participants got to practice their skills that they learned.

The overall event had great turnout and the effort of the sponsors and committee members show that the Career Expo was needed and a success. This event helped many of our community members and provided them with skills to help them get jobs, choose careers, and increase motivation to be excellent while focusing on the future.

## Tribal Council Members' Contact Numbers/Email Addresses

Name	Cell Phone	Email Address
Monty Bengochia	Chairman 760-937-2054	monty.bengochia@bishoppaiute.org
William Vega	Vice Chairman 760-937-1081	william.vega@bishoppaiute.org
Jasmine Andreas	Secretary 760-937-4553	jasmine.andreas@bishoppaiute.org
Donald Watterson	Member 760-937-3605	donald.watterson@bishoppaiute.org
Tucheh Stone	Member 760-937-6400	tucheh@yahoo.com



# BISHOP PAIUTE TRIBE ENVIRONMENTAL MANAGEMENT OFFICE



### EARTHDAY CLEAN-UP

Over 60 enthusiastic community members rolled up their sleeves and got their hands dirty to help celebrate Earth Day with the annual clean-up event on Sunday, April 19 at the Elders' Building. Community volunteers participated in the clean-up of reservation roadways, prepared garden beds at the Elders' garden and learned about soil structure and nutrients. The Tribe's Water Quality Program and Education Center lead activities for kids. After the work was done, the volunteers and staff of all ages enjoyed a barbeque prepared by the Elders' Program while listening to live music performed by Jack Williams. The event was funded by contributions from the Bishop Paiute Tribe, Paiute Palace Casino, Owens Valley Indian Water Commission, and the US EPA.

The Landfill Voucher program was a success this year. Vouchers were issued to reservation residents to encourage them to clean up their assignments by waiving all landfill fees at the Bishop Sunland Landfill on Saturday, April 18 and Sunday, April 19. During this time, residents removed approximately 1,600 lbs. of Automobile Tires; 2,100 lbs. of Construction and Demolition Debris; 5,000 lbs. of Furniture; 400 lbs. of CRT Appliances; 160 lbs. of Batteries; and 600 lbs. of Metal (Source: County of Inyo Department of Integrated Waste Management). Good job everyone!



Photos This Page Compliments of Brian Adkins



## Tribal Calendar—June & July 2009

The dates are subject to change. Please check with the Tribal office or the Tribe's website [www.bishoppaiutetribe.com](http://www.bishoppaiutetribe.com) for the most up-to-date information.

JUNE			
1	Community Development Department Board Meeting	13	Tatswano
2	Enrollment Committee Meeting	15	Community Development Department Board Meeting
2	TEPA Board Meeting	16	Enrollment Committee Meeting
4	Last Day of School	17	Education End-of-Year Trip
8	Education Summer Food Program Begins	19	Head Start Graduation
8	Gaming Commission Meeting	19	Elder's Father's Day Lunch
9	Primary Election	22	Education Summer Program Begins
10	Bishop Paiute Development Corporation Mtg	22	Gaming Commission Meeting
11	Education Workshop	25	Tribal Council Meeting
11	Tribal Council Meeting		

JULY			
1	TERO Meeting	14	Assignment Committee Meeting
3	Independence Day Holiday – Offices Closed	14	General Election
6	Community Development Department Board Meeting	20	Community Development Department Board Meeting
7	Enrollment Committee Meeting	23	Education Workshop
7	TEPA Board Meeting	23	Tribal Council Meeting
8	Bishop Paiute Development Corporation Mtg	24	Education Summer Program Ends
9	Tribal Council Meeting	27	Gaming Commission Meeting
13	Gaming Commission Meeting		

## Home Street Middle School—3rd Quarter Honor Roll

**Congratulations to the following students who earned a 3.4 GPA or higher during the 3rd Quarter. Keep up the great work!**

**6th Grade:** Cierra Rossi, Thomas Sills, Even Meneses, Tamia Shoshone, Tiarny Andreas, Kerissa Isaac, Shelby Logan

**7th Grade:** Mary Andreas, Glen Mijangos, Wade Williams

**8th Grade:** Shanna McKenzie, Katelyn Lent, Kylie Meneses

## Owens Valley Paiute-Shoshone Cultural Center By Staff

**R**ecently, the Bishop Paiute Tribe took full control over the Owens Valley Paiute Shoshone Cultural Center and Museum. As most are aware, the Cultural Center has been non-operational for some time. For the past few years the Owens Valley Career Development Center, on behalf of the Owens Valley Board of Trustees, has done a great job maintaining the grounds surrounding the Cultural Center but because of stringent TANF regulations, has been unable to dedicate any funds to rehabilitate it. However, OVDCDC will continue to assist the Tribe by providing general maintenance services to the facility for the next year while the plan for its development is completed by the Tribe. OVDCDC's staff and Board of Trustees should be recognized for their efforts to protect the Cultural Center since its closure several years ago.



Cultural Center  
Photo by Teri Cawelti

The Bishop Paiute Tribal Council, fearing that if action wasn't taken soon we would lose an invaluable piece of our history, asserted its right to take full control of the Cultural Center and has made

its full restoration a top-priority project for staff. Executive staff is currently identifying funding sources in order to rehabilitate the facility and is developing a plan to reopen the Paiute Shoshone Cultural Center and Museum by the end of 2011.

## Board/Committee Vacancies

**T**he Bishop Tribal Council is seeking individuals to fill the vacancies on the following boards/committees. If you are interested in serving on one of these boards/committees, please submit a letter of intent to the Tribal Office.

- ◆ Bishop Education Parent Committee
- ◆ Community Development Department
- ◆ Tribal Environmental Protection Agency
- ◆ Assignment Committee
- ◆ Election Committee



## Open Mike Night & Traditional Games—Volunteers Needed

The Tribal Council is seeking volunteers to organize "Open Mike Night" and "Traditional Games" activities. Those interested should contact Valerie Spoonhunter, Tribal Council Recording Secretary, at 873-3584 Ext. 229.

# Head Start/Community Center Grand Opening By Staff

**A**fter several months of planning and construction, the new Head Start/Community Center is now open.

The grand opening was held on April 23rd. Approximately 60 people attended the event which included a ribbon cutting ceremony.

The building which is 9,100 square feet features three classrooms, office space, modern kitchen, large meeting room, and student playground.

There are 60 students enrolled at the Head Start and staff is now recruiting for next year's classes. Parents are encouraged to submit enrollment applications as soon as possible. Remember to bring your child's birth certificate, immunization card, income verification, and social security card with you when submitting the enrollment applications.

Head Start staff consists of: Gayle Johnson, Director; three year old classroom teacher Annette Dondero and aides Ashlee Dondero and Renee Davis; four year old classroom teacher Susie Cisneros and aide Paula Manriquez; four year old classroom teacher Shea Vick and aide Renee Rogers; Cindy Kane, Education Manager; Amanda Denver, Health Manager; Debbie Watterson, Support Services Manager; Donna Thomas, Family Service Worker; Martha Santana, Hispanic Liaison; Gwen Turner, Bus Driver; Clifton Mason, Head Cook and assistant Angela Torres; and Delvin Kane, Maintenance Worker.

In the near future, office space will be rented to SELPA which is a speech and special education program.

Again, the Head Start staff would like to thank the community and Tribal leadership for the new building.



Ribbon Cutting Ceremony at Head Start/Community Center Grand Opening

Photos by Teri Cawelti

New Head Start Classroom



# Administration, Maintenance and EMO Air Program Collaborate on Landscaping Project

Starting in April 2009, Tribal programs have been collaborating on landscaping projects around the Paiute Professional buildings. The efforts to date have focused on the planter at the entry to the parking lot on Tu Su Lane and the beds along the south wall of the Toiyabe Indian Health Project Clinic. The project was initiated by Chief Executive Officer, Glenn Hall, and Chief Operations Officer, Michael Lumsden, who contacted the Maintenance Department and Environmental Program. Toni Richards, Air Quality Specialist, who has training in horticulture provided technical assistance on design, plant selection, and the drip irrigation system. Michael Allen, Robert Chavez, Francis LaFrombois, and Jeff Paco, from the Maintenance Department did all of the hard work of site preparation, hauling mulch, and planting.



Michael Lumsden and Glenn Hall in Front of the Flower Bed



The Maintenance Crew Installing New Plants

Photos This Page by Toni Richards



Left to right: Rose 'Rainbow Knockout', Sunroses, Weigela



Overview



## TRIBAL ELECTION 2009

### ELECTION INFORMATION FOR TRIBAL MEMBERS

**PRIMARY ELECTION**

Two Tribal Council Seats  
 Tuesday, June 9, 2009  
 From 7:30 AM TO 7:00 PM  
 At The Bishop Tribal Chambers

**GENERAL ELECTION**

Two Tribal Council Seats  
 Tuesday, July 14, 2009  
 From 7:30 AM TO 7:00 PM  
 At The Bishop Tribal Chambers

**ABSENTEE BALLOTS**

For the Primary Election will be available to Tribal Voters from **Wednesday, May 20, 2009 until Monday, June 8, 2009 at 5:00 PM.** If you are going to be out of town, pick up your Absentee Ballot and cast your vote!

**The Official Voters List is posted at the Tribal Office**

Election Committee Members needed for June 9, 2009 and July 14, 2009.

Please submit a Letter of Intent to the Tribal Office.

If you have any questions or need clarification, please contact the Tribal Office at 760-873-3584.

Name of Person Nominating Candidate:	Name of Tribal Council Candidate Nominated:	Accept/Decline Nomination:	Comments:
<b>TWO TRIBAL COUNCIL SEATS</b>			
Ernestine West	QWINA WEST	Declined	
Diane Hart	KENDALL WEISENBERG	Accept	
Joyce Alvey	WILLIAM VEGA -Incumbent	Accept	
Michelle Cobos	JANICE MITCHELL	Accept	
Janice Mitchell	FRANCES ROMERO	Accept	
Christine Watterson	CHRISTOPHER BROWN	Accept	
Tucheh Stone	LISA MANUELITO	Declined	
Jack Williams Jr.	MERVIN HESS	Declined	
Becky Rambeau	KRISTINA CHANDLER	Accept	
Leilani Chavez	LEE CHAVEZ	Accept	
Ruth Chavez	MARCELLA KELLER	Accept	
	DIANE HART		Self Declared
	JEFFERY PACO		Self Declared
	JAMES V. HESS SR		Self Declared
	JACK R. WILLIAMS SR		Self Declared
	TUCHEH STONE - Incumbent		Self Declared

## Enrollment Department By LaVerne DeMarrias

**T**he office has close to a hundred (100) applications that still need to be processed. Numerous applications are missing documentation that is needed before an application is submitted to the Enrollment Committee for review. When applying through lineal decendency, bring all birth certificates to show linkage to the Base Roll Member. We will need non-enrollment letters if there are other Tribes in your blood line. The Enrollment Office will also need a copy of the applicant's social security card. When filling out the Family Tree, we need to know if a person listed is non Indian. Do not leave blank. Answer all questions on the application, sign and date the application. Parents must sign for their minor children who are under 18 years. Please turn in **ALL** required documents with your application.

The Enrollment Office mailed out **30 Day Notices** to applicants that were previously sent 2-3 letters to respond to missing documents in their file. Some of these letters were returned by the Post Office because of wrong addresses. For those individuals that have not made an effort to respond to the letters, this will be the **LAST NOTICE.** These applications and those without current addresses will be taken before the Enrollment Committee and to Council recommending **REJECTION.** These files will be **PERMANENTLY CLOSED.** Applicants, if reapplying, will have to start over with a new application.

## Bishop Paiute Gas Station By Rhonda Willis

**T**he staff at the Bishop Paiute Gas Station would like to invite you to come in and check out our remodel if you have not already done so. The store is beautiful. We have added a new sliding door, new cabinets and counter, two jewelry showcases, an extra restroom, and more. We have even had a couple of comments from customers

**Family Member** - If you know of some family member who had an application that was turned in between 2001-2006 and has not heard anything, please have them call or come in to the Enrollment Office.

**Members** - There are 1,667 Tribal Members as of April 17, 2009. We have lost two of our tribal members this year.

**Enrollment Committee** - Meets on the first and third Tuesday of the month at 5:00 pm to 7:00 pm to review enrollment applications. Once approved by the Committee, a list is compiled to present to the Tribal Council for final approval. The Council meets twice a month on the first and third Thursday of the month. There must be a **FULL** quorum present to approve the list. If any Council Member is absent, the list will go before them at their next scheduled meeting.

**Hours/Tribal ID** - The office is open from 8:00 am – 12:00 noon for pictures and Tribal ID Cards for members who are 18 years and up. You must be in good standing with the Tribe to receive a Tribal ID Card.

**Address Change** - If you have moved, call or stop by the Tribal Office and request a change of address form. We must have your signature and the last four digits of your social security number before we process the change of address form. If you have children, be sure to include them

on your address change. The office has been getting a lot of Trust Fund Statements back because the addresses aren't current. If your child, who is an enrolled member, isn't receiving statements, you may want to check on their address.

**Name Change** - If you have changed your name through the courts or by marriage, be sure to notify the Enrollment Office. We will need supporting documents to show the change.

**Trust Fund Requests** - You must be 18 and have a High School Diploma or GED. Bring your diploma or GED to the Enrollment Office to start the process for payment. Once the requests are submitted to Wachovia, it is no longer the Enrollment Office's responsibility. It's up to the individual to call Wachovia at 559-447-6462 or 800-338-6892 if there are problems with the statements, checks, etc.

**Please Do not call the Enrollment Office.**

**Adults** - Any person who is 18 on up is considered an **ADULT.** This means you are responsible for taking care of your own business. The office will not accept calls or requests from parents, grandparents, etc., for those who are 18 years or older.

**THE BURDEN OF PROOF FOR PROVING ELIGIBILITY FOR ENROLLMENT IS ON THE APPLICANT.**



Photo Source:  
[http://www.paiutepalace.com/gas\\_station.php](http://www.paiutepalace.com/gas_station.php)



June 25th - June 26th 2009

Owens Valley Indian Water Commission 46 Tu Su Lane, Bishop, CA 93514 (760) 873-3300 (760) 873-3320 fax

Please mark your calendars to join us for the Piyahuupü H2O Journey

- The Journey will include: Relay Runners carrying our water, Overnight Camping, Restoration Project, Basket Making, Native Medicinal Plants, Environmental Activities, Community Dinner with Guest Speakers



Hurry! Space is Limited.

Registration Now Open



To Register Call: 760-873-3300

Toiyabe Injury Prevention Program By June Piper

The Injury Prevention Program would like to express its gratitude and thankfulness to the Bishop Community Development Department staff, Robert Vance, William (Bill) Turner, Jason Barlow, and Bruce Poncho; and Jerry Rupp, BITC Electrician, for their assistance in installing emergency motion lights on a Tribal Elders home.

Tribal Elders that participate in Toiyabe Services are eligible for one motion light through the Elder Fall Program. For more information, contact June Piper at 872-2622, Ext. 242.



Before



After

Photos by June Piper

Entrepreneurial/Small Business Training Completion By CIMC

California Indian Manpower Consortium, Inc. (CIMC) announces that Ms. Bonnie Amisone, a resident of Bishop, California and a member of the Bishop Paiute Tribe, has successfully completed the 2008-09 CIMC Leadership Training for Entrepreneurial/Small Business/Economic Development.

The four-month training course was conducted by CIMC from November 2008 to February 2009. During the training period, Ms. Amisone developed a plan for her business, Children's House.

This comprehensive course was presented in four multi-day training sessions in four areas in California—Sacramento, Temecula, Pala, and Oroville. Recipients of this unique training opportunity were selected through a competitive application process. Trainees received extensive training from a select group of individuals chosen for their outstanding skills, accomplishments and expertise in their respective fields and for their contribu-

tions to Native entrepreneurship. The culturally-relevant curriculum included development of analytical skills (e.g., feasibility/market analysis; financial projections) and persuasive writing and presentation skills. Students learned how to develop a business plan and received information on resources to start and grow businesses.

In addition, the group benefited from the experiences of other successful Native entrepreneurs. To celebrate the accomplishments of these emerging Native entrepreneurs, a completion ceremony was held at the Gold Country Casino and Hotel in Oroville, California, as the finale to the training in February 2009.

This training program was made possible by funding provided by the U.S. Department of Labor as part of CIMC's Workforce Development Program and a USDA Rural Business Enterprise Grant. Through this entrepreneur training program, CIMC makes every effort to provide leadership training to build healthy



Photo Courtesy of Bonnie Amisone

Native communities by developing the skills of Native entrepreneurs to be profitable and sustainable in the larger context of Native culture and sovereignty.



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Judge Bill Kockenmeister, Joyce Alvey and Michael Allen  
 Photo by Staff

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# Bishop Paiute Water & Sewer Department By Lee Cox

**T**his is a reminder that watering hours are in effect as follows: **5:00 am to 10:00 am and 5:00 pm to 10:00 pm.**

Those persons found in non-compliance with the mandated schedule will be subject to the following actions taken by the Bishop Paiute Tribal Council:

- ◆ First Violation—Written Warning
- ◆ Second Violation—\$25 fine
- ◆ Third Violation—\$50 fine
- ◆ Fourth Violation—Your water will be shut off.

The Water and Sewer staff will be monitoring these hours and requests that water users help monitor each other, especially in the evening. If a user is seen in non-compliance, please call our office at **873-6638**. Your call will remain anonymous; simply tell us the person, day, and time. We will do our best to verify the complaint. If we are not in the office or it's the weekend, please leave a message on the answering machine with the pertinent information.

### ILLEGAL HOOK-UP INVESTIGATION

If you see Water and Sewer staff in your yard in the upcoming months, do not be alarmed. We are only trying to verify the number of legal/illegal hook-ups on the reservation. If you have questions about this please call our office at **873- 6638**.



# 2009 Career Expo—Focus on the Future By Lori Lopez

**T**he 2009 Career Expo was a success. There were over 80 participants in the workshop and approximately 70 people came to the Job Fair. This year's event was sponsored by several community organizations both on and off the reservation. It was one of the largest collaborative events in recent history.

The Career Expo's theme was "Focus on the Future" and it was a two-day event followed by a Job Fair at Cerro Coso Community College. On day one, Monty Bengochia, Tribal Chairman, opened the event followed by Kathleen Sheehan, Police Chief; Alan Pietrasanta, Sierra Business Council; Monica Allen, Sierra

Employment Services; and Kris Hohag, M.Ed. from University of Washington; finished the day. The topics covered on the first day ranged from choosing a career to which path to take and capped off by Mr. Hohag's motivational speech of "Refining our passion and focus to create the future". On day two, the participants were able to choose from different workshops that were all taught by local business members. The participants learned how to fill out job applications and write a resume, how to clean up their act and expunge their records, what resources are in the community to help them succeed, as well as dressing for success and enhancing their interviewing skills.

The Career Expo helped prepare many people for the Job Fair at the end of the week at Cerro Coso Community College. While there were 20 vendors at the Job Fair and few jobs to offer, the attendance was decent and the participants got to practice their skills that they learned.

The overall event had great turnout and the effort of the sponsors and committee members show that the Career Expo was needed and a success. This event helped many of our community members and provided them with skills to help them get jobs, choose careers, and increase motivation to be excellent while focusing on the future.

## Tribal Council Members' Contact Numbers/Email Addresses

Name	Cell Phone	Email Address
Monty Bengochia	Chairman 760-937-2054	monty.bengochia@bishoppaiute.org
William Vega	Vice Chairman 760-937-1081	william.vega@bishoppaiute.org
Jasmine Andreas	Secretary 760-937-4553	jasmine.andreas@bishoppaiute.org
Donald Watterson	Member 760-937-3605	donald.watterson@bishoppaiute.org
Tucheh Stone	Member 760-937-6400	tucheh@yahoo.com



# BISHOP PAIUTE TRIBE ENVIRONMENTAL MANAGEMENT OFFICE



### EARTHDAY CLEAN-UP

Over 60 enthusiastic community members rolled up their sleeves and got their hands dirty to help celebrate Earth Day with the annual clean-up event on Sunday, April 19 at the Elders' Building. Community volunteers participated in the clean-up of reservation roadways, prepared garden beds at the Elders' garden and learned about soil structure and nutrients. The Tribe's Water Quality Program and Education Center lead activities for kids. After the work was done, the volunteers and staff of all ages enjoyed a barbeque prepared by the Elders' Program while listening to live music performed by Jack Williams. The event was funded by contributions from the Bishop Paiute Tribe, Paiute Palace Casino, Owens Valley Indian Water Commission, and the US EPA.

The Landfill Voucher program was a success this year. Vouchers were issued to reservation residents to encourage them to clean up their assignments by waiving all landfill fees at the Bishop Sunland Landfill on Saturday, April 18 and Sunday, April 19. During this time, residents removed approximately 1,600 lbs. of Automobile Tires; 2,100 lbs. of Construction and Demolition Debris; 5,000 lbs. of Furniture; 400 lbs. of CRT Appliances; 160 lbs. of Batteries; and 600 lbs. of Metal (Source: County of Inyo Department of Integrated Waste Management). Good job everyone!



Photos This Page Compliments of Brian Adkins



## Tribal Calendar—June & July 2009

The dates are subject to change. Please check with the Tribal office or the Tribe's website [www.bishoppaiutetribe.com](http://www.bishoppaiutetribe.com) for the most up-to-date information.

JUNE			
1	Community Development Department Board Meeting	13	Tatswano
2	Enrollment Committee Meeting	15	Community Development Department Board Meeting
2	TEPA Board Meeting	16	Enrollment Committee Meeting
4	Last Day of School	17	Education End-of-Year Trip
8	Education Summer Food Program Begins	19	Head Start Graduation
8	Gaming Commission Meeting	19	Elder's Father's Day Lunch
9	Primary Election	22	Education Summer Program Begins
10	Bishop Paiute Development Corporation Mtg	22	Gaming Commission Meeting
11	Education Workshop	25	Tribal Council Meeting
11	Tribal Council Meeting		

JULY			
1	TERO Meeting	14	Assignment Committee Meeting
3	Independence Day Holiday – Offices Closed	14	General Election
6	Community Development Department Board Meeting	20	Community Development Department Board Meeting
7	Enrollment Committee Meeting	23	Education Workshop
7	TEPA Board Meeting	23	Tribal Council Meeting
8	Bishop Paiute Development Corporation Mtg	24	Education Summer Program Ends
9	Tribal Council Meeting	27	Gaming Commission Meeting
13	Gaming Commission Meeting		

## Home Street Middle School—3rd Quarter Honor Roll

Congratulations to the following students who earned a 3.4 GPA or higher during the 3rd Quarter.  
Keep up the great work!

**6th Grade:** Cierra Rossi, Thomas Sills, Even Meneses, Tamia Shoshone, Tiarny Andreas, Kerissa Isaac, Shelby Logan

**7th Grade:** Mary Andreas, Glen Mijangos, Wade Williams

**8th Grade:** Shanna McKenzie, Katelyn Lent, Kylie Meneses

## Owens Valley Paiute-Shoshone Cultural Center By Staff

**R**ecently, the Bishop Paiute Tribe took full control over the Owens Valley Paiute Shoshone Cultural Center and Museum. As most are aware, the Cultural Center has been non-operational for some time. For the past few years the Owens Valley Career Development Center, on behalf of the Owens Valley Board of Trustees, has done a great job maintaining the grounds surrounding the Cultural Center but because of stringent TANF regulations, has been unable to dedicate any funds to rehabilitate it. However, OVCDC will continue to assist the Tribe by providing general maintenance services to the facility for the next year while the plan for its development is completed by the Tribe. OVCDC's staff and Board of Trustees should be recognized for their efforts to protect the Cultural Center since its closure several years ago.



Cultural Center  
Photo by Teri Cawelti

The Bishop Paiute Tribal Council, fearing that if action wasn't taken soon we would lose an invaluable piece of our history, asserted its right to take full control of the Cultural Center and has made

its full restoration a top-priority project for staff. Executive staff is currently identifying funding sources in order to rehabilitate the facility and is developing a plan to reopen the Paiute Shoshone Cultural Center and Museum by the end of 2011.

## Board/Committee Vacancies

**T**he Bishop Tribal Council is seeking individuals to fill the vacancies on the following boards/committees. If you are interested in serving on one of these boards/committees, please submit a letter of intent to the Tribal Office.

- ◆ Bishop Education Parent Committee
- ◆ Community Development Department
- ◆ Tribal Environmental Protection Agency
- ◆ Assignment Committee
- ◆ Election Committee



## Open Mike Night & Traditional Games—Volunteers Needed

The Tribal Council is seeking volunteers to organize "Open Mike Night" and "Traditional Games" activities. Those interested should contact Valerie Spoonhunter, Tribal Council Recording Secretary, at 873-3584 Ext. 229.

# Head Start/Community Center Grand Opening By Staff

**A**fter several months of planning and construction, the new Head Start/Community Center is now open.

The grand opening was held on April 23rd. Approximately 60 people attended the event which included a ribbon cutting ceremony.

The building which is 9,100 square feet features three classrooms, office space, modern kitchen, large meeting room, and student playground.

There are 60 students enrolled at the Head Start and staff is now recruiting for next year's classes. Parents are encouraged to submit enrollment applications as soon as possible. Remember to bring your child's birth certificate, immunization card, income verification, and social security card with you when submitting the enrollment applications.

Head Start staff consists of: Gayle Johnson, Director; three year old classroom teacher Annette Dondero and aides Ashlee Dondero and Renee Davis; four year old classroom teacher Susie Cisneros and aide Paula Manriquez; four year old classroom teacher Shea Vick and aide Renee Rogers; Cindy Kane, Education Manager; Amanda Denver, Health Manager; Debbie Watterson, Support Services Manager; Donna Thomas, Family Service Worker; Martha Santana, Hispanic Liaison; Gwen Turner, Bus Driver; Clifton Mason, Head Cook and assistant Angela Torres; and Delvin Kane, Maintenance Worker.

In the near future, office space will be rented to SELPA which is a speech and special education program.

Again, the Head Start staff would like to thank the community and Tribal leadership for the new building.



Ribbon Cutting Ceremony at Head Start/Community Center Grand Opening

Photos by Teri Cawelti

New Head Start Classroom



# Administration, Maintenance and EMO Air Program Collaborate on Landscaping Project

Starting in April 2009, Tribal programs have been collaborating on landscaping projects around the Paiute Professional buildings. The efforts to date have focused on the planter at the entry to the parking lot on Tu Su Lane and the beds along the south wall of the Toiyabe Indian Health Project Clinic. The project was initiated by Chief Executive Officer, Glenn Hall, and Chief Operations Officer, Michael Lumsden, who contacted the Maintenance Department and Environmental Program. Toni Richards, Air Quality Specialist, who has training in horticulture provided technical assistance on design, plant selection, and the drip irrigation system. Michael Allen, Robert Chavez, Francis LaFrombois, and Jeff Paco, from the Maintenance Department did all of the hard work of site preparation, hauling mulch, and planting.



Michael Lumsden and Glenn Hall in Front of the Flower Bed



The Maintenance Crew Installing New Plants

Photos This Page by Toni Richards



Left to right: Rose 'Rainbow Knockout', Sunroses, Weigela



Overview



## TRIBAL ELECTION 2009

### ELECTION INFORMATION FOR TRIBAL MEMBERS

**PRIMARY ELECTION**

Two Tribal Council Seats  
 Tuesday, June 9, 2009  
 From 7:30 AM TO 7:00 PM  
 At The Bishop Tribal Chambers

**GENERAL ELECTION**

Two Tribal Council Seats  
 Tuesday, July 14, 2009  
 From 7:30 AM TO 7:00 PM  
 At The Bishop Tribal Chambers

**ABSENTEE BALLOTS**

For the Primary Election will be available to Tribal Voters from **Wednesday, May 20, 2009 until Monday, June 8, 2009 at 5:00 PM.** If you are going to be out of town, pick up your Absentee Ballot and cast your vote!

**The Official Voters List is posted at the Tribal Office**

Election Committee Members needed for June 9, 2009 and July 14, 2009.

Please submit a Letter of Intent to the Tribal Office.

If you have any questions or need clarification, please contact the Tribal Office at 760-873-3584.

Name of Person Nominating Candidate:	Name of Tribal Council Candidate Nominated:	Accept/Decline Nomination:	Comments:
<b>TWO TRIBAL COUNCIL SEATS</b>			
Ernestine West	QWINA WEST	Declined	
Diane Hart	KENDALL WEISENBERG	Accept	
Joyce Alvey	WILLIAM VEGA -Incumbent	Accept	
Michelle Cobos	JANICE MITCHELL	Accept	
Janice Mitchell	FRANCES ROMERO	Accept	
Christine Watterson	CHRISTOPHER BROWN	Accept	
Tucheh Stone	LISA MANUELITO	Declined	
Jack Williams Jr.	MERVIN HESS	Declined	
Becky Rambeau	KRISTINA CHANDLER	Accept	
Leilani Chavez	LEE CHAVEZ	Accept	
Ruth Chavez	MARCELLA KELLER	Accept	
	DIANE HART		Self Declared
	JEFFERY PACO		Self Declared
	JAMES V. HESS SR		Self Declared
	JACK R. WILLIAMS SR		Self Declared
	TUCHEH STONE - Incumbent		Self Declared

## Enrollment Department By LaVerne DeMarrias

**T**he office has close to a hundred (100) applications that still need to be processed. Numerous applications are missing documentation that is needed before an application is submitted to the Enrollment Committee for review. When applying through lineal decendency, bring all birth certificates to show linkage to the Base Roll Member. We will need non-enrollment letters if there are other Tribes in your blood line. The Enrollment Office will also need a copy of the applicant's social security card. When filling out the Family Tree, we need to know if a person listed is non Indian. Do not leave blank. Answer all questions on the application, sign and date the application. Parents must sign for their minor children who are under 18 years. Please turn in **ALL** required documents with your application.

The Enrollment Office mailed out **30 Day Notices** to applicants that were previously sent 2-3 letters to respond to missing documents in their file. Some of these letters were returned by the Post Office because of wrong addresses. For those individuals that have not made an effort to respond to the letters, this will be the **LAST NOTICE.** These applications and those without current addresses will be taken before the Enrollment Committee and to Council recommending **REJECTION.** These files will be **PERMANENTLY CLOSED.** Applicants, if reapplying, will have to start over with a new application.

## Bishop Paiute Gas Station By Rhonda Willis

**T**he staff at the Bishop Paiute Gas Station would like to invite you to come in and check out our remodel if you have not already done so. The store is beautiful. We have added a new sliding door, new cabinets and counter, two jewelry showcases, an extra restroom, and more. We have even had a couple of comments from customers

**Family Member** - If you know of some family member who had an application that was turned in between 2001-2006 and has not heard anything, please have them call or come in to the Enrollment Office.

**Members** - There are 1,667 Tribal Members as of April 17, 2009. We have lost two of our tribal members this year.

**Enrollment Committee** - Meets on the first and third Tuesday of the month at 5:00 pm to 7:00 pm to review enrollment applications. Once approved by the Committee, a list is compiled to present to the Tribal Council for final approval. The Council meets twice a month on the first and third Thursday of the month. There must be a **FULL** quorum present to approve the list. If any Council Member is absent, the list will go before them at their next scheduled meeting.

**Hours/Tribal ID** - The office is open from 8:00 am – 12:00 noon for pictures and Tribal ID Cards for members who are 18 years and up. You must be in good standing with the Tribe to receive a Tribal ID Card.

**Address Change** - If you have moved, call or stop by the Tribal Office and request a change of address form. We must have your signature and the last four digits of your social security number before we process the change of address form. If you have children, be sure to include them

on your address change. The office has been getting a lot of Trust Fund Statements back because the addresses aren't current. If your child, who is an enrolled member, isn't receiving statements, you may want to check on their address.

**Name Change** - If you have changed your name through the courts or by marriage, be sure to notify the Enrollment Office. We will need supporting documents to show the change.

**Trust Fund Requests** - You must be 18 and have a High School Diploma or GED. Bring your diploma or GED to the Enrollment Office to start the process for payment. Once the requests are submitted to Wachovia, it is no longer the Enrollment Office's responsibility. It's up to the individual to call Wachovia at 559-447-6462 or 800-338-6892 if there are problems with the statements, checks, etc.

**Please Do not call the Enrollment Office.**

**Adults** - Any person who is 18 on up is considered an **ADULT.** This means you are responsible for taking care of your own business. The office will not accept calls or requests from parents, grandparents, etc., for those who are 18 years or older.

**THE BURDEN OF PROOF FOR PROVING ELIGIBILITY FOR ENROLLMENT IS ON THE APPLICANT.**



Photo Source:  
[http://www.paiutepalace.com/gas\\_station.php](http://www.paiutepalace.com/gas_station.php)