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Bishop Paiute Tribe

Newsletter

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Bishop Indian Education Center *By Shawn Bengochia*

Newsletter Editor:

Teri Cawelti

Layout & Design:

Teri Cawelti

teric@live.com

We have been very busy over the past several months with the completion of the 2008 Fall Semester and the beginning of the 2009 Spring Semester. Students, at all grade levels, have been working hard to keep pace with the standards and curriculum that have increased in difficulty over the past several years. It will be a challenge but I feel the students will rise to the occasion and perform well.

On average, the Bishop Indian Education Center works with approximately 50 students per day, K-12. Along with helping students with their daily homework assignments, the staff is trying to reinforce both reading and math skills at all levels. The Bishop Indian Education Center recently hired Sylvia Ramirez, a former teacher at Elm Street School, and we feel that she will contribute a wealth of knowledge and experience that will improve our program. In order for our students to be successful they will need the support of the entire community. Please encourage the students to perform their best, both academically and socially, when you see them.

BIEC Students Enjoying Snack-Time
Photo by Shawn Bengochia



The Title VII Liaisons have been very busy trying to keep our students on track and motivated. Jessie Kane, Kelly Coleman, Cindy Cox, and Ann Keller will continue to help students, parents and teachers bridge gaps and facilitate connections that



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Bishop Indian Education Center **Continued**

will help our students to be successful academically and in their future endeavors.

We have a Southern California college visit planned for the month of March. Students, that participate, will be visiting several four-year colleges, junior colleges, and vocational schools. The Bishop Indian Education Center will also be attending the 2009 UCLA Youth Conference and Basketball Tournament as well as the 2009 California Indian Education

Conference in Palm Springs. We will strive for success and will continue to work hard to ensure that our students perform to the best of their abilities.

The Bishop Paiute Tribal Scholarship Committee is in the process of finalizing the remaining students for the 2009 Spring Semester. The deadline for the 2009 Summer Semester will be May 15, 2009. Continuing students will need to submit a copy of their grades and summer semester schedule. If you have any

questions, or if you would like an application, you can call Keith Lovelace at 760-873-8740.

If you require any further information, or if you have any questions, you can stop by our office, located at 390 N. Barlow Lane, or you can give us a call at (760) 873-5740. We look forward to working to meet the needs of our students and the community.

Bishop Paiute Tribe Website

MOVING FORWARD. RESPECTING TRADITIONS. HONORING THE PAST.
A Sovereign Tribal Nation

Visit the Bishop Paiute Tribe's website that was designed by Bishop Tribal Member Jon Hess. The website contains program and contact information, Tribal Council meeting dates, and other news.

The website address is: www.bishoppaiutetribe.com

Located at the foot of the Eastern Sierra Nevada Mountains in Bishop, CA.

Artwork & Photos
Courtesy of
www.bishoppaiutetribe.com
Website

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 Tribal Crisis Intervention Project By Peggy Vega

One of the newest programs of the Bishop Paiute Tribe is the Bishop Tribal Crisis Intervention Project funded by ANA-SEDS, a two year grant. Peggy Vega was recently hired as the Community Outreach Coordinator and Geraldine Weaver was hired as the Community Outreach Associate. Both Geraldine and Peggy have worked in Tribal services for a combined total of 60 plus years. They bring a wealth of

knowledge, experience, a caring way, and respect for the Native community.

The Crisis Intervention Project is currently located at the Bishop Tribal Elders Building but will be relocating to the modulars on Diaz Lane when Head Start moves to the new Community Building. Staff can be reached at 760-873-3052 or by cell phone at 760-937-2654 for Peggy and 760-937-3085 for Geraldine.

Staff is currently developing protocol, procedures, trainings, and MOU's with agencies and ordering office supplies, equipment, and furniture.

We are currently seeing individuals on a limited basis.



Community Information Meeting—P.L. 280 By Miquela Watterson

The second Community Information Meeting will be held on Wednesday, May 27, 2009 at 6 pm in the Community Center. The topic of this meeting will be Public Law 280 (Law Enforcement). Representatives from the Inyo County Sheriffs Depart-

ment, Bishop City Police, Inyo County Probation Dept, the District Attorney's Office, and Inyo County Superior Court will be present to answer questions and engage in discussions. If you would like to submit questions to be addressed at this meeting, you are welcome to submit

them at the Tribal Office prior to the meeting. Dinner will be served from 5:30-6:30 pm. The meeting will begin promptly at 6 pm and end at 8 pm. There will also be a meet and greet opportunity after the meeting.

Women's Legal Advocacy Program By Loretta Howard

It is both a privilege and an honor to have been selected to serve as the Women's Legal Advocacy Project's Program Coordinator. As many of you are aware, I am an enrolled member of the Lone Pine Paiute-Shoshone Reservation but spent my formative years living on the Bishop Paiute Reservation.

Over the years, I have been employed in various capacities in Tribal, county, and

federal governments as well as in non-profit and private sectors. Additionally, I served two years in Tunisia, North Africa, as a United States Peace Corps volunteer.

Ms. Geraldine Weaver, Community Outreach Associate Coordinator, and I along with a soon-to-be hired paralegal and attorney will provide advice and representation to women who need assistance with legal issues relative to relational

(domestic) conflicts. Assistance will include: crisis intervention, the filing of legal orders, as well as support in the area of divorce, child custody, child support, and provisions for visitation/safe exchange.

I look forward to working for the Bishop Paiute Tribe and to reintroduce myself to the community.

Classified Advertisements & Personal Announcements



Remember that Tribal members may submit classified advertisements or personal announcements in the newsletter. Please contact me at teric@live.com or leave a message at the Bishop Tribal Office at 873-3584 if you have something you would like included in the Tribal newsletter. Thanks.

Teri Cauweli, Newsletter Editor/Designer

39th Annual All-Indian Men's Basketball Tournament By Jo Barlow

The 39th Annual All-Indian Men's Basketball Tournament was held on February 13th -15th at the Barlow Lane Gymnasium. Here are the results:

1st Place Champions
Cold Ones, Bishop, Ca

2nd Place
Stronghold, Oregon

3rd Place
Red Storm, Dresslerville, NV

4th Place
Sweetwater, Bishop, CA

Sportsmanship
Tule River, CA

All-Tourney:

- ◆ Topah Spoonhunter, Big Time
- ◆ Joe Montoya, Sweetwater
- ◆ Eloy Montoya, Sweetwater
- ◆ Nekoda Pete, Red Storm
- ◆ Jules Contreras, Red Storm
- ◆ Mounie Jackson, Stronghold
- ◆ Steve Watah, Stronghold
- ◆ Trevor Jiminez, Stronghold
- ◆ Mike Carboni, Cold Ones
- ◆ Charlie Farber, Cold Ones

Most Valuable Player (MVP)
Dave Smith, Cold Ones

Mr. Hustle-Steve Barlow Sr. Memorial Award
Charlie Farber, Cold Ones

Most Point in Tourney-Wanbli Ledesma Memorial Award
Eloy Montoya, Sweetwater

Most 3 Points in Tourney-Bubble Up Memorial Award
Dave Smith, Cold Ones

Thank you to all the sponsors and volunteers.



2009 Champions—Cold Ones
Photo by Jo Barlow



Valentine Vega of the Wolverines
On the Move
Photo by Jo Barlow

Thank You!

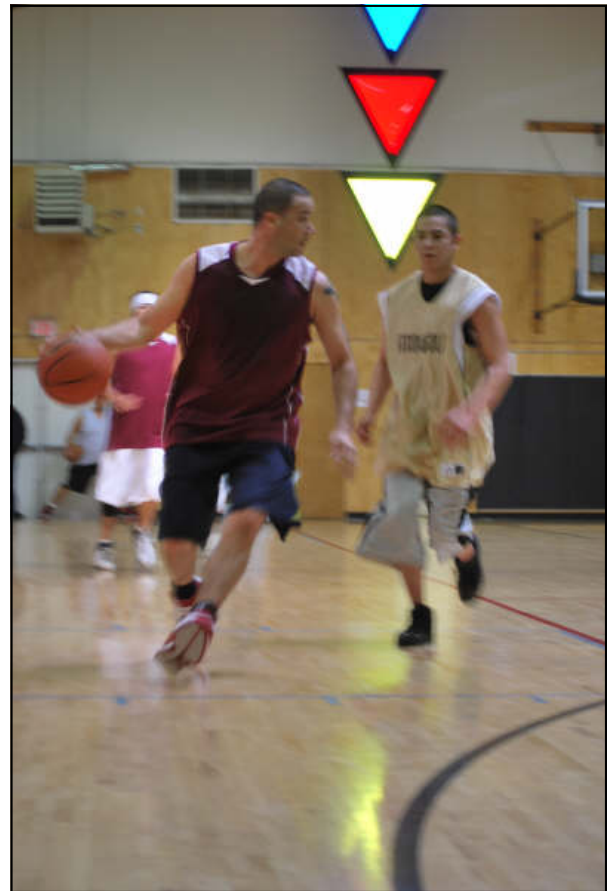
Bishop Paiute Tribe and Paiute Palace Casino for Sponsoring the Tournament and Queen Contest



39th Annual All-Indian Men's Basketball Tournament Photos



Photos This Page
by
Jo Barlow



General Council Meeting

Will be held on
Saturday, April 4th at
10:00 am at the new
Head Start/Community
Center on North
Barlow Lane.

Topic: 1962 Land Ordinance



Owens Valley Indian Water Commission

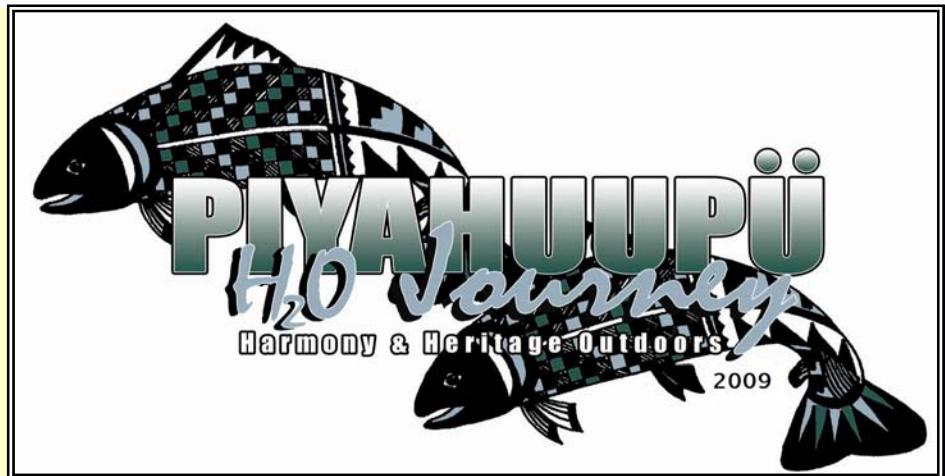
46 Tušu Lane, Bishop, CA 93514 (760) 873-3300 (760) 873-3320 fax

**June 25th -
June 26th
2009**

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

The Journey will tentatively
include:

- ◆ Relay Runners carrying our water
- ◆ Overnight Camping
- ◆ Restoration Project
- ◆ Basket Making
- ◆ Native Medicinal Plants
- ◆ Environmental Activities
- ◆ Community Dinner with Famous Athletes



Relay Runners Needed

For More Information Contact:
Debora Blue 873-8851 or
Sage Romero 873-6394

Save the Date



A Journey From Mono Lake to Bishop



Bishop Sports Club—Basketball Queen: Serena West



erena West was crowned Basketball Queen at the 39th Annual All-Indian Men's Basketball Tournament. She looks forward to her reign.



Serena West with Tiani Vargas (Last Year's Basketball Queen)
Photo by Jo Barlow



Serena West
Photo by
Taawanee
Davis

Earth Day Youth Poster Contest

The Owens Valley Indian Water Commission is sponsoring a youth poster contest in honor of Earth Day. Youth are invited to enter the contest with drawings that convey environmental and Earth Day messages. There will be three age group categories (0-6, 7-12, 13-18 years old). One first place prize will be awarded to each category. Of those three first place winners, one entry will be chosen for the grand prize. The grand prize winner will have the honor of having his/her drawing printed on the t-shirts that will be distributed at the Bishop Tribe's Earth Day Clean-up 2009 event on April 19th. Entries should be on 8 1/2 x 11 inch white paper and submitted to the Owens Valley Indian Water Commission office at 46 TuSu Lane, Bishop, CA by 6:11 bn to Bcsit/ui. To enter the contest, please fill out the entry form and return it to the Commission with your entry. Please do not put your name on your artwork, it will be numbered when it is received.

Earth Day 2009 Youth Poster Contest Entry Form

Name: _____ Age: _____

Address: _____ Phone: _____

Tribal Affiliation: _____ Entry #: _____

(To be completed by OVIWC)



Owens Valley Indian Water Commission

46 Tu Su Lane · Bishop, CA 93514 · 760-873-3300 · 760-873-3320 FAX

Tribal Chairman Update By Monty J. Bengochia

Little News and History

Tribal Vice Chairman Bill Vega, Bishop Paiute Development Corporation Manager Ed Samson, and Council Secretary Valerie Spoonhunter attended the National Congress of American Indians' (NCAI) Winter Session in Washington, D.C.

Eight years ago at an NCAI Winter Session, Gale Norton, freshly appointed Secretary of Interior in George W. Bush's new Republican Administration, addressed the delegates. Norton's shallow, non-committal speech actually seemed a breath of fresh air following eight years of attempts to reach a water rights settlement with Interior and Bureau of Indian Affairs officials, on behalf of the Owens Valley Tribes, during the Clinton presidency.

In August 1997, Clinton's Interior Secretary Bruce Babbitt issued a statement

that a Federal water rights settlement had been reached with Owens Valley Tribes. It had not. Bishop Paiute rejected the proposed, additional 4,350 acre feet of water annually as outlined in the Principles of Agreement. As a result, water rights negotiation efforts dissipated. It seemed that we were black balled by the Federal negotiation team assigned to the matter.

The Bishop Paiute Tribe was blessed to have the services of two dedicated advocates during that era. The late Alan Spoonhunter, Tribal Environmental Director, and the late Joe Olinghouse, Tribal Researcher, both contributed a great and positive influence to the direction and future of the Owens Valley Native People with their commitment, intellect, and stubbornness—their legacy remains with us.

Our NCAI delegation had the opportunity to meet several cabinet members,

including Ken Salazar, new Secretary of Interior, as well as U.S. senators and congressmen. They're certain to provide us a thorough report from their historic trip.

On March 18th, the Tribe will host a U.S. Department of Agriculture workshop regarding the 2008 Farm Bill.

On April 6-7, the Black Mesa Trust is hosting a science conference titled, "Braiding Through Water: Weaving Traditional and Western Knowledge."


The Tribe's land and water attorneys, Luebben, Johnson, and Barnhouse, have pledged a Tribal scholarship in memory of Joe Olinghouse.

Let's restore the old Tribal Irrigation Committee.

With Hope,



Afterschool Tutoring Program By Ann Keller, Title VII Native American Liaison

 tarting on Monday, March 9, 2009, there will be an afterschool tutoring program at the Bishop Union High School on Mondays from 2:30 pm until 4:00 pm and on Tuesdays—Thursdays from 3:00 pm until 4:30

pm in the high school library. Transportation home will be provided. A certified teacher will oversee the program, but we are encouraging community members to come in and help "monitor" homework tables. If the community is

interested, please call Ann Keller at 873-4275 Ext. 242 and leave your name. Even once a week would be GREAT! This program is being co-sponsored by OV CDC/TANF and Bishop Union High School.

During the Spring break (April 6-8), the Tuniwa Nobi Family Literacy Program will be offering mathematics review classes for adults. Middle school and high school students may accompany their parents to the classes. Three separate classes will be offered: Fractions, Decimals and Percentages, and Measurement Math. For more information, contact Kathy Anderson, Adult Education Instructor, at 872-2115.

OPPORTUNITY
TRIBAL ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY (TEPA)

The Bishop Environmental Management Office is currently developing a pool of persons interested in participating in the TEPA and has several vacancies. The TEPA is a commission appointed by the Tribal Council for 4 year terms. Duties include implementing the goals and objectives of the Tribal Environmental Policy Ordinance, attending regular monthly meetings, attending training as needed, reviewing environmental and natural resource documents, and drafting and reviewing environmental policies, etc. A monthly stipend is available. Those interested in serving on the TEPA, should complete a letter of intent and submit it to the Tribal secretary. For more information, call 873-3665.



Bishop Reservation Earth Day Clean-up 2009

MARK YOUR
CALENDARS

T-shirt Design Contest

SPONSORED BY OWENS VALLEY INDIAN WATER COMMISSION
See Page 7 for More Details

**Time & Date: Sunday, April 19, 2009
8:00 am to 1:00 pm**

Location: Elders Building *Raffles*

Breakfast & Lunch Served

Events: Bishop Reservation Roadside Clean-up, Elder's Garden, Household Hazardous Waste Collection, and Youth Activities. Dump vouchers will be available. This clean-up event is being held in conjunction with the "Celebrate Community Connections" event taking place in the afternoon of April 19th at the Bishop City Park.

Sponsored by:

Elders Program

Community Development Department

Paiute Palace Casino

Bishop Paiute Tribal Environmental

Owens Valley Indian Water Commission

Contact: Brian Adkins

at 873-3584 Ext. 237



Live Music



Tribal Calendar—March, April, May 2009

The dates are subject to change. Please check with the Tribal office or the Tribe's website www.bishoppaiutetribes.com for the most up-to-date information. TERO will have trainings in April and May, please contact them at 873-7893 for dates and details.

MARCH			
2	Community Development Department Board Meeting	12	Education Workshop
3	Enrollment Committee Meeting	12	Tribal Council Meeting
3	TEPA Board Meeting	12 & 13	Tribal Staff Training—Topic: Sexual Harassment
4	NASA Meeting at the High school	16	Community Development Department Board Meeting
9	Gaming Commission Meeting	17	Enrollment Committee Meeting
10	Assignment Committee Meeting	18	NASA Meeting at the High school
10	Parent Advisory Committee Meeting	23	Gaming Commission Meeting
11	NASA Meeting at the High school	26	Education Workshop
11	Elders Advisory Committee Meeting	26	Tribal Council Meeting
11	Bishop Paiute Economic Development Corporation Board Meeting	27	Holiday—Cesar Chavez Day Tribal Office Closed
11	TERO Commission Meeting	31	Job Skills Training Sponsored by TERO
11 & 12	HVAC Training Sponsored by TERO		

APRIL			
1	NASA Meeting at the High school	14	Assignment Committee Meeting
4	General Council Mtg—Land Ordinance	15	NASA Meeting at the High school
6	Community Development Department Board Meeting	19	Community Earth Day Clean-Up
7	Enrollment Committee Meeting	20	Community Development Department Board Meeting
7	TEPA Board Meeting	21	Tribal Staff Training
8	TERO Commission Meeting	21	Enrollment Committee
8	Bishop Paiute Economic Development Corporation Board Meeting	22	Administrative Profession Day
8	Head Start Easter Celebration	22	NASA Meeting at the High school
9	Tribal Council Meeting	23	Per Capita Distribution
10	Holiday—Good Friday Tribal Office Closed	23	Education Workshop
11	Spring Gathering	23	Tribal Council Meeting
13	Gaming Commission Meeting	27	Gaming Commission Meeting
14	Elder and Youth Activity	29	NASA Meeting at High School
14	Parent Advisory Committee Meeting		

MAY			
1	Bishop Paiute Tribe Staff—All Employee Day	13	Bishop Paiute Economic Development Corporation Board Meeting
2	Casino Anniversary Celebration	13	Voters' Distribution
2	Bob Fredrick's Award Dinner	14	Education Workshop
4	Community Development Department Board Meeting	14	Tribal Council Meeting
5	Enrollment Committee Meeting	15	Scholarship deadline for Summer
5	TEPA Board Meeting	18	Community Development Department Board Meeting
6	NASA Meeting at High School	19	Enrollment Committee Meeting
8	Elder's Mother's Day Luncheon	20	NASA Meeting at High School
9	Housing Fair sponsored by CDD	22	Elder's gathering at Grinding Rock
11	Gaming Commission Meeting	23	Tatswano
12	Assignment Committee Meeting	25	Holiday—Memorial Day Tribal Office Closed
12	Parent Advisory Committee	27	Community Information Meeting ~ Topic PL 280
13	TERO Commission Meeting	28	Tribal Council Meeting

Community Survey Results—2009 Summary Report By Lori Lopez

The Bishop Paiute Tribal Council and the Administrative Staff would like to say “thank you” to those who participated in the recent Community Survey. We would also like to congratulate the raffle winners: Donna Vasquez won the \$100.00 Vons Card, Garret Hohag won the Family Pack, Danielle Allen won the gas gift certificate and Nancy Barlow won the iPod Shuffle.

Every voting member of the Tribe had the opportunity to voice their opinion, and 157 took advantage of the opportunity. The results of the survey were very good and the information obtained will help the Tribal Council in serving their community. The following is the report summary of the results, a full report can be obtained at the Tribal Administrative Office.

It was a tie on the number of General Council meetings, 4 or 6 per year. Those who don't attend the meetings or

events say it is because of the times of the meetings with a close second of other reasons, such as childcare needs, negative people, and handicaps. The majority of the respondents have home computers hooked up to the Internet and said if there was a public computer available, that they would use it. When asked would you like to have a new professional complex and a grocery store on the reservation the overwhelming response was yes. Leading to the next question of the 1962 Land Ordinance needing updating, yes being the most popular result with it just needs to be enforced being second. Blood Quantum Standard is very important to those surveyed. Being self reliant in the areas of food, energy, and other products is very important as well. Council having by-laws and the Bishop Paiute Tribe having a constitution is very important to the members. Council needs to improve in their communication; however they are approachable and available to the public.

The majority of respondents indicated that there is satisfaction with their leadership. The Elder's Program is providing satisfactory services. Respondents are somewhat satisfied with the services provided by the Education and Head Start Programs. Additional services and activities that people would like to see are; more cultural and traditional events, as well as more activities for designed for the whole community, not just the youth and elders.

Again, this report is just a summary of the results and you may obtain a copy of the full report at the Tribal Administrative Office.

All comments and concerns that were voiced in the survey will be shared with the Tribal Council.

Thank you for your participation!



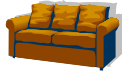
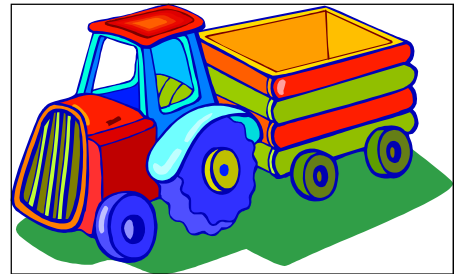


Junk Pickup Service

ENVIRONMENTAL MANAGEMENT OFFICE



Don't have a truck? Don't worry. We can take large items such as furniture, household items, old appliances, scrap metal, construction debris, and old tires off of your hands and dispose or recycle them.



Call Tom Gustie at 873-3584 Ext. 242 to make an appointment for an appraisal. We will remove your unwanted junk saving you the time and back pain of lifting and transporting heavy items to the landfill and recycling destinations.

- **No Fee:** Currently eligible parties include all reservation residents that meet one or more of the following criteria: over 62 years of age; disabled; single parent residence; and/or single women.
- **Fee Based: (NEW)** For a limited time, we will service the reservation community that **do not meet the above criteria on a fee basis.**
- Pickup schedule is every Friday on a first-come, first-served basis. Call now to reserve your place on our list.
- A portion of items that we remove are either recycled or donated to charitable causes



A pilot project funded by U.S. EPA and the Bishop Tribal Council



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Bishop, CA 93514
(760)873-3584
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