



# Numuwaetu Nawahana

Telling The People's News

Volume 12 Issue 3

Third Quarter

2018

## THPO/CRC initiates research project on the old school house

**Includes oral history from former students**

By Betty Aleck

*Tribal Historic Preservation Office*

NIXON, NV—At one time the name of the town was proudly on display on the building's roof, nowadays one can barely make out the spelling of NIXON. Throughout the years the old schoolhouse served many purposes—first as a school, then as Pyramid Lake tribal offices, a community building and a dance hall. Now the old structure is dilapidating, with paint peeling, a crumbling roof and broken windows.

The Pyramid Lake Paiute Tribe's Environmental Department received a U.S. Environmental Protection Act Brownsfields Assessment grant. The grant requires environmental staff to assess the building as to whether or not contaminants such as asbestos, lead-based paint and creosote exist in the building and pose an environmental danger to the public. The department will then make a recommendation to the tribal council that will decide whether or not to tear the building down or restore the structure.

While the assessment is underway, the Tribal Historic Preservation Office (THPO) and the Cultural Resources Committee (CRC) decided to initiate a historic project on the old school house. THPO contracted with Patrick Wilkes Photography to photograph the building and the many nuances that make the building unique during that time period.

Additionally, tribal members who attended school are encouraged to share memorable activities or events that took place when they were students. Each former school student also had an opportunity to take a photo at the old building. THPO will continue researching the history of the building and conducting oral history interviews.

Former students who didn't have an opportunity to take a photo at the school house will get another chance as the photographer will schedule a second photo shoot.

"The old building tells a story of the tribe's history and of the political and social climate during its time, and the old White Building has many stories," according to the author.

**Ralph Burns** remembers being sent home on his first day of school because he didn't speak English. He was raised primarily by his grandmother who spoke Numu to him. When Ralph was allowed to return to school he said he learned English pretty quickly with the help of some classmates. While standing in the old



**First Day of School at the Nixon Day School. Taken in 1950 in front of the rock house.**

building he pointed out where school activity took place. He recalled the basement was the dining area which included a complete kitchen.

**Leona Collins** attended school in the old building beginning in 1950. She added she went to school in that building from the first through the third grade, and then went on to attend fourth, fifth and sixth grades in old sanitarium that now serves as the tribe's Environmental and Natural Resources Building. Leona said the classes were small and the teachers were nice. She added classroom activity focused on learning instead fun activities such as arts and crafts.

**Loretta Garcia** also attended school in the white building. She recalled her Aunt Nina worked as a cook in the basement. She said her

meals were always delicious, "It was good."

The old school opened in 1879 and was an example of cultural assimilation of native people. After the Indian Wars, the U.S. government outlawed the practice of traditional religious ceremonies and established boarding or day schools. At that time, education was viewed as a means to acculturate tribal children into the greater white society.

Indian Agent for the Pyramid Lake area James Spencer, wrote in a report on August 30, 1880 on education at Nixon, "...a government priding itself on its education rank—have these children of nature ever had the advantages of more than a few months of instruction in that pre-eminent civilizer of all ranks and races, the common

*Continued on page 20*



**Numuwaetu Nawahana**

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Submission of Articles Policy

Articles for publication must be submitted before the deadline currently set for December 20, 2018. Articles submitted after the deadline will not be published in the upcoming issue.

- Articles may be submitted as typewritten hard copy or in legible handwriting.
Articles sent by email must be in a Word format.
Do not send any articles or ad copy in a .pdf format.
Do not use Publisher for articles or ads because it is extremely difficult to convert to this newspaper's format. Please use Word instead.

Everyone is encouraged to submit articles about news you would like to share: new babies, birthdays and birthday parties, school events, sports, planned events, obituaries/memorials, etc., with or without photos.

Please note that photos printed on flyers or announcements may not always have the same quality as the original but submit them anyway.

Send to: Pyramid Lake Tribal Newspaper,
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2018 PYRAMID LAKE PAIUTE TRIBE CALENDAR OF EVENTS

Table with 3 columns: Month, Date, Event. Includes events like Tribal Council Meeting, Indigenous People's Day, National Bosses Day, Veterans Day, Thanksgiving, and Christmas.

Letters to the Editor Policy

Letters to the editor are welcomed. They should be no longer than 250 words and must be in good taste. All letters will be edited for slander and/or libelous content that will not be allowed.

Each letter must contain the name, address and telephone number of the author to verify the authenticity of the writer. Unsigned letters will not be published. Pseudonyms, or fake names, are not allowed.

Letters addressed to specific individuals or offices will not be printed.

All letters must be original unless the letter is a reprint and is in the best interest of the tribal readership and the original source is identified as well as the sender of the letter.

Send to: Letters to the Editor:
Pyramid Lake Tribal Newspaper
P.O. Box 256, Nixon, Nevada 89424;
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- \$100/full page \$75/half page
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Congratulations!



Student wins school honors

Caiden John was awarded the STEMS scholar of the year at Dilworth Middle School in Reno. Caiden was one of two boys selected out of a group of 120 children. This is the first time a student in the Dilworth's sixth grade class to receive such an honor.

The award was based on outstanding academics and citizenship for the school year. Caiden was given a plaque that recognizes him as an "Outstanding STEM Scholar 2018". He was honored at a school assembly in front of the the whole school. He also received the presidential award for citizenship and an Honor Roll recognition His family is extremely proud of his achievements.

Excursion for Pinenuts

The Pyramid Lake Paiute Pinenut Picking People traveled from Nixon and Wadsworth to the Bob Scott Campground located above Austin on September 20th. There were a total of 60 pickers including students, adults and seniors who went on the trip. Some people traveled in their own cars to the campground.

Many thanks the Numaga Program and Health Clinic for supplying our lunch and the Environmental Program, Recreation Program, and the Pyramid Lake Jr./Sr. High School for allowing the students to participate and learn how to pick pinenuts. Due to road construction to Austin everyone got to the campground late.

We ate lunch and then everyone took off to go pinenut picking. Unfortunately there were hardly any pinenuts to pick but we had fun climbing the hills and getting all pitchy.

The staff from the University of Utah met us at the campground and went pinenut picking with the seniors. They took notes on our gathering and climbed with us and hit the trees for us.

All in all it was a good trip as we enjoyed being in the mountains, hearing the birds, and the wind through the trees. Again, thanks to all the departments for helping and to the people who participated. Next year will be a better year.

-Debbie Barlese, Office Manager
Pyramid Lake Tribal Health Clinic

Mailing Address Form

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# From the Natural Resources Department

## The Clean Water Rule Repeal

The Local Government Advisory Committee drafted a letter in response to the Trump administration’s plan to weaken the Clean Water Rule. I submitted the following comments.

*“I’ve reviewed the Draft Letter and on behalf of the EPA Region 9 Tribes. I do not agree that it represents the interests of tribal governments. I understand the District Court of South Carolina challenges whether an agency could postpone the effect of the rule until 2020. The draft letter states that the current language of the “clean water rule” is unacceptable because it causes confusion and prevents economic development. Tribal environmental staff continue to monitor and work to maintain responsible water quality programming under the current guise of the Clean Water Act and its accompanying regulations. Since the adoption of the Clean Water Act, much progress has been established by maintaining clean water and it has not become a concern until the political forces tends to maneuver through the beltway system of our nation’s capital.*

*“I have been involved with this effort to rewrite the definition of navigable waters under the 2015 Clean Water Rule repeal, and there is no clear explanation from either responsible agency, other than the general statement that it will ‘improve the regulation’ and make the regulation ‘less burdensome’. The question that is never answered is for who is the primary beneficiary to these changes. During the initial national webinars in 2017 the general sentiment is that the intent is to reward polluters. There has not been any indication that the rule change and the definition revision will not reward polluters or relax the regulations to become ineffective with environmental protections, namely maintaining clean and quality water.*

*“Many tribes across the country have suffered much environmental degradation at the hands of man-made laws and regulation. It is my hope that the general premise to maintain the nation’s waters as fishable and swimmable are accomplished through the continuation of regulatory responsibility. Tribal interests with water are aligned with the federal trust responsibility and tribal rights are distinctive and cannot be subject to a generalized process that can be incorrect with recognizing the rights of Native tribes.*

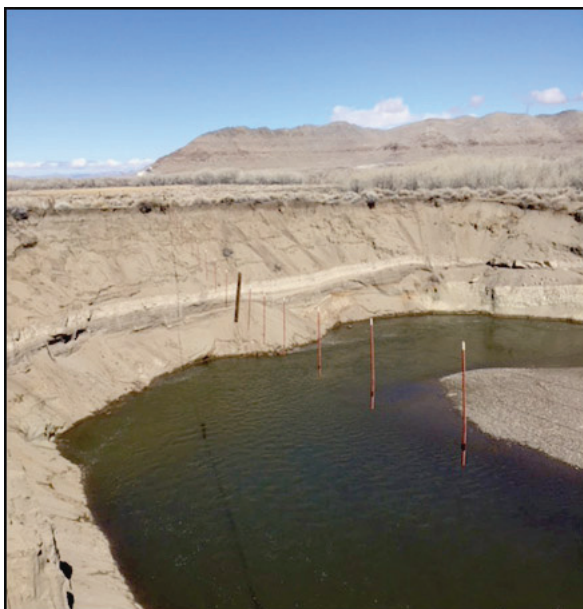
*“As a member of the LGAC Water Workgroup, I will work to contribute my knowledge and experience to the overall challenges that each of us on the LGAC see as reasonable and logical.*

*“EPA Headquarters contacted me and discussed my response. The concern was about raising these important issues to the LGAC and how its understanding of tribal water is not completely understood. The Tribe and the EPA Regional Tribal Operations Committee will continue to monitor the progress of the WOTUS and will continue to advocate tribal concerns.”*

## Stream Bank Restoration

As a result of the 2017 flood events there remain at least 25 exposed stream banks to erosion from high water flows. The force of water has presented a challenge to prevent the erosion that impacts water quality and deposits sediment into the river causing problems to the aquatic

habitats. The pictures show the more extreme exposed stream banks and the natural destruction of vegetation growth and stream migration.



## Illegal Open Dumping

The Pyramid Lake Paiute Tribe and the Environmental Department obtained approval to clean up three identified open dumps; two in Wadsworth and the Nixon transfer site. The work began on September 1 and will be coordinated with the Public Utilities District program. It is advised that whenever open and illegal dumps are discovered or witnessed, do not hesitate to report it to either the Environmental Department or to the Pyramid Lake Police Department

The Tribe adopted Title 50 Illegal Dumping Ordinance that went into effect on July 1, 2003. Any illegal open dump discovery will lead to an investigative report to determine the place of origin and the responsible party.

## Noxious Weeds

The Tribal Noxious Weeds program received its grant award for FY 2019. The noxious weeds identified remain the same as the continued challenge is to keep up with the seed distribution in the lower Truckee River corridor and in the various range units on the reservation. This summer’s recent Perry Fire poses the same threat as the Virginia Peak/Tule Fire with the potential of increased erosion through the washes along the Pah Rah mountain range. The BIA grants are being managed to determine the extent of work with each of the grants that are received. It is the hope that increases resources can be provided to increase the treatment activities.



# Tribal Museum and Visitors Center

## Museum nominated for honor

Pyramid Lake’s Tribal Museum has been nominated for the 2019 National Medal for Museum Service. The nomination was made by Nevada’s Senator Catherine Cortez Masto to the Institute of Museum and Library Services headquartered in Washington, D.C.

The National Medals for Museum and Library Service honor outstanding American museums and libraries that have made extraordinary contributions to their communities. The Institute is a federal agency building the capacity of libraries and museums to create a nation of learners.

Congratulations! Billie Jean Guerrero and Jackie Cawelti for an outstanding job.

## Museum History 1998 – 2018

A cultural center was envisioned as an essential structure to share the Pyramid Lake Paiute Tribe’s culture and history.

*Ki Na Soomowakwatu* translates to Never to Be Forgotten in our Numu language. The purpose of our Museum is to preserve our culture and share our historical heritage to benefit our future generations, and visitors.

Located in the hub of the reservation in the community of Nixon which is 45 miles northeast of Reno, the Museum sits atop a small rise and is located at 709 State Street adjacent to the Pyramid Lake High School.

In 1970’s the Pyramid Lake Paiute Tribe secured funding to build a cultural center and to hire an architect to design the cultural center. The foundation and masonry work on the building was constructed; however, funding fell short and the facility was not fully completed. The building sat vacant for about 23 years.

In 1996 the U.S. Secretary of Transportation designated certain roadways within our reservation as The Pyramid Lake Scenic By-way, the first Indian Reservation to be named a scenic byway.

Also in 1996, The Pyramid Lake Paiute Tribe was given \$764,743 by the State of Nevada to renovate the cultural center, a cooperative project between the United States Department of Transportation, Federal Highway Administration, Nevada Department of Transportation and the Pyramid Lake Paiute Tribe.

On August 26, 1998 the Museum was completed and dedicated. This beautiful building is also known as the the Pyramid Lake National Scenic Byways Visitors Center. The unique design attracts visitors from all over the world and the local area.

Keeping our Numu culture alive and thriving is an important goal, so that we will always be proud of who we are and where we come from as Kooyooe Tukadu.



## Museum celebrates 20 years

The Museum held a 20-year Anniversary Celebration on September 9 that was well attended by many community members.

Tribal Chairman Vinton Hawley gave the Welcoming Address followed by a blessing offered by Charlotte Harry.

Museum Director Billie Jean Guerrero gave a presentation entitled “Honoring Our Vision.”



Tribal Chairman Vinton Hawley

## Presentation of Colors–Numu Tukwasu



Charlotte Harry offering a blessing accompanied by Billie Jean Guerrero.

Ben Aleck and Ralph Burns discussed Paiute history, the Lake, the language, and their participation in the development of the museum. Also on hand was John Martin, owner of Bison Construction that started the initial construction.



Mervin Wright, Jr. was the Tribal Chairman at the 1998 dedication.

Paiute dances were demonstrated that featured the Eagle Wing dancers from Reno/Sparks and the Pyramid Lake High School dancers.

Jeanette Allen hosted a fashion show that featured youngsters and their handmade skirts and dresses.



**John Martin, owner of Bison Construction and Billie Jean looking on.**



**Pesa Mu, Many Thanks and Appreciation to the following, past and present key people, committees and organizations.**

**Original Visionaries:**

Gladys Hicks, Lorraine Wadsworth (kap), Adeline Davis (kap), Glorene Guerrero (kap), Berneys Wadsworth, Dora Garcia (kap), and Edith Leyva (kap).

**Leadership at the 1998 Grand Opening:**

Mervin Wright, Jr., Tribal Chairman; Allen Aleck (kap), Vice-Chairman; Council Members: Leona Collins, Maurice Eben (kap), Gordon Frazier (kap), Glorene Guerrero (kap), Genevieve John, Marsha Livingston, James Plympton, and William Wadsworth.

**Museum Advisory Committee:**

Gladys Hicks, Debbie Barlese, Harriet Brady, Erin (Calvin) Breuninger, and Lorraine Wadsworth (kap).

**Current Leadership:**

Vinton Hawley, Tribal Chairman; Alan Mandell, Vice Chairman; Council Members: Cassandra Darrough, Janet Davis, Judith Davis, Nathan Dunn, John Guerrero, Sharon Keever, William Miller, and Mervin Wright, Jr.

**Museum Committee Members:**

Susan Albright, Ben Aleck, Jeanette Allen, Teresa Wright, and in recent memoriam William Crutcher (kap).



**The condition of the building before receiving necessary funds to complete its construction.**

**Original Architect:**

Dennis Numkena of Numkena Associates, Phoenix, Arizona

**Renovation Architect:**

Ganther Melby Lee, Architect, Reno.

**Contractor:**

Bison Construction, Carson City.

**Tribal Project Manager:**

William Crutcher

**Project Manager:**

Nevada Department of Transportation

**Tribal Construction:**

Tribal Work Force and Volunteers



## Transportation Planning News

### Buttoning up the 2017 Flood Road Projects

The flood waters of 2017 took a toll on the roads reservation wide. The Transportation Planning Department has completed the Sutcliffe Drive Project in the month of July, 2018 and are confident that the improvements to the road are secure and can withstand any future flood events that may occur.



Currently, the Transportation Planning Department is working with the Federal Government Roads Program, Emergency Relief for Federally Owned Roads (ERFO) to complete the major washouts on Surprise Valley Road north of Warrior Point. The work is near completion and is tentatively slated for completion in mid-October 2018. The work is being done by S.T. Rhoades Construction, Inc. a company out of Redding California. The Transportation Planning Department has worked closely with Miguel Martinez, ERFO Project Engineer, to ensure the project is on schedule and is in compliance with all health and safety standards for construction work. Patrick "Johnnie" Dunn is the Tribe's eyes as the cultural monitor to make sure that any remains or cultural items are accounted for and left undisturbed as the project moves through construction.

To date the project has not encountered any significant findings and Patrick and the construction crew have a mutual understanding and respect for the process.

**The Perry Fire lit up the rez in late July and early August this summer. It burned almost 20,000 acres of the tribe's land. Other lands included BLM's 7,323 acres and 24,080 of private land. Overall, it burned 51,400 acres and they arrested the knucklehead who started it.**

—Photo by  
*Candy Wright*



### Build Grant Update

The Better Utilizing Investments to Leverage Development or BUILD Grant for the Wadsworth Bypass has gone in. This grant was formally known at the TIGER grant and will be used to construct the Wadsworth Bypass Project if secured. This is a highly competitive grant but we are hopeful that this is our year to make this happen. If funded we will begin the final construction phase of the project.

### Wadsworth Community Center Parking Lot Expansion

The Transportation Planning Department has had a long term commitment to assisting with the development of the Wadsworth Community Complex located on 8th street in the Wadsworth Community. Plans are moving forward on the needed documents and plans to move forward in seeking funds to construct the Multicultural Health Facility in this complex, the largest facility planned for the area.

The working group along with Transportation Planning Department are excited to see this project move forward and look forward to the day that we can fill the area with much needed community facilities. Our job in Transportation Planning is to ensure that all facilities in the area follow the development plan for parking facilities and pedestrian routes.

### Wadsworth Complete Streets Project

The Transportation Safety Coordinator and the Contracts and Grants Department penned a grant late last year to address some of the pedestrian safety issues along State Route 447 specifically in the Natchez school zone. The grant through Federal Highways Administration Tribal Transportation Program Safety Funds was awarded this year in the amount of \$500,000.00 dollars. We were extremely excited as we will be working with NDOT to complete some much

needed work in this area. Nevada Department of Transportation has committed a full match to the funds that the Tribe has secured and will be assisting with additional planning funds to make this project a reality. We are currently in the planning stages and will be looking at construction later in the year 2019.

Complete streets a term associated to the inclusion of pedestrian and bicycle traffic lanes and sidewalks to currently existing streets or new street designs. The funding we received will get us closer to meeting a complete streets goal in several years if funding continues to be secured. This grant year we hope to accomplish the realignment of the cross walks and possibly some new lighting in the area including upgraded school zone lighting. The final list of tasks will be worked on in the coming months to meet the needs of the area within the scope of work indicated on the grant and funding availability.



We hope to get a conceptual designed done by early 2019 to share with the community for comments. We would like to thank the 2017 sixth grade class for writing letters of support for the project which helped them to learn about civic responsibility and expression of their needs as citizens of this community. Overall we are hopeful that this project will be a win/win for the community and students of Natchez School.

## Tax Department News

After a four-month transfer to the Executive Officer position, Gina Wadsworth has returned to the Tax Department. *Welcome back!*

### 2018 BURNING MAN

There was a total of 55 seller permits sold for the Burning Man event and of those permits, 26 were sold to non-Tribal members and 29 to Tribal members.

This year a Burner Bazaar was set up behind the Nixon Store with 18 vendors. With this Bazaar, there was a total tax revenue collected in the amount of \$8,537.35 which includes sales tax, deposits, and seller permit fees.

### 2017 TAX ANNUAL REPORT

The 2017 annual report for the Pyramid Lake Tax Commission is available on the Tribe's website at [www.plpt.nsn.us](http://www.plpt.nsn.us).

If you would like to receive a copy via mail, call the Tax Department at 775-574-1000 and we will gladly send one to you.

### VEHICLE EXEMPT FORMS

The Tax Department staff are the only individuals who can issue tax exempt forms and all data is kept in the Department for protection if questioned by DMV.

Don't wait until the last minute to request a form; it is your responsibility to get the form before the expiration date.

If the Tax staff is out of the office, the Tribal Secretary or Receptionist can take the information from you and we will process the next day.

**The DMV will not accept a tax exempt form by fax.**

You can call in the information and we will either mail the form to you or hold for pickup.

You can still stop by the office for the form and wait for it.

The following information is needed:

Person(s) the vehicle is registered to (we cannot make it out in just your spouse's name if they are non-Native)

Year, Make and Model of Vehicle

License Plate Number

Vehicle Identification Number (VIN)

Amount of the Government Service Tax

Physical Address: the form requires physical address on reservation

Mailing Address

Tribal Enrollment number

If you are a **Nevada** Tribal Member (not Pyramid Lake) a copy of your Enrollment Card must be on file in the office before we can issue the exemption.

The vehicle registration address must match your driver's license address.

### NOTARY SERVICES

Tax Department staff provide notarial services

for the public. Remember that you must have your ID with you and do not sign the paperwork until you are in the office. All Tax staff are notaries and are able to assist you.

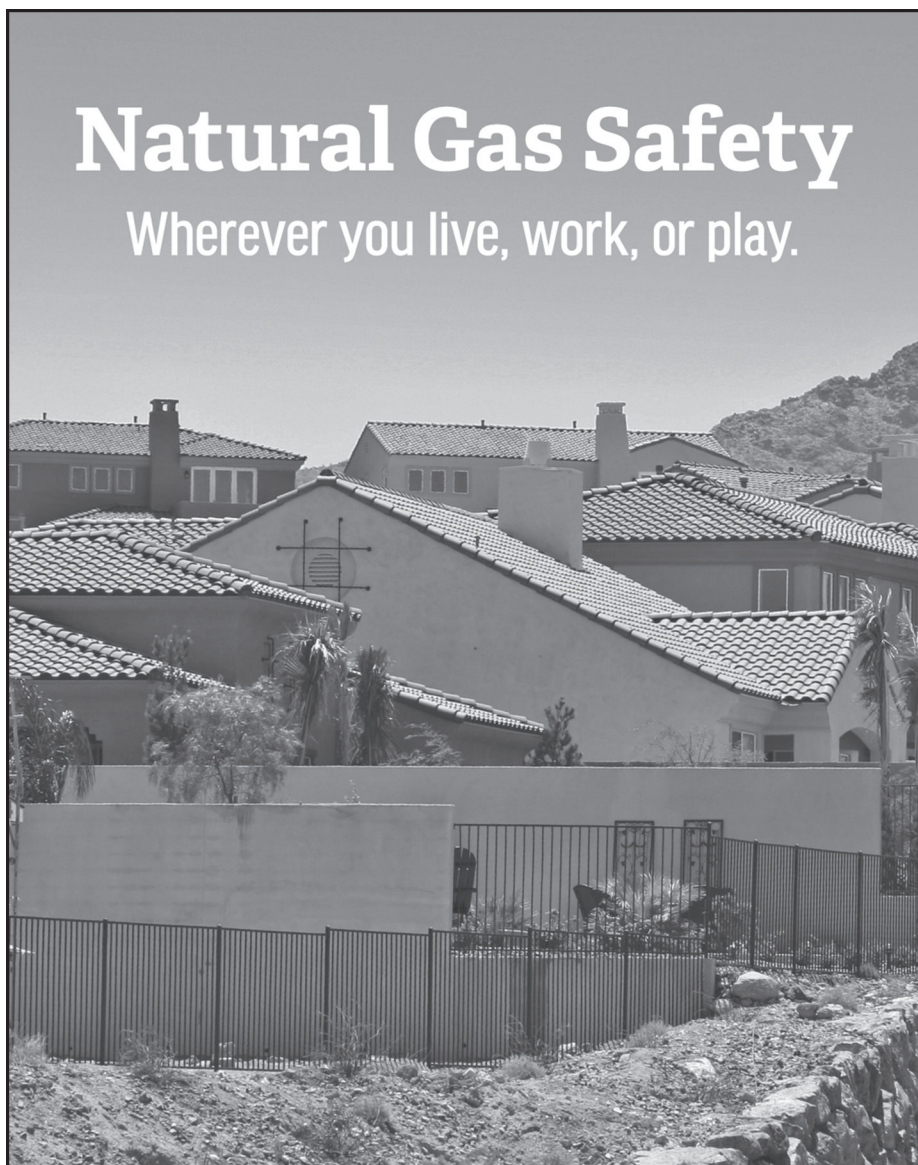
### W-2 Wage Earners should do a Paycheck Checkup ASAP

The IRS urges everyone who works as an employee and has income from other sources to perform a Paycheck Checkup. This includes income from sharing economy activities, interest, dividends, self-employment, capital gains, or prizes and awards.

A Paycheck Checkup can help you avoid receiving a lower refund, an unexpected tax bill or underpayment penalty when you file your tax return next year.

You can do a checkup using the IRS Withholding Calculator or Publication 505. This is especially important in 2018 due to tax changes taking effect this year.

Visit [www.irs.gov](http://www.irs.gov) to access the Withholding Calculator and Publication 505.






# Natural Gas Safety

Wherever you live, work, or play.

## NATURAL GAS LINES

can be buried anywhere, even in areas where homes don't use natural gas. So it's important that EVERYONE knows how to recognize and respond to a natural gas leak, wherever they are.

### A LEAK MAY BE PRESENT IF YOU:

- |   |  |   |
|---|--|---|
| <p><b>SMELL:</b> </p> <p>a distinct sulfur-like odor, similar to rotten eggs, even if it's faint or momentary.</p> | <p><b>HEAR:</b> </p> <p>a hissing or roaring coming from the ground, above-ground pipeline, or natural gas appliance.</p> | <p><b>SEE:</b> </p> <p>dirt or water blowing into the air, unexplained dead or dying grass or plants, or standing water continuously bubbling.</p> |
|---|--|---|

### IF YOU SUSPECT A LEAK

- **Exit the area or building immediately.** Tell others to evacuate and leave doors open.
- From a safe place, call 911 and Southwest Gas at **877-860-6020**, day or night, whether you're a customer or not. A Southwest Gas representative will be there as soon as possible.
- Don't smoke or use matches or lighters.
- Don't turn on or off electrical switches, thermostats, or appliance controls; or do anything that could cause a spark.
- Don't start or stop an engine, or use automated (garage) doors.

For more information about natural gas safety, visit [swgas.com/safety](http://swgas.com/safety) or call **877-860-6020**



New in the Natural Resources Department

# Aquatic Invasive Species Program

The Pyramid Lake Paiute Tribe is starting a program to monitor, prevent, and control aquatic invasive species in the lower Truckee River and Pyramid Lake to provide a healthy ecosystem to support sustainable populations of the endangered cui-ui and the threatened Lahontan cutthroat trout. The Tribe and its partners are committed to managing self-sustaining fish populations, including cui-ui, Lahontan cutthroat trout, Sacramento perch, Tahoe sucker and Tui chub.

The new Invasive Species Program will be implemented by the Natural Resources Department in conjunction with Pyramid Lake Fisheries to develop and implement a management plan to monitor existing species and gather existing data from other sources.

The plan will call for inspecting incoming vessels for aquatic species, and decontaminate the vessels if necessary, at the station built by Fisheries located on the old ranger station site in Sutcliffe. The river habitats will be monitored to

prevent the potential introduction of new invasive species to the Pyramid Lake Indian Reservation (PLIR, Reservation) waters. To address existing species found on the Reservation, the plan will develop strategies to control and eradicate aquatic invasive species in the riverine and lake ecosystem.

Currently, the Tribe has an aquatic invasive species plan for zebra and quagga mussels; however, the other aquatic invasive species known to be found on the Reservation (bull frog, crayfish, nonnative trout species, Asian clams, milfoil, and mudsnail) will be included in a Reservation-wide plan.

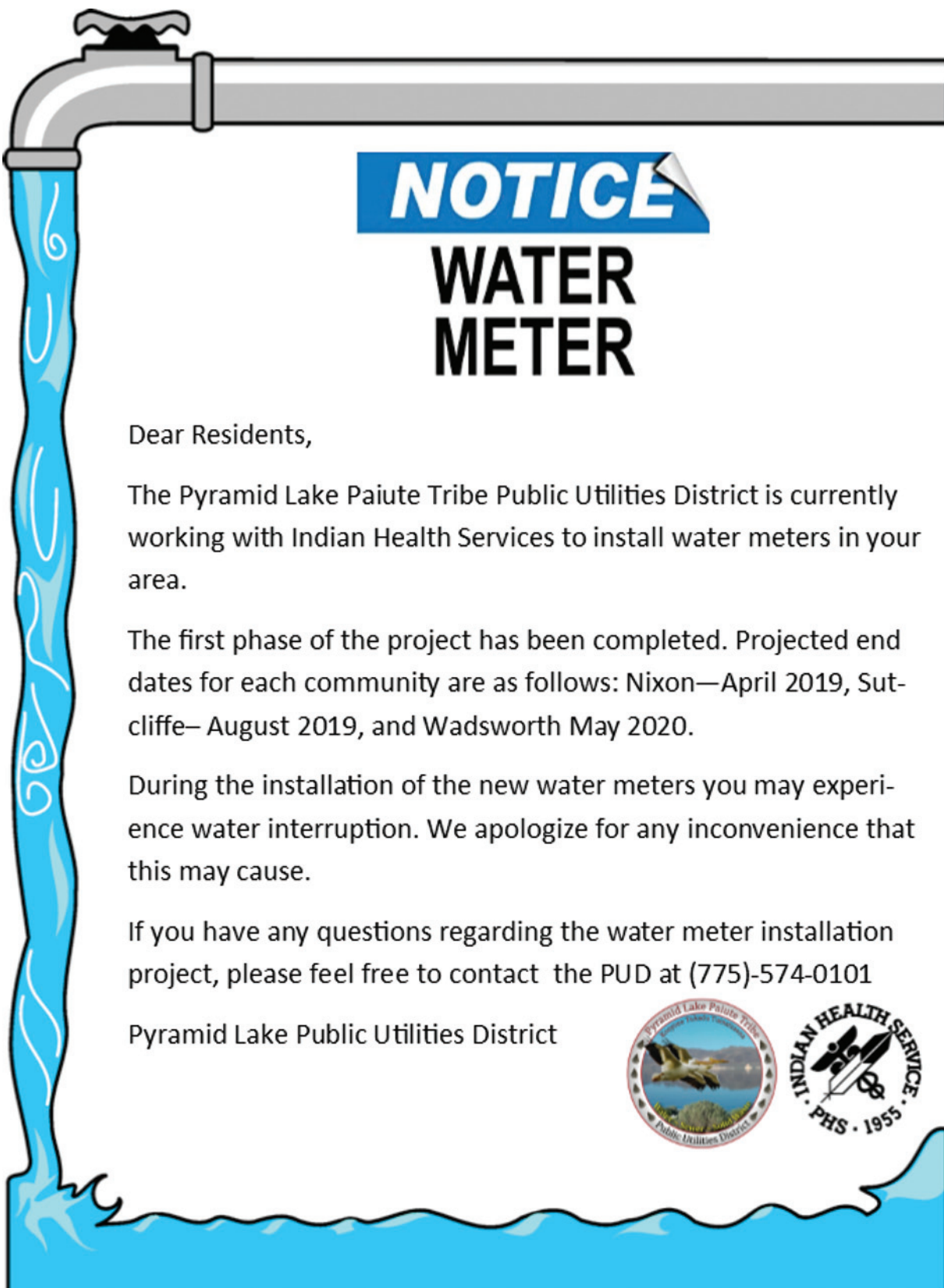
The Reservation already has several existing programs that collect data to compliment the proposed Aquatic Invasive Species Program. First, the USFWS implements a fish monitoring program, which helps determine the health of the fish populations, spawning success, competition with non-native species, and suitability of the

river habitat. Second, the Tribal Water Quality Program monitors water quality in the Truckee River, wetlands and Pyramid Lake. The program also collects biological data through annual bio assessments, which involves macroinvertebrate data collection.

By gathering the data generated by these activities, a holistic approach to the management of invasive species can begin on the reservation and then reach out to upstream groups addressing aquatic invasive species in Tahoe and along the Truckee River to coordinate efforts. These measures will provide a framework for the planning and control of the invasive species that potentially impact Tribal trust resources.

Monitoring, controlling, and preventing the proliferation of invasive species will enhance water quality, provide riparian habitat for wildlife and promote a sustainable and healthy aquatic environment for the threatened Lahontan cutthroat trout and endangered cui-ui.

—Donna Marie Noel  
Natural Resources Director



**NOTICE**  
**WATER METER**

Dear Residents,



The Pyramid Lake Paiute Tribe Public Utilities District is currently working with Indian Health Services to install water meters in your area.

The first phase of the project has been completed. Projected end dates for each community are as follows: Nixon—April 2019, Sutcliffe— August 2019, and Wadsworth May 2020.

During the installation of the new water meters you may experience water interruption. We apologize for any inconvenience that this may cause.

If you have any questions regarding the water meter installation project, please feel free to contact the PUD at (775)-574-0101

Pyramid Lake Public Utilities District


Quagga Mussel



Zebra Mussel



American Bullfrog



Crayfish



Asian Clam



Milfoil



**New Codes Passed by Tribal Council**

**Law and Order Code Information**

**Handicap Parking Regulations**

**A.** Any parking space designated for persons who are handicapped must be indicated by a sign:

- (1) Bearing the international symbol of access with or without the words "Parking," "Handicapped Parking," "Handicapped Parking Only" or "Reserved for the Handicapped," or any other word or combination of words indicating that the space is designated for persons who are handicapped;
- (2) Stating "Minimum fine of \$250 for use by others" or equivalent words; and
- (3) The bottom of which must be not less than 4 feet above the ground.

**B.** In addition to the requirements of subsection (a), a parking space designated for persons who are handicapped which:

- (1) Is designed for the exclusive use of a vehicle with a side-loading wheelchair lift; and
- (2) Is located in a parking lot with 60 or more parking spaces,
- (3) must be indicated by a sign using a combination of words to state that the space is for the exclusive use of a vehicle with a side-loading wheelchair lift.

**C.** If a parking space is designed for the use of a vehicle with a side-loading wheelchair lift, the space which is immediately adjacent and intended for use in the loading and unloading of a wheelchair into or out of such a vehicle must be indicated by a sign:

- (1) Stating "No Parking" or similar words which indicate that parking in such a space is prohibited;
- (2) Stating "Minimum fine of \$250 for viola-

tion" or similar words indicating that the minimum fine for parking in such a space is \$250; and

- (3) The bottom of which must not be less than 4 feet above the ground.

**D.** An owner of a Tribal allotment or fee land upon which is located a parking space described in subsection (a), (b) or (c) shall erect and maintain or cause to be erected and maintained any sign required pursuant to subsection (a), (b) or (c), whichever is applicable. If a parking space described in subsection (a), (b) or (c) is located on unassigned Tribal property or property managed by the Tribe or a Tribal entity, the Tribe shall erect and maintain or cause to be erected and maintained any sign required pursuant to subsection (a), (b) or (c), whichever is applicable.

**E.** A person shall not park a vehicle in a space designated for persons who are handicapped by a sign that meets the requirements of subsection (a) unless the person is eligible to do so and the vehicle displays a governmentally issued:

- (1) A special license plate or plates;
- (2) A special or temporary parking placard;
- (3) A special or temporary parking sticker;
- (4) A special license plate or plates, a special or temporary parking sticker, or a special or temporary parking placard displaying the international symbol of access; or
- (5) A special license plate or plates for a veteran with a disability.

**F.** Except as otherwise provided in this subsection, a person shall not park a vehicle in a space that is reserved for the exclusive use of a vehicle with a side-loading wheelchair lift and is designated for persons who are handicapped by a sign

that meets the requirements of subsection (b) unless:

- (1) The person is eligible to do so;
- (2) The vehicle displays the special license plate, plates or placard set forth in subsection (e); and
- (3) The vehicle is equipped with a side-loading wheelchair lift.
- (4) A person who meets the requirements of paragraphs (a) and (b) may park a vehicle that is not equipped with a side-loading wheelchair lift in such a parking space if the space is in a parking lot with fewer than 60 parking spaces.

**G.** A person shall not park in a space which:

- (1) Is immediately adjacent to a space designed for use by a vehicle with a side-loading wheelchair lift; and
- (2) Is designated as a space in which parking is prohibited by a sign that meets the requirements of subsection 3.

**H.** A person shall not use a plate, sticker or placard set forth in subsection (e) to park in a space designated for persons who are handicapped unless he or she is a person with a permanent disability, disability of moderate duration or temporary disability, a veteran with a disability or the driver of a vehicle in which any such person is a passenger.

**I.** A person with a permanent disability, disability of moderate duration or temporary disability to whom a:

- (1) Special license plate, or a special or temporary parking sticker, has been issued shall not allow any other person to park the vehicle, motorcycle or moped displaying

*(Continued on page 10)*

**Acceptable items include:**

- Plastic screwtop bottles and jugs
- Mixed paper
- Aluminum and steel cans
- Cardboard

**Non-Acceptable Items Include:**

- Styrofoam
- Paper napkins, towels, and plates
- Paperboard
- Glass bottles and jars
- Plastic solo cups

**RECYCLE**

CLEAN PAPER • CARDBOARD      EMPTY BOTTLES • EMPTY CANS

**NO FOOD**      **NO LIQUIDS**

**RECYCLING PROGRAM**

**Recycling Program Results**

The Pyramid Lake Natural Resources Single Stream Recycling Program launched in April of this year.

After two weeks an audit was conducted and all recyclables were collected and weighed.

The results were as follows:

- 40 lbs. Plastic
- 28 Lbs. Aluminum
- 22 lbs. Glass
- 11 lbs. paper
- 5 lbs. Corrugated Cardboard
- 546 lbs. Cardboard

In July another audit was conducted and the results were as follows:

- 26 lbs. Aluminum
- 50 lbs. Glass
- 71 lbs. Cardboard/Corrugated Cardboard/Paper
- 66 lbs. Plastic

Please keep in mind that we do not accept batteries, ink cartridges or Styrofoam.

Food waste should never go into the recycling bin. It can contaminate the paper and cardboard that is in the bin, making it no longer recyclable.

Cardboard should be broken down and flattened to allow for more room in the bins.

**New codes: (Continued from page 9)**

the special license plate or special or temporary parking sticker in a space designated for persons who are handicapped unless the person with the permanent disability, disability of moderate duration or temporary disability is a passenger in the vehicle or on the motorcycle or moped, or is being picked up or dropped off by the driver of the vehicle, motorcycle or moped, at the time that the vehicle, motorcycle or moped is parked in the space designated for persons who are handicapped.

- (2) Special or temporary parking placard has been issued shall not allow any other person to park the vehicle which displays the special or temporary parking placard in a space designated for persons who are handicapped unless the person with the permanent disability, disability of moderate duration or temporary disability is a passenger in the vehicle, or is being picked up or dropped off by the driver of the vehicle, at the time that it is parked in the space designated for persons who are handicapped.

**J.** A person who violates any of the provisions of subsections (e) to (i), inclusive, shall be required to pay a civil forfeiture of \$250.00.

**Distracted Driving**

**A.** Except as otherwise provided in this section, a person shall not, while operating a motor vehicle on a highway within the Tribe's jurisdiction:

- (1) Manually type or enter text into a cellular telephone or other handheld wireless communications device, or send or read data using any such device to access or search the Internet or to engage in nonvoice communications with another person, including, without limitation, texting, electronic messaging and instant messaging.
- (2) Use a cellular telephone or other handheld wireless communications device to engage in voice communications with another person, unless the device is used with an accessory which allows the person to communicate without using his or her hands, other than to activate, deactivate or initiate a feature or function on the device.

**B.** The provisions of this section do not apply to:

- (1) A paid or volunteer firefighter, emergency medical technician, advanced emergency medical technician, paramedic, ambulance attendant or other person trained to provide emergency medical services who is acting within the course and scope of his or her employment.

- (2) A law enforcement officer and a Tribal ranger who is acting within the course and scope of his/her employment.
- (3) A person who is reporting a medical emergency, a safety hazard or criminal activity or who is requesting assistance relating to a medical emergency, a safety hazard or criminal activity.
- (4) A person who is responding to a situation requiring immediate action to protect the health, welfare or safety of the driver or another person and stopping the vehicle would be inadvisable, impractical or dangerous.
- (5) A person who is licensed by the Federal Communications Commission as an amateur radio operator and who is providing a communication service in connection with an actual or impending disaster or emergency, participating in a drill, test, or other exercise in preparation for a disaster or emergency or otherwise communicating public information.
- (6) An employee or contractor of a public utility who uses a handheld wireless communications device:
  - (i) That has been provided by the public utility; and
  - (ii) While responding to a dispatch by the public utility to respond to an emergency, including, without limitation, a response to a power outage or an interruption in utility service.

**C.** The provisions of this section do not prohibit the use of a voice-operated global positioning or navigation system that is affixed to the vehicle.

**D.** Violation of this Section shall result in a civil forfeiture of:

- (1) First Offense: \$50.00 fine.
- (2) Second Offense: \$75.00 fine.
- (3) Third and Subsequent Offenses: \$100.00 fine.

**E.** For the purposes of this section, a person shall be deemed not to be operating a motor vehicle if the motor vehicle is driven autonomously through the use of artificial-intelligence software and the autonomous operation of the motor vehicle is authorized by law.

**F.** As used in this section:

- (1) "Handheld wireless communications device" means a handheld device for the transfer of information without the use of electrical conductors or wires and includes, without limitation, a cellular telephone, a personal digital assistant, a pager and a text messaging device. The term does not include a device used for two-way radio communications if:
  - (i) The person using the device has a license to operate the device, if required; and
  - (ii) All the controls for operating the device, other than the microphone and a control to speak into the microphone, are located on a unit which is used to transmit and receive communications and which is separate from the microphone and is not intended to be held.
- (2) "Public utility" means a supplier of electricity or natural gas or a provider of telecommunications service for public use.

## Child Passenger Safety Technician Certification

**When: October 9th through the 13th, 2018**

**Time: 9:00 AM—5:00 PM (Times tentative)**

**Where: The Wadsworth Community Building in Wadsworth, NV**

**Cost: \$85 Payable to Safe Kids Worldwide**

**Contact: Carrie Brown 775-432-4438 or cbrown@nijc.org**

Have you heard about events where folks get one-on-one personalized instruction on how to properly use their child's car seat? Join the team of over 41,000 nationally certified Child Passenger Safety Technicians (CPST) and be that community advocate or resource in your community! As a CPS technician, you will put your knowledge to work through a variety of activities, including community presentations and/or child safety seat checks where parents and caregivers receive education and hands-on assistance with the proper use of child re-

National CPS Certification Training is a program of Safe Kids Worldwide, which is the certifying body and responsible for managing all aspects of the program. We work closely with the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration (responsible for the curriculum), the National Child Passenger Safety Board (provides recommendations and guidance), and State Farm (our sponsor).



To register, visit <http://cert.safekids.org/>, click on **Become a Tech**, and then select **Make an Online Profile** from the menu on the left side of the screen. Once you have made a profile, find a course and register! Or follow link <https://ssl06.cyzap.net/dzapps/dbzap.bin/apps/assess/webmembers/tool?>



## Grants Awarded for 2018

The Contracts and Grants Department announces that \$7,849,893 has been awarded to the Pyramid Lake Tribe since June 2018. The following is a list of the awards, the name of the grant, date received, the amount and the tribal department.

Name of Grant	Date Awarded	Amount	Department
DOJ–OVW–Violence Against Women Tribal Governments Program	Sept. 19, 2018	\$900,000	Victims Services
DOJ–OVC–Comprehensive Tribal Victim Assistance Program	Sept. 19, 2018	\$450,000	Victims Services
Methamphetamine and Suicide Prevention Initiative	Sept. 18, 2018	\$150,000	Sumunumu
BIA Indian Highway Safety Program (IHSP), Child Passenger Safety Grant (CPS)	Sept. 14, 2018	\$10,960	Transportation Planning
Justice for Families	Sept. 10, 2018	\$550,000	Victims Services
FEMA–SAFER Grant	Sept. 7, 2018	\$608,016	Emergency Response
Child Passenger Safety	Sept. 6, 2018	\$7,160	Transportation Planning
FWS–Pyramid Lake Paiute Tribe	Sept. 5, 2018	\$1,600,000	Natural Resources
Elder Fall Prevention Program	Aug. 28, 2018	\$25,000	Tribal Health Clinic
FWS–2018 Tribal Wildlife Grant	Aug. 23, 2018	\$199,887	Natural Resources
Native American Library Services, Library Enhancement	Aug. 16, 2018	\$149,975	Library
EPA–Tribal Air Quality	Aug. 6, 2018	\$80,095	Natural Resources
Traffic Safety Grant	Aug. 6, 2018	\$5,000	Transportation Planning
EPA–General Assistance Program (GAP)	Aug. 2, 2018	\$203,200	Natural Resources
Mandatory Child Care Development Funds	July 26, 2018	\$13,345	Child Care
Discretionary Child Care Development Fund	July 26, 2018	\$357,286	Child Care
Native American Library Services, Basic Library Grant	July 19, 2018	\$10,000	Library
EPA–Tribal Response Program	July 19, 2018	\$85,000	Natural Resources
Federal Transit FTA (State of Nevada 5311 Funding)	July 18, 2018	\$220,896	Transit Department
Federal Transit FTA (State of Nevada 5310 Funding)	July 18, 2018	\$47,880	Numaga Program
Range Vegetation Inventory Project	July 9, 2018	\$123,193	Natural Resources
Nevada State STOP Grant	July 1, 2018	\$10,000	Victim Services
Nevada State VOCA Grant	July 1, 2018	\$43,000	Victim Services
Tribal Transportation Program Safety Fund	June 29, 2018	\$500,000	Transportation Planning
Pyramid Lake Paiute Tribal Transit Project: New Transit Facility	June 25, 2018	\$1,500,000	Transit Department

**Congratulations** to the Natural Resources Department for six grant awards; Victim Services Department for five grant awards; Transportation Planning for four grant awards. A pat on the back to Tribal Transit that received FTA grant awards including \$1.5 million to be used to build a new bus facility for their program. Numaga Programs needs to be commended for their grant award that will allow them to purchase a new vehicle. Emergency Response received a \$608,016 to

hire new staff for their department. It is exciting to see all the effort the tribal programs are putting in to expand their services and build their programs to provide better services in the community. Your hard work is appreciated!

The Contracts and Grants Department facilitates the Pyramid Lake Paiute Tribe's management of funding, including internal revenues, federal and state contracts and grants, and from private (non-profit) awards,

contributions, and donations. The Department assists with the fiscal management of grants, including financial reporting requirements and processing the drawdown of funds.

The Department also assists in the development of funding applications to support tribal goals and objectives and to meet the needs of the tribe as set forth by the Pyramid Lake Tribal Council.

–Jennifer John





**PYRAMID LAKE PAIUTE TRIBE  
HR/TERO DEPARTMENT  
TERO UPDATE**

**Please contact HR/TERO to update your information.**

Austin New Moon/Mekala Houston  
at (775) 574-1000 ext. 1132 or 775)217-0037  
[tero@plpt.nsn.us](mailto:tero@plpt.nsn.us) or [www.plpthumanresources.org](http://www.plpthumanresources.org)



## Tribal Recreation News

### Pyramid Lake Jr. High School Boys and Girls Basketball

Once again this year the Pyramid Lake Middle School basketball programs will be utilizing the Nixon Community gym for practice. In October the Middle School Boys team will be practicing from 3:30-5:00 p.m. on Mondays and Wednesdays. We do not know at this time if they will be using the gym for any scheduled games. We will keep you posted as we know more.

### Youth Basketball Practice

We will be accepting Gym Request for Youth Basketball team practice sessions for the Nixon Community Gym. Please submit your Gym Request by Thursday, October 27th at 4:30 p.m. A coaches meeting will be held on Thursday, November 2, 2017. Thanks to those who volunteer to coach our youth, we appreciate you!

### Adult Volleyball and Basketball

We will be accepting Gym Requests for Adult Volleyball and Adult Basketball for open gym times for the Nixon Community Gym. Please submit your Gym Request by Thursday, October 25th at 4:30 p.m. A coaches meeting will be held on Thursday, November 1, 2018. If you should have any questions please do not hesitate to contact Tribal Rec. Coordinator at 574-2409.

### NB3FIT WEEK

We are in the planning stages for the NB3FIT Week (November 5-12, 2018) event for our community. This is the 3rd year we have participated in the National Week of Native Youth Health and Fitness event. Last year we were 1 of 115 Tribes and Native communities from 26 states who organized Native Youth events resulting in over 10,000 Native Youth participation in physical activities.

This year the goals are to engage 12,000 Native American Youth across the country

## SAFER Grant

### Executive summary

In 2018 the Pyramid Lake Fire Rescue/EMS applied for a competitive grant for hiring of additional staff members to the assistance to firefighters grant program. The tribe was notified on September 7, 2018 that they had been awarded the grant for a total of \$608,016. This grant will allow the tribe to higher four (4) new paramedic positions and three (3) advanced EMT positions, with these new positions we will be afforded the opportunity to increase our services from Intermediate Life Support to full Advanced Life Support, and we would be the first Tribal nation in Nevada to have a community paramedicine program agency and only the fourth EMS program in the state of Nevada to offer community paramedicine.

in a shared physical activity, movement and health, promote drinking clean water and prompting eating healthy foods. Please families and youth come and join us. Watch for flyers as the event gets closer. We are excited that RAVE Consulting is also working in collaboration with our program for this event!

### Tribal Recreation Summer Day Camp

This year we offered a Tribal Recreation Summer Day Camp through the month of July. We had 90+ students attend the daily camp. The summer day camp program taught our elementary school-aged youth Paiute culture and heritage through a language immersion unit and classes on traditional dances. Tribal elders and community members participated by sharing knowledge of Paiute culture, language and history in both hands-on and classroom settings. Our Paiute Language Department Coordinator, Heidi Barlese, worked with the elders Gladys Hicks and Amelia Scott to deliver daily lessons to the children. The Tribal Youth Employment program hired high school students to serve as youth mentors to assist with camp activities, they were Hilana Ely, Nakia Brown and Lilliana Williams. Youth were taught traditional Paiute dances and songs with Loni Romo. PLPT programs and other programs focused on prevention, wellness and physical fitness enrichment activities and also took an active role in the program.

Special Thanks to the JOM Program, Environmental Interns, Veggies for Kids (Cooperative Extension), Sumunumu Program, Yoga, Pyramid Lake Health Clinic, THPO Department and Diabetes

This is a three-year (3) competitive grant that pays 75% of the salary and benefits for the seven positions listed above for the first two years with the tribe paying 25%. In the third year of the grant the federal portion is 35% with the tribe paying the remaining 65%.

Your one (1) the Tribal share is \$82,164.

Year two (2) the Tribal share is \$82,164.

Year three (3) the Tribal share is \$213,627.

It should be noted that in year three (3) of the grant the Tribe will apply for SAFER again in order to roll over the positions and continue funding for these positions for an additional three (3) years to keep current staffing levels. With these new positions the Pyramid Lake Fire Rescue/EMS will become a true 24 hour a day seven days a week 365 days a year protected agency that will allow us to better serve the communities.



Program. We would also like to thank Dr. Marsden and the JOM Program for their generous donation to help with our field trips throughout the program and the trip to Wild Island. We would like to thank the Pyramid Lake High School Transportation Department for their help with our transportation needs which enabled students from Wadsworth and Sutcliffe to attend the summer program and for the help with field trips. The cook Tina Moore was awesome as they served up to 90+ meals daily for our Day Camp kids through the Summer Food Program!

There are other activities planned in the fall/winter months planned in the areas of beading and other cultural activities! Please watch for fliers! Thanks again for your awesome participation in the program everyone!

### For more information

For more information or questions please do not hesitate to contact Tribal Recreation Coordinator, Janet Davis at 775/574-2409.



The beautiful thing about learning is that no one can take it away from you.

- B.B. King

# From Natchez Elementary School

## A Note from the Principal Natchez School Schedule

### Natchez Families,

We believe the one thing that contributes to student success in school is showing up. Students and families that are committed to and value getting to school ready to learn on time, every day are more likely to complete course requirements, attain better grades, and be on track to graduate college and/or career ready.

Attendance Policy Nevada Revised Statutes (NRS) 392.122 is the basis for the WCSD Attendance Policy and Procedure. NRS 392.122 states that the Board of Trustees shall establish a minimum attendance requirement for promotion to the next grade or earning credit. The WCSD Board of Trustees has established a **policy requiring 90% attendance for promotion to the next grade.** The emphasis of the attendance policy is on the importance of keeping students in school and providing access to the curriculum.

It is really important that each and every one of our Mighty Mustang students are at school every day. Families make sure make-up work is completed and turned in when an absence occurs. "80% of success is showing up!"

Thank you Natchez Families and Tribal Council for all your support and dedication to ensure our students are coming to school and be present for Mighty Mustang learning.

—Daniel Kirk

Natchez ES Principal

### OCTOBER

#### National Bullying Prevention Week

**1 thru 5:** Fall Break  
**15:** Picture Day  
**21:** Run for Education  
**23:** 1st Quarter Awards 10 am  
**26:** Nevada Day Observance—No School  
**30:** Fall Festival 6-7 pm

### NOVEMBER

#### Native American Heritage Month

**6:** Election Day—No School  
**12:** Veteran's Day—No School  
**15:** Rock Your Mocs Day—Bring a special person to school day  
**19:** Retake Picture Day  
**21 thru 23:** Thanksgiving Break

### DECEMBER

**3 thru 7:** MAP Testing Grades 1-6  
**10 thru 14:** MAP Testing Grades 1-6  
**21:** Teacher Work Day—No School  
**24 thru 31:** Winter Break

### JANUARY

**1 thru 11:** Winter Break  
**15:** 2nd Quarter Awards 1:45 pm  
**21:** Martin Luther King Day—No School  
**22:** MAP Testing—Reading Kindergarten  
**Early Out Wednesdays: 1:45 pm**

## Tribal Land Office Information

Business at the Land Office has been rolling along at a non-stop pace. I've had interaction with a number of tribal departments and also outside agencies.

As you may recall the land acquisition in October 2016 through the Nevada Native Nations Land Act has now moved into the actual boundary survey stage. This was the very recent information we receive just last week. Although this does not reflect the complete survey of all the new lands, they will be completed at selected intervals as determined by BIA. Again the total additional acres is 6,357.

With the most recent Perry Fire, we have worked closely with the BLM and the BAER Fire Team. This fire had consumed another 20,314 tribal acres on the southwest side of the reservation.

With the Proposed Solar Project there have been discussions on reservation land that may or may not be suitable for consideration. A survey will be conducted before any type of decision is finalized. Of course the on-reservation project is a Phase II project and will be some time before it becomes a reality.

### Land & Resource Committee

The committee is still asking the assignment holders for an update on successors listing. These need updating as some are very old and the names listed on each application will play an important role when it comes to reassigning.

We are still receiving a fair number of land assignment applications and these will be sorted and processed according to types of land requested. With the recent Moratorium released in July, this will play a role in determining which category these assignments fall into. Again, the moratorium only refers to any **new** assignments that may require connections to the existing system.

The explanation for the moratorium request is PL 86-18 Resolution approved by the Tribal Council on July 20, 2018.

—Richard Frazier

Tribal Land Manager

### Consolidated Higher Education Program

301 St. Rt. 447

Modular 100

Nixon, Nevada 89424

775-574-0300



### Consolidated Higher Education Program Updates!

**Deadline Date for the 2019 Spring Semester is November 30<sup>th</sup>. 2018 at 4:30 PM!**

If you looking at going to go to school this Spring, come and start that application process!  
**"As soon as possible!"**

### **PLPT Junior and Senior High School Students and Parents!**

**Sign up's for help with FAFSA, College or Adult Vocational Training Program's?  
 "NOW it the time for Parents to request for HELP!"**

We have parent permission forms that need to be filled out so the Higher Education Program can visit with your high school students. The permission form helps our Higher Education Program in visitation with your student. It is important we make our higher education program services available to our students while they are thinking about Scholarships and College Searches.

These permission forms are needed; so we can check/track your student and what their high school guidance counselors are doing to help your student in the;

**"TRANSITION FROM HIGH SCHOOL INTO COLLEGE/VOCATIONAL TRADE SCHOOLS!"**

**The Consolidated Higher Education is open MONDAY THROUGH FRIDAY, from 8am to 4:30pm... All you have to do is call 775-574-0300 and I will mail the form or Fax or I will hand deliver the application to you or drop it off at your JOB....!**

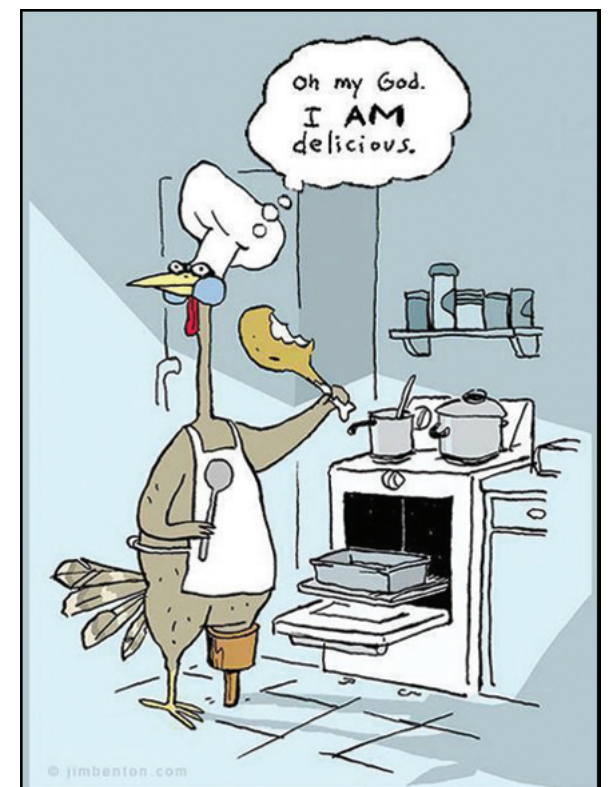
### **High School Tutor Services!!!!**

Does your **High School Student** need a tutor? The **Sumunumu Resources Center** has tutoring services available as well as transportation! Listed below are the times of available services.

**High School**  
 Tuesday and Thursday  
 Time: 2:15 pm to 4:00

**Middle School**  
 Wednesday and Friday  
 2:15 to 4:00 pm

Call 775-980-6507 for details



# Pyramid Lake Paiute Tribe

## Current Job Listings—September 19, 2018

www.plpthumanresources.org

POSITION	SALARY	POSTED DATE	CLOSING DATE
Social Worker	Negotiable DOE, full-time, exempt	September 14, 2018	Open Until Filled
Social Worker	\$41,995.20–44,116.80 yrly, temp (NTE 30 days), exempt	September 14, 2018	Open Until Filled
Substance Abuse Counselor	\$17.44–18.33/hr, full time, non-exempt	April 5, 2018	Open Until Filled
Victim Services Assistant	\$13.02–13.68/hr, full time, non-exempt	September 17, 2018	October 2, 2018
Victim Services Counselor	\$34,548.80–36,316.80/yrly, full time, exempt	September 17, 2018	October 30, 2018
Tribal Executive Officer	\$62,046.40–\$65,187.20/yrly, full time, exempt	July 9, 2018	Open Until Filled
Tribal Business Officer	\$62,046.40–\$65,187.20/yrly, full time, exempt	August 23, 2018	Open Until Filled
Diabetes Program Coordinator	\$42,016.00–\$44,137.60/yrly, full time; exempt	August 28, 2018	October 2, 2018
Police Officer	\$19.23–\$20.20/hr, full time, non-exempt	August 21, 2018	Open Until Filled
Water Quality Standards Specialist	\$34,563.64–\$36,313.42/yrly, full time, exempt	July 18, 2018	Open Until Filled
Ranger	\$16.61–\$17.46/hr, full time, non-exempt	August 21, 2018	Open Until Filled
Probation Officer	\$16.61–\$17.46/hr, full time, non-exempt	May 2, 2018	Open Until Filled
Child Care Director	\$34,548.80–\$36,316.80/yrly, full time, exempt	August 28, 2018	October 2, 2018
Environmental Specialist	\$32,905.60–\$34,590.40/yrly, full time, exempt	July 16, 2018	Open Until Filled
Health Benefits Representative	\$13.67–\$14.36/hr, full time, non-exempt	September 7, 2018	September 21, 2018
Assistant Store Manager Sutcliffe Marina	\$11.25–\$11.82/hr, full time, non-exempt	August 6, 2018	Open Until Filled
Maintenance Worker II Maintenance Department	\$10.71–\$11.25/hr, full time, non-exempt	September 7, 2018	Open Until Filled
Maintenance Worker II Realty Department	\$10.71–\$11.25/hr, part time (on-call), non-exempt	July 16, 2018	Open Until Filled
Van Driver/Kitchen Aide Numaga Senior Center	\$10.20–\$10.72/hr, part time (30 hrs/wk), non-exempt	August 30, 2018	Open Until Filled
Childcare Provider (on call)	\$10.20–\$10.72/hr, part time (29 hrs/wk), non-exempt	November 8, 2018	Open Until Filled
Museum Attendant (on call)	\$9.72–\$10.20/hr, part time, non-exempt	February 9, 2018	Open Until Filled
Retail Worker (6 positions) I-80 Smoke Shop, Nixon Store, Sutcliffe Marina	\$9.71–\$10.20/hr, full time, non-exempt	August 6, 2018	Open Until Filled
Custodial Worker (on call)	\$8.39–\$8.82/hr, part time, non-exempt	July 5, 2018	Open Until Filled
Retail Worker (on call) I-80 Smoke Shop, Nixon Store, Sutcliffe Marina	\$9.71–\$10.20/hr, as needed, non-exempt	Ongoing	Ongoing
Various Departments	Call for details, on call	Ongoing	Ongoing

Preference in filling vacancies is given to qualified Indian candidates in accordance with the Indian Preference Act (Title 25, U.S. Code, Sections 472 and 473). However, the Pyramid Lake Paiute Tribe is an Equal Opportunity Employer and all qualified applicants will be considered in accordance with the provisions of Section 703 (l) of Title VII of the Civil Rights Act of 1964, amended in 1991.

*The Pyramid Lake Paiute Tribe is a drug free work place. Applicants will be required to undergo drug testing prior to employment and will be subject to further drug and alcohol testing throughout their period of employment. In addition, the Tribe implements a Background Investigation Program in which all employees are subject to a background investigation and favorable suitability determination as a condition of employment.*

## How Trump Saves The World and Mankind

This what *really* happened that caused this year's spectacular solar eclipse.

As it happened on July 7, at dawn, Sun God calls up Al Gore, the new age Copernicus also known as CoperniGore, and issues an ultimatum. You see, Sun God is much disturbed—in fact, disgusted—by humanity in general and by the United States in particular, for what is happening of late: Fat gazzillionaires getting fatter while everyone else starves; wars and famine break

out, and the world is threatened of nuclear devastation at the whims of juvenile-minded heads of state.

Sun God threatens to go away forever but instead demands a human sacrifice, and the sacrificial goat must be a great leader in the United States.

Startled, CoperniGore asks, “So, your almighty, You want us to sacrifice our great leader Donald Trump?”

Now Sun God is taken aback. “Is that all you’ve got to offer? He’s not great and he damn sure ain’t no leader! What in hell kind of

sacrilegious scam are you trying to pull on me? You’re just trying to dump that orange loser knucklehead on me!”

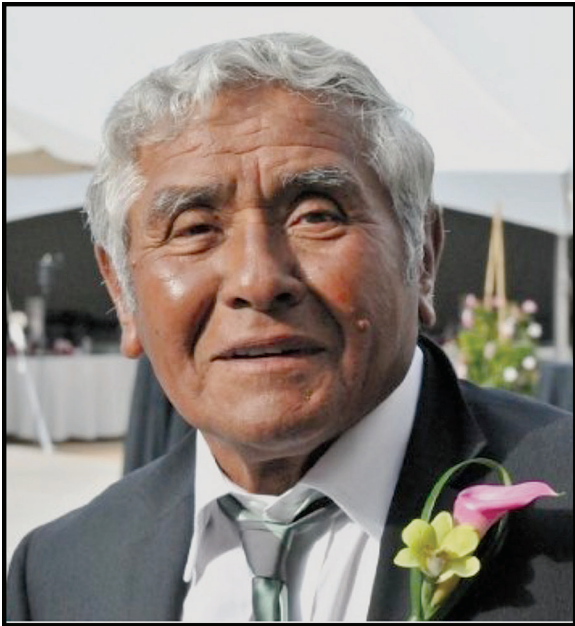
CoperniGore replies, “I’m just trying to meet your ultimatum, your almighty; you asked for a sacrificial offering.”

Sun God relents. “Aww Geez, let’s just forget the whole thing. I’ll just disappear for two minutes and 26 seconds—just to let you see what could happen if you keep going the way you mortal morons are heading.”

And thus, Donald Trump saves the world!

—Chuck Trimble, Sioux writer and artist

## In Loving Memory ~ William Shaw, Jr.



March 8, 1932  
September 9, 2018

**William W. Shaw Jr.** (Peachy, Hidge) was born in Wadsworth, Nevada on March 8, 1932 to Edith & William Shaw Sr. He grew up in Wadsworth with his brothers Wilford (Hine) Shaw, Marvin (Marfie) Shaw, and Ronnie Shaw, and his sisters Alvarita (Sinner) Davis, Beverly Jean Shaw, Glorene (Minnie) Guerrero, Cindy Houten, and Vernalda (Sparrow) Frazier.

He attended grade school in Wadsworth, and graduated from Fernley High School. He was recognized for his athletic abilities in basketball in football, and was frequently the high scorer in both sports.

He graduated from Fernley High School in 1950 and he was the first Native American to receive a scholarship from UNR for his academic achievements and artistic talents.

On August 4, 1951 he married Jessie Palovik. They celebrated their 67th wedding anniversary in August. They have five living children: Sharon, Richard, Michael, Denise and Gary.

In 1951 he was drafted into the U.S. Army and served in the Korean War. After he was honorably discharged, he came home, and began his career working for Southern Pacific Railroad, where he was employed for 10 years. During that time he and Jessie had their two oldest children, and they all lived in a Railcar in Likely California, and outside of Ogden Utah. He worked at the Nevada Cement Company and with various construction companies, including Helms Construction, where he retired as a foreman from the Local Laborers Union.

He served on the Pyramid Lake Tribal Council and the Pyramid Lake Fisheries Board. He continued to donate his time to the community by being a coach for Little League and was an umpire for the team as well. He was the main facilitator in restoring the Wadsworth Saint Michaels Church where he continued to maintain the building and grounds.

Throughout his lifetime he was an avid fisherman and hunter. One of his biggest dreams was fulfilled when he shot a 6-point bull elk at the age of 76. He enjoyed watching his grandchildren as they played various sports. He also loved to watch the Giant baseball

team, the Warriors Basketball Team and the San Francisco 49ers.

Since his retirement his favorite pastime was puttering around on his tractor, helping his neighbors and the community as much as he could.

He and his wife Jessie have 7 grandchildren (Staci and Billy Keever, Bryson Frazier, Teola and Steven Shaw, Emily and Quinn Shaw). They also have 7 great grandchildren (Taylor, Allison and Laine Ehrhart, Trinity and Kinner Parker, and Harper and Hudson Frazier). He had a close relationship with all his family and friends.

### Thank You

The family of William W. Shaw Jr. thank the Tribe, Chairman Vinton Hawley, and all of the departments that assisted with making his outdoor funeral very special, and fitting to the way that he lived his life. We extend our special gratitude to the maintenance department for providing and setting up the chairs, tables and PA system. We also thank the Pyramid Lake Maintenance Department for providing the portapotties, the Clinic for cooking and serving much of the food, the Realty Department for providing the Big Bend Park, and to the community members for contributing food to the Memorial service dinner.

The Shaw family extends our most sincere appreciation for the encouraging words, kindness and support that was shown in our greatest time of need; the loss of the most influential man in our lives. He will truly be missed and always loved

## Tribal Love

My grandmother could have married Chuck Norris. No, not *that* Chuck Norris. If she did, she wouldn't have had any disciplinary problems with her kids. But alas, grandma could not marry her Chuck because he came from another tribe and her tribe didn't allow inter-tribal marriages. Occasionally she would get a sad, faraway look.

I was reminded of inter-tribal marriages following a recent celebration of the last full-blood Bannocks at Fort Hall and unfortunately, there are very few of them left. Most families are now Shoshone-Bannocks.

Back in the old days the federal government purposefully moved traditional enemies onto one reservation like Fort Hall, Wind River, Warm Springs. Or put hostile tribes next door to one another: Crow and Northern Cheyenne; Ute Mountain, Southern Ute and Jicarilla Apache. And one that later created an unholy land controversy by giving the Hopis more land than they actually occupied smack dab in the middle of Navajo land.

I suspect the federal government hoped that those tribal enemies would kill each other off—and no more pesky Indian problems! But that was not to be—much to the government's chagrin.

So they created boarding schools to educate away our Indianness and turn us into brown white people. (White people cook themselves by "sun-bathing" or spend many dollars on tanning products to become white brown people! Go

figure.) Aside from the heartaches caused by being sent away to boarding schools our grandparents were introduced to youngsters from different tribes. Kids being kids, they didn't know enough to hate kids from other tribes even though boarding school people told them not to like so-and-so because they're (fill in tribe). Instead, they learned to like one another, shared their tribal ways, and taught each other their "Indian" words (the good and the naughty). And many boys and girls fell in love—and out of love—depending on their level of maturity.

Some tribes disapproved of inter-tribal romances but they couldn't stop it—they could only discourage it. Besides love has a way of convincing *anyone* that *nobody* understands *anything*!

Eventually the tribally-mixed could be identified by the boarding schools their grandparents attended. Then the tribal mixing went on a grander scale. They opened Haskell Institute (now Haskell Indian Nations University). Soon there was a generation of youngsters who are Iroquois and Santa Clara Pueblo, Mescalero and Osage, Cherokee and Yakima, and a Sioux and anybody.

After several generations, a tribal person could be a combination of several tribes but could only enroll in one if they met the requirement.

Inter-tribal mixtures have become very apparent at powwows. Nowadays, it's hard to tell a dancer's tribal affiliation by their dress. Seems like more than just the Apache ladies like to wear a jingle dress—or maybe she's part Apache. Now



with the influx of iridescent green feathers, flowing ribbons of purple and yellow, "diamonds" sparkling on dresses and shawls, mirrors glued to hair ties and earrings—it's hard to identify what tribe a dancer comes from. And all that flash makes the eyes tear and

the head ache while watching those dancers.

However it's especially gratifying that the federal government's attempt at de-tribalizing our grandparents and trying to cause dissension between differing tribal peoples have failed. Instead it produced a very handsome or beautiful indigenous person of many tribes. Now when you meet someone and exchange tribal affiliations, you can almost guess where their grandparents had met their match. And I bet it makes for one heck of a family tree.

—Myron Begay Hollow Bear  
Indian Anthro...of sorts

## Working Within a System

# Pyramid Lake Health Clinic Supports Elder Fall Prevention Efforts

The Pyramid Lake Tribal Health Clinic, under the Pyramid Lake Paiute Tribe, operates an Elder Fall Prevention Program that provides fall prevention education, home assessments, home modifications, exercise for strength and balance, and referrals for medication reviews and optometry appointments.

The Clinic’s Elder Fall Prevention Program is a coordinated effort within the Clinic. The Community Health Representative (CHR) performs the home assessments, a valuable tool to make the home safe and provide one-on-one education to the elder and their family. The CHR utilizes a tool that assesses fall risks for the elder, assists the elder to make adjustments (clear pathways, realign furniture), documents elder needs for home modifications, and makes referrals to the Health Clinic Pharmacist for medication reviews and the Health Clinic Optometry Program for eye appointments. The Health Clinic Maintenance Department installs home modification items (e.g., shower chairs, raised toilet seats, grab bars).



**Jeff Christensen, clinic maintenance worker, installs a grab bar in an elder’s shower.**

Other collaborations include work with the Tribe’s Numaga Senior Center for the distribution of the monthly newsletter and program advisory. The Tribe’s Maintenance and Housing Departments also provide assistance for elder home repairs. These departments are able to provide assistance well beyond the capability of the Clinic’s Maintenance Department. The Social Services Program provides coordination for other elder resources with referrals made on the back-and-forth basis.

The Elder Fall Prevention Program offers elders two exercise options: yoga and chair-based exercise. Elders are encouraged to attend through an incentive program. There have been many lessons in developing an elder exercise program. The primary lesson was selecting an exercise the elders were willing to do. For example, Tai Chi, although popular because of its benefits, was not socially acceptable with Pyramid Lake Elders because of the “posing” required. The elders



**Instructor Chelsie Eben assists an elder with a chair exercise during a home visit.**



**CHR Dora Thomas, assesses an elder’s health care needs during a home visit.**

were also not excited to do traditional exercises like weights and distance walking. The Elder Fall Prevention Program was fortunate to have the Clinic support the yoga instructor training for a Tribal Member. This member brings personality and elder relationships to the program. One elder commented recently about the yoga instructor, saying, “Chelsie is delightful, so good and helpful.” The incentives help keep elders returning; however, some elders area also attending community yoga, which is an added bonus. The yoga instructor also will provide home visits and instruction when requested.

Additionally, the Health Clinic’s Diabetes Program provides an Exercise Physiologist for strength and balance testing and supports the overall exercise program by making referrals and encouraging elder participation.

The Elder Fall Prevention Program is fortunate to be a part of a Health Clinic system that supports and incorporates the Program’s objectives and needs. Through this collaborative system approach, the program is better able to coordinate services and, in turn, help more elders.

—Carla Molino

Injury Prevention Program Coordinator

### Perks to being passed your prime, over the hill, no spring chicken ...

- Kidnappers are not very interested in you.
- In a hostage situation you are likely to be released first.
- No one expects you to run – anywhere.
- People call at 9 pm and ask, “Did I wake you????”
- People no longer view you as a hypochondriac.
- There is nothing left to learn the hard way.
- Your clothes are out of style but you don’t care.
- You can wear your grandson’s cast offs including expensive tennis shoes.
- Your spouse won’t care if you ogle an attractive person.
- You can live without sex but not without your glasses.
- You get into heated arguments about what was best about the old days.
- You no longer think of speed limits as challenge.
- You miss the old scary radio shows with the creepy door slamming.
- You quit trying to hold your stomach in – no matter who walks into the room.
- You sing along with elevator music.
- New cars look all the same to you, black or gray and no personality.
- Your joints are more accurate than meteorologists at the national weather service.
- You appreciate getting snail mail, even medical alerts.
- Television isn’t as good as the old Ed Sullivan Show or Bonanza.
- Your secrets are safe with your friends because they can’t remember them either...



**\$20.00 Gift Cards**

**For Elders that attend (2) Chair Exercise Classes**  
**The last two Wednesdays of the month.**

**Wadsworth (Brown Building)**  
**10:15am**

**Nixon (Numaga Center)**  
**11am**

**Blood Pressure Cuffs**

Available thru the Diabetes Program  
Ask your Clinic Provider for a referral to the Diabetes Educator  
Monitoring your blood pressure is important!



## Pyramid Lake Water Fight David vs. Goliath

Part two of a two-part series continued

Despite such pleas, Interior Secretary Stewart Udall's task force refused to recommend the government go to court to seek more water for Pyramid Lake, clearly demonstrating the powerful influence of the Reclamation Bureau. Further, Interior feared a successful *Winter's Doctrine* lawsuit on behalf of the Tribe because it would cause an internal conflict of mammoth proportions among its agencies and would endanger the Newlands Project and other reclamation projects that trampled Indian water rights. The task force only recommended salvaging excess water, eliminate seepage and waste, and impose regulations and controls on the Newlands' canals.

**Up to that point in time**, Newlands became more than an irrigation project. By 1938 Winnemucca Lake dried completely and the natural flyway for migrating ducks and geese moved to the wetlands caused by excessive irrigation run off thereby creating a gun club for "sport" shooting the migrating birds. In 1943 Pyramid's unique cutthroat trout was declared extinct and the prehistoric cui-ui were endangered. By 1960 Pyramid Lake had dropped 80 feet in 60 years and Anaho Island was nearing a land-lock status endangering the pelican rookery to predators. The Lahontan storage reservoir became a "favorite swimming hole", and the wetlands were federally designated as wildlife areas and became "recognized users" of the Newlands' water.

In 1944 the *Orr Ditch Decree* was initiated by Interior to establish user rights on the Truckee in order to increase the water flow to Newlands. But Interior neglected Pyramid Lake's need for water and allowed the Tribe's water rights to be restricted to irrigation use only. The *Decree* allowed Newlands 4.5 acre-feet per acre per year but Reclamation allowed the Truckee-Carson Irrigation District (TCID) to take 9 acre-feet and in doing so it was estimated Reclamation took and wasted 200,000 acre-feet a year during the past 50 years.

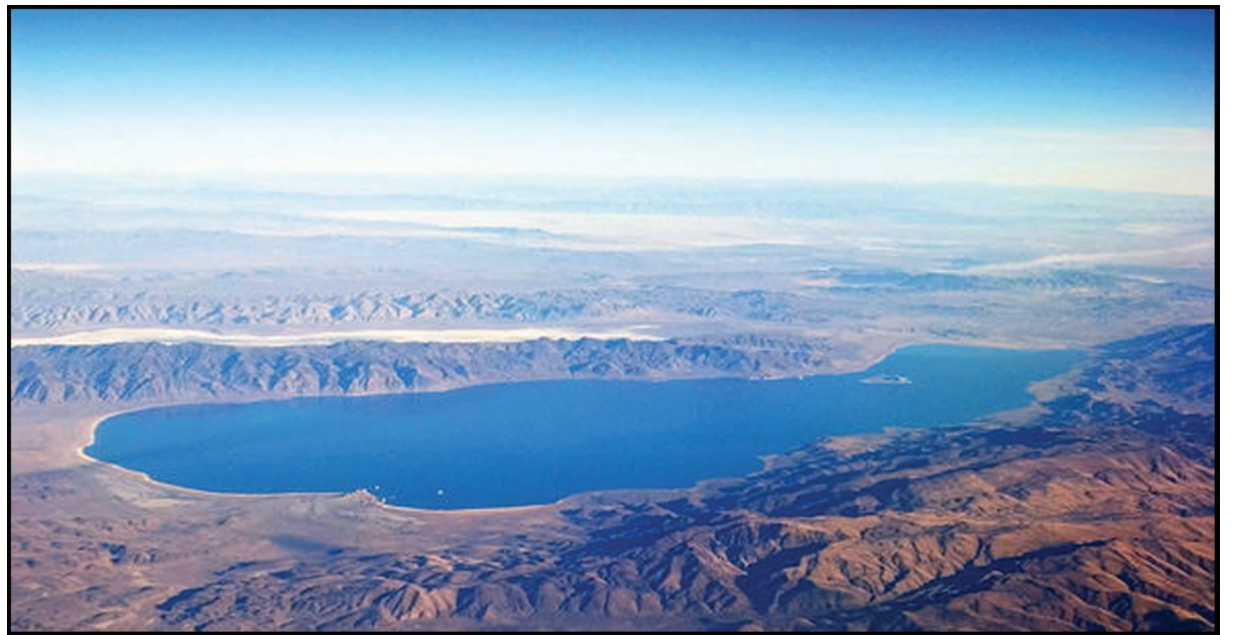
When the Tribe questioned Reclamation's minimum conservation efforts and requested a statement of their legal basis for the water Udall had promised them—Udall and Interior refused—and *refused to admit* the United States had the right to deliver to Pyramid Lake the excess water it was going to save on Newlands.

The government's original plan to "make the desert bloom"—take water from the Truckee and Carson rivers to irrigate a total of 369,800 acres but after 50 years, no more than 65,000 acres were "blooming" but they continued to take water for its original "blooming" plan.

Testifying before a congressional hearing on the government's abuse of their water rights, then Tribal Chairman Buddy Vidovich said the "Interior Department was too busy overseeing the theft to have time for the victims."

### The Washoe Project

In 1955 Interior/Reclamation recommended the Washoe Project to construct of dams and storage reservoirs on the Little Truckee River and Prosser Creek, tributaries to the Truckee and Carson rivers. And to build Marble Bluff Dam and Pyramid Lake Fishway—presumably in the future since there was no water. During congress-



sional hearings on the Washoe Project the Tribe testified its opposition and predicted more damage to their lake as evidenced by Newlands. Congress agreed with the Tribe and provided funding for the "restoration of the Pyramid Lake fishery" and stipulated that Washoe provide additional water for Pyramid Lake.

When it was revealed the Washoe's Stampede and Prosser Creek dams would actually reduce water to Pyramid Lake, the Tribe protested and Interior could only promise "every effort to maintain the greatest practicable flow of water into Pyramid Lake." That was the first of Udall's many promises to appease the Tribe but they continued their opposition because they knew Udall's promises meant nothing.

Exasperated at the Tribe's opposition, Udall *promised in writing* that Washoe would *guarantee* an increase of water to the lake. In a telegram dated October 9, 1964, Udall guaranteed 215,000 acre-feet annual inflow for the lake and promised to regulate Newlands' diversion that implied an additional 100,000 acre-feet of water. With that promise in writing, the Tribe withdrew their opposition to the Washoe Project and a month later the water users in the affected river basins voted and approved the project.



Levi Frazier Jr. and friend cleaning cui-ui at the delta. In the 1960s the cui-ui became so endangered that even the tribal members could not fish for them. 1950 Margaret Wheat photo. *UNR Special Collection*

In 1966, the Tribe attempted to verify rumors that Stampede Dam's construction was about to start—the Phoenix BIA Area Office refused to comment and Udall kept offering empty promises. After six months, Udall finally announced he couldn't make any specific guarantees to the Tribe but by that time construction on Stampede Dam was well underway.

Then in 1967 the cui-ui and cutthroat trout were listed as threatened and endangered species under the Endangered Species Act that required the Interior Secretary initiate an Operating Criteria and Procedures (OCAP) for the Newlands: maximize Carson River usage; require TCID increase its operating efficiency to minimize Truckee's diversion; limit the combined flow of the Carson and Truckee rivers to 406,000 acre-feet per year, and increase the water flow to Pyramid Lake. This OCAP stipulation became an important part in the Tribe's future lawsuit against the government.

### Interstate Water Compact

In 1968 California and Nevada revealed a draft water compact agreement they had been working on since 1955 to divide the Lake Tahoe waters originating in California and flowing into Nevada. The compact would limit the Tribe's water claim based on the 1944 *Orr Ditch Decree* and it further *expressly forbid the federal government and the Indians from ever going to court to seek more water for Pyramid Lake*.

That was too much even for Interior—not because Pyramid Lake would die—but they would have to give up federal water control to the states. Interior objected and implied Congress would never ratify a compact that gave up federal rights. Regardless, the Nevada legislature approved the compact. Unwilling to risk rejection by Congress, California appealed to the Tribe who refused to accept the compact so their Committee on Natural Resources and Conservation refused to approve the agreement.

On July 6, 1969, the new Interior Secretary Walter J. Hickel, arranged a meeting with governors Ronald Reagan of California and Nevada's Paul Laxalt to break the compact's deadlock. Tribal council members were invited but Chairman Vidovich said, "The hell with it. If he (Hickel) wants to discuss our problems, he should have the courtesy to come here where the problem really is."

Anchored in middle of Lake Tahoe in gambling mogul Bill Harrah's yacht, these three

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“leaders of men” agreed that engineers should drain Pyramid Lake down to a level of 152 feet to stabilize the evaporation rate and leave a *bed of mud*. To hasten Pyramid Lake’s “stabilization” they suggested raising Lake Tahoe by a foot.

The Tribe was stunned by the outrageous proposal. “It’s a good thing council didn’t go there,” said Levi Frazier about the meeting. A large number of Nevadans protested after realizing that Pyramid Lake was important to the state. But it was the loud outcry over Tahoe’s lakeshore property values that far out-weighed the death sentence given to Pyramid Lake.

The meeting was labeled “historic” and the resulting public outcry over their “historic boo-boo” forced those officials to immediately drop the plan. Instead Hickel established the Pyramid Lake Task Force to study “in depth” the lake’s water problems. Nevada Governor Laxalt wanted to name a tribal member to the task force but knowing it would be stacked against them, the tribe refused. Chairman Vidovich said the task force was “just another game which allows the federal government to side-step its trust responsibilities to Indian people.” He also pointed out that Pyramid Lake wasn’t the problem it was the government.

After two years, the Pyramid Lake Task Force issued its final report. It dismissed: existing water wastes at Newlands; the wasteful irrigation in the Truckee and Carson river basins, and fully supported the “swampy” wildlife refuge areas. The report then concluded that only 95,000 acre feet could be found for Pyramid Lake; recommended importing water from California’s Honey Lake, and *a wish for more rain!*

It was that report the new Interior Secretary Rogers C.B. Morton later used to recommend for the interstate water compact. The compact had to be approved by the state’s legislatures and signed by the governors before being submitted to Congress for approval. Nevada’s legislature approved the compact and submitted it to the newly elected governor Mike O’Callaghan who won his election largely on the Indians’ vote. Less than a month after he took office, on March 5, 1971, Governor O’Callaghan signed the compact bill.

The governor said, “That bill sat on my desk for 5 days and not one Indian walked through that door to oppose it.” It was angrily pointed out he knew “the Indians had been fighting that compact for 15 years and they were resigned to the fact it would become law. Indian votes got him into office and the least he could have done was to let it become law without his signature.”

#### Pyramid Lake versus Interior and Justice

The Tribe’s only hope was a *Winters’ Doctrine* lawsuit for their water but Interior ignored repeated requests for assistance. The federal government and Nevada had used a tangled web of decrees, statutes, regulations, and laws to continue taking the Tribe’s water. The Tribe reached the end of their road—almost out of money for legal fees and they couldn’t go any further.

In January 1970, the California Indian Legal Services (CILS), knowledgeable in Indian water law and successful defending California tribes, offered to help Pyramid Lake with its legal situation. The Tribe, tribal attorney Bob Stitser and Bob Pelcyger, a CLIS lawyer, began to prepare a *Winters’ Doctrine* lawsuit they would file on their own and seek funding for hydrologists and other expert witnesses. In June, Ford Foundation gave



From Katie Frazier collection.

CLIS a large planning grant to develop a national non-profit organization that became known as the Native American Rights Fund (NARF) and provide legal services to tribes without charge. Pelcyger became a staff member of NARF.

On August 22, 1970 the Tribe filed *Pyramid Lake Paiute Tribe v. Walter Hickel, et.al.* in the U.S. District Court for the District of Columbia against the Interior Secretary and the U.S. Attorney General. They asked the Interior Secretary be ordered to deliver enough water to Pyramid Lake to stabilize it by eliminating the water waste in the Truckee and Carson rivers, and the Attorney General seek “a judicial determination” of the Tribe’s right to Truckee River water.

The lawsuit revealed that Reclamation violated the *Orr Ditch Decree* (Truckee River) and the *Alpine Decree* (Carson River) by permitting TCID to deliver more water to Newlands than both *Decrees* allowed. In addition, former Secretary Udall’s attempt to impose regulated controls on Newlands was subverted by agencies in his own Interior Department.

The Tribe said their lake needed an estimated 135,000 acre-feet a year to stabilize it and Newlands wasted up to 200,000 acre-feet a year. They said the 135,000 acre-feet that would not affect the Newlands’ users who claimed otherwise. Despite the *Orr* and *Alpine* decrees and OCAP, Reclamation continued to let TCID to take more than the allowed 406,000 acre-feet from the Truckee and Carson rivers.

The Tribe also charged the 1967 OCAP was inadequate and did not provide sufficient protection to its threatened and endangered fisheries. Plus the Secretary violated his trust responsibility by not requiring delivery of water not obligated by court decrees or contracts.

U.S. District Judge Gerhard A. Gesell favored an out-of-court settlement and urged the Secretary and the Tribe to negotiate a settlement on the water dispute. The Tribe negotiated in good faith even though Reclamation continued taking illegal amounts of water for Newlands.

Then the government began proposing OCAP regulations in an effort to stall the trial. At first the government’s lawyers worked with the Tribe but in April 1972, without notice to the Tribe, the new government regulations did not mention how much water Newlands would receive and it would permit the irrigators to draw an unlimited amount of water. The Tribe’s lawyers immediately obtained an order from Judge Gesell to void the “new regulations” and reinstate the original 1967 OCAP limit of 406,000 acre-feet.

The Judge then ordered the case to trial but a month before the trial was to start, Interior announced a new set of regulations so the Judge

postponed the trial again. Interior’s new set of regulations would save a paltry 28,000 acre-feet for Pyramid Lake plus the OCAP regulations were voluntary, not mandatory.

Pshaw! said the Tribe and Judge Gesell ordered the case to proceed without delay.

The new Interior Secretary Rogers C.B. Morton (now a defendant) attempted to circumvent the Tribe’s case and announced on September 22, 1972, he had requested the U.S. Attorney General to initiate a lawsuit “for the recognition and protection of a water right for the maintenance of Pyramid Lake”—after 70 years. The Tribe opposed lawsuit but Interior went ahead and filed directly to the U.S. Supreme Court and asked it to impose original jurisdiction and issue a decree “declaring the right of the United States for the benefit of the Pyramid Lake Paiute Tribe of Indians to the use of sufficient waters of the Truckee River to fulfill the purposes for which the Pyramid Lake Reservation was created, including the maintenance and preservation of the Truckee River as a natural spawning ground for fish and other purposes beneficial to and satisfying such use to be with a priority of November 29, 1859.”

Actually Interior had hoped the lawsuit would demonstrate their good intentions and give them time (years) to stall the unpopular readjustment of water availability to Newlands and shift the Paiute problem to future administrations.

It was obvious to Judge Gesell that Interior’s lawsuit would take 10 to 15 years before a final decree was issued and decided there was no need to wait “to resolve what seems to me a matter that requires more immediate attention.” Citing the Interior’s delaying tactics had tried to “bamboozle” him—“I suppose that is the *politest* word”—the Judge scheduled the trial for July.

After a four-day trial Judge Gesell, on November 8, 1972, ruled decisively for the Tribe, calling the Secretary’s September decision on the amount of water Newlands would be “an abuse of discretion and not in accordance with law,” adding that, “the effect was to deprive the Tribe of water without legal justification.” He ordered the Secretary to submit to him by January 1, 1973, new regulations “wholly consistent with the Secretary’s fiduciary duty to the Tribe.”

**The decision was historic.** Not only did it direct the delivery of adequate water to stabilize Pyramid Lake until the government’s *Winters’* case would be ruled upon but it set a legal precedent for all other tribes in conflict with the federal government’s role as trustee of their property. Previous Indian cases against the government had been limited to seeking damages after the

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property had already been lost, mismanaged, or damaged. This was the first case that forced the government to carry out its obligation as trustee to protect Indian property.

The government did not appeal Gesell's decision and began implementing the court's directive by ordering a more thorough and effective control of water and freeing some of the Washoe Project's water for Pyramid Lake. The court also ordered that Newlands be limited to 350,000 acre-feet in 1973 and 288,129 in 1974 and that Interior cancel TCID's contract if it violated the 1973 and 1974 water limits.

Claiming they were not a party to the lawsuit, TCID deliberately ignored the Judge's order and continued delivering the usual amount of water so Interior cancelled their contract to operate Newlands. (In 1974 TCID filed their lawsuit in Reno's federal district court, contesting Interior's decision to cancel their contract. The court upheld Interior's decision, as did the U.S. Ninth Circuit Court of Appeals in 1984 and the U.S. Supreme Court in 1985. During the nine years it took for TCID's case to go through the court system, they continued to deliver more than they were legally entitled to.)

In June 1973, nine months after Interior filed its *Winters'* case in the Supreme Court, the court declined to hear the case and said the govern-

ment should file it in a lower federal court. In December the Justice Department filed *United States of America v. Truckee-Carson Irrigation District, et al* in Reno's federal district court against TCID, the state, Reno, Sparks and about 17,000 users of Truckee water. The Tribe also enjoined the suit on its own behalf, *Pyramid Lake Paiute Tribe v. Truckee-Carson Irrigation District, et al*. Justice also wanted to reopen the *Orr Ditch Decree* to establish a permanent right for Pyramid Lake.

Four years later in December 1977, the court dismissed the case (locally known as *U.S. v Nevada*) holding that during the Orr Ditch adjudication the government's failure to claim water for Pyramid Lake and its fishery, it had effectively ended the government and the Tribe's claim to water and were barred from claiming any future rights. Basically, Interior's dereliction of its trust duty in 1944 had lost the Tribe's water rights and it was too late to reopen the case.

However upon appeal to the Ninth Circuit Court of Appeals, on June 15, 1981, it upheld the Tribe's right to sufficient water for its fishery, ruled Interior was not authorized to take Indian water for a reclamation project, and when the government represented Indians in court it was obligated to act as its trustee and not compromise the Indians' interests because of conflicting obligations.

Other subsequent OCAP-related litigation and subsequent decisions were ruled in favor of the Tribe, included prohibiting water to Newlands without valid water rights and prohibited farmers from irrigating lands without water rights. However, from 1973 to 1985, TCID wrongfully diverted over a million acre-feet of water while appealing Interior's decision to cancel its contract and the court ruled that water illegally diverted could be "repaid" to Pyramid Lake in the future.

The Pyramid Lake Tribe's case was a **landmark decision for Indians** in general but only another step for the Tribe, according to their attorney NARF. It seemed certain that the case would eventually go to the Supreme Court and faced with the prospect of a lengthy trial and the possibility they might not be able to reopen the *Orr Ditch Decree*, NARF and the government attorneys began to work on a compromised solution—a negotiated settlement of *all* Pyramid Lake water litigation—a highly controversial legal maneuver in Indian water law.

Regardless of the controversy, the Pyramid Lake Tribe gave its trustee a sobering lesson and demonstrated to other tribes that they could put an end to the continuing theft of their resources including water.

*Thanks to the Pyramid Lake Tribal Museum for the archival photos used in the series.*

—Researched and written by Carole Wright

## Orr Ditch Decree Finally Amended

After 70 years the latest and possibly final round of litigation over the 1944 *Orr Ditch Decree*, the U.S. District Court for the District of Nevada granted all rights to remaining water in the Truckee River Basin of California and Nevada to the Pyramid Lake Paiute Tribe and declared the basin closed to new appropriations.

Federal District Judge Lloyd D. George granted a motion to amend or alter the 1944 *Orr Ditch Decree* on September 30, 2014, saying circumstances have changed and the court has the authority to alter past decrees.

Plaintiffs in the 2014 court decision included the Tribe, the federal government, Nevada, California, Truckee Meadows Water Authority, the Washoe County Water Conservation District and Fernley. They asked the court to amend the *Orr Ditch Decree* and requested a new operating agreement for the river system, the Truckee River Operating Agreement (TROA) to supersede the Truckee River Agreement adopted in the original decree.

The plaintiff's request would modify the

"Floristan Rates", implement an interstate allocation of the Truckee River and Lake Tahoe water basins, and address claims by the Tribe to the remaining Truckee River water.

The judge noted legal and factual circumstances had changed and to modify the decree to "reflect and establish the need to modify the existing operating framework for managing a complex river system to provide a flexibility necessary to manage water rights for competing and complementary uses, while also ensuring the protection of existing decreed water rights."

Judge George rejected the defendant's argument that the court's authority is limited and modifications must be done with the consent of all parties to the original agreement. He said he had the authority to modify the decree because the Truckee River Agreement "no longer remains a contract separate from the *Orr Ditch Decree*, but was incorporated into the *Decree*." Defendants include TCID, the City of Fallon, Churchill County, and numerous other respondents.

—Carole Wright

## TRUMPISMS

**'Truth isn't truth': Trump World targets our understanding of reality**—A major newspaper headline tells this story—Trump's attorney Rudy Giuliani and Trump both say there was no conversation between Trump and former FBI director James Comey about Michael Flynn (former White House security chief now facing jail time). Comey and his associates say otherwise. Giuliani says, "Trump and Comey may have different versions about the same event but that doesn't mean the truth doesn't exist—it means one of them is lying. Therefore there is no truth." Roll that one around in your head—slowly—or you'll hurt yourself.

**On Hurricane Florence:** It's "tremendously big and tremendously wet hurricane ... tremendous amounts of water."

**On Fake News:** "What you're reading and what you're watching is not what's happening."

**On impeachment:** "I don't know how you can impeach somebody who's done a great job. I'll tell you what, if I ever got impeached, I think the market would crash. I think everybody would be very poor. Because without this thinking (points to his head) you would see, you would see numbers that you wouldn't believe in reverse."

**On Abe Lincoln's success:** "Well, I think Lincoln succeeded for numerous reasons. He was a man who was of great intelligence, which most presidents would be. But he was a man of great intelligence, but he was also a man that did something that was a very vital thing to do at that time. Ten years before or 20 years before, what he was doing would never have been thought possible. So he did something that was a very important thing to do, and especially at that time."



**Champion winners of the 2018 Fern Shoulder Blade Memorial Handgame Tournament held during the 4th of July Chief's Powwow at Lame Deer, Montana.**

**Heidi Barlese, DeWayne Walsh, and Angie Shavenaux.**

**Old School House (Continued from page 1)** school.” He continued, “The school has been as successful as most Indian day-schools; the irregular attendance being here, as elsewhere, the most serious drawback to complete success. These children do not differ essentially from those of the Caucasian race in their ability to learn. Some are especially bright, one boy learning all the letters of the alphabet in one week and to read words of three letters at the close of the second week. All those that have attended with fair regularity have made commendable process.”

The old school operated until December 31, 1882. On January 1, 1883 it was changed to a boarding school and then back to a day school. Pyramid Lake Boarding School was also known as Nevada Day School from 1885-1948. In the early days the Day School was seen as a “failure” due to lack of attendance and because children were allowed to go home after school where they resumed their traditional way of life. The school was accepted into the Nevada system in 1948. Other similar schools were opened in Schurz, Owyhee and McDermitt.

The THPO/CRC will continue this research project and oral history. Individuals with photographs or memories they would like to share are encouraged to call the THPO office at 574-2404.



**Former students (l-r): Robert James, Orville Barlese, Ralph Burns, Loretta Garcia and Leona Collins gathered at the White Building for photographs. Note patches of sunlight coming in from holes in roof and ceiling.**

## Another great story of the old school building

# The Bumbled Bugging Escapade

Sometime nearer to 1970, the tribe was being pursued by Great Western Cities, a multi-million dollar housing development company, that wanted to build a community for 40,000 people below the Sutcliffe junction. Like most developers, all they saw was a huge chunk of land “just sitting there, doing nothing” and it would be a perfect location for homes “with a beautiful view of the lake”.

The main salesman was of highly questionable character and not too stable on his intellectual feet. He would bring his wife (he claimed to be a former Playboy Bunny) to council meetings to impress upon the council and others that he was a man of substance—plus give the guys something to look at and who responded by making comments in Paiute that produced guy laughter and lady giggles.

But there were a number of factors the council and tribe had to consider. Ranchers were worried about their cows being interfered with by potential residents and denied access to their grazing land. And where would they get the water?—“The lake, of course”—thinking it was drinkable. And then traffic, the destruction to the

land, and the large influx of white folks. Council members decided that if they wanted to live near a community of 40,000 white people, they’d moved to Sparks.

Great Western Cities had developed residential communities in Colorado Springs and the controversial one in Cochiti City in New Mexico. They offered to wine, dine and fly the council to those communities so they could see “their great development projects”—the kind that could be built here. Council said no thanks.

They offered \$10 million up front and \$1 million a year in rent for the lifetime of the community. The tribe was so broke they had only one paid employee but again they said no thanks.

The salesman was under pressure to sell the tribe on this project and he’d bring his “eye candy” wife to meet with the chairman and whoever else was in the office at the time. Tribal Chairman Buddy Vidovich and company would listen politely but didn’t give any final answer.

While editor of the *Native Nevadan*, the developer brought plans, brochures, even blueprints to be published in the *Nevadan* to convince the Tribe of their sincerity (he thought the *Nevadan* was the tribe’s newspaper). Instead, I used my police card to get a rap sheet on the salesman that showed he was a petty criminal from Florida. He threatened to sue me.

Desperate, the salesman issued a veiled threat—to the children of the chairman and vice chairman—“who knows what could happen to your kids after school...” Buddy said if he had a gun, he “would have shot him on the spot. Instead I told him, *very politely*, to get the hell out of my office!”

Finally, frantic to get a “yes” from the council, they bugged the meeting room then located in

the old school building. Before the next council meeting, the developer’s hired hand crawled under the building, drilled a small hole right next to the chairman’s desk and inserted a small microphone that was attached to a briefcase. On the day of the council meeting, Art Dunn was under the building to repair plumbing and saw the briefcase and its attachment. Thinking bomb, he alerted the chairman who called the FBI. The FBI determined it was not a bomb but an elaborate and very expensive piece of recording equipment.

At the council meeting, everyone was advised (in Paiute) not use the word “yes”—no matter what. The Great Western Cities’ representatives were in attendance and attempted to get anyone to use the word “yes” so they could edit the tape and make it sound like their project was approved. The developers didn’t notice the “unmarked” late-model cars in the parking lot or the men in dark suits who would phantom-like appear and disappear in the dark.

“Around midnight, the federales got tired of waiting for those guys to come get their briefcase. So a federales had to crawled under the building, getting himself all dirty, and arrested the briefcase. Around 4 (am) the salesman came to get his stuff and it was gone! He ran to the Sheriff and reported that someone stole his stuff, worth \$5,000! Then the dumb guy had to tell the Sheriff where his stuff was stolen from. And the Sheriff—with a straight face—said the federales took it. Then the idiot demanded the Sheriff arrest those federales for stealing his \$5,000 stuff!”

Buddy always told a great story.

The developers soon packed up and left town.

—Carole Wright

