



NUMUWAETU NAWAHANA

"Telling the Indian People's News" Pyramid Lake Paiute Tribal Newspaper

Volume XIII, Issue 1

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January 2009

PYRAMID LAKE PAIUTE TRIBE OF NEVADA

ELECTION RESULTS

December 27, 2008

TRIBAL CHAIRMAN	TOTALS	%
LYLE KOCHAMP	11	2.89%
MERVIN WRIGHT, JR.	166	43.68%
DUANE WASSON	78	20.53%
LESLEY WILLIAMS	32	8.42%
BONNIE AKAKA-SMITH	41	10.79%
NORMAN HARRY	40	10.53%
TERRYLEE SAMPSON	12	3.16%
VICE-CHAIRMAN		
CLAYTON SERVICAN	94	25.47%
ANTHONY SAMPSON	92	24.93%
MARLON RAMOS	15	4.07%
CARLA EBEN	72	19.51%
GINA SANDER	55	14.91%
ANNISSA ANAYA	41	11.11%
TRIBAL COUNCIL MEMBER		
CARMAN TOBEY, SR.	65	4.42%
STEVEN WADSWORTH	47	3.20%
WAYNE BURKE	77	5.24%
LELA CHRISTENSEN	111	7.55%
JANET DAVIS	84	5.71%
IRWIN MIX	94	6.39%
JUDITH DAVIS	108	7.35%
ALVIN R. JAMES	71	4.83%
JUDY HARRIS-THOMAS	21	1.43%
CAROL SMITH	50	3.40%
BURCH KOCHAMP	45	3.06%
ELMIRA COPELAND	41	2.79%
GORDON CRUTCHER, JR.	41	2.79%
SHANNON RAMBEAU	57	3.88%
ELWOOD LOWERY	129	8.78%
JOHNNIE GARCIA	101	6.87%
WAKAN WACI BLINDMAN	64	4.35%
TERRENCE WRIGHT	52	3.54%
DEAN BARLESE	51	3.47%
SHARON KEEVER	57	3.88%
MITCHELL TOBEY	46	3.13%
WILLIAM R. CRUTCHER	39	2.65%
BEVERLY BRAZZANOVICH	19	1.29%

The 2008 Tribal Election took place on Saturday December 27, 2008. The unofficial results are to the left. The results were canvassed by the Election Board immediately following the closure of the elections at 6:00 PM.

Results

Tribal Chairman: Mervin Wright, Jr.

Tribal Vice Chairman: Clayton Servilican

Tribal Council: Elwood Lowery

Lela Christensen

Judith Davis

Johnnie Garcia

Irwin Mix (one-year term)

The newly elected members will be sworn into their new term on Friday January 2, 2009.

PYRAMID LAKE HIGH SCHOOL NEWS

Academic Olympic Team put up a good fight this season

"Being smart is something to be proud of."

Pyramid Lake continued to square off with the regional Nevada 1A schools in a challenge of intellect and timing. Prior to the AO season, Coaches Rose and Wanlass met with a growing number of students who were willing to put themselves in the game arena with their peers from other high school. In four 25-30 minute sessions, the Academic Olympic team was presented with questions ranging from mathematics, history, literature, and science. Regular questions allowed 20 seconds to answer and math questions were allowed 40 seconds. "It was pretty hard to answer really quickly," says Nikwich Wright.



Academic Olympic Team (2008), back row: Nikwich Wright, Matt Arrington, Robert Olivas, Lawrence Mandell. Front row: Cheyenna Wood, Galen Barlese, Ava Ortiz, Vanessa Castillo, Valentina Hunter, and Elisha Jackson stand with their coaches, Mr. Rose and Mr. Wanlass on November 26 school awards assembly.

Vision and Mission Statement of the Pyramid Lake Paiute Tribe

VISION:

The Pyramid Lake Paiute Tribe envisions an ideal lifestyle where its enrolled members prosper physically, emotionally, spiritually, and economically. Our vision is to increase and use cultural knowledge and experience to protect and preserve the natural resources of the Pyramid Lake and Northern Paiute homelands. We endeavor to foster individual growth and personal responsibility through education and economic opportunity.

MISSION:

The Pyramid Lake Paiute Tribal Council is dedicated to creating a respectful environment that inspires values; protects and preserves our cultural and traditional heritage; supports tribal self-sufficiency; promotes emotional and spiritual wellness; and encourages innovation and positive leadership. We aspire to achieve through trusted cooperation, coordination, and collaboration with local, regional, and national communities, and with individuals and organizations who aim to achieve similar goals of the Tribe and its community.



... From the Chairman's Office

I want to start out by thanking those who participated in this recent election. I also want to thank you for supporting my bid for re-election. Because there were seven candidates for tribal chairman the vote was split amongst the candidates. There are a number of loopholes and gaps in the process that will be addressed through both constitutional amendments and through election ordinance amendments.

The election was historical in many regards. It is the most candidates that participated in an election. It was one that contained a high voter turnout. It was the first time in eight elections that a Tribal Chairman was re-elected. When there are many candidates, the dissenting results will bring forth anguish and frustration. It has been recognized that when our communities divide, it can weaken the ability to progress forward.

The Tribal Council adopted resolution PL 57-08 requesting a Secretarial Election to amend the Tribal Constitution and By-Laws. After conferring with the Bureau of Indian Affairs (BIA) Western Nevada Agency once the public meetings are scheduled, the date of the election can be determined. At this time the outlook is to schedule the election for April 2009. This should give enough time to present the amendments to each community and afford the opportunity to comment ask questions,

The amendments include: 18 year right to vote; residency requirement; absentee ballots; four year terms; candidacy requirements; a primary election process; removal and recall; lease terms; and regular tribal council meetings. Not only will the constitution be analyzed, but the tribal election ordinance can also be reviewed to streamline the election system. Discussion will begin considering developing district representation.

As the year begins, the work that was completed over the past 22 months will be allowed to proceed forward. One analogy that was used was that tribal finances were a train wreck. It is now seen that the train cars are situated back on the track and the train is about ready to leave the station. The tribal operations – the machine – will proceed forward and it is intended to function properly.

Business intentions are at the forefront. The Tribe and Tribal Council have embraced and are moving forward with the business model concept. Basically the business model concept means: "A plan implemented to generate revenue and make a profit from operations. The model includes the components and functions of the business, the revenues it generates and the expenses it incurs." It is self explanatory when decisions involve the model that the objective is the focus.

At the center of any business model is the vision and mission statement of the business. The vision and mission statement of the Tribe will be at the forefront of any aspect of the tribal operation. So far the Tribe has operated to collect as much revenue as necessary under the economic controls and by the requirements of tribal regulation and rules.

Grants and contract management has become more defined as responsibility has been assigned directly with each program and its director. Agency requirements are paramount. Drawdown schedules are critical to obtaining the maximum amount of direct funding and the supporting indirect costs. In the end the collection means so much to the resulting ability to exercise flexibility and certain latitude with funding requirements.

It is with great hope that the Tribal Council can continue in the same direction that has been established and that each member of the Council understand their role and responsibility. The goal is to continue to work as a team and that the foundation for direction is based on the common thread of interest for the benefit of the Tribe. If it comes to separate interests to fulfill personal agendas, then there is work to be done to bring everyone together and share the common interest of the tribal membership.

Leases will be reorganized to utilize the TAAMS to collect and enforce provisions under the guise of the BIA trust responsibility. In this manner there will be one agent collecting lease revenue instead of the Tribe collecting some and the BIA collecting other lease revenue. Consistency is the goal.

Separating the roles and responsibility of the three branches of government will be pursued. This will provide efficiency in tribal governmental operations. It will

also assure a checks and balance between the legislative, executive, and judiciary branches. This organization will give each component greater responsibility to focus on specific tasks associated with each role. The current government operation is under a legislative function entirely. The tribal council is involved in every sector which brings inconsistent decisions and sometimes bad precedents. By allowing the separation in decision-making responsibility, it will be able to catch any inconsistency and afford proper decisions.

A Request for Qualification will be announced for Tribal General Counsel. This will provide a means to receive statements from local attorneys who can provide necessary legal representation for general tribal matters. It is encouraged that programs who can afford legal counsel, contract directly with their respective program. These would include Fisheries, Health Clinic, Pyramid Lake High School, Pyramid Lake Housing Authority, and Pyramid Lake Water Resources. Each program will be coordinated with the tribal administration to assure efficient application of program funds.

The work will continue in the direction established and it is with excitement that the intention will also continue to the extent necessary under the watchful eye of the Tribal Council. Teamwork will be emphasized and developing common goals and objectives will be forthcoming. If you have any questions, please contact my office at (775) 574-1000 x102. Thank you.

Mervin Wright, Jr.
Chairman Elect

PLHS NEWS Continued from page 1
Pyramid Lake Booster Club

"Let Me See Some Laker Pride!!"

It's that time again to support the student athletic program by raising funds to off set school expenses this basketball season. Each February our school spirit soars to the all-time high and all the Laker Fans are overjoyed when the Lakers are headed for the State Championship play-off games. Yet sometimes the necessary money isn't there and that is where the Pyramid Lake Booster Club steps in.

At the current time, the Pyramid Lake Booster's checking balance is \$107.33 that will serve as the first concession's start up money.

All parents of student athletes are required to support the Booster Club by providing the essentials and food donations. Items that is important for a successful Indian Taco concession stand is all-purpose flour, vegetable oil, dry pinto beans, paper plates, utensils, soda, and bottled water. Prior to game days, the refrigerated foods like hamburger, lettuce, tomatoes, and shredded cheese are important to bring in. Your assistance in food prep or managing the cash box will be appreciated.

Four concession dates are scheduled for this basketball season.

Jan. 9 - Colville

Jan. 17 - Sierra Lutheran/Rainshadow

Jan. 23 - Gabbs/Rainshadow

Feb. 6 - Smith Valley.

If we work together, the Booster Club may easily earn up to \$600.00 per game and perhaps a total earning of \$2,400.00 for February 21-23 State Championships in Las Vegas.

If the Booster Club exceeds the projected earnings, funds may be directed toward awards or other student expenses. The Booster Club also provides money for away trips for dinners and motel stays.

Note: I am only one person, a parent and school employee who Booster Club participation is strictly voluntary - I do not get paid for my work. I have additional responsibilities that demand my attention. As one of the Senior Class advisors, I must oversee the class raffle and Homecoming event, and responsible for the yearbook photography. I've made a personal commitment toward this effort and hope you choose to do the same. Believe me, I will personally thank you.

Log on to <https://bie.infinitecampus.com/campus/portal/pyramidlake.jsp>

We are happy to provide you with an essential link to your student's progress while attending Pyramid Lake. Call the Registrar at 574-1016 ext. 0 and request your Campus Portal Activation Key.

A friendly reminder from the Registrar's desk...

During the school day, the office staff manages day-to-day business including greeting

Continued from page 2.

visitors and answering phone calls.. Your phone calls are important. However, staff will take phone messages for all non-emergency calls. Your student may return your phone during lunch or after school.

CLASS of 2009 NEWS

The Senior Class is sponsoring a raffle in which the prizes will be announced on Saturday, February 14, 2009 at the Homecoming game. The Grand Prize is a Compaq Presario desktop computer with monitor and wireless keyboard and mouse. This computer is fully equipped to meet the needs for any family. The CPU has front ports for multi-media storage devices, a DVD player and CD burner. This unit is Internet ready.



TICKETS ARE ON NOW ON SALE!
\$1.00 / ticket or \$5.00 for six tickets.

The members of the Senior Class will be contributing other prizes to be won in February. Stop by our raffle booth at each home basketball game or stop in at the school library to purchase your winning tickets from Mrs. Paul.



Clarinetists Dalesah Shaw, Sequoia Decker, Clarissa Horse and Leanna Mix are members of the Wind Ensemble.



Concert Band members, John Barlese and Dyron Clark played their best on the December 17th performance.



Percussionists Sean Murray and Victor Joe read their sheet music and watched for Ms. McCauley's cue.

Pyramid Lake Concert Band And Wind Ensemble Shine On A Winter's Night

On Wednesday, December 17, 2008, our school Concert Band and Wind Ensemble performed their holiday selections for the student body and again in the evening for family and friends. At the evening concert, approximately 65 family and friends attended.

Ms. Michelle McCauley, school band director, brought her students' music skills up to performance standards for this event. She credited Mr. Robert Gorder for managing the school band in her absence during the first quarter. Principal Melendez stated that he was "very proud of the band class and would like to one day to see Pyramid Lake High School have a full marching band of 70 kids."

The Concert Band members are middle school students. The musical selections they played were Angels We Have Heard On High and Christmas Triptych. A local Native Flutist, Elmer Atlookan (Ojibwa), performed during a brief intermission prior to the Wind Ensemble. The Wind Ensemble is a large group of ninth and tenth grade students. They played Silent Night, A Christmas Finale and How The West Was Won (Theme).

In addition to the evening's highlights, the 21st Century Community Learning Center staff and students provided the dessert treats. Arlene Austin, the program Coordinator, enlisted students to assist in the kitchen one day prior to the evening concert. The kids made dessert items.

Happy New Year! 2009!

Numaga News

The Holidays came and went in the blink of an eye!

The Elder's enjoyed attending various Xmas Parties traveling to Yerington and Schurz for Christmas parties, all who went had a great time!

The Numaga Senior Party was held on Thursday, December 18, 2008 at the Tribal Gym. There were 50 participants who shared time in celebrating the Christmas holidays playing Bingo and eating a Turkey and Roast beef dinner. I would like to thank all the volunteers who helped in making it possible for Pyramid Lake's Elder dinner. Thank You to Betsy for decorating our cake!

A special thanks to Fredricks, Pelcyger and Morgan LLP who for their monetary donation which went to food items purchase for Food Baskets! They sponsored 20 additional baskets.

A great big thank you to the Pyramid Lake High School (Paula & Harriet's classes), Fisheries and Clinic for your food donations that helped make our elder's food basket a success allowing us to meet our targeted goal.

Advisory Board elections are coming up in January. I am inviting all Elders to attend the meeting scheduled the 2nd Tuesday to participate in these elections for Chairperson, Vice Chairperson, Secretary and Treasurer! All elders present at the meetings are considered voting members so plan on coming in and participating.

NUMAGA NEWS continued from previous page.

I would like to especially thank the Numaga Staff, Lela Christensen, Dehan Dominguez, for their continued support of the Numaga Senior Center!!

The Numaga program is open **Monday through Friday** from **8:00 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.**

Lunch is served from **11:00 a.m. until 12:30 p.m. Mon – Thurs.**

Breakfast on Friday from **8:00 a.m. to 9:30 a.m.**

Arts and Crafts is also scheduled every **Thursday** beginning at **9:30 a.m.**

Elders 60 and over are more than welcome to join us at the center.

Vinton Hawley, Senior Services Director

Tax Department

We would like to wish you all a Happy New Year. In October the Nevada Tribes Tax Working Group (Pyramid Lake, Walker River, Reno-Sparks Indian Colony and Battle Mountain) and The National Intertribal Tax Alliance hosted the 10th Annual NITA Conference in Sparks, NV at John Ascuaga's Nugget. We would like to Thank Echo Sky Drummers, Christina Thomas and Ralph Burns for the great entertainment you provided.

The Nevada Tribes Tax Working Group presented Dino Di Cianno, State of Nevada Deputy Executive Director Taxation Department with a plaque of appreciation for all the commitment he has done for Nevada Tribes. The Group also presented Zelma Baker with a plaque in honor of her son the late Robert Baker Jr. He was the Reno-Sparks Indian Colony, Tax Manager and involved with the NITA Conference 10 years ago. The Conference was very successful.

Income Tax season is almost here, Da Nelle, Tax Assistant finished a 12 week course with H&R Block on how to prepare Income Taxes.

The Tax Department will not be preparing Income Tax Returns until February 2, 2009.

*** Reminder we ask that you wait until all W-2's are received.**

The Tax Commission has posted an increase to the Mineral Severance Tax on the reservation from 2% to 3%.

SELLER PERMIT RENEWAL

The Annual Seller Permit is due for 2009. The fee is \$25.00 a year. Anyone selling a tangible product needs a permit. If you sell for a company or person, they need to be registered with the Tribe.

The Tax Department provides many services such as:

Notary Services-Free of Charge

Pyramid Lake Souvenir License Plates

(For display only Not for vehicle use)

Pyramid Lake Spousal Tax Exemption Cards(marriage license required)

Applications for a Seller's Permit

(Not a Business License Permit)

Pyramid Lake Tribal Member Tax Exemption on deliveries made to the

Pyramid Lake Reservation

DMV-Vehicle Tax Exemption Form(s)

(Governmental Service Tax)

For a DMV form you will need to provide:

Person(s) Vehicle is registered to

Year of Vehicle

Make & Model of Vehicle

License Plate Number

V.I.N. Number

Physical and Mailing Address

Nevada Tribal Member residing on Pyramid Lake Paiute Reservation or Pyramid Lake Paiute member residing on another Nevada reservation.

When the Tax Staff is out of the office the receptionist, Tribal Secretary or Tribal Administrator can provide the DMV Tax Exempt Form for you.

Tax Department Staff:

Vernelda Frazier-Tax Administrator

Da Nelle Smith- Tax Assistant

Tax Department

P.O. Box 256/208 Capitol Hill

Nixon, Nevada 89424

Phone: (775)574-1000 Ext. 121/123/124

Fax: (775) 574-1007



October 21, 2008

Vernelda M. Frazier, Tax Administrator
Pyramid Lake Tribe Tax Department
P.O. Box 256
Nixon, NV 89424

Dear Vernelda,

I would like to thank you and the National Inter-Tribal Tax Alliance for honoring my son, Robert Baker, Jr. during the banquet held on October 16, 2008.

I would like to give special recognition to the Echo Sky Drum Group who sang the Honor Song for Robert.

On behalf of my Family the dinner was appreciated and the honor you gave to my son. The plaque we will treasure for years. He was a very special person and holds a very special place in all of our hearts.

Thank you so much for the recognition.

Sincerely,

Zelma Baker & Family
31 Reservation Road
Reno, NV 89502

TRIBAL COURT NEWS
DECEMBER 2008

ACTIVE WARRANTS

Rachelle Auguh	Jeremy Baker	Dustin Barlese
Phelon Brown	Cynthia Christensen	Brandon Comes Flying
Conrad Fellows	Garrett Fellows	Gibson Fielder
Keith Garcia Jr.	Joanna Hancock	Frank Henry Jr
Kendal Henry	Boyd Jackson V	Sebastian Jackson
Bryan Johnson	Rayfield Kelly	Royce Kochampenasken
Teresa Lenoir	Robert Leyva	Duane Lopez
Quinten Lopez	Kevin Melius	Cecelia Phoenix
Veronica Rodarte	Teresa Royer	Lonnie Savage
James Shaw	Shawn Shaw	Reed Skenadore Jr
Everette Smith	Reuben Smith	Rochelle Talas
Shepard Taylor	Skyler F. Taylor	James Thomas Jr (2)
Jonathan Thomas	Juanita Thompson	Patrick VanBrundt
Melissa Vasquez	Maynard Victor	Walter Washington
Damon Williams		

Hearings held in December 2008

December 2, 2008 - 7 criminal hearings, 1 civil hearing and 8 citations
 December 3, 2008 - Juvenile Court Held (10 hearings)
 December 9, 2008 - 5 criminal hearings, 1 civil hearing and 1 citation
 December 10, 2008 - Civil Court Held (7 hearings)
 December 17, 2008 - Juvenile Court Held (6 hearings)
 December 23, 2008 - 11 criminal hearings, 2 civil hearings and 3 citations
 December 30, 2008 - 5 criminal hearings, 3 civil hearings and 3 citations

IN THE PYRAMID LAKE TRIBAL COURT IN AND FOR THE
PYRAMID LAKE INDIAN RESERVATION
WASHOE COUNTY, NEVADA

Wilma Smith & Carman Tobey, Jr.)	
PL.CV.MO.2008-0067)	
dba Smith 'n Tobey 24 Hour Towing)	
Plaintiffs,)	SUMMONS
)	
vs.)	
)	
Brian Faul)	
7635 Creek Canyon Drive, Reno NV 89506)	
Does I through X)	
Defendants.)	

NOTICE YOU HAVE BEEN SUED. THE COURT MAY DECIDE AGAINST YOU WITHOUT YOU BEING HEARD UNLESS YOU RESPOND WITHIN 20 DAYS. READ THE INFORMATION BELOW:

TO THE DEFENDANT: A Civil Complaint has been filed by the Plaintiff against you for the relief set forth in the Complaint.

If you intend to defend this lawsuit, within 20 days after this Summons is served on you, exclusive of the day of service, you must do the following:

a. File with the Clerk of the Court, whose address is shown below, a formal written response to the Complaint in accordance with the rule of the Court.

Unless you respond, your default will be entered upon application of the Plaintiff and this Court may enter a judgment against you for the relief demanded in this Complaint, which could result in the taking of money or property or other relief requested in the Complaint.

If you intend to seek the advice of an attorney in this matter, you

should do so promptly so that your response may be filed on time.

Done and dated this 19th day of December 2008.

Jeraldine Magee, Court Administrator
 Pyramid Lake Tribal Court
 P.O. Box 257, Nixon, NV 89424
 (775) 574-1094

Issued on behalf of Smith 'n Tobey 24 Hour Towing

**IN THE PYRAMID LAKE TRIBAL COURT IN AND FOR THE
PYRAMID LAKE INDIAN RESERVATION
WASHOE COUNTY, NEVADA**

In the Matter of:)	CASE NO:
PL.CV.NC.2008-0081)	
LYNETTE R. GALVIN)	NOTICE FOR PETITION
OF)	CHANGE OF NAME
Petitioner,)	
)	
For Change of Name:)	
Filed By: Lynette Galvin)	

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that Lynette Galvin has, on the 19th day of December 2008, filed a Petition addressed to the above-entitled Court praying that said Court enter an Order changing her name from Lynette Rae (Hess) Galvin to Lynette Rae Blossom.

NOTICE IS FURTHER GIVEN that any person having objection to the changing of Petitioner's name as aforesaid shall file written objection with the above-entitled Court within ten (10) days after date of the last publication of this Notice, to-wit, January 10, 2009 and after publication in the Tribal Newspaper.

Dated: December 22, 2008

Jeraldine Magee, Court Administrator

Below are names of persons who wrote checks to the I-80 Smokeshop and have been returned by their bank. Payment must be made by either a money order, cashier's check or cash. Please call the I-80 Smokeshop at (775) 575-2181 to make arrangements for a payback agreement.

Abel, Nancy
 Alejos, Mario
 Auguh, Colleen
 Auguh, Rachelle Y
 Bettencourt, Manuel
 Brazzanovich, Beverly A
 Brown, Laureen G
 Bryan-Pulido, Ivy R
 Burns, Janell
 Cook, Russell W
 Darrough, Mary
 Davis, Joshua S
 Davis, Judith
 Davis, Marie E
 Deaton, Susan L & Randy L
 Dickinson, Carol
 Dodd, Winona E
 Dunn, Angela Faye
 Dunn, Conrad F
 Fox, Kenneth M & Lowery, Melinda E
 Frazier, Grace L
 Frazier, Melisea M
 George, Nathan Jr.
 George, Shaunee S
 Henry, Denise
 Henry, Ethel M
 Henry, Kendall V
 Henry, Shelly M
 Hunter, Daniel
 Jackson, Dara L
 Jackson, Michelle Jo
 James, Georganna
 Kever, Daniel R & Patricia M
 Lee, Lorenzo & Marilyn
 Leyva, Todd R.M.
 Lowery, Dorian B
 Lowery, Lenora F
 Lowery, Natalie J
 Lucas, Marcy
 Manning, Robert & Carrie
 McCloud, Jolene C

McClusky, Heidi
 Morsette, Desiree D
 Newmoon, George H
 Pete, Dennis & Corrine R
 Pete, Lili Ann & Thomas, Jr. James
 Phoenix, Michael L
 Ramos, Charlotte & Winap, Marvin
 Romo, Keri L
 Sander, Jolyne
 Serawop, Monica W
 Smith, Bernadete & Gregory
 Smith, Cameron W
 Smith, Colleen
 Smith, Deyson N
 Smith, Leo & Ginger
 Smith, Melonie Y
 Smith, Natalie
 Thomas, Jr. James
 Thomas, Kevin E
 Tierney, Marie
 Tobey, Jason
 Wadsworth, Christopher W
 West, Rachel
 White, Michelle L
 Williams, Jamie M
 Williams, Lawrence P
 Williams, Leanna M
 Williams, Leslie D. & Quintero, Robert
 Williams, Melinda
 Williams, Natasha
 Williams, Shari D
 Williams, Shona
 Yellow Hair, N.M.

Talking Points: Separation of Powers Continued.

- Judges must explain their decisions in written opinions.
- Judges most follow the precedents established by the decisions of higher courts.
- Judges' decisions are subject to review by courts of appeals.
 - The executive and legislative branches each have powers that check and balance the judiciary.
- The federal courts are staffed by judges nominated by the President.
- The courts rely upon the executive branch for enforcement of their decisions.
- Congress has control over the judiciary's budget (although it cannot reduce a judge's salary).
- Congress has the power to impeach federal judges who misbehave in office.
- Congress may begin the process of amending the Constitution if it disagrees with the judiciary's interpretation of the Constitution.

Separation of Powers—and Congress

- The Constitution gives Congress numerous powers, including
 - Power over the budget, including the authority to raise taxes, borrow money, and spend money
 - Power to declare war and to raise and support military forces
 - Power to regulate immigration, the mail, patents and copyrights, and commerce between the states and with foreign countries
 - Power to establish federal courts below the United States Supreme Court
- In addition, the Constitution also provides that Congress has the power to pass any laws that are "necessary and proper" to give effect to its named powers.
- The Constitution divides legislative power in the Congress between the House of Representatives and the Senate. Both Houses must agree on proposed legislation before it becomes law.

Talking Points: Separation of Powers Continued.

The first three articles of the Constitution define the powers given to the three branches. Article I defines the Congress, Article II defines the executive branch, and Article III defines the judiciary.

- The Founders created a system that both separated and blended powers so that each branch serves as a check and balance on the powers of the others. For example, the executive can veto legislation passed by Congress, and the judiciary can review the constitutionality of legislation if it is challenged in court.

Separation of Powers—and the Federal Judiciary

- In *The Federalist Papers*, Alexander Hamilton described the judiciary as the least powerful branch. The judiciary's independence from political interference by the legislature or the executive branch is protected in the Constitution by life tenure during good behavior and a guaranteed salary.
- The judiciary's power to review the constitutionality of executive actions or laws passed by Congress is called judicial review. This power was first used by the Supreme Court in *Marbury v. Madison* (1803). The judiciary's power is limited to the "cases and controversies" brought before the court.
- There are numerous constraints within the judiciary on the power of individual judges:

- Checks and balances on the powers of Congress include
 - The President's veto power on proposed legislation (A two-thirds majority of both the House and Senate is required to override a veto.)
 - The Supreme Court's power to review the constitutionality of a law if it is challenged in a case brought before the Court

Separation of Powers—and the Executive

- Constitutional powers granted to the executive branch include
 - Oversight of federal agencies that implement laws passed by Congress (these agencies employ more than 4 million people).
 - Power as Commander in Chief of the armed forces
 - Power to make treaties, nominate judges to the federal judiciary, and appoint officers of the government, subject to the advice and consent of the Senate
 - Power to pardon individuals convicted of federal crimes
- The President was the equivalent of the monarchs who ruled as heads of state for most European countries at the time the Constitution was drafted. Unlike those monarchs, however, the President is elected to office and serves only for a limited term.
 - Among the checks and balances on executive power are
 - The Senate's power to ratify treaties the President has signed and to consent to the President's nominees

Talking Points: Separation of Powers

American Bar Association Division for Public Education

Separation of Powers—and the U.S. Constitution

- A basic definition of separation of powers is the idea that a government functions best when its powers are not concentrated in a single authority but are instead divided among different branches.
- The United States was the first nation to formalize separation of powers among the branches in a written constitution.
- Lawyers and philosophers in the seventeenth and eighteenth centuries defined the three branches of government and their respective powers:

The legislative branch has the power to make the law.

The executive branch has the power to enforce the law.

The judicial branch has the power to interpret the law.

Light of Life Church Ministries

Pastors Leo & Gloria Smith
SERVICES

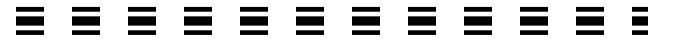
SUNDAY—11 am & 6 pm
(Children's Sunday School)

WEDNESDAY EVENING
Bible Study—7 p.m.

1525 E Newland Dr. Fernley, NV
(across from Wal-Mart)
PO Box 81, Wadsworth, NV 89442

Ph: 775.575.4634
Fx: 775.575.4107
Em: gloleosmith@sbcglobal.net

Committee—Board—Commission— Council Meetings



Cattlemen's Association: 1st Monday 7:00 PM
President: Jason Davis

Inter-Disciplinary Team: 1st & 3rd Tuesday 9:00 AM
Chair: John W. Jackson

Higher Education Committee: 1st Tuesday 4:30 PM
Chair: Karen Shaw

Tax Commission: 1st Tuesday 5:00 PM
Chair: Fannie Ely

Law & Order Committee: 1st Tuesday 6:30 PM
Chair: Jolyne Sander

Public Utilities Board of Directors: 1st Wednesday 5:00 PM
Chair: Randa Mitchell

Tribal Council: 1st & 3rd Friday 7:00 PM & 6:30 PM
Chair: Mervin Wright, Jr.

Pyramid Lake High School Board of Directors: 2nd Tuesday 6:00 PM
Chair: Anthony Sampson

Personnel Committee: 2nd Wednesday 4:30 PM
Chair: Randa Mitchell

Gaming Commission: 3rd Monday 6:00 PM
Chair: Elwood Lowery

Enrollment Committee: 3rd Tuesday 6:30 PM
Chair: Judith Davis

Pyramid Lake Fisheries Board of Directors: 3rd Tuesday 7:00 PM
Chair: William Wadsworth

Economic Development Committee: 3rd Thursday 6:00 PM
Chair: John W. Jackson

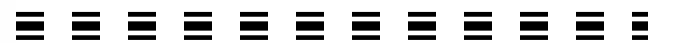
Land & Resource Committee: 4th Monday 6:30 PM
Chair: Jolyne Sander

Program Director's Meeting: 4th Tuesday 9:00 AM

Pyramid Lake Housing Authority Board of Directors: 4th Tuesday 5:00 PM
Chair: Dean Calvin

Pyramid Lake Health Clinic Board of Directors: 4th Tuesday 5:30 PM
Chair: Carla Molino

Election Board of Directors: During Election Cycle To Be Announced
Chair: Karole McQueen



MORE PLHS NEWS Continued from page 3

PLHS NEWS:

Elective Class Feature:

Native Arts classes in the school schedule

Middle and high school students have an opportunity to learn fine art in a beading class taught by Ms. McCauley and Mr. Sharp Fish each day. Every student begins by learning the loom beading set-up, pattern designing and the one needle technique. The loom beading challenges students to visualize their designs by contrasting bead colors by starting with putting designs on graph paper, however some do not need to do so; they just begin.

The teachers have seen the interest grow each week as students often request more beading supplies for take home. Students are responsible for personal beading containers, needles, thread and beeswax. They are en-

Jaymes Lowery, Sutcliffe, began a new loom project on Dec. 2.

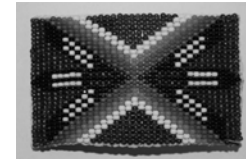
couraged to avoid spilling beads and keeping their work area clean.

The 21st Century After-School Program offers an incentive component after the regular homework hour. The Art Room opens at 4:30 on Monday through Thursday where students may continue



This (appliqué) beadwork made by Brian Quartz.

Hair barrette made by Kathleen Dressler



Talking Points: Separation of Powers Continued.

- for federal judgeships and other government positions
- The power of Congress to impeach and convict the President for "treason, bribery, or other high crimes and misdemeanors"
- The federal judiciary's power to declare executive actions unconstitutional if they are challenged in court

Separation of Powers—in Other Systems

- Separation of powers is a hallmark of most democratic governments, but the balance of powers among branches can differ in different political systems.
- The United Kingdom's parliamentary system, for example, has much greater overlap between the executive and the legislative branches. The party who wins a majority of seats in Parliament, the United Kingdom's legislative body, chooses a member of its party to serve as prime minister, the head of the executive branch.
- Members of Parliament can dissolve a prime minister's government and force new elections with a vote of no confidence. This is an important check on executive power in a parliamentary system. In forcing new elections, however, the majority party risks losing power in Parliament to

Talking Points: Separation of Powers Continued.

- to another party.
- In all systems, an independent judiciary is a crucial element in ensuring that the political branches (the executive and the legislative) do not exceed constitutional limits on their power.
- Other institutions outside government also serve as checks and balances on the powers of the executive, the legislature, and the judiciary. These include a free press that can investigate and report on government actions, non-governmental organizations that advocate for different interests, and the power of the people in whom government authority ultimately rests.



Letters to the Editor

The Pyramid Lake Paiute Tribal Newspaper welcomes your "Letters to the Editor."

- ♦ Letters must be 200 words or less. Letters are subject to editing for conformance to the 200 word limit, as well as for libel and taste.
- ♦ Letters must carry a full, legible and signed name of its author. The newspaper staff does not withhold names of letter authors. Pseudonyms are not allowed.
- ♦ Each author is allowed one published letter per newspaper issue.
- ♦ To be published, all letters must have a permanent address and/or a daytime telephone number for verification. **This information will not be published.**
- ♦ Letters addressed to specific parties other than the Pyramid Lake Paiute Tribal newspaper, to readers, letters from other publications, form letters that do not contain original writing content by the signatory or personal complaints outside the public domain are not published.
- ♦ Letters are published in the order which they are received. Promptness of publication depends on the volume of letters received and space availability.

MAIL LETTERS TO:

Letter to the Editor
PYRAMID LAKE PAIUTE TRIBE
P O Box 256
Nixon, NV 89424

Newspaper Submittal for **FEBRUARY** Paper **DEADLINE: January 23 @ 3:00 p.m.**

Please complete **this form** and submit with your article.

BE SURE TO:

- Include your name, phone # and address.
- Personals may submit a hard copy of article. Hand written Personals ONLY must be printed legibly.
- **Submitted articles must be saved on CD** in Adobe Acrobat, Publisher, Word or WordPerfect format. (Media will be returned).
- **Articles can be submitted via e-mail to newspaper@plpt.nsn.us.** A hard copy of article must also be submitted by deadline.
- Pictures should be submitted in black & white. (Dark backgrounds do not scan well).
- Digital pictures must be taken with a high resolution for a good quality picture.
- REMEMBER: Pictures represent the quality of the picture submitted.
- Submit all information to the Tribal Manager's Office by deadline

DATE: _____ NEWSPAPER MONTH: _____
NAME: _____
PHONE: _____ DEPARTMENT: _____
TITLE OF ARTICLE: _____
ITEMS TO BE RETURNED: YES or NO
IF YES, ADDRESS: _____

ADVERTISING RATES

Advertising space will be provided to any business, organization or individual at the following rates:

\$100/full page \$75/half page \$50/quarter page \$25/eighth page \$10/business card

All advertisements must be camera ready and cannot be returned. Each advertisement must be paid in full by the deadline date for publishing.

DEADLINES FOR THE YEAR 2009 — Fridays @ 3:00 p.m.

February — January 23

This schedule will allow us to get the newspaper prepared, edited, and printed and ready for bulk mailing the first week of each month. The Tribal Manager's office collects your articles and will forward them to the Editor.

Thank you for contributing your articles for our Newspaper this past year. Please continue to contribute to our Newspaper and let the people know about your program or department's activities and accomplishments. Please submit on diskette in Microsoft Word, WordPerfect or Publisher format along with a hard copy of article.

CONTACT: PYRAMID LAKE PAIUTE TRIBE—NEWSPAPER ADVERTISEMENT
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