



April 2016

Soboba Indian Reporter

Soboba Indian Reporter: Ernie C. Salgado Jr., Publisher/Editor

Robert “Bobby” Salgado Sr. Elected Chairman By Landslide



The Soboba Band of Luiseno Indians Tribal election for Tribal Chairman was held on Saturday April 2, 2016 on the Soboba Indian Reservation. The voter turn out was the largest in recent years with 274 Tribal Members voting.

Bobby Salgado who passed away on March 6, 2016 received 167 votes posthumous and incumbent Tribal Chairwoman, Rose Mary Morillo gaining 99 votes and 9 votes going to several write-ins. With an over whelming 61 percent of the votes Bobby was elected Tribal Chairman for the ninth time over his 35 years of leadership.

Since he will not be able to claim the position a new election will be scheduled by the election committee. The process will be to hold a nomination meeting for the Tribal Chairmen position.

During his 35-years leadership tenure the tribe went from an improvised community to a multimillion dollar enterprise. In the mid 70's he

successfully challenged the Bureau of Indian Affairs for the release of tribal water development funds under the authority of P.L. 923-638 The Indian Self Determination and Education Act of 1976 for the construction of a tribal system. He later was successful in settling the water law suit against the Bureau of Indian Affairs for negligence and the 67-year battle with EMWD. He understood the importance of having a secure water source for the tribe for as long as the tribe exist.

In the late 50's the Tribal Council gave away the right-of-way to Soboba Rd. and Castile Canyon Rd. to the County of Riverside. He was successful in getting the roads returned to the tribe.

He also met with four sitting United States Presidents during his service as Tribal Chairman. The impact of his leadership will benefit the tribe and its members for decades to come.

May God Bless you Brother and Rest in Peace.

Rose Salgado Re-Elected to Tribal Council

Rose Salgado was the top vote-getter in the April 2, 2016 Tribal elections for a seat on the Soboba Tribal Council. With a crowded field of 10 Tribal Members seeking election to the one of the two Council seats. Rose received 126 votes of the 275 cast.

Rose has served on the Council for 16 years from 1999 to 2015 when she was forced to step down due to a life threatening illness from which she has fully recovered. She is the most experienced and qualified candidate which the membership recognized by their overwhelming support for her re-election to the Tribal Council.

COMMUNITY/CIVIC EXPERIENCE

Elected San Jacinto Unified School District Board of Trustees, 1990-1994. Re-elected to San Jacinto Unified School District Board of Trustees 2010-15



San Jacinto Chamber of Commerce, 1994-1995
Ramona Bowl Amphitheater Board of Directors secretary and president during 1998-2008 for “Ramona: California’s Official Outdoor Play”
Soboba Tribal Council, 1999-2015, serving as secretary and vice-chair
Soboba Foundation, 2011-present (Tribal Council Representative)
Hemet/San Jacinto Valley Chamber of Commerce served as Executive Committee member and secretary 2002-2010
Western Science Center Board of Directors, 2010-2015
Elected Valley Wide Recreation & Park District Board of Directors, 2012- 2015
The Community Foundation Serving Riverside and San Bernardino Counties, 2012-present
Menifee Valley Chamber of Commerce, serving on Executive Board and as secretary, 2013-2015

Kelli Hurtado Wins Tribal Council Seat

(Sorry no Photo) Kelli Hurtado edges Sally Moreno Ortiz for a Tribal Council seat by four votes, 82 to 78. This is Hurtado's first time for a tribal elected office. she is currently employed as a secretary in the Tribal Administration Office.

Other contestants were Maurice “Buster” Mojado 72, Scott Cozart 51, Shawn Maciel 43, Lawrence Modesto 37, James Arres 21, Charles Resvaloso 15 and Pamela Valdez received 18 votes as a write-in.

DON'T DRINK AND DRIVE

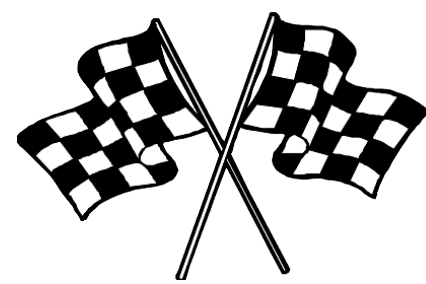
Lucille “Miranda” Briones & Antonia Briones Win Noli School Board Seats

In another highly contested field of six candidates Lucille “Miranda” Briones received 140 votes with Antonia Briones at 104 votes.

Charles Castello 88, Steve Lopez 74, Adona “Modesto” Salgado 71, and Edward Soza 66. Additional write-in votes went to Annette Vadez 2 with Arlene Salgado and Patrick Placencia each getting one vote.

Soboba Election Committee Members

The Soboba Election Committee consist of five members and two alternates. Lisa Ortega served as the Chairwoman with Steve Lopez, Donovan Post, Harold Arres and Taylor Bentiste rounding out the committee. Alternates were Marion Chacon and Michelle Vivanco. I would like to thank you all for your service. It is a lot of work but it is important to maintain the integrity of the Tribal election process.



MICA DIAZ MAKING MOTOCROSS HISTORY

Soboba Tribal Member, Mica Diaz became the first and only American Indian woman in the United States of America to be a licensed professional motocross racer. After serving a short four-years apprenticeship as an upper division amateur and earning the required points to qualify for her professional Motocross racers license. She submitted her application in early January 2016 and was granted her professional license in April 2016.

To put her current achievements in the proper perspective the American Indian population in the United States is approximately 5.2 million according to the 2010 U.S. census. Assuming that half the American Indian population is female would mean that Mica is the only American Indian woman out of an estimated 2.6 million American Indian woman in the United States of America to be a licensed professional motocross racer. Now in my book that is something we can all be proud of now and forever.

Her roots also include the Pala Indian Reservation where her grandfather, Francis "Frannie" Diaz was born and enrolled and her many aunt, uncles and cousins live.

The Soboba Tribal Council recognized her ability and dedication to her racing and has supported her career financially since she began her racing career. The Soboba Tribe is also her primary sponsor as a professional. At age 24 she has a lot of years to establish her legacy in the Women's Motocross professional ranks.

When asked what the main difference between



the amateur and professional level is for her, she gave me that signature winning smile and said "...Night and day...first the riders are more focused, aggressive and highly skilled. "...And they don't cut you any slack...it's all business" she added. Asked if she feels she is ready to compete at this level she smiled again and responded "...I've been ready since I took my first ride at age four with my dad."

Just her family alone would be the envy of any-

one as a fan club. Her extended family number well over 2,000. people "...on my late great-grandmothers (Fidelia Salgado) side alone the numbers are close to 1,200 people that live in San Bernardino, Colton, Riverside and Fontana." She said.

Mica is the daughter of Michael Diaz and Cammy "Cozart" Diaz. Her grandparents are Frannie and Francis "Salgado" Diaz and Bruce and Gloria "Castillo" Cozart.



A Champion in the Making!





My View - Your View *Ernie C. Salgado Jr.*

SNOW IN SOBOBA? OR JUST AN OLD FASHION SNOW JOB?

At the last General Tribal Membership Meeting on February 3, 2016 the Tribal Council provided the tribal members with a presentation to approve funds for the next stage for the development of the proposed hotel and casino. The hotel and casino development is to be located at the property referred to as the “Horse Shoe Property” that was recently put into trust on behalf of the tribe.

The presentation was conducted using visual aids with no supporting documents distributed to the General Membership. The Tribal Council cited “*Confidentiality Reason*” for not providing the membership with supporting document. Personally I fail to see why the general membership of the tribe was not provide the any written documentation. To allow the Tribal Council to operate in a relatively semi-secret manner with the potential expenditure of over 200 million dollars of the tribe’s money is not justifiable or in its best interest. The General Membership voted to move ahead on the proposed casino and hotel project by a vote of 62 FOR, 1 OPPOSED and 3 ABSTAINING.

The “Snow Job” in my opinion was the promise or the “*Projection*” of a substantial increase in our per capita. According to the “*Projection*” the new casino with the addition of the hotel will increase the income by approximately 60%. To me that is like saying if I was to use a **NEW PEN** while paying my bills my money will go further. Yes I know, it make no sense which is exactly my point. Here in my thinking on why I am still more than a little skeptical with regards to the unsubstantiated income projections and have a lot of questions. And yes, I have raised these question without getting any satisfactory answers.

We currently have 2,000 machines and are operating at an 80% to 85% usage which is as good as it gets. Yet, we have no plans to in-

crease the number of machines. So my first **QUESTION** is how are we going to increase the casino net income by 60% without any additional money generating resources? I have asked this question of the tribal casino managers and the consultants and was told that with the new hotel and casino we would increase the number of player. Again, the question begs to be answered: What machines will all these new players put their money into?

I also question the projected increase in the number of new players. My second **QUESTION** is where are all these new players going to come from? Granted we will get some additional players because of the hotel but even at best many of the hotel guest will be current returning players.

The estimated cost keep creeping upward. In November 2015 it was 200 million and now it is up to \$225,000,000.00 (*\$225 Million Dollars*) with a monthly payment of \$2,250,000.00 for 15-years which we can pay even if we don’t increase our income. The payment will just be deducted from the current income as an expense. Opus!!! Not supposed to bring this reality up for discussion.

Don’t forget our per capita is our share of the net profit which was about 90 million dollars last year. So if the “Experts” are wrong with their “projections“ all that will happen is our per capita payment will go down until business get better.

In any business **LOCATION, LOCATION, LOCATION** is a primary factor and the Indian Gaming Business is no different. We are proposing to move the casino a few hundred feet down the road which is still the same location for all intent and purpose. It seems that the thinking is that the hotel is going to be the big draw. I don’t think that make a lot of business sense.

Now, with **LOCATION** in mind we should be looking at the Domenigoni Lake property for a casino and hotel location. Oh! I forgot we can’t build a casino at that location. The reason being it was restricted the original agreement. But, if we (The United States of America) can give Iran 100 billion dollars on a promise I don’t see why Soboba can’t get the restriction lifted. This is a major election year we should be taking advantage of the political opportunities that are provided to us.

The Domenigoni Lake property put us closer to the main freeway and give us three main access roads to the property (Domenigoni, Winchester Rd. and Highway 79. Yes, I have mentioned this to the Tribal Council without any interest in response.

If we focused on the Domenigoni Lake property we could use the “Horse Shoe Property” for say A) Housing for tribal members, B) an RV park for additional income and C) a site for a new Noli K-12 school.

Currently the tribe does not have an overall economic development plan. That my friends is the first place we should be starting. All we need to do is to go look at the current casino to see what poor planning will do for us. Please understand that I’m not trying to cause anyone any undue concerns or problems. However, we need to come together and look at what we are doing and deal with the economic realities and implement good business practices.

In summary I would like to know the justification for the documents for the proposed casino and hotel to be classified as “*Confidentiality*”. I am not opposed to the development of a new casino and hotel but I am opposed to unsupported or unrealistic income projection. Since I am not longer on the Tribal Council my access to information will be limited but then again it was already limited.

CHARLIE TWO DOGGS CORNER



Meet Charlie Two Doggs, our new “**Imagery**” Soboba Indian Reporter on Substance Abuse and Domestic Violence. Charlie’s father is from the Fukowee Tribe which, is also imagery and his mother is an illegal immigrant from Baja CA also imagery. Charlie will be providing current information on Alcoholic Anonymous (AA) and Narcotics Anonymous (NA) meetings and other related activities. Himself a recovering alcoholic and meth addict his insight will be helpful in providing information on Substance Abuse and Domestic Violence. Although these issues are very serious and plague our community humor will be one of Charlies main components but in good taste.

Although Charlie’s formal education ended in the 10th grade when he quit school and later became a bartender. Since he liked to drink and was basically lazy by nature he was born for the job. Both his parents are in AA and NA as is he. Sobriety is not without sacrifice and work but well worth the effort is his first message.

Charley went to several colleges and universities during his youth, UCLA, USC, Stanford, UCR, San Diego State and Harvard to name a few because a lot of his friends attends these schools and invited him to their parties. ***Now a little more humor.***

Forrest Gump died and went to heaven. Saint Peter met him at the Pearly Gates: “Welcome Forrest, I have been waiting a long time to meet you” he said to Forrest. Forrest just smiled and thanked him. Saint Peter said “If there is anyone that deserves to be in Heaven it is you, Forrest” “But since we have had such an increase in people for admittance the admission committee has developed a screening test for admission, I hope you understand” he told Forrest. “No problem” Forrest responded. “The test is only three questions and I don’t think you will have any problems with them” Saint Peter told Forrest. “Are you ready?” he ask Forrest. Forrest shook his head yes.

Saint Peter Question 1) How many days in the week start with the letter “T”?

Forrest: “*That’s easy, two*” he said “*Today and Tomorrow*” he added.

Saint Peter : “That’s not the answer I was looking for but Two is the correct answer so OK I would say you are technically correct. “The next question is a little harder.”

Saint Peter Question 2) “How many seconds are there is a year?”

Forrest: “*That’s easy, 12*”. **Saint Peter:** “12?” “I don’t understand how did you come up with 12?” **Forrest.** “*January 2nd, February 2nd, March 2nd.*” **Saint Peter:** “Ok, again it’s not the answer I was looking for but it make sense so I’ll give it to you”

Saint Peter Question 3) “Okey Forrest!” said a flustered Saint Peter. “This last question is a real stumper” What is God’s first name?”

Forrest: “*That’s easy, God first name is Andy.*” **Saint Peter :** “Andy? How on earth and hevean did you come up with Andy?”

Forrest: “*My mother took me to church every Sunday and we all would read the Bible and it tells you that God created everything for us and it says Andy will always be with us, Andy will protect us, Andy will always provide for us.*” **Saint Peter :** “**RUN FORREST RUN!!!!**”



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Ernie Salgado 951-217-7205
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Sunday, April 24, 2016, 3:00 pm
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\$10 Admission helps support the programs of the Center.

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