



June 1, 2017



Soboba

Indian Reporter

SOBOBA INDIAN REPORTER: ERNIE C. SALGADO JR., PUBLISHER/EDITOR

SOBOBA MEMORIAL DAY

INTERGENERATIONAL UNITY



The Photo Above shows Soboba elders, adults and youth cleaning the graves of veterans and placing an American flag on each grave. Marian Chacon, Elder Advisor and Eric Garcia, Soboba Youth Coordinator worked together to plan and coordinated the Memorial Day activities.



Almost, single handedly with tenacity, grit and determination Marian Chacon brought four generation of tribal members together for a single purposes, to preserve the Tribal Memorial Day Tradition. Marian coordinated her efforts with Eric Garcia the Soboba Youth Coordinator. First, she explained to the youth why we honor our veterans and then lead them to the Soboba Tribal Cemetery for a hands-on experience of

identifying the graves of the veterans. The cleaning of the veterans graves followed as well as the placing of a small American flag on each grave.

On Monday, May 29, 2017 the Memorial Day ceremony began at dawn with members of the Soboba Fire Department setting the American flag at the cemetery at half-mast. At 11am Soboba veterans Benny "Junie" Helms and Charles "Chuck" Castello raised the flag to full-staff where it remained until sunset. In coordination with the raising of the flag Father, Earl from the Soboba Catholic

Church blessed the flag and then the graves of the veterans.

Hats off to Marian for her courage and determination to keep our traditions alive. Her effort of bring four generation of tribal members together is an intergenerational accomplishment that deserves recognition. And knowing Marian she's not done yet.

See page 2 for more Soboba Memorial Day Traditions.

SOBOBA TRIBAL ELECTION

A NO GO

The May 5, 2017 tribal election failed again the to get the required 30% of the tribal membership to cast their vote as did the April 1, 2017.

According to sources another tribal election is scheduled for Monday, June 19, 2017. I said the same thing, on a Monday! And I thought the Cinco de Mayo was an ill conceived date for anything but a party.

What is bothersome is that June 19, is less than 3-week away. Not a lot of lag time for the election notification to get out to the membership on less the absentee voters.

However, in all fairness we, as tribal members bear the final responsibility exercise our tribal Birthright to get off our butts and vote.

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Worlds No.1 American Indian Web Site

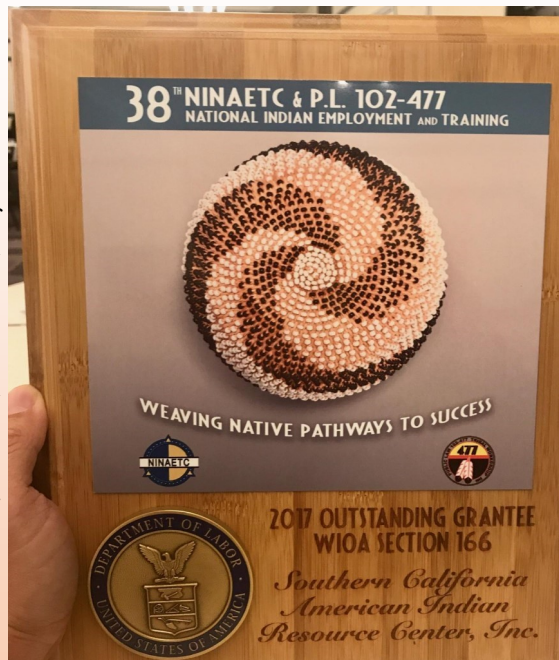
SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA AMERICAN INDIAN RESOURCE CENTER

RECEIVES NATIONAL RECOGNITION

On May 22nd, the Southern California American Indian Resource Center (SCAIR) was recognized as a 2017 Outstanding Workforce Innovation & Opportunity American Indian Training Center by the United States Department of Labor, Employment and Training Administration.

The award, presented at the National Indian & Native American Employment and Training Conference, in Los Angeles, by the United States Department of Labor Federal Project Officer, Jennifer Whitmore, honors SCAIR as one of six Workforce Innovation & Opportunity American Indian Training Programs in the country and one of two recognized in the western region of the United States for 2017.

SCAIR, designated in 2014 by the Department of Labor to provide Workforce Innovation & Opportunity



for American Indians and Alaska Natives living in urban areas within San Diego County. SCAIR was recognized for its unique and excellent one-stop-shop approach to job placement by

combining a number of in-house services to ensure Participant success including Tribal TANF in collaboration with the Southern California Tribal Chairmen's Association, Inc. (SCTCA). SCAIR Executive Director, Wanda Michaelis told the Soboba Indian Reporter "Our partnership with the SCTCA plays an important role in helping SCAIR to meet the employment training need of the people." She when on to say "The tribal community has been more than supportive of our efforts." "The dedication of our staff is also a major factor in our success" she added.

The SCAIR Native NetWORKS Workforce Innovation & Opportunity for American Indians Program provides career counseling and case management, academic tutorial, computer training, on-the-job-training (OJT), mental health counseling services and a number of supportive services.



DISCLAIMER: Ernie C. Salgado Jr. The primary purpose of this newsletter is to provide tribal information to the general membership of the Soboba Band of Luiseno Indians. The *Soboba Indian Reporter* is based strictly on my humble opinion of the numerous tribal matters and issues. It is not intended to represent the views or positions of the Soboba Tribal Council or any individual member of the Council other than my own. As a private and personel newsletter it will be distributed at my own expense by U.S. mail, e mail and my websites. Any reproduction or posting of any data herein in any form or social media is strictly prohibited and any violation will be subject to legal action.



June 1, 2017



Memorial Day Soboba Indian Reservation

Memorial Day is a federal holiday in the United States for remembering the people who died while serving in the country's armed forces. The holiday, which is currently observed every year on the last Monday of May, originated as **Decoration Day** after the American Civil War in 1868, when the Grand Army of the Republic, an organization of Union veterans founded in Decatur, Illinois, established it as a time for the nation to decorate the graves of the Union war dead with flowers. By the 20th century, competing Union and Confederate holiday traditions, celebrated on different days, had merged, and Memorial Day eventually extended to honor all Americans who died while in the military service. It marks the start of the unofficial summer vacation season, while Labor Day marks its end. Many people visit cemeteries and memorials, particularly to honor those who have died in military service. Many volunteers place an American flag on each grave in national cemeteries.

Despite this ongoing lively debate, there is an "official" birthplace. On May 26, 1966, President Lyndon B. Johnson signed the presidential proclamation naming Waterloo, New York, as the holder of the title. This action followed House Concurrent Resolution 587, in which the 89th Congress had officially recognized that the patriotic tradition of observing Memorial Day had begun one hundred years prior in Waterloo, New York. Snopes also regards the Waterloo legend as apocryphal.

At Soboba for over 70 years Memorial Day has been celebrated on the Reservation by placing a small American flags on all the veterans graves at the Soboba Tribal Cemetery. This tradition was started and maintained by the "Soboba Sisters" Rose Arres, Tilly Valdez, Clara Helms and Virginia "Dean" Badilla. The torch passed to Marian :Valdez" Chacon upon the passing of her mother, Tilly Valdez. The photograph below was taken around the mid-50's at the Soboba Tribal Cemetery. From L-R: Tilly Valdez, Mrs. Chacon (Marian Chacon's mother-in-law),

Rose Arres, seated is *double Gold Star mother, Mrs. Maria "PeeWee" Helms the mother of Romaldo and Reginald Helms, Virginia "Dean" Badilla & Clara Helms.

Over the past few years Marian Chacon has been teaching her three nieces, Annette, Johnna and Pam Valdez the Soboba Memorial Day tradition. However, due to her involvement with the Soboba youth as an Elder Advisor over the past couple of years she has decided it would be a good idea to share her knowledge of the Soboba Memorial Day Tradition at the Soboba Tribal Cemetery with the Soboba Youth Group.

On May 26, 2017 Marian met with the Soboba Youth Group at the Tribal Cemetery and explained why we honor our "Warriors." She supervised them cleaning the veterans graves and the placing of the American flags on the veterans graves.



MIKE SOZA

On Memorial Day the Soboba Youth with the Soboba Fire Department gathered for the blessing of the veterans graves and the raising of the flag at the Soboba cemetery by veterans Benny "Junie" Helms Jr., and Charles "Chuck" Castello.

Not all of the veterans buried at the Soboba Tribal Cemetery are Soboba Tribal Members. However, as part of our Soboba tribal customs, values and traditions we honor and respects all American Indian Warriors and spouses of tribal member Indian and non-Indian. And not all Soboba veterans are not buried at the Soboba Tribal Cemetery. For example

SOBOBA TRIBAL MEMBERS KILLED IN ACTION

- ♦ U.S. Army Private First Class, Romaldo A. Helms, Killed in Action Anzio, Italy. (1912-1944)
- ♦ U.S. Army Private, Reginald P. Helms, Killed in Action in Hotten, Belgium (1913-1944),
- ♦ U.S. Navy, Mike Soza (1924-1941)



ROMALDO A. HELMS

Albert Silvas, World War I veteran, Daniel Silvas Korean veteran are not buried at Soboba. Mike Soza was killed in action during WW II is buried at sea.



REGINALD P. HELMS

Soboba Tribal members have served in the armed forces of the United States in every war and conflict since WW I.

The United States entered the war with the attack on Pearl Harbor, Hawaii on December 7, 1941 ending in May 1945 in Europe and September 2, 1945 with Japan.

WW II officially began in September 1939 with the German invasion of Poland.

It is estimated that over 80 million people were killed during the seven years of WW II. U.S. military records indicate there were 670,846 Americans wounded and 405,399 lost their lives, three of which were Tribal Members of the Soboba Band of Luiseno Indians.

Currently 51 veterans are buried at the Soboba Tribal Cemetery of which 32 were Soboba tribal members, 12 Indians from other Indian tribes and 7 non-Indian.

World War I Veteran are Prudencio Resvaloso who also served as with the U.S. Calvary as a Scout in Arizona, Danny and David Navarro, Eugene Arenas (Cahuilla), Ben Largo (Cahuilla) and Mariano Largo (Cahuilla).

World War II veterans that are buried at Soboba are brothers, Romaldo "The Boss" and Reginald Helms who were killed in action, the Soza brothers, Eloy, Frank and William "Willie" (*Their little brother Mike who was killed in action while serving in the Navy in the Pacific Ocean and is buried at sea.*) Ernest Salgado Sr., George Silvas (Sioux) and their uncle Frank "Chico" Silvas, Joe "Jody" Silvas, Marcus "Max" Mojado, Joe John Lala, Theodore "T-Bone" and Norbert "Norb" Arres, Mateo "Moot" Apapas, and Carmel "Sallie-Buck" Valenzuela. Leonard and Senon Lubo (Cahuilla), Miguel Briones (Non-Indian), Refugio Garcia (Non-Indian), Pio Morillo (Non-Indian), Richard Macy, (?) and James Navarro (Indian),

Korea Veteran: Benny Helms Sr., Ralph Arrietta Jr., Leonard Arrietta, Larry "Dee" Boniface, Gloria "Castello" Cozart, Bruce Cozart (Non-Indian), Jesse "Helms" Gilmore, Orvin Gilmore (Non-Indian), Robert "Buggie" Bentiste, Tiefertelo Lugo, Fred "Pinkie" Miranda (Pechanga) Peter Morillo (Non-Indian), Mariano Torte (Santa Rosa) Clifford "Tippy" Brittan (Pala) and Andrew Jackson (Non-Indian),

Vietnam Veterans: Peter Felix "Boy" Castello, Allyn Silvas, Martin Hurtado, Phillip "Woody" Rodriguez (La Jolla) and Arthur R. Lopez Sr. (Torres Martinez)

Cold War Veterans: Daniel Arres, John Vincent "Dugger" Valdez, Paul Resvaloso Sr., Robert "Bobby" Arrietta, and James "Jimmy" Walker (Pima/Pechanga).

***During WWII a Gold Star** was awarded to the mothers of those killed in combat. Mrs. Helms lost two son therefore was given two Gold Stars.

Mrs. Rose Soza the mother of Mike Soza was also a Gold Star mother.

(The photographs of Mike Soza, Romaldo and Reginald Helms and "Cemetery" are courtesy of the Soboba Band of Luiseno Indians.)

A TRADITIONAL HONORING AND CULTURAL TRIBUTE TO AMERICAN INDIAN, ALASKA NATIVE AND ALL WARRIOR'S AT THEIR SACRED RESTING PLACE



A warrior's strength is measured by the size of his heart.

A warrior shows love ~ honor ~ respect.

He will stand and fight in the face of adversity. For the ones he loves, he will be their voice and their shield.

A warrior leads by example, always remembering who he is.



Arthur “Art” Richard Lopez, Sr.

MAY 12, 1949 – APRIL 24, 2017

Art was a friend as well as a cousin. I know it seem like we are all cousins on the Rez but he really was related by blood. His material grandmother, Clemencia “Silvas” Razon was my grandmother, Lucy “Silvas” Bentiste first cousin. Their fathers were twin brothers. Con Silvas and Jose M. Sivas. Therefore my dad, Ernest Sr., and Art’s mothers, Martina “Razon” Lopez were second cousin and so goes the food chain.

Ok, now that we have that out of the way I don’t want this to be an obituary because I don’t think that’s what Art would have wanted. What I want to do is share some good memories of my friendship with Art.

Art was an easy going low keyed guy. He didn’t crave the spotlight as many Tribal leaders as he was confident with himself. Even though he didn’t take much interest in academics he was highly intelligent.

Because of our age difference I didn’t get to know Art until I returned to the Reservation in 1968 after I served my active duty time with the U.S. Army.

I was a bail bondsman in 1968 and it was in this venue that I met the adult Art Lopez. He was about 19-years old then and as wild as they come. Shortly thereafter he was enlisted in the Army and served his 13-month tour in Vietnam. And when he returned from his service with the U.S. Army I became reacquainted with him.

During his military service in Vietnam he distinguished himself on the battlefield which he rarely shared with anyone. Art was awarded the Bronze Star for bravery



in combat. However, it was never presented to him in a formally military ceremony. It was mailed to him after he returned home from Vietnam. No class on the part of the Army.

However, in November 2013 almost fifty-years after his honorable discharge from the service he was honored in a formal ceremony. Retired USMC Brig. Gen. M.A. Johnson formally pins the Bronze Star Medal on Art Lopez.

The Bronze Star Medal is the third highest medal awarded for bravery by the U.S. Army with the Medal of Honor and Silver Star as first and second.

When I asked him about it once while we were sharing a beer he said it was nothing he said “Sh-t the gooks ambushed us and

were shooting us up pretty bad so I shot back it was no big thing” But want he failed to say was that he saved the rest of his platoon of which over half had been killed in the ambush.

As a result of his actions he was promoted to the rank of Staff sergeant which again was unheard for anyone that wasn’t RA (Regular Army or a long time enlisted trooper) and even then to attain the rank of Staff sergeant in less than two-years speaks for itself and his leadership.

Art like many of us including myself had his demons and alcohol was his way of dealing with them. Again, he shared his leadership in his sobriety with me which help lead me to my own sobriety for the past 11-years. I still remember what he told me “If I though it would help I’d be drinking.”

He served several terms as the Tribal Chairman for the Torres Martinez Band of Desert Cahuilla Indians. Again, sharing his leadership. The tribe is still benefiting from many of the project and programs he established.

We also shared our frustration over folks that were unable to understand the issues or just wanted the attention resulting from the confrontation.

He love playing and coaching softball. With his brother, Carl they formed their own family softball team, the “Soboba Renegades”.

Art grew up on the Soboba Rez and attended school in San Jacinto. He was en-

rolled in Torres Martinez where his father, Lester Lopez was a member. He was the oldest of his five brother which are Soboba tribal members.



The photo above shows Art with his son. Richie at a ballfield somewhere.

For the past few years Art suffered from “Agent Orange.” Agent Orange was a herbicide mixture used by the U.S. military during the Vietnam War. Much of it contained a dangerous chemical contaminant called dioxin. The dioxin contaminant however continues to have harmful impact today, fifty-years later. Thousands of U.S. Vietnam-era veterans have suffered and died as a result of their exposure to the deadly chemical. Art being one of them.

If I were asked for an appropriate epitaph for Art it would be:

“Arthur Richard Lopez
A True American Indian Warrior”

TRIBAL POLITICAL GENOCIDE

First let me define what I mean by Tribal Political Genocide. It is the political process by which the tribal Governing body whether it be the Tribal Council or the General membership of the tribe established a procedure for the disenrollment of Tribal members for whatever reason.

How this is considered Tribal Political Genocide? Because upon disenrollment it strips the individual tribal member of their legal rights to any benefits as an Ameri-

can Indian as they no longer belong to a recognized Tribe. Yes, they may still have their “Pedigree Documentation” from the Bureau of Indian Affairs (BIA) they still are without any tribal affiliation.

Still another more subtle method of Tribal Political Genocide is the establishment of a predetermined degree of “Indian Blood” or “Tribal Indian Blood” This practice is a continuance of the Bureau of Indian Affairs to reduce the number of the Tribal members.

The BIA illegally implemented this practice despite the fact that the relationship between the American Indian Tribes is “Political: and not racial. However, over the decades of brainwashing of the Indian people by the Government many tribal leaders have adopted this misguided philosophy.

It don’t much grey matter to understand that within two or three generation the tribes with predetermined degree of “Indian Blood” or “Tribal Indian Blood” for tribal membership will either not exist or will be very small in numbers.

Many of us fought long and hard during the sixties and seventies for the Tribal Governments to have the right to determine the membership criteria for their tribal membership and not the BIA.

I never in my wildest imagination though that the tribes would continue with the “Blood Degree” policies for membership or use its authority for the disenrollment of Tribal members for whatever reason, politics, greed or just whatever reason it is wrong. A sad tribute to all those that supported the proliferation of Tribal Governments.

BLOOD DEGREE FOR TRIBAL MEMBERSHIP?

FACT: THE RELATIONSHIP BETWEEN THE UNITED STATE GOVERNMENT IS POLITICAL NOT RACIAL.

FACT: THE BIA SOLD THE IDEA OF 1/4 BLOOD DEGREE TO THE TRIBES.

ARE YOU LISTENING MIJTO?

I'M A FULL BLOOD INDIAN!



YOUR GRANDFATHER WAS FROM MEXICO!
SKIN PIGMENTATION DOESN'T DETERMINE BLOOD DEGREE!!





MEMORIAL DAY & D-DAY: AN AMERICA INDIAN VIEW

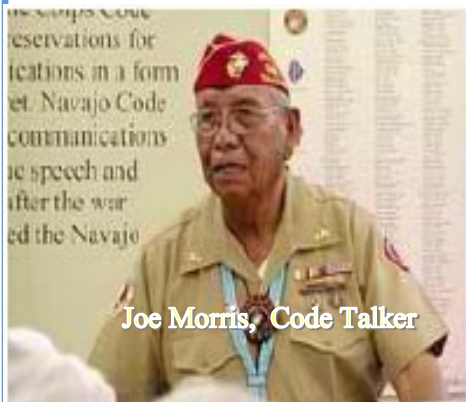
By *Ernie C. Salgado Jr.*

Memorial Day and D-Day have special meanings: **Memorial Day** because it is the day we pay our respects to all the veterans that were killed in action and to those that have passed on. And **D-Day** has a special meaning to me because my dad (Ernie Sr.) and Sam Powvall from the Pauma Indian Reservation were together on June 6, 1944 for the invasion of Normandy, France, then later on to the "Battle of the Bulge" and on to Berlin, Germany.

Memorial Day and D-Day are only days apart many American patriots view them as one. We often hear of the 'greatest generation' in reference to Memorial Day on May 29 dating back to the civil war and D-Day in reference to the WW II military invasion of Normandy, France on June 6, 1944 that let to the occupation of Berlin, Germany and the end of WWII.

Also, Flag Day on June 14 every year is often overshadowed by D-Day and the 4th of July.

Even less notice is accorded the contributions of our American Indian Warriors courage and commitment in the many military conflicts of the Nation over the 250 years. Why is this? Especially since American Indians have voluntarily participated in every military effort to establish and defend this land and people for all America. The American Indians courage and achievements examples from both theaters of WW II is well documented but too often historically ignored.



Joe Morris, Code Talker

During the second World War, the U.S. military recruited American Indian from several different Tribes from trough out the country for their unique tribal languages for usage as a battlefield code.

The Navajo "Code Talker" became the most celebrated and publicized of the radio units. They were assigned to the U.S. Marines Corps "elite" fighters.

The Navajos "Code Talkers" were formed as unique Special all-Navajo Marine Corps signal units that encoded messages in their native language. Taking advantage of the flexibility and range of the Navajo language, they worked out translations of military and naval terms so that orders and instructions could be transmitted by voice over the radio in a code the Japanese were never able to break. The "Code Talkers" were assigned to each of the Marine Corps' six Pacific divisions.

They were used first in late 1942 on Guadalcanal. By war's end, over 400 Navajos had served as "Code Talkers". Untold thousands of Marines owe their lives to the Navajo Code Talkers.

The American Indians Code Talkers was not limited to the Navajo Tribal members even though they were the most publicized. The Assiniboine, Cherokee, Choctaw, Comanche, Meskwaki, and Seminole Tribal members also served as Code Talkers.



Choctaw Code Talkers

Six American Indians were awarded the Congressional Medal of Honor in recognition for their bravery and many other distinguished themselves as well. The six Congressional Medal of Honor recipient were: Lt. Ernest Childers, Lt. Jack Montgomery, Lt. Van Barfoot, John Resse Jr., Ron Harmon and Ernest Edwin Evens.



Lt. Ernest Childers (Creek), was born February 1, 1918 in Broken Arrow, Oklahoma, A Muscogee (Creek), he graduated from the Chilocco Indian Agricultural School in north-central Oklahoma. **He was the first American Indian to earn the Medal of Honor since the Indian Wars of the 19th century.**



(SEE BELOW) Lt. Jack C. Montgomery, who also earned the Medal of Honor in World War II for service in Italy, graduated from same school, the Chilocco Indian Agricultural School in north-central Oklahoma.

He first distinguished himself in Sicily, Italy where he was awarded a battlefield commission. Later in Italy, unaided and despite severe wounds, he destroyed three German machine gun emplacements.

Childers reached the rank of lieutenant colonel before retiring from the Army in 1966. He died at age 87 and was buried at Floral Haven Memorial Gardens in his birthplace of Broken Arrow, Oklahoma.

1st Lt. Jack Montgomery (Cherokee), During the Anzio, Italy military Campaign

he single-handedly attacked a German stronghold killing eleven of the enemy and taking thirty-three prisoners. Lt. Jack Montgomery also graduated from the University of Redlands, California.



Lt. Van Barfoot (Choctaw), was also at the Anzio Campaign in Italy where he knocked out two machine gun nests and captured seventeen prisoners. He then went on to defeat three German tanks and carried two of his wounded men to safety.



All of these exploits reinforced the "warrior" image.

Barfoot had been awarded a combat field commission prior to his action in Italy. He went on to serve in Korea and Vietnam and retired as a Colonel.

After his retirement from the military he moved to a retirement community in Henrico County, Virginia to be near his daughter. In December 2009, the homeowners' association (HOA) of the Sussex Square, where Barfoot lived ordered him to remove the flagpole from which he flew the U.S. flag.

The next time some political moron like former CA Gov. Snotsnegger spouts the age old rhetoric that the American Indians need to pay their fair share let them know that we have already paid it forward.

The HOA bylaws didn't forbid flagpoles, but the HOA ruled Barfoot, then aged 90, would not be allowed to use it **"for aesthetic reasons."**

Barfoot contested the order, and received support from politicians, including Virginia Senators Mark Warner and Jim Webb and White House Press Secretary Robert Gibbs. The HOA dropped its request on December 8, 2009.

It's ironic that after servicing over forty years in the military and three wars he comes home to find the enemy living next door.

Pfc. John Resse Jr. (Comanche) was from Pryor, Oklahoma. On February 9, 1945 he was serving as a private first class in the Philippines. when an attack on the Paco Railroad Station hit and Reese and fellow soldier Private Cleto L. Rodriguez went ahead of their unit, took a position closer to the station, and began firing on the Japanese defenders. Together they killed over eighty Japanese soldiers before a shortage of ammunition



forced them to turn back. Reese was killed while trying to return to the American lines; he was posthumously awarded the Medal of Honor eight months later, on October 19, 1945. Private Rodriguez survived the battle and was also awarded the Medal of Honor.

Sergeant Ron W. Harmon (Creek) joined the Army on from his home town in Pixley, California. On July 1, 1944, he was serving as a Sergeant in Company C, 362nd Infantry Regiment, 91st Infantry Division. On that day, near Casaglia, Italy he single-handedly attacked three German positions which were firing on a friendly platoon. He destroyed one position and despite being wounded on his approach, continued to silence another. He was killed while attacking the third position. He was posthumously awarded the Medal of Honor a year later on October 2, 1945. Harmon was buried at the Florence American Cemetery in Florence, Italy.



Comdr. Ernest E. Evens (Cherokee/Creek) was born in Pawnee, Oklahoma. He graduated from the United States Naval Academy in 1931. In 1941 he was assigned to the destroyer Alden, and was serving on her in the East Indies when the Japanese attacked Pearl Harbor on December 7, 1941. He became commanding officer of Alden on March 14, 1942, and held that position until July 7, 1943. While serving on Alden he participated in operations in and around Australia, New Guinea and the Dutch East Indies.



In mid-1943 Evans was then ordered to duty in charge of fitting out the Fletcher-class destroyer Johnston at the Seattle-Tacoma Shipbuilding Corporation in Seattle, Washington. Commander Evans assumed command of Johnston at her commissioning on October 27, 1943. On October 25, 1944 as commanding officer of the U.S.S. Johnston in action against major units of the enemy Japanese fleet during the battle off Samar at the risk of his life above and beyond the call of duty on he was first to lay a smokescreen and to open fire as an enemy task force, vastly superior in number, firepower and armor, rapidly approached. Comdr. Evans gallantly diverted the powerful blasts of

hostile guns from the lightly armed and armored carriers under his protection, launching the first torpedo attack when the Johnston came under straddling Japanese shellfire.

Undaunted by damage sustained under the terrific volume of fire, he unhesitatingly joined others of his group to provide fire support during subsequent torpedo attacks against the Japanese and, outshooting and outmaneuvering the enemy as he consistently interposed his vessel between the hostile fleet units and our carriers despite the crippling loss of engine power and communications with steering aft, shifted command to the fantail, shouted steering orders through an open hatch to men turning the rudder by hand and battled furiously until the Johnston, burning and shuddering from a mortal blow, lay dead in the water after 3 hours of fierce combat.

Seriously wounded early in the engagement, Comdr. Evans, by his indomitable courage and brilliant professional skill, aided materially in turning back the enemy during a critical phase of the action. His valiant fighting spirit throughout this historic battle will venture as an inspiration to all who served with him.

OTHER AMERICAN INDIAN HEROS

Maj. Gen. Clarence Tinker, (Osage) A career pilot, was the highest ranking Indian in the armed forces at the beginning of the war. He died leading a flight of bombers in the Pacific during the Battle of Midway.

Admiral Joseph J. "Jocko" Clark, (Cherokee) was the first American Indian to graduate from Annapolis, participated in carrier battles in the Pacific and became an admiral.



Over 2,000 American Indians from Oklahoma and New Mexico trained and fought as part of the 45th Infantry Division known as the "Thunderbirds". They saw almost two years of combat in Italy and Central Europe.

IRA HAYES, IS THE MOST FAMOUS AMERICAN INDIAN OF WW II

Corporal, Ira Hamilton Hayes, and five other U.S. Marines were photographed on February 23, 1945 by Joe Rosenthal ***Raising the Flag on Iwo Jima.***

The photograph became a famous iconic winning the Pulitzer Prize for Photography and came to be regarded in the United States as one of the most significant and recognizable photograph taken during WW II. It depicts six United States Marines raising the American flag atop of Mount Suribachi on the island of Iwo Jima.

The front four Marines are (left to right) Ira Hayes, Franklin Sousley, John Bradley and Harlon Block.



Corporal Ira Hayes

Three of the six Marines depicted in the photograph, Sergeant, Michael Strank, Corporal, Harlon Block, and Private First Class, Franklin Sousley were killed in action over the next few days. The three surviving flag-raisers were Corporals (then Private First Class) Rene Gagnon, Ira Hayes, and Harold Schultz.

Hayes was born on January 12, 1923 at Sacaton on Gila River Indian Reservation in south central Arizona.

He left high school after completing two years of study. He served in the Civilian Conservation Corps in 1942. On August 26, 1942 at the age of 19 Ira Hayes enlisted in the U.S. Marine Corps Reserve at Phoenix, Arizona. Following boot camp at the Marine Corps Recruit Depot at San Diego. Hayes was assigned to the Parachute Training School at Camp Gillespie, Marine Corps Base in San Diego, CA. Upon completion he was sent into combat.

After almost a year overseas and two campaigns On February 14, 1944 Hayes unit was sent back to the San Diego. One year later on February 23, 1945 Hayes was on the island of Iwo Jima where he was immortalized in the most famous photographs taken during WW II.





IN LOVING MEMORY



PAT A. SALGADO

MARCH 30, 1946 — JUNE 22, 2014

Mom/grandma not a day goes by that we don't miss you. It has been three-years since you went to Jesus but time has no limits on our love for you.

On June 1, 2017 it will have been 54-years since we pledged our "I do's" to each other. My love for you is eternal and we shall never part. e



LULA MARIE MARTIN Age 91, passed away May 10, 2017, in Banning, CA. Lula was born on January 29, 1926 in San Bernardino, CA. She lived most of her life on the Morongo Indian Reservation where she raised her family and served on the Morongo Tribal Council for over 20 years. She was a retired bus driver for the Banning Unified School District and enjoyed playing bingo and casino time in her retirement. She was a lifetime member of the Morongo Moravian Church. Lula was a devoted homemaker, mother and grandmother and was affectionately known as "Big Gram". Lula is survived by her daughters Sandra Martin, Luanne Martin, and Jo-Anne Martin; son Robert Martin and daughter-in-law Debbie, all of Banning; grandsons John Taylor Sr., Ryan Martin, Joseph Castaneda, Jason Carrizosa and Jeremy Carrizosa; granddaughters Serena Taylor, Pip Martin, Natalie Carrizosa Moore, Erin Castaneda and Laura Castaneda Huizar; 24 great-grandchildren and 5 great-great-grandchildren. She was preceded in death by her husband Louis Howard Martin; mother Viola Mae Waite Mathews; father Nicolas Jurisich; half-brother Jack Stephen Mathews; stepfather Anthony "Jack" Mathews and grandson Nicolas Louis Martin. Funeral services were at the Morongo Moravian Church at 10am on Tuesday, May 16. Burial followed service at the Moravian Cemetery.

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MEMORIAL SERVICES

ANTHONY "TONY" BENTISTE

MARCH 2, 1946 — MAY 30, 2016

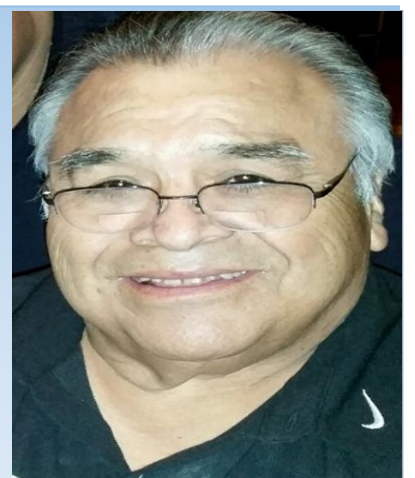
Memorial Services for Anthony "Tony" Bentiste were held on May 30, 2017. A mass was held at St Josephs Catholic Church on the Soboba Indian Reservation at 10am. The blessing of the headstone followed the church services at the Soboba Tribal Cemetery. A tradition lunch was will be held at the Soboba Sports Complex located on the Soboba Indian Reservation.

Tony lived his entire life on the Soboba Reservation. He attended schools in San Jacinto and was an outstanding athlete. He was selected to the Riverside All County Baseball team. He married his high school sweetheart Penny and they were together for almost 50 years until she passed away

four-years past. They were bless with two children Anna and Michael and four grandchildren, Eric and Mariah Brittian, Joshua and Taylor Bentiste. All of whom live on the Soboba Indian Reservation.

Tony worked for Skyline Mobil Homes as a production supervisor for 33 years before retiring. After his retirement he volunteered at the Soboba Tribal Noli School assisting with the sports program and was later hired and worked for the Noli Indian School for 8 years. He loved sports and specially softball, golfing and coaching.

He play fast pitch softball as a catcher for the Soboba Men's Club class A team winning several local and State softball championships and the Na-



tional Indian Open Championship in Oklahoma. As a pioneer in Reservation Sport in the early 60's and 70's he help set the stage for what is considered Inter Tribal Sports today.

Tony was a quit man a man of few words but his impact on those around him was significant. He loved his family and his friends dearly and was always ready to give a helping hand.

May God bless you Tony and rest in peace.

HAPPY BIRTHDAY

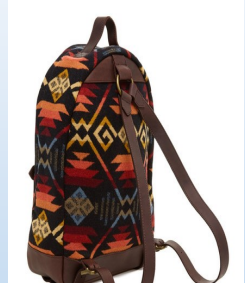
Richard Salgado Sr., 6-5-44
Claudia Salgado 6-7-xx
Ernie C. Salgado Jr., 6-13-41
The Soboba Indian Reporter would be honored to publish all tribal members birthdays each month. All ages. Please help us by e mailing or call with the names and dates. We do not have access to the tribal records

HAPPY FATHER'S DAY!

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MEMORIAL SERVICES PENDING

AMANDA ROSE "NANNY" LUGO

APRIL 7, 1961—JULY 16, 2016

SOBOBA INDIAN RESERVATION



WILLIAN "RODDY" RHODES

JANUARY 21, 1960—AUGUST 5, 2016

SOBOBA INDIAN RESERVATION



DARREN (BIG D) KITCHEN

NOVEMBER 18, 1986—AUGUST 31, 2016

SOBOBA INDIAN RESERVATION



A couple was celebrating their golden wedding anniversary. Their domestic tranquility had long been the talk of the town. A local newspaper reporter was inquiring as to the secret of their long and happy marriage. "Well, it dates back to our honeymoon," explained the man. "We

visited the Grand Canyon and took a trip down to the bottom on the canyon by pack mule. We hadn't gone too far when my wife's mule stumbled. My wife quietly

SECRET TO A LONG MARRIAGE

said, 'That's once.' We proceeded a little further and the mule stumbled again. Once more my wife quietly said, 'That's twice.' Hadn't gone a half- mile when the

mule stumbled the third time. My wife quietly removed a revolver from her pocket and shot the mule dead. I started to yell at her for her treatment of the mule when she looked at me and quietly said 'That's once.'

Funny Bone

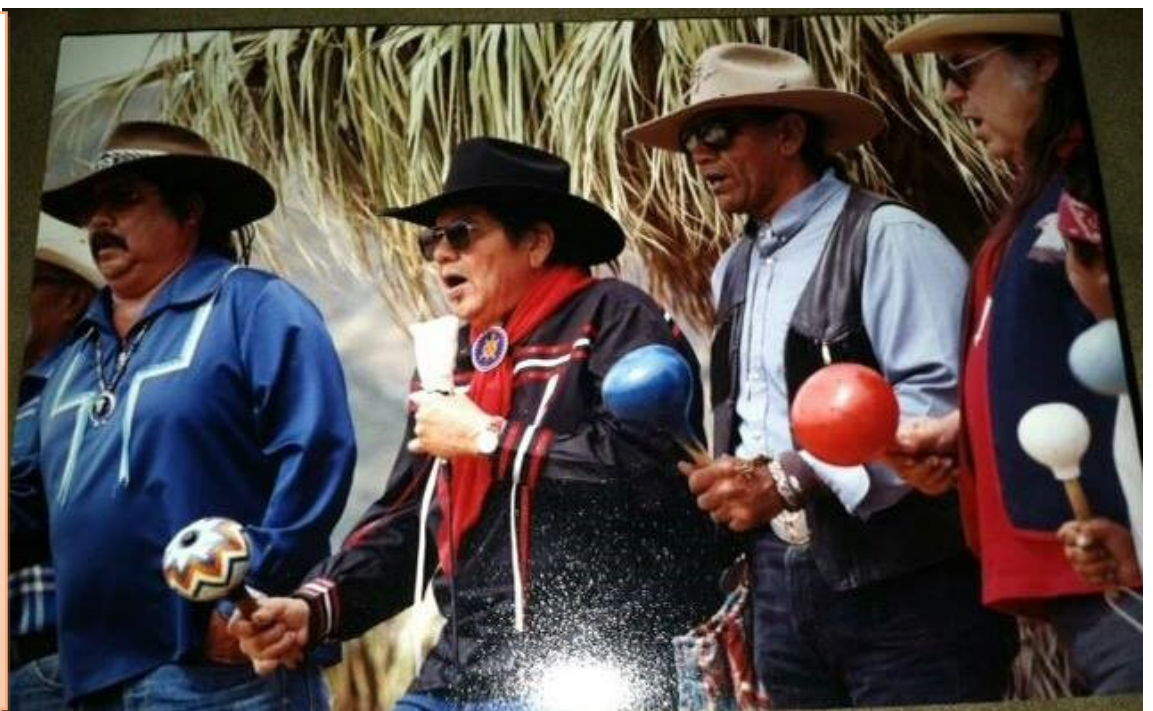
MALKI MUSEUM TRADITIONAL MEMORIAL DAY CELEBRATION

The photo on the right (Mid 70's) of the Cahuilla Bird Singer at the Malki Museum Memorial Day celebration was posted on the internet by Patricia Andreas.

(Left to right) John and Anthony "Biff" Andreas, Eugene Holms and unidentified individuals. If anyone knows who the other signer is please let us know and we will re-run the photo again.

During the sixties and seventies John and Biff kept the Birds alive as no other group in southern California were singing the Birds. On most occasions Bill and Walter Holms and Gene (Morongo) accompanied them. Alvino Siva and Robert Levi also participate with the Andreas brothers.

Hundreds of people attended thos years celebration.





Ernie C. Salgado Jr.



When I was first told that the restaurant at the Soboba Country Club was closed and replaced with a bar my first thought was that it was a bad joke. That is really what this community needs is another bar. So I followed up with the powers that be and was told that the Council had hired a “Consultant” to evaluate the restaurant because it was not profitable. And the Bar and Grill was his recommendations. Ok, so now we are the “Baskin Robins” of beer with 31-flavors. **Give me a break!**

All the Tribal Council had to do was ask me and I would have given them a business plan for the restaurant that would have made the place profitable. Not because I’m some kind of genius or master-

mind but common sense comes into play here and understanding our community is paramount. First, we are not Beverly Hills or Palms Springs, we are real everyday people. We need to meet the “Needs and Wants” or our own community. The good people of the valley want us to succeed and are willing to help us with their patronage.

Basically all we needed to do was to hire a new manager and cook, put up a menu with a good steak at a reasonable price and add beans and menudo to the food selection.

Everywhere I go in the valley I get hit with some real negative feedback on the closing of the restaurant. So some friendly advice to our Tribal Council, **GET REAL PEOPLE!**

FROM A CONCERNED TRIBAL MEMBER

Hi Ernie, I very much appreciate your newsletter and I have a suggestion regarding Tribal Elections. First of all, I think the lack of interest is pathetic. How to get folks to participate is a good question and short of drastic measures, how do you force someone to vote? Perhaps, all members should be **required** to vote in person once a year. This would serve two purposes.

1. Provide motivation to folks to get involved or risk a reduction to their per cap.
2. Provide an opportunity for Soboba members to actually meet and talk.

I personally have never attended a Tribal meeting, quite honestly because I'm told it can be quite intimidating to be subjected to the scrutiny of essentially having to prove who you are.

Also, I live about 1000 miles away, which presents it's own problems with travel arrangements and canceled meetings.

Over the years, I have had occasion to visit the Tribal Administration several times and I have to say, the experience was somewhat uncomfortable. The staff is just plain unfriendly if they don't recognize you.

My View - First, I have left the comments above anonymous so that individuals will not be intimidated for expressing their views. Second, it is my intent to demean the administrative office staff by publishing these comments. Thirdly, the time of the writers visit is not known. We all have our opinions and although I may not agree I will always respect your right to express **YOUR VIEW!**

**ATTORNEY GENERAL, JEFF SESSIONS
ANNOUNCES NEW ACTIONS TO
SUPPORT LAW ENFORCEMENT IN
INDIAN COUNTRY**

As part of the Department of Justice’s (DOJ) efforts under the Task Force on Crime Reduction and Public Safety (Task Force), Attorney General, Jeff Sessions on April 18, 2017 announced a series of actions the DOJ will take to support law enforcement and maintain public safety in Indian Country.

“It is paramount that tribal police have the tools they need to fight crime and maintain public safety in their communities,” said Attorney General Sessions. *“Law enforcement in Indian Country faces unique practical and jurisdictional challenges and the Department of Justice is committed to working with them to provide greater access to technology, information and necessary enforcement.”*

The following three actions were announced by Attorney General Sessions:

1. The department will deploy the **Tribal Access Program** for National Crime Information (TAP) to 10 tribal sites, beginning on April 18, 2017 with the Assiniboine and Sioux Tribes of the Fort Peck Indian Reservation in Montana. This expanding program, which was first implemented in 2015 as a successful pilot program with nine tribes, is designed to provide federally-recognized tribes access to national crime information databases for both civil and criminal purposes;
2. In support of the Task Force, the Office of Tribal Justice will coordinate a series of listening sessions with tribal law enforcement officials and tribal leaders to ensure the unique perspective of law enforcement in Indian Country is taken into account; and
3. The Office of Tribal Justice has created the Indian Country Federal Law Enforcement Coordination Group, an unprecedented partnership that brings together sworn federal agents and other key law enforcement stakeholders from 12-federal law enforcement components, including: the Department of Justice’s Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms and Explosives, the Drug Enforcement Administration; the Federal Bureau of Investigation Criminal Justice Information Services and Indian Country Crimes Unit, the U.S. Marshals Service and the Office of the Inspector General; The Department of the Interior’s Bureau of Land Management and Bureau of Indian Affairs, Office of Justice Services; the Department of Health and Human Services; the Department of Homeland Security’s Federal Emergency Management Agency, U.S. Customs and Border Protection and U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement, Homeland Security Investigations. This partnership will increase collaboration and coordination with the goal of enhancing the response to violent crime in Indian country.

The Attorney General will continue to receive and act upon recommendations from the Task Force as they become available and is committed to combatting violent crime and maintaining public safety in tribal lands.

MY VIEW: Please note that there is no mention of the California Tribes nor the amount of funding resources and to whom funding if any will available.

It appears at first glance that a minimum of 12-federal law enforcement agencies will be increasing there presents and authority on Indian lands.

There is no mention of expanding the arrest authority of tribal police to arrest non-Indians committing crimes of Indian lands nor it their any mention of developing law enforcement training for Indian police.

There is no question violent crimes, drug trafficking, substance abuse and domestic violence in Indian country is epidemic. Terrorism by gangs and drug users shooting at homes and individuals must also be include as a major crime in Indian Country as well.

California has the largest number of Indian Reservations and Rancherias in the Nation with the majority of the southern California Indian reservations located adjacent to highly populated cities and towns or within a few miles to them. As tribal members have easy access to the urban communities the non-Indian has easy access to tribal lands. Although many gaming tribes have posted security guards to prevent access to tribal lands by non-members there is no effort to prevent access to the casinos or the hotels.

The absents of any Tribal jurisdiction over non-Indians is still problematic for the Tribal Governments. This is a major issue for the Tribal Governments that needs to be addressed with meaningful consideration.

The hypocrisy of the Government to add another 12-federal law enforcement agencies to combat crimes in Indian Country without even considering to allow the Tribal Governments the legal authority to properly police their own Tribal lands.

Continuing this racial profiling mentality that the Tribal Governments lack the ability to practice proper law enforcement and would unfairly “Profile Non-Indians” cal, state and federal law enforcement will continue to be baffled on now to combat crimes committed in Indian Country as they have been for the past 100 plus years.

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