

COMMUNITY NEWS

Nation participates in Martin Luther King, Jr. march

By DON DECKER
YAN News

Monday, January 18, brought Camp Verde town's people together to commemorate Martin Luther King, Jr.'s birthday.

Over 250 participated in this march that also featured youths from the Yavapai-Apache Nation who sang and danced to honor King.

King was assassinated in Memphis, Tennessee in 1968.

Prior to this, King started the activism of non-violent demonstration to bring about the awareness of the discrimination against people of color—mainly Black people.

King is remembered well for his famous 'I have a dream' speech that was delivered on the Mall of the Nation in Washington, D.C. August of 1963.

The following November, 1963, President Kennedy was assassinated in downtown Dallas. Lyndon Johnson, Vice President then, was sworn in as the next president upon Kennedy's death.

The U.S. Civil Rights Act of 1964 was finally passed under Johnson's administration but it was Kennedy who sought the passage of this bill originally.

The Martin Luther King Day was opposed by many at the state and



Camp Verde Elementary School students take the lead in the march downtown Camp Verde. (Photo by Don Decker)

national level. Even President Ronald Reagan refused to sign the bill

until he was met with a large opposition.

In 1983, MLK became a law as a Federal paid holiday for govern-

ment workers but it wasn't really observed until January 20, 1986.

By the year 2000 nearly all 50 states adopted the MLK holiday.

South Carolina was the last state to adopt this holiday.

As early as 1981, a national petition drive was held to continue to have Congress approve the official holiday.

Over 6 million signatures were gathered, the largest petition drive in favor of an issue in the U.S. history.

The Camp Verde gathering brought Vice Mayor Bruce George to address the crowd inside of the gymnasium.

Chandler Plant, now 11 years, who started the MLK parade in 2011, spoke before the crowd as well.

Back in 2011, he had gone before the Camp Verde council to ask about setting aside a MLK day. "In other (cities) they do it," Chandler had said at the time. "But here, they don't and I'd like to get one going."

The march began in front of the gazebo at the old high school downtown Camp Verde and made a circle on the sidewalks on each side of main street Camp Verde.

U.N.I.T.Y. (United Native Indian Tribal Youth) celebrates 40 years!

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Executive director Mary Kim Titla of U.N.I.T.Y. brought a few members to Phoenix to celebrate the 4th Anniversary of this organization on Tuesday, January 19.

Titla is a San Carlos Apache with roots to Yavapai-Apache Nation as her father, Phillip Titla, is an enrolled member of Yavapai-Apache Nation.

His great-grandfather was Captain Smiley or AKA as "Esmallie" who can be seen in photographs hung in the Nation's buildings that shows Esmallie holding a rifle in front of a wikipup.

Joel Beauty, a senior at Camp Verde High School, who serves

as the president of the U.N.I.T.Y. organization on the Yavapai-Apache Nation, spoke at the commemorative event in Phoenix.

Beauty is the son of Thomas and Nadie Beauty of Middle Verde.

In conjunction with this event, Loren Tapahe, director of the Arizona Indian Chamber of Commerce (AICC) based in Phoenix hosted the 20th anniversary for AICC.

Members of the Inter-Tribal Council (ITCA) were also present at the event.

Chairman Beauty of Yavapai-Apache Nation is president of ITCA.



Chairman Beauty, top photo, cuts the anniversary cake for both U.N.I.T.Y. and AICC of Phoenix. Loren Tapahe (L), Shon Quannie (formerly of Mingus Union H.S.) and Maria Dadgar, Executive Director for ITCA look on as Lisa Chavez, U.N.I.T.Y. representative from the Ak-Chin community are joined by an unidentified representative from A.P.S. and Mary Kim Titla. At right, Joel Beauty speaks at the commemorative event. (Photo at left by Lee Hyeoma. Photo at right by Nadie Beauty)



Wellness conference draws community members together

By DON DECKER
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Nation's youth and community members gathered at the Nation for the 'Healing our Nation' conference on January 14, Friday.

Special speakers came from across the country arrived to provide thought-provoking workshops that engaged the community members about personal issues.

From Hopiland, Perci Ami provided an uplifting talk about enhancement of spiritual paths of Native people.

Running Horse Livingston, is founder and director of 'Mathematize', a national self-development program that uses mathematics ac-

tivities to develop personal life skills and to solve daily life problems.

Livingston got the students on the gym floor and played an engaging math game which required logic and reasoning.

From the Navajo Nation, Troi Lynn Whitethorne, an accomplished artist, spoke to the youth about goal setting and overcoming life obstacles to accomplish life endeavors.

He had a heart-to-heart message about his personal misfortunes that stymied his ability to succeed with his goals until he gave up the negative activities such as the use of alcohol and other drugs. Whitethorne

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Yavapai-Apache teens stand up to participate in an activity with workshop presenter Running Horse Livingston. (Photo by Don Decker)



GRADUATING

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year school located in Durango, Colorado. "They (Ft. Lewis College) have a tuition waiver (for Native American students)," said Beauty referring to money-saving costs of college expenses. "I'm torn between A.S.U. and Ft. Lewis," said Beauty who likes the idea of attending a smaller school with a reputable student-to-instructor ratio.

Beauty would like to also continue in the sport of golfing wherever he en-

rolls at for the coming academic year.

Vance Tewawina another Native American student at the high school who is not a member of the Yavapai-Apache Nation but has social ties to the Nation, is graduating as well. Tewawina won a graphic arts contest in 2014 for designing the Camp Verde Centennial logo. In addition, he excels in academics as well as playing on the school's golf team.

His parents are Ophelia (Navajo) and Milford Tewawina (Hopi) of Camp Verde who have encouraged him to continue on with higher education by

checking into various schools. "I visited Haskell University (Lawrence, Kansas) and it's an all-American school that has a good business program," said Tewawina. Tewawina also has the option attending Ft. Lewis College in Colorado like classmate Beauty because the college has a strong program in marketing and business.

Finally, Gabrielle Ontiveros, part of the graduating seniors this year at Camp Verde High School, was not available for comment or a group photograph.

LANGUAGE

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which shows these classes help build self-esteem," said Franco.

Franco said that the student participants are recognized in an award ceremony and presented with a hoodie and a certificate of completion at the end of the 6-week course.

"It's is easy to get the

number of students to attend these classes but the real challenge is in teaching and keeping their interest," added Franco.

Thanks to the patience of Yavapai teacher Reba Franco and Apache teacher Priscilla Lewis, these challenges are met.

The next set of classes will be with high school students for the winter classes.

MESQUITE

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From this fine powder, a variety of delectable foods can be cooked.

Recipes galore

With just a few additional ingredients, one can make basic muffins, chocolate chip cookies, pancakes, brownies, lemon poppy muffins, mesquite corn bread and mesquite tortillas. For mesquite cornbread the recipe calls for:

- ¾ c. each cornmeal and flour
- ½ c. mesquite meal
- ½ t. baking powder
- ½ t. salt

- 1 c. yogurt
- 2 eggs
- ¼ c. honey or equivalent
- 3 tbs. oil or ½ c. butter

Combine dry ingredients and wet and stir into dry until just mixed. Spread the mix into a greased 8" by 8" pan and bake 25 minutes at 350 degrees or until toothpick comes out clean. To add "a little kick," include 1 t. Chipotle and ¾ c. fresh or frozen corn kernels.

Medicinal use of mesquite

The mesquite has been used by many Indian tribes in the southwest and as far south as the Mexican Baja and north central Mexico.

Mesquite is commonly used to treat eye conditions, open wounds and skin disorders. For a stomach ache, mesquite can be used as an anti-acid as well as an antibacterial agent to place on sores and open wounds.

(Judie Piner is the director of the Preservation and Technology Department for the Yavapai-Apache Nation in Camp Verde, Arizona and is an anthropologist, historian, photographer, graphic designer, and college instructor at Yavapai College.)

Additional information:
jpiner@yan-tribe.org
www.desertharvestors.org
www.casadefruta.com
www.navitasnaturals.com

Tasting mesquite recipes at the culture center, Emma Mocasque (L), Arlin Carlton and RaChel eVans, the cook, all try out the mesquite pancakes. (Photo by Don Decker)

