

COMMUNITY

Yavapai-Apache Wildcats

The Wildcat's are a dynamic team made up of Yavapai-Apache tribal members, youth and coaches, that travel around to various native basketball tournaments all over Arizona, fundraising money along the way to provide not only new uniforms, but for travel expenses, such as, food, lodging, and registration fees. They first played together during the Youth Christmas Basketball Tournament hosted by VVYB in the Middle Verde Gym, December 15th, 16th, and 17th 2017 winning 1st place for their age bracket.

Since then, they have been practicing every week, fundraising to pay for their traveling expenses, and becoming a more organized team. The coaches have done an outstanding job keeping the kids interested and motivated to improve their game. Kudos to the coaches, Nick Mendez, and father, Kevin Mendez, and to all the parents who have traveled alongside their kids' team to support their efforts!

Most Recent Line-up..

April 21-22, 2018 Wildcat's played in Tuba City at the All Native Youth *Hoopstars Tournament, they received shirts and made Runner's Up!

April 28-29, 2018 Wildcat's played in Prescott at the All Native Pai-Pride

Tournament, they received shirts again, but did not place.

May 5th, 2018 Wildcat's did fundraising at the Community Softball Tournament in Middle Verde, selling frybread and an assortment of snacks and beverages, including snow-cones! They made enough money to purchase NEW UNIFORMS!

May 12-13, 2018 Wildcat's played in Page, placed 3rd, and all got shirts! Most of them camped out at Lake Powell, fishing and kayaking on down time.

*Equipment provided from Wilderness/Youth Prevention Program

June 1-3, 2018 Wildcat's are scheduled to play in San Carlos, at Burdette Hall, over the weekend.

They will be wearing their new uniforms Wish them luck and show your support by staying tuned for upcoming fundraiser's... they might be traveling out of state soon!

Coach: Nick Mendez /Assistant Coach: Kevin Mendez

Players: Gage Russell, Adam Honwytewa, Marie Thompson, Xavior Thompson, Wasiiva Lewis, Lillian Begay, Kenoe Honwytewa, Nick Robles, Aliyah Engel, and Jordan Fullmer



The Beautiful Verde River!

BY VIVIAN STEVENS,
YAN-EPA department

Our beautiful Verde River runs through our land and provides us with water, food, medicine, and shelter, not only for us, but for the animals too. There is a big concern for the river, that is, TRASH! Whether it's plastic, glass, oil, or woody waste, it contaminates, disrupts the flow of water, and causes serious water quality problems that can make us sick or even worse. Pollution is a big problem and we need to start somewhere to reduce litter. Lori Ortega (YAPD) spends some of her spare time on the Rez picking up trash at the river. She keeps us informed of what she

finds and how much. This is what she stated "I was saddened to see litter strewn about and floating in the river", sad indeed. There are more people out there like Lori and we thank them for their efforts. Let's work together to keep our water safe and clean. Do your part by cleaning up after yourselves; after walking, swimming, fishing, and camping and/or during social and traditional events.

Thank you for caring, and God bless you all. This is for the Beautiful Verde River!

Sincerely,
Vivian Stevens
The YAN
Environmental
Protection Department



YAN council members complete informational trip to D. C.

YAN NEWS

YAN council members wrapped up a Washington, D.C. visit with Congressman Tom O'Halleran (Dem) in late April.

District 1 is one the largest congressional district in the U.S. with the largest one in Alaska.

Congressman O'Halleran has visited with YAN administration once before with a tour of the Nation and the culture center.

YAN council members complete informational trip to D. C. (L) Siera Russell, Chairwoman Jane Russell-Winiecki, Congressman O'Halleran, Darlene Rubio, Thomasene Cardona and Vice Chairman Larry Jackson, Jr



Siera Russell (L), YAN council member makes a point with Congressional staff members