

EDUCATION

Filling prescriptions

Pharmacist: a good person to know. And doctors depend on them to make those prescriptions work for you

By DON DECKER
YAN News

Meet Gabrielle Jackson of Middle Verde who has just completed all of her qualifications to stand behind those medicine counters at places like Walgreen's and CVS stores to fill out your prescriptions.

Jackson, who is the daughter of Gabriel and Anna Jackson of Middle Verde just completed her training at Arizona College in Phoenix this past April. "I also had two weeks of OJT in Phoenix and two weeks at Walgreen's in Camp Verde," Jackson said. "I still need to take the state exam soon as possible," she added. Mind you, that she drove all the way down to "43rd and Dunlap" in north Phoenix a distance of over 90 miles each day battling the morning freeway traffic just to sit in a classroom and learn the business of becoming a pharmacist technician for eight months.



Jackson

Asked if there is another trained pharmacist on her Nation- she replied, "Not that I know of."

Bad luck came once when the school, Anthem College, went under with a bankruptcy. That didn't faze her one bit and besides, it was only temporary and all of her credits transferred to the new college from the defunct school. It's not easy getting out of bed in the wee hours of the morning on the rez and driving down to the college five days a week sitting there for eight hours a day but Jackson did it. Now, all she needs to do is pass her state board exam. Already, she has trained at the Walgreen's store in Camp Verde. "You have to learn everything. Counting, the brand, including the generic ones," she said. They threw the books at her in school: anatomy (the study of bones and muscle), medical terminology (spell 'colitis' on the spell checker to see if it's correct), and other subjects related to her work.

Change is important

The last employment she had was working as a receptionist for the Nation's casino hotel in Middle Verde for a year and that gave her more technical skills in operating the computer which is necessary for her line of work. Most prescriptions are now sent via the computer to the pharmacy says Jackson. Still, she has to know how to read all those squiggly lines that doctors write on "scripts" since some are hand-carried to the pharmacy. Currently there aren't any jobs in Verde Valley but she went to take a test for Walgreen's. "It was on-line. They ask you all kinds of questions and it was about quest services like 'hostile work environment,'" she said. The test had more to do with dealing with customers and not about her expertise in pharmacy work. For now, it's a waiting game for Jackson. Asked if she is anxious to get to work: "I am hoping — soon," Jackson said.

The pay is great too-\$15-\$20 an hour!

Title VII Indian Education office moved to Camp Verde

By DON DECKER
YAN News

Laurie Kaaekuahiwi, YAN tribal member, director of the Title VII program for the Camp Verde School District has relocated to the elementary school for the coming school. Formerly, her office was located at the South Verde High School.

Kaaekuahiwi oversees the federal funded program which services all Indian students attending the school district.

The Title VII funds are used exclusively to address the various issues affecting the education of Indian children.

These activities include monitoring of achievement test scores,

disciplinary conflict resolution for students, establishing in-service workshops for teachers and staff members of the school district and coordination of services between the Nation's educational programs such as the Johnson O'Malley tutoring program and the school district on-going school program.

Kaaekuahiwi says that the staff members and teachers need to have a better understanding of the social problems of Indian students. "There are single parents and some (students) raised by their grandparents. These students have gone through all sorts of things," she said in reference to establishing a program that creates awareness of the special problems some Indian children experience and that this

has a bearing on how they perform academically.

Kaaekuahiwi said that there are 186 K-12 Indian students in the Camp Verde School district. Of these, 77 are in the elementary grades. Hence, to better address these concerns, the Title VII office was relocated to the elementary school.

Other goals and objectives for the Title VII program is to increase activities for the Native American Club at the high school according to Kaaekuahiwi. Along with this, a language club that is coordinated with the Nation's culture departments for the 2nd and 3rd grades.

Kaaekuahiwi will continue to work with the South Verde High School two times a week.



Laurie Kaaekuahiwi wants to be easily accessible to elementary school students. Photo by Don Decker, YAN News

YAVAPAI-APACHE YOUTH CAMP

LeChey Honwyteawa, right, culture instructor for the Nation teaches the young ladies the Bird Dance. Photos by Arianna Campos

By ARIANNA CAMPOS
Summer Journalism Intern

The Yavapai-Apache Youth Camp is a great experience for youth ages 8-14.

The youth participated in arts and crafts such as pine needle basket making with Reba Franco, flute making with Don Decker, yarn picture frames with Priscilla Lewis, the youth also did clay sculpting.

Mr. Vincent Randall from Yavapai Apache Culture Department taught History on the nation and the youth's family tree.

Not only did Reba Franco do pine needle baskets, she also did Yavapai introductions and taught songs in Yavapai.

There were also speakers such as Yavapai-Apache Police Department, Coralei Marquez and Arlin Carlton.

Tuesday afternoon the youth did a talent show for the staff, they danced and sang songs.

Lily was quite the star of the show she did multiply performances singing



and play her flute she made earlier that day.

After dinner Tuesday evening, the youth roasted marshmallows and told scary stories eventually they scared themselves back into their tents.

Then next morning, Reba then banged on a pot to wake the kids. They started their day with breakfast.

Then Reba got them started with their first class of the day, on some kind of fake animal skin they painted a story.

After they had Mr. Randall's class and then came Coralei and Arlin with their presentation on what's in cigarettes and the harm they could do to your body.

After the cigarette presentation was Priscilla's class, the youth ate lunch and after lunch was free time as they continued on their pine needle baskets and practiced their flutes.

Overall, the youth camp was a fun and loud environment.

This camp is highly recommended to any youth in the community.



Making clay pottery to be fired, from left, Nasia Cordona, Trina Honwyteawa, Priscilla Lewis-Apache Edler. Photo by Don Decker

Conference

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close-up photograph of Obama as she shook hands with the Indian youth.

Obama concluded her remarks by saying, "I am so proud of you all. I'm proud of this gathering. I know you all can do this. I believe in you, and I can't wait to see everything you all will achieve for your generation and generations to come."

Louis Farrakan, a Black minister who supports the struggles of minority people, was the keynote speaker and he told the youth, "You can see beyond eyes and you can hear beyond ears when you are wide awake 'spiritually.' That's what your ancestors had, and that is what you and I must attain again," (from Titla's news release).

Leroy Not-Afraid (Crow Nation) who is a tribal judge, talked about teen suicide epidemic, reflecting on his own family's tragedy when his 11-year old daughter took her own life in the fall of 2014 due to alleged bullying at school.

Drake Smith, son of Delbert and Ernestine Smith of Middle Verde who is going into the 11th grade at Camp Verde High School, was impressed with Farrakan. "I researched him for a while. His is like one of the greatest speakers next to Malcom X. He was very inspirational. He talked about God and he said, 'I look at you and I see God,'" said young Smith about Farrakan.

Smith said this was his second year at the conference and

said "...it was more fun if you participate in workshops". Last year, Smith attended the Portland, Oregon conference.

Smith has been contemplating his future, his career and where he will live in the future. "I'm considering going into the city, work in a big department like an accountant or a broker," said Smith.

Smith is an impressionable youth and he is perceptive to the opportunities opening up to him. "UNITY by itself is a family.

It combines all tribal youth and shows you about leadership, teaches you to become future leaders in the coming

years," added Smith.

Smith's mother, Ernestine who chaperoned the Washington trip said that the UNITY conference is about mentoring and modeling Indian youth and planting seeds in the minds of youth as they prepare for the future. "It's getting them ready if they run tribes.

The youth council is the second level of the tribal council," she said. Mother Smith has involved both of her sons, Drake and Dayton in the home group of the youth council in Middle Verde since they were in the 7th and 8th grade.



Washington, D.C.-Members of the Yavapai-Apache Nation attend the White House Youth Conference with Michelle Obama hosting the event. Courtesy photo

gether. Younger son, Dayton is a 9th grader.

Father Delbert is just involved with the youth council through their sons.

That is why they volunteered to serve as chaperons for the Washington conference.

Participants also had a chance to visit with well-known Indian movie actor Adam Beach and other native people of notoriety.

Some of the highest ranking members of the Barack Obama's administration participated in the White House Indian Youth Conference such as Interior Secretary Sally Jewell and North Dakota Senator Heidi Heitkamp who spoke to the youths.

Chairman Thomas Beauty from the Nation also spoke during the Tribal Leadership Round Table. "I speak from the heart," he said as he spoke of the theme of the conference.

Highlights of the conference included a varied selection of topics relevant to teenagers: Social, Spiritual, Physical and Mental development.

Another chaperone from the Nation, Roberta Quail said these daily activities kept the attendees occupied and there was no idle time.

"Each day was opened with a blessing and welcome from the different tribal peoples across the country.

The Parade of Nations, as the Grand Entry to the conference, had youth from the 10 different regions presented themselves with tribal flags (during the marching in of participants)," said Quail.

Quail said the Spirit of Na-

tive Culture, a cultural exchange from different parts of the country was most memorable because it gave each region a chance "to show some spirit".

"I wish I had this experience during my time as I was growing up. I wish I had learned all of that because this is a good learning experience for all of our kids," said Quail. Quail is a school counselor/tutor for the Johnson O'Malley Program at the Camp Verde Elementary School.

At the conference, a campfire was lit at the beginning of the conference and Yavapai-Apache Nation youth council took their turn to watch the fire and to make sure it didn't extinguish itself during the duration of the conference. On the last day, a special ceremony was held to put out the ceremonial fire that had been lit for four days.

The UNITY conference concluded with a formal banquet and the honored guest was Adam Beach, Native American movie actor who has starred in many memorable roles.

The YAN youth group and their advisors toured parts of the capitol area including the Arlington National Cemetery where they had an opportunity to see the changing of the guards at the Tomb of the Unknown Soldier.

Next year, the UNITY conference will be held in Oklahoma City.

Other adult chaperons were Darlene Manuel, Chairman Thomas Beauty and First Lady Nadine Beauty, Darlene Rubio -Vice Chairwoman and Leona Wathogoma.