

COMMUNITY

YAN installs new Chief Judge

BY DON DECKER,
YAN news 04/08/19

Todd R. Matha, (Juris Doctor -University of Minnesota) was installed as the new Chief Judge for the Yavapai-Apache Nation in Middle Verde, Arizona on the Yavapai-Apache Nation.

Chief Judge Matha was sworn in by tribal chairperson Jane Russell-Winiecki in the tribal chambers of the Nation in front of 20 people. Vice-Chairman Larry Jackson, Sr. gave the official greetings and welcome for the attendees.

Chief Judge Matha brings with him a wide breadth of legal experience and governmental background.

He received a Bachelors of Arts from Dickinson College in Carlisle, Pennsylvania not far from where he grew up. Dickinson College is considered one of the oldest colleges in the nation and was known as Carlisle Grammer School with its beginnings in 1773.

Subsequently, Judge Matha

enrolled in the University of Minnesota Law School in Minneapolis where he received his law degree. Having lived most of life away from his homelands in Wisconsin, Chief Judge Matha returned to where his mother grew up--Ho-Chunk country.

He is an enrolled member of the Ho-Chunk Nation in his home state of Wisconsin where he has been since 1999 serving most recently on the Nation's Judiciary.

In addition, he served as tribal lead attorney for the Mille Lacs Band of Ojibwe in Minnesota for the past 7 years. Chief Judge Matha has been a member of the Wisconsin Tribal Judges Association for many years and serves on his Nation's appellate court which meets throughout the year to hear cases.

He is married and has 3 daughters.

"I'm happy and pleased to have this position and I hope to do a good job and I believe that I will," he said.



Chief Judge Todd Matha is being sworn in by Chairwoman Jane Russell-Winiecki. YAN News photo.

Nation member is recognized for outstanding achievement in mechanic technology and sports



Ty Engle, basketball player for Tuba City High School stands with his parents as he is named Outstanding All-Star basketball player.

BY DON DECKER,
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Yavapai-Apache Nation member Ty Engle of Tuba City competed in the Native Skill -Automotive Technology competition on March 28 in Kayenta, Arizona on the Navajo Reservation by placing 3rd.

This garnered him a \$2000 scholarship to Universal Technical Institute (UTI) located in Avondale (west Phoenix) for the fall academic year.

Ty Engle is a senior at Tuba City High School and will be graduating this coming May. His parents are Patricia Tsinne Engle and Brent Engle, Jr. of Tuba City.

Nation's members might know Ty's grandfather Brent Engle, Sr. formerly of Middle Verde who moved back to Tuba City. Linda Hartnett of Tunlii is his aunt and cousins are Tonita Fernando who works in the Nation's court system and Renee Gonzales who is employed with the Nation's CHR program.

Ty is also designated all-around talented sportsman who made the Navajo Times Basketball All-Star for the 2018-2019 school year.

Ty was honored in a ceremony on Monday April 8 at the Phil Thomas Performing Arts Center in Shiprock, New Mexico on the campus of Shiprock High School.

Submitted family photos



Ty Engle, YAN member receives scholarship to enroll in Universal Technology Institute to study automotive mechanics.

Camp Verde native returns to Camp Verde to work for the Nation

BY DON DECKER,
YAN News

Cheryl Eichhorn is the new administrative assistant to Yolanda Trujillo, Agricultural Resource Manager for the Nation.

Ms. Eichhorn grew up in Camp Verde, attended Camp Verde High School and graduated with several of the Nation's members such as Margie Lowry Campos who is employed as public relations assistant.

Ms. Eichhorn says she is the lone child of the family and returned to Camp Verde in 2016 to the family's home-stead to take care of it after her mother passed away. Ms. Eichhorn had been living in Phoenix for many years.

For a brief time she was in Ft. Worth, Texas from 2006-2008 where she performed security work for a bingo hall for 2 years while carrying a weapon protecting the place she said.

Ms. Eichhorn is very adept to animals and



Cheryl Eichhorn

YAN News photo

likes horseback riding as a pastime and paddling a kayak along the Verde River.

"I like working with the animals here (at the Nation's ranch). I do a little of everything, help with the hay sales and taking care of the chickens," she said.

The Nation remodeled one of the barns near Ms. Eichhorn's office and fenced in the area to accommodate a large number of laying chickens.

Ms. Eichhorn writes reports and assesses the operations of the department.

Asked what were her thoughts about her new assistant manager, Mrs. Yolanda Trujillo, her supervisor had high praise for Eichhorn. "I love it. Cheryl knows a lot about the farm animals. She takes care of them, the turkey, the geese, livestock and chicken and she is really helpful around the ranch."



Easter egg hunt with Mya Rocha (L)(daughter of Buddy Rocha Jr.) and baby Maddison with mother Megan on the right.



Priscilla Lewis and Sylvia Wilson at the shoe making class. Photo by Chasen Ross, Media Department