

NEWS

YAN members trained to be Tribal Monitors

BY DON DECKER,
YAN News

In a 3-way cooperative venture among the Southwest Consulting Associates of Flagstaff, the Tonto National Forest and Resolution Mining Company, 6 YAN members have been trained to conduct land surveys involving mapping and recording ancestral sites and "places of cultural significance".

The tribal monitors are trained and gain all of the knowledge to assess and survey public lands. This is usually done in cases such as a new highway that is to be constructed on pieces of land that may have archeological sites. This assures the protection of ancestral sites and in some cases, may require the re-routing of a roadway to accommodate the preservation of a historical site.

Six members from the Nation, Anna Jackson, Rachel Evans Beauty, Dawn Rocha, Olivia McMahon, Gabriella Jackson and Vincent Hood are members of this team. Most of the work is conducted in Maricopa, Pima and Gila county.

So far, 30 tribal cultural specialists have been trained since 2018 under the Tonto National Forest Tribal Monitor Program



Tribal Monitors are (L to R) Gabriella Jackson, Anna Jackson (back), Rachel Evans Beauty, Dawn Rocha, Olivia McMahon, and (not pictured), Vincent Hood. YAN News photos



Vincent Randall in front was special speaker at the workshop on Gambe Oak trees. He is surrounded by the tribal monitors of the different Indian communities in Arizona

under the direction of Nanebah Nez Lyndon from the Tonto National Forest Office in Payson.

The Indian communities participating include Yavapai-Apache Nation, White Mountain Apache, Ak-Chin Community, Mescalero Apache Tribe, Gila River Community, Hopi Tribe, and Pueblo Of Zuni. The Zunis have a small parcel of land near St. Johns, Arizona which is considered part of

Arizona Indian tribal land.

The noon luncheon recognized the special achievements of the monitoring team and

Vincent Randall, Apache culture director was special guest and speaker at the luncheon held at the Hassayumpa Hotel in Prescott. The Tonto National Forest is also working on the preservation of Emory Oak trees which produces the acorn nut that

Apache use in cooking. Efforts are being made to propagate the trees in hopes of preserving the longevity of the Emory Oak acorn groves according to Mr. Randall.

The acorn groves appear on maps that start in upper central Arizona mountains and continue down into central Mexico high chaparral country and into western Texas.

Indian Health Service community nurse named 'Nurse of the Year'

BY DON DECKER,
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RN Sheena Twitchell of the I.H.S. office at Phoenix Indian Medical Center has been named The March of Dimes 2019 'Nurse of the Year'

on Friday, June 14.

She was nominated by her supervisor at I.H.S. for outpatient nursing and her name was selected out of a pool of 300-400 recommendations. RN Twitchell visits the

Tonto Apache and Yavapai-Apache Nation through out the month providing community health services within the CHR program. She can also be seen at community health fairs on the Nation.

"I was very honored and grateful for all the work I get to do in Arizona and all the great people I have met through nursing," RN Twitchell stated.

RN Twitchell received a B.A.in Spanish with a

minor in biology in 2012 from Colorado State University in Pueblo. In addition, she received a B.S.in Science in Nursing from the same university in 2013. Currently, she is pursuing an M.S.in Nursing.

RN Twitchell is from Washington state and enrolled in the Koyukon Athabascan Nation of the Loudon Tribe in Galena, Alaska where her grandmother still lives.



RN Sheena Twitchell-
'Nurse of the Year' Award
on June 1



YAN ELDERS

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made this an enjoyable evening for the YAN elders. One classic song from Broadway musical 'Paint your wagon,' ('They call the wind Mariah') got the spectators singing the refrain 'Mariah' from the chorus of the song.

YAN member Rhonda Jackson of Middle Verde and another per-

son from the audience were honored with a birthday song by the Cowboys. The emcee also acknowledged the special visitors from the Senior Program of Yavapai-Apache Nation.

The Cowboys also sang the classic 'Ghost riders in the Sky' for their last song. This song featured an actual lightning scene complete with flashing lights outside the window panes

to the right as a masked rider with a white cape on a horse galloped around the ranch 3 times as the spectators got spooked.

These special outings for YAN elders bring about an appreciation to those who plan the events. In addition, these outings provide an opportunity for elders to socialize and catch up with one another.



Band at Blazin' M. Ranch