



New Finance Director

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A visit to Mortimer Farms

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Yavapai-Apache Nation
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Camp Verde, AZ 86322

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Yavapai: To Tell Apache: To Talk

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Nation installs new council members on October 4

BY DON DECKER,
YAN News

Approximately 250 people attended the inauguration at the Nation's new convention center at the Cliff Castle Casino in Camp Verde on Friday night October 4. The evening was replete with traditional Yavapai, Apache and gospel music brought forth by the Nation's community members.

On stage, the Apache traditional singers led by Martin Loretto and other singers from the community sang the songs as the new council members came into the banquet hall under the thunderous applause of attendees. This pageantry was unique as new council member Ricardo Pacheco, danced into the convention center accompanied by this wife.

Apphia Shirley entered next accompanied by host who also danced in from the rear of the banquet



Chairman Jon Huey

hall while dancing to the cadence of Martin Loretto's Apache music.

The crescendo got louder as the new Vice Chairwoman Tanya Lewis entered the banquet hall being led by her father along with her son. Finally, the applause got louder and whopping voices brought in Chairman Jon Huey and his family.

The newly installed Vice Chairperson Tanya Lewis gave her appreciation to the members of the Nation and those in attendance that night.

"Thank

you for being here, for supporting all of us and our tribal council and for the opportunity to serve all of you and our Nation. This is an honor and a privilege to be able to do this. It's about us working together and I know, we make the community -- we make who we are. I feel strong in our hearts that our tribal council along with Chairman Huey are going to move forward and we're going to be strong and lead our people and the Nation today and everyday. Thank you all and it is an honor to serve all of you".

Vice Chairperson has served on the Nation's council for one term.

Newly elected Chairman Jon Huey spoke about his 17 year tenure with the police department where he gave credit to his training and said 3 words

have always been the mainstay of his career: 'Integrity, Pride and Ambition.'

"This is something that I have learned when I got into law enforcement. Without these 3 words, I would be lost. This is what I have planned to carry over into my term as chairman for Yavapai-Apache Nation," he added.

Chairman Huey honored his family. "I'd like to say thank you, foremost, to my family," said Huey. He and his wife, Desiree have 5 children.

"I look forward to working with all of you, with the tribal council members. I would like to also thank all of the previous tribal council members who have previously served because without them, we wouldn't be here today," added Chairman Huey. Mr. Huey has served on the tribal council two consecutive terms in the past.

"Three years might seem like a long time—it's probably going to fly

by faster than I know but I'm ready for this step in my life. I look forward to working with the administration, all the employees not just the directors and managers but everybody who makes the Yavapai-Apache Nation... not just the Yavapai-Apache Nation but the great Yavapai-Apache Nation," he said as he emphasized the word 'great'.

Outgoing Chairwoman Jane Russell-Winiecki spoke briefly of her tenure for the past 3 years and congratulated the new leaders. Mrs. Winiecki did not seek reelection. Larry Jackson, Sr. outgoing vice chairman, did not attend the inauguration due to a prior commitment for a church convention in California.

Herbert Trujillo, Election Board Chief and Laura Cornelius Election Board member administered the Oath of Office to each new member of the council. New executive officer members gave a short greeting to the audi-



Vice Chairperson Tanya Lewis.

ence by expressing their appreciation for the reception. There was a positive aura during the inauguration which was opened with a prayer by David Kwail who has served more times as a Chairman and council member than any other elected official of the Nation.

Visitors included tribal leaders from the Ft. McDowell Yavapai Nation, Tonto Apache, Southern Paiute Tribe in northern Arizona, the Navajo Nation, city officials from Camp Verde, educators from Yavapai College in Clarkdale, and state legislative members.

Community members were feted to a complete dinner served by the casino. Canyon Record flute recording artist Kelvin Mockingbird, Navajo, provided the background music for the occasion.



Apphia Shirley was sworn in as new council member.



Ricardo Pacheco

U.N.I.T.Y. (United Native Indian Tribal Youth) meets in Clarkdale

BY DON DECKER,
YAN News

U.N.I.T.Y. is a national Indian youth organization that has membership in most Indian communities across the U.S.

Mary Kim Titla, San Carlos Apache, is the director and she is responsible for the coordination of activities at the national and regional level. Each year the organization meets in certain parts of the country where goals and objectives are discussed. U.N.I.T.Y. has national officers elected during

their annual conference. At the Clarkdale meeting on October 24,

Thomasene Cardona, U.N.I.T.Y. coordinator and Amanda

Honwyte, advisor, provided a leadership agenda to motivate the

teens in attendance. U.N.I.T.Y. age bracket goes up to 21 years of age.

"What is leadership?" was the title of the evening's agenda. As special guest, former Arizona Democratic state representative from District 7 (Apache county) Eric Descheenie met with the U.N.I.T.Y. members. Mr. Descheenie, a graduate of Arizona State University, was in the state office from 2016 until 2019 replacing Albert Hale from that district.

Another guest was

Debbie Nez Manuel, a social worker based in the Phoenix who is the director of Morning Star Leaders who spoke to the youth about important characteristics in developing one's self and suggestions for attaining leadership skills. Ms. Manuel is from the Navajo Nation and she has excellent communication skills in talking with youth.

Mr. Descheenie brought 3 of his young sons to the meeting and they had the opportunity to interact with the



Eric Descheenie speaks to the community with his sons nearby.