

COMMUNITY NEWS

YAN elders participate in volleyball tournament

BY CASANDRA STODDER, YAN Youth Wilderness Program

Update:

Monica Marquez and I wanted to share our experience with an elder's outing last month (December).

We took 9 elders to Peach Springs for the Hualapai Elder Reindeer Games on December 4, 5, & 6, 2019.

Participants included:

- Iris Mocasque
- Shirley Bonnaha Coffman
- Brenda Honwyteawa
- Monte Jackson
- Katherine Marquez
- Harry Hood
- Willie Hood
- Priscilla Lewis
- Sylvia Wilson

Monica and I decided to take this group

of elders to the 2019 Elder Reindeer Games because the Hualapai tribe sent out flyers inviting seniors from all over the state of Arizona. The senior chair volleyball tournament and senior games were open to all tribal seniors from across Arizona between the ages of 55 and over 70.

Twenty-four teams from all over Arizona were in attendance! We had two teams participating in the chair volleyball tournament. The event coordinators arranged competing ages groups of "Boomers" 55-61, "Masters" 62-69 and "Golden Age" 70 and over. The organizer even incorporated a non-adaptive category so those limited could participate as well.

This event was a positive experience for our YAN elders. They enjoyed the gathering of distant relatives, physical activity, meal time with conversation and connection, and of course the healthy competition of the entire event. Activities were scheduled for Wednesday, Thursday, and Friday with all the individual senior games held on Wednesday and the chair volleyball tournament on Thursday.

Our seniors did amazing! Actually 5 of our elders received medals! This was a great experience for Monica and I and we were happy to support our elders. The YAN elders had a really good time and hope to compete more in senior games moving forward. They feel included and



Willie Hood of Clarkdale getting ready to serve. Shirley Coffman is in the background (r)

recognized as people and send their gratitude and excitement to do more fun activities like

throw, basketball throw and mix and match

Shirley Coffman- Mix and match, chicken throw and oompa loompa

Katherine Marquez- Obstacle course

Sylvia Wilson- Oompa loompa

2nd Place Medal winners:

Sherrra Nava- Bean bag toss, upside down Christmas tree stack

Shirley Coffman- Basketball throw and newspaper crunch

Iris Mocasque- Bean bag toss

3rd Place Medal winners:

Shirley Coffman- Upside down Christmas tree stack
Katherine Marquez- Oompa loompa
Iris Mocasque- Oompa loompa

this.
1st Place Medals winners:
Sherrra Nava- Chicken



YAN elder senior medal winners. (L to R) Katherine Marquez, Iris Mocasque, Shirley Coffman and Sylvia Wilson. Courtesy photos by Casandra Stouder, Wilderness Program.



Best YAN defense and offensive team at Hualapai games. (R to L) Priscilla Lewis, Iris Mocasque and Willie Hood in back.



Iris Mocasque and Shirley Coffman winning a 'chicken throw' contest in Peach Springs.



The ring toss with Katherine Marquez in Peach Springs tournament.

Yavapai-Apache Nation honored in special room

BY DON DECKER, YAN News

Last spring in May, Fred Sanchez of Yavapai-Apache Nation was selected to represent the Nation in the designation of a dedicated room at the Camp Verde library.

Fred Sanchez, while serving in the capacity as Vice Chairman for the Nation in prior years, had worked closely with then casino general manager John O'Neil to help the Camp

Verde Library start their endowment program.

The casino donated a 3-room conference center at The Lodge at Cliff Castle for the fundraiser's annual event called the 'Denim Lace Dinner' conducted by local business entities and library personnel. A silent auction was also included in the annual event according to Kathy Hellman from the Camp Verde Library Endowment program.

The Library

Endowment had bought all the dinners for the event.

During the 13 year period \$500,000 was raised.

The Camp Verde Library finally finished the special room late summer 2019 to honor the principle visionaries who made the new Camp Verde library a possibility. The Yavapai-Apache Nation was the main benefactor in the new library.



Fred Sanchez (upper left) YAN member is honored on the library wall for fundraising contribution.