

The

April 1, 2019

# Federation Indian Reporter



AMERICAN INDIAN TRIBAL NEWS \* ERNIE C. SALGADO JR., PUBLISHER/EDITOR



## Tribal Members Casino Resort Celebration A Jackpot Winner

I was not able to attend the casino celebration as I had the honor of visiting with three of my seven great-grandchildren for the evening. I don't know who had the most fun, my granddaughter, Ashley who attended the tribal event with her husband, Gus or me. For the sake of argument we'll call it even.



Ashley, Gus and many others said the event was outstanding well planned and implemented. Other descriptive words used to describe the event were fantastic, great and bomb (*"bomb" A new intergenerational word for me*).

In addition to a great dinner and entertainment a video documenting the historical events of the tribe. The video included interviews with tribal members was shown and distributed to the members in attendance. I had the privilege of viewing the video which was very impressive.

Given all the hardships many of the elders have endured, water or the lack of it seemed to be one of the main topics as well as growing up poor.

What was evident in the video was the pride displayed by every tribal member interviewed and appearing in the video. They spoke with pride and held their heads high, shoulders back and looked directly into the camera, true pride in who we are as a people.



I think Caroline "Vivanco" Post said it best, she said. *"Although we were poor and had to live without water we were always proud to be Soboba Indians."* She also said that she prayed that her children, grandchildren and great-grandchildren would never have to go without water or indoor plumbing, *"....a flushing toilet."* as she put it. I also share her sentiments and appreciation for the basics of life's needs; water, food, shelter and safety.

Frances "Salgado" Diaz offered an excellent overview addressing the substandard housing tribal members faced over the years. She explained how the first HUD homes were built in the early 70's and how the tribe has set aside funds for tribal home loans. And the HUD 184 and Veterans home loans for tribal members.

Raina "Salgado" Masiel shared on how eight members of our family shared a house with a kitchen and one bedroom.

Alice "Bentiste" Helms talked about life without water. How we would haul water in trash containers or what ever we had from San Jacinto.

However, she didn't tell how she helped start the first "Ahmium" pre-school on the reservation in 1975. She was the first preschool teacher and Carlene "Arres" Masiel was her teachers aide.

Alice was also the first tribal member to earn a bachelors of Arts degrees (BA) from a four-year university. She is to modest and a true role model.

The tribe is fully committed to the education of its members. In an effort to meet this commitment It has set aside funds for tutorial services, private school, vocational and higher education.

Currently the tribe has a fully operational preschool and kindergarten that is housed in a recently built building. It is managed and operated by a State credential staff,

The tribal also had a BIA funded middle school and high school, Noli Indian School on the reservation.

St. Jude is a private elementary school provides curriculum for grades 1 thru 5 that is also located in the reservation as well.

Wayne Garcia and Bunny Silvas spoke about the Canyon that was referred to as "Pechava Canyon" a long time before it was renamed "Indian Canyon." When and why the name change? I have no idea.

Jose and Juana "Apapas" Silvas and their children were the only family to live in the canyon until Morris and Dorothy "Estrada" Moreno made their family home there during the 50's and 60's.

Bunny talked about the beauty,

serenity and pride of the canyon. She shared how peaceful it was.

Wayne spoke indirectly about the water. He talked about how the families would gather at the hot springs and how everyone would wait their turn to bathe in the small 10x10 foot and about 2 and a half foot deep tub like pool of hot sulfur water.

Wayne didn't elaborate that next to the hot sulfur water bath pool was a stream of ice cold water about 2 foot deep cascading over an abundance of rocks of various sizes that we played in. And that 40 feet across the stream was a mud pool that was also mixed with sulfur water and the nasty smell of rotten egg.

I also have fond memories of the canyon from my early years and into my adulthood. And I also share Wayne and Bunny's assessment of the canyon.



Recreation on the reservation received a well deserved recognition the tribe takes great pride in.

My focus was on the original baseball field. I remember when I was in high school and played baseball with the Soboba AC's. Norbert "Norb" Arres was the manager. And the baseball field was nothing near what it is today.

The video also included the names and photographs of former tribal chairmen and the three chairwomen.

Anthony Mojado, Adam Castello and Leandro "Lee" Silvas were my earliest memories of tribal chairmen. Mr. Mojado for his easy quiet manner, Mr. Castillo for his intellectual presents and Lee Silvas for his dedication to the tribal youth.

Mr. Silvas managed two youth baseball teams in the late 40's and early 50's, the Red Rascals and the Ramblers.

The Red Rascals were little leaguers with me, my brother Bobby, "Tado" Silvas and Johnny "Cake" Razon.

The Ramblers were the older guys with Larry "Dee" and Paul "Hawk" Boniface, Fred "Pinkie" Miranda, Peter "The Fox" Morillo, Clifford "Tippy" Brittan and Teofilo Lugo are the few I can recall.

Both teams were undefeated in



the valley which caused the league official to establish a pool of player to break up the tribal monopoly on winning.

Long time tribal attorney, George Foreman, (*Not the former boxing champion*) also spoke to the resilience and tenacity of the tribe.

The Mission Indian Federation was mentioned in the video and

What was not mentioned was that we had the water resources but the Government thru the Bureau of Indian Affairs refused to extend the depth of water well on the reservation to where the water level was even though the funds were available.

The reason was to force the tribe to give u their water rights to the Eastern Municipal Water District.

former Soboba Tribal Chairman, Adam Castillo who was also the President of the Federation from 1920 until his death on 1953 was mentioned.

Still, another interesting obscure historical fact I'd like to share is that in 1920 Adam Castillo sent a letter on behalf of the Federation to the U.S. Congress restating his congressional testimony asking Congress to approve legislation allowing gaming on the Indian reservations.

In the letter he stated *"..to allow the tribes to implement gaming they would not need any more financial assistance from the Government."* Yes, that is how forward thinking our forefathers were.

According to my mother and father poker, roulette and blackjack were as much a part of the tribal fiesta's as the peon games and bootlegging (*The illegal sale of alcohol since Indians were not allowed to buy or drink alcohol in California until 1953.*)

The Soboba people went without a domestic water system from about 1937 to 1977, 40-years and even then they had to force the Bureau of Indian Affairs to release the funds for the construction of the water system.

Today, the tribe has six high producing water wells and continues to expand its water storage and distribution system.

We can all be proud of how far we have come as a tribe but we must remain vigil as the political leadership may not have the American Indian Tribes in their best interest. One example is the current gaming compacts with the state requiring the gaming tribes to contribute funds to the non-gaming tribes. This is pure Socialism.

I'm not suggesting we not help our brothers and sisters but we shouldn't be forced to.

Again, I share the pride as a tribal member of the Soboba Band of Luiseno Indians.



**DISCLAIMER:** By Ernie C. Salgado Jr.: The **Federation Indian Reporter** is based strictly on my humble opinion of the numerous American Indian tribal matters and issues. It is not intended to represent the views or positions of any group or organization. The primary purpose of this newspaper is to provide current, educational and entertaining information to the American Indian Tribal Community and the general public at large. As a private and personal publication it will be distributed at my own expense by U.S. mail, e mail and my websites. Any reproduction or posting of any data herein in any form is strictly prohibited unless authorized or used for educational purposes. Violators will be subject to us creating an effigy of you and stick it with pins and needles.



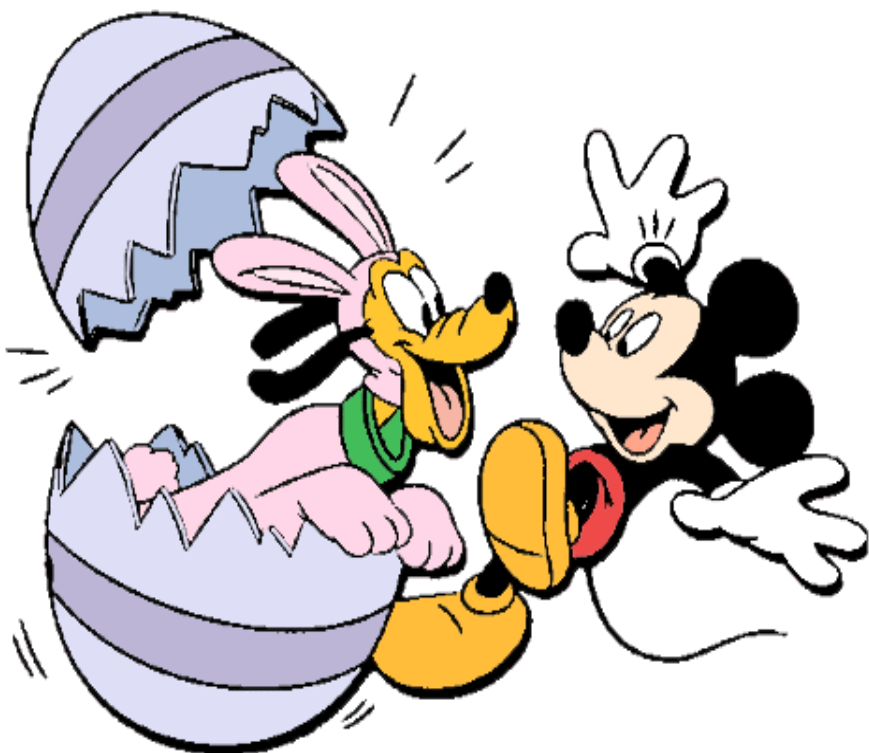
# Herrera - Vivanco Re-Elected



Mrs. Monica Herrera



Mr. Isaiah Vivanco



Have a Great Easter



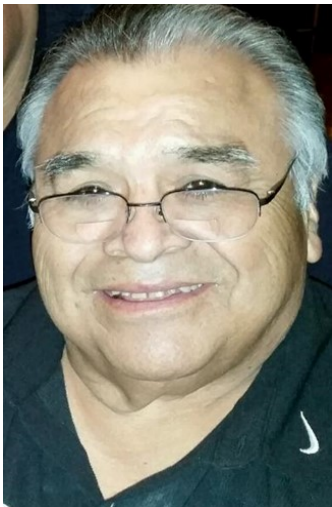
Soboba Tribal Council: Seated Left to right—Kelli Hurtado, Rose Salgado and Monica Herrera.  
Standing—Isaiah Vivanco, Vice Chairman and Scott Cozart, Chairman.



Shirley Louise (Fite) Silvas  
October 18, 1948 – April 19, 2016  
Soboba Indian Reservation



Anthony "Tony" Bentiste  
March 2, 1946 — May 30, 2016  
Soboba Indian Reservation



Jerome Salgado Jr.  
May 17, 1979 - May 20, 2016  
Cahuilla Indian Reservation



## TRIBAL INDIAN LAWS



**Jurisprudence:** The study of the theories and philosophies of law

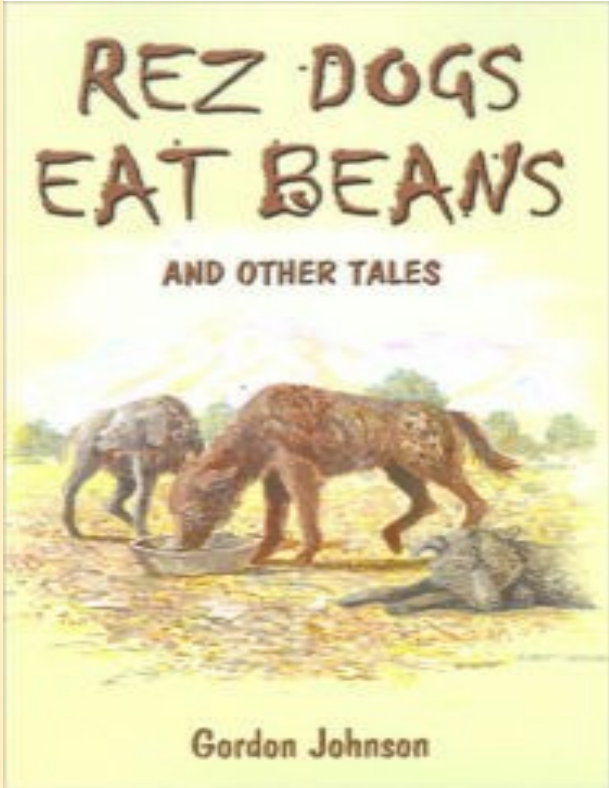
From Tribal sovereignty, to historical treaties with the U.S. government and the Constitution of the United States, the organization and study of the laws surrounding Native American Indian and Alaska Native tribes of the United States are as intricate and varied as their respective tribal histories.

Join others in the study and immerse yourself in the culture, history and application of **INDIAN LAW**.

### 8) SOVEREIGN TRIBAL GOVERNMENTS

What does "tribal sovereignty" mean in the United States of America?

**Gordon Johnson** is a tribal member of the Pala Band of Mission Indians. The Pala Indian Rez is located in north San Diego County, Southern California. Johnson has published several books providing a great insight into the ongoing lives of Rez folks. His most recent books are "**Rez Dogs Eat Beans**" and "**Birdsongs Don't Lie**" which can be purchased online at Amazon or Barnes and Noble.



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# Soboba Elders Corner

April 16, 2019 - .Easter Party Noon at the Soboba Casino Event Center.  
May 7-9, 2019 - Quechan Senior Games - Lodging at the Quechan Resort and Casino. April 17, 2019 final sign up date.  
November 6-20, 2019 - New Zealand & Sidney, Australia Trip - MUST HAVE A VALID PASSPORT

## 2019 Elders Board Members

At the January 2019 Elders meeting the Soboba Elders Board Members were elected.

- President: Frances Diaz
- Vice-President: Carlene Masiel
- Secretary/Treasurer: Lorraine Masiel

For more information call Erica at 951-392-1900 .



Earl Hyde	April, 1
Alice Helms	April, 2
Barrie Brittan	April, 11
Ronald Morillo	April, 14
Rosemary “Tish” Trujillo	April, 15
Donald Vega	April, 15
Foster “Tino” Hurtado Jr.	April, 23
Eileen Valenzuela	April, 26
Willian “Billy” Bentiste	April, 28

Sherman Indian High School

34th Annual Pow-Wow

Saturday April 20, 2019

Riverside, California

GATES: Open at 10:00AM

GRAND ENTRY: 12:00PM

RETIRING OF COLORS: 11:00PM

ADMISSION: Free

PARKING: \$5.00 Enter on Jackson at the freeway gate/football field.

All proceeds (after costs) from the Pow Wow are used for Senior Scholarships

Head Staff

Blessing: TBA

Headman: Zion Fox

Master of Ceremonies: Dr. Casey Fox

Host Northern Drum: Buffalo Creek

Sherman Eagle Staff: TBA

Headwomen: TBA

Arena Director: Kevin Johnson

Host Southern Drum: Southern Nation

Featuring: Round Valley Feather Dancers & Intertribal Bird Singers, Wa:k-Tab Basket Dancers, White Rose Singers  
Spoon Keepers: Sherman Indian High School Culinary

\*REGISTRATION FOR DRUM CONTEST & DANCE CATEGORIES IS FROM 10:30a -1:00p  
NO EXCEPTIONS & BRING YOUR ID\*

\* Drum Contest: 1<sup>st</sup> 500.00, 2<sup>nd</sup> 350.00, 3<sup>rd</sup> 150.00

\*Golden Age Women & Men (55+) All Categories

\*Women & Men (18-54)

\*Teen Girls & Boys (13-17)

\*Jr. Girls & Boys (7-12)

\*Tiny Tots Girls & Boys (6 and under) Combine

\*Specials throughout the pow-wow

\*\*NORTHERN TRADITIONAL SPECIAL BY THE ARENA DIRECTOR KEVIN JOHNSON!

\*\*GRASS SWITCH DANCE SPECIAL BY THE M.C. DR. CASEY FOX!

VENDOR INFORMATION:

Arts & Craft Booths - \$175.00

Food Booths - \$250.00

Contact: GAYLE JOHNSON

Pow-wow Coordinator: Debbie Monroe

Phone (951) 276-6325 Ext. 334

\*IMPORTANT NOTICE\*

Sherman Indian High School is an Alcohol and Drug and Smoke Free Campus! No Drugs, Alcohol, Tobacco, E-Cigarettes, Firearms or anyone Under the Influence of any of these Substances will not be allowed on campus. Security is strictly Enforced & Violators will be prosecuted. No pets allowed

Sherman Indian High School is not responsible for any theft, loss or damages to property or person(s).

Drag Racer Killed in Accident at Soboba

Marcus Norris 43, from Lichfield Park, Arizona died Friday, March 22, when his dragster crashed at the end of a race sponsored by the Southern California Sand Drag Association.

The accident was at the nationally recognized Soboba Sand Drag Track located on the Soboba Indian Reservation.

The accident happened on the first of the scheduled three days of racing. It was reported to the California Highway Patrol around 2:45 p.m.

According to witnesses, the dragster went off the end of the track, over a berm and overturned in the dry river bed.

A witness said the engine of the Top Fuel dragster did not shut down.

Officials reported that Norris was pronounced dead at 3 p.m.

The Sheriff’s Department is investigating the crash. Racing was shut down for the rest of Friday for the investigation.

The reason we have April FOOL DAY is because God made so many of them!

Yeah I've got O.C.D old, cranky and Dangerous.

Happy Anniversary

Andrea “Helms” & Stephen Sanchez

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# My View - Your View

Ernie C. Salgado Jr.



## Tribe Forced to Cut Tribal Operating Budget

I know folks don't want to talk about this issue but we do need to face the realities of the loss of income to the tribal operating budget.

Not only are the per capita checks going down the amount of money that goes to the tribal operating budget of the tribe is also going down.

My guess is the tribal operating budget will be down about \$500,000 per month or \$6 million per year.

The loss of funds is due to the lack of additional income to cover the loan payments for the new tribal casino. But we know that before we started.

We need to deal with this issue before it becomes a much more serious problem. The first and most important question is what do we cut from the tribal general fund budget? Health care insurance? Education funds? Elders and youth programs? Recreation? Staff? The list is unending.

Cutting staff is always the first place most organizations and businesses look to start cutting. However, to cut staff simply for the sake of saving money may not be the best for the tribe. We must look at the quality of services as well.

Merging departments is one way to reduce staff and maintain the quality of services for the tribal members. For example the accounting departments of the casino and tribe could be merged which would also require the accounting process to be upgraded to avoid duplication. Outsourcing is still another option.

The reason budget cuts start with the staff is because it is the biggest budget line item cost.

The Council has already merged the management of the country club with the casino. However, if they kept the same staff the merger would make no sense.

I suggest the Council appoint a Tribal Study Group to review the options for the cuts in the Tribal Administration budget.



Photo above is from the late 30's or early 40's. From left to right is Ernest Salgado Sr., Eugene Arenas, Frank "Chico" Silvas, "Ace" (last name not known) and Rose Arenas.

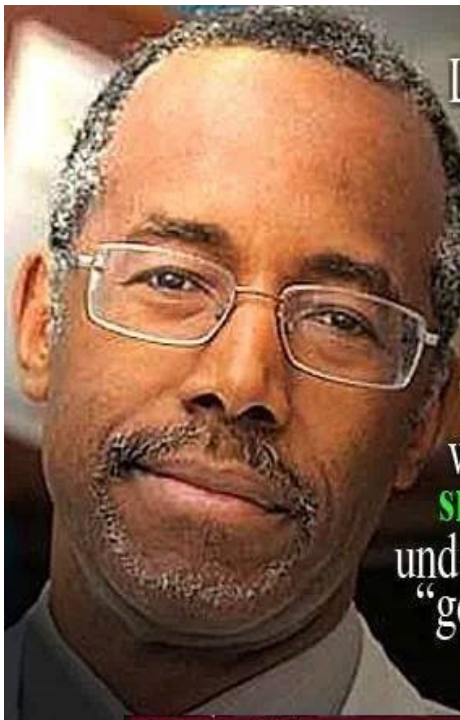


### Master's in Indian Law

- Join the first Master's in Indian Law Program
- Gain the legal knowledge tribal leaders need



Bobby Salgado with Congresswoman, Mary Bono who helped the tribe with the water settlement.



Like Karl Marx, today's political leaders believe they must **force** their ideas onto we, the people.

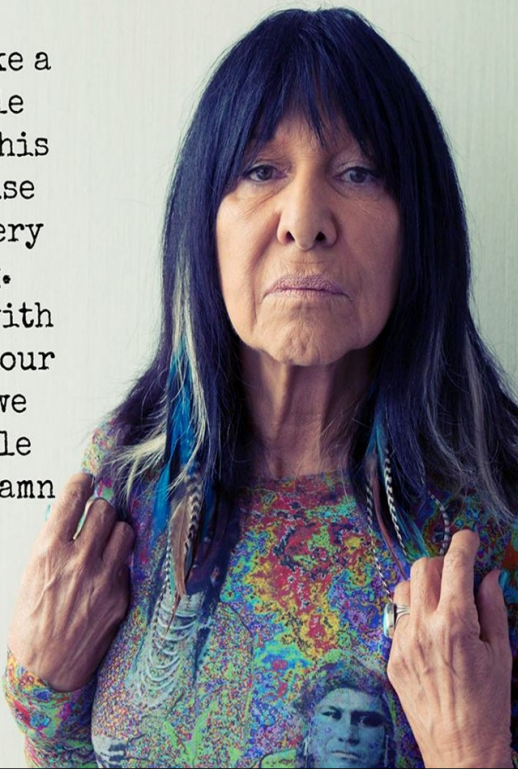
They've decided we are **simply not smart enough** to understand what is "good" for us.

*Ben Carson*

## Buffy St Marie On Domestic Violence

It's gonna take a lot of people working on this issue, because it's a very very deep thing. It has to do with how we raise our sons, what we praise people for, and goddamn alcohol.

*Buffy Sainte-Marie*  
on the roots of violence against women



Buffy Sainte-Marie was born in 1941 on the Piapot Plains Cree First Nation Reserve in the Qu'Appelle Valley, Saskatchewan, Canada. She was later adopted, growing up in Massachusetts, with parents Albert and Winifred Sainte-Marie.

She attended the University of Massachusetts Amherst, earning degrees in teaching and Oriental philosophy and graduating in the top ten of her class.

She went on to earn a PhD in Fine Art from the University of Massachusetts.

In 1964 on a return trip to the Piapot Cree reserve in Canada for a Powwow she was welcomed and (in a Cree Nation context) adopted by the youngest son of Chief Piapot, Emile Piapot and his wife, who added to Sainte-Marie's cultural value of, and place in, native culture.

## Alcohol: The Real Indian Killer

U.S. Indian Health records show that alcohol and disease related to the abuse of alcohol is the leading cause of death among the American Indians.

Denial by the individual and the tribal community is considered the number one enabler of alcohol abuse.

Like Smokey the Bear said, "Only You Can Prevent Your Early Death."

### ALCOHOLICS ANONYMOUS



Jonathan Tibbet  
Founder, Mission Indian Federation

"Our old people found a white man living in Riverside who was willing to take up our cause.

"His name was Mr. Tibbet... perhaps when his story is all known there will be a lot of good that can be said about him, too.

"He is dead now. He was our friend."



President Adam Castillo  
Mission Indian Federation  
February 7, 1932

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