

## Tribal Golf Tournament Turns Into Cash for Charities



Agua Caliente Band of Cahuilla Indians' Tribal Council present recipients with donation checks.

Four Coachella Valley Charities benefitting local kids took home an extra \$80,000 when Richard M. Milanovich, Chairman of the Agua Caliente Band of Cahuilla Indians, presented each of the groups with proceeds from the tribe's recent celebrity golf tournament. Four separate checks for \$20,000 each went to the Sunup Rotary Shoes That Fit Program, the Palm Springs Boys and Girls Club, the Cathedral City Boys and Girls Club, and the Coachella Valley Autism Society.

The checks are a result of the May celebrity golf tournament at the Indian Canyons Golf Resort. More than 30 celebrities joined golfers, including supermodel and actress Beverly Johnson, NFL stars Marshall Faulk, Dokie Williams, and Christian Okoye, as well as baseball legends Johnny Bench and Jermaine Dye.

"The Tribal Council is deeply grateful to be able to lend a hand," Milanovich said. "Our goal this year was to select groups which have done exceptional work in helping youth transform into strong leaders, the kind of adults who understand the necessity of contributing to the greater good."

## Spirit of Sovereignty Foundation Awards \$50,000 to American Indian College Fund to Continue Scholarship Program

The Spirit of Sovereignty Foundation, the charitable arm of the National Indian Gaming Association (NIGA), recently granted \$50,000 to the American Indian College Fund to support the Spirit of Sovereignty Scholarship Program. Established in 2008, this program awards scholarships to Native American students attending our nation's tribal colleges and universities (TCUs). This most recent gift is an installment of a total contribution of \$150,000, which provided a \$2,000 scholarship to a student at each of the TCUs for both the fall 2009 and spring 2010 semesters.

The generous grant also allowed for an outstanding scholar to attend one of the largest NIGA events of the year. Shannon Alden-Wilson represented her peers at the Indian Gaming 2010 Tradeshow & Convention in San Diego in April 2010. Alden-Wilson is a pharmacy major and graduated as a Spirit of Sovereignty scholar from Little Big Horn College in Crow Agency, MT in May 2010. She will be transferring to Montana State University-Billings this fall to pursue the

pre-pharmacy degree. Upon completion of this program, Alden-Wilson plans to transfer to the University of Montana to participate in the school's renowned pharmacy program.

"I am tremendously appreciative of not only the scholarship I received from the Spirit of Sovereignty Foundation, but also being selected to travel to San Diego and experience the NIGA conference," said Alden-Wilson. "The event was a wonderful opportunity to network with like-minded Native people."

"We are proud to collaborate with the American Indian College Fund to promote the education and opportunity for Native youth," said Ernest L. Stevens Jr., Chairman of the National Indian Gaming Association.

## Jackson Rancheria Employees Aid Local Food Bank

Jackson Rancheria Casino & Hotel, located in Jackson, Calif., is a frequent supporter of the local Interfaith Food Bank through monetary and food donations, but employees have found a new way to support the effort with grocery bags.

When employees discovered that the food bank spends hundreds of dollars every month purchasing bags to package food for clients, the employees decided they could do something about that. A large donation box was placed in an employee area and an email went out seeking donations of paper and plastic grocery bags. The box was in place on Friday and by Tuesday morning it was stuffed full of bags and piled almost to the ceiling.

"Following the example set by our tribe of continual community support, our employees have once again shown they will step up to the plate for a community need," said Jackson Rancheria Marketing Vice President Ron Olivero. "This is yet another example of what we refer to as Rancheria Style."

The collection box will stay in place indefinitely so the food bank can spend more of its funds on food rather than bags.



Kathleen Harmon, left, Executive Director of the Interfaith Food Bank, was assisted by Ron Olivero, Vice President of Marketing, in gathering the first batch of donated grocery bags for delivery to the Interfaith Food Bank.

## Sault Tribe's Spring 2% Contributions Provide \$786,000 to Upper Peninsula Communities

Citizens across the Upper Peninsula will benefit from more than \$786,000 in distributions from the Sault Ste. Marie Tribe of Chippewa Indians and Kewadin Casinos to local communities that will use the funds for road projects, public safety, technology improvements, playground equipment, reading programs, recreational projects and more.

Twice a year the Sault Tribe distributes to local UP

communities two percent of the revenues from slot machine play at the tribe's Kewadin Casinos. The funds are used for projects, programs and services that benefit all residents of the UP.

The tribe's spring 2010 distributions will support road construction and police upgrades to recreation and community services, including the Bill Dowd Memorial Park fund and the Kids Fishing Day in Chippewa County, sidewalk repair in DeTour, a baseball concession stand in Pickford, playground equipment in Moran Township and computer labs in St. Ignace, a summer reading program in Munising and much more.

Area counties receiving monies included: Alger County which received \$45,028; Chippewa County which received \$410,439; Delta County, which received \$39,228; Luce County, which received \$22,000; Mackinac County, which received \$247,776 Marquette County, which received \$4,000; and Schoolcraft County which received \$18,400.

"It is incredible and gratifying to see how the tribe's two percent contributions benefit communities across the Upper Peninsula and residents as well," said Kewadin Casinos Chief Operating Officer Tony Goetz. "We've been able to help schools build library collections, help city governments improve infrastructure, and help local law enforcement upgrade their equipment to provide better services to all of us."

## Ho-Chunk Gaming – Wisconsin Dells Partner with American Red Cross with Disaster Relief Efforts

Despite impending weather a nice size crowd gathered at Ho-Chunk Gaming – Wisconsin Dells on June 21, for the ribbon cutting ceremony for the donation of a disaster shelter trailer to the American Red Cross. Four counties in south central Wisconsin will benefit from this new trailer for response to mass scale disasters in Adams, Columbia, Juneau and Sauk counties. American Red Cross is among the first on the scene to help with shelter, food and other immediate assistance.

Upon learning about a disaster relief project from a volunteer from the Badger Chapter, Ho-Chunk Gaming – Wisconsin Dells contacted their local American Red Cross representative, Rachel Reichhoff, to find out what the needs were. Reichhoff informed Ho-Chunk that in the June, 2008 floods



L-R: Ho-Chunk Gaming–Wisconsin Dells Public Relations Senior Manager Missy Tracy, Ho-Chunk Nation Public Relations Officer Anne Thundercloud, and Ho-Chunk Nation tribal elder Morgan White Eagle present the check for \$6,130 to American Red Cross Badger Chapter CEO Tom Mooney.

they learned that they were limited in available shelter supplies. Reichhoff stated that a trailer stocked with supplies was needed to take cots, blankets, cleanup kits, health services kit and a shelter kit to be able to reach people for disaster related events such as fires, tornadoes and floods, and they were seeking help from area businesses to purchase this vital piece of equipment and supplies. Ho-Chunk responded. "We relayed to Rachel our desire to purchase and stock the trailer for the entire project using revenues from our annual New Year's Eve event," Missy Tracy, Public Relations Senior Manager, Ho-Chunk Gaming – Wisconsin Dells expressed. The total donation came to \$6,130 for this particular project.

## Santa Ana Star Casino Participates in Charity Cancer Walk



L-R back row: Sean Flores, Cecilia Parra-Torres, Cecilia Monreal, Michelle Burnham, Michelle Fischer, John Hoffman, Jonathan Bartlett, and Abel Avila. L-R front row: Kim Montoya, James Stevens, and Nan Evans from Santa Ana Star Casino.

Santa Ana Star Casino, one of New Mexico's leading Native American gaming casinos, recently participated in the 11th Annual Making Strides Against Breast Cancer charity walk. More than 30 casino employees including management, non-management employees and their families participated in the five mile walk to help raise money to fund breast cancer research.

## Paragon Casino Resort Contributes Over \$50,000 in Community Support

The Tunica-Biloxi Tribe announced today that over \$50,000 has been distributed to organizations for community service projects in the second quarter of 2010. Since 1994, the Tunica-Biloxi Tribe has contributed over \$3,000,000 to non-profit organizations throughout the state. The following organizations have received funding through the donations program in this quarter: Avoyelles Parish Adult Education, American Legion Auxiliary, Bikers Against Child Abuse, CFD Youth Center, Creole Heritage, Inc., Cottonport Lions Club, Choctaw-Apache Community of Ebarb, Dequincy Railroad Museum, Early Childhood Development Center, Hessmer Sports Club, Jobs for American Graduates, Kent Plantation House, LA Purchase Council-Boy Scouts of America, Lasalle Association for the Developmentally Delayed, One Way Inner City Youth Ministry, Point Coupee Historical Society,

## COMMUNITY OUTREACH

Rapides Parish Library, Salvation Army, Spring Bayou Restoration Team, St. Landry Parish Special Arts Festival, St. Landry-Evangeline Sexual Assault Center, Southern Forest Heritage Museum, Thensted Center, Tioga Historical Society, and the YWCA.

Organizations who received funding through the sponsorship program in the second quarter are: Epilepsy Foundation of Louisiana, Acadiana District Senior Olympic Games, Muscular Dystrophy Association, Special Olympics Louisiana, Friends Forever Foundation, Caring for Kids, Central Louisiana Breastfeeding Coalition, Shepherd Center of Central LA, Rapides Senior Citizens Cenla Olympic Games, Marksville Easter Festival, Bunkie Corn Festival, Alexandria All Stars, Mansura Cochon-de-Lait Festival, Sunset Garden

Festival, Village of Natchez Festival, Moreauville Louisiana Farm Festival, Rayne Frog Festival, Louisiana Folk Festival, Hearts of Hope-Acadiana Culinary Classic, Cystic Fibrosis Foundation, and the Church Point Buggy Festival.

In addition, the Tunica-Biloxi Tribe donated over \$4,500 in scholarship funds to LSUA, ULL, St. Joseph High School, Marksville High School, Avoyelles Public Charter School, LASAS, Bunkie High School, and Avoyelles High School.

“We are proud to support the local non-profit organizations in Louisiana who provide services to at-risk constituencies. We are proud to salute organizations who improve the quality of life in our communities,” commented Tunica-Biloxi Tribal Chairman, Earl J. Barbry, Sr. ♣

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