

## Honoring Our Youth –An Introduction to a Native American Pow-Wow



The Indian Health Center of Santa Clara Valley presented our youth with a genuine pow wow complete with drummers and dancers in full regalia. Security units had their own personal presentation while the general population enjoyed the ceremonial event in the gym. The explanation of the drumming and dances was new to most of the minors who peppered the guests with questions.

*Pics on page 2; Story on page 6*



The flower lady Megan Williams brought her team of volunteers and a cartload of flowers to help every minor create a Thanksgiving arrangement for their loved ones. The boys and girls took to the project with great enthusiasm and the results were outstanding. More pics on page 5.

### **In this Issue**

Native American Pow Wow	1-2,6
Special Art Competition	3
Knock Out Dog Fighting!	4
Thanksgiving in JH	5
Holiday Projects	6
Volunteer Programs & Contact Info.	7
Mission Statement	8

Native American Pow Wow (continued from page 1)



Continued on page 6

Art Contest Sponsored by Staff Sergeant Jonathan Price Offers Money for Creativity



As a youngster growing up in the streets of East-side San José, life was not easy. There were few people to look up to and no positive reinforcements. Having a happy and successful life seemed an impossibility. As a teenager I soon got caught up in the system such as yourself.

Being institutionalized and cut off from society, I came to the conclusion that we are our own worst enemy. I believe that we are all in control of our personal destiny. It's the choices that we make that put us in the position we find ourselves.

As I looked around juvenile hall, I remember someone saying that 80% of us were going to be in and out of the system for the rest of our lives. Twenty percent of us were going to end up doing 25 years to Life. I was determined not to become another statistic. It became clear to me that if you surround yourself with positive things and positive people, you will have a positive outcome in life. When I first got out of the hall, it wasn't easy because temptation was always there. It took a lot to resist the urge to go back to my old ways. But as time went on, it became easier and eventually, I lost the urge to go back to the old me.

Today I have moved on with my life and Thank God I have become very successful as a Staff Ser-

geant in the United States Army. As a Squad Leader in the Infantry Platoon my job consists of conducting combat operations in hostile areas. I have been deployed twice to Iraq and once to Kosovo and experienced combat first hand first on the streets back home as a youngster and then overseas. And through it all I have learned that wars come and go but soldiers remain eternal. On the streets as well as in the military there are 2 types of soldiers, you have leaders and you have followers. You have to ask yourself which one are you. Let me break it down to you crayola style: a leader influences others by providing a purpose, direction and motivation while operating to accomplish a mission.

My mission is to help provide you with 3 simple tasks. The purpose is to try to better yourself each day as an individual.

Direction: Use your artistic skills to express yourself. There is no specific theme. Draw whatever you feel.

Motivation: There will be a cash prize for best artist. Half will go to your restitution fines and the remaining will go to you as cash once you are released to help you get back on your feet and move forward.

I looking forward to reviewing all your art. Along with your drawing, I would like a short paragraph describing it. Also I would like to keep the artwork as a reminder that there is still hope for the future.

Thank you and God Bless.

Sincerely,

Jonathan R. Price

*The best message went to Phil in B4, the most original went to Niya in G2 and the best talent to Angel in B3. Jonathan Price awarded \$180 per winner. Ninety dollars went for their personal use and another ninety was given and put toward fines, fees and restitution.*

**Knock Out Dog Fighting Team Delivers Message About Drive, Discipline & Choices**



On November 14th several members of Knock Out Dog Fighting gave a presentation, assembly style, to our youth. The presenters included founder and dog handler Kris Crawford with her 3 search and rescue pit bulls Cheyenne, Tahoe and Dakota, break dancer “Mad Tek” Liew, Mixed Martial Artists Paul “The Head Hunter” Buentello, Anthony “Rumble” Johnson, Josh “The Punk” Thomson and NPC Miss California Overall Figure Champion Mona Liza “MO” Reyes.

Kris is the recipient of a Jefferson Award for the many different programs she has developed for the community (provided all at no cost to the public) so San Francisco television station CBS5 was in attendance to film the presentation.

The team focused on drive, discipline and choices. The members of Knock Out Dog Fighting are elite athletes and role models who are experts in their field. All wanted to give back to the community by helping at-risk youth make better choices, develop self-respect and

healthy lifestyles which in turn helps reduce the potential of involvement in at-risk activities—like dog fighting. The basic premise behind each of the segments in their presentation is self-motivation, self-discipline, choices and what it takes to be a champion.

“Youth is a time of making mistakes and learning to overcome them,” shared Kris. “Change is not easy. It is often a process of one step forward and two steps back. Teck, Paul, Anthony, Josh and Mona Liza have a unique gift that enables them to inspire youth to look deep down within themselves and ask, ‘What is it, in my heart, that I really want to be?’ Knock Out Dog Fighting is helping young people tap into their talents and learn new skills so they will join us in protecting animals and also find the meaningful life they were meant to live.”

“The intense training that your athletes go through and your message of non-violence is critical to our population... The message about making choices and never giving up was equally important...Our common goal is to stomp out violence in all its forms. Your time here is a new experience for many of our kids. We welcome your group back anytime!”

—The SCC Juvenile Hall Staff



**California Youth Outreach Brings Thanksgiving Feast to Our Youth**



The California Youth Authority (CYO) served a full Thanksgiving feast to the young men in B8 and the young women in G2. A particularly poignant moment was when they went around the table, each minor sharing what they were thankful for. There was a persuasive feeling of gratitude for the dinner, the volunteers and the families that await the release of these teens. Thank you CYO for your time and energy and love!

**Flower Lady & Volunteers Help Youth Make Beautiful Centerpieces for Loved Ones**



*Pow Wow continued from page 2*



The last dance in the security units was a circle of kinship with those willing to participate with the dancers in the center of the unit. This was a unique experience for the youth and many felt inspired to seek inside themselves for a peaceful place.

The youth from the general population units gathered in the gym for an assembly which started with an introduction to the Indian Health Center and its available services. Then the fun began. The dancers in their beautiful ceremonial clothing known as regalia captured their attention and the explanation of the drum and dances was new information for the majority of minors so they asked questions eagerly. For instance they asked what the regalia represented and the effect of drumming on people. They also wanted to know how long it would take to learn how to dance and what a sweat lodge ceremony was about.

The assembly ended with a friendship dance comprised of dancers with youth from each unit participating in the circle. It was a memorable event. The chants, songs and drumming stayed with both youth and staff long after the event

**Holiday Projects at the Hall**



Holiday projects included focused writing exercises about gratitude, wreaths of all shapes and colors by girls in G2, paper ornaments and hearts from relief molds in B9 and handmade books in B2.

**SCC Probation Department's Volunteer Programs in JH**

**Alcoholics Anonymous:** Group meetings for minors with alcohol abuse problems.

**Alateen Alannon:** Group meetings for minors who are related to people with alcohol abuse issues.

**The Beat Within:** A weekly publication of writings and artworks by minors in local JHs.

**Catalyst for Youth Garden:** A horticulture therapy program that revolves around planting and tending a garden within the compound of buildings that comprise the Juvenile Hall Facility.

**Fashion Design:** A design and sewing class for female minors implemented by Catalyst for Youth volunteers.

**Flower and Feast Programs:** Mother's Day, Father's Day, and Thanksgiving volunteers under the direction of Megan Williams come into assist minors with making flower arrangements for family members. On Xmas, again under Ms. Williams program, volunteers create and serve a buffet dinner in every living unit.

**Foster Grandparent Programs:** Volunteers over the age of 60 who provide supportive care, training, companionship and social contact with minors.

**Furry Friends:** Pet assisted therapy services where volunteers bring in animals for minors to interact with.

**Girl Scouts:** Program that targets gang prevention for females.

**Hair Care:** Hair cut services are provided for all minors on a rotating schedule.

**Health Realization (HR):** a teaching model that is used in prevention, intervention and treatment. HR teaches about how the human mind works, how an individual's experience of life is created and how much each person uses or misuses his/her ability to think. HR is taught on a weekly basis to designated living units.

**Heart of Chaos Expressive Arts Program:** Teaches a variety of mediums to several living units.

**Narcotics Anonymous:** Group meetings for minors with drug abuse problems.

**Next Door Solutions:** Program that raises awareness about domestic violence and dating violence.

**Planned Parenthood:** Program that targets teens who are at risk for teen pregnancy, sexually transmitted diseases and violence. Week long workshop educates minors about family life and issues surrounding intercourse.

**Religious Services:** An assigned Chaplain oversees all religious services provided for minors.

**Santa:** During the Christmas holiday, Mr. Wallau assisted by several volunteer elves pass out Christmas presents to all the minors in custody.

**Zohar Dance Company:** Internationally acclaimed dancer/teacher Ehud Krauss instructs minors on various forms of high energy dance.

**Contacts** (all numbers are in the 408 area code)

- Asian American Recovery Services 271-3900
- CYO: California Youth Outreach 280-0203
- Catalyst for Youth/Heart of Chaos 269-3356
- FLY: Fresh Lifelines for Youth 299-7789
- Friends Outside 295-6033
- Gardner Family Care Corp. 287-6200
- MACSA 928-5820
- Next Door Solutions 279-2962
- Juvenile Hall Visiting 278-5810
- Juvenile Hall Main 278-5820

**Living Unit Supervisors**

B2, B3	Omar Ventura	278-5869
B4	William Moore	278-5877
B5, B6	Jim Tarshis	278-5863
B7	Dwight Richardson	278-5860
B8, B9	Alicia Garcia	278-5861
G1, G2	Kris Leisten	278-5862
B11, B12	Elsa Jennings	278-5859

**Inside Out** Newsletter

Editor/Photographer: Joanne Hobbs 269-3356  
 Contributing Editor/Photographer: Liz Alameda & J. Price  
 Publisher: Liz Alameda, MAAC & Programs 278-5960

## Santa Clara County Juvenile Hall Mission Statement

*The Mission of Juvenile Hall as a detention facility is to provide an environment where the safety and security of the minors is our highest priority. We ensure that our youth receive the nutritional, educational, medical and mental health services as mandated by the state. While upholding the orders of the Court, we thereby contribute to the common effort of protecting the community. Further, we are committed to a standard of excellence in humane treatment.*

### *Goals and Aspirations—With Dedication We Pledge to Strive For:*

*Professionalism – We act with fairness, consistency and without bias, while facing the daily challenges of working with delinquent behavior.*

*Positive Role Modeling – We believe it is through our actions and guidance that we make the greatest impact.*

*Integrity – We strive to maintain honest, ethical and moral behavior within and outside of our profession of working with delinquent behavior.*

*Individual Worth – We value the importance of the individual while respecting cultural diversity.*

*Professional Development – We recognize that continuous education and training create the most effective staff.*

*Enrichment in Programming – We extend our positive influence throughout the community and within our institution through the development of socially beneficial programs.*

*Community Involvement – We recognize the value of and utilize the community resources to side in our effort to effect positive change in our youth.*



**Juvenile Hall  
840 Guadalupe Parkway  
San Jose, CA 95110  
408-278-5820**