

# INDIAN CHILD AND FAMILY SERVICES NEWSLINE

To Protect, Preserve and Promote American Indian Families



## THE CHILDREN'S FESTIVAL AT SHERMAN

The Indian Children's Festival at Sherman Indian High School in Riverside on October 26 was enjoyable for all who attended and especially for those who participated. It was a cultural gathering for Indian youth, and the youngsters who took part had the inspiring experience of sharing their culture with others.

Sherman has a student population representing over seventy tribes from fifteen states. The tribal diversity had a lot to do with the importance of this cultural gathering, and it was rewarding to see the interaction and enjoyment in each other's cultural contributions.

That diversity was manifested in the displays. There were traditional Kachina dolls from the Hopi Reservation, and beautiful baskets from the local



Kumeyaay and Cahuilla people. The photograph above is of a whole table of Kumeyaay basketry. There was also pottery from various tribes, along with exhibitions of pottery making.

There was even an exhibition Shinnay game and a 5K run/walk. Basketball tournaments went on most of the day, as did a volleyball tournament. For the indoor-oriented competitors, there was a pool tournament, too.

There were performances by the Hopi

dance group, the Gabrieleño dance group, the Cahuilla Birdsingers, the Sherman Powwow group, Navajo entertainer Vincent Craig, and many others.

There were food booths and vendors and a game booth especially for children. Among the artists showing how their work is done was a Hopi carver, with toys and rattles. The hands-on demonstrations of various arts and crafts were a great hit with the young people, and a perfect way to share cultures. There were displays of musical instruments, and of coiled baskets.

The opening prayer was offered by Cahuilla elder Sat Torres, and the official welcome was given by Malia Castillo, who is Miss Sherman, and Terria Johnson, who is Miss ICFS.

One of the high points for the youngsters was the introduction of Native American role models.

To help our Indian youth with life decisions, there were workshops to help them chose careers and to familiarize them with various services. Opportunities in sports were discussed as well.

It was a great help to have so many well-known and successful tribal members to act as inspiring role models to the young people. There were members of the Sherman faculty, the staff of ICFS, the two young MCs who gave the official welcome; Martin Espino who is a bilingual educator and musician; Renda Dionne, a licensed Clinical Psychologist who works with Riverside/San Bernardino Counties Indian

Health, Inc., and is from the Turtle Mountain Chippewas in North Dakota; Gordon Johnson from the Pala Reservation who writes for the Riverside



County Press Enterprise newspaper; attorney Eugene Madrigal; Ken Ramirez, the General Manager of the San Manuel Indian Bingo and Casino; Charles Martin, General Manager of the Spa Casino in Palm Springs; and Cecelia Reza, a Comanche, who has a Masters Degree in Social Work and heads the American Indian unit of the Department of Children and Family Services.

The young people themselves, and the cultures they shared, enriched each one who was lucky enough to attend this Children's Festival at Sherman.

### IN THIS ISSUE

The Sherman Children's Festival	1
Side Effects of Physical Punishment	2
Helping Children Manage Behavior	3
Local Indian Hall of Famers	3
Training Report	4
Interviews With Our Foster Parents	4
Meet Our Super Staff	5
Book Review	5
Who We Are and What We Do	6