

River Run

April 2017 Vol. 1



Young River People's Council Newsletter



We drove around the borders of Salt River and discussed trespassing issues and the need of signs and stricter borders. He fed us good. On my last day, I went with Michael Dallas to the Way of Life Facility, water plant and of course Lehi. I am thankful I was able to spend the day with our Councilmen and learn more about our community. I would like to thank them for putting in time to allow the youth to shadow them for the day.

Phoenix Symphony— Nathaniel Lopez-14 yrs old

When I first heard about who I was shadowing, I was a little skeptical on what it was going to be like. Luckily, I was completely wrong in my assumptions, and I couldn't have asked for a better fit; in not only what I'm interested in, but what I have experience in. Everyone there was nice and pleased to have me. I felt like I wasn't inferior to anyone and that I truly fit in with the crowd. I wouldn't mind doing this again in the future.

Community Manager— Sommer Lopez-14 yrs old

During spring break I got the opportunity to job shadow the Community Manager, Bryan Meyers. I wasn't really sure what to expect when I signed up but I chose him because Community Manager seemed like such an interesting and big role to take on. I had a fun time with Mr. Meyers and I learned a lot about the community. I went to a NEO meeting with him, toured the Way of Life Facility and the new court building. I'm really glad that I got to have that experience and got to make a connection with Mr. Meyers. I recommend others to try job shadowing so that they have an idea what they want to do in their future.

Assistant Community Manager— Elias Fulwilder-14yrs old

I had the opportunity to job shadow Lena Jackson, the assistant community manager. I sat in on a meeting and we went to tour the Way of Like Center, which was really cool. We even toured the new court and it was really cool to be apart of and learn about SR.

President Ray— Gabriela Fulwilder -12 yrs old

I had the opportunity to job shadow our current President Delbert W Ray SR. We attended a prayer breakfast and I saw all East Valley Mayors. After breakfast, I toured his office where I learned about Salt River's history. We had lunch at the new Dolpharis restaurant. I also had the chance to tour the new court building. Over all it was an amazing chance for me to learn different things, not just about our community but also about our ancestors. This is something I would want to do again. Thank you President Ray.

YRPC Job Shadows over Spring Break

During my spring break I shadowed Patty Ferguson-Bohnee, law teacher for the Indian Law Program at Arizona State University. I was able to see first hand the students working in a legal clinic working on many open cases. An ICWA case was very interesting and showed me the struggles that Native people are fighting to keep their children. I was able to be a law student, sit in a class and hear many students discuss problems in Indian Country. —Dione Dallas— 18yrs old

Orange Sky— Ramon Lopez— 16 yrs old

My job shadowing was great experience. Ron was cool and the kitchen staff taught me a lot about how to run a kitchen and how they work together.

Council Reps— Nalani Lopez— 12 yrs old

I had the opportunity to job shadow 3 of our Councilmembers: Tom Largo, Archie Kashoya and Michael Dallas. My first day was spent with Councilman Largo and we visited Devco, Marriott and Salt River Fields. I was informed on the buildings and businesses being built on our lands. My second day was with Archie Kashoya.—continued...

Continued Job Shadowing...

Councilman Kashoya– Sialik King– 15 yrs old

I got the opportunity to job shadow Councilman Kashoya and we mainly sat in on meetings, went on tours and ate a lot of food.

Phoenix Zoo– Cianna Dallas-15 yrs old

I job shadowed one of the people that work there named Mike. He gave me a tour around the zoo and told me a lot of facts about the animals. He took me to the hospital where they help the animals get better and give them medicine. It was a great experience for me because I learned a lot and it was fun.

Community Health Nurse– Victoria Maynard-13 yrs old

I learned how to take measurements and where to dispose of drugs properly. We went to the senior center to drop people off.

Four Tribes Meeting



On March 18, 6 youth council members attended the 4 Tribes meeting, hosted by the Tohono O’odham Nation. Each youth stood before the 4 Tribal Council Members and gave an update on the YRPC events and activities.



Opening



Elias Fulwilder

Sommer Lopez



Sommer and Eli with the Future Inspired Native American Leaders Youth Council

Young River People’s Council opens UNITY Conference with 4 O’odham Youth Councils with Traditional Songs

On Feb. 17-20, the Young River People’s Council sent 2 representatives to the Mid-Year UNITY Conference. Sommer Lopez and Elias Fulwilder. The conference began by opening with traditional songs from the 4 Sister Tribe of Arizona.

ASU offered tours and presentations with an emphasis on their Native American programs. Activities and speakers offered insight on living a healthy well balanced life style. This was the first time the UNITY fire was brought to Midyear. Youth had the opportunity to learn about the UNITY fire and the significance it has with Native people.



Dione Dallas was asked to be a participant on the Youth Activism panel. Dione talked about being an active participant in her community and why it’s important for Native youth to become involved. Jacob Willeford and Dione also participated in Speed Workshops. They were 1 of the 25 tables to choose from. Jacob and Dione educated other youth on the process it took to get the “No Texting While Driving” ordinance passed in the community.

During the UNITY business meeting, Sommer and Eli informed the National Executive Council and other Youth Council’s what the Young River People’s Council have been doing in the past year. Below is their experiences.

This year I went to the 2017 Mid- Year Unity Conference, it was my first time and it was a very great experience. I went with one other member, Eli Fulwilder, who was also having his first experience. I wasn’t expecting to have such a great time. One of the most memorable moments was watching Dione Dallas share her experiences about the no texting and driving ordinance. It was good to see other Native American youth doing good things for their community. I learned a lot of new information about what problems they face in their communities. I recommend other youth to attend this conference, it is a very eye-opening experience and we made many new social connections to other youth across the country.—**Sommer Lopez**

During UNITY I learned a lot about other Tribes, met Tribal Leaders, met people that many teens look up to and met other Native Youth Leaders. I thought it was fun to be apart of this program and I hope to do something like this again. -**Elias Fulwilder**