

Nangka Wittu

December 2013

Annual Tribal Election Results

Congratulations on being Elected to the Timbisha Shoshone Tribal Council:

Earl Frank III

White Dove Kennedy

These results from the Annual General Election held on November 12, 2013, have been certified by the Election Committee.

We would like to thank all the members who participated in the Election. To our candidates, our Election Committee and everyone that voted. Your continued participation is what makes our Tribe succeed.

The Tribe would also like to thank Clyde Nichols for all his time served on the Tribal Council, to his dedication and perseverance to help the Tribe on their way to continued success in the future.

The TS Tribal Council and Staff want to wish everyone a very Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year. We hope all of you get to spend this special time with family, friends and loved ones.



George Gholson Chairperson E-mail - george@timbisha.com Cell - (760)-258-5620	Bill Eddy Vice-Chairman E-mail - bill.eddy@timbisha.com Cell - (760)-784-1570	Margaret Cortez Secretary/Treasurer E-mail - secretary@timbisha.com Cell - (760)-258-5550	Clyde Nichols Council Member E-mail - clyde.nichols@timbisha.com Cell - (760)-258-5918	Earl Frank Council Member E-mail - earl.frank@timbisha.com Cell - (760)-258-5919
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STAFF

Mervin H. Admin.	Cheryl L. Fiscal	Barbara D. THPO	Mikaela G. EPA	Cathy C. WQS	Dan M. I.T.	Robert V. Housing
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Updates from the Tribal Administrator

BUREAU OF INDIAN AFFAIRS:

There has been limited activity in reference to Tribal Administrative correspondence with the Bureau of Indian Affairs California offices. We have received the 2013-14 Consolidated Tribal Government Program Grant and have been busy with administrative activities within the offices.

NATIONAL PARK SERVICE (NPS)

The rescheduled quarterly meeting will be either January 22nd or 29th, 2014, depending on the schedules of the Tribe and NPS. Please see the additional information from the EPA and THPO department on ongoing activities with the NPS.

INDIAN HEALTH SERVICE (IHS)

I contacted Mr. Joshua Sims, "new" IHS Reno District Office Engineer for the Timbisha Shoshone Tribe, to introduce myself to him. He informed me he would like to take a tour of the Death Valley area to evaluate the conditions of the reservation in reference to possible follow-up work on the water and sanitation facility

infrastructure. He will be contacting the office of a scheduled date and time, which is appropriate for the Tribe and Indian Health Service.

SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA EDISON (SCE) GRANT ASSISTANCE FUNDING

The On-line application has been completed and sent in to SCE. The Tribe is awaiting the approval of submitted work plan and will update you the general membership when the Tribe receives the funding.

FINANCIAL UPDATE and ADMINISTRATIVE UPDATES

The 2012 Audit is ongoing, with the Fiscal Office gathering documentation in preparation for the pre-audit.

Should you desire additional information on these or other Tribal Administrative programs, please feel free to contact me at the Bishop Tribal Office at 760.872.3614 Ext. 2004.



The Tribe is looking for someone who can bead (2) crowns for a Miss Timbisha and a Little Miss Timbisha. Anyone interested please contact the Tribal office @ 760-872-3614 or e-mail reception@timbisha.com with a bid. Please be prepared to show us a sample of your work.

Housing Updates



HUD 184 Program

Enclosed in this newsletter is information concerning the HUD Section 184 mortgage lending program. Even though this program has not been approved for the Tribal Trust lands at this time, it is available on private land in several of the Western States. This is a low interest loan, with low down payments, not quite as stringent qualifying and can be used for new homes, used homes, renovation and refinance. For more information, contact the Housing office.

RHED Solar Project

We have received two proposals to design Solar projects on the various parcels of land and will be reviewing those proposals and making an award in the near future.

Fish Lake Valley property

The sale of the property in Fish Lake Valley that the Tribe has purchased is final. The existing mobile home will be used as a rental and will be occupied by a Tribal Elder. In the near future, at least one additional FEMA mobile home will be move onto the property and also used as a rental.

Section 184 Indian Housing Loan Guarantee Program

Thousands of families in Indian Country have achieved the dream of owning a home. The Section 184 Indian Housing Loan Guarantee Program has made that possible.

Homeownership in Indian Country

In 1992, Congress established the Section 184 Indian Housing Loan Guarantee Program. The program was designed to offer homeownership and housing rehabilitation opportunities for eligible Native American individuals, families, tribes and Tribally Designated Housing Entities (including



Indian Housing Authorities) on their native lands and within an approved Indian area as defined in HUD P.L.H. Notice 2004-19

Why a Loan Program Specific to Indian Country?

Indian Country is an underserved market with vast potential for mortgage financing. The Section 184 program was designed to improve access to capital for Native Americans, act as a credit enhancement mechanism for lenders and provide private funding opportunities for tribal housing agencies. A major benefit of the program is a 100 percent guarantee for home loans.

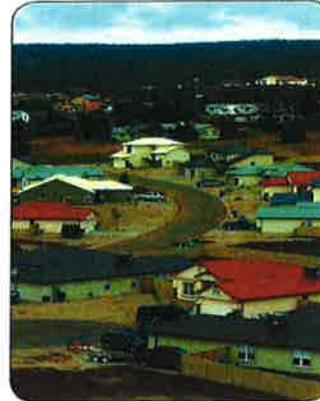
Section 184 Program Highlights

- Nationwide program on trust land, allotted trust or fee simple land within an Indian operating area
- Refinancing available
- New and rehab loan guarantees available
- New construction
- Loan limit — 150% of FHA limit
- Low down payment
- No maximum income limits
- Flexible underwriting
- 1% guarantee fee at closing
- Assumable
- Secondary market potential
- 100% guarantee to lender

How Does Section 184 Work?

HUD guarantees the mortgage loan made to eligible borrowers. The loan guarantee assures the lender that its investment will be repaid in the event of a foreclosure. The borrower pays a 1% loan guarantee fee at closing, which may be financed in the mortgage or paid in cash. The borrower applies for the loan with a participating lender and

works with the tribe and the BIA if leasing tribal land. The lender then evaluates the necessary loan documentation and submits the loan for approval to the Office of Loan Guarantees (located in Denver, Colorado) for underwriting and a formal commitment, unless the lender is an approved direct guarantee lender.



Who Is Eligible for a Section 184 Loan?

- Any Native American or Alaska Native that is a member of a federally recognized tribe or an Alaskan village
- An Indian tribe



Entire State Approval:
Alaska, Arizona, California, Colorado, Florida, Idaho, Indiana, Kansas, Maine, Massachusetts, Michigan, Minnesota, Montana, Nevada, New Mexico, North Carolina, North Dakota, Oklahoma, Oregon, South Carolina, South Dakota, Utah, Washington, Wisconsin

Partial State Approval:

Alabama- Baldwin, Elmore, Elmore, Escambia, Mobile, Monroe, Montgomery, Washington

Connecticut- Fairfield, Litchfield, New London

Illinois- Cook, Dupage, Kane, Lake

Iowa- Black Hawk, Linn, Marshall, Monona Polk, Pottawattamie, Poweshiek, Tama, Woodbury,

Section 184 Indian Housing Loan Guarantee Program

- A Tribally Designated Housing Entity (TDHE)
- An Indian Housing Authority (IHA)

What is an Eligible Activity?

Individuals, Tribes, TDHEs and IHAs can use the Section 184 Loan for:

- Acquisition and/or rehabilitation of existing housing
 - Construction of new housing, including manufactured housing affixed to a permanent foundation
 - Refinancing
- Eligibility is limited to single-family housing (1-4 units) and fixed-rate loans for 30 years or less. Section 184 cannot be used for commercial structures or with Adjustable Rate Mortgages (ARMs). Tribes, TDHEs or IHAs can obtain funds to develop rental housing or to build single-family homes that are subsequently sold (or assumed) by eligible borrowers.

How can Tribes Participate in the Section 184 Program?

Before tribal members can participate in the federal government's mortgage loan programs, the tribal government must demonstrate that a legal and administrative framework exists, one that sufficiently protects the interests of the borrower, the lender and the federal agency that will guarantee or insure the mortgage loan. To establish this legal and administrative framework, tribes must have developed and adopted procedures that address: (1) foreclosure, (2) eviction, (3) priority of lien and (4) leasing procedures for tribal trust land. The One Stop Mortgage Program provides model tribal lending ordinances that may be adopted or serve as a guide for a tribe. By using these models, tribes

would be in compliance with the Section 184 Loan Guarantee Program and other federal lending programs. Also, they can elect to seek approval for "fee simple" transactions only. For a sample of foreclosure, eviction, lien or leasing procedures, visit our Web site at www.hud.gov/codetalk.

How Can Lenders Participate?

Loans are originated and serviced by lenders that have completed Section 184 training:

- Approved by HUD/ONAP to originate Section 184 loans
- Approved by HUD/FHA for participation in the single-family mortgage insurance program
- Authorized by the Veterans Administration (VA) to originate automatically guaranteed housing loans
- Approved by the Department of Agriculture to make loans for single-family housing
- Supervised, approved, regulated or insured by any agency of the federal government

Tribal loan-funds, credit unions and



CDIFs are encouraged to apply to be Section 184 approved lenders based on past lending experience.

What Are the Lender Approval Requirements?

Lenders interested in originating Section 184 loans must submit the following to the OLG for review:

1. Evidence of federal approval, supervision, regulation or insurance. For example, all HUD/FHA approved lenders must submit the HUD/FHA lender identification number for



each approved branch office that will originate Section 184 loans.

2. Address, telephone number and name of the branch manager for each branch office that will originate Section 184 loans. HUD/FHA approved lenders must provide the HUD/FHA lending area for each branch office.
3. If a HUD/FHA correspondent/sponsor relationship exists, provide a copy of the HUD/FHA approval for the relationship, including the sponsor's lender identification number.
4. The name and location of the entity that will service the Section 184 loans must be submitted for review.

Are Guaranteed Loans Marketable?

Yes! A Section 184 guaranteed loan, including the security given for the loan, may be sold or assigned by the lender to any financial institution. However, it is subject to examination and supervision by an agency of the federal government or of any state.

A strong secondary market exists for Section 184 loans. Fannie Mae, Freddie Mac, Ginnie Mae, some state housing financing agencies and some federal home loan banks can purchase Section 184 loans.

Partial State Approval Continued

Louisiana- Allen, Avoyelles, Concordia, Evangeline, Grant, Iberia, Iberville, Jefferson Davis, La Salle, Rapides, Saint Mary, Washington,

Missouri- Barry, Jasper, Lawrence, McDonald, Newton

Mississippi- Attala, Jackson, Jasper, Jones, Kemper, Leake, Neshoba, Newton, Scott, Winston

Nebraska- Boyd, Burt, Cuming, Dixon, Douglas, Hall, Holt, Knox, Lancaster, Madison, Platte, Richardson, Sarpy, Sheridan, Stanton, Thurston, Wayne

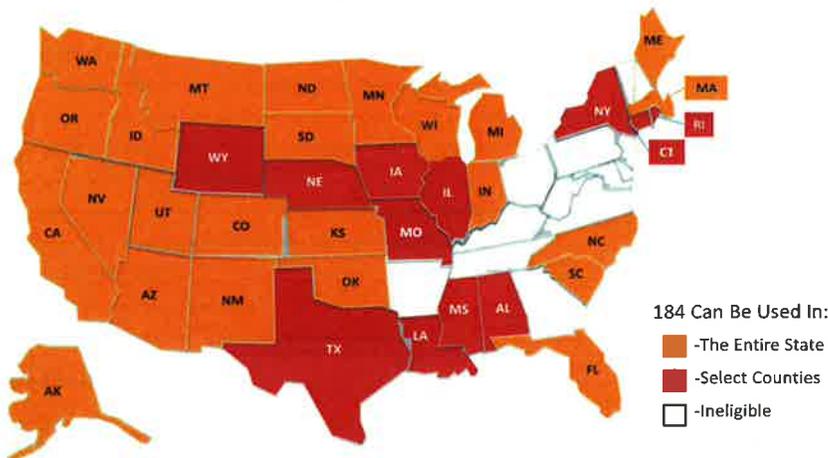
New York- Entire state but the counties of Bronx, Kings, New York, Queens, Richmond

Rhode Island- Washington County

Texas- El Paso, Hudspeth

Wyoming- Fremont, Hot Springs

Section 184 Eligible Areas by State



For Hawaii, see the Native Hawaiian Loan Guarantee, Section 184a



From the Fiscal Office;

RSTF Checks went in the mail on the 18th of November, if you have not received yours please call me soon as possible.

Make Sure you save your check stubs for reporting income.

The 1099 will be going out next month, so please make sure I have names and address correct. You can call or email me with any changes.

I wish your family and you Merry Christmas and a Happy New Years...

Cheryl



THPO UPDATES

Due to the Federal government shut down, my work load was affected. The National Park Service, Bureau of Land Management, US Fish & Wildlife and Federal Communications Commission were all shut down so I wasn't receiving reports, surveys, project updates, etc. October 9th I took part on a conference call with the Denver Museum and other Tribes for the Disposition of Human Remains. At the October 20th Tribal Council meeting, I recommended that the Council approve signing off on a "Disposition Request" and "Statement of Support" for the human remains to be given to the Ute Mountain Tribe of the Ute Mountain Reservation for reburial. The remains from 15 individuals were identified as Culturally Unidentifiable for which a "Tribal Land" or "Aboriginal Land" provenience cannot be determined. There was not enough "substantial records" with the remains and none of the individuals have any associated funerary objects to help identify them. On the conference call, the Museum announced they also found 5 more skeletons in their collection that are culturally unidentifiable. The remains will all be given to the Ute Mountain Ute tribe for reburial. The end of October I attending a two-day summit

with the California SHPO and THPO's. Death Valley National Park Service works closely with the SHPO (State Historic Preservation Officer), and with me as THPO (Tribal Historic Preservation Officer). The California SHPO is new to the position and this meeting will give THPO's a chance to meet her and introduce ourselves. In addition, there was two days of NAGPRA training for THPO's, put on by Dorothy Alther (CILS) and Timothy McKeown. The State Historic Preservation Office paid for the NAGPRA training and SHPO summit, which is good because there are a lot of Tribes who are poor and their grant budgets are too small to pay for this type of training. The Bonnie Clare road project is underway at Scotty's Castle, I have been monitoring the roadwork while "clearing and grubbing" (removing brush on the roadsides) take place. The project is expected to end by August 2014. The Tribe has sensitive areas located within the project area.

As a requirement to close out the FY 2011 THPO grant, Cheryl Logan and I attended a training seminar on "Managing Federal Grants & Cooperative Agreements for Recipients" in Phoenix, Arizona. Both of us passed the 1-hour long exam on the last day. So we are in compliance for the Historic Preservation grants.



3rd Annual Christmas Potluck



We would like to once again invite all Tribal Members and their families to our Christmas Potluck. This potluck is in conjunction with our Toys for Tots giveaway! We are very thankful for the generous donation of toys made by the Marine Toys For Tots Foundation.

We would appreciate if you would share your favorite dish with us;

A-L: please bring Salad or Side dish

M-Z: please bring a Dessert

If your favorite is a main dish please come share it!!!

Date: Saturday, 21st of December

Time: One o'clock

Place: 621 West Line Street Suite 109

Please call the office if you wish to join us, the Tribal Staff is working hard for Santa, we don't want anyone falling off his list..... 760.872.3614



EPA UPDATES

FY13 Environmental Grants

The 4th quarter reports for the General Assistance Program (GAP) grant and both Clean Water Act (CWA) grants have been submitted. We have also finished drawing down the funds that were used in the last fiscal year for each grant, as well. Now that the year-end work for the FY13 grants have been completed, we can focus our attention towards the FY14 grants.

FY14 Environmental Grants

Revisions are finished for both CWA grants, both to the budgets and the work plans, and they have been submitted to the project officer for approval. Once those work plans and budgets are approved, we will be able to move forward with the work plan tasks. Changes and revisions are still being made to the GAP grant work plan. There are a lot of components in the work plan that are not necessary, and components that need to be added (i.e. finish solid waste clean-up). As changes are being made to the work plan, changes need to be made to the budgets, as well – along with the estimated cost of each component. There are components of the work plans for each grant that were not changed from the previous FY14 approved budget. Therefore, in the meantime, until the revised work plans are approved, we have been performing the tasks that did not change. Both the GAP and CWA S-319 grant have budgeted money for laborers, so once we have approved work plans, there will be job opportunities available sometime during this fiscal year. If you are interested, check the website weekly for updates.

EPA Region 9 Tribal Conference

From October 21st through October 24th, I attended the annual Regional Tribal Operations Committee (RTOC) meeting and annual EPA Region 9 Tribal Conference in Lemoore, CA. I attended several “breakout sessions” concerning different environmental issues and ways to protect and improve our environment. This conference also provided me with an opportunity to talk with other Tribal environmental staff and hear their

success stories from their environmental departments. These breakout sessions and conversations with other Tribes have taught me many different ways to use the GAP grant funds, as well as given me ideas about what I can incorporate into our environmental program.

Performance Partnership Grant

At the EPA conference, I was also able to talk to the GAP project officer one-on-one to ask any specific questions I had in reference to the grant and FY14. During this session, the project officer and I discussed a Performance Partnership Grant (PPG). A PPG allows a Tribe to basically combine their EPA grants into one (our GAP and both CWA grants would be combined). This makes the reporting and management of grants easier for both the Tribe and EPA. The process for getting a PPG is applying for EPA grants and submitting the applications all at once. As the new fiscal year has already started, if we can successfully get a PPG it will be for FY15 – we will submit the FY15 grant applications for both the GAP and CWA grants in as one application.

Emergency Management

One component that will continue on from FY13 to this current fiscal year is emergency management and creating an Emergency Operations Plan (EOP). The best way to get an all-encompassing and complete plan is to coordinate with emergency managers from the surrounding area. I have contacted the emergency managers (or at least those knowledgeable about the EOP) from both Death Valley National Park Service (NPS) and Inyo County. Once I am able to meet with both the NPS and Inyo County emergency managers, I will be able to begin drafting an EOP that is in coordination with both of their plans. At that time, I will hold several meetings to discuss the plan with any interested Tribal members and to receive some input and feedback. I have also been taking emergency management courses online to better educate myself about the different components of an EOP. These courses are offered for free online and if anyone is

Cont. on next page

interested in emergency management, or would like to learn more information before the EOP discussion meeting, these courses are a great way to get started.

Indigenous Farming Project

Unfortunately, there were not as many members at the Nov 1st environmental meeting in Death Valley as I had hoped. However, after talking with the members that did attend, it is clear that the members living in the Village have had an interest in a community garden for quite some time. At the meeting, we discussed possible ideas for the garden, things to consider for a garden in Death Valley's harsh climate (i.e. severe windstorms), possible sources of funding, etc. I want to ensure that whichever garden "project" we decide to move forward with, is a collective decision and that everyone has an opportunity to give their input. Therefore, I have sent out surveys to all the members living in Death Valley to get input about what they want to see progress with the garden project. Once I know what type of garden is expected, I will have a better idea of what type of funding to pursue. If you did not receive your mailed survey, or have any questions, let me know.

Environmental Website

As it has been in the past few weeks, I will still be posting bi-weekly updates about what is happening in the environmental department. Along with the updates, there will also be an activity (i.e. a craft, game, recycling project), or a list of environmental "fun facts", or an intriguing environmental news article/video, or anything interesting related to the environment. The purpose of this new addition is to make environmental issues fun and interesting, and to get all of you more involved in protecting our environment! (*Job openings will still be posted on the website as they become available.*)

Inyo County Renewable Energy Plan

Inyo County is currently in the planning process of a Renewable Energy (solar) project. Until recently, the Timbisha Tribe has not been involved with this project. However, due to the project being in Inyo County, and the Timbisha Tribe's land parcels are within Inyo County, we have contacted the Inyo County Planning Department asking to be included in the process. Because this is a County project, there will be several meetings open to the public to discuss the Renewable Energy Plan. If you are interested in attending a meeting, feel free to contact me for more information or updates: Mikaela Griffiths, (760) 258-5551, environmental@timbisha.com.

Christmas Gift Ideas

Anyone interested in purchasing children's T-Shirts please call the office @ 760-872-3614 and we'll let you know what is available.



Water Quality Specialist Updates

The 21st Annual Region 9 Tribal EPA Conference training this year was very good; a lot of information was shared about where the Agency is headed in years to come. The Owens Valley Water Indian Water Commission did a great job in co-hosting the conference. I attended most of the water workshops. I learned some information about collecting water quality data on tribal lands through 106-CWA, Hydrogeology and water issues of the Hopi Tribe. Water resource issues and challenges currently facing the Hopi tribe. Using a Community Climate Change Survey to identify impacts to traditional life way. It is anticipated to be hotter and drier with severe water shortages, more intense wildfires, higher demand for electricity, increased infectious diseases and illness and significant loss of native plant and animal life. I attended a training class with our EPA project officer, Audrey Johnson, in WQX/storet, how to manage and analyze water quality data effectively in the 106-CWA program. There are three reporting requirements that tribes must fulfill in this program: 1) Develop a monitoring strategy, 2) Complete an annual Water Quality Assessment Report, and 3) Input the data into storet/WQX format. I also attended a bio assessment and bug identification class, and a class about the Owens Lake. This was the year Los Angeles Dept. of Water & Power began court-ordered cleanup of the largest PM10 source at Owens Lake bed. All of these training sessions were very educational and eye opening for me. And I just give thanks for the opportunity to have attended this conference. In the month of October, I have mostly been researching online about the manure handling on the Furnace Creek parcel and have been in touch with the Boss lady from the horse stables. She informed me that they rake up all the horse manure weekly and empty into a big 30 yard dumpster, and distribute to areas of the Owens valley for garden fertilizer and to the Tecopa area for garden projects for low income families. Also, I have been reading and familiarizing myself with the NPS-Assessment Report and Monitoring Plan handbook to go out in the field and do water well sampling, and the guidelines in the QAPP- EPA handbook for sending in samples of water to an analytical laboratory testing for MCLs (maximum contaminant level) and TDS (total dissolved solid) concentration in the well waters. I met with the Park Service Hydrologist; we looked over NPS maps to see how the natural spring waters flow onto the alluvial fan that spreads across from the Furnace Creek Inn to the Timbisha Village and to Furnace Creek Ranch. The water cannot be contained very easily, and needs maintenance quite often to control the flow of water that runs over highway 190. It could be beneficial to the National Park Service and to the Timbisha Shoshone Tribe for the stream to, once again, flow onto the Tribe's land parcel.

UC Davis is conducting a Tribal Study, and will be holding interviews in Bishop and in Death Valley;

Participants receive a \$25.00 Visa Gift Card!

If you are interested, or would like more information

Contact Mikaela Griffiths (760) 258-5551

December Birthdays

Samantha Cortez	Dec. 1 st	Melissa Bright	Dec. 15 th
Charnelle Frank	Dec. 1 st	Ina Munoz	Dec. 16 th
Destiny Frank	Dec. 1 st	Eric Eddy	Dec. 17 th
Judith Ness	Dec. 4 th	Pauline Esteves	Dec. 20 th
Shoshauna Redner	Dec. 4 th	Regina Stout	Dec. 21 th
Ranee James	Dec. 5 th	Sam McDarment	Dec. 21 th
Renae Leonard	Dec. 5 th	Brenda Shoshone	Dec. 23 rd
Ian Scott	Dec. 6 th	Blake Jones	Dec. 23 rd
Evelyn Casey	Dec. 7 th	Rebecca Gomez	Dec. 23 rd
Desmond Frank	Dec. 8 th	Toowanotongobi	
Carol Chandler	Dec. 9 th	Medicine Chips	Dec. 25 th
Autumn Gomez	Dec. 9 th	Doreen Mason	Dec. 28 th
Tim McDarment	Dec. 10 th	Joshua Watterson	Dec. 29 th
Thomas Eddy	Dec. 10 th	Marlon Kennedy	Dec. 29 th
Mary Lou Gordon	Dec. 11 th	Gwendolen Turner	Dec. 31 st
Ramona Diaz	Dec. 11 th	Rachel Shoshone	Dec. 31 st
Owen Hancock	Dec. 12 th		



December 2013



Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
8	9 Tuniwa Nobi Family Lit. Program Quarterly Parent Gathering 6:00-7:30pm	10 Santa's Workshop 5:30-8:00pm Beaded hat/visor or Lanyard	11 Santa's Workshop 5:30-8:00pm Beaded hat/visor or Lanyard	12 Keepers of the Stories 5:30-7:30pm @ Tuniwa Nobi Center	13	14 Game On Bowling @ the Back Alley 6:30-9:00pm Sign Up Now 760-872-2115
15	16	17 Santa's Workshop 5:30-8:00pm Beaded Rosette 760-872-2115	18	19 Santa's Workshop 5:30-8:00pm Beaded Rosette 760-872-2115	20	21 Tribal Council Mtg. @ 9:00am Bishop Office Xmas Party & Toys 4 Tots give away @ 1:00pm-Bishop Office
22	23 Winter Break No School through January 3 rd	24 Christmas Eve Closed ½ Day 	25 Office Closed Merry Christmas 	26	27	28
29	30 Parent to Parent K-5 th 11:00am or 6:00pm 760-872-2115	31 New Years Eve 				



Next Tribal Council Mtg.
December 21, 2013
@ 9:00am in the
Bishop Tribal Office

Remember to bring your kids and join us Saturday Dec. 21, 2013 at 1:00pm at the Bishop Office for our Christmas potluck and Toys 4 Tots give away.



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Return Service Requested