



Smoke Signal

A Publication of the YMCA of Arlington, TX Father/Child Program

May 2011

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Recruitment...

Recruit new members for this season and get a recruitment patch for every new participant!

Online Registration

Program & Event registration is available at ymca-arlington.org



Upcoming Events...

* See complete calendar on page 2 *



Spring Campouts
 Trails May 13-15
 Camp Grady Spruce

Rocket Shoot
 May 14
 Vandergriff Park
 Cost: FREE!!!



Family Day at Hawaiian Falls
 May 28 10:30am-6pm
 Cost: \$15 per person from any Arlington Y and online
 (See page 3 ...)

Elder: Jim Norris 817.419.9053

Elder: Gene Hubble 817.457.7466

Elder: Mike Ginani 469.767.3051

Elder: John Geyerman 817.473.0218

Elder: David Adams

Elder: Jim Gammon

Elder: **Jeff Cloud** 817-360-0611

Bold names are new elders this year.

Federation Chief: Bill Darroch 214.274.8253

Asst. Federation Chief: Chris Elkins 817.999.3311

Program Manager: Rodney Smith 817.274-9622 rodneys@ymca-arlington.org

Papoose Chief: Brian Bolton

Guides Chief: Brad Millican

Princess Chief: Rob Williams

Trail Chief: Rodney Austin

Federation Meshenewa:

Program Calendar

YMCA Father/Child Program Events Calendar 2010-2011				
Events	Papoose 3-5 Yrs	Princess K-3rd	Guides K-3rd	Trail 4th & up
<i>New Chief's Orientation</i>	15-Jun YMCA	15-Jun YMCA	15-Jun YMCA	15-Jun YMCA
<i>4th of July Parade (Arlington)</i>	3-Jul	3-Jul	3-Jul	3-Jul
<i>Little Chiefs Longhouse</i>	17-Aug	17-Aug	17-Aug	17-Aug
<i>Carnival</i>	28-Aug	28-Aug	28-Aug	28-Aug
<i>Trail Event</i>				Sep 10 - Sep 12 Rafting Trip
<i>New Dad's Orientation</i>	7-Sep YMCA	7-Sep YMCA	7-Sep YMCA	7-Sep YMCA
<i>Induction</i>	18-Sep Lake Arlington	18-Sep Lake Arlington	18-Sep Lake Arlington	18-Sep Lake Arlington
<i>Fall Campout Event</i>	Sep 24 - 26 Cleburne SP	Oct 15 - 17 Eisenhower SP	Oct 22 - 24 Cooper Lake	Oct 1 - 3 Inks Lake SP
<i>Turkey Shoot</i>	30-Oct	30-Oct	30-Oct	30-Oct
<i>Federation Community Day</i>	13-Nov	13-Nov	13-Nov	13-Nov
<i>Papoose Event</i>	20-Nov			
<i>Bike Rodeo</i>		4-Dec		
<i>Arlington Parade of Lights</i>	11-Dec	11-Dec	11-Dec	11-Dec
<i>Papoose Christmas Party</i>	12-Dec			
<i>Federation Winter Campout</i>	Jan 28 - 30 Loyd Park	Jan 28 - 30 Loyd Park	Jan 28 - 30 Loyd Park	Jan 28 - 30 Loyd Park
<i>Daddy Daughter Date Night</i>		25-Feb		
<i>Father-Son Event (Zoo)</i>			8-Jan	
<i>Federation Fund Raiser Dinner</i>	19-Feb	19-Feb	19-Feb	19-Feb
<i>Pinewood Derby</i>	5-Mar	5-Mar	5-Mar	5-Mar
<i>Papoose Event</i>	12-Mar			
<i>Family Campout</i>	Mar 25 - 27 Cedar Hill SP	Mar 25 - 27 Cedar Hill SP	Mar 25 - 27 Cedar Hill SP	Mar 25 - 27 Cedar Hill SP
<i>Spring Campout Event</i>	Apr 15 - 17 Ray Roberts SP- Johnson Branch	Apr 8 - 9 Lake Murray SP	Apr 1 - 3 Purtis Creek SP	May 13-15 Camp Grady Spruce
<i>Rocket Shoot</i>	14-May	14-May	14-May	14-May
<i>Chief's Appreciation Dinner</i>	17-May	17-May	17-May	17-May
<i>Trail End Trip</i>		June 10 - 12 CANCELLED	June 10 - 12 CANCELLED	June 10 - 12 CANCELLED
		Updated: 5/08/2011		

More details on all the events are in this Smoke Signal and on our web site:

**** The latest calendar will always be online at this address: <http://www.ymca-arlington.org/fcEventCalendar.asp>**



Enjoy Family Day with The YMCA Father/Child Program



**Saturday May 28
10:30 am – 6 pm**



**Discounted Tickets
Available for \$15
(Save \$10!)**

Join us for a fun-filled day at Hawaiian Falls Waterpark in Mansfield. Hawaiian Falls is located at the corner of SH 360 and Heritage Parkway, right next to Big League Dreams.
Park Phone: (817) 853-0050
www.hfalls.com

HOW TO GET TICKETS
Everyone welcome. Just stop by any Arlington YMCA. Tickets also available online at www.ymca-arlington.org or by phone at (817) 274-9622 ext. __

Cooper Street Branch
7120 S. Cooper St. 2200
Arlington, TX 76001
(817) 419-9629

Central Branch
S. Davis Dr.
Arlington, TX 76013
(817) 274-9622

North Branch
1005 Skyline Dr.
Arlington, TX 76011
(817) 548-9622



YA TA HEY BLACKLAND PRAIRIE FEDERATION!

March and April have been a busy months with the Pine-wood Derby, Papoose Fishing Event, and all the Nation Spring Campouts. We are not slowing down in May so get ready for some incredible events for you and your children.

There are plenty of activities during the month of May.

May 13th – May 15th hit the road to **Camp Grady Spruce** for the **Trail Nation Spring Campout**. **May 14th** is our **Rocket Shoot** at **VANDERGRIFF PARK** this year, so get your rockets ready for a fun day. The **Chief's Appreciation Dinner** will be on **May 17th** at J. Gilligan's @ 7PM; all Outgoing Chiefs, Incoming Chiefs, Incoming Assistant Chiefs, as well as COE and Federation Chiefs are welcome. We will finish up **May 28th** with the **Father Child Program Day** at **Hawaiian Falls**.



I know I have heard how much everyone has enjoyed paying the Program fee to the YMCA. Well, if you want to extend your program membership for one year for **FREE**, then buy your Hawaiian Falls Tickets and signup and pay for the 2011 – 2012 Father Child Program during the event or before June 5th. By doing this, your program membership will be extended for one calendar year from the current expiration date for **FREE**. This discount is only available if you meet one of the conditions below, so if you want the savings get signed up at the event or before June 5th. This program membership is for all programs at the YMCA not just the Father Child Program. Let's get some tickets purchased and I hope to see you all at Hawaiian Falls.

Hawaiian Falls Father/Child Day Saturday, May 28 (Memorial Day weekend) tickets are sold @ all YMCA branches and online for \$15 each person. YMCA Father/Child registration discount of between \$30-\$45.

- If you purchase tickets for the Hawaiian Falls event AND register for the program on May 28th at the event, you will receive one year's extension of your program membership as a signing bonus AND one raffle ticket per paid child registered for "The Raffle".
- Hawaiian Falls Season Pass holders PRESENT at the event AND register for the program on May 28th at the event, you will receive one year's extension of your program membership as a signing bonus AND one raffle ticket per paid child registered for "The Raffle".
- If you purchase tickets for the Hawaiian Falls event AND register for the program on May 29th through June 7th, 2011 -- you will receive one year's extension of your program membership as a signing bonus.
- FULL YMCA members will receive 1 **FREE** campout instead of the free program membership extension.
- Additional Raffle tickets can be purchased for \$10 at the Hawaiian Falls event.
- The Raffle drawing will be held at the end of the Hawaiian Falls event on May 28th
- "THE RAFFLE" consists of:
 - 1 pair of Taylor Swift concert tickets
 - 4 Ranger tickets 6/6/2011 Behind 1st base. Season Tickets from GP Ford, excellent seats.

**Chief Crazy Horse, Little Chief Singing Pony and Little Chief Mustang.
(Bill, Hannah and Samuel)**

Ya Ta Hey Mighty Papoose Nation!

I am excited to greet you as your new Nation Chief and eagerly look forward to our next program year. Our Spring Campout was a blast! Thanks to the Tribe Chiefs who coordinated to make the campout a successful and enjoyable experience.

We should all give Standing Stone (Jay Moore) 3 big "kudos" for the exemplary job he has done as the preceding year's chief. **KUDOS! KUDOS! KUDOS!** Thank you, Jay, for your tireless dedication in helping the Program remain successful.



We have a few upcoming events on our calendar. First, the **FEDERATION ROCKET SHOOT** will take place on May 14, at **Vandergriff Park**. Details from your Tribe Chiefs will follow. Additionally, a **FEDERATION POOL PARTY & DIVE-IN MOVIE** is scheduled for July 16, at the Central Y. Stay tuned for further information.

As you are most certainly aware, we have a big Program promotional event at **HAWAIIAN FALLS** in Mansfield on **May 28**. Be there! You can buy the discounted tickets for \$15.00 at the Y. If you sign up as a new Program member, or if you re-register as an existing Program member, you will receive substantial savings towards the yearly Father-Child member fees. Please spread the word around to ***ALL*** of your friends whom might be interested in the Program to come out and enjoy Hawaiian Falls at a discounted price. This effort is, in part, a Federation fundraiser, so get everyone and anyone to buy additional tickets. The ticket can be used any day during the park's season this year.

It is critical to the ongoing success of the Father-Child Program to invite others to our events. The Papoose Nation is the life blood of the Blackland Prairie. I challenge each of you to procure the attendance of at least two families with Papoose-aged children to attend the Hawaiian Falls event. You, as fathers in the Program, understand the value of what we do, realize the importance of the time spent with our children, and appreciate the uniqueness of the events. ***Find the courage to invite others to share the passion, the involvement, and the dedication that you all enjoy by your participation.***

Let's work more diligently to bring others into our fold. You are the best advertisement the Father-Child Program has to offer. Reach out and tell someone what they are missing! Remember, your tribes will be as successful as you make them, and our kids get out only that which we, as dads, put in.

May the Great Spirit walk with you and work through you...



-PAPOOSE NATION CHIEF BLACK OWL (Brian Bolton)

-LITTLE NATION CHIEF DANCING RAINBOW (Grace Bolton)

Ya-ta-hey Mighty Princess Nation!

For this Smoke Signal Article, I, Teaching Bear (Mike Ginani), will write the first half of the article and then turn it over to the new Nation Chief, Big Kahuna (Rob Williams), to write the rest.

We had a fantastic Spring Campout! Weather was wonderful. There were many activities to do at Lake Murray State Park – Site Seeing, Horseback riding, Geocaching, games, etc. The park was under a fire ban but we made the best of it. We had the bonfire ceremony and were able to recognize all the princesses who earned patches since our last gathering. Congrats to Grace Connolly, Emma Kuehn, Millie Stallins, and Sarah Prejean for earning a Sparrow Patch. Congrats to Jamie Rose, Caydence Vargas, and Sarah Prejean for earning the Hawk Patch. Congrats to Hanna Cunningham, Yana Ford, Caydence Vargas, and Megan Bell for earning the Eagle Patch. Special congrats to Keira Cloud and Hannah Darroch for earning their Thunderbird Patch. Extra special congrats to Molly Murphy for earning her Golden Thunderbird Patch. Kudos, Kudos, Kudos! to Paige Patrick for earning her Silver Star Patch.



In addition to recognizing the princess who earned patches, we passed the chiefs passed their headdresses down to their assistants. I want to thank all the chiefs who served this year. You guys were a great bunch! I also want to thank my assistant, Rob Williams, who is now the new Princess Nation Chief. The Princess Nation is in great hands. Rob has already been working hard behind the scenes; Rob is responsible for producing many videos for the Father Child Program. In addition, Rob was responsible for securing our new Daddy Daughter Date Night location. Rob also volunteered his time as D.J. for the event. If that were not enough, Rob is on the Council of Elders and is on the P.R. Committee.

Finally, I want to congratulate our tribe winners. Congrats to the Caddo Tribe for winning Tribe of the Year. Congrats to the Seminole Tribe for winning New Tribe of the Year. Great job to the Karankawa for winning Honor Tribe and to the Zuni for winning Spirit Tribe. I want to take a moment to convey what great role models the Zuni Tribe are. Did you know that the entire tribe presented their Tribe of the Year banner to the Caddo Tribe and gave them a standing ovation? What a great example to the rest of us!

It's been a great year and it was honor to serve the Princess Nation. I will now turn it over to the new Nation Chief, Big Kahuna.

Sincerely, Teaching Bear and Dancing Daisy

Mike and Madison Ginani

See next page...

Ya-ta-hey Mighty Princess Nation!

Big Kahuna Addition

I want to mention how honored I am to be your Nation Chief and will give you all that I can in the upcoming season. Mike Ginani has been instrumental and will continue to be instrumental to our program. He has been wonderful to work with and I'm looking forward to the next year with him and the rest of the tribes!



What a wonderful Spring Campout! It was a little laid back, but understandably so with all that we do for our girls during the entire year! As a father of 3 girls, I understand and will be in the program awhile. My youngest is two and half. The program is that important to me and I hope you feel the same as I do while continuing your efforts to keep recruiting, get your Hawaiian Falls tickets, and promoting the bond between Father and Child! I want to hear all about your experiences bad or good. So please don't hesitate to contact me.

I understand how busy everyone is and I am too. However, I know how important this is to my children. The time I have left with them as "children" are short, it is with you too so take advantage of it now. You won't regret it. Next event? **Rocket Shoot – May 14th**. Get your rockets together, compete, and let the kids run around the park. Details to come....

Blessings,

Nation Chief Big Kahuna (Rob Williams)

Glowing Butterfly - Lauren Williams

Brown Bear - Brenna Williams

YaTaHey Mighty Braves in the Guides Nation!

We have much to celebrate since our last Smoke Signal. First and foremost in my mind is the beautiful weather at the pristine Purtil Creek State park this past weekend during our Spring Campout. We all were certainly blessed in more ways than one during our gathering. Kudos to our War Chief from Navajo (Spirit Award!), Chuck Wenner for his excellent leadership and to Rodney Smith for beating the Boy Scouts to the camp office to give us the prime locations we all enjoyed. Thanks also to Bill Darroch, our Federation chief for his care and attention during the weekend. Although our bonfire was small, our spirit was HUGE and enthusiastic as we celebrated the hard work of our tribes this past year. If you missed it, here's the recap!



- **Tonkawa received the Dream Catcher** patch for their many volunteering efforts and for spearheading the Y apparel that many of us are sporting at each event.
- **Apache received the Best New Tribe of the Year** award for their many points earned and for all they did for our Nation during the year
- **Kichai received the Spirit** patch for their hard work and numerous points accumulated during the year
- **Choctaw receive the Honor** patch for hundreds of points and hundreds of hours that they volunteered and lead our nation throughout the year

Blackfoot received the Tribe of the Year award for even more points turned in, hours of volunteer work and consistent leadership and above and beyond the call of duty to secure this prestigious award.

A few **Special Awards** were also given to individual Braves for their faithful service outside the normal realms of volunteering. **Brad Millican, Steve Waters and John Gardner** all received this honorary award that was unanimously approved by the Nation officers and concurred by our Federation officers. Congratulations to these fine men who went the extra mile!

It is with a heavy heart that I bid farewell to the Indian Guides/Princess. I have loved every minute of the 7 years that I have been fortunate to participate at various levels in the program. The memories I have will indeed last a lifetime. We are blessed to have this program and my hope is that you nurture and guard it, not only for yourselves, but for those that will come after you.

I wish you peace, love and a grateful heart for all your many blessings, but especially for your kids. They grow up too fast!

Big Moon, Little Galaxy (Aidan) and Sky (Katie)

See next page...

YaTaHey Mighty Braves in the Guides Nation!

Big Bear Claw Addition

What a great way to finish up our campout season! Great job to the Navajo on War Chiefing the Spring Campout. As you know, this is the point in the year when all of the Chiefs that have served our nation over the last year get to pass their headdress onto next year's Chief. I would like to especially thank Big Moon (Scott Ferrell) for his incredible leadership through this past year. Along with Scott, I would like to send out three kudos to all of our outgoing Chiefs for all the hard work they put in this past year.



As those Chiefs pass their headdresses on, we welcome in another great set of Tribal Chiefs into the Guides Nation. I would like to thank all of you for stepping up to lead your tribe this year. I would also like to thank, Jeff Godbold of the Kichai Tribe, for accepting the role as my Assistant Nation Chief for this year.

Congratulations to all those that earned patches at our Spring Campout! Special Kudos to Dylan Nanney and Andy Gardner for achieving the Thunderbird patch. I would also like to congratulate the following tribes for the tribal awards: New Tribe of the Year – Apache; Dream Catcher – Tonkawa; Spirit Tribe – Kichai; Honor Tribe – Choctaw; Tribe of the Year – Blackfoot. Great work by all of you!!!

Now that the Spring Campout is over, we have many exciting upcoming events. All of these are great opportunities to invite potential members to join the program and let them experience some awesome events.

First up is our Rocket Shoot on **Saturday, May 14th at Vandergriff Park**. If you have not been to this really cool event before, then you are missing out. This is an opportunity to act like a rocket scientist, even if you are not. You do not have to be an expert model rocket builder. You can buy one of the pre-made rockets and have as much fun as someone that builds their own. Let's blast off for a great event!

We have another great event coming up **Saturday, May 28**. The Father/Child program is sponsoring a day at **Hawaiian Falls** in Mansfield. Not only can you get great discounts on tickets (only \$15 a person), but the program also gets to make money from ticket sales. The YMCA has stepped up to help support this event. One way they are helping is by waiving the program membership you pay (\$30 for one child and \$45 for two) to be in this great program, as well as, the sports' programs. If you sign up at Hawaiian Falls, the Y will extend your program membership through May 2012. Do you have new Dads you are trying to get to join? This is a great time to have them sign up as they receive the same offer.

As many of you have heard me say over and over, this is YOUR program. Without you, it does not function and grow. We want your feedback, your ideas, and anything else you have to offer. Tell your Chief, Jeff, or myself. Let's make this the best year ever for Guides!!!!

See you at Rocket Shoot!!!!

Brad "Big Bear Claw" Millican
Guides Nation Chief

Miles "Eagle Eye" Millican
Guides Nation Little Chief

YaTaHey Mighty Trail Nation!

Wow, where has the year gone! I know everyone is busy, but I hope you have time scheduled for two fun events that will be here before you know it. First, we have **Camp Grady Spruce May 13-15** and the **Trails End Trip June 10-12**. If you are not in Trail but like to try one of our events, these two are good ones, so sign up.

Camp Grady Spruce is a great experience. The Main Camp features air conditioned cabins that sleep 16. Each has its own covered porch, bathroom, and shower with hot and cold running water. Also no need to bring meals, the Camp will be providing 4 meals. Then to keep everyone busy, the Camp will have the following activities available for us: Canoeing, Riflery, Archery, Barge Rides to Devil's Island, Horseback Trail Rides, a Swim area, and Hiking. Please sign up soon!!!

The Trail Nation Chief headdress will be passed to Firestarter (Rodney Austin) during the spring trip. Please welcome Rodney the next time you see him.

The Trails End Trip has been cancelled due to lack of sign-ups. Anyone who already signed up will be receiving a refund from the YMCA. We apologize for this disappointing development.

Firestarter Addition

Thank you Walking Crow for a wonderful year! We are gearing up for a great year with our graduating class of 2011 from Guides and Princess. I look forward to meeting with all of you over the next couple of months and leading this great nation for the upcoming year. I appreciate the opportunity to lead but this is our nation and I am open for ideas and suggestions that will enhance the time we spend with our kids.

Walking Crow" (Tracy Storm)
Trail Nation Chief
682-472-8478
mate

oreopup@tx.rr.com

"Racing Fox" (Rachel) – Trailmate

"Slithering Snake" (Ethan) – Trailmate

"Firestarter" (Rodney Austin)
Asst Trail Nation Chief

"Dancing Butterfly" (Savannah) Trail-



ROCKET SHOOT



Date: Saturday May 14

Location:

Vandergriff Park, 2800 S. Center Street, Arlington, TX 76016 (*North of Mayfield on Center St*)

Please park in the large lot next to the swimming pool and not in the lots next to the Bob Duncan Center. There is an event that is going on there and that parking is designated for them. We will be launching in the large area behind the Bob Duncan Center.

Time:

10:00 Rockets due for judging (optional)

11:00 Appearance Awards

Categories: Biggest/Tallest, Shortest/Smallest, Most Indian Like, Most Colorful, & Judges Favorite/Most Unique

11:00–1:00 Rocket Launching

Cost: Free!!! Bring the whole family and friends.

There will be hot dogs, drinks & chips available for a "donation". It is recommended for \$1 each or all three for \$2.



...3,2,1, Liftoff!!! Nothing gets your blood pumping like the anticipation of a model rocket launch. When that countdown begins, you can feel the intensity in your own body, and see it in the eyes of your child. This event is designed to be fun and to provide a way for you and your child to spend quality time together by assembling and launching a model rocket. It has many benefits, such as getting them a bit of exercise when they chase the rocket across a field during its descent.

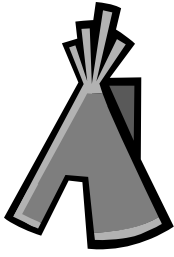


Plus, you just can't beat the educational aspects!

What better way to introduce your children to the study of aerospace and STEM (science, technology, engineering, mathematics) than by launching a rocket into the stratosphere!

See you at the Launch Pad on Saturday, Saturday, Saturday!!!

Blackland Prairie Federation Leadership



Rocket Shoot
May 14 Vandergriff Park
Spring Campouts
Trail May 13-15 Camp Grady Spruce
Chiefs Appreciation Dinner
May 17 J. Gilligan's
Trails End Trip
CANCELLED



2200 S. Davis
Arlington, Texas 76013

NON-PROFIT
ORGANIZATION

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Permit No. 48
ARLINGTON, TX



We build strong kids,
strong families, strong communities.



ON-LINE REGISTRATION

Program Registration & Event registration is
available at www.ymca-arlington.org