YAQUI TIMES

DECEMBER 2019
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SEASON'S GREETINGS

The holidays are a time to reflect on our many blessings. It is a time to spend with family and friends. Wherever you will be this holiday season, we hope that it will be a time filled with love, joy and much happiness.

Alleaka te au yuumak um Hesukristo ta yeu yoemtuka'apo intok alleaka te au yuumak uu vemela wasuktiawi.

On behalf of the Pascua Yaqui Tribal Council, we wish you a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year.

NEW HOTEL AT CASINO DEL SOL NOW OPEN

By: Malory Knutson, Zion and Zion

Following a grand opening ceremony and ribbon cutting the Pascua Yaqui Tribe and Casino Del Sol's new hotel, Estrella at Casino Del Sol is officially open.

"Almost exactly eight years ago, we opened the resort, spa and conference center at Casino Del Sol and today we are opening our second hotel, Estrella at Casino Del Sol," said Chairman Robert Valencia. "We are grateful for the support of the Southern Arizona community over the years which has allowed us to continue to expand our hospitality offerings with incredible momentum."

Estrella at Casino Del Sol boasts a Sonoran Desert design with a modern twist. While the exterior colors and contemporary forms complement the desert mountain backdrop, the lobby showcases a fresh, clean and open concept. The hotel has six floors and 151 modernly appointed guestrooms with spectacular sunrise and sunset views, including poolside rooms and four suites. Estrella sits on 2.2 acres adjacent to Casino Del Sol and is connected to the casino with a covered walkway so guests can easily stroll between properties.

Estrella at Casino Del Sol offers a number of amenities including an outdoor pool patio, poolside bar and a 100-foot water slide. In addition, the new hotel will offer a 24-hour fitness center with cardio machines and free weights, an arcade with a variety of video games and two meeting rooms that can accommodate groups of 20 to 50 people.

"Guests are going to love this new property," said CEO of Casino Del Sol Kimberly Van Amburg. "Estrella will allow us to meet our increased demand for rooms, and the additional amenities will offer our guests new fun activities such as the arcade and water slide, as well as more flexibility with corporate meetings and events."

The grand opening of Estrella signifies the completion of Casino Del Sol's large-scale hospitality project that also includes a new 73-space RV park, an expansion of the meeting space at Casino Del Sol and a new event center called the Sunset Room at its sister property, Casino of the Sun. These projects broke ground along with the hotel in July 2018 and have all been completed in 2019.

PASCUA YAQUI VETERANS AFFAIRS OFFICE PLAYED IMPORTANT ROLE IN THE TRAVELING TRIBUTE WALL AT CASINO DEL SOL

By: Annelise Krafft, HMA Public Relations

Casino Del Sol, in collaboration with the Pascua Yaqui Veterans Affairs Office, hosted the American Veterans Traveling Tribute (AVTT) Wall from Nov. 6-11 to honor our nation's military and veterans.

The Pascua Yaqui Tribe Veterans Affairs Office organized the events on Saturday, Nov. 9, 2019 which included the following dignitary speakers:

- Regina Romero, Mayor, City of Tucson
- Richard G. Fimbres, Council Member, Ward 5
- A Representative for Mr. Richard Elias, Chair, Pima County District 5

Shirts and coins were given to all veterans, with more than 900 in attendance. Financial support from Jim Click and Gil Federico went toward the purchase of the shirts and coins.

In addition, there were a variety of events on Nov. 11, including:

- Breakfast at the Cultural Grounds/Kitchen followed by mass at Cristo Rey Church.
- Monte Calvario Cemetery: reading of the names and blessing of the Veteran Wall; Sacred Connection Drum Group Blessing; remarks by Tribal Council; military flyover and distribution of Yaqui and American flags to be placed on gravesites.

A special thanks to Pueblo High School for its participation. There were also events at the Vahcom House including the distribution of shirts and coins, Traditional Blessing, Missing Man Ceremony, traditional cultural dancers and traditional foods.

The Veterans Affairs Office would like to thank the following for their participation and support:

- Pascua Yaqui Tribal Council
- Casino Del Sol – Kim Van Amburg, Veronica Vasquez
- Pascua Yaqui Police Department – Escort/Traffic Control
- Pascua Yaqui Fire Department and Honor Guard
- Health Department – Centered Spirit, Vahcom House
- Yoemem Tekia Foundation
- Pascua Yaqui Tribe Facilities Management
- Pascua Yaqui I.T. Dept.
- Youth Move
- Liogue Senior Center (Drivers)
- Angel Lopez, Pete Rodriguez and Elijah Garcia – photographers
- All cultural participants
- All cooks, servers - volunteers
- Marine Corps League
- Bikers and car clubs (Los Vatos, Yaqui Warriors, Legion Riders)
- Pueblo High School Marching Band
- Sacred Connection Drum Group
- Royalty (Senior King/Queen, Miss Pascua Yaqui, Junior Miss Pascua Yaqui, Junior Miss Pascua First Attendant)
- Jim Click
- Gil Federico
- American Legion Post 124
- American Legion Yoeme Post 125
- Guadalupe Auxiliary
- All departments and community members who participated in the parade

2020 CENSUS: YAQUI REPRESENTATION MATTERS

By: Letticia M. Baltazar, Community Development Manager

Once every decade, the country comes together to complete the Decennial census – counting every resident in the United States. The census helps determine how many seats each state will have in the U.S. House of Representatives, in addition to deciding how billions of dollars in federal, state and tribal funding are distributed.

Data from the census is also used to provide valuable statistics about our population and households, and the funding distributed helps support vital programs across the state – including housing, education, transportation, employment, health care and public policy.

Why is the census important to Tribal members?

Accurate census data leads to appropriate distribution of funds that support Tribal programs. Data collected from the census helps Tribal leaders understand what their communities need. The information is used to attract new business and grow communities. Information collected in the census can be used to support community initiatives, help businesses decide where to build offices and bring new jobs, plan new schools and hospitals and improve neighborhoods.

The only way the census can help the Yaqui communities is if Tribal members participate. Every Yaqui household matters - your participation is vital so WE our population is NOT under counted. **When filling out your questionnaire, under tribal affiliation you will write in "Pascua Yaqui Tribe."** All census responses are also protected by federal law, so any information you include is confidential.

The census data will be collected throughout 2020. Beginning in March, members will receive a notice in the mail to complete the 2020 Census and will be able to respond by phone or mail or for the first time ever, online! In May, the U.S. Census Bureau will start following up with households that have not already responded.

Help represent the Pascua Yaqui Tribe. Make sure you are counted!

"It's in your hands"

From the hands of our ancestors entrusted to future generations

Yo'orata mampo vetana yoeme eiyak vichau vicha katriata vetchivo

United States Census 2020

ARIZONA STATE MUSEUM FEATURING MAYO AND YAQUI MASKS

By: Abbie S. Fink, HMA Public Relations

Wooden masks worn by Pascola dancers hold deep ritual significance for Mayo and Yaqui communities. The Arizona State Museum, located at the University of Arizona, is showcasing masks from the James S. Griffith Collection. The exhibit examines masks and related traditions that are integral to the lifeways of the Mayo and Yaqui people.

The exhibit is made possible with support from the Pascua Yaqui Tribe, the Southwestern Foundation for Education and Historical Preservation and Arizona Humanities.

BUILD WITH CONFIDENCE

The Importance of Hiring a Licensed Contractor

By: Antonio Burrola, Sonoran Pueblo Contracting

Let's say you hire a contractor without checking to see if he or she is licensed.

Is it such a big deal to not hire a licensed contractor for a project?

For so many reasons – yes!

First, if an unlicensed contractor damages anything while on the job site, they are not liable for the damage or responsible for paying to fix it.

Second, should an unlicensed contractor or one of his or her team members get hurt while on the job, you could be responsible for the medical costs.

If a contractor is not licensed, it is often an indication that he or she has not undergone all of the training required to do the job in the first place.

Sonoran Pueblo Contracting is a licensed contractor and provides high-quality workmanship from start to finish. Our teams provide expert contracting, valued design engineering, and construction management services for civil engineering and design related projects, both on the reservation and off.

Being a licensed contractor means that Sonoran Pueblo Contracting:

- has the proper insurance required to protect potential damage to the property
- has the proper insurance required to cover any accidents on the job
- has a team that has been formally trained
- has a team that is qualified to do the work

For more information or to discuss a project, please email us at info@sonoranpueblo.com or call 520-638-5638.

#TEAMYAQUI'S CYCLISTS PARTICIPATE IN EL TOUR DE TUCSON

By: Abbie S. Fink, HMA Public Relations

There were 176 cyclists, adults and children, that joined #TeamYaqui at this year's El Tour de Tucson. For the seventh year in a row, the Health Department's Diabetes Prevention & Treatment Program sponsored the Tribe's participating riders. According to Councilwoman Herminia Frias, each year the interest grows which means the Yoeme are making proactive choices to prevent diabetes, control existing diabetes and make healthier lifestyle choices.

"Congratulations to everyone that participated. You were wonderful and we are proud of you!" said Councilwoman Frias. "#TeamYaqui, you're awesome, keep inspiring others to 'fight diabetes one mile at a time.'"

HOUSING DEPARTMENT REQUESTS INPUT IN COMMUNITY HOUSING NEEDS SURVEY

By: Keith Gregory, Director of Housing

Do you want to have a say in the kinds of homes built in your community? The Pascua Yaqui Tribe's Housing Department wants your input! The department has released the Community Housing Needs Survey to gather community feedback on housing needs and desires.

The main purpose of the survey is to gather community feedback that will inform the department's strategic plan. Responses will be used to help determine what kind of housing to build in the community, bedroom sizes, style and location. This information will be combined with the feedback from other surveys done this year to guide the department's strategy and decisions.

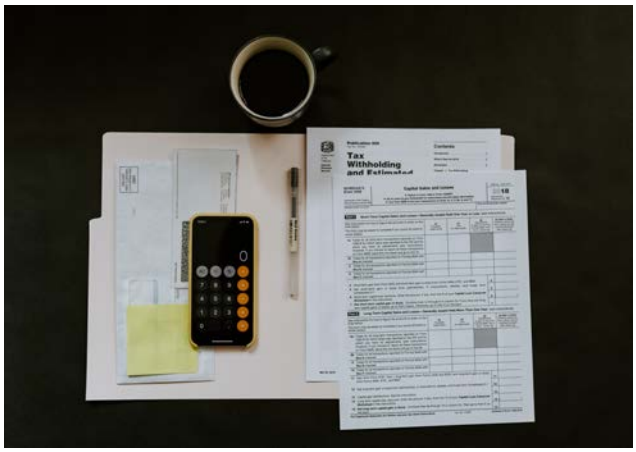
The survey can be found on the Tribe's Facebook Page, or at https://forms.gle/pEfqj7MfKRkAAXdb7.

FREE INCOME TAX ASSISTANCE AVAILABLE

By: Letticia M. Baltazar, Community Development Manager

The Pascua Yaqui Tribe VITA program provides FREE income tax assistance to low and moderate income families, elderly and individuals with disabilities.

Assistance includes free tax preparation, free E-filing, financial literacy of tax credits such as Earned Income Tax Credit (EITC), Child Tax Credits (CTC) and Property Tax Credits (PTC). VITA volunteers provide information on the benefits of direct deposits for refunds.



VITA tax services are provided in all Pascua Yaqui Tribal Communities. Services are available on a first-come first-serve basis.

FREE INCOME TAX ASSISTANCE CALENDAR

Be sure to bring the following documents to your local VITA site:

- Proof of identification (photo ID)
- Social Security cards for you, your spouse and dependents
- An Individual Taxpayer Identification Number (ITIN) assignment letter may be substituted for you, your spouse and your dependents if you do not have a Social Security number
- Proof of foreign status, if applying for an ITIN
- Birth dates for you, your spouse and dependents on the tax return
- Wage and earning statements (Form W-2, W-2G, 1099-R, 1099-Misc) from all employers
- Interest and dividend statements from banks (Forms 1099)
- Health Insurance Exemption Certificate, if received
- A copy of last year's federal and state returns, if available
- Proof of bank account routing and account numbers for direct deposit such as a blank check
- To file taxes electronically on a married-filing-joint tax return, both spouses must be present to sign the required forms
- Total paid for daycare provider and the daycare provider's tax identifying number such as their Social Security number or business Employer Identification Number
- Forms 1095-A, B and C, Health Coverage Statements
- Copies of income transcripts from IRS and state, if applicable

January 2020

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
			1	2	3	4
5	6	7	8	9	10	11
	IRS Tax Training 12-6pm Education Bldg. rm 110					
12	13	14	15	16	17	18
19	20 Martin Luther King Jr PYT CLOSED	21	22	23 Casino of the Sun-Sunset rm 9-2pm	24 VITA Modular 10-3pm	25 VITA Modular 9-11am
26	27	28	29	30 VITA Modular 10-2 Govt. Employees	31	

February 2020

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
						1 VITA Modular 9-11am
2	3	4	5 Old Pascua 5-7pm	6	7	8 VITA Modular 9-11am Guadalupe 10-2pm
9	10	11	12 Senor De Los Milagros 5-7pm	13	14	15 VITA Modular 9-11am
16	17	18	19 Marana 4-6pm	20	21 Senior Center Priority to Elderly 9-11am	22 VITA Modular 9-11am
23	24	25	26 Ash Wednesday	27	28	29

March 2020

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
1	2	3	4 Guadalupe Senior Center 10-1pm Coolidge 3-5pm	5	6	7 VITA Modular 9-11am
8	9	10	11	12	13	14 VITA Modular 9-11am
15	16	17	18	19	20	21 VITA Modular 9-11am
22	23	24	25	26	27	28 VITA Modular 9-11am Last Sat. OPENED
29	30	31				

April 2020

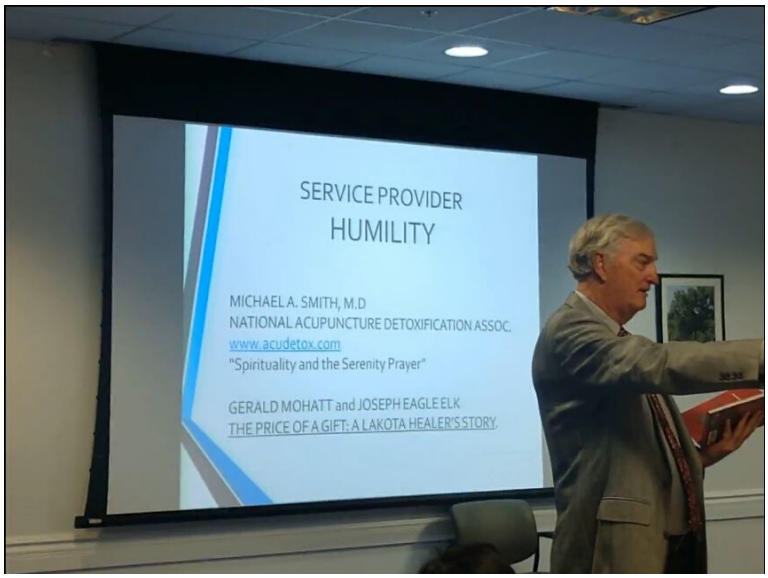
Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
			1 LAST DAY TO DROP OFF TAXES	2	3	4 Palm Saturday
5 Palm Sunday	6	7 VITA office Closed	8 Holy Wednesday	9 Holy Thursday	10 Good Friday	11 Gloria
				PYT & VITA office CLOSED		
12 Easter Sunday	13 Easter Monday	14	15 Last day to file taxes	16	17	18
PYT & VITA office CLOSED						
19	20	21	22	23	24	25
26	27	28	29	30		

"RESTORE YOUR RIGHTS - KNOW YOUR RIGHTS WORKSHOP" WAS A SUCCESS

By: Dr. Sandy Lucas, CSP Employment Coordinator

The Pascua Yaqui Centered Spirit Program (CSP) Adult Services partnered with the Pascua Yaqui Public Defender's Office in sponsoring a workshop to help community members in addressing legal barriers to employment, education and voting.

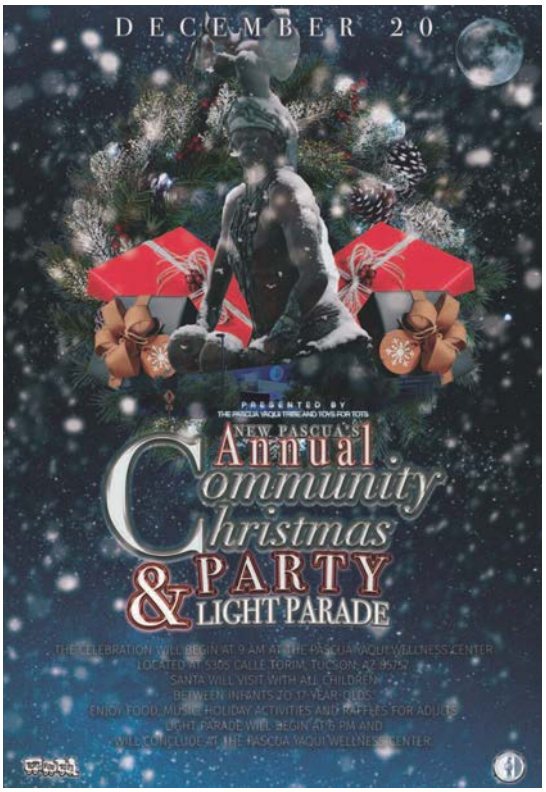
The "Restore Your Rights – Know Your Rights Workshop" was held last month at the Tribal Wellness Center. Tribal employees, CSP clients and community members were invited.



Judge Charles Pyle talks about "Behavioral Health and Legal Barriers" at Workshop.

Dr. Sandy Lucas, who is in her fourth year of sponsoring the Restore Your Rights Workshop for Pascua Yaqui Tribe said, "We are excited to add a Behavioral Health and Know Your Rights component to this year's workshop."

The 40 attendees received valuable information provided by three presenters: Honorable Charles Pyle, former Magistrate Judge of the United States District Court for the District of Arizona; Joel Feinman, public defender for Pima County Public Defender's Office; and Annamarie Valdivia, senior staff attorney for Pascua Yaqui Tribe Public Defender's Office.



CENTERED SPIRIT PROGRAM PARTICIPATES IN ANNUAL DAYS OF CARING VOLUNTEER PROJECT

By: Dr. Sandy Lucas, CSP Employment Coordinator

The Pascua Yaqui Centered Spirit Program (CSP) Adult Services participated in United Way's Annual Days of Caring Volunteer Project. On October 25, the Pascua Yaqui Tribe CSP Men's Path joined staff and clients at the Vahcom House in planting a fall garden and painting a 6'x8' Dream Catcher Mural.

This was the second year Vahcom House has participated in the Days of Caring event, said Dr. Sandy Lucas, CSP Employment Coordinator and coordinator of the event.

Dr. Sue Tham, Associate Deputy of CSP encouraged her staff to participate again this year because last year was such a positive experience with the Vahcom House Days of Caring Beautification Project.

"It is very exciting to see our clients and staff engaged in volunteering together for a wonderful cause. Vahcom House now has a beautiful Dream Catcher Mural with bright colors, that can be viewed daily by clients and staff," said Lucas.

"Several of our clients are talented artists and are to be commended for sharing their talent with us. Also, with the garden planting, a client who is master gardener, mentored other clients with the fall planting."

Dream Catcher Mural completed in United Way Days of Caring Project at Vahcom House.

Zucchini Vegetable from summer planting at Vahcom House.

"We are teaching clients life skills, work skills, teamwork and problem-solving with such volunteer projects. Gardening and art can be very therapeutic and positive activities for a client or their family," said Lucas.

CHAIRMAN VALENCIA, TRIBAL COUNCIL MEMBERS TRAVELED TO MEXICO

By: David Perez, Executive Assistant to the Chairman

Chairman Robert Valencia and several members of the Tribal Council traveled to Mexico recently for a series of meetings.

The first meeting was held in Caborca, Sonora, Mexico, and was organized by Mexico's First Lady Beatriz Gutiérrez Müller.

Chairman Valencia had an opportunity to speak with the First Lady and was invited to participate on a panel to discuss the importance of self-governance, genuine consultation and problem-solving within indigenous communities.

The second invitation in Mexico City was extended on behalf of Secretariat Relaciones Exteriores and was to participate in the first Summit for the Indigenous Communities of North America where Chairman Valencia, Treasurer Raymundo Baltazar, Councilwoman Antonia Campoy and Councilman Francisco Valencia spoke on various panels. The purpose of attending this summit was to discuss the impact on Pascua Yaqui and its designation as a government when dealing with the government of Mexico. Also the group was able to meet with the Office of Foreign Relations Sub-Secretary Jesus Seade.

The third visit was at the request of the Kobanao de Potam and Mexico Officials. This consultation in-cluded a delegation meeting with Presidente Andrés Manuel López Obrador. This meeting was attended by the Autoridades de los Ocho Pueblos. The Secretario of Rahum related his message to the president to consider the Pascua Yaqui Tribe as the ninth Pueblo.

Its leadership spoke of the binational agreement signed by the Autoridades and passed by resolution 2013 by the Pascua Yaqui Tribe.

In his address. the president also re-emphasized the binational agreement and Pascua Yaqui Tribe being the ninth Pueblo from Arizona. The purpose of this meeting was to further the objectives of the Pascua Yaqui Tribe in and around the Rio Yaqui basin, in-cluding specific locations that are of great importance to the Tribe's cultural identity and to emphasize the binational and cultural dynamism of the Tribe.

According to Chairman Valencia, these visits were very productive and provided an opportunity for the tribal leadership and the various governmental entities in Mexico to discuss issues of importance to their constituents.

"These meetings have laid the groundwork for future discussions and we are encouraged by the conversations that were had between our two governments," he said.

HOLIDAY PRAYERS AND SONGS

Provided by the Pascua Yaqui Language and Culture Department

Kopalai Tukaria—Silent Night (Holy Night)
This Song is Sung to the tune of "Silent Night"

Kopalai, Tukaria
Watiawai, Tukaria
Siimesu, Konila, Kokoche
U, Choki Tachiriammake
Teuwasakawa U Ili
Teuwasakawa U Ili
Asola Hesus

Alleaka Te Au Yuumak—Feliz Navidad Song

This song is sung to the tune of "Feliz Navidad"

Alleaka te au yuumak
Alleaka te au yuumak
Alleaka te au yuumak
Uu Vemela Wasuktiawiii

Si Alleaka te au yuumak
Si Alleaka te au yuumak
Si Alleaka te au yuumak
Uu Vemela Wasuktiawiiii

Lionokim-Prayers
Translation Provided by Maehto Rosario Amarillas

Senior Itom Achai (Our Father)
Senior Itom Achai Tekau Katekame,
Em teawam chechewasu yo'oriwa. Itou yepsane, em yaurawa, em valepo im bwiapo anwa, aman teekapo anwa.
Matchuk, itom bwane'u, ian su itom aa miika, ite siok tuasu aa luutiane, ite aa veheriane, kaa tui'isi itom kom vuttila, kom te wootiana huenakuchi Senor, empo su aman itom yoretuane, kaa tui'im vetana hunu'i

Amen, Hesus, Maria Into Hose

Santa Maria (Hail Mary)

Santa Maria emole val motia. Em hiapsim tuuwam graciam teame et tapuni, et tua katek. Itom yauchiwa Lios Hesu Kristo, chikti hamuchim veavutti sok tua yooriwa. Em tompo yoemtukame. Santa Maria Liosta Ae, itom kaa tui'si aane huni'i, Liostau vicha itom nokriane kokosu suvinepo huni'i.
Amen, Hesus, Maria into Hose

HOLIDAY RECIPE

Provided by the Pascua Yaqui Language and Culture Department

The holidays often bring to mind recipes of the season. Here is a favorite to cook up this year.

MUN NOHIM RECIPE
Ingredients:
1 tamale steamer 12 qtrs (soto'i)
2-3 pounds of pinto beans (yo'oko Munim)
5 pounds of masa Nixtamal (avai Kittim)
salt to taste (o'ona)
3 pounds of Lard (ochokoa)
1 bag of Corn Husks (vachi sanava)
Chiltepines– (huya ko'oko'im)

First clean beans and put to boil, cook for 2-3 hours. Once beans are cooked, fry the cooked beans in the lard and mash until smooth. Crush some chiltepines in a bag then add to the beans. The amount of chiltepines needed will depend on your spice preference. Allow the beans to cool.

Soak the corn husks in warm/hot water. After about a half hour cut the husks into thin strips for binding the tamales. Next mix the masa together with about 1-2.5 pounds of lard and about three tablespoons or more of salt.

Begin to assemble the tamales making sure the beans are somewhat cooled then pick a husk and put spread the masa with the back of the spoon across the smooth side of the corn husk. Then add the beans in the middle and wrap them and tie both ends with the corn husk strip and then once in the middle.

Once all of the tamales are assembled, place in tamale steamer and steam for 2 hours or more until the masa no longer sticks to the husk.

Enjoy!