

QUECHAN NEWS

Volume 106, Issue 8 ♦ Wednesday, April 25, 2012

In This Issue:

**SDPI Director Leaves
For Special Olympics**
Page 2

Transit Plans Update
Page 3

Yuma Women's Expo
Page 4

New QTDHE Director
Page 5

**Tribal Member In
Marathon Challenge**
Page 6

Thanks for Trying!
Page 7

Kickball Results!
Back Page

**Items Of Special Interest
To Tribe Members**



Look For This Symbol

ETSKA NAV AH PAI  THE NEWS CARRIER
QUECHAN NEWS

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Tribe to Share In Federal Settlement

On April 12, the federal government announced they had finally reached a settlement in a series of interconnected lawsuits filed against the United States by 41 federally-recognized tribes.

The Quechan Tribe is listed as one of the Tribes in the settlement agreement.

The announcement by Attorney General Eric Holder and Secretary of the Interior Ken Salazar followed a long period of negotiations between the tribes and the United States, lasting nearly 2 years.

These settlements resolve claims dating back more than 100 years, in which the tribes alleged that the Department of the Interior and the Department of the Treasury had mismanaged monetary assets and natural resources held in trust by the United States for the benefit of the Tribes. The total amount to be paid out to the 41 tribes by the United States will come to approximately \$1.023 billion.

Under the negotiated settlement agreements, litigation

will now end regarding the Department of the Interior's accounting and management of the Tribes' trust accounts, trust lands and other natural resources. Using monies from the congressionally-appropriated Judgment Fund, set aside to pay settlements or final judgments against the government, the United States will compensate the Tribes for their breach of trust over the past century, and the Tribes agree to waive, release and dismiss any further claims with prejudice. (A dismissal with prejudice bars the Tribes from any further attempts at recovery on these claims at any time in the future, making this the final settlement).

When news of the settlement began coming in over the internet and through various news services, local media contacted the Quechan Tribe for additional information.

President Keeny Escalanti, Sr. sat down with KYMA Reporter Aisha Morales in the Tribal Council Chamber on the afternoon of April 12 to give

local residents a little more information on what the Quechan Tribe can expect to receive, and what the Tribal Council plans to do with the funds.

Providing a little background on just how long the Quechan Tribe has been trying to make up for past injustices, Mr. Escalanti told her, "This goes back to at least 2006 when our lawyers first started to try to settle the mismanagement of our trust funds going back, oh, all the way to the 1800's."

"Of course, it began with a lot more (money) than we've finally had to settle for, since it concerns land leases, our trust funds, some issues with the railroad, docket monies and so on . . . the estimate (of damages) was very high in the beginning. We had Tribal members going to Phoenix to be deposed over a long period, and that was pretty stressful time for those individuals, with the long hours and repetitive questions, they got pretty tired. Mr. Felix Montague, who had served as the local Indian Agency Superintendent for a time, was one of

the Tribal members who went to Phoenix to give testimony.

"Since he had a great deal of firsthand information on this, they wanted to hear from Mr. Montague," said President Escalanti. "They also want to depose some of our finance people. I am sure that everyone that asked for eventually made the trip to Phoenix. Since this all stretches back into the 1800's, and concerns funds we trusted the government to take care of for us over the years, it took a lot of work."

Once the negotiations were completed and a final settlement was agreed on between the Tribe's legal team and the federal agencies, the total settlement coming to the Quechan Tribe will be \$3,116,000.

"We would have liked to have ended up with a lot more, of course, like some of the other Tribes will be getting. But some of those other Tribes also had some things involved that we don't have here, like mining and minerals rights, more land, cattle and forestry issues

Continued on Page 2

SDPI Director Leaves To Head Federal Settlement

River Area Special Olympics

Continued from Page 1

Lisa Ball, current Director of the Quechan Special Diabetes Project for Indians (SDPI), will be leaving this Friday to accept the position of River Area Director for Special Olympics Arizona.

Lisa began working for the Quechan Tribe in late 2001 as a part-time Physical Activity Specialist with the SDPI. At that time, the program was located on Indian Hill in older buildings which are now closed.

At around the same time it was preparing to move the SDPI out of their old location, the Tribal government made the decision to create the Diabetes Wellness Center. Lisa then became the full-time Wellness Center Coordinator for the Diabetes Program. "I basically got to put the whole Wellness Center together from top to bottom," she recalls. "I helped in the design of the building, the size of the rooms, ordering the equipment, and getting it all set up."

She says the Diabetes Prevention staff also moved into their current location, right next door to the Wellness Center, around that same time.

Lisa, Sandy Palone and Lewis Throssel all moved into the Wellness Center in 2004. Sandy and Lewis still head up the Wellness Center staff today, where they have been joined by Physical Trainers Rosie Herrera and Ricardo Juan and Norman-



Lisa Ball has been a part of the Quechan Special Diabetes Project since she was hired as a Physical Activity Specialist in late 2001.

QUECHAN NEWS Photo by William Isbell

do Ramon, who is in charge of the building's maintenance.

After they moved down to the Tribal Health Complex on San Pasqual School Road, the SDPI had a couple of Directors. Then Lisa applied for the position and was appointed in 2009. With a larger staff than when she began in 2001, the SDPI currently has a very strong presence in the community.

"We currently provide about 29 hours of Diabetes Prevention Education at all three of the schools right now, plus at Quechan Head Start," she says.

"Right now we're teaching the elementary students all of the different aspects of wellness, whether it's physical ac-

tivity or healthy eating."

"The middle school is studying the seven dimensions of wellness, while the high school is doing pretty much the same thing, getting a reinforcement of that same message."

She says that even the Head Start students get to know all about the food pyramid, "so by the time they go over to kindergarten, they *know it*."

Though she says she found both challenges and joys in working with the Tribal community, after 11 years with the program she isn't worried about its future at all. "The reason I feel so confident in leaving right now is because there is a staff of Tribal members here, any one of which could probably take over the program and run it very well. There is no way I would have even thought about going over to run the Special Olympics otherwise."

Her new position, which she starts on the first Monday in May, will entail coordinating all Special Olympics Programs from San Luis to Kingman, along the Colorado River in Arizona. She says she looks forward to seeing the people in the community with intellectual disabilities taking part in Special Olympics Arizona activities.

"I would like to thank the Tribal Councils both past and present for their support of the SDPI program, and the Quechan

and such. So it all depends on the size of the Tribe, the value of the land and a whole host of other issues. Each Tribe is unique, and each Tribe had their own reasons for filing this action, but we were very small (in both land and population) compared to the size of some of the other Tribes."

The federal government has already notified the Quechan Tribe that they are ready to begin transferring the funds.

"They told us already today (April 12) that all we have to do is set up an account and let them know which bank the funds should be deposited in," according to President Escalanti. "The Tribal Council has come to a decision that these funds will be placed in a restricted account, to be used strictly to take care of the obligations we already have now."

Asked what some of those obligations might be, the President told KYMA, "Our main

Community for their support and attendance at our various events, all of the students and teachers from Head Start to 12th grades and Alternative Education (It just goes to show you that adults *can* learn from you students!) A huge thank you to all of the Tribal, Casino, District and IHS employees for all of your kind words and support of our program."

"I also have make sure to say thank you to Deborah Drumel at the IHS Clinic for being such an inspiration to us all. We truly

obligation is to stay current on our payments to the Bank of New York for the new Quechan Casino ♠ Resort—that's one of our biggest obligations."

"We want to make sure we stay on top of those payments, and continue to make those in a timely manner, so we aren't caught in any sort of a default situation."

In further statements to both KYMA and the *Quechan News*, President Escalanti made it clear that those funds will be set aside and will not be touched for *anything* other than "taking care of our bills."

He also made it clear that this settlement, on the federal authorities breach of trust towards the Quechan Tribe on fiduciary matters, is completely separate from and not in any way related to the "Cobell" case. The Tribe will also continue to work with legal counsel to press ahead and attempt to reach further settlements on additional issues.

love you and appreciate all that you've done for us!"

"By far the hardest goodbyes are to my co-workers and family at the SDPI Program, without all of you this program would be nothing. What we've been through as a family the last few years far surpasses what some people go through in a lifetime. I am honored to have had such a wonderful 'crew'. Thanks to everyone for being so supportive. I couldn't have asked for a better 10 years of my life!"

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QUECHAN NEWS
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Have a story idea, or an event you want covered?

Quechan News is here to cover the special events and everyday lives of Quechan Tribe Members, and the issues that affect you in the world today. This newsletter is here to keep the lines of communication open, to expand opportunities, and uplift the Native Spirit of the *Kwat'san Pipá*. Your ideas and input are welcome!

Just call the **Quechan News** office Monday through Friday at (760) 572-3912, or email your stories and story ideas to w.isbell@quechantribe.com. I'm looking forward to hearing from you!



Progress & Development

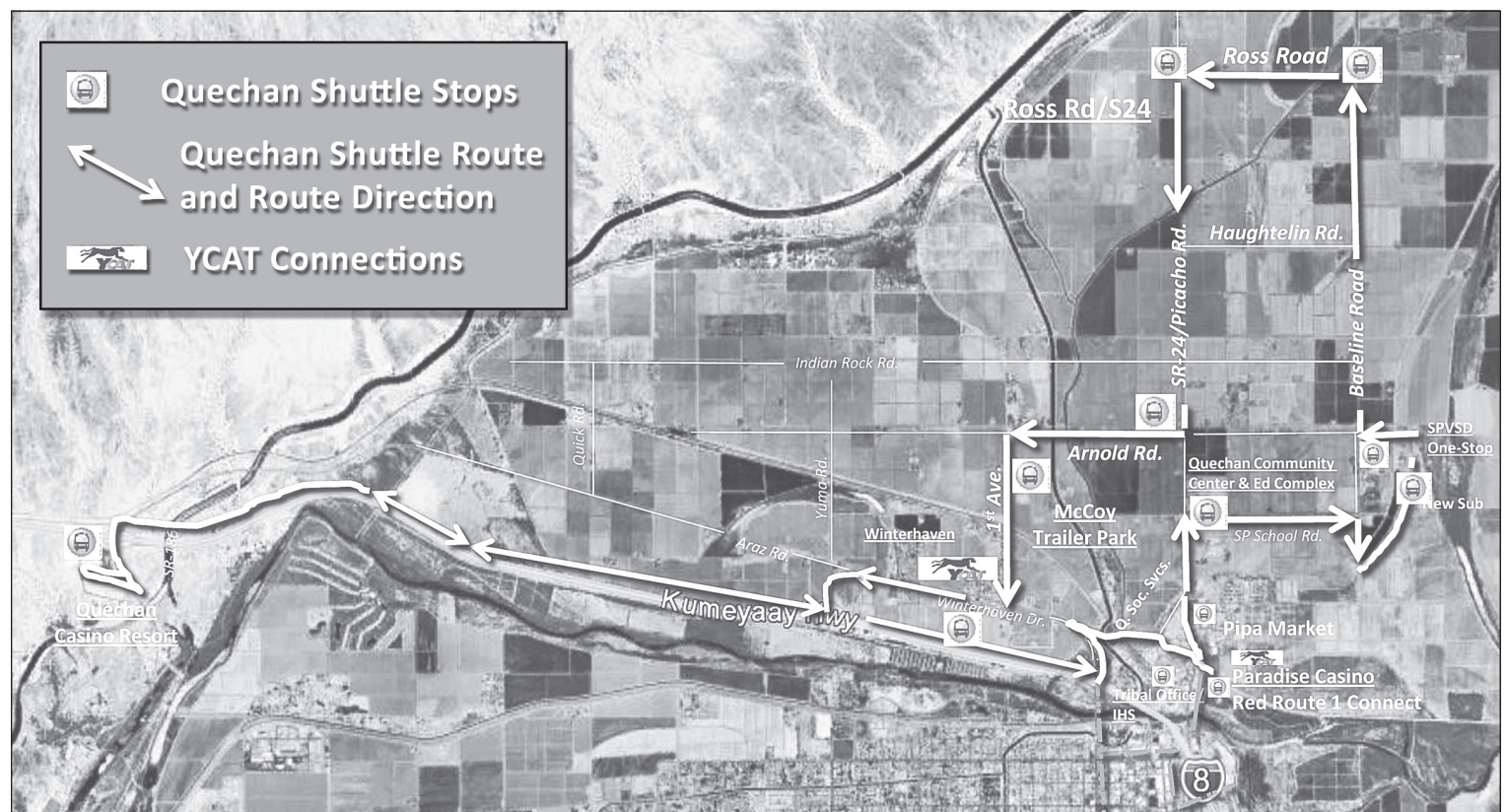
Community Meeting Reveals Progress on Transit Planning

The Quechan Economic Development Administration (EDA) has been at work on developing transit solutions for Tribal members and the community at large since 2008. Last week, Allyson Collins, a Specialist at the Quechan EDA held a public meeting to announce that the new shuttle service is very close to becoming a reality, possibly as soon as sometime in the summer of 2012!

“We held a public meeting in late January,” she says, “where we held discussions on where to place the bus stops in preparation for the Reservation Shuttle we’ve been working on. We wanted to finalize the transit service plan to fit the needs of the people, based their input at our meetings.”

At the January meeting, attendees were informed about proposed bus stop locations on the reservation. “We talked about population centers,” she continues, “and explained that bus stops are determined by population centers, either where people live or where they commonly gather or meet to carry out some type of business (such as appointments, shopping, or entertainment).”

“By identifying population centers on the Reservation, we were then able to determine where people wanted the shuttle to go within the community and thus, where bus stops should be.” EDA took the information



This map shows the proposed route for the Quechan Shuttle System, as presented at last week’s public meeting. Designed to serve the main population density centers on the reservation, the route would begin at the Paradise Casino and make a counter-clockwise loop north to the Pipa Market, the Quechan Community Center and Education Complex, east to the Ironwood subdivision, back to the San Pasqual Schools bus lanes, then north on Baseline Road. The next stop would be as it turns west on Ross Road, to serve those living near Ross’s Corner. Then to the next stop at the corner of Ross Road and State Route 24, where it would continue south for a stop at the corner of SR-24 and Arnold Road. The route continues to the McCoy Trailer park on 1st Avenue in Winterhaven, then on to meet up with the YCAT Red Route stop at Hub Liquor (for those wanting to make a connection to Yuma, or coming back from the city). The reservation shuttle would then continue on to the Quechan Casino Resort, where even those living and working at the Andrade Port of Entry could catch the bus. The shuttle would then circle back on Interstate 8 to take the Winterhaven exit and visit Indian Hill before beginning the entire loop all over at the Paradise once again. Aerial Map Courtesy of Allyson Collins, Quechan EDA

from that meeting and formulated it into maps. Allowing for a time limit 52 minutes to complete a route, they created maps which connect as many of the population centers/destinations with the transfer points as possible. “We also the shift start and end times at the Quechan Casino Resort in our proposed

arrival times.” The result was the “Reservation Wide Base Map”, showing 16 population centers deemed as destinations, indicated by a rainbow-colored people icon. “We then asked the participants to prioritize the most important ones, and seven were selected as the Tribe’s “must have” bus stop locations.

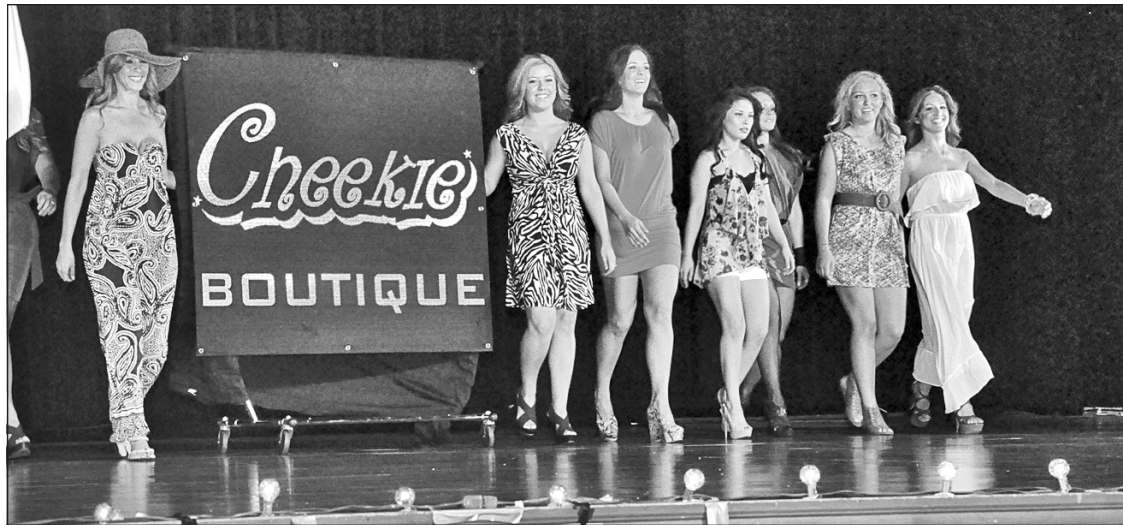
“The public meeting on Tuesday, April 17 was the next step in the process of finalizing a route, or routes, by sharing with the public, the Tribal Council, and the Yuma County Intergovernmental Public Transportation Authority (YCIPTA), the suggested route alternatives. We wanted to obtain everyone’s

input before any final decisions are made,” says Ms. Collins.

“After collecting and recording the final comments on the route(s) from those we expect to use the Quechan Shuttle Service, we are much closer to finalizing the service plan necessary to prepare a Memorandum

Continued on Page 4

Yuma Women's Expo Returns To the Q Again On May 5th



The 2012 Yuma Women's Expo will feature fashions, health seminars and instruction, spa day treatments and great Mother's Day gift ideas — all under one roof! QUECHAN NEWS Archive Photo by William Isbell

In just a little over a week, the Pipa Event Center will be filled as thousands of women from throughout the desert southwest gather for the annual Women's Expo at the Quechan Casino Resort. This makes it the second year in a row that the Yuma chapter of the American Business Women's Association (ABWA) has chosen the Q as the site of the premier event for women in the area.

The Expo will begin at 9 AM on Saturday, May 5th, and will last until 2 PM.

This event is the perfect opportunity to score extra points with mom (or go on a little pre-Mother's Day scouting expedition on your own), while looking for the perfect gift or setting up spa day to let her know how much she means to you.

Each year, the Yuma Women's Expo provides a day of pampering and enrichment, featuring exciting options for women of all ages.

Participants can join the experts in YRMC's *Ask An Expert Forum* in the Chief Pasqual Boardroom (across from

the Pipa Ticket Office), for informative discussions about the hot topics most women want to know about. Hear what other women are experiencing and learn from open dialog with physicians at each session.

The PrimeCare Kids Evening Clinic at the Valley will also hold a similar forum next door in the Gregory D. Yuma Boardroom. Each audience member at the *Ask An Expert Forums* will also receive a free gift.

You may want to take your place early at either of those forums, since space is limited!

"This year we hope to have an even more extensive lineup of vendors in the main hall, where you can indulge in pampering, shopping and services," explains Rebecca Larson, Community Relations Specialist at YRMC. "There are sure to be treasures, deals and excitement around every corner!"

This year's entertainment will be a fashion show by Cheekie's Boutique and a hair fashion show by Steel Roots Salon.

"We will also have Jazzercise demos on stage during the day

and be entertained by On Track Fitness Latin Dancing," says Karen McCafferty, Operations Manager at Corona Optique. "And this is the first year VIP tickets will be on sale at Corona Optique. Having a VIP ticket allows the ladies to get in an hour early, at 8:00 AM instead of 9:00 AM, for early shopping and to get the great cosmetic bag for the first 1000 ladies in the door."

To keep the excitement level high, raffle items will be given out during the day. The *Yuma Sun* will be holding a used purse sale out on the patio, offering refurbished designer purses at great prices. "The ladies love that sale!" according to Karen.

Spa services at the Expo will include massages given by the AWC massage students, hair cutting, eyebrow threading and tips on how to do your make-up.

The Quechan Casino Resort will keep the festivities moving along with Mexican themed food and beverages for sale during their Cinco de Mayo celebrations that same weekend.

All of this is available for only \$2.00 at the door!

Shuttle Route Planning

Continued from Page 3

dum of Understanding (MOU) with YCIPTA, who will be providing the busses for our transit services.

The Tribal Council will review the results at their April 26, 2012, work session, when the EDA provides them with the YCIPTA MOU documents.

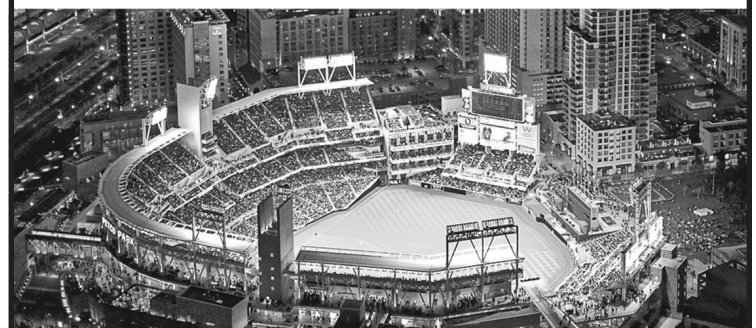
They will then have the choice of either accepting the MOU as is, or continue negotiations with YCIPTA. Hopefully, reservation shuttle service will get underway later this year.

Allyson says she is *very* excited to be so close to rolling out the new service.



NATIVE AMERICAN NIGHT AT PETCO PARK
FRIDAY, MAY 18th
PADRES vs ANGELS AT 7:05 PM

**Join the San Diego
Native American community
for an evening of Padres baseball!**



Arrive early to see local tribes recognized during the pregame on field festivities.

DISCOUNTED TICKET OPTIONS

TICKET CATEGORIES	NATIVE AMERICAN NIGHT DISCOUNTED PRICE
FIELD BOX INFIELD	\$55.50
TOYOTA TERRACE RESERVED	\$32.00
UPPER INFIELD RESERVED	\$14.00

Tickets are available for purchase at:

Indian Human Resource Center, 4265 Fairmount Ave., #140
San Diego, CA 92105
padres@indianhrcenter.org or 619.281.5964

TO PURCHASE A SUITE PACKAGE
OR TO RESERVE 20+ TICKETS, PLEASE CONTACT:
Ashley Trueman at 619.795.5182
or atrueman@padres.com

Agustín Tumbaga, Jr. New Head of Quechan Housing

Agustín Tumbaga, Jr. comes to work for the Quechan Tribe as the new Executive Director for the Quechan Tribally Designated Housing Entity (QTDHE) after years of experience in organizing housing projects stretching back to 1991.

A graduate of Kofa High school, Agustín grew up both in the Fort Yuma area (where he attended San Pasqual elementary in 1st and 2nd grade) and around Somerton, Arizona. He served in the Army National Guard, receiving an Honorable Discharge in 1988. Mr. Tumbaga has spent his adult years since then in continuing education at Arizona Western College and twice graduated from the Pire Real Estate School, first in 1990 and again in 2008, when he updated his knowledge of commercial and residential real estate sales procedures.

Mr. Tumbaga has also attended the Kennedy School of Government and Community at Harvard University, where he received Training in “becoming a leader as well as a manager”.

He accepted the position of Executive Director of Housing America Corporation when the agency was facing foreclosure

in April of 1995. While there, managed a staff of 50 + employees spread out over both Yuma and La Paz counties. In a little over a year and a half, Mr. Tumbaga oversaw the development of three phases of a 96 lot subdivision, putting in streets, water and sewer lines, and electrical utilities, meeting both state and federal requirements under a tight budget.

“I not only had to supervise the daily operations and review budgets while engaged in a constant search for savings on the budget,” he says, “I had to do all that while settling staff disputes, helping with staff monthly reports, negotiating with our bankers, developers, and supervising our landlord and staff. Plus, it was my job to keep the Board of Directors and our funding source informed!”

He says that, from what he’s seen so far, that early experience at Housing America helped prepare him for the position he has now, at Quechan Housing.

A couple of years later, he was a member of the original founding team of *Campesinos Sin Fronteras*, where he served as President from November of 1998 to September of 1999.



Mr. Tumbaga, who grew up in Somerton, moved into his office as Executive Director of the Quechan Tribally Designated Housing Entity (QTDHE) on April 10th. QUECHAN NEWS Photo by William Isbell

Responsible for the only USDA Rehabilitation Program in the country, he wrote many grant proposals to help the *Campesinos* acquire funds for future projects, helping to set up their strategic plans for the future.

“I joined the Yuma Metropol-

itan Planning Organization in 1998, and served 5 years there building a network of contacts that helped me a great deal,” he explains. He already had a pretty extensive network of contacts, though, having served on the Somerton City Council

from 1994 to 1996, before becoming the town’s Vice Mayor, and eventually moving up to the top spot of Mayor before leaving public service behind for a strictly private sector career once again in 2004.

“In January of 2004, I got into community development with Pueblo Housing, where I still help out,” he says. “I work on their budgetary requirements, present programs to City, State and Federal elected officials and assist with their annual audits.”

He even ran DHG Construction for a while, building homes and remodelling homes throughout Yuma County.

A busy man!

Now that he has all of those years of experience in both the construction and administrative sides of providing affordable housing, keeping track of inventories and writing reports on everything related to those tasks, he feels he is well situated to step in and follow the lead of the QTDHE Board of Commissioners as the Tribe moves into the future.

He also says he is excited to return to the area where he began his education so long ago!

Quechan Tribally Designated Housing Entity

Terms of the Current Members of the Board of Commissioners

Board Member	Start Date of Term	Term Expires
Lorraine E. White, <i>Chairperson</i>	June 14, 2011	June 14, 2015
Vernon Smith, <i>Vice Chair</i>	March 5, 2012	March 5, 2016
Rose Phipps, <i>Secretary</i>	July 21, 2010	July 21, 2014
Chona Medel, <i>Treasure</i>	March 17, 2009	March 17, 2013
Yvonne Choate, <i>Member</i>	March 5, 2012	March 5, 2016

PUBLIC NOTICE

Quechan Tribally Designated Housing Entity

The Board of Commissioners will hold its regularly scheduled monthly meeting on Monday, May 14, 2012.

The meeting will be held at the QTDHE office location beginning at 5:30 PM.

The Board welcomes public comments and/or concerns. Tribal members who would like to meet with the Board of Commissioners should submit a written request in writing by 5:00 PM, Wednesday, May 9, 2012, addressed to Mr. Agustín Tumbaga, QTDHE Executive Director.

Tribal Member Hopes to Complete Beach Cities Challenge

The Beach Cities Challenge is a race series made up of three Southern California marathons: the Surf City Marathon in Huntington Beach, the Orange County Marathon, and the Long Beach International City Bank Marathon. Runners who complete any of the three races half or full marathons receive a special Medal testifying to their participation in that event.

However, the real prize is the final medal — the Beach Cities Challenge Medal — which is awarded only to those who compete in each of the three events in consecutive order.

If a person misses even one event in consecutive order, they are automatically disqualified, and they must start over.

Quechan Tribal member Mark Escalanti, a blackjack

floor supervisor at the Quechan Casino Resort, has accepted the challenge, and is on his way to collecting the entire set of medals for each race, to capture that fourth, special award for completing the whole series.

“We started with the half marathon in Long Beach on October 9th last year,” says Mark. “The run was great, and there were a lot of people with positive energy from both participants and spectators. The weather was perfect and as we ran along with everyone, the views of the Queen Mary and the beach were great!”

Since a marathon is an endurance event, Marco runs with a friend he met at the Long Beach run, Marco Guzman, who is also from Yuma. “Marco and I completed that run with quali-



Mark Escalanti and running partner Marco Guzman are all smiles showing off their Surf City Marathon medals in their Paradise Casino T-shirts on completing the second race in Huntington Beach in February. The final challenge is on May 6th. David Cook Photocourtesy of Mark Escalanti

fying times and got our medals as did the rest of our group.”

Their next run, the Surf City Marathon in Huntington Beach, was on Superbowl Sunday in 2012. Mark continues. “The run

was a sold out, but they allowed more runners to enter two days before the race. The start times were delayed due to the crowds, but once again the positive energy was there from all the peo-

ple. There were over 20,000 people running at Surf City!”

He says a great motivation for keeping up the pace at Huntington Beach was their need to finish the run in time to get home and watch the Superbowl that night! It also helped that there were bands playing and people cheering them on as they ran along the Pacific coast and through the coastal city’s neighborhoods.

“We both finished ‘Surf City’ with qualifying times and the coolest part is that we got our surf board medals at the finish line,” he says, where he and Marco stopped to pose for photos in their sponsor’s T-shirts from the Paradise Casino.

So now, they only have that final challenge to overcome, the

Continued on Page 7

That Was No Propane Leak, But It Was a Bit of a Gas!

The Quechan Senior Center was closed for a couple of days, after the kitchen crew smelled gas when they unlocked the doors upon returning from the three-day Easter weekend.

Senior Center Manager Rosie Jack-Sestiaga immediately called their propane supplier to come over and shut off the lines from their outside storage tank and perform a complete safety inspection.

In the meantime, she also took the precaution of posting a notice that the Senior Center would be closed until everyone was sure it would be safe to reopen. (You don’t want to be cooking over an open flame in a kitchen with a gas leak!)

Well, the Ferrellgas man spent the better part of Monday checking all the lines and performing a series of tests for leaks, but he couldn’t locate the problem. The scent of rotten eggs still lingered in the air.

The Senior Center also contacted the Quechan Utilities Department to see if they could lend a hand. When Alex Bouts and Jeremy Douglas arrived, the first thing they did was make sure the entire building was thoroughly ventilated.

The Utilities crew then began checking for plugged drains, since hydrogen sulfide gas (which smells like rotten eggs) often results from the bacterial breakdown of organic matter.

The large floor drains in the kitchen could easily allow the smell of anything down in the pipes to come back into the building. And with a three days for kitchen scraps in the drains to sit and decay over the long weekend, perhaps something down there was the problem.

Turns out, Alex and Jeremy were on the right track! Once they turned on the hot water, ran water down all the drains and flushed all the toilets in the building with fresh, clean water, the rotten egg smell disappeared. By Wednesday morning all the drains were clear and the Tribe’s elders could use the Senior Center once again.

Crisis averted!



Monica Montague of the Quechan Finance office smiles after receiving the Easter Lillies arrangement she won from *Flowers by Yvonne* on April 5th. Shari Mattias, who works at Quechan ADAPP, won the Easter Basket. *Flowers by Yvonne* will be selling tickets for a beautiful mixed arrangement Mother’s Day bouquet this month, so watch for Yvonne in the community, or give her a call at (619) 368-9665 for your chance to win in May!

Photo Courtesy of Flowers by Yvonne

Tribal Member in Beach Cities Challenge

Continued from Page 6

Orange County Marathon, to collect the medals from all three of the Beach Cities marathons and be able to win the fourth and final medal, given only to those who can run all three events in one go.

Each of the marathons in the Beach Cities Challenge raises money for deserving charities.

“The Surf City Marathon help raise funds for people who could not afford wheelchairs,” Mark explains. “The O.C. Marathon will be to help inspire kids’ fitness.” The Long Beach event is the oldest of the three, having started in 1984. That marathon has at least nine charities you can help sponsor, whether you cause is arthritis, helping out the Special Olympics, or the fight against autism.

“I started to run for my per-



If he finishes all three Marathons in one year, Mark Escalanti will be awarded the Beach Cities Marathon Medal (above).

sonal fitness and goals,” says Mark. “But along the way on this journey I have also inspired my family and friends to run, which is a great feeling for me.”

He says it’s important that he gets in the habit of exercise, to

help fight off the always present spectre of diabetes he sees all around him as a Tribal member.

“I hope to complete my final run of this challenge and move on to my next goals.”

Mark also says he appreciates the encouragement he has received from both friends and family as he continues with the tasks he has set for himself, and he knows that he could never have come this far without their “having his back”.

“I also want to say ‘Thank You’ to the marketing staff at the Paradise Casino, for their being able to sponsor me in this challenge, and for the funds, free T-shirts, and everything else they’ve provided.”

So, check the May 23rd issue of the *Quechan News*, to see if Mark collects all four medals!

COMMUNITY EXPRESSIONS

I just wanted to thank those who have come out to try to help me rescue a cat that’s been up a tree in my front yard for almost a month now.

The cat has been up there since the last week of March, and it really sounds pretty sad every night, as it yells and cries for help . . . but it just won’t come down!

I thought the cat would get hungry and thirsty enough to climb down on it’s own. I even set out a can of cat food for it to try to tempt him down, and I moved my dog into the backyard. But even with no dog in the front yard, the cat just kept yelling, and with no dog in the yard, the birds came and ate all the cat

food! I tried calling the Winterhaven Fire Department to see if they could come out and get him down, but they said if it isn’t an emergency, they won’t come out!

Quechan Fish and Game finally came out, and Officer Owl climbed up the tree and spent almost 2 hours trying to get that cat to come down, but it just kept moving away!

*Dianne Moccasin
Quechan Tribal Member*

You can bring your Community Expressions letters to the QUECHAN NEWS office trailer just north of the Senior Center entry on Quechan Drive, or email them to the email address printed in the box at the bottom of page 2.

QUECHAN

ENROLLMENT DEADLINE

Quechan Tribal Members are encouraged to enroll their child(ren) for membership with the Quechan Tribe.

The Quechan Enrollment Application deadline for the second quarter of 2012 is Friday, June 1, 2012, at 5:00 PM. Completed applications must include the following support documents:

- State Certified Birth Certificate (Copy)
- Social Security Card (Copy)
- If either parent is an enrolled member of another tribe, submit an updated Certified Degree of Indian Blood (CDIB) and a letter of non-enrollment for the applicant.

Applications will not be processed until all the support documents have been received. Completed applications are processed quarterly.

The Second Quarterly Meeting for the Enrollment Committee will be scheduled for Mid-June, 2012

Contact the Quechan Enrollment Office at (760) 572-0752 if you have questions regarding the enrollment application process.



**The 2012 Men's Open
Go Hard or Go Home
\$1500 Winner Take All
Double Emination
Basketball Tournament!**

**Watch Local Teams
Battle It Out For
The ULTIMATE
in BASKETBALL
MASTERY!**



**It All Happens
This Friday & Saturday
April 27th & 28th, 2012 at the
Quechan Community Center!**

Photos Courtesy of Quechan SDPI

KICKBALL Tournament Results!



The Quechan Community Center athletic field was filled with cheering spectators and determined athletes on March 30th, for this year's Quechan Special Diabetes Project Kickball Tournament. The single elimination tournament had nine adult teams show up to do battle, while four youth teams made up of students aged 7 to 12 also came out to show what they're made of.

The teams all showed tremendous creativity in coming up with their names. The adult teams included *Lights Out*, *The Blunders*, *In the Fight*, the *Thundercats*, the *Botswana Pop Stars*, *Team Smash*, *We've Got the Runs* and *Kickballs the Movie*. **Cool Runnings** were the winners for the Adults' Kickball Tournament. They took on and beat three opposing teams to win the Championship.

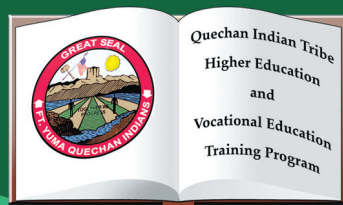
Youth team winners of the kickball contest were **The Jets**, who played against all three of the other teams to take their Championship Trophy. The other student teams were the *Besteez*, the *Kwapa Warriors* and the *Thunderkittens*.



Kids Team Winners, *The Jets* were Deshane Taylor, Angel Fiero, Noah Fiero, Kieran Palone, Angelo Palone, Isaac Pacheco, Stormy Ramirez, Alyssa Koteen and Dresana and Daylen Palone. They won their final game by a score of 14 to 8!



Winners of the Adult Kickball Trophy was the team made up of Drew Sanchez, San Pasqual Track & Field coaches Mr. and Mrs. Sanchez, Jereme Martinez, Reggie Sanchez, Joey Sandoval, Steven Vasquez, Sal Pineda and Brendan Jose.



**Quechan Higher Education
2012 Fall Semester
Grant Application Deadline:**

JUNE 01, 2012

Phone:
(760) 572-5268

Application
Requirements are
Listed On The
Grant
Application

Applications can be picked up at the
Higher Education Office located at:
**628 Picacho Road
Winterhaven, CA 92283**

PUBLIC NOTICE

**A Non-Point Source
Assessment Report and Non-Point
Source Management Plan
have been prepared by the
Quechan Environmental Department.**

These documents identify sources of non-point source pollution on the Fort Yuma Indian Reservation and list best management practices to prevent or reduce these pollution sources.

These documents are available for review and comment at The Quechan Environmental Office throughout the month of April (from April 1-30, 2012, during business hours).