



# QUECHAN NEWS

Volume 109, Issue 03 ♦ Wednesday, March 4, 2015

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# V.P. Resigns; Emilio Escalanti Appointed



Tribal Council member Emilio Escalanti takes the oath for the office of Vice President of the Quechan Tribe, administered by Tribal Court Judge Claudette White on February 3rd. Mr. Escalanti was appointed to the office after Vice President Ronda Aguerro turned in her resignation at the end of January. The office was immediately filled through Council action, in accordance with Article VI, Section 5 of the Constitution of the Quechan Tribe. QUECHAN NEWS Photo by William Isbell

On January 2, 2015 Quechan Tribe Vice President Ronda Aguerro submitted a letter of resignation to the entire Tribal Council which became effective at 5:00 PM on February 2nd, 2015.

Previous family commitments had increased over the past few months, which had reached a point where Ms. Aguerro felt she wouldn't be

able to meet those commitments and fulfill the duties of her office to her full potential. She had decided not to seek a second term as Vice President, so she could dedicate more time to her family's needs.

However, the recent rejection of the election results by the Tribal members at last December's Election Contest meeting moved the end of her

term back beyond the date at which she had hope to be free to meet those family commitments. So – for the good of her family and the Quechan people, she turned in her resignation just after the new year began, to allow someone else to take up the office of Vice President, so that person could meet the full-time responsibilities of the office.

“The resignation as submitted was not acted on immediately due to some discussions with Ms. Aguerro and Council members about the possibility of part-time scheduling, which was not amenable to either party,” according to a statement released by the Council on Friday, February 6. “Therefore, upon completion of her last day, the Vice President's position was vacant.”

The statement goes on to give a description of subsequent events, as the Council took action to fill the now vacant position and install a new Council member, in order to retain a full Tribal Council until the upcoming general election, as set forth in the Tribal Constitution:

“On Tuesday, February 3, 2015 the Tribal Council assembled at 10:00 AM to address filling the vacancy in accordance with the Quechan Indian Tribe Constitution and By-Laws, Article VI Section 5; VACANCIES. That Section states: *“In the event of a vacancy from any cause whatever, it shall be the duty of the Council to assemble immediately and select from the eligible list of candidates from the previous election a person or persons to fill such vacancy, except that where such vacancy shall occur less than thirty days prior to a general election, then such vacancy shall be filled at such general election.”*

In order to fulfill that duty, the Council reviewed the Official Abstract of the last General Election to fill the offices of President and Vice President, which was in May of 2011. Their review determined that Council member Emilio Escalanti had received the second highest number of votes for that office, making him the next eligible candidate in line for the office (see the Official *(Continued on Page 4)*

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**Have A Story To Tell?**  
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# IHS To Begin Construction Of Ft Yuma Health Care Center in 2016



The Fort Yuma Health Care Center is undergoing a review by the architects and engineers who provided the approved design (seen above in an artist's rendering) nearly six years ago. Four local representatives from both the Quechan and Cocopah Tribes are working with the IHS and their contractors to assist them in updating the plans to make sure it meets all the current code requirements. Art Courtesy of Dekker/Perich/Sabatini

After months of repeated requests, the Public Affairs Office at the Indian Health Service (IHS) finally confirmed that the perennially promised and long delayed Fort Yuma Health Center has been included as a line item in the federal budget approved for Fiscal Year 2015.

Internet links to supporting documentation online shows that the Obama administration requested \$85,048,000 for IHS health facility construction this year. A "work statement" provided to both Tribes by the Indian Health Service shows a final design-to amount for the Fort Yuma Health Care Center in Winterhaven, California totals \$29,157,154, which includes one million dollars for on-site renewable energy construction.

In anticipation of the funding being approved, last October the Cocopah and Quechan Tribes joined forces to draft a letter to Rose Weahkee, Acting Director of the Phoenix Area Indian Health Service. The letter informs the IHS that both Tribes intend to remain involved and continue to provide input throughout the construction process.

The letter states that "Both Tribes have met and formed a Fort Yuma Health Care Center Advisory Committee made up of appointed Cocopah and Quechan Tribal Representatives. We feel that this would help our respective Tribal Councils remain informed and exercise our voice in this process. The Tribes have also agreed to hire an on-site Tribal Proj-

ect Manager and appoint this person to the IHS Fort Yuma Health Care Center Leadership Team."

Although the Project Manager has yet to be hired, the Joint Committee has already begun consultations with the architects and engineers responsible for the design approved seven years ago. The 2008 design must be reviewed and updated before construction begins, to insure that it meets new code requirements which have come into effect while the project was delayed. Three Joint Resolutions issued by both the Cocopah and Quechan Tribal Councils last October set up the Committee, appointing two representatives from each Tribe as its members. The committee includes Ed-

mond Dominguez and Carlos Pereyra from the Cocopah Tribe and Emilio Escalanti from the Quechan Tribe as well as the Quechan Tribe's Construction Coordinator, Walt Brooks.

"The Cocopah Tribal Council and the Quechan Tribal Council have a strong and continuing interest in improving the quality of health care provided to its members," reads a joint statement on the project, released last year. "The Cocopah Tribal Council and Quechan Tribal Council, in the exercise of their respective constitutional powers authority, have enacted resolutions strongly supporting funding, design, construction and operation of a replacement Fort Yuma Health Center on the Fort Yuma Reservation. This newly

constructed facility will be the site providing primary health care services to members of the Cocopah, Quechan and other Native Americans. The Cocopah and Quechan Tribes will continue to work together with Indian Health Service to secure the needed funding for this critically important project and ensure quality health care for our members."

Though the federal fiscal year began on October 1st last year, the actual start of construction is not scheduled to begin until next year. The evaluation process is anticipated to continue through November of this year, with the final evaluations due the first week of February, 2016. The construction contract should be awarded the following week.

## *Kwatsáan Iiyáa!*

### Quechan Sentence Structure

*Rain and warm weather will lead to new growth all over the Kwatsáan Reservation. This month, we have a sentence dealing with spring planting:*

**'Amátt katsoovóowənyts tathíts tsavóowəsh.**

*"The farmer planted corn."*

**'amátt.katsoovóow+ny+ts**

*farmer+the+subject*

**tathíts tsavóow+sh**

*corn he.plants+evidential*

Sentence Structure Samples From

***Kwatsáan Iiyáa Mattkuu'éeyk!***

(Learn the Quechan Language!)

**To enroll in a Language Course, call (760) 572-4412**

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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!

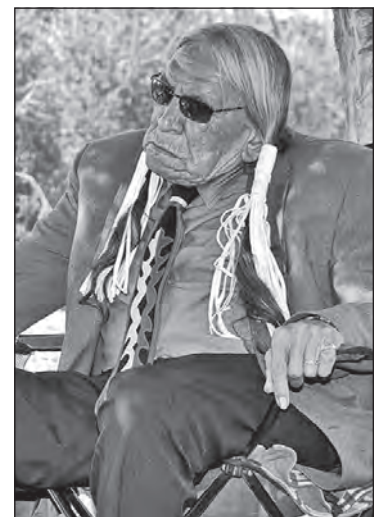
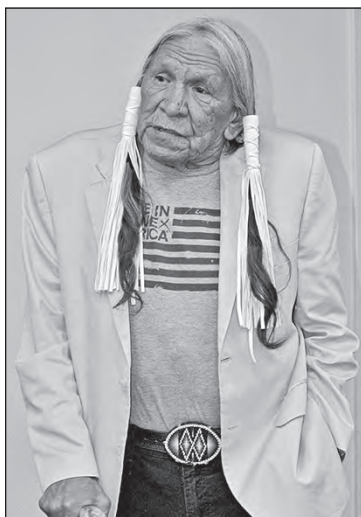
Just call the **Quechan News** office Monday through Friday at (760) 572-3912, or email your stories and story ideas to [w.isbell@quechantribe.com](mailto:w.isbell@quechantribe.com). I'm looking forward to hearing from you!





# Culture & Heritage

## Saginaw Grant Brings A Message On His Visit To Fort Yuma



**Actor Saginaw Grant, who has appeared in over 40 films and television programs in his lifetime,** visited the Quechan Nation for three days in mid-February. He first visited the administration office for about 45 minutes on Friday, February 13, to sign in and get acquainted with the Tribal Council. There, he made an impromptu declaration of his philosophy of life before continuing on to speak with the Quechan Language Program. He then had lunch at the Senior Center, where he was both entertained and mobbed for autographs! Mr. Grant then toured historic sites in Yuma with Manfred Scott and an entourage that included Tina Clark, a historian with the Yuma Territorial Prison State Park. On Saturday, a gathering was held in the Elder Village at Anya Nitz Pak, where various Tribal members were able to spend the day sharing private conversations with our guest. QUECHAN NEWS Photos by William Isbell

Manfred Scott first met Saginaw Grant at the San Diego American Indian Film Festival in November of 2013. After getting to know each other and exchanging addresses, they exchanged information from time-to-time by phone, email and text. Then last year, Mr. Grant asked Manfred how far Parker is from Yuma. He said he was thinking of going there to take in the CRIT Pow Wow (and their Nativisions Film Festival) in late September, and wondered if Manfred might also be there.

Manfred replied, "If you're going to be in Parker, I can go and meet you down there." So after renewing their acquaintance in September, the two had

been talking on a regular basis. Mr. Grant asked more and more questions in those conversations, about the area and the Quechan people. He said he thought he had been through here once before, years ago, to take part in some dances where the Fort Yuma Trailer Village once stood. Manfred asked if he'd like to come back and see the changes that have taken place since then, and Mr. Grant said he'd like to do that.

They soon agreed on a visit which overlapped the Presidents' Day weekend. Manfred then set about putting together a series of activities to help Mr. Grant get to know the Quechan people in person.

He met with the Preservation

of Kwatsáan Way group and the Quechan Language Program, to recruit anyone who wished to share their understanding of local history and Kwatsáan culture. They all agreed that a demonstration of hospitality with food, stories and songs would be the way to go, and the Elder Village at Anya Nitz Pak was chosen as the best place to gather outdoors and show our guest the way things used to be.

As a personal, rather than an official visit, Manfred tried to keep things as low key as possible. But as word got around, volunteers from the Senior Center and the community at large appeared to offer their help in making Mr. Grant feel welcome.

On February 12, Manfred's

wife, Ernestine Noriega drove to Los Angeles with Georgia Hill to pick up Mr. Grant at his home and bring him to Fort Yuma. While he was here, Manfred put him up at the Hilton Garden Inn in downtown Yuma, which allowed him easy access to the reservation and a quiet place where he could gather his thoughts and relax without having to be "on" at night.

On Friday, Mr. Grant (and his Quechan entourage) made the rounds, visiting the Tribal Council Chamber, the Quechan Language Program, the Senior Center and various historic sites both on the reservation and in Yuma. It was at the first stop, while visiting with the Tribal Council, that Mr. Grant first

began to share the message he brought to the Quechan people, which he shared with anyone who was willing to hear it.

"We've got to always be truthful to each other, we've got to always respect each other," he began. "There is a man in Asia, who has two arms, just like me. A man in Europe, with two legs, just like I have. So we must be related, in some way."

"We have different thoughts, and different things that we do, but we're all one people here on Mother Earth. We all know right from wrong . . . or we're supposed to, so we'll sometimes choose the wrong thing. It's not hard to make a choice, we all know what to do, and you'll

*(Continued on Page 5)*



# V.P. Resigns - New Vice President and Council Replacement Sworn In

*Continued from Page 1*

Election Abstracts reprinted to the right on this page).

The May 2011 Abstract was referenced due the fact that the December 2010 General Election was contested and the results vacated by the voters.

The position of Vice President was offered to Council member Emilio Escalanti on the condition that he be appointed only after resigning his position on the Council. He agreed and submitted a resignation, after which the Tribal Council called for a Special Meeting at 5:00 PM that same afternoon in order to swear him in.



**James A. Montague was sworn in** by Tribal Court Judge Claudette White on February 4th. He took the seat on the Council which Emilio Escalanti vacated to accept an appointment as Tribal Vice President until the next scheduled election. Photo Courtesy of Councilman Virgil Smith

(The QIT Constitution and By-Laws, Article II, Section 2: MEETINGS OF THE TRIBAL COUNCIL states “Special meetings of the Council shall also be held upon written request of either four members of the Council or twenty-five adult members of the Tribe, and when such written request is made and filed with the Secretary, President or Vice-President of the Council, the members of the Council shall be ordered to assemble at the specified time.”)

Upon Mr. Escalanti’s resignation, a vacancy was created among the Tribal Council.

The Tribal Council then requested the Official Abstract for the mid-term election of 2012, which was the last election held to seat Council members, in order to fill the Council vacancy.

Even though it was made a top priority for the administrative staff to search for the additional documentation needed to properly fill the vacancy, Tribal Council Secretary Alexis Summerfield wasn’t able to locate a copy of the 2012 Official Abstract until the morning of

Wednesday, February 4, 2015.

The Tribal Council’s review of that Abstract found that Mr. James A. Montague was the next eligible candidate in line from that mid-term election, receiving the next highest total of votes after current Council member Julianna M. Comet.

Mr. Montague was called and informed of the resignations and the vacancy which existed on the Tribal Council, and asked if he would like to return to office to continue serving the Quechan people.

Upon his acceptance, another Special Meeting was called by the Tribal Council for 1:00 PM on Wednesday, February 4, 2015. Mr. Montague was then sworn in as an interim Council member at that meeting.

Two days later, President Keeny Escalanti, Sr. issued a Memorandum to all Tribal Departments, giving a short synopsis of events as they occurred, to keep the Tribal employees up-to-date on recent events.


It read in part: “Mr. (Emilio) Escalanti was offered the position (of Vice President) con-

tingent upon his resignation as a Council member. He was sworn in as Vice President on Tuesday, February 3, 2015 at approximately 5:00 PM.”

“Mr. Escalanti’s resignation and subsequent Vice Presidential appointment created a vacancy in the Council member’s office. On the morning of February 4, 2015, the Tribal Council met and reviewed the Official Abstract of the Mid-term Election held in December, 2012; James Montague was the candidate who received the next highest number of votes for the office of Council members. Mr. Montague was offered the position and he accepted.”


“He was sworn in as a Council member on Wednesday, February 4, 2015 at approximately 1:15 PM. This will be in effect until the next General Election.”

The Tribal Council requested Letters of Interest to form a new Election Board in February, after the 2014 Election Board resigned. Once the new Board is in place, they will take charge in organizing and scheduling the next election.

 <b>QUECHAN INDIAN TRIBE</b> Fort Yuma Indian Reservation ELECTION BOARD P.O. Box 758 Winterhaven, CA 92283 Phone (760) 572-0664	
<b>OFFICIAL ABSTRACT Election May 23, 2011</b>	
Number of Ballots PRINTED:	1500
Number of Ballots UNUSED:	695
Total number of printed Ballots USED:	800
Sample Ballots USED:	5
*Total Number of Ballots ORDERED:	1500
*Note: This total includes All Walk-In Ballots issued, All Absentee Ballots Requested and Sent, All Spoiled Ballots and All Rejected Ballots Full & Partial.	
Number of Walk in Ballots:	645
Number of Absentee Ballots Requested:	159
Number of Absentee Ballots Received:	107
Absentee Ballots Not Received:	52
Number of Spoiled Ballots:	4
Number of Rejected Ballots:	8
<b>Election Results:</b>	
<b>Office of President:</b>	<b>Number of Votes</b>
KEENY ESCALANTI, SR.	368
MICHAEL J. JACKSON, SR.	255
MILTON JEFFERSON, SR.	89
<b>Office of Vice-President:</b>	<b>Number of Votes</b>
RONDA AGUERRO	214
EMILIO ESCALANTI	200
ALTON P. MONTAGUE	110
PRISCILLA J. PRETTYBIRD	30
CRYSSELLE MONTAGUE URIBE	171
<b>Office of TRIBAL COUNCIL:</b>	
ADELINA APAUTY	56
RAMON DUKE BARTON	101
JULIANA COMET	166
GEORGE J. DECORSE	127

The Official Abstract from the May 23, 2011 General Election (seen above) shows Emilio Escalanti as the next in line for the office of Vice President after candidate Ronda Aguerro, who filled the office from June 3, 2011 until her resignation, effective at 5:00 PM on February 2nd, 2015.

In order to fill the seat vacated by Councilman Escalanti when he resigned to accept an interim appointment as Vice President, the Official Abstract from the mid-term Election of December, 2012 was consulted. James A. Montague (as seen below) was next in line for the Council.

 <b>QUECHAN INDIAN TRIBE</b> Fort Yuma Indian Reservation ELECTION BOARD P.O. Box 758 Winterhaven, CA 92283 Phone (760) 572-0664	
<b>OFFICIAL ABSTRACT TRIBAL COUNCIL ELECTION December 03, 2012</b>	
Number of Ballots PRINTED:	1500
Number of Ballots UNUSED:	942
Total number of printed Ballots USED:	558
Sample Ballots USED:	0
*Total Number of Ballots ORDERED:	1500
*Note: This total includes All Walk-In Ballots issued, All Absentee Ballots Requested and Sent, All Spoiled Ballots and All Rejected Ballots Full & Partial.	
Number of Walk in Ballots:	473
Number of Absentee Ballots Requested:	73
Number of Absentee Ballots Received:	46
Absentee Ballots Not Received:	29
Number of Spoiled Ballots:	3
Number of Rejected Ballots:	7
<b>Election Results:</b>	
<b>OFFICE OF TRIBAL COUNCIL:</b>	
WAYNE W. CHAIPOS, JR.	132
JULIANA M. COMET	217
EMILIO ESCALANTI	246
KENRICK ESCALANTI	157
CODY I. HARTT	19
MICHAEL J.V. JACK	242
MILTON JEFFERSON SR.	118
MERRIL D. KELLY	147
CLVIA CYNDEE MILLER	221
MELISSA K. MILLS	79
JAMES MONTAGUE	173
LUCINDA ESCALANTI FOLK	104
SHAWN N. PORTER	65
PRISCILLA J. PRETTYBIRD	68
VIRGIL S. SMITH	272

*Rec'd 02/04/15*

← 5th Place: Now On Council  
 ← 2nd Place: Now On Council  
 ← 3rd Place: Now On Council  
 ← 4th Place: Now On Council  
 ← Next Highest Number of Votes: Asked to Rejoin Council  
 ← 1st Place: Now On Council



# Saginaw Grant Brings A Message With Him

*(Continued from Page 3)*

make the right decisions, where ever you go, and whatever you do, if you have the right heart.”

As he spoke, everyone in the room grew quiet, and strained to hear Saginaw as he continued speaking for the next 30 minutes, telling everyone what he has learned, and the wisdom he has gathered, over a lifetime of travel and experience.

It all comes down to one primary thought: “Always believe in a Creator,” he says. “I wasn’t taught how to pray, I wasn’t taught about the Creator . . . I knew about him. When I saw my

grandmas and grandpas pray, when I was young, they would smile, and I wanted to smile. I still have that today, I still know these things, not because I went to school, or because I went to college (though I did), but I didn’t learn that there.”

Alluding to his time in the Marines, he said that he really knew what his elders were saying after he came back from another country with all his limbs. Pointing to his temple, he said, “I was still wounded, I was wounded up here, in my mind.”

Still, he said, “That was

something I had to experience in life.” And that experience, and all he’s gone through since, have taught him that “We all go through things that we don’t like that will happen in life. But don’t carry them around with you; forget about them. Have a new beginning, every day of your life. Thank the Creator everyday of your life, and be appreciative of everything that happens. We’re all one people, and we’re all related, in different ways.”

As he continued his visit, Mr. Grant passed along the same message at every stop. He made

time to shake hands and get to know everyone who came over to meet him, signing autographs, posing for photos, and asking his own questions all the while, to collect more experiences as he travels through life.

He listened closely as Lorey Cachora shared the history of the Fort Yuma buildings, and he was happy to get up after lunch and join in the dancing at the Senior Center, as Dan and Brian Golding and Xzavier Juan sang traditional songs.

He also sat back down to sign more autographs, holding up

his entourage to fulfill every request before they were off once again to visit the Yuma Territorial Prison and the Sanguinetti House Museum.

Photos from his day at the Elder Village (on page 6) show some of the people who came to see what he had to say. They all shared both a meal and their own experiences with him.

Ernestine and Georgia took him home on Sunday, February 15th, in a car loaded with both gifts from the Quechan people and even more great memories to add to his life’s experiences.

## Quechan Parks and Recreation 2015 Youth & Adult Sports Schedule

Dates Listed Are Tentative: For Information or  
Registration Contact Quechan Parks and Recreation  
**(760) 572-1242**

REGISTRATION DATES	STARTING DATES	SPORTS ACTIVITIES
February 2 - February 27, 2015	March 2, 2015	Grasshopper Co-Ed Basketball (3rd, 4th, 5th grade)
January 5 - February 27, 2015	March 6 - 7, 2015	\$1,000 Men’s All Indian Basketball Tournament
February 9 - March 6, 2015	March 9, 2015	Adult Co-Ed Volleyball League
February 9 - March 13, 2015	March 14, 2015	Adult Horseshoe Tournament
April 11, 2015	April 11, 2015	Head Start - 2nd Grade T-Ball
February 2 - April 3, 2015	April 10 - 11, 2015	Spring Jam Co-Ed Jr. High Basketball Tournament
February 9 - April 10, 2015	April 17 - 18, 2015	Spring Shootout Boys & Girls Div. High School Basketball Tournament
March 2 - May 1, 2015	May 8 - 9, 2015	\$1,000 Men’s Open Basketball Tournament
March 30 - May 22, 2015	May 25, 2015	Co-Ed Jr. High Basketball League (6th, 7th & 8th Grade)
March 30 - May 22, 2015	May 25, 2015	Co-Ed High School Basketball League (9th - 12th Grade)
May 11 - June 19, 2015	June 22, 2015	Co-Ed Dodgeball League (3rd, 4th & 5th Grade)
May 11 - June 19, 2015	June 22, 2015	Co-Ed Jr. High Dodgeball League (6th, 7th & 8th Grade)
July 11, 2015	July 11, 2015	Head Start - 2nd Grade Soccer
TBD	TBD	Summer Sports Camp
May 11 - July 10, 2015	July 17 - 18 2015	8 - 10 Year Old Co-Ed Basketball Tournament
June 29 - July 31, 2015	August 3, 2015	Men’s Basketball League
June 29 - August 28, 2015	September 4 - 5, 2015	\$1,000 Women’s Basketball Tournament
August 3 - September 11, 2015	September 14, 2015	Co-Ed Grasshopper Flag League (3rd, 4th, & 5th Grade)
August 3 - September 11, 2015	September 14, 2015	Co-Ed Jr. High Volleyball League (6th, 7th, & 8th Grade)
August 3 - October 2, 2015	October 9 - 10, 2015	\$1,000 Men’s Over the NDN Hill 45+ Basketball Tournament
September 7 - October 16, 2015	October 19, 2015	Adult Co-Ed Softball League
September 14 - October 16, 2015	October 19, 2015	Co-Ed Grasshopper Soccer (3rd, 4th, & 5th Grade)
September 14 - October 16, 2015	October 19, 2015	Co-Ed Jr. High Soccer (6th, 7th, & 8th Grade)





Lorey Cachora stands in the center of a singing circle at the Elder Village (above), giving a short talk on the Kwatsáan Way as it has been passed down for generations. When he was done, the Lightning Singers came forward to begin their part of the program.



# The Quechan Tribe Gathers To Welcome Saginaw Grant

The official welcome in the Tribal Council Chamber on Friday included handshakes and greetings with everyone in the room, including Quechan Tribal President Keeny Escalanti, Sr. (seen at left) and members of the Preservation of the Kwatsáan Way, such as Phyllis Jones and Gloria McGee, seen at right. That's Tribal Councilman Michael Jack, watching from the dais in the background!



Brian and Dan Golding and Xzavier Juan were on hand to provide bird songs during the Senior Center lunch. Mr. Grant and his host, Manfred Scott both got up to join the singers and dancers during the last few songs that day.



After lunch on Friday, members of the Preservation of Quechan Ways group joined Saginaw Grant and Mr. Scott to tour the Yuma Territorial Prison and other historic sites. Here, they view the East Wetlands area from Prison Hill.



The ladies with Preservation of Quechan Ways made a huge pot of stew, loads of fry bread, corn on the cob and other traditional foods, fixing both breakfast and lunch during the day long gathering for Mr. Grant at the Elder Village.



Most of the activity at the Elder Village took place under the large ramada near the mud hut, where lectures on Quechan history were mixed with songs, stories and laughs, before lunch was ready and everyone prepared to eat.



Manfred Scott also told everyone about his trips with the Cultural Committee to visit archaeological sites at the Yuma Proving Grounds and the need to preserve the delicate cultural artifacts which seem to be all around us.



Dozens of people came out to share their thoughts and enjoy each others company at the Elder Village. Here, the guest of honor enjoys a hot, wholesome meal before an afternoon of shared songs and history in the singing circle.



GREAT SEAL  
  
 ETSKA NAV AH PAI SPECIAL INSERT

# QUECHAN NEWS

Special Legislative Insert for March, 2015 ♦ Page 1

*Editor's note:*

This special insert contains the complete text of two items of legislation under consideration by the Quechan Tribal Council, covering leasehold mortgage lending as a means to fund new housing construction and setting the prevailing wages for certain job titles connected to construction funded by HUD on the Fort Yuma Indian Reservation. Tables listing the prevailing wages as set by the second item are also included on page 7.

These new ordinances represent the end product of many months of effort by the Quechan Housing Board and the Quechan Legislative Committee. Both groups have worked together at the direction of the Quechan Tribal Council, to develop new laws that would provide a new source of funding to construct up to five new homes in the Mesquite Subdivision on a "test case" basis, which would lower labor costs for construction and make more HUD funds available for additional projects. These ordinances were presented to the Tribal Council at their work session meeting on January 29, 2015. At that time, the Tribal Council directed that the ordinances be presented here for consideration by the complete Tribal membership.

Tribal members may submit their written comments or concerns to the Tribal Council Secretary by 5:00 pm, Friday, March 20, 2015. The Tribal Council plans to consider formal approval of these laws by the time of their Regular Meeting in April 2015.

## MORTGAGE LENDING ORDINANCE OF THE QUECHAN TRIBE

### CHAPTER 1. GENERAL PROVISIONS.

#### Section 101. Purpose

This Ordinance sets forth procedures and rules governing lien priorities, mortgages, foreclosures, and evictions relating to mortgage loan guarantees, insured loans, and direct loan programs sponsored or given by the United States Department of Housing and Urban Development, including, without limitation, guarantees under Section 184 of the Housing and Community Development Act of 1992, P.L. 102 550; as amended by the Native American Housing and Self Determination Act of 1996, P.L. 104 330. designed to provide homeownership opportunities to Members of the Quechan Tribe on the Fort Yuma Indian Reservation.

#### Section 102. Definitions

For purposes of this Ordinance, the following terms shall have the meanings indicated:

1. BIA – The United States Department of the Interior, Bureau of Indian Affairs.
2. HUD – The United States Department of Housing and Urban Development.
3. Lease – The residential ground lease or other agreement for use of Trust Land (defined below) between the Tribe, as lessor, and a Member of the Tribe, as Lessee.

4. Leasehold Estate – The property and improvements subject to a Lease.

5. Leasehold Interest – The interest of a Lessee (defined below) in the Leasehold Estate.

6. Lessee – The person who leases a property from its owner (the Lessor).

7. Member(s) – One or more enrolled members of the Tribe.

8. Mortgage – A security interest in the Leasehold Interest given by the Leasehold Interest holder to secure a Note.

9. Mortgagee – Lender approved by the Tribe to make and hold a Mortgage and its successors and assigns.

10. Mortgagor – A Lessee who has executed a Mortgage on his or her Leasehold Interest and its successors and assigns.

11. Note – A promissory note executed by a Member in favor of a Lender - Mortgagee.

12. Perfected Lien – A security interest in the collateral that is filed with the Recording Clerk and is used to secure the performance of a debt that is protected from third-party claims.

13. Quechan Housing Authority – also known as the Quechan Tribally-Designated Housing Entity, an approved lender and Mortgagee under this Ordinance.

14. Recording Clerk – The person designated by the Tribe to perform the recording functions required by this Ordinance or any deputy or designee of such person.

15. Subordinate Lienholder – The holder of any lien, including any security interest in a Leasehold Interest, perfected subsequent to the recording of a Mortgage under this Ordinance.

16. Tribal Court – The Quechan Tribal Court established by the laws of the Tribe.

17. Tribe or Tribal – The Quechan Indian Tribe of the Fort Yuma Indian Reservation of Arizona and California.

18. Trust Land – Land to which title is held by the United States or any state for the benefit of the Tribe or a Member or Members or that is subject to restrictions against alienation imposed by federal treaty, statute, executive order, or the Tribe.

19. Unlawful Detainer – The act of retaining possession of property without legal right. Also, a legal action to evict one whose original entry or possession was lawful that involves properly terminating the tenancy before going to court and seeking possession of the property, unpaid rent, and/or damages. Also known as an eviction lawsuit.

#### Section 103. Recording of Mortgage Loan Documents

1. There is hereby established the Office of the Quechan Tribal Recording Clerk who shall be



**MORTGAGE LENDING ORDINANCE OF THE QUECHAN TRIBE**

responsible for recording and maintaining records of all Mortgage loan documents subject to recording under this Ordinance or other applicable law.

2. The Tribal Recording Clerk shall maintain a system for the recording of Mortgage loan documents as the Tribe may designate by laws or resolution.

3. The Tribal Recording Clerk shall endorse upon all Mortgage loan documents and other documents received for recording:

(a) The date and time of receipt of the Mortgage or other document;

(b) The filing number, to be assigned by the Tribal Recording Clerk, which shall be a unique number for each Mortgage or other document received and;

(c) The name of the Tribal Recording Clerk or designee receiving the Mortgage or document.

Upon completion of the above-cited endorsements, the Tribal Recording Clerk shall make a true and correct copy of the Mortgage or other document and shall certify the copy as follows:

Quechan Tribe of the Fort  
Yuma Indian Reservation )  
 )ss.  
 )

I certify that this is a true and correct copy of a document received for recording this date.  
Given under my hand and seal this \_\_\_ day of \_\_\_ .

(SEAL) \_\_\_\_\_  
Quechan Tribal Recording Clerk (Signature)  
\_\_\_\_\_  
(Date)

The Tribal Recording Clerk shall maintain the copy in the records of the recording system and shall return the original of the Mortgage loan documents to the person or entity that presented the same for recording.

4. The Tribal Recording Clerk shall also maintain a log of each Mortgage loan document recorded in which there shall be entered:

(a) The name(s) of the Mortgagor of each Mortgage loan identified as such;

(b) The name(s) of the Mortgagee of each Mortgage loan identified as such;

(c) The name(s) of the grantor(s), grantee(s) or other designation of each party named in any other documents filed or recorded;

(d) The date and time of the receipt;

(e) The filing number assigned by the Tribal Recording Clerk; and

(f) The name of the Tribal Recording Clerk or designee receiving the Mortgage loan documents.

5. The certified copies of the Mortgage loan documents and the log maintained by the Tribal Recording Clerk shall be made available for public inspection and copying. Rules for copying shall be established and disseminated by the Tribal Recording Clerk.

6. In addition to recording with the Tribal Recording Clerk, all Mortgage loan documents will be recorded with the Bureau of Indian Affairs, Fort Yuma Agency and Western Regional Office, Land Title and Records Office.

**Section 104. Lien Priority**

All Mortgage loans recorded in accordance with the recording procedures set forth in this Ordinance, including Leasehold Mortgages, and including loans made, guaranteed, insured or held by a governmental agency, shall have priority over any lien not perfected at the time of such recording and any subsequent lien or claim excepting a lien or claim arising from a Tribal leasehold tax assessed after the recording of the Mortgage. (In those cases where the government direct, guaranteed or insured Mortgage is created as a second Mortgage, the loan shall assume that position.)

**Section 105. Foreclosure Procedures**

1. A Mortgagor shall be considered to be in default when he or she is thirty (30) days past due on his or her Mortgage payment(s) or is in violation of any material covenant under the Mortgage for more than 30 days to the Mortgagee (i.e. the 31st day from the payment due date).

2. When a Mortgagor is thirty days past due on his or her Mortgage and before any foreclosure action or activity is initiated, the Mortgagee shall complete

the following in no less than fifteen (15) days, but no more than forty-five (45) days:

(a) Make a reasonable effort to arrange a face-to-face interview with the Mortgagor. This shall include at least one trip to meet with the Mortgagor at the mortgaged property.

(b) Mortgagee shall document that it has made at least two phone calls to the Mortgagor at his or her last known phone number(s) or to a phone number designated by the Mortgagor that is able to receive and relay messages to the Mortgagor for the purpose of arranging a face-to-face interview.

3. Mortgagee may appoint an agent to perform the services of arranging and conducting the face-to-face interview specified in this action.

4. When the Mortgagor is past due on three (3) installment payments and at least ten (10) days before initiating a foreclosure action in Tribal Court, the Lender shall advise the Mortgagor in writing by mail, or by posting written advice prominently on the Leasehold premises, with a copy provided to the Tribal Recording Clerk, as follows:

(a) Advise the Mortgagor that information regarding the loan and default/delinquency will be given to credit bureaus.

(b) Advise the Mortgagor of homeownership counseling opportunities/programs available through the Lender or otherwise.

(c) Advise the Mortgagor of other available assistance regarding the Mortgage/default.

(d) In addition to the preceding notification requirements, the Mortgagee shall complete the following additional notice requirements: (i) notify the Mortgagor that if the Leasehold Mortgage remains past due on three installment payments, the Mortgagee may ask the applicable governmental agency to accept assignment of the Leasehold Mortgage if this is an option under the applicable governmental program; (ii) notify the Mortgagor of the qualifications for forbearance relief from the Mortgagee, if any, and that forbearance relief may be available from the government; and (iii) provide the Mortgagor with the names and addresses of government officials to whom further communications may be addressed, if any.

5. If a Mortgagor is past due on three or more in-



**MORTGAGE LENDING ORDINANCE OF THE QUECHAN TRIBE**

stallment payments and the Mortgagee has complied with the procedures set forth in the first part of this Section, the Mortgagee may commence a foreclosure proceeding in the Tribal Court by filing a verified complaint as set forth in Section 106 of this Ordinance.

**Section 106. Foreclosure Complaint and Summons**

1. The verified Complaint in a Mortgage foreclosure proceeding shall include the following:

(a) The name of the Mortgagor and each person or entity claiming through the Mortgagor subsequent to the recording of the Mortgage loan, including each Subordinate Lienholder, if any, (except the Tribe with respect to a claim relating to a Tribal leasehold), as a defendant;

(b) The legal description of the property subject to the Mortgage loan;

(c) A concise statement of the facts concerning the execution of the Mortgage loan, (and Leasehold Mortgage, if one exists) the facts concerning the recording of the Mortgage loan or the Leasehold Mortgage, the facts concerning the alleged default(s) of the Mortgagor, and such other facts as may be necessary to constitute a cause of action;

(d) True and correct copies of each promissory note, Mortgage, deed or trust or other recorded real property security instrument (each a “security instrument”) and any other documents relating to the property, and if a leasehold Mortgage, a copy of the Lease, and any assignment of any of these documents; and

(e) Any applicable allegations concerning relevant requirements and conditions prescribed in (i) federal statutes and regulations, (ii) Tribal codes, ordinances and regulations, and/or (iii) provisions of the promissory note, security instrument and, if a leasehold Mortgage, the Lease.

2. The complaint shall be verified by the Tribal Court Clerk along with a summons specifying a date and time of appearance for the Defendant(s).

**Section 107. Service of Process and Procedures.**

A foreclosure complaint must be in writing, signed by the Mortgagee or an authorized agent or attorney of the Mortgagee and must be served upon the Mortgagor, along with the summons, in the follow-

ing manner:

1. Service must be made by an adult person eighteen (18) years of age or older who is not a party to the action and is effective when it is:

(a) Personally delivered to a Mortgagor with a copy sent by certified U.S. Postal Service mail, return receipt requested.

(b) Personally delivered to an adult person eighteen (18) years of age and older residing on the property, with a copy sent by certified U.S. Postal Service mail, return receipt requested.

2. If the summons and complaint cannot be served by personal delivery as set forth in Section 106(1) above, or the Mortgagor cannot be found, the summons and complaint may be delivered by:

(a) Certified U.S. Postal Service mail, return receipt requested, to the last known address of the Mortgagor, and by

(b) Securely attaching a copy of the summons and complaint to the main entry door of the property in such a manner that it is not likely to blow away or be rendered illegible by weather, and by posting a copy of the summons and complaint in a public place on the Reservation and near the premises, including a Tribal office, public store, or other commonly-frequented public place, and by mailing a copy by first class U.S. Postal Service mail, postage prepaid, addressed to the Mortgagor at the premises,

3. The person serving the summons and complaint must keep a copy of the summons and complaint, and proof of service in accordance with this Section, by affidavit or other manner recognized by Tribal law.

**Section 108. Cure of Default**

1. Prior to the entry of a judgment of foreclosure, any Mortgagor or a Subordinate Lienholder may cure the default(s) under the Mortgage by making full payment of the delinquency to the Mortgagee and all reasonable legal and court costs incurred by the Mortgagee in foreclosing on the property. Any Subordinate Lienholder who has cured a default shall have included in its lien the amount of all payments made by such Subordinate Lienholder to cure the default(s), plus interest on such amount at the rate stated in the note for the Mortgage.

2. There shall be no right of redemption in any

leasehold Mortgage foreclosure proceeding,

**Section 109. Judgment and Remedy**

This matter shall be heard and decided by the Tribal Court in a prompt and reasonable time period not to exceed sixty (60) days from the effective date of service of the summons and complaint on the Mortgagor. If the alleged default has not been cured by the time of trial and the Tribal Court finds for the Mortgagee, the Tribal Court shall enter judgment:

1. Foreclosing the interest of the Mortgagor and each other Defendant, including Subordinate Lienholder, in the mortgaged property and

2. Granting title to the property to the Mortgagee or designated assignee; in the case of a leasehold Mortgage, the Lease and the Leasehold Estate will be assigned to the Mortgagee or the lender’s designated assignee, subject to the following provisions:

(a) The lender shall give the Tribe the right of first refusal on any reasonably acceptable offer to purchase the Mortgagor’s Leasehold Interest in the property described in the Lease and all improvements thereon. The Tribe’s right of first refusal may be transferred and assigned to the Quechan Housing Authority without the approval or comment of the Mortgagee.

(b) The Lender or Lender’s Designated Assignee may only transfer, sell or assign the Lease and Lessee’s Leasehold Interest in the property described in the Lease to a Member of the Tribe, the Tribe, or the Quechan Housing Authority;

(c) The Mortgagee has the right to convey the Leasehold Interest to the Secretary of HUD without providing the right of first refusal to the Tribe for Section 184 HUD insured loans.

**Section 110. Foreclosure Evictions**

Foreclosure evictions shall be handled according to the general eviction process set forth below.

**1. Jurisdiction.** The provisions of this section 110 shall apply to all persons and property subject to the civil jurisdiction of the Quechan Tribe and the Quechan Tribal Court under the Tribal Constitution, Tribal Code, and applicable federal law.

**2. Unlawful Detainer.** A Lessee, Sublessee, or other occupant of a Leasehold Estate subject to a Leasehold Mortgage shall be guilty of Unlawful Detainer if such person shall continue to occupy such Lease-



**MORTGAGE LENDING ORDINANCE OF THE QUECHAN TRIBE**

hold Estate without the requirement of any notice by the Lessor, after such person's Leasehold Estate has been foreclosed in a Leasehold Mortgage foreclosure proceeding in the Tribal Court;

**3. Complaint and Summons.** The Mortgagee or federal agency that made, guaranteed or insured a Mortgage loan, shall commence an action for Unlawful Detainer by filing with the Tribal Court, in writing, the following documents:

(a) A complaint, signed by the lender or applicable federal agency, or an agent or attorney on their behalf;

(i) Citing facts alleging jurisdiction of the Tribal Court;

(ii) Naming as defendants the mortgagors and any other record owner (including Sublessees and Subordinate Lienholders), of which the complainant has record notice (except the Tribe with respect to a claim for a Tribal tax on the Leasehold Estate subject to the Leasehold Mortgage);

(iii) Describing the Leasehold Estate subject to the Leasehold Mortgage;

(iv) Stating the facts concerning (1) the execution of the Lease and the Leasehold Mortgage; (2) the recording of the Leasehold Mortgage; and (3) the facts upon which he or she seeks to recover;

(v) Stating any claim for damages or compensation due from the persons to be evicted; and

(vi) Otherwise satisfying the requirements of the Tribal Court.

(b) A copy of the summons, issued in accordance with established Tribal Court rules and procedures, requiring the defendants to file a response to the complaint by the date specified in the summons. The deadline specified in the summons for filing a response shall be no less than ten (10) nor more than thirty (30) calendar days from the date of service of the summons and complaint. The summons shall notify the defendant(s) that default judgment will be taken against them in accordance with the terms of the complaint unless the defendants file a response with the court by the date specified in the summons.

**4. Service of Summons and Complaint.** A copy

of the summons and complaint shall be served upon the defendants in the manner provided by the Tribal Court rules for service of process in civil matters. In the alternative, the summons and complaint may be served by one of the following two methods described in Subsection 5 below.

**5. Alternative Procedures for Service of Summons and Complaint.** Service of the Summons and Complaint may be made either by:

(a) delivering a copy of the Summons and Complaint personally to the Lessee/Sublessee or to any adult person eighteen (18) years of age and older residing on the Leasehold Estate; or

(b) posting a copy of the Summons and Complaint in a conspicuous place near the entrance to the Leasehold Estate, and mailing an additional copy to the Lessee/Sublessee or to any other lawful occupant by certified mail, return receipt requested, properly addressed to the Leasehold Estate, postage paid.

**6. Proof of Service.** Proof of service may be made in any manner provided for by the Tribal Court rules for proof of service or by affidavit of a person eighteen (18) years of age and older stating that he/she has complied with the requirements of one of the above methods of service.

**7. Certified Mailing to Tribe.** In any foreclosure proceeding on a Leasehold Mortgage where the Tribe is not named as a defendant, a copy of the summons and complaint shall be mailed to the Tribal Recording Clerk by certified mail, return receipt requested, within five (5) days after the issuance of the summons. If the Lessor is not the Tribe, such notice shall also be mailed to the Lessor at the same time the notice is mailed to the Tribal Recording Clerk. If the location of the Lessor cannot be ascertained after reasonable inquiry, a copy of the summons and complaint shall be mailed to the Lessor in care of the Superintendent of the Fort Yuma Agency of the Bureau of Indian Affairs.

**8. Power of the Tribal Court.** The Tribal Court shall enter an Order of Eviction and Repossession if:

(a) Notice of suit was given by service of summons and complaint in accordance with the procedures provided herein; and

(b) The Tribal Court shall find during pre-trial proceedings or at trial that the Lessee, Sublessee, or other lawful occupant of the Leasehold

Estate subject to the Leasehold Mortgage is guilty of an act of Unlawful Detainer.

Upon issuance of an Order of Repossession, the Tribal Court shall have the authority to enter a judgment against the defendants for the following, as appropriate: (1) back rent, unpaid utilities, and any charges due the Tribe, the Quechan Housing Authority, or Sublessor; (2) any and all amounts secured by the Leasehold Mortgage that are due the Lender (or Federal Agency as Lender); and (3) damages to the property caused by the defendants other than ordinary wear and tear. The Tribal Court shall have the authority to award to the prevailing party its costs and reasonable attorneys' fees in bringing suit.

**9. Enforcement.** Upon issuance of an Order of Repossession by the Tribal Court, Tribal law enforcement officers shall assist the plaintiffs as necessary in enforcing the Order by removing the defendants and their property from the Leasehold Estate. In all cases involving the lender or Federal Agency, the Order of Repossession shall be enforced no later than forty-five (45) days following a final Order of Repossession subject to Section 113 below, provided, that no person has exercised their right to cure a default or their right of first refusal under Sections 108 and 109 above.

**Section 111. No Merger of Estates**

There shall be no merger of estates by reason of the execution of a Lease or a Leasehold Mortgage of the assignment or assumption of the same, including an assignment adjudged by the Tribal Court or by operation of law, except as such merger may arise upon satisfaction of the Leasehold Mortgage.

**Section 112. Intervention**

The Tribe may petition the Tribal Court to intervene in any Leasehold Mortgage foreclosure proceeding under this Ordinance. Neither the filing of a petition for intervention by the Tribe nor the granting of such petition by the Tribal Court shall operate as a waiver of the sovereign immunity of the Tribe, except as may be expressly authorized and consented to by the Tribe.

**Section 113. Appeals**

Appeals under this Code shall be taken in accordance with the civil appeal provisions of the Quechan Law and Order Code.

- END -



**TRIBALLY DETERMINED PREVAILING WAGE ORDINANCE OF THE QUECHAN INDIAN TRIBE**

**TRIBALLY DETERMINED PREVAILING WAGE ORDINANCE OF THE QUECHAN INDIAN TRIBE**

The Quechan Indian Tribe of the Fort Yuma Indian Reservation, pursuant to its Constitution and By-Laws, hereby adopts this Ordinance to be known as the “Tribally Determined Prevailing Wage Ordinance of the Quechan Indian Tribe” (hereafter the “Quechan Prevailing Wage Ordinance” or “Ordinance”). This Ordinance is enacted pursuant to 25 U.S.C. § 4114 (b)(3) and other applicable federal law to supersede the Davis Bacon Act and Related Acts where applicable. Those areas not addressed by the Ordinance, are governed by the Department of Labor regulations pertaining to Davis Bacon and Related Acts. This Ordinance applies to projects funded under the Native American Housing Assistance and Self-Determination Act, and such other federal laws enacted now or in the future that recognize tribally determined prevailing wages.

**SECTION ONE**

**§1.00. Definitions**

For purposes of this Ordinance, the following terms shall have the following meaning:

**§1.01. “Acts”** means the Native American Housing Assistance and Self-Determination Act of 1996, as amended, Pub. L. 104-330, 25 U.S.C. § 4101 et seq and such other federal laws enacted now or in the future that recognize tribally determined prevailing wages.

**§1.02. “Agreement”** means any contract or agreement entered into by the Housing Authority under any federally funded or assisted contract pursuant to any of the Acts, as defined above, for the construction, alteration, repair or maintenance of public housing projects or other public works.

**§1.03. “Employer”** means any contractor, subcontractor, or person who hires or retains an Employee, as defined below, pursuant to an Agreement under any of the Acts.

**§1.04. “Employee”** means all on site laborers and mechanics employed in the development, and any maintenance laborers and mechanics employed in the operation, of an affordable housing or any other projects funded under any of the Acts. The term “Employee” shall not include any person who is an exempt person under any of the Acts, including any bona fide

supervisory employee such as a supervisor or superintendent on a project to which this Ordinance applies.

**§1.05. “Prevailing Wage”** means the tribally determined prevailing wage established pursuant to this Ordinance on the Tribe’s Reservation and surrounding areas within the states of California and Arizona for each Job Classification listed in §2.02. The Prevailing Wage requirements under this Ordinance shall be included in all Agreements for the development and the operation of affordable housing projects and services of the Housing Authority funded under the Act.

**§ 1.06. “Housing Authority”** means the Quechan Housing Authority, also known as the Quechan Tribal Designated Housing Entity.

**§1.07. “Tribe”** means the Quechan Tribe of the Fort Yuma Indian Reservation, California and Arizona.

**SECTION TWO**

**§2.00. Prevailing Wage Required, Classifications and Determination**

**§2.01. Payment Required in Agreements.** Any Agreement covered by this Ordinance including any Agreement with the Housing Authority shall include a provision requiring that not less than the Prevailing Wage as established by this Ordinance shall be paid to all Employees covered under any of the Acts.

**§2.02. Job Classifications:** For purposes of this Ordinance, the job classifications listed in Exhibit 1 hereto are established. These job classifications also include apprentice trainees. The Prevailing Wage for each of these classifications shall be determined as set forth in Section 2.03 below.

**§2.03. Periodic Determination of Prevailing Wage.** At least every two years, the Housing Authority shall arrange for a wage survey to be conducted to determine the Prevailing Wage to be applied under this Ordinance.

a. The Housing Authority shall obtain wage rates from all available sources on the Reservation and surrounding areas within the states of California and/or Arizona for each class of profession or trade included in the survey and shall establish the Prevailing

Wage at no less than the average wage paid to each class of profession or trade. The survey shall also include the classifications for trainee in all trades.

b. The Housing Authority reserves the right to use the Arizona Department of Labor Prevailing Wage (Davis Bacon Act) in part or its entirety to establish the Tribe’s Prevailing Wage.

c. The Housing Authority shall retain for three years the names and addresses, phone numbers, URLs, etcetera, of all sources contacted and the wage rates reported by each source. Wage rates shall include salary but not benefits paid to or on behalf of the employees.

d. The results of the wage survey and the Prevailing Wage shall be included in a Schedule of Prevailing Wage, which shall list each covered class of profession or trade and the hourly rate for each and the effective dates of the schedule.

e. In the years the Housing Authority does not conduct a survey, the Prevailing Wage rates shall be adjusted according to the published change in the Cost of Living index for the Reservation area determined by the U.S. Department of Labor.

**SECTION THREE**

**§3.00. Employer Requirements**

**§3.01. Payment of Prevailing Wage and Records.** Payment of prevailing wage, as established under this Ordinance, shall be paid by each Employer performing work under an Agreement. All Employers shall maintain payroll records reporting the hourly rates paid to each employee. The payroll records shall be available to the Housing Authority for review and copying during regular business office hours of the Employer. Employees shall have access to review and copy his or her payroll record during regular business office hours of the Employer.

**§3.02. Schedule to be Provided.** The Housing Authority shall provide every Employer at the time bids or proposals are solicited with a copy of the current Schedule of Prevailing Wage.

**§3.03. Posting of Wage Schedules.** At all times



**TRIBALLY DETERMINED PREVAILING WAGE ORDINANCE  
OF THE QUECHAN INDIAN TRIBE**

while performing under an Agreement, each Employer shall post at the job site and in its principal office a copy of the current Schedule of Prevailing Wage.

**§3.04. Payroll Summary to be Provided.** Before final payment is approved under an Agreement, each Employer shall provide a complete payroll summary with its final pay request. The summary shall list all Employees who were employed under the Agreement, including the hourly rate paid and total hours worked for each Employee.

**SECTION FOUR**

**§4.00. Non Compliance.**

**§4.01.** Each Agreement shall include a provision that requires any Employer who fails to pay the applicable prevailing wage under Section 2.01 to pay to such Employee an amount equal to the Prevailing Wage required under Section 2.01 less any wage actually paid by the Employer to the Employee, plus 10% on any underpayment.

**§4.02.** Each Agreement shall include a fine of \$500 per day, to be paid to the Housing Authority, for each day an Employer fails to maintain or allow the Housing Authority or its designee to inspect payroll records as required by this Ordinance or who fails to provide a copy of such record upon request.

**§4.03.** Each Agreement shall include a provision that imposes a fine on the Employer of \$500 per day to be paid to the Housing Authority for each day an Employer fails to pay the Prevailing Wage.

**§4.04.** Each Agreement shall include a provision that the Housing Authority may withhold portions of final payment in satisfaction of any fines imposed under this Section.

**§4.05.** Each Agreement shall provide that the Housing Authority or any adversely affected Employee may bring an action in any court of competent jurisdiction against any Employer to recover the Prevailing Wage required under this Ordinance, plus fines and interest at the maximum rate allowed by law. In any such action the Housing Authority or the affected Employee shall be entitled to recover from the

Employer reasonable attorney's fees and other costs of suit.

**SECTION FIVE**

**§ 5.00.** Nothing in this Ordinance shall be constructed as a waiver of sovereign immunity of the Quechan Indian Tribe or the Quechan Housing Authority or any official, officer, employee or agent thereof.

**SECTION SIX**

**§ 6.00.** This Ordinance shall become effective immediately upon adoption by the Quechan Tribal Council.

**CERTIFICATION**

The foregoing ordinance was presented at a \_\_\_\_\_ meeting of the Quechan Tribal Council which convened on \_\_\_\_\_, duly approved by a vote of \_\_\_\_\_ for, \_\_\_\_\_ against, \_\_\_\_\_ abstained, \_\_\_\_\_ absent by the Tribal Council of the Quechan Indian Tribe, pursuant to the authority vested in it by Section 16 of the Re Organization Act Of June 18, 1934 (48 STAT. 948) as amended by the Act Of June 15, 1935 (49 STAT. 378) and Article IV, of the Quechan Tribal Constitution And Bylaws.

QUECHAN INDIAN TRIBE

\_\_\_\_\_  
KEENY ESCALANTI, SR., PRESIDENT

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

TRIBAL SECRETARY

\_\_\_\_\_  
ALEXIS SUMMERFIELD, SECRETARY  
QUECHAN TRIBAL COUNCIL

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

*(Prevailing Wage Schedules for Specific Job Titles for the Construction Trades and Heavy Equipment Operators may be found listed on Page 7)*

***New Election Board  
Appointed by  
Tribal Council***



The new Election Board is seen here taking their oaths of office administered by Tribal Court Judge Claudette White. From left are clerks Cristoble Emerson and Rosaline Chaipos, marshal Malissa Chaipos, alternate clerks Merdine Dunsweiler and Olivia Jose, and Election Judge Ramona Rodriguez. QUECHAN NEWS Photo by William Isbell

The Quechan Tribal Council held a series of special meetings between Thursday, February 12th and Monday, February 23rd, to review, discuss and consider Letters of Interest which adult Tribal members delivered to the Tribal Council Secretary, expressing their intentions and qualifications for positions on the Election Board.

Some of those expressing an interest are current employees of the Tribe. So, the Council also spoke to their Supervisors and Managers, to be sure that those applying for an appointment to the Board would be able to take a leave-of-absence or make other arrangements, to be sure any employees receiving an appointment could meet the schedule and workload required in preparing for a new General Election.

The new Board (appointed by Resolutions approved on February 17th, 18th and the 23rd) includes: Judge Ramona Rodriguez and Marshal Malissa Chaipos. The Election Board Clerks are now Rosaline Chaipos and Cristoble Emerson, with the Primary Alternate Clerk being Olivia Jose and the Secondary Alternate Clerk, Merdine Dunsweiler.

Once the members of the new Election Board were approved and appointed, the February 23rd Special Meeting continued with Tribal Court Judge Claudette White administering the oath of office to the entire Board before the Tribal Council.

Providing they all complete the background check process, the terms for the first four positions will expire in February, 2016, while the terms of the Alternate Clerks expire at the close of the upcoming general election. One of the first duties of the Quechan Election Board will be to determine the date for the election and setting the timeline to follow. Check the next issue of *Quechan News* for further information.



**TRIBALLY DETERMINED PREVAILING WAGE SCHEDULE OF THE QUECHAN INDIAN TRIBE**

QUECHAN TRIBE OF THE FORT YUMA INDIAN RESERVATION TRIBALLY DETERMINED PREVAILING WAGE SCHEDULE [APPROVAL DATE]			QUECHAN TRIBE OF THE FORT YUMA INDIAN RESERVATION TRIBALLY DETERMINED PREVAILING WAGE SCHEDULE [APPROVAL DATE]		
TRADE	JOB <sup>1</sup> CLASSIFICATION	Quechan Tribe Prevailing Wage <sup>2</sup>	TRADE	JOB <sup>1</sup> CLASSIFICATION	Quechan Tribe Prevailing Wage <sup>2</sup>
Construction			Construction		
	Bricklayer/ Marble setter	\$22.75		Painter	\$13.31
	Carpenter (including scaffold Setting & soft floor installation)	\$24.33		Painter's Helper/Trainee	\$10.00
	Framer	\$24.33		Plasterer	\$17.13
	Carpenter's Helper/Trainee	\$10.00		Plumber	\$21.78
	Form Worker	\$14.04		Plumber's Apprentice	\$10.00
	Cabinet Installer	\$24.33		Pipefitter	\$12.00
	Cement Mason	\$17.13		Pipefitter's Apprentice	\$10.00
	Cement Mason's Helper/Trainee	\$10.00		Roofer	\$13.67
	Drywall Hanger	\$17.44		Sheet metal worker	\$14.33
	Drywall Finisher/taper	\$20.38		Welder	\$12.00
	Drywall helper/trainee	\$10.00		Heavy Equipment Operator	
	Electrician	\$23.44		Grader	\$17.40
	Electrician's Apprentice	\$10.00		Scraper	\$20.72
	Flooring Installer	\$18.79		Bulldozer	\$12.00
	Glazier	\$16.86		Front-end Loader	\$16.83
	HVAC Technician	\$15.00		Excavator	\$12.00
	Sheet Metal worker	\$14.33		Crane	\$12.00
	Insulation Installer	\$11.00		Backhoe	\$16.32
	Fence installer	\$10.62		Truck Driver	\$10.00
	Laborer	\$10.62		Water Truck Driver	\$14.50
	Facility Maintenance	\$10.00		Dump Truck Driver	\$17.68
	General Maintenance	\$10.00			
	Locksmith	\$11.00			
	Millwright	\$11.00			
	Mill worker	\$11.00			
			Adopted by Tribal Council Resolution No. _____ On _____, 2014		
<sup>1</sup> Hourly wages for any Construction or Heavy Equipment job classification not specifically included in this Tribally Designated Wage Schedule shall be as determined by the QHA Board, but shall be no less than \$10.00 per hour.			<sup>5</sup> Hourly wages for any Construction or Heavy Equipment job classification not specifically included in this Tribally Designated Wage Schedule shall be as determined by the QHA Board, but shall be no less than \$10.00 per hour.		
<sup>2</sup> Tribally determined wages shall be periodically reviewed and modified per the Tribe's Prevailing Wage Ordinance.			<sup>6</sup> Tribally determined wages shall be periodically reviewed and modified per the Tribe's Prevailing Wage Ordinance.		

- END -



# IRS Promotes the Earned Income Tax Credit

The Internal Revenue Service (IRS) is partnering with community-based organizations across the country to promote Earned Income Tax Credit (EITC) Awareness Day, an effort to alert millions of low and moderate-income workers who may be missing out on a significant tax credit that can be as much as \$6,000.

Millions of workers who earned \$52,427 or less last year may qualify for EITC for the first time in 2015, making awareness of the credit critical. About a third of the people eligible for EITC fluctuate each year based on changes to their marital, parental and financial status. All across the United States, local officials and community organizations are holding events highlighting this key benefit.

“About four out of five eligible workers and families get the credit they earned. That leaves millions missing EITC every year,” said IRS Commissioner John Koskinen. “It’s an important credit and one of the government’s best tools to fight poverty.”

Last year, almost 28 million eligible workers and families received \$66 billion total in EITC, with an average EITC amount of \$2,400.

The IRS website can help taxpayers get it right this filing season, from information on claiming the EITC, to learning about the Affordable Care Act (known as the health care law), to finding free tax help. The IRS encourages everyone to use the EITC Assistant on IRS.gov/eitc, an interactive tool to find out if they are eligible for the credit. The IRS website also provides helpful information on the health care law and how it may affect tax returns at IRS.gov/aca. There is also an interactive tool that

helps individuals determine if they are eligible for the premium tax credit. And qualified taxpayers may also find a free tax return preparation site on IRS.gov/vita.

The amount of EITC varies depending on income, family size and filing status. Those who work for someone else or those who run a business or farm and who earned \$52,427 or less during 2014 could receive larger refunds if they qualify for the EITC. This could mean up to \$496 in EITC for people without children, and a maximum credit of up to \$6,143 for those with three or more qualifying children.

**The EITC is refundable.** This means those eligible may get a refund from the IRS even if they owe no tax or had no taxes withheld from their paycheck.

Workers potentially eligible to claim the credit should visit IRS.gov/eitc to learn if they qualify, how to claim the credit and more. The EITC Assistant will also determine their filing status, if they have a qualifying child or children and estimate the amount of the EITC they could get. If an individual doesn’t qualify for EITC, the Assistant explains why and a summary of the results can be printed.

#### How to Claim the EITC:

To get the EITC, workers must file a tax return, even if they are not legally required to file, and specifically claim the credit. Free tax help is available to those eligible for the EITC:

- Free File on IRS.gov. Free brand-name tax software walks people through a question and answer format to help them prepare their returns and claim every credit and deduction for which they are eligible. Free File also provides online versions of IRS paper forms, an option called Free File Fillable Forms which is

best suited for taxpayers comfortable preparing their own returns.

- Free tax preparation sites. EITC-eligible workers can seek free tax preparation at thousands of Volunteer Income Tax Assistance (VITA) and Tax Counseling for the Elderly (TCE) sites. Taxpayers can locate the nearest site using a search tool on IRS.gov or through the IRS2go smartphone application.

It is important for taxpayers to bring along all the required documents and information to make sure they get the EITC they deserve. Also, those who bought coverage through the Health Insurance Marketplace should receive Form 1095-A, Health Insurance Marketplace Statement, from their Marketplace in early February. It’s important to also bring the Form 1095-A to the volunteer site. Any taxpayer who does not receive it by early February should contact their Marketplace, not the IRS. The IRS will not have access to the information on the form.

Like last year, the IRS expects to issue more than nine out of 10 refunds within 21 days. The IRS reminds taxpayers that the fastest way to get a refund is to e-file their tax return and choose direct deposit. It takes longer to process paper returns. Because of budget cuts resulting in a smaller staff, it will likely take an additional week or more to process paper returns, meaning that those refunds are expected to be issued in seven weeks or more. Taxpayers can track the status of their refund with the “Where’s My Refund?” tool available on IRS.gov or on IRS2go.

The Affordable Care Act requires that a taxpayer and each member of his or her family have qualifying health insurance coverage for each month of the

year, qualify for an exemption from the coverage requirement, or make an individual shared responsibility payment when filing a federal income tax return.

**Premium Tax Credits:** If taxpayers bought coverage through the Health Insurance Marketplace, they should receive Form 1095-A, Health Insurance Marketplace Statement from their Marketplace by early February. They should save this form because it has important information needed to complete their tax returns.

If a taxpayer is expecting to receive Form 1095-A and has not received it by early February, they should contact the Marketplace where their coverage was purchased. Due to the fact that the IRS does not have this information, it is recommended that taxpayers contact the appropriate marketplace.

Anyone who benefited from advance payments of the premium tax credit must file a federal income tax return. The taxpayer will need to reconcile those advance payments with the amount of premium tax credit they’re entitled to based on actual income. As a result, some people may see a smaller or larger tax refund or tax liability than they were expecting. When filing their return, taxpayers will use IRS Form 8962, Premium Tax Credit (PTC), to calculate the premium tax credit and reconcile the credit with any advance payments.

**Reporting requirements:** Most taxpayers will simply check a box on their tax return to indicate that each member of their family had qualifying health coverage for the whole year. No further action is required. Qualifying health insurance coverage includes coverage under most, but not all, types of health care

coverage plans. Taxpayers can use the chart on IRS.gov/aca to find out if their insurance counts as qualifying coverage.

**Exemptions:** A taxpayer may be eligible to claim an exemption from the requirement to have coverage. If eligible for an exemption, the taxpayer will need to complete the new IRS Form 8965, Health Coverage Exemptions and attach it to their return. The individual must apply for some exemptions through the Health Insurance Marketplace. However, most of the exemptions are easily obtained from the IRS when filing a tax return.

**Individual Shared Responsibility Payment:** If an individual does not have qualifying coverage or an exemption for each month of the year, they will need to make an individual shared responsibility payment when filing their return for choosing not to purchase coverage. Examples and information about figuring the payment are available on the IRS Calculating the Payment page. More information about the Affordable Care Act and the 2014 income tax return is available at IRS.gov/aca.

**Taxpayers are responsible for the accuracy of their tax return even if someone else prepares it for them.** The rules for EITC are complicated. The IRS urges taxpayers to seek help if they are unsure of their eligibility, whether from a paid tax professional or at a free tax return preparation site. Deliberate errors can have lasting impact on future eligibility to claim EITC and leave taxpayers with a penalty. You should also reply promptly to any letter from the IRS requesting additional information about EITC. If you need assistance or have questions, you should call the number on the IRS letter.





Local rowdies got a chance to expend a little energy and stay in shape in February, as the Quechan Special Diabetes Project organized a Saturday flag football league once again. Six teams of seven players each registered for the month long league, drawing in athletes of all ages. The teams met every weekend throughout the month at the San Pasqual High football stadium, keeping things moving in rigorously timed 20-minute games. The "season" ended just last Saturday, on February 28th.

QUECHAN NEWS Photos by William Isbell

## MARICOPA BASKETBALL CHAMPIONS

Photo Courtesy of Deshane Taylor

Team Fort Yuma traveled to Maricopa, Arizona to sweep the Boys 12 and Under Open Basketball Tournament taking place there on February 7th.

They beat the local AkChin team, Salt River and Fort McDowell (twice) to win the all-day competition, as well as the All Tourney and MVP awards in the process. Angel Fierro also won All Tourney at a Lehi Tournament in Mesa the week before!



The Quechan 12 and under team Chris Fernandez and Angel Fierro (who both won All Tournament Awards), Stone Braveheart (who took MVP), Deshane Taylor II, Stormy Ramirez, and Jason Pacheco pose with their T-shirts and the trophy from Maricopa.

# ATTENTION!

This Year's Strong Hearts Pow Wow Will Take Place This Coming Weekend

That means the results and winners of the various dance contests at the Pow Wow will be featured in the *next* issue of the Quechan News

We apologize for any inconvenience.





# Annual Health & Safety Fair Answers Questions, Provides Connections to Local Resources

The San Pasqual Valley Unified School District heavily promotes their February Health and Safety Fair each year, inviting anyone who lives in the area to stop in and visit exhibits showcasing public safety programs, corporations, and county and tribal departments that provide all kinds of services to the public.

Families, parents and students attending the annual event were provided with important health tips while they learned about all kinds of community resources. Dozens of vendors were set up all over the middle school campus and around the district's shared cafeteria building, offering pamphlets, demonstrations and incentives.

Some of the most popular ex-



**QPD Officer Recruit Ben McKinney** fits a new bicycle safety helmet for Elektra Gonzales at the bicycle rodeo booth manned by Officer Kirk Nerva. One of the most popular exhibits at the fair this year was the helicopter brought in by Reach Air Medical, based right here in Imperial County. QUECHAN NEWS Photos by William Isbell



hibits offered kids (and adults) a chance to climb into helicopters, urban assault vehicles, boats and specialized off road vehicles used by local law en-

forcement and rescue services. Students were also able to take part in safety training and a bicycle rodeo set up by the Quechan Tribal Police, who

also outfitted the participants with new helmets they could take home and use everyday. Several vendors, including the Quechan Special Diabetes

project, were on hand to promote diabetes awareness, offering information on healthy eating habits, weight loss, and the importance of exercise.

Additional agencies on hand included the Quechan Alcohol and Drug Abuse Prevention Program (ADAPP), the California Highway Patrol, Quechan Child and Family Resources, the Quechan Community Health Representatives, the Imperial Irrigation District, the Winterhaven and Imperial County Fire Departments, Imperial County's Health Department, the IHS Department of Health Education and the Imperial County Sheriff's Department, as well as Judge White of the Quechan Tribal Court and Quechan Injury Prevention.

*Selah Outreach Presents*  
***Giving Back to God, Creator***  
 At The Old Subdivision Park  
 Saturday, April 4, 2015  
 Beginning at 1:00 PM  
***Come - Dance - Sing***  
*Everyone is Welcome!*

**Opening In March!**  
 In The Vendor's Square area between the  
 Pipa Market and the Quechan News office:  
**A FAMILY BEAUTY SALON**  
 A FULL SERVICE SALON OFFERING  
 MEN'S AND WOMEN'S HAIRCUTS  
 STYLING & COLORING  
**Watch For The Grand Opening!**  
 Merdine Dunsweiler - Proprietor

## Certification Program Underway

The Quechan Tribal Council is now sponsoring an Employment Preparation Workshop through its WIA/DOL program. The program is offered monthly for tribal members and others who meet the federal Workforce Investment Act (WIA) eligibility criteria.

The certification program gives participants a clear understanding of what is needed to successfully enter into the workforce. It also provides the tools necessary to assist participants in completing a personalized resume and skills that will enhance their abilities to successfully compete in the labor market.

The training takes approximately six (6) hours over a span of three days. Upon completion



**WIA/DOL Director Earl Daniel** introduces a trainer to a recent group attending certification training in the classroom facility of the WIA/DOL Building, across from Social Services. Q NEWS Photo by William Isbell

of the program, participants are presented with a certificate of accomplishment which will add focus to their resumes, plus an incentive award for having

completed the training. Those who are interested in participating can visit the WIA/DOL program to be enrolled for the next available session.



# Strong Hearts Royalty at the Rodeo Parade

QUECHAN NEWS Photos by William Isbell



The San Pasqual Strong Hearts Native Society took part in the 70th Annual Silver Spur Rodeo Parade on Saturday morning, February 14th, entering two pickup trucks, three Princesses, one Shiyii and at least six bird singers to represent the Quechan Tribe. Miss Native San Pasqual High Alyssa Menta shared a ride with the Middle School Princess, Keija Koteen (at left) while the elementary school's princess, Kristina Mendez rode with Strong Hearts Shiyii Nancy Montague, Sr. The boys (Anthony Gilmore, Gabriel and Jeremy Sanovia, Jason Coyote, Xzavier Juan and Andre Polk Estrada) practiced before the show on one of the truck's tailgates, they all marched behind the girls during the actual parade.

## SDPI Valentine's Day

### FUN RUN AT GATEWAY PARK

The Quechan Diabetes Wellness Center sponsored another holiday themed 5K Fun Run on the Friday evening before the Valentine's Day weekend, giving health conscious Tribal members a chance to tone up before taking their significant others out for the holiday.

Excellent weather and clear skies made the sunset run one of the best this year. With temperatures in the high 70's and a gentle breeze coming across the river, you couldn't ask for better conditions. Check with the Diabetes Project for more runs to come throughout the year!

Neil Hill, Jr. (above) doubled up on the exercise value of the run, dribbling a basketball all the way around the course as he kept pace with Marie Joaquin, passing Raquel Ortiz on the way back to Gateway Park. But it was Neil Hill IV (seen at right) who beat everyone back to the finish line!

QUECHAN NEWS Photos by William Isbell

## COWBOY ZOMBIES To Play at Historic Yuma Theater in April



Director Paul Winter has booked the historic Yuma Theater in downtown Yuma for a showing of his 2012 film, "Cowboy Zombies", on Friday, April 10, 2015 at 7:00PM.

Filmed on location in Arizona, Cowboy Zombies is a story of survival. Set in the 1870's town of Crumpit, it's the thrilling account of how a handful of disparate people banded together to fight an unimaginable foe.

Marshal Frank Wilcox, along with a Buffalo Soldier from the

U.S. Army, work together to galvanize a group of cautious survivors as they fight back against the walking dead.

Written by Paul Winters and internationally renown macabre cartoonist Gahan Wilson, the cast includes Sam Bearpaw of the White Mountain Apache Tribe and Quechan Tribal member Lee Whitestar as the Apache Chief Datanta.

Tickets will be available at the Yuma Theater box office, next to the Yuma Art Center.



# Students Help Post 802 Create Valentines for Vets

Students at both the Quechan Johnson O'Malley Program and San Pasqual Elementary School pitched in to assist the Quechan American Legion Post 802 Women's Auxiliary with a New Year's project to thank the men and women who have served in the armed forces and to recognize their service on behalf of our country.

"We went to both the of their afterschool programs and asked them if their students could help us out in creating some Valentines," Dolores Lopez, the Chaplain of the Women's Auxiliary explained. "The Valentines were to be distributed to local veterans at the Yuma VA Clinic and to those hospitalized at the La Jolla Veteran's Hospital on the coast. With these cards, we hope to lift their spirits and convey the message that

our veterans are appreciated."

The students eagerly jumped into the project and started their cards with supplies they already had on hand. Shortly after, the Women's Auxiliary donated further items such as ribbons, heart-shaped doilies, foam cut-outs, blank cards to decorate, envelopes and lollipops. These additional supplies helped the students get even more creative in the construction of their Valentines.

Through this project, the Post 802 Women's Auxiliary hopes to pique the students' interest in learning more about the armed forces throughout the history of our country.

Third grade teacher Taune Smith at San Pasqual said, "Our Valentines for Vets project is full of love for our men and women in the present and



**Martine and Marc Gallardo assist Dolores Lopez, Chaplain of the Post 802 Women's Auxiliary in attaching labels identifying hundreds of Valentines as being made by the students at the San Pasqual Valley Elementary School here at Fort Yuma.** QUECHAN NEWS Photo by William Isbell

past armed forces. Our students want to show their appreciation to the people who protect all of us from harm's way."

"The members of Post 802 have always been here for the District. They contribute their time for things like providing

Color Guard service, to giving generously to our students at Christmas. They are always ready to serve our community and we are so blessed to have them."

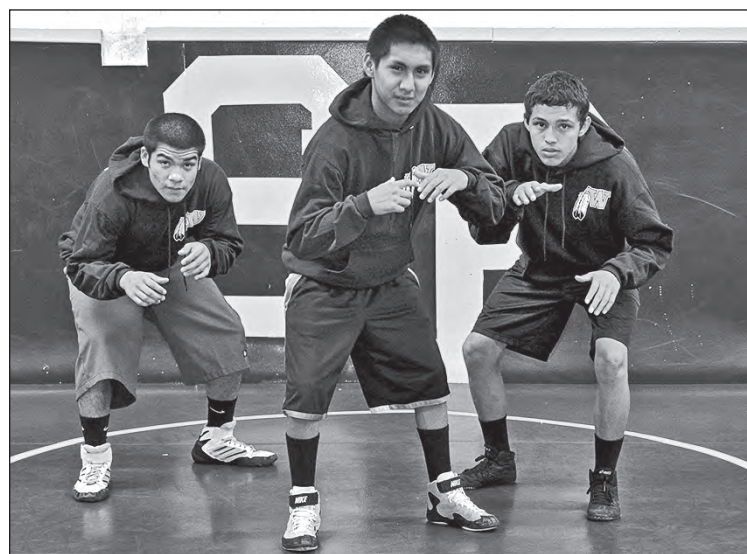
The unique and creative cards the students produced were delivered to both the Yuma VA

Clinic and the Veterans Hospital in La Jolla, California over the weekend of February 14th.

"The Post 802 Women's Auxiliary would like to say Happy Valentine's Day and thanks to both our veterans and the active duty military personnel in our community for their dedication and service to our country," according to Chaplain Lopez. "The Auxiliary would also like to thank the directors of both educational programs who have partnered with us in making our Valentines for Veterans a success."

"We'd like to especially thank Mrs. Taune Smith at San Pasqual Elementary and Pamela Manchatta at the Quechan J.O.M. Program and all of their students for their enthusiasm, dedication and hard work over the past few weeks."

# Local Wrestlers Made State Finals in Prescott



**Warriors Ryan Marks, Cedric Lukee and Lewis Steele** all qualified for the AIA High School Wrestling Championships in Prescott Valley, Arizona. The three were accompanied to the state meet in mid-February by most of their fellow team members. QUECHAN NEWS Photo by William Isbell

Three members of the San Pasqual Warriors wrestling team performed so well over this year's regular season that they

qualified for the state finals in Prescott, Arizona. Two of them, freshman Cedric Lukee and junior Ryan Marks are both Tribal

members and recent additions to the wrestling team, while the third, sophomore Lewis Steele is one of the team's captains.

Fifteen year old Lukee is the son of David and Marla Taylor. He placed fourth in sectional competition, with an overall record of 20 wins to 13 losses during his first year on the team.

"I've learned a lot in my first year as a wrestler," he tells the *Quechan News*. "I have to thank our Coach, Angelo Derma for his help and our Captain, Brandon Marks for his leadership of the team." Cedric also expressed his hope to at least place in the State Finals.

His fellow teammate and Tribal member, Ryan Marks, lives with guardians Marlon Barley and Aracely LeRoy. The 16 year old junior has a record

of 30 wins to 6 losses, having placed 6th at Mogollon and 4th in the recent Buckeye sectionals.

Explaining his success, Ryan says, "I caught on quick to the techniques. This sport has shown me a lot about control and the discipline you need to be a wrestler. I'm very excited about going to state and I know the competition is going to be rough, but I'll do my best to place." He also expressed his thanks for Coach Derma showing him what it means to wrestle for the Warriors and his older brother Brandon for being a good leader for the team.

The final Warrior qualifying for the state competition is 15 year old Lewis Steele, the son of Lewis Steele, Sr. and Ruthie Gary. A co-captain, his record of 30-8 for the 2014/2015 season included fourth place fin-

ishes at both Mogollon and the February Buckeye sectionals.

"I feel really good about going to state," he said, summing up his year. "I hope to wrestle well there and place in the top six. I want to thank Coach Angelo Derma (a past San Pasqual Champion wrestler) for helping me to become a better wrestler, and our Captain, Brandon Marks, for really keeping us all together and keeping us positive all season."

Though none of them were able to "place" at Prescott, they were each able to wrestle in two matches at the Finals this year. The Warriors were pitted against Hopi, Wilcox, Window Rock, Joseph City, and Yuma Catholic. Coach Derma says he expects them all to do even better when they return to wrestle next year.



# TRIBAL COUNCIL BUSINESS

*Official Resolutions Passed During The Month of February, 2015*

The Quechan Tribal Council passed 23 Official Resolutions in February before this issue of the Estka Nav Ah Pai went to press. The Resolutions are listed below in numerical order, as they were approved or disapproved by the Council. The purpose of each Resolution is covered by its Title. For further information on these Resolutions, please contact the Tribal Council Secretary, Alexis Summerfield, or the Executive Secretary, Marsha Emerson, at the Tribal Administration Office: (760)572-0213, Ext. 204 or 206.

**Resolution R-9-15: A Resolution to approve the Facilities/Maintenance Department budget for the Fiscal Year 2014.** Approved by a vote of: 3 for; 0 against, 1 abstained, 2 absent at a Special Council Meeting held on February 6, 2015.

**Resolution R-10-15: A Resolution to approve the Aid to Tribal Government tentative budget for Federal Fiscal Year 2015.** Approved by a vote of: 3 for; 0 against, 1 abstained, 2 absent at a Special Council Meeting held on February 6, 2015.

**Resolution R-11-15: A Resolution to approve the EPA Water Pollution Program budget for the Federal Fiscal Year 2014/2015.** Approved by a vote of: 3 for; 0 against, 1 abstained, 2 absent at a Special Council Meeting held on February 6, 2015.

**Resolution R-12-15: A Resolution to approve the EPA General Assistance Program budget for the Federal Fiscal Year 2014/2015.** Approved by a vote of: 3 for; 0 against, 1 abstained, 2 absent at a Special Council Meeting held on February 6, 2015.

**Resolution R-13-15: A Resolution to approve the EPA Non-Point Source Program budget for Federal Fiscal Year 2014/2015.** Approved by a vote of: 3 for; 0 against, 1 abstained, 2 absent at a Special Council Meeting held on February 6, 2015.

**Resolution R-14-15: A Reso-**

**lution to approve the BIA Law Enforcement budget for the Fiscal Year 2015.** Approved by a vote of: 3 for; 0 against, 1 abstained, 2 absent at a Special Council Meeting held on February 6, 2015.

**Resolution R-15-15: A Resolution to approve a revocable permit for "A Family Beauty Salon".** Approved by a vote of: 3 for; 0 against, 1 abstained, 2 absent at a Special Council Meeting held on February 6, 2015.

**Resolution R-16-15: A Resolution to approve the Head Start Corrective Action Plan.** Approved by a vote of: 3 for; 0 against, 1 abstained, 2 absent at a Special Council Meeting held on February 6, 2015.

**Resolution R-17-15: A Resolution to approve a joint resolution between the Cocopah Indian Tribe and Quechan Indian Tribe for the establishment of an account for the Health Care Center.** Approved by a vote of: 2 for; 0 against, 2 abstained, 2 absent at a Special Council Meeting held on February 6, 2015.

**Resolution R-18-15: A Resolution to appoint an Election Board Judge.** Disapproved by a vote of: 1 for; 3 against, 1 abstained, 1 absent at a Special Council Meeting held on February 17, 2015.

**Resolution R-19-15: A Resolution to appoint an Election Board Judge.** Approved by a vote of: 3 for; 2 against, 1 abstained, 1 absent at a Special

Council Meeting held on February 17, 2015.

**Resolution R-20-15: A Resolution to appoint an Election Board Clerk.** Approved by a vote of: 3 for; 0 against, 2 abstained, 1 absent at a Special Council Meeting held on February 17, 2015.

**Resolution R-21-15: A Resolution to appoint an Election Primary Alternate Clerk.** Approved by a vote of: 3 for; 0 against, 2 abstained, 1 absent at a Special Council Meeting held on February 17, 2015.

**Resolution R-22-15: A Resolution to appoint an Election Secondary Alternate Clerk.** Approved by a vote of: 4 for; 0 against, 1 abstained, 1 absent at a Special Council Meeting held on February 17, 2015.

**Resolution R-23-15: A Resolution to appoint an Election Board Marshal.** Disapproved by a vote of: 1 for; 3 against, 1 abstained, 1 absent at a Special Council Meeting held on February 17, 2015.

**Resolution R-24-15: A Resolution to approve the FTA Tribal Transit Program Discretionary Grant for Fiscal Year 2015.** Approved by a vote of: 5 for; 0 against, 0 abstained, 1 absent at a Special Council Meeting held on February 17, 2015.

**Resolution R-25-15: A Resolution to appoint an Election Board Marshal.** Approved by a vote of: 2 for; 0 against, 3 abstained, 1 absent at a Special

Council Meeting held on February 17, 2015.

**Resolution R-26-15: A Resolution to rescind R-21-15 appointing an Election Board Primary Alternate Clerk.** Approved by a vote of: 3 for; 0 against, 2 abstained, 1 absent at a Special Council Meeting held on February 18, 2015.

**Resolution R-27-15: A Resolution to rescind R-25-15 appointing an Election Board Marshal.** Approved by a vote of: 4 for; 0 against, 2 abstained, 1 absent at a Special Council Meeting held on February 18, 2015.

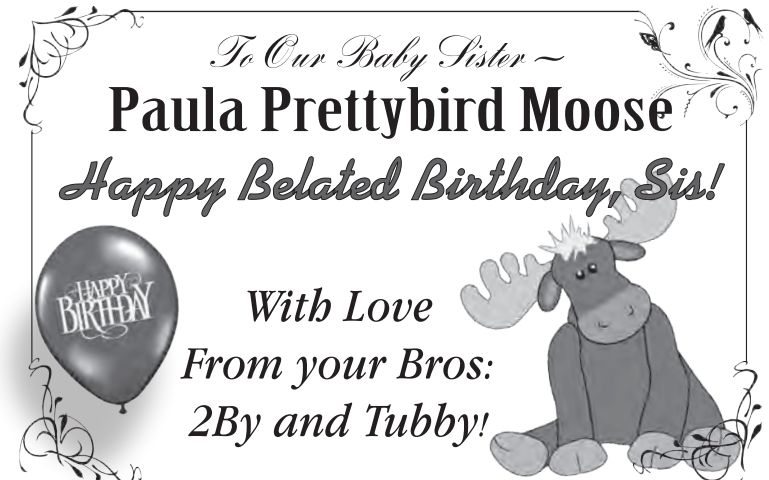
**Resolution R-28-15: A Resolution to remove an Election Board Clerk.** Approved by a vote of: 5 for; 0 against, 1 abstained, 1 absent at a Special

Council Meeting held on February 18, 2015.

**Resolution R-29-15: A Resolution to appoint an Election Board Clerk.** Approved by a vote of: 6 for; 0 against, 0 abstained, 0 absent at a Special Council Meeting held on February 18, 2015.

**Resolution R-30-15: A Resolution to appoint an Election Board Marshal.** Approved by a vote of: 5 for; 1 against, 0 abstained, 0 absent at a Special Council Meeting held on February 18, 2015.

**Resolution R-31-15: A Resolution to appoint an Election Board Primary Alternate Clerk.** Approved by a vote of: 4 for; 0 against, 0 abstained, 2 absent at a Special Council Meeting held on February 23, 2015.



**THE QUECHAN SPECIAL DIABETES PROJECT**  
Presents the  
**MIDDLE SCHOOL CO-ED DODGEBALL TOURNAMENT!**

**DOUBLE ELIMINATION BEGINS AT 9:00AM ON SATURDAY, MARCH 21ST AT THE COMMUNITY CENTER**

For More Information or to Sign Up and Compete, Contact:  
**THE DIABETES WELLNESS CENTER: 760-572-4057**





**COMING TO  
FORT YUMA  
ON  
POW WOW  
WEEKEND!**

**THE MEN'S ALL INDIAN  
\$1,000 Winner Take All!  
BASKETBALL TOURNAMENT**

**This Coming Friday and Saturday  
March 6th & 7th, 2015 at the  
Quechan Community Center!**

Games Begin at 6:00PM on Friday!  
Finals Begin at 10:00AM On Saturday!



**WITH MORE BASKETBALL  
COMING IN APRIL!**

Starting With The Spring Jam  
Co-Ed Jr. High Basketball Tournament

Entry fee \$75.00 - Deadline: April 3rd, 2015

**Games Will Be On Friday  
and Saturday Evenings:  
April 10 and  
April 11, 2015**




**SPRING  
SHOOTOUT**

High School  
Boys & Girls Division  
Tournament

Entry Fee \$150.00  
Deadline April 10th, 2015

Held The Following  
Weekend on: **April 17 & 18, 2015**

Sign ups accepted right now! Register your team at  
**Quechan Parks & Recreation**  
Call (760) 572-1242 for more information!

**PIPA Market**  
convenience store

QUECHAN INDIAN TRIBE  
FORT YUMA INDIAN RESERVATION  
CALL US @ (760) 572-2260

Come see us! We have fountain drinks, coffee, food items, non-foods, eggs, milk, snacks, etc. Shop Local - Buy Local!

**Ramona Farms** } 5 lb. Package: **\$19.00**  
Indian White Beans - Bags } 2 lb. Package: **\$8.50**




Solid Color Scarves  
@ \$8.50 each



Chiffon Scarves  
@ \$3.00 each

**Join Us At The Annual  
Quechan Easter Egg Hunt**

**BBQ  
Follows!**

**Starts at 10:00 AM At The  
Diabetes Walking Park  
On Saturday, March 28, 2015!**

Easter Baskets  
For All  
The Kids  
Newborn  
to 12 Yrs!

**For More Information Contact Quechan  
Parks & Recreation at (760)572-1242**




**Quechan Parks and Recreation**

Presents The Annual Early Spring  
**ADULT HORSESHOE TOURNAMENT**  
**SATURDAY, MARCH 14, 2015**

\$25.00 Per Team - Sign Up On The Morning Of  
**Tournament Begins At 9:00AM**  
**At The Horseshoe Pits Behind**  
**The Quechan Community Center**

For More Information, Contact  
**QUECHAN PARKS & RECREATION**  
**(760)572-1242**

