



QUECHAN NEWS

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Concrete began to flow into the footings for the new Fort Yuma Health Care Center's Building A on Thursday, May 5th, under the watchful eye of the on-site superintendents working for Pilkington Construction, the general contractor on the 20 month project. Quechan News Photo by William Isbell

Contractors working on the new Fort Yuma Health Care Center spent the later part of March and the entire month of April, moving briskly to get things ready for the first above ground evidence of construction. Tons of dirt were moved into the previously dug holes on site, and repeatedly compressed in layers, interspersed between impermeable sheets of plastic, to create a rock hard substrate to hold the buildings above.

A crew from Streamline Plumbing moved in to lay out and install the supply and return lines for all of the fluids which will run through the buildings, while Delta Diversified Enterprises ran conduit and wiring for all of the under-

ground electrical systems.

And while that was going on, Core Engineering surveyed the site to lay out the columns and grid lines for all of the buildings. Don Peterson Engineering (DPE) came in behind them to dig the footings down into the now hardened soil, and installed prefabricated reinforcement bars (rebar) to add strength to the concrete footings. Those footings are now being poured by DPE Concrete.

The workers have made incredible progress in the past three months, often overlapping various phases of construction within the same week. Earth movers and front end loaders could be seen scraping and leveling the mounds of earth

brought in to bring the site to final grade. The plumbing, electrical and batter boards for the foundations were being put in just a few feet away from the heavy construction equipment, which were separated from the workers only by wooden stakes and caution tape.

The first pour of concrete last week filled in the footings for the main building, referred to as Building A on the plans. Facing south-southwest along Agnes Road, building A will house the reception area and examination rooms for the Health Care Center. It is the main building with large glass windows prominently featured in the artists renderings provided by the architects.

The deep footings for the outer walls of the other buildings in the complex will be poured over the next week, followed by the concrete pads which will overlay the footings, to form the subflooring for the complex. Once all that is done and the concrete is properly cured, visible progress on the project will take another step forward as the exterior walls begin to take shape.

Over the next few days, as people pass by the site on the way to and from the Hill and the Paradise Casino, they will even be able to see road graders at work, bringing the north and south parking lots down to the level needed for paving. Fast progress indeed!

ETSKA NAV AH PAI THE NEWS CARRIER
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**Have A Story To Tell?
Send It In Via Email!**

Senior Citizens' Month Kicked Off With A Children's Parade



Milson Jose of Quechan Post 802, leads a parade of elders and Quechan Head Start students and their teachers into the driveway of the Quechan Senior Center. Gail Johns and Perdius Escalanti carry the banner, while Senior Center Manager Delonie Snowden can also be seen just ahead of the little ones. Q NEWS Photo by William Isbell

May is traditionally celebrated as "Senior Citizen's Month" here on the Quechan reservation, and the month began with an event many of the employees at the Senior Center truly enjoy.

On Monday, May 2nd, Senior Center Manager Delonie Snowden joined Milson Jose from Quechan Post 802, Senior Center Events Coordinator Gail Johns and other staff members in leading a parade of preschool students from the Quechan Education Complex down Quechan Drive, around the corner and into the Senior Center.

Once inside, Crystal Cachora handed out fresh baked cookies to the kids before President Jackson arrived to read the notice officially proclaiming May as "Senior Citizen's Month".

Comments from the president, Mrs. Snowden and Mrs. Johns all centered on the fact that it is only our elders who can pass on the knowledge of *Kwáatsáan* culture to each new generation, and insure that the people's heritage is preserved in the most complete way possible. All three speakers said we owe our elders a debt of gratitude for everything they have done to keep our way of life, and our land, intact.

Dan Golding also dropped by after the speeches, to sing bird songs while the elders shared lunch.

Gail Johns says many events are planned throughout May, to keep everyone focused on the Seniors during their month.

Chief among those will be the three days of the Quechan

Senior Games, to be held at the Pipa Event Center over three days, May 17, 18 and 19. The annual event kicks off with a Culture Night from 6 to 9 PM on Tuesday, the 17th. The actual games will fill the event center all day on Wednesday, as Tribal members from all over the southwest compete for laughs, bragging rights and medals. The medals will be handed out at an awards luncheon on the final day of the games.

An educational series on diabetes, presented by Gina Deluca and Jacqueline Chester from the Fort Yuma Indian Health Center will also continue this month at the Senior Center. For information on dates and times, call the Fort Yuma Service Unit at (760) 572-4130 or the Senior Center at (760) 572-0748.

OUR PHONE NUMBERS HAVE CHANGED



AT THE QUECHAN TRIBAL POLICE DEPARTMENT

The following numbers are available 24 hours a day, 7 days a week for POLICE DISPATCH:

(760) 572-2933 (Line 1)

(760) 572-0268 (Line 2)

Those needing to fax information or documents to the QPD should use the following number:

(760) 572-0265 (Fax)

For All EMERGENCIES CALL 911

During those times when no dispatcher is available, an Officer on duty will be issued the Duty Phone Cell number: **(928)941-7538**

The QPD Administration Office numbers are forwarded to the dispatch center after 5:00 PM.

Those phone numbers are:

(760) 572-0394 (Admin 1)

(760) 572-2253 (Admin 2)

(760) 572-0501 (Fax Line)

ETSKA NAV AH PAI THE NEWS CARRIER

QUECHAN NEWS

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350 Picacho Road Winterhaven, CA 92283

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

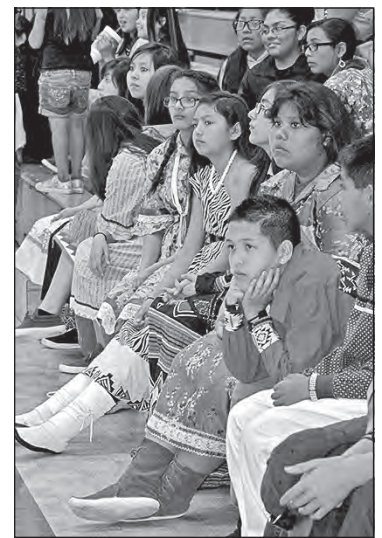
Quechan News is here to cover the special events and everyday lives of Quechan Tribe Members, and the issues that affect you in the world today. This newsletter is here to keep the lines of communication open, to expand opportunities, and uplift the Native Spirit of the *Kwat'san Pipá*. Your ideas and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

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



Culture & Heritage

Quechan Tribe Shares Culture With Visitors From Santa Fe



The visitors received a personal greeting from Richard Montague, who sang the *Grasshopper Song* to them as they dismounted from their bus. He also gave them a little talk on Kwáatsáan history. Once inside the Community Center, everyone was treated to a series of gourd dances. Amanda Barley, Brina Iron Cloud and Cryselle Uribe were some of the dancers taking part. Our guests seemed to appreciate their enthusiasm. Many of the girls from New Mexico stepped forward to join in when asked.

QUECHAN NEWS Photos by William Isbell

Dozens of Tribal members turned out to participate in a cultural exchange and enjoy a potluck meal with visitors from the Santa Fe Indian School on April 1st, when a busload of teachers and students from New Mexico stopped at Fort Yuma on their way back home.

The group was taking part in an annual educational field trip that one of their teachers had first organized a few years back, when a group of students piled into a bus with him for a spring break trip to Louisiana.

That teacher, Harold Pourier, says they've since made a longer trip north to Montana, and they headed over to Anaheim on the California coast before turning around and heading east this year. "We always have a first

stop destination in mind, like New Orleans or Disneyland," Mr. Pourier told the *Quechan News*. "Someplace fun and famous, which most of the kids might not get to see otherwise. We go right there first and have a little fun, and then spend the rest of the trip visiting as many different Tribes and reservations as we can on the way home."

He says it's a great way to show the kids that there are many other Tribes still out there, living their own cultures on their own land. Sometimes the kids feel kind of isolated where they live in north central New Mexico, and they feel like they are the only Natives left in America.

"When they see all these

other people out here, who are so much like us, and yet they all have their own history and culture and their own ways of doing things, it all becomes much more real for the students, and they really begin to understand what it means to be an Indian."

Joanne Crespín (a relative of Quechan Tribal member Donna Herrera) came along to act as a chaperone for the girls on the trip, and to assist Mr. Pourier with the lesson plans on his last "Highway History Tour".

Mr. Pourier will be retiring next year, and he will turn over the planning of future road trips to Michael Begay, who was also made this year's trip with them.

The students not only learned a lot about the Kwáatsáan way of life, they also shared a little



Jessica Paddock (at left, above) and her Cali Native Youth Group also came out to take part in the day's cultural exchange program.

of their own cultural heritage.

Brother and sister twins Lauren and Franki Maestas-Chavez (from the Ohkay Owingeh Pueblo) dressed up to

perform their people's traditional "Butterfly Dance" for at the gathering. Their presentation ended with a great round of cheers and applause!

Quechan Social Services Promotes Child Abuse Prevention Month



Alma Trabanino of Child Protective Services provided training on what is expected of those who are required by law to report all cases of suspected child abuse. The all-day workshop, held at the Paradise Event Center, featured additional sessions on temporary restraining orders, domestic violence, sexual assault and crimes against children, and human trafficking issues. Lt. Scott Sheppard of the Winterhaven Sheriff's Office also provided clarification on what is required of law enforcement officers in these situations. Q NEWS Photos By William Isbell

April has been a time to encourage families and communities to work together to prevent child abuse, since a presidential proclamation was first issued in 1983, declaring it as Child Abuse Prevention Month.

The majority of child abuse cases develop from situations and conditions that are preventable, so long as community programs and organizations are engaged and supportive. Quechan Social Services stepped up to provide a full day workshop on child abuse prevention for members of the Fort Yuma community, which took place at the Paradise Event Center on Friday, April 29th.

Letitia Julian, the Acting Social Services Director for the Quechan Tribe (and full time Indian Child Welfare Specialist) set up the workshop, with the assistance of the staff at Quechan ADAPP and therapist Rigel Garibay from the San Pasqual Valley Unified School District.

About three dozen people attended the event, from Tribal Departments including Human Resources, ADAPP, Quechan Tribal Court, Elder Family Ser-

vices and the QPD. Representatives from outside agencies such as the Court Appointed Special Advocate Program (CASA), Imperial County and the San Pasqual schools also attended.

Even Christina Zacarias and Tomás Romero from Cocopah Social Services came over to receive an update of their training on the subject.

Outside experts making presentations included Alma Trabanino from Child Protective Services; Ann Gilmour, an Attorney with the Tribal Justice unit of the Judicial Council of California; Agent Leroy Pooley from the Imperial County District Attorney's Office; and Judith Pritchard, of the Woman Haven Center for Family Solutions in El Centro.

Chief Arron Julian of the Quechan Tribal Police Department opened the conference, emphasizing the importance of the subject before turning the podium over to Elder Vernon Smith for the opening prayer.

Before his benediction, Mr. Smith also welcomed the vari-

ous Tribal departments as well as the guests, some of whom had traveled considerable distances to attend the workshop.

The first presenter, Ms. Trabanino, handled mandated reporter training. She says that "hard proof" is not required to make a report of suspected abuse or neglect. Whenever a person either knows or suspects that a child is in danger, all they need is a "reasonable suspicion".

The law also makes it clear that verbal disclosures of abuse should *always* be reported.

People whose jobs involve direct interactions with children as a normal part of their business, such as teachers, social workers, coaches and day care providers are among those who are legally "mandated" to report any indications of child abuse they observe. Volunteers whose duties require direct contact with and supervision of children are not mandated reporters, though they are encouraged to report known or suspected instances of child abuse or neglect to the appropriate agency.

However, volunteers involved in a Court Appointed Special

Advocate program are designated as mandated reporters, the same as the CASA employees.

Ms. Trabanino pointed out that the law in California allows parents to administer age appropriate spanking to the buttocks, provided it does not result in bruising or other evidence of serious physical injury. But she also says that she doesn't believe in corporal punishment, and she doesn't encourage it at all.

While all the legal minutiae of what does and doesn't constitute child abuse in the eyes of the state's social welfare agencies was being discussed, Lt. Sheppard of the Winterhaven Sheriff's substation rose to point out the differences in procedures once a law enforcement agency receives a report. He says that there are some things that could have a fairly benign explanation which police agencies must nevertheless investigate and report to agents of the courts, things that might otherwise be handled through administrative decisions within Child Protective Services.

So, if you are in doubt at all about whether to report a particular situation, talk to someone

you know and trust, or call your local child abuse hotline and discuss the situation with them before you report your suspicions to law enforcement.

With that in mind, experts agree that reports must be made in good faith, involving common sense. A report of child abuse is serious and may have a lifelong impact on the child and his or her family. Never make a false or malicious report, because the legal repercussions can be devastating for everyone involved.

Additional subjects discussed at the workshop included the application of full faith and credit in jurisdictional issues between state and local courts and the Tribal Court system, and the human trafficking issues being faced by our Border Patrol.

Judith Pritchard of the WomanHaven shelter also made a presentation on how the scourge of domestic violence contributes to increasing child abuse.

Investigators Santiago and Armstrong from the District Attorney's Office also covered sexual assault and crimes against children, and how they are adjudicated within the legal system.

April's Child Abuse Prevention Walk-A-Thon



The April 28th Walk-A-Thon featured an inflatable water slide, which Danielle Taylor took full advantage of, plus demonstrations by the Winterhaven Fire Department and a scavenger hunt organized by the Diabetes Wellness Center. Everyone who participated in the walk received a list of clues leading to strange items they might find in the park. Indira Paige is seen in the center photo returning from the hunt, accompanied by Raquel Ortiz and her kids, Kailani Moody, Jennifer Ortiz and Aiyanna Moody, all carrying items they'd found. Once the prizes were awarded for the scavenger hunt, everyone lined up for barbecued hot dogs prepared by the Quechan Events Committee. QUECHAN NEWS Photos By William Isbell

Quechan Social Services teamed up with the Diabetes Wellness Center and the Events Committee to arrange a Walk-A-Thon to commemorate Child Abuse Awareness Month. Held at the Diabetes Walking Park on the evening of April 28th, the event featured a visit by firemen from the Winterhaven Fire District and a scavenger hunt for odd items scattered about the park.

Lt. Octavio Arvizu of the fire department even brought a full

set of fireman's gear; helmet, coat, pants, suspenders, boots and breathing apparatus. Volunteers could put on the gear and perform a "turn-out drill" for the Lieutenant, to find out that firemen are already suffering from the heat before they even go near a fire!

Smaller kids could take advantage of all the playground equipment, or splash on the inflatable waterslide set up near the front gate. The scavenger hunt was a popular event, which

added an extra incentive for those taking part in the walk.

Prizes like Frisbees, insulated drink bottles, beach buckets and ring pops were handed out to everyone who came back with something on the list.

Some of the kids were so excited, they dashed out ahead of everyone else and brought back

four or five items on the list, even before most of the adults had completed the course!

In the meantime, the men of the Events Committee got a nice big pile of coals going in one of the barbecue pits, and grilled up dozens of delicious hot dogs. Letitia Julian and Angela Maynahonah of Quechan

Social Services laid out full compliment of chips and condiments on an adjoining table.

Once all the scavenger hunt items had been collected and the prizes handed out, everyone got in line for those hot dogs! With a gentle breeze and the temperature around 78 degrees, it was a perfect evening!



The Diabetes Wellness Center staff holds up the list of items, along with the items themselves, at the end of the scavenger hunt. The list includes things like a spider, a jump rope, bowling pins and a stop watch.



Quechan Indian Tribe
Higher Education
and
Vocational Education
Training Program

Quechan Higher Education 2016 Fall Semester Grant Application Deadline:

JUNE 01, 2016

If the date shown falls on a Holiday or a weekend, the next working day will become the deadline date.

Applications can be picked up at the Higher Education Office located at:

The Quechan Education Complex
628 Picacho Road
Winterhaven, CA 92283

Phone:
(760) 572-5268

Application Requirements are Listed On The Grant Application



Quechan Head Start Hosts The March Mini Madness Basketball Tournament!



QUECHAN NEWS Photos by William Isbell

Three, four and five year old students at Quechan Head Start got a chance to strut their stuff in late March, when they invited the Cocopah Head Start to Fort Yuma for a small fry basketball tournament at the Quechan Community Center. Here is some of what we saw there!



Chauncey Amador (above) heads for the basket at a full run, where he dunks the ball (below) and hangs on just like an NBA player!



Referee Ana Hartt watches from the sidelines as Ariana Prettybird Moose sinks a basket. Team mates Joseph Montaldo, Emily Johnson, Ky-Mani Powell and Julian Clements cheer the score!



Abel Fierro (in the center) runs alongside Ariana Prettybird Moose, to guard her ball from interception by the opposing Cocopah team. Emily Johnson can also be seen, bringing up the rear at right.



Joseph Montaldo grins (above) as he rushes past the Cocopah team, to celebrate (below) as he tosses the ball into the basket!



Shalynne Rose scores against the Cocopah Head Start team!



Ariana Prettybird Moose finds the basket wide open for a shot!



Refree Randall Moody verifies that Jack Bouts got a 2 pointer!



Avalynn Navarro goes down trying to get a ball, surrounded by Isabel Estrada, Ish Koteen, Jack Bouts and Tiana Thomas.



Jack Bouts sinks another basket, in full view of the Cocopahs!



Tyree Cobbs shows his buddy Jaden Montijo how it's done!



Tyree holds on to the ball to make another try at the basket!



Referee Lewis Throssel keeps his eye on the ball, as Giovanni Hernandez and Rebecca Bouts watch their team mate score!

Tribal Members Participate In The 2016 La Jolla, California Half Marathon



A dozen community members took a trip to the coast in April to participate in this year's La Jolla Half Marathon events. Lewis Throssel, Peter Escalanti IV, Israel Mendivil and Robert Paige all ran in the long, half marathon race, covering the entire 13.1 miles from the Del Mar Fairgrounds in north La Jolla, all the way down the coast to the Torrey Pines cliffs above La Jolla Cove.

Lori and Ayane Throssel, Larry Crawford, William Kisto, Vivian Aguerro, Indira Paige and Ana Hartt opted for the shorter, 5K course along the coast. The shorter course ran along the coast starting at La Jolla Shores Drive (next to the beach) to also end up at the La Jolla Cove.

Ricardo Juan was unable to participate in either run due to an injury, but he went along anyway to take photos and encourage the others. All



Tribal members cheer the completion of their runs after crossing the finish line at the Scripps Park above La Jolla Cove. They are (left to right) Robert Paige, Mom Lori Throssel, Rick Juan (in the back), Baby Ayane Throssel, Dad Lewis Throssel (with arms up), Israel Mendivil, Indira Paige, Anna Hartt and Pete Escalanti IV.



Mom Lori Throssel also took a selfie for little Ayane's memory book at the 5K run's starting line.

of them were there to "stay the course" for fitness as a means to defeat diabetes.

"We all traveled in our own vehicles to San Diego on Saturday," said the expedition leader, Lewis Throssel. "After spending some family time walking the beach, watching the seals and Marine life at the La Jolla Cove we met up in Pete's room for a pre-run Bar-B-Q, grilling some hot dogs and burgers."

"After nearly burning down the hotel, we planned out our driving situations to our respective starting lines. Sunday morning at 7:30AM, we were all off and running."

As soon as their last runner crossed the finish line, they

took a group picture and then headed back to their hotel for a quick shower before checking out of their rooms.

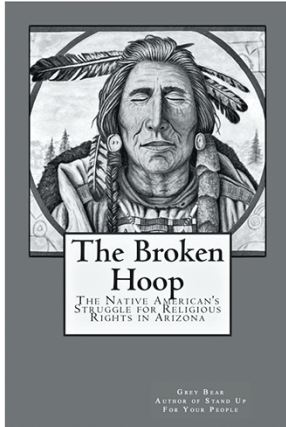
Everyone then met up at Smash Burger for a victory meal before heading home.

Lewis also tells the *Quechan News* that, "All of this would not have been made possible without the help of our families, friends and community members who purchased our rolled tacos and helped us out with our other fundraisers. We would also like to send a special thank you to Quechan Post 802, The Gutiérrez Family at Mr.G's and the Chili Pepper, as well as Paradise Casino, and The Q Resort for all of their support and donations."



Vivian Aguerro strides into the park at the end of the 5K run (above) in this image captured by Ricardo Juan. Most of the other photos on this page were provided by Lewis Throssel, who kept a visual record of his participation in the longer half marathon of 21.1 kilometers along the hills hugging the Pacific Coast. At left below, Lewis poses with Robert, Israel and Pete just before the race. Lewis also took a selfie (in the center) just before the starting gun got everyone moving. And to show they survived, Israel, Lewis and Pete all posed for Robert again at the end.





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The Native American's
Struggle for Religious
Rights in Arizona**

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Arizona Representative Grijalva Stops In To Visit Tribal Council



Raúl Grijalva, Arizona's Representative for the 3rd Congressional District, stopped in to see the Quechan Tribal Council last week, to make good on a promise he'd made to Tribal Vice President Michael Jack. During the Mr. Jack's recent trip to the nation's capital, the Congressman promised him a return visit. After meeting with the entire Council on May 4th, the group posed for a photo. Left to right are Council members Cryselle Montague Uribe, Julianna M. Comet, V.P. Michael Jack, Representative Grijalva, and Council members James A. Montague, Aaron W. Brown and Virgil S. Smith. Photo Courtesy of Regina Escalanti



~ Prenatal Education Classes ~

When: Wednesday, June 1, 2016 Wednesday, July 3, 2016

Time: All classes are held from 2:00 PM - 3:00 PM

Where: Fort Yuma Indian Health Clinic - Multipurpose Room
1 Indian Hill Road
Winterhaven, CA 92283
(760) 572-4100

The Fort Yuma Public Health Nurse, Jacqueline Chester, will be holding Monthly Prenatal Education Classes at the Fort Yuma Health Clinic Multipurpose Room. These classes are free of charge and available to registered Fort Yuma Health Clinic patients who are currently pregnant.

Whether you are a first time Mom-to-be, or if this is your 3rd child, you are invited and encouraged to attend these educational classes. Prenatal education classes are beneficial and are designed to help you better understand and learn as much as possible about your pregnancy, making healthy life choice during your pregnancy and your baby's development throughout the pregnancy.

Please contact Jackie Chester, Public Health Nurse for more information regarding these classes @ (760)572-4100, ext. 4159, or toll free @ 1-800-862-4911.



COMMUNITY EXPRESSIONS

Tribal member Ira Shawn Hartt, currently incarcerated in the Imperial County Jail, has sent this letter to the Quechan News, asking that it be printed as a "shout out" to his mother, Judith Prietta Osborne, for all she has done for her family.

Mom;

Thank you for all your endless belief and support. You make this world a better place. I thank you for that. But I also thank you for leading by example and living in the cradle of humanity with complete honesty. You've always helped me, when I needed you the most. You always accept my calls, and you're willing to help, especially with my most pivotal challenges.

Your insight and enthusiasm are absolutely invaluable, and I am grateful for both. Your uniqueness and distinctive characteristics are (in my opinion) a big plus that a lot of people don't have. Altogether, you have a kind of assured attitude, which makes you a spunky sort of woman who is unpredictable, with a great spirit of adventure. Most definitely, "Aaa'Haa".

But when it's time to be quiet, you're powerfully and magnetically connected. This is your defined product, this is what sets you apart from everyone else. Once identified and displayed, your personality creates a charismatic and powerful impression that you can't imagine . . . you're authentic! You are a mind among minds, a trusted and valuable best friend and our mom always.

For that, we give you our deepest, heartfelt appreciation.

From Da Boyz & A Girl

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

San Pasqual Art Students Shine at the Fair



San Pasqual High School students posing with their award winning charcoal drawings include (kneeling in front): Mireya Araña, Alondra Ayala and Isadore Clark. Standing are Jose Ponce, Roberto Ramblas, Lorena Larios, Jaylynn Jefferson, Jocelyn Luna, Stephany Luna, River Montague, Alejandro Rosales, Alora Dugan and Donovan Manchado. Photos Courtesy of Stacy Blackmer-Blomquist, SPVUSD

Stacy Blackmer-Blomquist, the art teacher at the San Pasqual Valley Unified School District says that her students did phenomenally well at all levels in this year's Yuma County Fair. Local students from both Fort Yuma and Winterhaven students won a total of 10 Purple Ribbons for their outstanding artistic works.

Quechan Tribal members Jaylynn Jefferson and Reba Durand took home Purple Ribbons for the charcoal landscape drawings they'd entered. Kayla Perez not only won a Purple Ribbon for her ceramic food plate sculpture, she also took home the Best in Show ribbon for all ceramics! After the final judging was completed, San Pasqual art students came back with 27 (blue) First Place Ribbons, 6 (red) Second Place Ribbons, and 7 (yellow) Third Place Ribbons.

Included in the exhibit from San Pasqual high school students were charcoal landscapes, landscape paintings in acrylics and ceramic food plates. The middle school students' exhibit featured ceramic relief tiles and animals studies in color pencil and paint. Elementary students exhibited Dahlia Studies using the collage technique. Over 40 artworks were included at this year's fair!

This year's participants were:

High School:

Mireya Araña
Alondra Ayala Logo
Giselle Avila Gallardo
Christian Gutierrez Romero*
Savannah Castro
Isadore Clark
Paulina Cordozo*
Zayra Dominguez
Alora Dugan
Reba Durand*
Mia Escalanti
Jaylynn Jefferson*
Lorena Larios*
Cyndi Lopez Gutierrez*
Jennyfer Luna
Jocelyn Luna
Stephany Luna
Donovan Manchado
Adrian Martinez
River Montague

Kayla Perez*
Jose Danny Ponce
Roberto Ramblas
Alejandro Rosales Lopez
Devonee Trujillo

Middle School:

Jalen Bohanan
Fernanda Espinoza
Cougar Gonzalez
Adriana Martinez Mesa*
Ralona Zuniga
William Buford
Vincent Guerrero
Katrina Luna
Henry Velarde
Leslie Yarrito
Lupita Torres
Angelica Zavala

Elementary School:

Gustavo Avila Gallardo*
Marcus Bouts*
Nareese Dugan*
Evelin Gil Long*
Elektra Gonzalez*
Josue Lopez*
Vatianna Lopez-Owl*
Dasan Lynch*
McCarthy Manchado*
Tristen Noe*
Julie Ortega*
Aubrey Palone*
Uriel Ponce Rivera*
Brian Ruiz*
Danny Stewart*
Jorge Valenzuela Perez*
Daeja Villicana*
Irie Charles*

Tribal members shown in **Bold Type**
* Indicates (Outstanding) Purple Ribbon Winners

FORT YUMA HEALTH CENTER

after hours and weekend care



24 hour Nurse Advice line is available to assist with specific health concerns or urgent medical needs

1-866-896-1585

Happy Mother's Day!



My Mother is like no other and I love her. She nurtured me, dressed me, held me and kissed me. She taught me how to make tortillas and frybread and she even shouted at me, but most importantly, she LOVES me unconditionally!

There are not enough words to describe just how important my mother is to me, and what a powerful influence she continues to be!

Thank you, Mama! Love ~Delila Laurenzana

QUECHAN POST 802

ATTENTION VETERANS:

Our regular monthly meetings are held on the second Saturday of every month @ 9:00AM

WE WILL MEET THIS MONTH:

**On Saturday
MAY 14**



Join us at the Post 802 Meeting Hall
1496 Arnold Road, Winterhaven, CA 92283

San Pasqual Awarded "Field of the Year" In Their Athletic Division



Careful grooming and maintenance paid off for San Pasqual High, when their baseball field was voted the "most improved" in Section 4, Division last year. Further attention to detail brought them the "Field of the Year" Award for 2016. QUECHAN NEWS Photo by William Isbell

Hard work on the weekends and diligent attention to detail has paid off for San Pasqual High, after the Arizona Interscholastic Association named Warrior Field the Division 5 Field of the Year for 2016.

Coach Faron Owl says most of the work grading, raking, seeding and mowing the field to perfection was accomplished by the Sergio Rodriguez of the San Pasqual grounds crew.

But with the team on the field

both at practice and competing against their adversaries day in and day out, a lot of work had to be done throughout the season, to keep the field in top shape.

That work was accomplished mostly on the weekends by Coach Owl and Coach Ron Arviso, assisted by a trio of community volunteers, Paul Stauffer and Danny and Ronnie Flores.

"We couldn't have done this without the help of those parents and volunteers," according

to Coach Owl.

"And we also had a great group of sponsors who donated the funds and equipment we needed to keep this going, and win the award."

The coach also said, "I want to thank each and every one of our sponsors for everything they did to help out: Barkley Seed, Home Depot, J. V. Farms, Corona Optique, the Imperial Date Garden and the McCoy Mobile Home & R.V. Park."

FLOWER GIRLS



Are needed for this year's Memorial Day Remembrance. Want to take part?

Call Deborah Tourtillott @ (760) 572-0544



TOGETHER WE CONNECT

Our Hiatus. Our Revamp. Our Future.

Our Hiatus:

We've taken a step back to reorganize and develop our game plan for 2016. Although we've had to restructure, we haven't forgotten those who've helped launch Kwatsan Media in 2010! We're excited about this year's projects and events and more than that, we're looking forward to connecting with YOU! We always welcome the chance of a collaborative and forward-thinking relationship with our local community, as well as tribal members at large.

Our Revamp:

We are the KWATSAN COMMUNITY

We hold fast to our vision of, "Together We Connect" and we want our movement of culture-related content to be bigger and better than ever. **We are currently looking for Artists, Writers, Graphic Communicators, Story Tellers, or ANY tribal members who would like to contribute to our efforts to keeping our culture alive.** Please visit our Facebook page and tell your family and friends. This is a great way to practice the skills you've been given and share them with your community. Hit us up!

Our Future:

We've reached out to our elders and created a partnership with the Quechan Language Revitalization and Maintenance Program. We're poised to move forward with the mission of providing language lessons via social media. We are currently creating new content that will increase awareness of our language, and would like to challenge **YOU** to invest the time to get to know your native tongue. Bookmark our webpage: kwatsanmedia.org and follow us on **YouTube**.

We'll post more info as it comes.

For inquiries, content contributions, or just to chat, you can contact us at kwatsanmediapr@gmail.com.

Together We Connect!

Happy 7th Anniversary
To My Handsome Husband,
Steven Laurenzana



Love, Your Wife,
Delila Laurenzana

To: My Mom, Mother and Best Friend,
Priscilla J. Townsend Prettybird:

You've always been there through my ups and downs, and always with a smile and a big, open heart.

May our Creator continue to Bless You everyday, Mom! You're not only the Kooolest, your the BEST EVER!

Wishing you a HAPPY DAY, every day!

From: Your Loving Son, Tubby!

HAPPY Mother's Day

To these Beautiful Ladies:
Each and everyone of you are Special!

Tyla Laurenzana
Franchesca Luna
Stephanie Myers
Nicole Montana
and Maria (Olie) Barley

Enjoy your day and Love life,
you're all doing a great job as mothers!
Blessings!

Love, Lulu



COMMUNITY EXPRESSIONS

Last month's story about Tribal member Remegius Baxter's "Military & Beyond" program at San Pasqual High School struck a nerve with some members of the Baxter family.

Even though Mr. Baxter's memories of the youth he shared with his brother were passed on to teach a life lesson to younger readers, many of those in his family feel Remegius should have left his brother out of it. While Mr. Baxter emphasized his brother's intelligence and potential right up front, including the fact that he had entered the University of Arizona at the age of only 17, the fact that Mr. Baxter spoke of his brother's demise after coming into a wind-fall inheritance was, to some family members, too painful a memory to be recalled from only Remegius' point of view. The purpose of Mr. Baxter's "Military & Beyond" presentation was to explain to local students how joining the military might be a way to learn the self-discipline we all need as adults. Remegius had hoped to use both his own life as an example, as well as the life of his brother. His brother had so much potential, but he is not with us now because of one simple mistake when he'd finally found financial security. But the memory of his brother's passing rekindled memories of Glenn Baxter, Sr., which others in the family wish to share:

As a member of the "Baxter" family, I remember my uncle Glenn Baxter Sr. going to prison but also earning two Master Degrees while incarcerated. Glenn would continuously make the Dean's List throughout his education. When Glenn was released from prison, he became a father of three children while working as a construction worker. Glenn helped build the freeway that crosses over the Colorado River and built bridges on the reservation. When he got his inheritance payment from his uncle Albert, he helped his siblings financially by providing luxuries they could not otherwise afford at the time. Glenn was the one who was there for his sisters and his brother Remegius. This is how I remember him. Drugs came into his life way later; unfortunately, addiction has ruined and taken too many Quechan Tribal members. That is still an ongoing problem and many more have ruined or lost their life behind this addictiveness.

— Tony Alvarez – "Nephew"

I remember my uncle Glenn as being a peacemaker, a compassionate and caring person to me and his whole family. He was a hardworking construction worker who built bridges. I used to call him the "good bad guy" because he was so tough against the bad people we had to deal with when we were children growing up. I remember his words, "Just because you hate or disapprove of someone's actions doesn't mean you don't care or love them." I miss my uncle Glenn; he was my hero and a good person. RIP Glenn Baxter Sr.

— Elsie Taylor – "Niece"

I remember his laugh; he was a loving man and a man that loved his family. Glenn was a hard working person and I loved him very much. He was always there when I needed him. I am and will always be proud to call him uncle. He was not perfect but then who is? Public opinion needs to be corrected and the complete truthful story needs to be told. I love you uncle.

— Fred Alvarez – "Nephew"

This is on behalf of my brother Glenn mainly because there was more to him than what was written about him. He was well educated having achieved and received two master degrees, all the while being on the Dean's List.

Of eight siblings, six of us went to college and we all were well educated. Glenn was one of only two students working for CETA/MANPOWER under James Montague. After the training periods ended, Union Representatives came to recruit individuals to join the Union. A comprehensive test was given. Glenn, along with one other person, showed up for the test and became unionized. Their first job was to build the freeway bridge over the Colorado River connecting California to Arizona. Their pay under the CETA/MANPOWER program was \$3.00 per hour, when they joined the union their pay increased to \$10.00 per hour. This proves my brother was intelligent and made the most of opportunities afforded him.

Unfortunately, his demise came too early in his life, but again he had all the love of his "own" family and the "whole" family, the Baxters. Glenn, we will always continue to miss you and of course, you know we all love you very much. — Peggy Baxter-Dugan – "Sister"

NOW ENROLLING FOR HEAD START 2016-2017 SCHOOL YEAR



**Children must turn three by October 1st.
Pick up your application at the Quechan
Ed Complex, 628 Picacho Rd., Building #4
Any questions contact Danette Joaquin
at (760)572-0263.**

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Mr. Owl asked all the girls from Santa Fe to come up and dance.



Richard Montague was sitting in his truck by the community center when the Santa Fe High School bus pulled in, so he got out with his gourd rattle to sing them a welcoming song. Afterwards, he introduced himself to the visitors and shook everyone's hands while sharing a little history of the area.



Maxan Montague danced right along with the big girls!

The local community turned out on short notice for a Friday visit by students and teachers from the Santa Fe Indian School on April 1st, as their bus stopped on the way back from a spring break visit to Disneyland.

The group had gone to Anaheim for the first stop on their annual spring break field trip, known as the "Highway History Tour Program".

Teacher Harold Pourier had come up with the idea of fun, the educational spring break

field trips a few years ago, to give their high school aged students a chance to meet other native Tribes while getting to see a little bit of the country at the same time. He says that most kids know there are other Tribes and cultures out

there, but those other cultures (and Tribes) are often not "real" to his students until they actually experience them for themselves.

So, the "Highway History Tour" takes off every spring, heading in a different direc-

tion each time, to go as far as possible in one direction (to see some great landmark such as New Orleans or Disneyland) and then visit as many Tribes and reservations as possible on the return trip.

(Related Story on Page 3)

New Mexico Students Stop In To Learn About Our Local Native Culture



Franki Maestas-Chavez danced the girl's part of the "Butterfly Dance".



Singers from the Strong Hearts Native Society, Owen Barley, Orlando Jefferson and Gilman Amador were among the first to sing at the gathering. Xavier Juan and Jason Coyote joined them, jumping out front to demonstrate Quechan Bird Dancing with Tarryn Villacana, Alana Robles and Gina(?) Herrera.



Twin brother Lauren performed the boy's part of the "Butterfly Dance".



Visiting students look over their food choices in the buffet line.



After Mr. Owl invited the guests to come join them, the Strong Hearts Singers sang a number of songs, while the local girls showed them how to move to the beat. Everyone danced for nearly an hour. Then it was time to line up at a buffet style serving line, to enjoy good conversation over a potluck lunch!



Councilman Virgil Smith was happy to help serve our guests.