



QUECHAN NEWS

VOLUME 102, ISSUE 8 ♦ WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 8, 2008

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Items Of Special Interest
To Tribe Members



Look For This Symbol

NETSKA NAV AH PAI THE NEWS CARRIER
QUECHAN NEWS

is published by

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Veterans Memorial Planned For Indian Hill



The hand carved alabaster original of the sculpture was digitally superimposed on a photo of the east lawn of the Quechan Tribe Administration building, to create an impression of how the monument may appear once it is installed just before Veterans Day this November.

QUECHAN NEWS Digital Rendering by William Isbell

A project first conceived years ago by members of the Quechan American Legion Post 802 is about to become a reality this fall, with the installation of a huge American Eagle sculpture on the east lawn of the Quechan Administrative offices.

After graduating from high school in 1964, Norman Osborne moved to Santa Fe, New Mexico to study jewelry design, weaving and painting at the In-

stitute of American Indian Arts. A classmate, Doug Hyde (of the Nez Perce tribe of Idaho) was studying stone sculpture techniques under the renowned Chiricahua Apache artist, Alan Houser. Both young men found themselves in the Army soon after completing their studies, with Norman going to Europe under Operation Reforger, then to serve out the remainder of his hitch in Korea, while Doug

was shipped off to serve in Viet Nam.

Years later, after returning to Fort Yuma and "joining the union and going to work", Norman sought out the camaraderie of fellow vets and joined the American Legion in Yuma. He was shifted from H. H. Donkersley Post 19 to Post 56 downtown, and then began to receive mailings from Quechan Post 802. "I had joined in Yuma,"

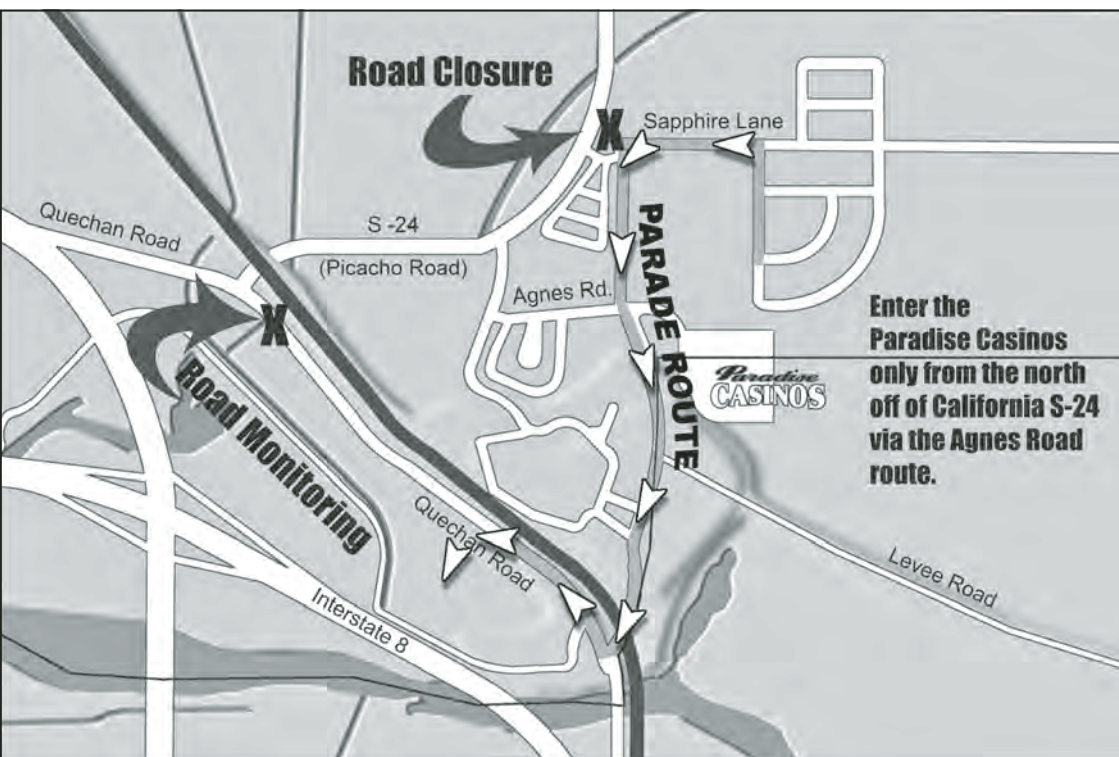
he says, "but one day I woke up and noticed the mail I was getting said I was a California Legionnaire. So I went to their meetings and really hit it off with the rest of the guys out here." Since then, Norman has been both a member and an officer at Post 802, and has encouraged continual community involvement from his fellow members.

Sometime around 2002, Norman was talking to Quechan Tribe President Mike Jackson, Sr., and he mentioned a thought he'd been mulling over about creating a Memorial for the Tribe's Veterans. As he got more into his thoughts on the subject, President Jackson asked him what it might entail, and where such a Memorial should go.

"Right outside the (Administration) office, in front of the flag!" was his answer.

Norman's thought even then was that the "high ground" of the Quechan people, Indian Hill, would be the best choice for a location to honor the Tribe's veterans. Still, at the

Continued on Page 11



The Quechan Police Department would like to inform you that on Saturday, October 11, 2008 there will be road closures for the Quechan Indian Day Parade from 8:30AM until 11:30AM.

Road closures will be at S-24 and Quechan Drive (Near Pipa Market).

Road monitoring will be at S-24 at the intersection with Picacho Road and at Quechan Road near the underpass.

The only entrance to the Paradise Casino will be at Agnes Road.

In addition road closures will also be on the

Eastside of the Fort Yuma Indian Hill, which includes the Quechan Police Department and Indian Health Services.

The only entrance to and from the Fort Yuma Indian Hill will be at the North Side of the Hill (Indian Hill Road)

The levee road will be closed and traffic there will be detoured to the main entrance of the Paradise Casino at Agnes Road.

Sorry for any inconveniences and have a
HAPPY INDIAN DAY.

If you have any questions you can call (760) 572-2933

NATIVE SENIORS NAB HOMECOMING ROYALTY TITLES AT SAN PASQUAL HIGH!



Photo Courtesy of Allyson Collins

Native Seniors Andre Polk-Estrada and Janyse Collins-Solorio were selected as the 2008 Homecoming King and Queen at San Pasqual's Homecoming Game on Friday, September 12, 2008. They represent their class well, as the two students have been classmates since their Quechan Head Start and San Pasqual Kindergarten days. They are both active leaders, involved in athletics, traditional dance and are true Warriors.

Last year's royalty, Greg Delgado and Victoria Ontiveros returned to step down from their throne and crown the new royalty for the 2008/09 school year. Also vying for this year's title were Queen candidates Marie Durand, Danell Ortega, and Sarina Salas; and for King the competition included Patrick McCoy, Ruben Esperanza, and William Quinones. Runners up Sarina Salas and Patrick McCoy were hailed by all and crowned as Princess and Prince. The royalty court was flagged by underclassmen representatives: Freshmen Jodeci Williams and Christopher Emerson, Sophomores Melissa Montoya and Christian Anglin, and Juniors Nina Illingworth and Jaime Marquez. The crown bearers were Mayra Maya and Armando Villegas. The field and stands for the Homecoming festivities were decorated by the newly formed senior parent committee.

ETSKA NAV AH PAT THE NEWS CARRIER
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 San Pasqual Valley. 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!



Heritage & Culture

Quechan Language Program Provides Instruction at San Pasqual Schools



Judith Prietta-Osborne (at left) uses a very conversational approach while bringing Kwat'san language instruction to the middle school students in Mrs. Jones 7th grade classroom. To reach the youngest students, visual aids and encouraging the students to repeat everything is the order of the day. In the center, teaching assistant Nickki Miguel watches as Quechan Language Instructor Della Escalanti goes over the Kwat'san names of animals using an English picture book. Soon after (on the right) she gives Mrs. Escalanti a felt grandfather clock and mouse to use in teaching the kids "Hickory Dickory Dock" in Kwat'san, while acting out the actions of the mouse.



QUECHAN NEWS Photos by William Isbell

The ladies at the Quechan Language Preservation Project have gotten a whole new "captive audience" for instruction in a partnership with the San Pasqual Valley School District's community outreach efforts.

"It wasn't easy to fill a classroom here sometimes," says Judith-Prietta Osborne, Quechan Language Preservation Coordinator. "We do have a van, but it's only for 8 (people). So I'd have to take two or three loads if there were 12 or 15 kids coming to class that day. There would be 6 or 8 kids on both ends, sitting and waiting for the teacher to show up, or waiting for a ride, and that's disruptive to classes."

"It was hectic" she says, "really hectic. It felt like you were pulling this way and that, just trying to get organized."

But the need to transport students back and forth to the Language Preservation Department changed when David Schone-man stepped in as the new Dis-

trict Administrator at the San Pasqual schools this summer.

"He invited us down to the school in August and held a meeting with us, and introduced us to all the new teachers and staff," says Mrs. Osborne. "And he asked us what we thought of coming down to the schools and trying to teach Kwat'san in the classes there!"

So they put together a cur-



Nickki steps in to try her hand at teaching the numbers 1 to 10 to Mrs. Beck's kindergarten class.

riculum outline, and teamed up with the administration to develop a course of action, bringing the Kwat'san language into the local schools as a combination second language/social studies cultural exchange program.

Della Escalanti and her helper, Niccki Miguel drop in for fifteen minutes after lunch, four days a week, to introduce kindergarten and first grade stu-



Judith's main visual aids are the constant gestures and animated motions of her teaching style.

dents at the elementary school to the basics of Kwat'san. They teach colors, numbers and the names of animals to the kids, and reinforce what the kids are taught through repetition. They keep their classes very short, before restless young minds begin to wander.

Judith holds one hour classes for middle school students, teaching 6th and 7th graders a



Ila Dunsweiler creates a real "family circle" atmosphere while she teaches at the high school.

more advanced course 4 days a week also. Although they, too must learn the basics, they are going to be encouraged to speak in sentences and try to hold short conversations by the time the school year ends in June.

Finally, Ila Dunsweiler holds a 90 minute class on Tuesdays and Thursdays in Mr. Owl's room. "Mr. Owl is also interested in helping us make a book for the classes," says Judith.

She hopes that the classes will also encourage the students curiosity in native crafts, since the lives of native people and the plants they used are a part of the course. "Hopefully, we may be able to bring some of the kids into creating crafts from gourds, or making little baskets around Christmas break," she explains.

Her excitement shows, as Judith feels it is already a success in opening eyes and hearts. "So far, it's going really well. It's comfortable. Mr. Shoneman has really opened the doors for us."

NEW HOURS AT PARKS & REC

Dennis Aguerro, Business Enterprise Manager for the Quechan Tribe, has instituted a new schedule for the Quechan Community Center's "open gym" hours during the school year, to better serve the needs of the community.

Effective September 22nd, the new hours that the gym will be open shift to 10:00 AM until 8:00 PM, Monday through Friday. The new hours will enable the Parks and Recreation staff to be on-hand to assist the public during their peak hours.

Previously, the gym had been open as early as 8:00 AM during the week, but attendance during the first couple of hours each day was very limited. There were only one or two clients who would drop in at that early hour to use the weight room, with only a limited number of adults

using the basketball courts before 10:00 AM.

From this point on, the majority of the staff will report for duty at 10:00 AM, to take care of housekeeping chores and set-ups, and to be available for those who wish to use the gym during their lunch hours. With most of those in weight training wishing to head home for a shower after their workouts, the weight room is also shifting to the new schedule, again to accommodate more people who may drop by at the end of the day for a workout.

If you wish to drop by the Parks and Recreation office to reserve the pool or other facilities, Louis Robles says the Parks and Recreation Department Secretary will still be on hand to take care of those things every Monday through Friday from 8:00 AM to 5:00 PM.

New Chief for QPD Sworn In



Quechan Justice Claudette White extends her hand to congratulate Chief Tony Badilla after swearing him in to his new position on September 17th in the Quechan Council Chambers. QUECHAN NEWS Photo by William Isbell

After months of operating under the supervision of Acting Police Chief Mark Veloz, the search for a full-time salaried Chief for the Quechan Police Department has come to a successful conclusion.

Tony Badilla, a 23 year veteran of the Yuma Police Department, accepted the position last month and was officially sworn-in to the service of the Quechan community on September 17th.

Chief Badilla was born here, and began life in Arizona's Yuma Valley, attending Crane school as a youngster. His family then moved up on to the Yuma Mesa, where he attended Gwyneth Ham Elementary, Gila Vista Junior High and graduated from Kofa High School.

He began his studies for a degree in Criminal Justice soon after high school, but had his degree delayed when he was hired as a patrolman by the Yuma Police Department in 1984. His service to Yuma on the rotating shifts as a patrolman complicated his educational endeavours, but he stuck with it over the years, taking classes whenever

his schedule allowed, to receive his Criminal Justice Degree in the early '90's.

Chief Badilla also attended upper division police training at NAU/Yuma and a 3 month course at the Southern Police Institute (SPI) at the University of Louisville, Kentucky, described as having a course of training equivalent to that of the FBI Academy. At SPI he received his training in law enforcement administration.

He served as a field training officer, motor officer (riding a Harley) in traffic enforcement and served as a D.A.R.E. officer teaching in the schools for almost 2 years when he sought further promotion. After passing the Sergeants Examination, he served as a Traffic Sergeant, an Investigations Sergeant and served in Patrol again for a while before accepting the position of School Resource Supervisor for the YPD.

In that position, Officer Badilla supervised up to 15 other policemen assigned as School Resource Officers for the City of Yuma. Depending on the

school and the grade levels covered, those officers might act as instructors teaching citizenship, mentors or as investigators enforcing the law on campus.

"That was very challenging," he admits, "dealing with 30 different schools, all with their own administrators and staff, plus my officers were responsible for around 30,000 students every day, as well as their parents. So it was almost like running a separate little Police Department with it's own little town."

It was that position that taught him the value of having good officers under him, and being able to trust their abilities to cover the day-to-day functions in their own areas of expertise.

Chief Badilla also served as a Customs Enforcement Officer at the San Luis Port of Entry for a little less than a year after his retirement from the City of Yuma Police in 2007.

Now that he has accepted the position as Chief of Police for the Quechan Nation, he will be supervising a force of 8 full time Officers (including himself) and four Reserve Officers.

QUECHAN PARKS & RECREATION

Presents the

Adult Co-Ed Volleyball Tournament



SIGN UP NOW!

DEADLINE IS OCTOBER 13

ENTRY FEE IS \$50 PER TEAM

1st, 2nd and 3rd Place Trophies!

1st Place T-Shirts!

10 Players Maximum

Games Will Be Played
Saturday, October 18th

CALL 572-1242 FOR MORE INFO!

Business Enterprises Returns to Their Building



Office Manager Pearl Robles is happy to be back in her newly refurbished office after 10 months in temporary quarters.

A months-long project to remove asbestos insulating materials and refurbish the interior of the building at 1890 San Pasqual School Road is finally wrapping up, and the staff of Business Enterprises has returned to their office after months of sharing space with the *Quechan News*.

Wind and rain damage to the roof of the building in the fall of 2007 led both Business Enterprises and the Community Health Representatives (CHR) to find temporary quarters while the roof was repaired. Once repairs began to the roof, it became apparent that water leaks into the duct work and an interior wall between the offices would also need mitigation. Workers performing those repairs found what appeared to be older ma-

terials that may have included asbestos materials as a part of their ingredients, so the building was sealed until a certified asbestos removal crew could be contracted to safely remove those materials.

CHR moved across the parking lot to share quarters with the Special Diabetes Project, while Business Enterprises moved down to the old Senior Nutrition Building.

Business Enterprises got the okay to move back to their newly remodeled offices on the north end of the building towards the end of September, and have now completed their move back. CHR is remaining in their temporary quarters until sometime in October, when they expect to receive the okay.

Health Insurance for Children Available Through Arizona Program

A child's health is important for their total well being. Healthy children not only feel better, they also perform better. Their health affects their ability to listen, see clearly, concentrate, learn and do well in school.

KidsCare is affordable health insurance for children 18 years old or younger. KidsCare is provided by the State of Arizona and is managed by the Arizona Health Care Cost Containment System (AHCCCS). KidsCare offers access to healthcare to keep your kids healthy and not just when there is a medical emergency. It is for children who do not have health insurance and do not qualify for other AHCCCS health insurance. If you cannot afford health insurance for your children or it is not offered by your employer, KidsCare may be right for your family. With KidsCare, children receive medical, dental and vision services at an affordable cost.

Native American children receive KidsCare at no cost.

With KidsCare, parents can choose the available health plan that is best for their family. There are different health plans available in every county and each one provides the same healthcare services.

You can choose a health plan when you fill out the application and send it to KidsCare. It can be renewed every year until a child turns 19 years old as long as the family qualifies.

This AHCCCS insurance pays for medical, dental and vision care services for children — all available in one simple plan. And, KidsCare members work with their health plans to select the doctors, dentists and other medical professionals who will provide the care for their children.

Medical care services include: Doctor's office visits, well-child visits, prescriptions and medical supplies, hearing tests and hearing aids, hospital services, complete physical exams, laboratory and X-ray services, emergency medical transportation (ambulances), immunizations, specialist care, 24-hour emergency medical care, behavioral health services and even care for pre-existing conditions.

Dental care services include dental screenings and treatments and vision care services include eye exams and eyeglasses.

For a child to qualify for KidsCare, they must be 18 years old or younger and an Arizona resident. They must also be a United

States citizen or qualified non-citizen (regardless of parent status). Native Americans do not pay premiums or need to meet family income requirements. Finally, they must also not be covered by other health insurance, nor qualify for health insurance through state agency employee.

To know whether a child in a family qualifies for KidsCare, a parent needs to present proof of Tribal membership (a Tribal Enrollment Card for each child being enrolled) as well as proof of Arizona residence. You must also present proof of a child's United States citizenship or immigration status to KidsCare. Applying for KidsCare for your family will not affect anyone's immigration status and a parent's social security number is not required when only a child is applying for coverage.

Applying for KidsCare is easy! There are no interviews, so parents don't have to miss work.

You can ask for an application by calling the toll-free phone number 1-877-KIDS-NOW (1-877-543-7669) or print an application from the Internet.

Using the Internet, you can download the application from www.azkidsicare.gov.

FORT YUMA INDIAN HEALTH CLINIC

No Appointments will be made after 6:20 PM on Weekdays!

Last Appointment Monday - Friday!

Or after 3:20 PM on Saturdays!

Last Appointment on Saturdays!

Caring, Made Easier

American Indian families have a FREE health insurance program to help them care for their children.

KidsCare is an affordable health insurance program for eligible children 18 years and younger. KidsCare pays for medical, dental, and vision services at no cost to eligible American Indians.

Applying for the KidsCare program is easy! You can apply and receive services through the AHCCCS American Indian Health Program at your local Indian Health Service or tribal clinic. You can also get an application from the KidsCare website at www.azkidsicare.gov or by calling 1-877-KIDS-NOW (1-877-543-7669).

Remember, a child's health is important for their total well being. Healthy children not only feel better, they also perform better. Their health affects their ability to learn, listen, see clearly, concentrate and do well in school.

IHS/Tribal Facility	IHS Patient Benefits Coordinator
Yuma Service Unit	760-572-4151 / 760-572-4118

This ad is made available through the Inter Tribal Council of Arizona, Inc. KidsCare Partnership Initiative with funding provided through the Arizona Health Care Cost Containment System (AHCCCS). AHCCCS complies with the Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990. If you need an accommodation to participate in an AHCCCS program, service, or activity please contact AHCCCS at 602-543-7669.

QUECHAN **EVERYTHING**

CASINO ♠ RESORT

Construction Committee Coordinator Bruce Burton says that



Construction Committee Coordinator Bruce Burton consults the hundreds of pages of plans while daily verifying every detail.



The pump house (above and below) for the state of the art water treatment facility just south of the Casino♠Resort is well on its way to being finished. The settling tanks are in, and the storage and water return tanks have also been completed.



Hotel rooms are being finished and painted from the top floors down. Tile work is already being installed in the guest bathrooms.



A large swimming pool (above) is located just outside of the rotunda at the rear of the lobby entrance. Workmen are seen eating their lunch on the wall of the "beach entrance" to the pool, which slopes gradually to a maximum depth of five feet. Small fountains are installed at the top of the slope, which will shoot jets of water into the air. All of the water used at the Casino♠Resort will be supplied by ground water from two deep wells, one of which is seen on the right.



The Casino♠Resort's water treatment plant is located on the back side of a ridge to the south of the main complex. It has two groundwater wells just inside the east wall, an 850,000-gallon storage tank to hold fresh well water and provide water pressure, as well as a smaller tank to capture the water returned for treatment from the drains at the Casino♠Resort. To the east (on the other side of the wall on the right) is the 1,485,139 square foot retention basin which will hold stormwater and excess treated water for irrigation.

IS STILL ON SCHEDULE!

the new Casino♠Resort may be ready start training new employees this holiday season, as construction continues!



The lazy river water feature is essentially finished and the manifold system that circulates water to the jets can be seen in the trench in the photo above. Angled metal roof beams can also be seen above the entrance to the events center, with the piers for one of the bridges over the lazy river just outside its doors.



A giant video sign five stories tall will be installed north of the dark blue dumpster, inside the fence at the northwest corner of the property. The roof for the elevator tower is also being assembled nearby.

With the contract calling for completion of the Quechan Casino♠Resort by April of 2009, Roel Construction and their subcontractors are pushing hard to take advantage of an early completion bonus offered as an incentive. Currently working four 8 hour shifts every day, six days a week, the project is far enough ahead of schedule that the Resort could even schedule a limited “soft opening” sometime in February, with a full-scale “Grand Opening” blow-out some-

time in the early spring of 2009.

Workmen are in the final stages of installing the elevators in the tower at the front of the hotel, after which the elevator machinery and roof over the tower will be installed by a giant crane. Once the freight elevators are tested and certified, the temporary elevator cages at the back of the hotel will be taken down and the rear wall completed.

Hotel rooms are receiving paint, wallpaper, tile and

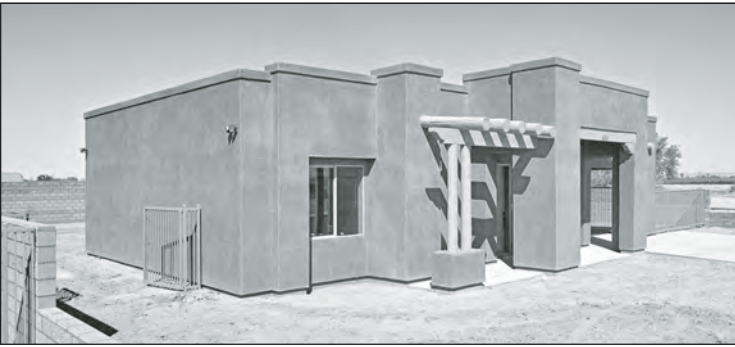
carpeting from the top floors down, as workers continue putting in the final details. The elevator tower even had its roof installed on September 24th.

Once the Casino♠Resort opens, there will be a need for between 900 and 1200 employees, depending on the season and events held at the Events Center. Since a fully trained and qualified staff is needed in only 3 months, plans are being made right now for the recruitment effort to begin!



The Events Center Stage is seen surrounded by portable sodium vapor lamps and various supplies being stored for later installation in all areas of the complex. The large light colored box-beams in the ceiling contain the overhead tracks for portable walls on either side of the stage. Two long moveable walls are also installed in pockets on both sides of the double doors to the left. The walls enable the events center to be subdivided into six rooms with a central hall for separate meetings at the same or related events.

New Quechan Housing Moves Towards a



A number of new single-family homes have been built in a unique "Pueblo" style, with exposed beams made of solid logs with giant exposed beam details on the exterior. Photos by William Isbell, QUECHAN NEWS



Rental homes in the new subdivision can also be had with a Spanish tile roof. All of the homes have a substantial appearance, as nice as any upper income ownership home in the Yuma/El Centro market.

The Quechan Subdivision Phase I is rapidly approaching completion as this issue of the *Quechan News* goes to press.

Now that the paving is finished on the interior streets of the new subdivision, rental tenants are beginning to take up residence in the newly constructed triplexes and houses. The new triplexes will feature one- and two-bedroom apartments in each unit.

There are also two-bedroom houses in a variety of southwestern designs that are beginning to be occupied and our first five-bedroom homes are ready to accept families.

Both the homes and apartments have been designed with taller and wider entryways, solid doors and low emissivity glass windows to insure quiet, comfortable living.

Plans for a Grand Opening are in the works for sometime this

fall when the weather is cooler.

As the new rental units have been under construction in the Phase I development, the complete infrastructure of the Quechan Subdivision for the future development area has also been completed.

This lengthy process involved moving power poles, removing and relocating a concrete-lined irrigation ditch, leveling large areas of land (including massive amounts of fill dirt) and extending Sapphire Lane from Bluestone Drive to the end of the new Quechan Subdivision. Another feat was accomplished in running over 6,000 feet of water line (including boring under the Cocopah Canal) to service the subdivision.

Homeownership units will be starting soon in the east side of the subdivision, with several homes planned.

Meanwhile the scattered sites

are moving along, with homes being occupied as they are completed and a move-ins coming soon. The scattered site homes are at various stages of construction and will be finished in the next few months.

Scattered site development was delayed for nearly a year as the BIA initiated a new Environmental Assessment requirement that is now mandatory for all home site leases. The Quechan Tribally Designated Housing Entity (QTDHE) is seeking to see this process improved and feels that with a full staff of employees now at the Ft. Yuma Agency, this will be possible.

QTDHE has also certified four staff members to work in cooperation with Imperial County Animal Control. They will not only be helping round up stray dogs, but are now trained to make observations on the condition of animals.

GET YOUR QUECHAN TRIBE OFFICIAL SEAL WINDBREAKER!



Sizes S,M,L Only: \$42.00

Sizes XL to 5XL: \$45.00

Quechan Tribe Caps:

Only \$12.00!

Fully lined, with a zipper front closure. Rear mesh vent covered by velcro closure, keeps rain out, allows evaporation to keep you warm and dry!
Delivered 2 weeks after your paid order.

The Windbreaker has a HUGE Quechan Tribe Seal on the back, with a smaller seal over the left breast - plus you can have your name embroidered front and back in white!

**To order, contact Cathie Soliz, Quechan Tribe Property & Supply Manager at 572-0213, Ext. 229
Payment is due upon order.**

PIVOT POINT Looking for Workers



The new Pivot Point Hotel and Conference Center is preparing to open for business on November 1st, and will need a fully trained staff by then.

With the Quechan Nation a part-owner of this world class venue, both the Hilton Garden Inn and the Riverfront Conference Center hope to employ as many qualified members of the Quechan Tribe as possible.

Though a job fair was sched-

uled for Monday and Tuesday, October 6 and 7, both Lorraine Cruz (Director of Marketing) and Steele Edwards (the Hotel's General Manager) say they would welcome any Quechan Tribe members who wish to apply to stop by with a resumé or pick up an application at their sales office at 115 South Madison Avenue any time this week.

Tribe members may also apply at the TERO Office.

Grand Opening Celebration This Fall



All kitchens feature real wood cabinets, stained in rich, natural colors.



Water heaters are mounted up off the floor and secured in place to meet seismic standards.

A six-foot high block wall has been constructed around the entire new subdivision, creating a "gated community" look. Workers can be seen below adjusting rebar in preparation for pouring the footing for a lot wall.



Every home being built abounds in interesting architectural details, such as the extended wall with its own peaked roof seen surrounding the front bedroom window of this unit. Note also the round vents arranged in a diamond pattern.



Three triplexes of apartments are also finished, awaiting only landscaping before tenants move in later this fall. Each unit has its own paved parking and a back porch area with a sliding glass door.

ROEL Barbeque Recognizes Subcontractors



It took over an hour for everyone to move down the line and take their choice of carne asada or pollo asado with rice, beans and tortillas. Toby Hernandez of ROEL's San Diego office was in charge of the cooking.



The crowd of hungry workers filled all the available space in the new Events Center, lining up all the way around the walls after lunch to get their commemorative "Quechan Casino Resort Project Crew" T-shirts.



National Marketing Director Zöe Hickey was on hand to award raffle prizes and to thank everyone for all their hard work. Photos: William Isbell

Although ROEL Construction is the lead contractor on the new Quechan Casino Resort complex, the vast majority of the day-to-day physical labor is being accomplished by a myriad of smaller, specialized subcontractors. From cabinetry to electrical work, plumbing to dry-wall, the hundreds of employees answer to a sometimes confus-

ing hierarchy that includes their own supervisors, shift managers and overall managers representing both Cumming Corporation and ROEL, plus the Quechan Construction Committee overseeing everything.

With all of that, things are somehow moving smoothly towards completion, with an excellent safety record and very few

"do-overs" so far. To show their appreciation for the high morale and can-do attitude of everyone involved, ROEL Construction held a "Sub Appreciation Day" on September 24th. Toby Hernandez from San Diego brought in ROEL's own on-site catering truck and prepared a Mexican barbeque lunch for 600, with carne asada, pollo asado, rice,

beans, tortillas and salad, plus about 30 cases of soda.

Workers lined up at the back entry to the Events Center and filled their plates and filed inside to sit down at long rows of tables for lunch. General Superintendent Bob Oostra even handed out raffle tickets and announced the winners for prizes such as watches and pens.



Even during the barbeque, work continued outside, with the installation of the roof frame and steel panels over the elevator tower.



Prior to the facelift, the paint crew from Lima Construction sand blasted the entire exterior of the building to remove loose paint and patched and sealed the cracks and rough spots to give the new paint a smooth surface to adhere to.

Photo by Dennis Aguero, Business Enterprises



Fresh wall signs are included as part of the new look, courtesy of local sign artist Javier Marquez of Yuma.

Photo by William Isbell, QUECHAN NEWS

Hub Liquor Gets a Face Lift



The new look is similar to the old, with a lighter shade of desert tan for the exterior, which won't show dirt. The blue areas have been re-done in a brilliant brick red, and the stores logotype is now much larger, in a deep black outlined in brick red. The building looks 20 years newer on the outside!

Photo by William Isbell

Changes for Hub Liquor suggested by Business Enterprise Manager Dennis Aguero in his first interview for the *Quechan News* in March are beginning to be seen, with the Winterhaven landmark receiving an exterior makeover in September.

Lima Construction of Yuma was contracted to clean off the old paint and apply a fresh coat of plaster where needed before "shooting" a whole new color scheme over the outside. Sign artist Javier Marquez then applied high contrast logos on

the walls up high, where even at night they can be seen from blocks away. The result is a much sharper appearance.

Dennis says to keep your eye out for some remodelling improvements on the inside over the coming months, too.

Do You Shop At

FOOD CITY ?

You can help San Pasqual Middle School earn credit for free educational equipment by placing your Food City register tapes in our school's collection box.

Our school has two collection boxes - one in the school office and the other at the Food City at the intersection of 16th Street and Avenue B in Yuma.

Last year, we were able to buy a digital camera for the Middle School through funds provided by this program!

The program dates this year are August 28, 2008 through March 31, 2009.

For more information, please call our school's coordinators:

Jodie Villa or Richard Barker at (760) 572-0222, Extension 2493.



THE FALL 2008 4 TO 7 YEAR OLD PEE WEE

GRASSHOPPER BASKETBALL LEAGUE

**Registration Deadline is
Friday, October 24**

QUECHAN PARKS & RECREATION

First News Conference Held on Casino♠Resort



Assembled press representatives from Imperial and Yuma counties, plus media from Mexico filled the Furniture, Fixtures and Equipment (FF&E) room at the construction site. QUECHAN NEWS Photos by William Isbell

Local media who have been chomping at the bit for the past few months, hoping to get a “scoop” on the status of the new Quechan Casino♠Resort got their wish on September 25th. Paradise Casinos and the Quechan Construction Committee teamed up with President Mike Jackson, Sr. and the Economic Development Administration to give over two dozen members of the media a guided tour of the building and grounds.

Representatives from Telemundo, Univision, Imperial County Newsday, *The Sun* and both KSWT and KYMA then crowded into the FF&E room at the construction site to look over an architectural model of the completed project and view renderings and materials samples going into the hotel, casino and events center.

The result was a flurry of sto-

ries on the evening news for two days, plus a front page story in *The Sun* the next day. Both President Jackson and Barrett DeFay, Marketing Director for the Paradise Casinos promised those in attendance that a similar event will be held later in the year, as the opening date for the new Resort draws near.



President Jackson was among those who spoke to the media.

**Due to The Indian Day Holiday,
the Quechan Tribal Council
has decided to distribute the
Per Capita checks on
THURSDAY, OCTOBER 9, 2008
So that all employees
can enjoy the Holiday, too.**

Veterans Memorial Planned

Continued from Page 1

time, it was only an idea, and little more.

But later that year, Norman returned to Santa Fe for a class reunion, and realized he knew a sculptor who might make his dream a reality - his old classmate, Doug Hyde!

While at the reunion, Norman and the sculptor discussed the idea, and, as both an injured veteran and fellow native, Mr. Hyde was happy to consider the commission, provided a means for representing the theme could be found that agreed with the traditions of the Quechan people. Norman returned home, and continued to think about what it was he wanted to see on the hill. A few more short conversations with President Jackson over the years kept the idea alive, but in the background.

Finally, in 2006, while talking over possible future projects for Post 802 with fellow member Gene Moore, he mentioned his idea for a Veterans Memorial on the hill, and the fact that he personally knew the man who could pull it off. Never one to sit and talk when action can be taken, Gene encouraged Norman to act on his convictions. Doug had since set up a studio in Prescott Valley, and Gene arranged to join Norman to meet him there.

At Doug’s studio, the 3 vets considered ideas for the Memorial such as an arrangement of military arms. That idea could prove difficult, since any weapons represented would reflect only one era of history, and covering the Air Force might prove problematic, since it could mean sculpting a jet flying over the collection of weapons. Quechan tradition must also be respected, so that meant representing any individual warrior, even anonymously, would be forbidden.

Finally, in a flash of insight, Doug suggested an eagle. A potent symbol for both native people and the United States,

***“Past and present
Tribal Councils
have supported this
project 100% -
honoring
our Quechan Warriors
who have
defended this Nation,
both yesterday
and today.
I am glad to
see this
finally
coming to pass.”***

Quechan President
Mike Jackson, Sr.

the eagle would represent many things, while conveying a message of freedom, strength and vision all at once. The sculptor immediately agreed, and found his inspiration.

Since that time, the two tribe members and nationally renowned sculptor have met again, once to look over the carved stone original Doug created as a guide, and again to approve a plaster cast of the original. The plaster cast was used to refine the details, and to freeze the final result for shipment to Heavy Industries of Canada.

Once in Canada, the cast would be digitally scanned in 3 dimensions for enlargement to a height of almost 22 feet. Each line and feathers of the smaller item would be meticulously observed, and final hand sanding and sculpting of the larger eagle would insure they matched in every detail.

The Canadian foundry that Doug Hyde uses to cast his larger works has now produced a giant sculpture for the Quechan Veterans in a space age polystyrene material, which is sealed in a high tech, weather proof resin. It matches the smaller plaster proof in every detail, though it is nearly 12 times the size!

In the meantime, both Norman and Gene had met with the Quechan Tribal Council to let them know of their hopes to create a Memorial, and the Council wholeheartedly encouraged them in their efforts.

President Jackson asked Mr. Osborne if he still wished to place the sculpture on the high ground, and Norman said he always intended it to dominate the area, as a reminder of our veterans’ sacrifices in insuring our freedom.

Vice President Escalanti also agreed, and assigned Joel Smith, Facilities Director for the Tribe the duty of preparing the grounds for installation. President Jackson’s final contribution to the design was to suggest removal of the current flagpole outside of the Administration office, and the integration of three flagpoles into the design - one for the national standard, one for the flag of the California Republic, and a third flagpole to hoist the colors of the Quechan Nation.

The final design now has a circular disk of concrete, with the flagpoles at the west end. The Eagle will sit on a square, raised concrete base, and bronze medallions with the seals of the Army, Navy, Air Force, Marines and the Coast Guard will be installed surrounding the Eagle. Lighting for both the sculpture and the flag of the United States will be placed around the area, to allow anyone in the area to view the Quechan Veterans Memorial and the American flag proudly flying overhead 24 hours a day, 365 days a year.

Local veterans, fellow legionnaires and the general public will all be invited to attend the official dedication of the monument on Sunday, November 9th. The U.S. Border Patrol is sending their color guard to take part, and the color guards from YPG and MCAS will also be invited. See you there!

QUECHAN

CASINO ♠ RESORT

CONSTRUCTION UPDATE October 2008



As the Hotel Wing nears completion (at the right) only the pavement immediately surrounding the Casino♠Resort is yet to be put in place. The large crane on the left is lowering A/C units onto the Casino roof. Elevator cages have been installed in the tower, as well as heavy-duty motors and the machinery needed to operate two freight and two passenger elevators. Once the heavy equipment which could damage the paving has departed, the parking areas and roads leading to the valet entrance will be paved.

Photo by William Isbell, QUECHAN NEWS

More Changes Visible

As more fixtures and equipment are being delivered every day for installation at the new Quechan Casino♠Resort, the air conditioned main hall of the Events Center serves as a warehouse, storing bar counters, rolls of carpeting and pallets of floor tile for later installation in the hotel and casino wings of the complex. At about 216 feet by 140 feet, the Events Center main room will be able to hold up to 800 people for a dinner, or have stadium seating for up to 2200 for concerts or boxing matches.

The Events Center will also have a three bay loading dock for semi trucks at the back, as well as giant doors nearby at ground level. This will allow normal deliveries of food and equipment to be conducted at the loading dock, while entertainers and exhibitors use the back doors to roll in and setup their equipment at the same time, without interference.

Workmen have already begun to install floor tile in the upper floor bathrooms of the hotel, and are being followed by painters, plumbers and electricians who will install the fixtures and finish the details. The hotel is being completed from the top down, permitting the workers to carry everything they need downstairs as they work, and out the doors when they are finished.

The outlying parking areas have been paved and roped off, with the area nearest to the structure left as bare earth until the heavy equipment that may damage the paving has finished and left the worksite for good.

Unlike many wood framed, plywood skinned hotels that have gone up recently in Yuma, the new Casino♠Resort has a steel frame which is covered with fire-proof gypsum board (which can be seen as the yellow sheets in the construction photos). The gyp-

sum is then covered over with an insulating expanded polystyrene, followed by fiberglass sheating and a final plaster coat. The result is a continuous, fire resistant wall with excellent insulating and noise reduction qualities.

A complete state of the art water treatment and storage facility is also going in to the south, to supply all of the needs of the Resort. Sheltered out of sight behind a high ridge, the water facility has two ground water wells. Water from the wells will be treated and stored in an 850,000 gallon storage tank, for both domestic water use and fire suppression needs.

All water flowing into the storm drains will drain to the retention basin at the south end of the complex, where it can also be treated and stored in a smaller tank. That water will then return through an entirely separate set of lines to be used for landscaping irrigation.

Early Voting by Mail in Arizona

**REGISTERED VOTERS,
MAKE SURE YOUR VOTE COUNTS!**

Voting by Mail is a way for tribal members to vote without the ID requirements needed at the polling place in Arizona. Contact your county recorder to request an early ballot. The only ID requirement used in early voting is that the signature on your early ballot will be compared to the signature on your voter registration form.

When completed, your early Arizona General Election ballot can be mailed back to the County Recorder or, if you so choose, brought to any polling location in Yuma County on Election Day.

Important Dates:

October 9th: Early Ballots mailed for Arizona Voters

October 24th: Last day to request early ballot from your Arizona County Recorder

November 4th: Presidential General Election - all 50 states

For more information contact the Arizona Secretary of State's office at (877) THE-VOTE or visit <http://www.itcaonline.com>