# ETSKA NAV AH WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 22, 2008 Volume 102, Issue 19

#### In This Issue:

**Parade Winners** Page 2

**Bird Songs Celebration** Page 3

Come Play On Our Land Page 4

**Kids Games Winners** Page 5

Rendezvous Planning Page 6

**Safety Improvements** Page 7

**Baby Dress Contest Back Cover** 





is published by

The Quechan Indian Tribe

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# Miss Tarryn Villicaña is **New Miss Quechan Nation**

For the first time ever, the Miss Ouechan Nation Pageant was held outdoors this fall in Evergreen Park, below Indian Hill and just north of the famous Ocean-To-Ocean Bridge.

A special stage was constructed by a Paradise Casinos crew, and a backdrop and lighting for the event was prepared by the Pageant Committee with help from the Casino workers, who also brought in a sound system.

The evening began shortly after 7:00 PM with a grand entry of Roland Golding and the contestants, as well as last years Miss Quechan Nation, Jessica gether and to the members of the companying herself Post 802 color guard. Visiting Royalty included Miss CRIT and Martinez, California and Miss San Pasqual's High School Indian Princess, Marilyn Galindo.

With John Chrisman of Viejas in California acting as the eve-







Tarryn's talents included sewing the dress above for her little cousin and Bird Dancing. Her competition included Markea Barley (who was awarded First Runner Up) and Stella Iron Cloud, who sang a Hunkpapa Sioux song and also performed a Birg Dance as her talents.

Paddock, following the Quechan audience who came to give their on a painted skin support.

Each of the three contestants performing her her first attendant, the Su Kutt demonstrated their poise and own Quechan Menyic Princess from Torres ability to "think on their feet" by answering a random, sealed question they each picked from a basket. They also modelled their traditional dresses on a runway that extended out from the ning's Emcee, Nancy Montague, stage, before engaging in the tal-Sr. stepped forward to offer an ent competition. All three girls Escalanti-Villicaña, opening prayer. After a welcom- performed a Bird Dance. Vernon ing message from Quechan Tribe Smith provided the song for Tar-President Mike Jackson. Sr., ryn, who also showed her sewing Quechan Councilwoman (and talents with a dress she made for Pageant liason) Cryselle Uribe her cousin. Markea danced to the gave her thanks to everyone who songs of John Crisman, and Stelhelped put this year's Pageant to- la sang a Sioux song while ac-

drum prior to Bird Dance.

Once the judges scores were tallied. Miss Tarryn Villicaña was the winner. The daughter of Florencia Villicaña and Rafina she is of Quechan and Mexican descent.

Markea Barley, the daughter of Marlowe Barley, Sr. and Marveen Brown was the first runner-up.

Congratulations, ladies!



### n day parade winners



Nancy Montague, Sr. served as the Grand Marshall for this year's Parade. Photos by William Isbell

This year's Indian Day Parade saw many more entries from outside the community taking part, and a number of them were rewarded for their efforts by top prizes from the Judging Committee. With five different categories, there were plenty of chances to go home with a prize.

The novelty of unfamiliar dance groups paid off for the out-of-town entrants this year, with all three awards going to visiting tribes. The Aztecs from Baldwin Park took first place, the Hopi Water Dancers nabbed second, and their Second Mesa Buffalo Dance Group captured third.

In the Specialized Motor Vehicles Division, the Imperial County Fire Department proved the enduring popularity of a large, polished fire truck by taking first. The new Quechan Senior Center bus was spiffy enough to take second, followed by the Post 802 Women's Auxiliary in the American Legion's road-going locomotive.

A visiting veteran's group managed to edge out the perrenial favorites from Post 802 in the non-profit category. The Pi Paash Veterans from Laveen, Arizona marched into first place, with the local color guard falling back to second. The San Lucy Tohono O'odham Basket Dancers were awarded the third place trophy.

The Quechan Language Preservation group's replica of a traditional Kwat'san ramada was good enough for first place in the "Commercial" Division. The Senior Center float captured second, and the Quechan Head Start group got third place in the "Commercial" category.

Finally, for the school entries, the San Pasqual Native Royalty managed to win second place, with the Somerton Middle home top honors this year.



The Aztec Dancers from Baldwin Park, California took First Place in the "Performance" category.

School Marching Band taking



First place "Commercial" float went to the Quechan Language Program.



Visiting Pi Paash Veterans earned First Place for non-profit groups.

#### To The Quechan Community:

that our tribal membership is concerned about the latest news articles that have appeared in The Yuma Sun, stating that construction of our new Casino ♠ Resort will stop because we have no funds to complete it. The Tribal Council wants to inform our members that this is simply not true. We have secured the funds through bonds investors in the amount of \$155 million. However, we still have to go back to our investors for another \$25 million to complete our Casino Resort.

Our investors have also been affected by the current economic slowdown. The Fitch Ratings company has recently downgraded our bond status. This downgrade has temporarily impacted our ability to secure additional funding.

The Quechan Tribal Council is totally aware of the financial situation on Wall Street. Because of this, we have been looking at other resources to secure that funding. Mr. Espino, the Tribal

The Tribal Council is aware Comptroller has been in contact with other financial sources in search of additional funds to complete the construction of our new Casino. Mr. Espino has reported to the Tribal Council that funding is available.

> There will be no shutdown of our Casino as reported in The Yuma Sun.

> The Sun chose to print a very negative story on the construction status of our new Casino.

> The Quechan Tribal Council wants to reassure our members that there will not be a halt to construction; we a currently ahead on our construction schedule. We are now looking at having our Grand Opening sooner than expected.

> Both the United States and the World economy has affected our Tribal Nation. However, as always, we will get through this difficult time and strive to be more self sufficient in the fu-

> > The Quechan Tribal Council



#### INDIAN HEALTH CLINIC

Will hold a final

#### **Influenza Vaccine Clinic**

for Adults and Children currently registered at the Ft. Yuma Indian Health Center

At the

#### **Public Health Nursing Office** Tuesday, October 28th From 1:00pm - 7:00pm

Pneumonia and Tetanus vaccines will also be available. Ouestions? Call Claudia Lorenz, RN/PHN at (760) 572-4225 or (800) 862-4911



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Email: w.isbell@quechantribe.com

#### 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

# Bird Singing and Dancing Enliven Indian Day Celebrations







A large crowd gathered both in the stands and on the arena floor to both watch and take part in this year's Bird Singers and Dancers Competition at Quechan Indian Days. On the left, dozens of dancers from 4 to adulthood collect for the warm-up dance, while the singing groups are judged. In the center, Angel Townsend (front), Stella Iron Cloud and a Hualapai girl shout along as visiting singers perform. Finally, at the right, a tie-breaker dance-off was necessary for three of teen girls aged 12 to 17.



Colorful dresses are an important part of the program. These girls are from Peach Springs.

that accompanies the festivities. the arena on Saturday.

Every tribe and language nation joined Emcee John Crisman and local Bird Singers in a

An important part of every good-spirited song competition, tribe's Indian Days Celebration while also providing live music is the native music and dance for dozens of Bird Dancers in

To make the competition group has it's own particular a little tougher this time, Mr. tradition, with brightly painted Chrisman announced that singhandmade gourd rattles among ers would be permitted to throw the Quechan taking the place a few two-steps and other songs of wooden and stretched animal into the mix from time-to-time. the simple fact that it is a fun skin drums so common among The dancers would have to truly tribes to the east. This year, sing- be "on their toes" to avoid being ers from as far away as the Hopi caught "flat footed" when those songs popped up in the mix!

into age groups, with the little girls going first, followed by pre-teen girls and then the ladies. Two of the male singers also got into the act, as they stepped forward when the teen boys competition was announced.

But of course, one of the best things about the Bird Dance is way to connect with your heritage. Not everyone wishes to compete - they are satisfied to simply dance. For those, the Competition was broken up Dance Ramada was the answer.



Lorenzo Tahbo got a great reaction from the audience and judges with his dance jumps.







Jeryn and Jentry Go Forth, (on the left) only 5 and 4 years old, were often seen joining in with their gourds, doing their best to follow along. In the center, Bird Singers from Gila River, Parker and the Hualapai Reservation line up to the right of the arena stage with Ivan Bender, waiting to perform. For the dance contest, some two-steps and other songs were thrown-in to the mix, to literally keep the dancers "on their toes". The Roadrunners Singers were also joined by the Go Forth boys under the Dance Ramada on Friday night (right).

# INIDIAN IDAY Bar-B-Que Dinner





#### "Come Play On Our Land" Event Being Organized For Diabetes Awareness

Projects Wellness Center is orcommunity together through fun and fitness.

Scheduled for Saturday, November 15th, the first annual "Come Play on Our Land" day will take place at the San Pasqual High football field. Open to all ages from preschool to elders, the event will have activities for all ages and activity levels.

Lisa Ball of the Wellness Center is putting it all together, and asks for input from all Tribal Departments - fitness is for everybody! Right now she's got people from Parks and Rec-

betes Awareness month and the Center, ADAPP and Communi- playground in the new housing staff at the Diabetes Special ty Health Services all on board, area," says Lisa. "If we can put holding organizing meetings in this together and make it a sucganizing an event to bring the the Senior Center Conference cess, we're hoping they'll see Room. They'll meet again on the community's cooperation Wednesday morning, October and commitment to everyone's 29th at 10:00 AM. If you've got health." time and would like to contribute, you are welcome to attend.

> to demonstrate the community commitment to wellness, to increase our chances of success in can Fitness Conference. While securing a Nike grant.

> (N7) Native American Fitness and Hip Hop Dance for Fitness to encourage athletics.

"We'd really like to convince here" says Lisa.

November is National Dia- reation, the Quechan Senior Nike to give us a grant to build a

The staff at the Wellness Center was inspired to create The plan is use these games this annual fun and games event for the entire community after attending the Native Amerithere, they attended "Functional Nike Shoes, makers of Nike Fun Training", "Tag You're Fit" Shoes, is using profits from the classes. "We were so impressed sale of those shoes for Native with the knowledge we obtained American Community Projects at the Fitness Conference, we want to share it with everyone

### Do you transport children?

in ladling out a delicious meal. Miss

CRIT for 2008/09, Tayla Tahbo can be

seen above, filling plates with fresh fried chicken. Angel Townsend (at left) joined

her on the line once she finished her

portion of the Bird Dance Competition.

If so, you might be interested in:

### **Child Passenger Certification Training**

To be Held Tuesday thru Friday November 18th thru the 21st at the New Sub Community Center

Has your CPS Certification expired? If so, then get it rectified in one day on Monday, November 17th!



For more information, contact

Lisa Aguerro at the **Inury Prevention Office** (760)572-0437

You can sign up for this training at: http://www.safekids.org/certification/ (Don't forget to search "California"!)

### The Elder's Swim Club **Final Session This Season**

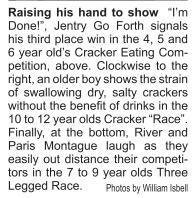


The Elders Swim Club wrapped up the season with a barbeque on October 14th, a cool and blustery day that was a little too chilly to go in the pool! Lisa Aguerro, the Swim Club's leading light, handed out goodie bags to those involved, and presented Willis Hawkins with a Certificate of Appreciation. Willis runs the Quechan Rainbow Pool, and Lisa says he always had the pool sparkling clean and ready for the club before they even arrived.

Jack Bouts brought the steaks for the get together, and Robert Fitzherbert did the cooking. Also present were Louise Tannheimer, Leah Fitzherbert and Jamie Irizarry. The Club will re-form as the Elders Walking Club, meeting at the Diabetes Walking Park on Tuesday and Thursday mornings beginning October 28th.

# "Kids Games" Award Winners of all Ages









The Annual Quechan Indian Days Celebration wouldn't be complete without giving all the kids a chance to burn off some energy and win cash prizes at the same time. This time, most of Friday afternoon was taken up by kids raising clouds of dust and laughing in good-natured competition, as running races and out-eating one another was the order of the day.

Here are the winners of various competitions:

50 Yard Dash: 4, 5 and 6 1st: Angel Ferrero

2nd: Anthony Dias 3rd: Angelo Palone

50 Yard Dash: 7, 8 and 9 1st: William Koteen 2nd: Maverick Carpio 3rd: Larry Rodriguez

50 Yard Dash: 10, 11 and 12 1st: Matthew Dresden 2nd: Bryton Capil 3rd: Alec Cachora

50 Yard Dash: 13, 14 and 15 1st: Deshayne Mills 2nd: Red Hawk Walsh 3rd: Andrew Lomestaiwa

1st: River and Paris Montague

2nd: Maverick and Blake Carpio

3rd: Alec and Elijah Carpio

Three Legged Race (10 to 12):

1st: Alec Cachora and Bryton Carpio 2nd: Haley Talayumptewa and Partner (Unnamed)

3rd: Mariah and Shawna Mills

Three Legged Race (13 to 15):

1st: Andrew Lomestaiwa and Red Hawk Walsh 2nd: Abel and Deshayne Mills

3rd: Michael and Keanu Cachora

Cracker Eating: 4, 5 and 6

1st: Janessa Talayumptewa 2nd: Jerryn Go Forth 3rd: Jentry Go Forth

Cracker Eating: 7, 8 and 9

1st: Maverick Carpio 2nd: Gabriel Flores 3rd: Blake Carpio

Cracker Eating: 10, 11 and 12

1st: Esmerelda Serrano 2nd: Sadie Gonzalez 3rd: Abel Mills

Three Legged Race (7 to 9): Cracker Eating: 12, 13 and 14

1st: Michael Cachora 2nd: Keanu Cachora 3rd: Deshayne Mills

Soda Drinking: 4, 5 and 6

1st: Angel Ferrero 2nd: Noah Ferrero

3rd: Reagan Go Forth

Soda Drinking: 7, 8 and 9

1st: River Montague 2nd: Larry Rodriguez 3rd: Daniel Mills

Soda Drinking: 10, 11 and 12

1st: Matthew Dresden 2nd: Abel Mills 3rd: Sadie Gonzales

Soda Drinking: 12, 13 and 14

1st: Michael Cachora 2nd: Deshayne Mills 3rd: Andrew Lomestaiwa

At the end, the "adults" had to jump in and try their hand at soda guzzling, so here are the winners of that contest, too:

**Soda Drinking: Adults** 

1st: Gilbert Mills 2nd: Letreace Tourtillot 3rd: Frasier Havatone



Average sized Mike Sestiaga looks like a middle school student when standing next to Shaq!

Tribe member currently em- Porter, Mike also shook hands ployed by the University of Ari- and shared a few moments with zona in Tucson was privileged the ex-Chicago Bulls Champion to meet members of the Phoenix Suns at their recent training nus Bill Cartwright. camp. Held at the McHale Cenfinal touches on their strategies for the upcoming NBA season that began on October 5th of this year.

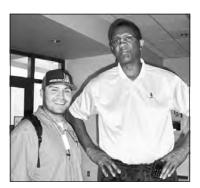
Employed as a grounds to Raja Bell, Shaq Diesel, Amare Stoudermaire, Boris Diaw, I guess!"

Mike Sestiaga, a Quechan Robin Lopez and Coach Terry and NBA Hall of Fame Alum-

Mike says he enjoyed being ter from September 29th to Oc- able to watch them practice for tober 3rd, the Suns were using three days straight while on his the facilities at U of A to put the breaks and lunch hours, and of course, getting to talk to some of the players about their upcoming season. He also says their workout regimen is "brutal!"

Finally, he makes this observacrew member by the Facilities tion about meeting such profes-Department at the University, sionals: "It's weird knowing that Mike was able to meet a number when I used to play REZ ball at of the players and have his pic- the Community Center we were ture taken with them. In addition no where near the shape these guys are in. To much Fry bread









#### To Be Held at Pivot Point in November:

# Quechan Senior Gathering Plans Move Ahead

Discussions continue between Committee and the marketing staff at Pivot Point the final details of this November's Senior Gathering. At a meeting held on October 9th at the Senior Center, Pivot Point Head Chef James Leach and Marketing Director Lorraine Cruz presented a suggested menu for both days.

Friday night will feature a choice of roast beef or chicken. With the Quechan seniors gathering on the same weekend as the Annual Quechan Thanksgiving Dinner, it had already been agreed to serve a traditional turkey dinner on Saturday.

At the same time, the majority of the Quechan Tribe will be meeting at the Quechan Community Center for their traditional get together.

the Senior Center Pivot Point also feature a lunch break around Center right away, so he can fax 11:00 AM, with all meals pro- them an application to reserve a vided free to event participants spot. His number is 572-0748. from the Quechan Nation.

> area around the new Pivot Point Conference Center. Those who wish to sell craft items are encouraged to apply for a space right away, since the public is encouraged to stop by and visit on Friday, November 14th.

If you know someone out ous vendors and meetings! of state who may wish to be a

The Conference Center will Scheduled for November 21st supply 32-inch wide tables for and 22nd, both days will have all vendors. The standard length vendors set up in the outdoors is 6 feet, so if you need a larger table, or more than one, be sure to mark your needs on the application, as there is a very limited number of 8 foot tables available for the Rendevous.

Pivot Point and the Senior the outdoor displays. A Vendor Center have arranged to have Booth Application is printed on large golf cart style shuttles on page 7 of this issue, and should hand from Park 'N' Ride Exbe filled out and dropped off at press, to shuttle participants to the Quechan Senior Center no and from the Senior Center, a later than the close of business real service for those who want to save their energy for the vari-

The Rendevous (for local vendor offering native goods, Tribe members 55 and over who

the Senior Center) will feature informational workshops on both days, as well as the meals mentioned, local and professional entertainment and raffles and other prize drawings.

The opening of the Gathering at 10:00 AM on Friday will begin with a traditional blessing, the Post 802 Color Guard and local dance groups. Registration will begin at 11:00 AM, brunch served at 11:30 AM.

There will be four one-hour seminars on Friday, with breaks for snacks and local dance groups to entertain in between. A one hour break at 4:00 PM will give everyone a chance to return home and dress for the buffet dinner, followed by live entertainment by legendary Country

Both days of the event will call Emmett Hartt at the Senior are frequent daily participants at singer Ray Price at 8 PM. Drawings will be held throughout the evening.

> Saturday will be much the same, but with an earlier starting time of 9:00 AM. to allow those arriving late from out of town to register. A continental breakfast will be available. Seminars and workshops begin at 10:00 AM, with two breaks in between. On Saturday, lunch will be served at noon, and everyone will get a with a one-hour southwest-style final chance to visit the vendors' booths during breaks.

> > Saturday will end with the traditional Thanksgiving dinner already mentioned, with entertainment by Todd Duran and Project 669 at 5:00 PM.

> > Indian comedian Drew Lacapa will entertain the Gathering beginning at 7:00 PM. Raffles will continue all evening.

## FIRE PREVENTIO



Pearl Cowan, the Quechan Tribe Safety Officer, had to get a photo with Sparky the Fire Dog!

As part of National Fire Prevention Week (October 5th to the 11th), the Winterhaven Fire District invited children from the Quechan Education Complex to visit with Sparky the a chance to practice that move. Firedog and the volunteer firethe Fire Truck.



wanted to demonstrate was they are scared. They were told teaching the children how to "stop, drop and roll", should they ever catch on fire. Everyone, including their teachers, got

fighters. The children also got a what to do in the event of a fire: chance to climb on and explore How to call 911, and to never hide in the structure, which is the The main thing the Firemen natural instinct of a child when Outreach for our children!

to take the safest route and exit the house or facility as quickly as possible.

To end their time with the Fire Department, they all toured The Fireman also discussed the Fire Truck and were given goodie bags full of information about fire prevention.

Another great Community





### Safety Improvements On Hill

A work crew from the Ouechan Facilities Maintenance Department has been busy making incremental improvements to the area surrounding the Artists' Marketplace and Language preservation Department over the past few months. Their latest project was replacement of the saftey rail that ran around the east side of the complex, atop the stone wall that runs next to the street alongside the Indian Health Service Clinic.

Years of exposure to the elements lead to a deterioration of the rail, with bolts rusting away and the mortar atop the wall crumbling into powder. Joel Smith, the Facilities Director had wanted to replace the rail for sometime, since it had become loose in spots and threatened to come off the wall completely in some areas.

With more children signing up to take part in art and language classes this year and an influx of visitors for per capita and Indian Days expected in early October, the Ouechan Tribal Council moved to have the work done at the end of September.

Jeff Hagadus, Maintenance face of the wall. Supervisor, led a group of fellow facilities workers through the project over the first two



Wayne Chaipos, Jr. watches as Jeff Hagadus mixes concrete and Lonnie Gilmore checks the level of a fence post before the team pours the footing for it. Photos by William Isbell, QUECHAN NEWS

days of October.

Joined by Lonnie Gilmore, Wayne Chaipos, Jr., Ernie Hudson and Jeffrey Tambor, Mr. Hagadus solved the crumbling mortar problem by placing the wall, setting posts for a chainlink replacement in concrete footings at least 18 inches deep. Each post received almost sixty pounds of concrete, tying it firmly in place on the inner sur-

The new fencing is almost two feet higher than the old rail, which was removed once the project was complete.

Another improvement was made earlier this spring, soon after Mr. Hagadus began his tenure at the Facilities Department.

The Artists' Marketplace had new fence inside of the stone been running low on storage space for materials used to create their projects, and needed a more organized, roomy place to keep things. With years of experience in carpentry and construction, Jeff was able to design and build a 16 X 20 foot storeroom for them along the east side, just south of where the rail was just replaced.

Footing blocks were placed and leveled for each corner and along the ouside edges, and a foundation of 2" X 12" boards on 18-inch centers was laid out. A 3/4-inch oriented strand board base was nailed in place for a floor, followed by framing and pitched roof rafters. The facilities crew also installed a weatherproof asphalt shingle roof and double doors on triple hinges along the south side of the new storage "barn", allowing easy access to the shelving system they also installed all the way around the inside.

The Marketplace has now organized additional materials storage in the new structure.

The Quechan Education Complex would like to remind you that there is a 5 MPH speed limit within their area. EVERYONE - employees, visitors, and those dropping off employees or children MUST maintain a low rate of speed. Young children and their parents on site have to cross the parking lot to get to their buildings. Quechan Tribal Security is assisting us in our effort to keep the children, staff and parents safe. With the Fall season upon us, traffic on Picacho Road will increase. Enter and leave the front entrance slowly and use caution when pulling out into the traffic.

#### PLEASE SLOW DOWN!!!

#### **PIVOT POINT** VENDOR BOOTH APPLICATION

The Pivot Point Team, Quechan Senior Center Program and The Quechan Indian Tribe will not be held responsible for any injuries, theft or any other incident occurring during the Pivot Point Celebration.

Pivot Point Conference Center will furnish power (if needed) plus tables and chairs. If you need to leave craft items overnight, the conference center has lockers available with 24 hour security.

Any damage occurring to the Pivot Point Conference Center within your booth area will be the total responsibility of the vendor to pay any and all costs for repairs.

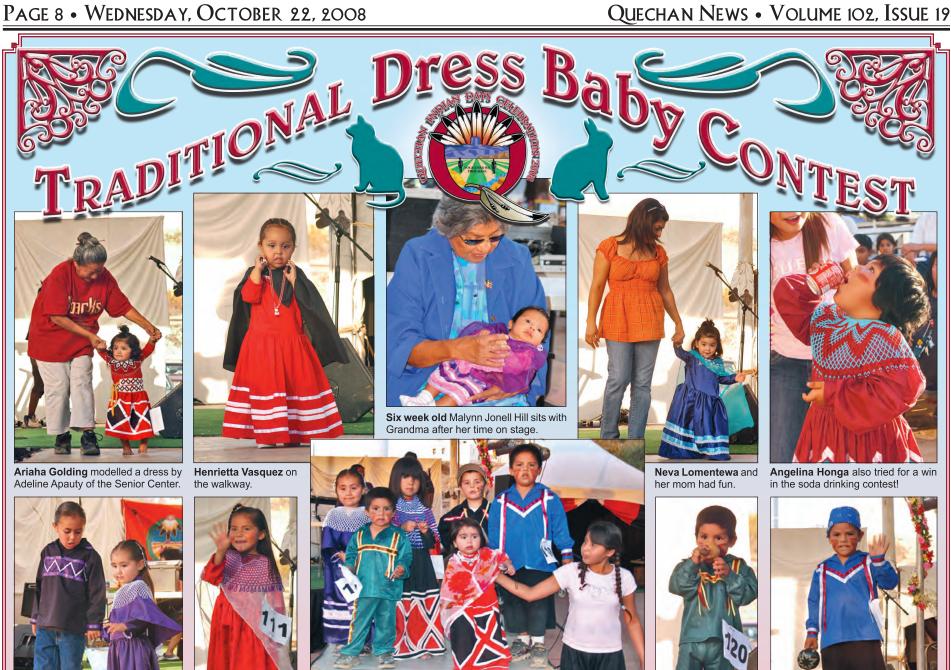
I have read and understand the vendor's contract and

	I agree to the terms and will abide by this contract.
	Name:
	Date:
ı	Vendors Description of Craft/Crafts for Sale:
ı	

Cc: Pivot Point Team Members Juanita Flores, Senior Center Administrative Assistant



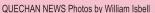
Another improvement made this spring is the new storage facility for the Artists' Marketplace on the east side of their main building



Delila Taylor was escorted for the contest by her brother Deshane.

Janessa Talayumptewa waves hello.

The top three places for Girls and Boys were won by the group you see here: In the back, from the left are Delia Taylor (2nd Place: Girls), Leanne Talaswaima (3rd Place: Girls), Jentry Go Forth (1st Place: Boys) and Dondré Benson (3rd Place: Boys). In the front are the Boys 2nd Place, Demry Benson and the Girls 1st Place winner, Jovanni Amador. All very cute!





**Demry Benson** and his "Gourd Microphone".



Dondré Benson's favorite toys are dinosaurs and Transformers.



with Grandma Marsha Emerson.



Chlöe Clarise Short wore a beautiful havshu colored outfit without shoes.



Boys winner Jentry Go Forth took time to pose with Jovanni after the contest.



Sarah Mattias wore a dress from her Grandma, Judith Prietta.



Irie Marie Charles only turned one year old in September!