



QUECHAN NEWS

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Items Of Special Interest To Tribe Members



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Merciless Heatwave Finally Tapering Off



One good way to "beat the heat" is to spend the day at the Rainbow Pool. That option is not available to adults working outside, however, who must carefully limit their exposure to the sun and be sure to stay hydrated throughout the workday. More heat stress tips are on page 7.

QUECHAN NEWS Photos by William Isbell

After a fairly cool June, the summer heat exploded with a vengeance, as average temperatures of 2 to 7 degrees above normal were recorded over the July Fourth holiday weekend, a preview of what was in store for the coming month.

By July 10th, the National Weather Service had issued an Excessive Heat Warning for the area that remained in effect for over two weeks, as temperatures climbed 8 to 9 degrees above normal, hovering between 110° and 115° every afternoon, from the 10th to the 20th.

Here at Fort Yuma, members of the Quechan Work Force and

Utilities crews working outdoors began coming in as early as possible, to get their more strenuous activities each day completed before the real heat rolled in after 10:00 AM each morning. They also took special precautions to stay hydrated. On the same note, Quechan Parks and Recreation encouraged those using their facilities throughout July to stay inside the air conditioned gym during the day, or to confine their outdoor recreation to the Rainbow Pool.

With the San Pasqual Schools ready to begin the 2009/2010 school year next Wednesday, August 19, parents should re-

mind their children that summer doesn't officially end for another month, and they should be careful when playing outside. The monsoon season may be with us over through Labor Day, with heat and humidity that can "sneak up" on a person very quickly.

And don't forget that students coming home in the afternoon will still be facing the heat through September, so have plenty of drinks available!

San Pasqual also wishes to remind everyone that high school schedules can be picked up in the Counseling Office this Thursday and Friday, August 13th, 14th and next Monday

(the 17th) from 9AM to 3PM.

With above average heat forecast for some time to come, Phil Emerson at the Rainbow Pool says they plan to stay open at least until the beginning of October, to provide some relief to those who still want to take part in outdoor activities.

The Pool's "Back To School Bash" will be held this Saturday, August 15th from 10 AM until 2 PM. All students from Head Start through 8th grade are welcome to enjoy the facilities, sign up for free raffle prizes and have lunch. That same night, a High School Dance for the older kids will be held in the Community Center gym from 8 to 11 PM.

The Rainbow Pool is also offering Adult Water Aerobics on Mondays and Tuesdays from 7:00 to 8:00 every evening. The Elders Walking Club also has Water Aerobics on Tuesdays and Thursdays from 10 AM to 11 AM, until it's cool enough to walk again.

The morning water aerobics sessions are led by Lisa Aguerro of the Quechan Injury Prevention Office and Ruth Carol, an aerobics instructor from Yuma. Ms. Carol is also the instructor for the evening classes.

Stimulus Grants for Water System Improvements



New projects funded by the grants will concentrate on improving water service for the reservation. The images from March of this year show workers tying in a new well on North Arnold Road. Newly funded projects will expand sewer service along First Avenue and Arnold Road, replace water service lines going to homes, and replace aging manhole covers, among other things. QUECHAN NEWS Photos by William Isbell

New federal grants have been awarded to improve the sanitary sewers and drinking water system on the Quechan reservation, with two funded by the American Recovery and Reinvestment (Federal Economic Stimulus) Act according to tribal officials.

All together, the grants total nearly \$1.2 million. The federal funds for the Quechan nation were confirmed in July to upgrade wastewater and drinking water systems that have deteriorated over the years through a combination of normal wear and tear as well as the extreme heat, says Bill Hirt, Water and Sewer Project Coordinator for the Quechan tribe.

Quechan Tribe President Mike Jackson says the Tribe received four separate grants. The first totals \$340,630 from the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act (ARRA) and is earmarked to install new sewer lines in the area

of Arnold Road and First Avenue. The second grant, also from the ARRA, for \$367,000 will go to rebuild a sewer lift station, and a third grant of \$248,000 will replace older water service lines going to individual residences. The water service lines will be replaced with funds from an Environmental Protection Agency tribal border infrastructure program. The final grant award of \$244,000 from the Indian Health Service will fund the rebuilding of sewer man holes.

A spokesperson for the water division tribal office of the EPA told local media in July that total grants of \$90 million were awarded this year nationwide.

Indian Health Service will be responsible for engineering the new projects, while the contractors doing the work will be hired through the Quechan Tribe's Tribal Employment Rights Office (TERO).

A statement from the EPA says the robust funding of the grants will help create jobs while replacing decrepit drinking water systems. The new systems will assure basic sanitation and safe drinking water on tribal lands.

Quechan Water and Sewer Project Coordinator Bill Hirt says, "With an increasing population here on the reservation and the wear and tear on our aging water and sewer systems, the tribe needs these upgrades."

Hirt went on to say, "The water service line replacement is needed since high summer temperatures have made our older pipes brittle. The old lines are prone to leaks that can interrupt water service and increase the maintenance work load of the Tribal Utility crews." A total of 67 water service lines should be replaced under the grant.

Hirt also pointed out the present lift station is barely able to keep up with the Quechan's

growing population. In addition, the present system uses septic tanks to flush effluent into drain fields. The new sewer line construction should allow waste liquids to go directly from the septic tanks into the sewer line.

"Eliminating the drain field will greatly lessen the backups of wastewater going into homes. This frequently happens because the reservation has a high water table," Hirt said. "Flood irrigation of nearby fields further saturates the ground, contributing to the problem of wastewater backup. These new projects will help improve the environment in terms of groundwater quality and increase our efficiency of service."

Altogether, the projects could take up to a year to complete, he said. Also, funds previously received for the Tribe's Water and Sewer Phase II will expand and modernize infrastructure concentrated in the reservation's central

corridor into outlying areas. Also under Phase II, the Tribe will replace water mains, the water system's main distribution lines coming from the wells. This will increase water flow pressure and improve fire protection services, according to Mr. Hirt.

He further says that he will be working with the TERO Office to hire more tribal workers to replace the water service lines as well as installing a new sewer line heading north on First Avenue and then east on Arnold Road. Those projects will provide much needed employment and provide basic knowledge of civil engineering projects to the tribal members hired to do the work. Much of the work involved in rebuilding the lift station and replacement of manhole covers may have to be contracted out, however, due to the extensive engineering and technical demands of those portions of the projects.

The Diabetes Support Group meets every other Wednesday in the evening from 5:30 to 7:00 PM at the Fort Yuma IHS clinic.

Upcoming meeting dates are as follows:

August 12, 2009	October 7, 2009	November 18, 2009
August 26, 2009	October 21, 2009	December 2, 2009
September 9, 2009	November 4, 2009	December 16, 2009
September 23, 2009		December 30, 2009

Topics of discussion among participants include effective strategies for making lifestyle changes and strategies to live a healthier life. Everybody is welcome. You do not need to have diabetes to attend. Join us for an evening of good conversation.

For further information, call:

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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

Father and Son Sing for Elders' Birthdays



Father Roland Golding (in first photo) has been singing traditional songs since he was a boy. He brought his son Jeremy along for his first appearance singing for Quechan Elders inside the Senior Center, during their July birthdays celebration. Before long, a couple of the ladies watching couldn't resist stepping up front to dance along to the music. Through it all, Jeremy remained outwardly composed, though he admitted to being nervous about singing before the assembled Quechan Elders.

QUECHAN NEWS Photos by William Isbell

Quechan Tribe members Roland and Jeremy Golding have travelled all over the southwest, bringing their repertoire of traditional bird songs to native audiences for years. But on Friday, July 31st they were asked to present the music for the Senior Center's monthly birthday celebration, for all elders whose birthdays fall in that month.

The father and son team sang in celebration of elders Deborah Delgado, Charlotte Manuel, Phyllis Montague and Ethel Domingo before singing a commemoration to Thelma Aguerro of the Road Runner Clan.

Roland grew up with his extended family here on the Fort Yuma Reservation, but says he moved to Laveen, Arizona and the Gila River Reservation when he married Carol Pete, who is of Pima/Navajo ancestry. He and his family had a full schedule ahead of them over the week-

end, with a planned trip to both Parker (to visit with family and pay their respects) on the way to a Youth Gathering at Peach Springs, where they had also been asked to sing.

Carol's grandson, Christian Kyyitan accompanied the group, to listen and learn the songs, as

did their grandniece, Lucretia Golding. The elders' birthday celebration also allowed Roland's older brother Willard (another popular singer here at Fort Yuma) to stop by and visit for awhile, adding to the comfortable, family gathering atmosphere of the occasion.

Language Program Featured in Local Paper



The Quechan language program was the featured story in the Desert Life section of the Yuma Sun on July 28.

The Quechan Language Program was the featured story in the *Yuma Sun's* July 28th *Desert Life* section, with color photos and the story taking up two-thirds of the front page of the section, with the story continuing on page B-2.

Anne Slagill of *The Sun* visited the program in July to interview Judith Prietta-Osborne, accompanied by photographer Ryan Bennecke.

In the story, Mrs. Prietta-Osborne described her childhood experiences growing up as a Kwat'san speaker. She told how she knew only Kwat'san growing up with her grandparents, and how things changed when she got to school, and was expected to speak only English. She

told of how students were punished for speaking their native tongues, and how the cultural influence of the English-only schools nearly made the Kwat'san language extinct. With more and more people speaking English both in the schools and at home everyday, as native speakers disappeared over the decades from the 1930s to the 1980s, the knowledge of the language faded away with them.

Now, with help from tribal elders who remember the old words, the Quechan Language program is doing everything they can to preserve what remains and pass it on to the younger generations. And with no words for modern technology (such as computers, telephones and

television), Mrs. Osborne says they may have to sit down together and develop the words to describe such things.

In the meantime, the staff at the Language Program are deeply involved in an immersion program, using traditional words as often as possible to get their students used to hearing their language. "If the kids heard it 24 hours a day, they would pick it up fast," she says.

The Quechan Language Program is also trying hard to complete a Kwat'san Language Dictionary. But with the language still living and slowly changing with the times (as new ways of passing on tradition and new speakers are added everyday), it's pretty slow going!

US Census Hires Two For Tribal Partnership Role

After a diligent search and a well publicized recruiting drive here on the Quechan reservation, the Census Bureau of the U.S. Department of Commerce has hired two local residents to serve as Tribal Partnership Assistants.

Rainier Reyes, a descendent of the Quechan Tribe, and Joel Gabaldon, who is of Tohono O'odham ancestry, were hired in May and attended three days of training at the Riverside Census Office for their assignment shortly thereafter.

Now 24 years old, Rainier is the grandson of Christine Lopez. "During the early part of my child hood I grew up on the Quechan Rez," he tells the *Quechan News*. "When I was a still a child, my family moved to San Diego, where I graduated from the Granite Hills High School (with the Class of 2003) at the age of 17."

He attended college in San Diego and moved to Portland, Oregon in 2006 to "chase his dreams and see the world." He later moved to Johnson City, Tennessee, and then returned to San Diego in the summer of



Rainier Reyes

A Quechan who has lived in Fort Yuma, San Diego County and Tennessee, Rainier is now happy to be at home, serving his people.

Photo: William Isbell, QUECHAN NEWS

2007. "I moved back to the Rez in December of 2008. Now that I'm living back here, I am serving my community in this great new job with the Census Bureau."

Rainier also works nights at the Quechan Casino Resort, as a bartender in the Ocotillo Lounge.

His partner, Joel, is also 24 and was born in Yuma. Joel was raised here on the reservation, attending the San Pasqual Schools.

He tells his story this way: "After high school I joined the U.S. Army. After I served my time, the inevitable twists of fate brought me back to the Rez where I work part time at the Ross Corner Store in Bard. Over the past three years at the store, I have gotten to know some wonderful people, young and old. If

you do any of your shopping at Ross Corner Store then you know who I am, because when I'm not working with the people of the Kwat'san

Tribe for the Census Bureau I'm serving them at the store."

Both Rainier and Joel are now spending their time attending as many community gatherings as possible, to get out the message of how important it is for the Quechan people to be counted in next year's census. "Native people are typically one of the most under-reported groups in



Joel Gabaldon

Part Tohono O'odham, Joel grew up here at Fort Yuma, and also works part-time at the Ross Corner Store.

Photo: William Isbell, QUECHAN NEWS

says Caucasian, American-Indian, etc., be sure to go to the line below where it says "specify". On that line, fill in "Fort Yuma Quechan

Tribe." Federal funds are allocated to tribes according to their reported populations, and the more Quechan Tribe members counted, the better.

They also say, "If you have a relative visiting for two weeks when the Census is conducted, be sure to include them in your household count, since they won't be counted back home."

the census," says Rainier. "And with federal dollars being apportioned according to our numbers, every person not reported could mean money we loose!"

They say that when the time comes to fill out your ten-question Census Form next spring, every member of the Tribe should be sure to do the following: "On the question of race, where it

Actual Census Employees Carry Special I.D.



Allyson Collins, the U.S. Census Liaison at the Quechan Economic Development Administration, says she's already received reports from members of the community concerning people claiming to be with the census, and asking all sorts of personal questions. She says the *only* persons currently working for the Census on the Reservation are our Tribal Partnership Assistants (TPA's), Rainier Reyes and Joel Gabaldon. Both TPA's always carry their special "Census Office Employee" identification around their necks when they are on-duty. It is a thick, plastic I.D. with a U.S. flag in the upper left corner and the Census Bureau Seal prominently displayed in the center. There is NO photo on the card, though there is a space near the bottom for the employee's signature. Ask to see it when they visit you.

EDA, Volunteers Repair Damage to Elder Village



Vandals used a large rock and a tree limb to punch holes through the front wall of the mud hut in early July. EDA Photo by Allyson Collins

Volunteers constructing the Elder Village at Sunrise Point in the Yuma East Wetlands below Indian Hill have already had to contend with two incidents of vandalism, before the village has even been finished.

The first incident involved some holes being punched in through walls after workers left the site on April 25th. Since the mud was still soft when the damage occurred, the crew thinks it happened that evening. The damage was repaired when the volunteers returned to continue construction on May 2nd.

No further damage was noticed during construction, which

wrapped up on June 28th.

An incident report by Allyson Collins of the Economic Development Agency (EDA) states that on July 6th, an EDA Workforce Investment Act laborer noticed substantial damage to the front wall panel of the mud hut as he was walking through the site to get to Yuma. Tire tracks visible at the site indicate the vandals may have entered the park by going around the gate at levee road entrance.

A heavy stick and a large boulder found nearby during EDA's subsequent repairs to the Elder Village's mud hut may be the wrecking tools the vandals

used to damage the structure.

The EDA also found that two picnic tables had been stolen from the park. The individuals who had the tables were located and asked to return the property, and they were returned to the site. A park bench had also been taken across the river to Yuma's Gateway Park beach. It was retrieved by the EDA's volunteers and returned to the site.

The Elder Village's tables and benches are now chained to trees to prevent further thefts.

In the meantime, volunteers are also presently occupied with cutting trees in a thicket along

Continued on Page 6

Tribal Court, Security Now in New Location

The Quechan Tribal Court and Security Department have completed their move into the building previously occupied by the California Tribal Gaming Office. They moved from the temporary buildings on Quechan Drive to the more permanent structure behind the Paradise Casino's Event Center over the second week of July, and everyone there seems very happy with the new offices.

"We have a lot more room here," says Quechan Tribal Court Judge Claudette White. "The work force did a little rehab on this building before we moved in. They took out some old carpet, put in some new tile, and constructed a new podium for the bench (in the courtroom). Now we have an area for the Court Clerk to sit right at the bench



The new courtroom is at least four times the size of the old one, and has room for an advocate's table, plus a recorder's station and witness box and can even accommodate an audience. QUECHAN NEWS Photo by William Isbell

and record the proceedings, plus an actual witness station (on the other side) . . . in fact, the whole courtroom is at least four times the size of our old one."

A seemingly trivial, yet important part of the new building

is the fact that it comes with separate men's and women's restrooms. "I find that much better," says Judge White.

She also says that in their old quarters, the courtroom was only about the size of a large liv-

ing room, so with her, the court staff, witnesses and advocates all trying to squeeze into the room during a hearing, things got a bit tight. "We certainly have the room to allow people to come in and observe the proceedings now."

The refurbishment of their new building included updating their existing data network and giving the court staff room for expansion. In addition to Judge White's Chambers, they now have separate offices for both Deputy Court Clerk Lindsey Swift Arrow and Court Clerk Barrie Lee Tibbitts, as well as a records room, copy and fax room, law library and a holding room for prisoners. Judge White says they now also have the room to allow opposing parties to wait in separate areas prior to their hearings, and even have a spare office in reserve for a new position on the court staff.

"We've applied for a grant, and hope to be able to use those funds to get a Juvenile Probation Officer," she explains. "We hope to have the person in that position wear several hats, with an ideal title for that person being 'Tribal Marshall'. They would serve as the Court Bailiff as well as providing probation services, supervising at risk youth in the community and checking up on truancy. We're really hoping to use the grant to address some of the major issues that go along with delinquencies and incorrigibility."

Although the Quechan Tribal Court adjudicates some criminal matters each year, the vast majority of their case load centers on family and custodial issues.

"As a 'Court of General Jurisdiction' we do everything, though probably 80% of what we do involves civil/family issues," says Judge White.

"Those cases will involve child custody issues, guardianships, dependency actions, that

kind of thing. When a person is close to the age of majority and feels they are independent and able to take care of themselves and can demonstrate that, they can also petition the court for legal emancipation in California and Arizona. This court has actually done two emancipations since I've been here, which were pretty successful. Those two minors were already taking care of themselves, working and living on their own, and we were able to emancipate them and give them that opportunity."

She also says the Quechan Tribal Court also steps in when a parent is not able to properly parent, for whatever reason. "In those cases we'll try to arrange placement with a relative first, or try to arrange a foster family. Eventually we'll try to arrange a reunification to give the parent(s) a chance to get their child back and develop a better, permanent family relationship."

The bulk of the remaining cases in Tribal Court involve civil issues, evictions, injunctions, probate matters and settling contractual issues, all of which will be much easier to sit through in their new, sound proof and air conditioned quarters. (The air conditioner on the security wing of their old quarters "died" about 15 days prior to their move, just as the worst of the summer heat arrived. It didn't make financial sense to spend several hundred dollars on repairs for just a few days' use, so the Security Office was pretty miserable, and mostly unoccupied for the major part of the time those last few days!)

"Now Security is right down the hall, sharing a Conference Room and Break Room with us, and it's much nicer this way," says Judge White. "The best part is, I don't have to worry about maybe falling through the floor here! Those old trailers were so creaky, I used to really worry about that sometimes!"

Christmas Wreaths at Senior Center

The lady craft workers at the Quechan Senior Center have begun work on their latest fundraising project, turning out dozens of beautiful, handcrafted Christmas wreaths. They've already made enough to have a number of them on display (and for sale) in the Senior Center Gift Shop, just inside the main entrance of the Center.

The Gift Shop, open to the public, is open every weekday from 10:00 AM until 2:00 PM. Bernita Golding, who runs the Gift Shop, says every one of the wreaths is a unique creation, and she is certain you'll find something you'll like when you stop in to take a look.

"Of course, we can even custom make a wreath for you," says Peggy Meeden, one of the "elves" building the wreaths in the Craft Room.

"If you want a particular theme and certain colors, we'll build the wreath exactly the way you want it. We can even include



Peggy Meeden puts the finishing touches on one of the custom Christmas wreaths now on sale in the Senior Center Gift Shop. Photo by William Isbell

ribbons with names and dates on them, if you want a wreath to say something special."

For a custom wreath, just stop in at the Senior Center and ask for Adeline Apauly, their Activities Coordinator. She'll find the perfect elf to build the exact wreath you're looking for.

The wreaths will be on sale now through the beginning of the Christmas season, at an av-

erage price of \$40.00. Custom wreaths with special touches may cost a little more.

The group of elves building these amazing creations say the funds raised will go into the Quechan Senior Center's activities fund, and may be used for a variety of things, from financing out-of town trips to helping bring in special guest lecturers and visiting artists/instructors.

Quechan Actor's Films Available at Tribal Gift Shops

Although he makes his home in Pomona, California, two of Leland Jaeger's films are available at Quechan Tribe gift shops, right here on the reservation.

"Red Blood" and "Nate and The Colonel," are both for sale at the Quechan Casino Resort's gift shop and at the gift shop in the Senior Nutrition Center. DVDs of the movies can also be picked up at the Artist's Marketplace on Indian Hill.

Jaeger says he "grew up in the shadow of Fort Yuma" but now lives in Pomona, where he sometimes finds work in commercials. He's also been in episodes of such TV series as 'Judging Amy', 'Family Law', and 'Dr. Quinn, Medicine Woman'." However, his main claim to fame is his work with Paul Winters, who has made it his special mission to write, direct and produce films featuring Native Americans as major cast members, rather than incidental characters.

Born on the Quechan Reservation, he says he grew up like everyone else, "in a mud house with dirt floors." Mr. Jaeger didn't speak a word of English until he went to the public school on Fort Yuma's Indian Hill.

He completed high school at Phoenix Indian School, then served in the Army in Germany during the Korean War. Following military service Lee returned to Yuma, but says he found no job opportunities here. He then moved to Los Angeles and eventually made his living in commercial printing.

Upon retiring in 1995, Lee achieved a long-time goal by attending acting school. Casting directors told him if he wanted Indian roles, he should change his name to something that "sounded more Indian" and let his hair grow. Thus Leland Jaeger became long-haired Native American actor Lee Whit-



Mr. Jaeger, known as Lee Whitestar in the movies, poses with David Carradine's daughter, Kansas, during the filming of "Nate and the Colonel" in 2003.

Photo courtesy of Leland Jaeger

estar. Soon after, he began to get work.

Since then, Mr. Jaeger has had starring roles in two of Paul Winters' feature films. In "Red Blood," he stars as medicine man "John Spotted Bear" who is the grandfather of the main character, Jimmy Whitecloud. The story of a routine Mafia hit gone bad, "Red Blood" has the mob meet its match in the unlikely opponents of Jimmy Whitecloud (actor David Midthunder) and his family and friends on a fictional reservation in Arizona.

The second film, "Nate and The Colonel" is a story of a Civil War veteran (Colonel "Bloody" Ben Loftin) and his black friend (a former slave) who head west to escape the war-torn south. There, they meet a band of Chipewas who later accept them as tribal members. Lee has the role of the Tribe's chief, "Offers the Pipe." The film received the "Best Feature Film" from the 2004 American Indian L.A. Film & Television Awards.

His friend Winters is now writing the script for a new film, "Lost on Black Mesa," which will cast Lee in the role of "Turtle," a 19th century Indian whose spirit takes on present-day human form to come to the rescue of two boyhood friends, one Indian, the other white, who

are being pursued by two men who have robbed a tribal casino.

As a man who typecasts himself as a metaphysical person, Lee says he will be in his element in the film. Production on "Black Mesa" is many months away, he says, but when it comes to the filming, he would like to see it shot on his old home turf – the Quechan Reservation.

Internet reviews for both films currently available here on the Reservation are generally favorable, and can be found at the Internet Movie Data Base (imdb.com) and at Amazonmovies.com. One reviewer of "Red Blood" says "This is a grade-B, low-budget action flick. If you like films about Native Americans (as I do), then you may have the interest to wade through it. . . . My comments: the lead actor and heroine are cool, and you get a liberal amount of enjoyment watching this band of reservation folk kick the tar out of the city slicker mafia from NYC. I

liked that. Just don't expect a lot more than that and you can enjoy this. I love Charles Bronson films, so this fits right in."

"Nate and The Colonel" was reviewed as "A cut above the usual low budget independent norm. If implausible and wandering in spots, the movie presents a series of novel images that held my attention throughout. Most of all the cinematography, by Jay Truesdale, is sim-

ply beautiful and first rate. This is a great looking movie. This visually stunning film is focused with positive energy and understanding of Native American traditions."

Another film, the documentary "Journey From Spirit Mountain" by the Ah Mut Pipa Foundation, is also available at all three locations here at Fort Yuma, for those looking for a more factual approach.



Tribe member Leland Jaeger is featured in "Nate and the Colonel" and "Red Blood", both on DVD.

QUECHAN NEWS Photo by William Isbell

Damage to Elder Village

Continued from Page 4

White Road, in preparation for further construction. They hope to continue work on the Elder Village through this fall, and are planning a celebration gathering soon after to commemorate the completion of Phase 1.

Until then, they have fenced-off the hut and posted signs in front and in back of it, describing the project, and have also posted more signs saying the area is closed during construction, and to keep out.

The EDA has also instituted patrols by Focus Group members who have been assisting with the planning of both Sunrise Point and the Elder Village



Once repairs were completed, fencing and "No Trespassing" signs were posted to keep people out of the area.

EDA Photo by Allyson Collins

within, and they are encouraging everyone involved in the project to keep an eye on the village over the coming months.

Since Arizona's budget crisis cut off some of the funds earmarked for State Parks use, the work on Sunrise Point has slowed down somewhat, with

all construction at the Elder Village being entirely the work of unpaid volunteers.

The EDA asks everyone to be patient and allow the work to go forward, and to please report any suspicious activity to either their office, Quechan Fish and Game, or the QPD.

Nutrition Information Taught at Ice Cream Social



Summer workers Adrianna Ruiz and Melanie Bell join Deborah Tourtillott of the Special Diabetes Project in preparing ice cream sundaes for their fellow youth workers. The occasion was a chance to thank the students for their contributions over the summer, and to pass along a lesson in how to read food labels.

QUECHAN NEWS Photo by William Isbell

Dozens of student workers got a chance to take a break from their labors on July 31st, to attend an instructional Ice Cream Social at the Quechan Diabetes Wellness Center.

Deborah Tourtillott, a Certified Diabetes Prevention Aide, joined with summer workers Melanie Bell and Adrianna Ruiz in ladling out waffle bowls full of strawberry/banana ice cream sundaes for anyone who showed up to hear fellow Diabetes Aide Vincent Tiger teach a lesson on the interpretation of nutrition facts labels on packaged foods.

The lesson stressed the need for a balanced diet, and how to insure a daily target of both calories and nutrients are met.

The first item to note on a nutrition label is the number of servings contained in the package. Oftentimes, an item that seems low in calories or the daily value (DV) of fat or sugar can be misleading. That is because sometimes a manufacturer will label a package that a teen will often consume at one sitting as containing 2 or more servings.

That allows them to show

lower totals on every line that follows — so check how many servings you are expected to get out of the package *before* you figure out the effect it will have on the daily percentages of fat, calories and sugar that follow!

Most labels that show 5% or less of any nutrient can be counted as being low in that dietary component, whether fat, cholesterol, carbohydrates, sodium, protein or vitamins. (Mr. Tiger also explained that carbohydrates include dietary fiber along with sugars.) The important thing to take away when checking a label, he says, is that most nutrients should fall between 5% and 20% to keep things in balance. If you eat something that has more than 20% of anything (such as sodium), it is important to find some other item to eat that day that is *low* in sodium, to achieve balance.

The class also featured handouts on how to shop for healthy foods, as well as how to make simple, healthy snack items such as Peanut Butter Dip and Mozzarella Cheese Sticks.

Coordinated Community Response Team Leads Panel at SW Indigenous Women's Coalition Seminar

Story Courtesy of Roxie Deku

Quechan Tribe staffers met in Prescott on July 22nd and 23rd to speak on the importance of tribes developing a Coordinated Community Response Team (CCRT) in dealing with Domestic Violence (DV) issues and services.

The group included Roxie Deku, Quechan Victim Services Administrator and Advocate, Quechan Tribal Court Judge Claudette White, Quechan Police Chief Tony Badilla, Quechan Tribal Court Clerk Barrie Tibbitts and the Tribe's Indian Child Welfare Act (ICWA) Specialist, Michael Jack.

The Quechan CCRT was selected for the presentation due to its unique record of working together to deal with DV issues and services for Quechan Tribe members.

Ms. Deku explained that "Coordinated community response is an intervention strategy developed by the Domestic Abuse Intervention Project (DAIP) in Duluth, Minnesota. This strategy, known as "the Duluth model," is "a system of networks, agreements, processes and applied principles created by the local shelter movement, criminal justice agencies, and human service programs that were developed in a small northern Minnesota city over a fifteen

year period."

She went on to explain: "DAIP found that when different members of the community coordinate their efforts to protect battered women and hold batterers accountable, these efforts are more successful. Coordination helps to ensure that the system works faster and better for victims. Consequently, victims are better protected and receive the services they need, while batterers are held accountable and often cease their abusive behavior as a result."

Roxie introduced the panel guests and each speaker rose to speak in turn, describing their job functions and the importance of developing a Coordinated Community Response Team.

"Judge White spoke eloquently about her position," says Ms. Deku, "and on the importance of not only being a Judge but an active team member, seeing to the whole woman's wellness, providing social and mental health services and becoming involved in other areas where the CCRT could be of service for our tribal members."

Quechan Tribal Court Clerk Barrie Tibbitts spoke on her role in providing assistance to domestic violence victims, obtaining Temporary Restraining Orders and Protection Orders. "Barrie is always helpful and goes the extra mile in making

sure those orders are faxed to the QPD, Imperial County Sheriff's Office and the California Highway Patrol," says Roxie.

Speaking on the uniqueness of the Tribe's law enforcement program, Chief Badilla explained that the Quechan Tribe has land in both Arizona and California, with California being a "280" state and the Reservation comprising three different law enforcement jurisdictions, including the Quechan Police Department, Imperial County Police and the California Highway Patrol, while having a relationship with Yuma Police Department as well.

Michael Jack expounded on the importance of ICWA working with DV programs due to the children being exposed to domestic violence as eyewitnesses traumatized by the abuse as well as maybe being victimized directly by the batterer.

Ms. Deku reiterated the importance of CCRT in dealing with DV and states that, "While we are unable to meet on a monthly basis, we have had to look outside the box to ensure that we connect and maintain a continuum of care for our Tribal members. That means we meet by telephone, fax or e-mail and work hard to keep open communication between our departments as well as other Tribal and non-tribal service agencies."

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The Paradise Event Center Presents The NITTY GRITTY DIRT BAND



John McKuen, an original member since 1966, plays banjo, guitar, fiddle and steel guitar.



Keyboard player Bob Carpenter provides vocal back-up harmonies and plays the accordion, as well.



The **Nitty Gritty Dirt Band** has been around since 1966, and has enjoyed Top 40 success from their very first album. They have recorded albums with top country artists including Roy Acuff, Earl Scruggs and “Mother” Maybelle Carter. Their appearance at the Paradise was a combination of both great music and dry humor.



Jeff Hanna provides humorous commentary along with his playing and singing. Photos by William Isbell

A local audience had the chance to be entertained by one of the best country/rock/folk bands America has ever produced, as *The Nitty Gritty Dirt Band* pulled into the Paradise Event Center for a single show at the end of July.

The sometimes raucous, often nostalgic, and always humorous foursome played dozens of great hits from a repertoire that goes all the way back to the mid-1960s, and even sang a couple of yet to be released numbers from their new album, *Speed of Life*, due in September.

An excellent sound balance allowed every note and nuance to come through, as their well

rehearsed show unfolded. Each member of the group got their time in the spotlight, demonstrating their own particular approach to music and comedy.

A seemingly random comment by John Mc-Kuen led to an entirely new interpretation of a *Beatles* classic. “My older brother always told me,” he deadpanned, while tuning his banjo, “if the banjo was any good, the *Beatles* would of had one.”

Jeff Hanna then offered the comeback: “If the *Beatles* had been a bluegrass band, Paul McCartney’s divorce wouldn’t have cost him nearly as much!”

With that, McKuen lit into a somehow familiar high speed

display of banjo pickin’ that soon had the rest of the band join in. It finally settled down into a bluegrass version of “Get Back” that nearly had the crowd on it’s feet by the time it was over.

Even with their long history of film work (“Paint Your Wagon”), multiple Grammys, international awards and work with such stars as Linda Rondstadt and Steve Martin, the group still manages to seem like old friends to their public – never talking down to the audience, creating a family atmosphere and making every effort to let everybody “in on the joke.”

If you missed this show, you missed a real slice of history!



Drummer Jimmie Fadden sings lead from time to time, and can really jam on the harmonica, too.

More Great Acts Lining Up For Appearances This Fall

This past weekend marked Gretchen Wilson’s second concert appearance on the Quechan Reservation, as she brought her “redneck woman” attitude to the Quechan Casino♠Resort for a high-energy country rock jam.

And no norteño act is more renowned than *Los Tigres del Norte*, a Mexican-American family band from California who are coming to the Q on Sunday, August 31st . . . followed the

very next night by *Blondie*!

Early pioneers of punk rock and new wave music, *Blondie* distinguished itself by progressing into new musical styles with each album, eventually covering punk, disco, new wave and even producing what may have been the very first Top 40 hip hop recording by featuring a lengthy rap from Debbie Harry in the middle of their hit, “Rapture”.

A mid-week program follows,

as one of the biggest acts (and most accomplished guitarists) of the ‘70s – Peter Frampton – comes to town for one show on Tuesday, September 15th. Frampton has backed George Harrison, and had Ringo Starr and Billy Preston as fellow artists on his very first album. His trademark “talk box” guitar hits of the middle ‘70’s is still featured on classic rock stations to this day, and his 1976 album,

“Frampton Comes Alive!” went platinum six times, becoming the best selling live album of all time. Here is your chance to hear one of the best live acts in the history of rock . . . *LIVE!*

Following Frampton, *The Temptations* will take to the stage at the Quechan Casino♠Resort on Sunday, October 4th. Then Bret Michaels makes his promised return on the 16th. Bret had been injured by a descend-

ing flat of scenery while on the Tony Awards show in June, and was forced to postpone his appearance at the Q later that week due to his injuries.

Finally, Sinbad, a film and television star with a clean, family friendly persona, whose animated antics have endeared him to millions of dedicated fans worldwide, will bring his stand-up show to the Q on Friday night, October 30th.