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Look For This Symbol

ETSKA NAV AH PAI THE NEWS CARRIER
QUECHAN NEWS

is published by

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The 2010 Census Is Upon Us

Question #9 on U.S. Census form CRITICAL to the Quechan count

The 2010 Census is upon us. The Quechan Tribal Council would like to remind everyone how important the Census is to our Tribal nation, and with the new form, we want to make sure Tribal members are informed of how to correctly fill out the form so that every Quechan is counted.

The Census is important to the Quechan Indian Tribe because the data provided by the Census is the basis for thousands of dollars that flow annually into our Tribal grant-funded programs, which helps build tribal housing and provides for other improvements. Such funds also maintain and construct roads and bring employment and training programs. Thus, being undercounted means being under funded.

Tribal member households who do not have a P.O. Box or Rural Route addresses (mostly OFF reservation) began to receive their Census forms by mail on March 19 of this year. The Tribal Council recommends that every Quechan Tribal



Ranier Reyes, Tribal Partnership Assistant for the US Census stops at the home of Fort Yuma resident Kailah Durand to count the members of her household. Make sure you take the time to fill out the Census Form in it's entirety - it shouldn't take any more than about 10 minutes of your time!

QUECHAN NEWS Photos by William Isbell

member please take the time to complete and return your forms as soon as you can.

Like other reservations, Tribal members on the Fort Yuma Indian Reservation will not receive forms by mail, but will instead be visited by a census worker. The Census Bureau makes great efforts to reach

Native American communities and they've hired local tribal members to conduct Census operations. Therefore, the census worker at your door will be someone familiar to you. So please, give them your time and complete the Census form.

It is critical that we all understand how to fill out question

9 on this year's Census form. Question 9 asks you what your ethnic background is.

It's important we mark the American Indian/Alaskan Native box in answering Part 1 of Question 9. Part 2 is the most important part; we need to write QUECHAN in the box provided. (Please see the accompanying illustration on page 2 of this issue for more information and a look at Question 9 as it appears on the Census Form.) *Do not list any other Tribe or race; if you put another Tribe or race, your form won't be counted as a Quechan household.*

Please remember this important fact: if you are a Native American Non-Tribal member, living and working on the Ft. Yuma Indian Reservation and receiving direct services from either the Indian Health Service and/or any Quechan Tribal Program, you are also encouraged to mark QUECHAN on Question #9 to ensure continued funding for those programs.

Enrollment is not checked by
Continued inside on Page 2

If we're under counted, we're under funded!

Continued from Front Page

the Census Bureau. The idea here is to capture households that are native, but not enrolled as Quechan Tribal members, in order to increase the numbers for the Quechan Tribe.

With the Quechan Tribe receiving an increased count, the Federal and Grant funding that depends upon that count may see an increase.

So, please take the time to participate in the Census this year and to familiarize yourself with the sample form in regards to Question #9 in order to make certain you, and we as a Tribal nation, are counted correctly.

If you have questions contact Tribal Partnership Assistant Rainier Reyes at (619)808-9960.

How to Be Counted as an American Indian or Alaska Native (from *the NCAI Toolkit for Tribes and the 2010 Census* - www.indiancountrycounts.org).

Come Census time, it's very important that every American Indian and Alaska Native person is counted — and counted as an American Indian or Alaska Native. The way a person is counted as American Indian or Alaska Native is simply by checking off the box that says "American Indian or Alaska Native" on the Census form.

The box is under the question about the person's race. For the first person in the household, it's Question 9 on the form. For additional members of the

9. What is Person 1's race? Mark ☒ one or more boxes.

- ☐ White
☐ Black, African Am., or Negro
☒ American Indian or Alaska Native — Print name of enrolled or principal tribe. ➤

Quechan

- ☐ Asian Indian ☐ Japanese ☐ Native Hawaiian
☐ Chinese ☐ Korean ☐ Guamanian or Chamorro
☐ Filipino ☐ Vietnamese ☐ Samoan
☐ Other Asian — Print race, for example, Hmong, Laotian, Thai, Pakistani, Cambodian, and so on. ➤ ☐ Other Pacific Islander — Print race, for example, Fijian, Tongan, and so on. ➤

☐ Some other race Print race.

household, it's question 6.

Question 9 is shown in the accompanying illustration.

Helpful Tips for Tribal People and Tribal Households:

Householder Question:

Whether a household is counted as an American Indian or Alaska Native household

depends entirely on the race of "Person 1" - the first person listed on the Census form. If that person says he or she is an American Indian or Alaska Native, then the household will be counted as one with an American Indian or Alaska Native "householder."

Census Definition of American Indian/Alaska Native:

The Census Bureau uses the definition of American Indian or Alaska Native published by the US Office of Management and Budget (OMB): "A person having origins in any of the original peoples of North and South America (including Central America), and who maintains tribal affiliation or community attachment."

This definition of who's Indian is quite different than the one in federal law that says an Indian person is a member of an Indian tribe. What gives American Indian and Alaska Native people special status in law is a political relationship — as a member of a Native governmental entity — not who one's ancestors are.

Simply saying that one is Indian on a Census form does not convey any special relationship

or privileges.

Percent of State Populations Living in "Hard-to-Count" Areas, by Race

Option to Check Multiple Race Boxes:

In 2000, the Census Bureau introduced a big wrinkle in the data for the Native population. Following a policy laid out by OMB in 1997, anyone filling out a Census form (or other federal form) can check off more than one box on the race question. This option to check off multiple races means that an American Indian and Alaska Native person can identify as both Native and as a member of another race, such as white, Black or Asian. If the person checks off only the American Indian or Alaska Native box on the form, the person counts as American Indian or Alaska Native "Alone," meaning that this is the person's only race.

If the person checks the American Indian or Alaska Native box and one or more boxes for another race, the person is included in the count as American Indian or Alaska Native "Alone or in Combination" (with one or more other races.)

The Census Bureau does publish information on the "Alone or in Combination" population. However, many standard profiles of the population lump those who check American Indian or Alaska Native and another racial group into a single category as "Two or More Races," along with all non-Indians who also report multiple races.

The *only* way to ensure that you are included in all the counts as American Indian or Alaska Native is to check just that *one* box on the form.

THE SENIOR CENTER GIFT SHOP



Stop in and see our Latest Items!

Willow/Sinew Dream Catchers \$5
 (Each) Starting at

Vintage Scarves \$2
 (Each) Starting at

We proudly accept all donations of Native Art so that we may sell those items to purchase other items for the Gift Shop and help fund a variety of Quechan Senior Center projects. Come browse our shelves and purchase traditional beadwork, dresses and ribbon shirts that have long been identified with the Kwat'san Pipa.

Come in and look around! Stop by and see our ever changing displays of Native gift items!

IN THE SENIOR CENTER LOBBY • (760)572-0748

ETSKA NAV AH PAI 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 Kwat'san Pipa. 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!



Progress & Development

Sapphire Lane, Roadways Improved



Residents of the original Quechan housing subdivision as well as the new development to the east put up with large earth moving and paving equipment trundling up and down Sapphire Lane and the adjacent roads throughout February and March. Workers from Don Petersen Engineers and Desert Road Builders were in the area installing new curbs, sidewalks and retention basins in preparation for the complete replacement of the roadbed and to repave the streets of the old subdivision.

QUECHAN NEWS Photos by William Isbell



The new curbs are much higher than what was in place for the past few decades. Once the curbs and sidewalks were installed, workers also brought in clean fill dirt to raise the ground level on the back side.



Once all the curbs and sidewalks were in, an automated asphalt laying machine quickly put down the roadway. The final step of paving Sapphire Lane closed off the entry to the "Old Sub" for 24 hours.

For the last few months, there has been continual activity in the "Old Subdivision" along Garnet Drive, Emerald and Firestone Avenues and Bluestone Drive, as new roadways and sidewalks for all the homes on those streets were installed for the residents. An underground storm drain was installed along with these improvements.

The new storm drain was installed just in time for the February and March storms that pelted the area with over a year's worth of precipitation already, proving its ability to provide excellent drainage.

All of the new work was paid for through funds provided by a 2008 Indian Community Development Block Grant (ICDBG).

By succeeding in capturing that grant, the Quechan Tribally Designated Housing Entity (QTDHE) received funding to replace streets, curbs, sidewalks and driveways in the north part of the "Old Sub" including the major artery of Sapphire Lane.

In the past couple of weeks, the project reached its final phase on Sapphire Lane.

Announcements and maps detailing the anticipated traffic flow as work was scheduled along both ends of the "main drive" into the Subdivision were sent out to residents of the Old Sub (and others who might need to drive through the area) in early February.

In replacing the roadway, Don Peterson Engineering and Desert Road Builders removed the old asphalt all the way down to the dirt. They also cut back the edges and installed curbs and sidewalks with handicapped ramps at all the corners.

Workers used backhoes to bring in backfill in some low-lying areas to bring the ground level up to match the higher level of the new curbing and sidewalks, greatly improving the roadways' appearance, especially near the Pipa Market. An additional retention basin was also installed just north of Sap-

phire Lane, west of the QTDHE parking lot.

Due to the type of equipment and methods used in this road construction project, QTDHE had to utilize detours and limited access to areas of the subdivision to accelerate the finish date of the project. At its completion, the Roads & Sidewalks Improvement Project will provide the community with safer roads and streets, new pavement that will lessen wear on cars and make easier travel conditions for pedestrians, better drainage from new curbs, gutters and retention basins and enhanced safety from a block wall along Sapphire Lane to protect residences from traffic.

The QTDHE appreciates the support and partnership of the Tribal Council and community in the implementation of this improvement project and hopes to continue with similar improvements in the remaining areas of the Old Subdivision and Ironwood in the near future.

Eddie Gray is “Walking America” for Veterans



Eddie Gray

A Northern Cheyenne from Lame Deer, Montana, Eddie Gray served in the Marine Corps from 1997 to 2000, when he received a medical discharge for a service related injury. He is now walking the entire perimeter of the United States to increase awareness of the need to simplify the process of getting Veterans the help they need.

Photo by William Isbell

Eddie Gray spent 4 years in the Marine Corps, and thought it would be a lifelong career. But a “Hummer” accident that broke his sternum led to his having to accept a medical discharge in 2000, and he found himself back in his hometown of Lame Deer, Montana. Once back home, he found his dad was right when he said depending on the VA for medical care

was a paperwork nightmare.

“When I got injured (at Camp Lejeune), it took the Marines 2 months to fly in a specialist from Duke University to do the surgery to get my sternum fixed,” he remembers. “For two whole months I was on light duty . . . could barely move, couldn’t pick up anything, and couldn’t lift my arms.” Confined to the barracks, Eddie realized he

didn’t want to have to depend on a bureaucracy ever again for his healthcare. Eddie is a man of action who can’t stand prolonged periods of inactivity. As soon as he became a civilian once again, he applied and was accepted as a wildlands firefighter with the U.S. Forest Service.

As he heard stories from uncles and friends who were vets about the incredible delays and unending paperwork in dealing with the V.A. getting treatment for their service related injuries, he made a vow. “I never wanted to apply to the V.A. — I don’t want go to the V.A., because I don’t like it.”

He’s pretty much healed (thanks to that surgeon), so he may never have to deal with them. “However,” he says, “they do good work, if you keep up with the paperwork.”

Getting on subject, Eddie stresses his message: “Most veterans don’t want to deal with that paperwork. I think it could be much more simplified from

what it is right now.”

Eddie says he’s seen friends who’ve gone to the V.A. for medical help have to fill out the exact same paperwork with each visit, describing their military career, how they were injured, where and when each incident occurred, and how a present difficulty may be traced to a service related injury. He says it’s like the V.A. doesn’t even keep records — everything has to be re-done with every visit, and until the paperwork is completed, nothing is done. Veterans, it seems, are on an endless loop of paperwork and waiting lists.

Determined to do something about it, he decided he’d walk the entire perimeter of the continental United States, basically following the route of the four main Interstate highways along the borders, carrying a simple message. His route would be along I-5 down the west coast, along Interstate 8 to 10 in Phoenix, then to Florida, up the east coast there along Interstate 95, and back to

his starting point of Butte, Montana along I-90. He wanted to follow those highways, and do his best to visit every town along the way “within 10 or 15 miles of the main roads” to tell everyone he meets: “If you gave up everything, and you went out and sacrificed for your country, why is it so hard once you are out of the service to get help for your ailments? I mean, I’m sure there is a certain amount of paperwork that’s going to be involved, but why can’t you just do it once and be done with it?”

Now into the real meat of his message, he follows up with: “I’ve noticed that Veterans Affairs add additional work and additional work, that just goes on and on — and that’s what’s pushing a lot of veterans away. It’s all that extra paperwork that just keeps coming, like a waterfall flowing over you.”

So, Eddie was able to get a leave of absence from his job, which is still waiting for him

Continued on Page 6

KWAT'SAN TI'YA!
(Speak Quechan!)

Quechan Foods (*Kwat'san suumats*)

Tortii - Tortilla

Mattkuutap - Bread baked in ashes

Shuuvii - Porridge or Gravy

Atashaykuutap - Frybread

Directions (*Shoothomp*)

North - Matxa

South - Kaval

East - An-yah

West - Anyahhap

Courtesy of the Quechan Language Preservation Program

Senior Center Health Screenings

Some of the more popular (and important) free services offered to Tribal members through the Quechan Senior Center are the frequent visits to perform basic health screenings by both the Indian Health Service and the Quechan Community Health Representatives (CHR).

These relaxed encounters with local health professionals are scheduled each month as time permits, and provide blood pressure and blood sugar measurements for each participant.

If you’d like to know your numbers, check at the front desk of the Senior Center for the time and date of the next screening, or call them at (760) 572-0748.



Claudia Lorenz, the Public Health Nurse at the Fort Yuma Indian Health Service shows Doyle Desechine his blood pressure results before moving on to check his height, weight and blood sugar numbers. Local seniors can have their current basics checked free of charge at the Quechan Senior Center periodically through visits by the IHS.

Photo by William Isbell

Students Surpass 100 Miles in Fitness Club

Two fourth grade students at San Pasqual Elementary have already reached the milestone of 100 miles covered in the Dr. Lubb Dubb Healthy Heart Walking and Running Club. Both the good “Doctor” (Tom Vossberg) and the staff at the Quechan Special Diabetes Center began the program thinking they’d be lucky to have anyone complete 100 miles before the last week of school this year.

“Though the boys have different demeanors they share one very outstanding quality: Determination,” says Lisa Ball, Director of the Special Diabetes Project. “Let me tell you, the two of them couldn’t be any different from each other!”

Although she’s taken part in the entire program since it began over the winter quarter this school year, Lisa never really got the chance to get to know the boys on a one-on-one basis until she sat down to ask them about



Luis Palomera and Joseph Herrera proudly display the plaques they were awarded by Dr. Lubb Dubb upon reaching 100 miles covered in his Healthy Heart Fitness Program. QUECHAN NEWS Photo by William Isbell

their achievements. With the dozens of students taking part in each session, lapping the field to stay fit, it’s hard to have the time to really speak to any of them before it’s time for the next group of student athletes to come out

and take to the field for an hour.

“I don’t think quiet and meek Luis had said a word to me prior to this!” she says. “Joseph, on the other hand, is just full of personality and charisma.”

Lisa quizzed them both on

how they felt about their record, and what they’ve learned by taking part in this important diabetes prevention project at the school. Here’s how it went:

Lisa: “How do you feel being the first runners to get to 100 miles at your school?” Luis answered “Excited!” while Joseph said: “It feels good and fun!”

Lisa: “What makes you want to run every day?” Luis: “To be healthy.” Joseph: “To stay Diabetes free.”

Lisa: “What do you think makes kids unhealthy?” Luis: “Playing video games and being lazy.” Joseph: “Eating junk food and drinking soda.”

Lisa: “What sports do you play?” Luis: “None but I’d like to play baseball and soccer.” Joseph: “I play soccer, but I’d like to play baseball and be a hitter.”

Lisa: “What do you want to be when you grow up?” Luis: “A baseball player.” Joseph: “A marathon runner just like my

mom (Rosie Herrera).”

Lisa: “If you could be anyone who would you be?” Luis says: “The President because he lives in the White House!” Joseph adds that “Washington, D.C. is a good place to live and you have the Smithsonian there.” Joseph then tells Luis, “You should be a daredevil because they do crazy stunts!” But Joseph wants to be: “Michael Jackson because he dances good and sings good!”

Lisa: “If you could be one animal what would you be?” Luis: “A Roadrunner because they run fast.” Joseph says “I also hear they’re good luck!” Joseph then asks, “What’s the fastest animal?” Lisa: “Cheetah.” He replies, “Then I want to be a Cheetah because they’re fast!”

Lisa: “What’s your mileage goal for next year?” Luis: “160 miles.” Joseph: “150 miles.”

Lisa’s conclusion? “I think these two will have no trouble reaching their goals!”

Time to Decorate Your Booth!



The Strong Hearts Native Society would like to thank Quechan artist Woody Brown for painting the man and woman dancing to the beat of the gourds on the back side of their vendor’s booth this year. With the Pow Wow over, the Strong Hearts would like to invite local artists to come down and paint murals and other traditional decorations on the other vendors booths now in storage. We have plenty of talent right here, so either drop by and see Mr. Owl or give him a call at (760) 572-0222, extension 2231 to arrange a date and time!

QUECHAN NEWS Photo by William Isbell

FORT YUMA INDIAN HEALTH CLINIC

Work-In Appointments

- ◆ If you do not have an appointment and need to be seen, please be aware it may take up to 3 hours to “work you in”
- ◆ Patients get seen by a doctor when one is available not by sign-in order

Missed Appointments

- ◆ If you miss your appointment you will be asked to make a new one

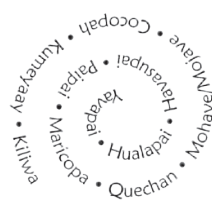
Please arrive 15 minutes before your scheduled appointment time
If you are late, you may not be seen

Questions? Please Call:
(760) 572-4176



Quechan seniors visited the traditional home constructed on the Cocopah reservation on March 11th, and posed for this photo. Among the group are Annette Cachora, Diane Mocassin, John Joaquin, Connie Amador, Peggy Dugan, Stacy Durand, Charlotte and Katrina Machado and Ursula Mendez. They'd all like to thank Rod Hart for his generous donations to all the seniors who participated in the trip.

Photo courtesy of the Quechan Senior Center



Yuman Language Family Summit in Mid-April

Submitted by:
Emilio Escalanti

This year, the Eighth Annual Yuman Language Family Summit will be held over 3 days, April 12th through the 14th, in Prescott, Arizona.

This has become a summit to look forward to for the Yuman speaking peoples. All though we differ in dialect and geographic area, we share common experiences of the fading numbers of native speakers and the trials of preservation, teaching and unfortunately, a lack of community interest in learning.

The Yuman Language Summit was begun with the intent of brainstorming and sharing techniques to combat these issues. The inaugural Summit was hosted by the Hualapai Indian Tribe in Peach Springs, Arizona in 2002.

Though it started small with approximately 100 people attending, it has grown to an average of 400 people for the last couple of Summits, with at least 20 presentations being conducted for the attendees.

All tribal language programs are encouraged to present their teaching activities and discuss past years' trials and errors.

The Quechan Language Program has participated in the past and is scheduled to present this year. One goal for each summit is to include or have each Tribe's presentation be partially conducted in their respective language. Arts, crafts games and classroom activities are also conducted to familiarize participants with their respective languages and encourage language learning.

Another goal is to encourage language speakers to return home and use their knowledge at home in everyday activities (such as when cooking and interacting with one another).

Various techniques used to preserve languages are also presented, such as the development of tribal dictionaries, various methods of recording, development of writing systems and how to use these to their fullest extent.

Each summit also hosts a dinner

to honor elders from each of the respective tribes for their work in language and culture preservation.

There is also an evening set aside for bird singing and dancing, which is common to all related tribes. This is a great time to catch up with old friends and make new ones. Our elder group who has attended each year appears to enjoy their time participating in all these activities.

The unique thing about this summit is that it is organized by an ad hoc volunteer committee of people from the various Yuman Speaking Tribes solely for Native Yuman Speakers. It is solely supported by the registrants and their Tribes. Thankfully, this includes our own Quechan Tribe, which has hosted the Summit twice and will hopefully host it again someday at our own resort.

And a special thanks to the Quechan Tribal Council for their continued support. Efforts such as these may help our Quechan identity continue into the next century.

HAPPY BIRTHDAY!

*to Owen Barley
on April 6th
and to
Amanda Barley
on the 22nd!
Love - MOM*



"Walking America" for Veterans

Continued from Page 4

whenever he gets back. He set off from Butte on April 3rd, 2008, and has gotten as far as Yuma since then.

As a member of the American Legion, Eddie is visiting every veteran's organization he can along the way. He's stopping to speak to the Legion, Veterans of Foreign Wars, the Marine Corps league, and AmVets. And he's emphasizing the contributions of Native American veterans as a forgotten group.

"You know, Native Americans send more of their sons into the service, per capita, than

any other race in America. And when they get out and return home, to their small towns and reservations, they just kind of disappear, and they're forgotten by most people," he says. "That's why I'm not only talking about this to everyone in all the small towns along the road, but I'm meeting with Governors and Lt. Governors along the way. I want to get out that they need to be taken care of — all veterans. And not only the ones who've joined the Legion or some other organization. There are those who don't want to be

a part of a large organization, who want to be anonymous, but they still want care for the ailments they possibly got while they were in the service. You know, a lot of those guys are Native vets. Those are the guys I'm walking for."

He spent most of the second week of March here at Fort Yuma, passed off from the Legion Post in Holtville to the care of Norman Osborne of Quechan American Legion Post 802.

While he was visiting the Quechan Reservation he met with both the Tribal Council and Post 802 to deliver his message. The Council not only listened intently, they arranged to provide

comfortable lodgings for Mr. Gray, paying for his room at the Coronado Inn in Yuma.

During his stay, Norman Osborne drove him around the area to meet with Yuma's mayor, and to speak to all the Legion and VFW Posts they could get to. He wanted to visit with his fellow Marines at MCAS Yuma, but the station was secured due to the their current alert status, so Eddie and Norman settled for meeting with representatives at the various veterans organizations during their rounds.

One thing that Eddie took part in here on the Reservation was the HIV/AIDS Walk on Friday

evening, March 19th, that saw nearly 100 community members walking from the Administration Building parking lot on Indian Hill to the Community Center, to kick off this year's Native American HIV/AIDS Awareness Day. Eddie was also asked to provide the invocation prayer prior to that walk, which performed in both his native Cheyenne and in English.

He spent a final night visiting with his fellow Legionnaires of Quechan Post 802 before checking out of his room, to take up his pack and supplies, to continue his mission walking into the sunrise along the Interstate towards Phoenix.

Willie Nelson Coming to the Q!



Willie Nelson and family will be in concert at the Q Friday, April 16.

Photo by Danny Clinch

American Country Music Icon, Willie Nelson and Family will perform on Friday, April 16 at 8 PM at the Pipa Event Center inside the Quechan Casino ♠ Resort.

“The Willie Nelson and Family Tour is in full swing, and we’re happy to land a date on

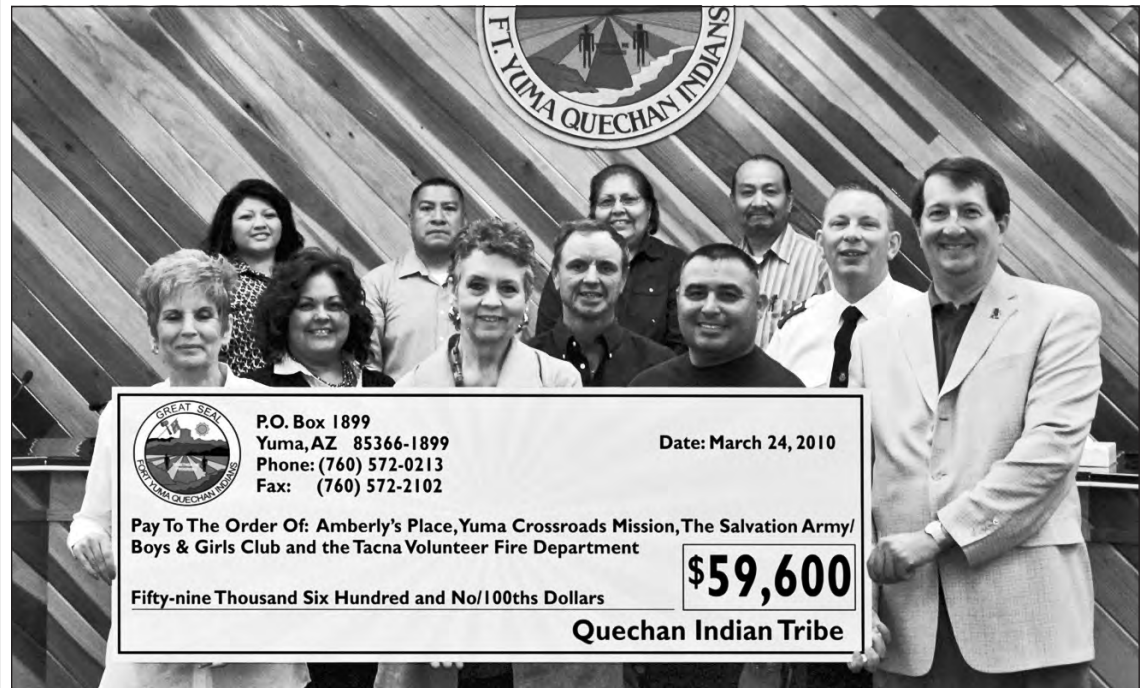
their route between Anaheim, California and the upcoming Country Thunder Festival in Florence, Arizona,” said the Q’s Special Events Manager, Randy Maddocks.

“This will be the third country music icon to come to The Q this year . . . George Jones, Merle Haggard, and now Willie Nelson . . . it doesn’t get any bigger than these guys!”

Willie Nelson has been described as one of the most versatile and influential talents in the world, Nelson’s string of country music hits include *Always on My Mind*, *Blue Eyes Crying in the Rain* and *Whiskey River*.

Tickets start at \$40 and are available on the web at www.playqcr.com or by calling 1(800)585-3737. You must be 18 years or older to attend.

2010 Charity Contribution Check Presented



The Quechan Tribal Council gathered in the Council Chambers on March 24 to present a check representing a combined total of nearly \$57,000 in donations to four Yuma area non-profit organizations. Holding the check in the front row are: Diane Umphress of Amberly's Place, Quechan Tribal Administrator Robin Estrada, Myra Garlit representing the Crossroads Mission, Chief Roland Walker and Firefighter Joe Rivera of the Tacna Volunteer Fire Department, Captain Johnathan Harvey of the Salvation Army/Boys and Girls Club of Yuma, and Yuma's outgoing City Administrator, Mark Watson. Standing behind them are Quechan Tribal Council members Cryselle Montague-Urbe, Jordan Joaquin, Julianna Comet and Todd Durand. Each of the four non-profits received an equal contribution of \$14,900 from the Tribe for 2010. The ceremony marked the formal presentation of what is often referred to as “12% money” for local charities the Quechan Tribe supports each year. The “12% monies” are funds held back for distribution to local entities of their choice by each Tribe holding a Gaming Compact with the State of Arizona.

QUECHAN NEWS Photo by William Isbell

LARRY OMAHA, TRIBAL COMEDY JAM COMING TO PARADISE IN APRIL



Native comic Larry Omaha most recently appeared at the Paradise Event Center with Gabriel Iglesias.

QUECHAN NEWS Photo by William Isbell

A local favorite, native comedian Larry Omaha will be returning to Yuma as one of two headline acts as the “No Reservations Required – Tribal Comedy Jam 2010” comes to the Paradise Event Center on Saturday, April 17 at 7:00 PM.

Omaha was one of four acts that really brought down the house during Gabriel Iglesias’ “Fluffy Shop Tour,” which filled the Paradise for two shows this past January. Co-headlining the “Tribal Comedy Jam 2010” with Omaha is comedian Charlie Hill. The show will be opened

by their special guest, native comedienne Arigon Starr.

Charlie Hill has appeared on Letterman, The Tonight Show with Jay Leno, and was a staff writer for the “Roseanne” show. Larry Omaha has been seen on the Showtime Comedy Special, “Goin’ Native,” “Comics Unleashed,” Comedy Centrals’ “The Mind of Mencia,” and HBO’s “The Erotic Traveler.” Starr has appeared on television in Showtime’s comedy “Barbershop: The Series” and ABC’s “General Hospital.”

“We’re confident that this

show will continue our streak of sell-outs,” said Randy Maddocks, Special Event Manager at Paradise Casino and Quechan Casino Resort. “This will be a night of comedy that nobody will forget.”

Tickets for the show went on sale in mid-March at www.paradise-casinos.com and at www.startickets.com. They are also available by calling the box office at (800)585-3737.

A few seats are still available. Tickets are \$25 and all seating is reserved. You must be 21 or older to attend.



Charlie Hill, once a writer for the “Roseanne” show, is also on the bill, along with a third Native American comedy great, Arigon Starr.



Edith White is 97!

Edith White, the oldest living Quechan Tribal Member, has reached the milestone of 97 years. Friends and relatives joined her at the Quechan Senior Center for a surprise birthday party on March 18. The Roadrunner singers performed for everyone, and dozens of people lined up to wish her well. Next time you see her, you be sure to wish Edith a Happy Birthday, too!

QUECHAN NEWS Photo by William Isbell

QUECHAN PARKS & RECREATION

Presents The Annual

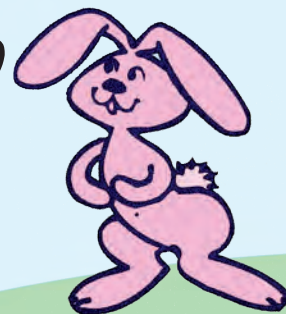
Quechan Tribe Easter Egg Hunt

**Saturday
April 3rd, 2010**

at the

**Diabetes
Walking Park**

Beginning at 10:00 AM



**Hamburgers, Hot Dogs, Chips
Sodas and Water for Lunch!**

Easter Baskets

**For all kids from
infants to 12 years old!**



For More Information, Contact Parks & Recreation:

(760)572-1242

HIV/AIDS AWARENESS DAYS

EDUCATE, MOTIVATE, AND MOBILIZE AGAINST HIV/AIDS

QUECHAN NEWS Photos by William Isbell

Dozens of community members lined up at the Quechan Tribe's Administration Building on March 19 to take part in the HIV/AIDS Walk. Everyone who registered for the Walk received both balloons and a free National Native HIV/AIDS Awareness Day T-Shirt with all the local sponsors listed along the bottom hem. At 6:00 PM the whole group set out for the Quechan Community Center.



Vincent Tiger, Lewis Throssel and Sandy Palone (at right) from the Quechan Special Diabetes Project led the HIV/AIDS walkers.



Once there, Phil Emerson (at left) explained the significance of the prayer stick he carries on such walks before everyone pored inside to examine the educational booths, visit and enjoy dinner together.

This year's annual HIV/AIDS Awareness Day for the Quechan Nation was held on Friday, March 19th. The Alcohol and Drug Abuse Prevention Program teamed up with Parks and Rec, Fort Yuma IHS, CHR and the Quechan Special Diabetes Project to put together a whole evening's worth of events at the Community Center. Over 150 community members took part in the activities, which included jumpers and face painting for the kids, and educational booths on everything from drugs to diabetes. A table at the entry held candles to be lit in remembrance of those who've succumbed to the ravages of AIDS. But they also made sure everyone had a good time, with plenty of hot food and an all-night dance and plenty of great raffle prizes for those who stuck around late!

