



QUECHAN NEWS

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Items Of Special Interest
To Tribe Members



ETSKA NAV AH PAI THE NEWS CARRIER
QUECHAN NEWS

is published by

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Earthquake Damage At Fort Yuma is Light

Citizens from Los Angeles to Tucson, San Diego to Las Vegas had their Easter Sunday activities interrupted by a seismic shaking south of the border, when an earthquake struck approximately 40 miles south-southeast of Calexico, California around 3:40 PM. Over the next hour, a series of six aftershocks of over 5.0 on the Richter Scale rattled through the area, the largest of which, at magnitude 5.7, was felt at 4:25 PM.

The new Quechan Tribe TERO/Safety Officer, Melvin Miguel says he immediately contacted the Winterhaven Volunteer Fire Department (WVFD) upon feeling the first temblor, and headed into his office to check on any possible damage that may have occurred here on the Quechan Reservation.

The worst damage in Imperial County occurred in Calexico, where the quake is reported to have damaged nearly 80 percent of the city's historic downtown area. Three tanks holding the city's water supply were damaged according to City Manager Victor Carrillo. City officials asked residents to limit water use to essential bathing,



Quechan Safety Officer Melvin Miguel joins Assistant Chief James Merton at the Winterhaven Volunteer Fire Station, to look over maps of the Quechan reservation area and plan their coordinated response to any possible damage that could result from an earthquake or any other possible local disaster.

QUECHAN NEWS Photo by William Isbell

cooking and washing until repairs could be affected.

"We immediately called in a second crew," says WVFD Fire Chief Steve Taylor, "to be ready to man the Imperial County Engine we keep here, in case Calexico called for mutual aid assistance."

At the same time, Quechan Safety Officer Miguel arrived to coordinate activities with their newly arrived Fire Protection Officer, Yuriko Maeda. Together, they worked out an agreement on areas of responsibility if any damage resulting from the

earthquake was to be reported. All the while, smaller tremors could be felt moving through the area every half hour or so. Their response plan formed, Miguel left Winterhaven to begin a "slow patrol" around the reservation, paying close attention to every bridge, crossing and canal he came to, as he began his visual inspection.

The Quechan Police Department also picked up the pace of their patrols over Easter Sunday evening, as the Officers on duty made an extra effort to notice the condition of every build-

ing they rolled past. They also made a thorough inspection of the water tower on Indian Hill, which is so close to their office. Any leaks there would drain right into their building!

On Monday, Tribal employees arrived to open their offices and find some items knocked off of shelves. As further inspections were completed, the most serious damage appeared to be to the building that houses the Artists Marketplace and the Quechan Language program.

"We found some cracks in the walls of the building," reports Quechan Facilities Director, Joel Smith, "and there is a sinkhole that appeared behind the Social Services Building."

Mr. Smith and his crew have completed an exploratory excavation of the sinkhole and have determined that although it was most likely pre-existing, the earthquake may have caused it to become more apparent. They are also sealing over the "new" cracks in the "Old Head Start" building, which Joel says were almost all cracks they had noticed and repaired over the years, and were also freshly opened up during the big quake.

Tribal Member Hopes to Use Experience in Construction to Advance Tribal Opportunities as New Quechan TERO/Safety Officer

The past few weeks have seen a lot of new faces taking over a variety of positions in the Tribal Administration, and one of those “new” faces, working here on the reservation at least, is Melvin Miguel.

Mr. Miguel took over the combined Tribal Employment Rights (TERO) and Safety Office in mid-March, a more office-oriented change from his most recent position in Facilities Maintenance at the Quechan Casino ♠ Resort. He had worked at the “Q” since it’s opening last February, in a position that made the most of his varied experience in the construction trades. He now hopes to further parlay that experience into a means of helping others achieve gainful employment and protect their health and careers at the same time.

Born at Fort Yuma, Melvin Miguel attended the San Pasqual Elementary School before moving to Riverside to enroll (and graduate from) the Sherman Indian High School in the late 1960s. Upon graduation, he went to Oklahoma for heavy equipment training through a trade school program. His certificate in hand, he returned to the Fort Yuma reservation and began looking for work.

That’s where he first became familiar with TERO, when he met the man in charge of it at that time, Gregory Yuma. “That was the first time I wondered about what the responsibilities

and duties of a TERO Officer might be,” he remembers. Mr. Yuma helped Melvin obtain his first job in construction in Yuma. He also served as a “sounding board” and mentor for Melvin at times.

His first “big job” was serving as an apprentice pile driver, pounding footings into the river bed during construction of the Interstate 8 Bridge over the Colorado “sometime around 1973 and ‘74.” When construction work trailed off for a while, Melvin worked for the Quechan Tribe as a Game Warden, filling in for another Tribal member who was ill. He also says he attended AWC for a year during his early career.

He was eventually hired on with a construction firm at the Yuma Proving Ground, putting in water and drainage systems around the base. He says that was a good experience.

“I worked here in Yuma most of my life in construction,” he says. “During that time, I learned that safety plays a major part in that line of work. By staying focused, I learned a lot in the business.” One project he recalls from his years with Bill Toms Construction was helping to build the giant K-Mart Building on 32nd Street.

“That was a big job, and it’s

Melvin Miguel

A Quechan tribal member, Melvin worked in construction for over 30 years, with almost half his career at DPE Construction in Yuma.

QUECHAN NEWS Photo by William Isbell



where I first met other people I would work with here on the reservation, and out at the “Q” years later,” he recalls.

He finally ended up working for Don Petersen Engineering (DPE) Construction. That turned into a long-term position, and only ended when the entire national economy took a nose-dive in mid-2008, and construction in Yuma virtually dried up for a while.

“I was laid-off, I think, in August of 2008. I spent quite a while looking for something, until I applied at the “Q” just before they opened in early 2009. I was hired on there in Facilities Maintenance just before the Grand Opening last February, and was part of the team there until I accepted the combined TERO/Safety position here at the Tribe.”

Now that he’s moved up to a position that will allow him to be a “public Face” for the Tribe, he’s begun to carefully consider what he’d like to do for both the Tribe as a whole, and for those employees who will come to him with their concerns.

“I care deeply about the safety and prosperity of my Tribe

and its members,” he explains. “I want to help people become more aware of their rights as employees. Right now, after talking to some people, I am sure that not everyone knows exactly what those rights are. Some people feel intimidated when they speak to those above them (in the chain-of-command), and it doesn’t have to be that way. Some people almost feel they have no rights once they take a job, and that’s not so. Any issues they feel they might have, they can come to my office and talk about it.”

He says he wants to be able to talk to anyone and explain their rights under the law and to help anyone with an issue to “feel more secure about their job.”

“You know, a person shouldn’t feel intimidated about speaking up (just because they may be in a lower paying job, or new to a job). They need to know their jobs are here and they should feel secure in them. They should (just relax) and be more outgoing and enjoy their jobs.” He says there is no reason for anyone to feel that way. Everyone is new to something, or learning a new procedure or adapting to change under the present economy.

“As far as producing a good product,” he says, “we can all do better, production-wise, as long as we don’t have doubts or worries hanging over us. We shouldn’t have to feel like we’re always looking over our shoul-

ders. We should just be free to do our jobs . . . That’s what I want to get across.”

And once he gets his new business cards back from the printer, he has further plans:

“With my experience in construction, and after working with all of the various contractors around town, I want to go visit them all right away and talk to them and leave them my card.” He wants to let anyone planning a project in Yuma know that “we have people here in the Quechan Tribe who are willing to work, willing to do the job, whatever it is.”

“You know a lot of people here also have problems with transportation. They can get to a specific job once they have it, but they can’t afford the gas without a job to be out driving all over every day, week after week with no money, looking for that job. That’s what I can do for them — I can find that job and make it easier for them.”

He also hopes to find some journeymen plumbers or carpenters, experienced workers to come in and teach the basics of their jobs to interested Tribal members here at the Education Complex. Mr. Miguel wants to put together a grant program that could provide basic certification in trades that will enable Tribal members to be ready to step into any positions that may open up once the economy comes back. “We need to be ready for anything” he says.

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

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

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



Heritage & Culture

Sewing Class Helps Students Learn Skills for the Future



Sabrina Espino and Mia Escalanti consult with instructor Marianna Bobtail Bear on their projects in the sewing class. Sabrina is preparing to stuff her nearly complete pillow cover with a pillow, while Marianna lines up Mia's just completed pillow top with a piece of fabric to be used for the bottom. In the center, Chynna Cachora concentrates as she threads her sewing machine needle. On the right, second grader Reagan Goforth gets help routing the thread through her sewing machine.

QUECHAN NEWS Photos by William Isbell

Marianna Bobtail Bear says she's grown tired of hearing everyone say there is not enough to keep kids busy here on the reservation, so she decided to do something about it. Long consulted by adults for her sewing skills, Marianna has put together a sewing class for students from ages 8 to 12, which meets twice a week at the Johnson O'Malley Building in the

Quechan Education Complex. Although she expected only girls would be interested, first grader Jerry Goforth has enrolled in the current class along with his second grade sister, Reagan. They've joined three older girls in sixth and seventh grades, to learn the basic skills needed to graduate into making their own ribbon shirts and dresses. Together with her granddaughter,

Tarryn Villacaña, Mrs. Bobtail Bear began with a fairly simple project, creating a tie blanket. That project taught the kids how to measure and cut fabric, as well as instilling a sense of accomplishment at seeing something through from start to finish. Everyone then moves on to making an apron, to learn how to measure, cut and assemble something from pieces.

They also learned how to match complementary colors, sew a gathered hem (which is an important part of the waistline of both ribbon and diamond dress construction), and how to create a belt that passes through an item of clothing, to tie off in the back. Their final project during the first session was creating a quilt square style pillow cover, to

learn how to measure and sew even, straight seams, which are very important when making shirts and dresses. All of the students say they are glad they've taken the class, and look forward to practicing their skills until they can learn how to make their own projects. If you'd like to enroll in the next class this summer, call the JOM office at (760)572- 0648.



Students learn all the steps used to complete their projects: From left to right; Mia measures and cuts her the fabric, Jerry Goforth sews his pieces together as Tarryn Villacaña observes, then Reagan is seen ironing seams flat for finishing, and Sabrina hand stitches her completed pillow closed, while Marianna inspects a student's finished project.

Grant Writer Moves Over to Business Enterprises

The Quechan Business Enterprises Office has a new Manager, as Barbara Cachora has moved over from her previous position as Grant Writer for the Tribe to fill this important post.

A member of the Quechan Tribe, Barbara says her blood also extends to the Mescalero Apache Tribe. "I was born in Mescalero, New Mexico," she says, "and moved to Los Angeles at the age of 5 with my sisters to live with our grandparents. I also have one brother and a sister in Mescalero."

Barbara began her schooling in L.A., and attended boarding school at the Sherman Indian High School as a teen. She attended all four years at Sherman, graduating in May of 1975.

"I came back and forth to Yuma through out my high school years, working here in the summers. I spent five years going to school at Riverside City College and working in the surrounding areas."

She then "ended up coming back here around 1981,

enrolling in what was then known as the Manpower program," which offered job training and placement assistance.

She also met her husband, had her first child (Kyle Cachora) and attended Arizona Western College (all within the space of only four years!). Her previously earned credits from Riverside helped her receive an Associate of Science degree in late 1984.

Degree in hand, she went to work for the Cocopah Tribe as a Utilities Clerk, gathering her first real experience in office procedures as she collected payments and maintained the books. She soon went to work for the Quechan Tribe, starting as the Trailer Village Clerk in 1989. She moved over to the Bingo Operation that same year as their Bookkeeper.

"I began to move up the enterprise ladder and was promot-

Barbara Cachora

Is a well known Tribal member with a large extended family and strong ties to the Quechan community.

QUECHAN NEWS Photo by William Isbell



ed to Assistant Bingo Manager then Bingo Manager. In 1996 I left the Paradise Casino. The new Casino business structure changed the bingo operation and I felt it was time for me to move on. At that point, I was able to stay home for 8 months with my youngest son." On the subject of her family, she goes over some of the many connections: "I have resided on this reservation for about 35 years. My husband is Vernon José, and we have three adult sons, Kyle and Ryan Cachora and Derrick José and his girlfriend, Angel Townsend. Our teenaged son Brendan José is in high school right now. We also have one granddaughter, Nikea Cachora, whose mother, Lucia Duarté lives in Yuma,

though she's working in Kuwait at this time."

In May of 1997 she returned to work for the Quechan Tribe, a temporary clerk in the Finance Department under George Bass "for a couple of months."

When the Quechan Grants and Contracts Coordinator position opened up, she felt her business acumen and experience had prepared her for such responsibilities. Tribal Administrator Jaimé Catron agreed.

There, she learned the ins and outs of grant monitoring and budget preparation. "We have a lot of programs that are dependent on Grants," she explains. "ADAPP, Special Diabetes, the Community Health Representatives, Commodities, the Parenting Program and most of Social Services. I learned a lot there!"

"Working with Program Directors as well as the Tribal Council was a great experience, as I learned what programs were required to accomplish tasks and how the Tribal Council works for the betterment

of the Tribal community." She served as Grants and Contracts Coordinator for 8 years.

"In 2005 I was hired as the Grants Writer, and worked with Mr. Vernon Smith, the Tribal Administrator." She says she gained experience working with most of the tribal components while in both of the grants related positions. That experience, and the B.S. she received in Business Management at the University of Phoenix in 2009, will help her now as Business Enterprises Manager.

"Today, this is an exciting position with tremendous possibilities for the Tribe's enterprises to work toward maintaining and maximizing financial growth with the resources that we have in place," she exclaims.

"I look forward to working with all the Business Enterprises. We will work together toward accountability and a sense of integrity in our daily work with both our Tribal members and the general public we serve."

Mandated Reporter Training This Friday

Quechan Head Start will sponsor two sessions of a one-day training course on the requirements for reporting suspected child abuse this Friday, April 16. Both classes will be held at the Quechan Education Complex in their multipurpose room. The first of the one-hour classes will be held from 9:00 AM until 10:00 AM, and the second will begin right after lunch at 1:00 PM.

The instructor for the course will be provided by the Imperial County Child Abuse Prevention Council from El Centro. The class covers the signs and symptoms of child abuse, interview procedures, what does not constitute abuse as well as re-

lated subjects. It will cover both the historical origins of child protection laws and the current California requirements. Those attending will receive a complete information packet for future reference, to help them recall all of the information presented.

Laws discussed include California Penal Code Sections 11164 through 11174.4, which contain the laws related to child abuse reporting. Although a great deal of the law discussed covers abuse, what it is and how to report it, what to expect in the way of feed back once a report has been made, and who is required to report suspected abuse, the laws also

cover what abuse is not. Since the law states that every report must be a legitimate report, the law also provides penalties for knowingly or willfully providing false notifications of abuse, to prevent unfounded allegations from gaining traction and ruining the lives of a family.

Because of the legal complexities involved, anyone working with children, whether in health care, education or transportation is encouraged to attend. The instructor should be able to answer any questions attendees may have about this important subject, and help those taking the refresher understand that we should all keep the best interests of our children in mind.

RV WORLD
SINCE 1954

LAST WEEK TO ENTER!

\$100,000 TAXDAY DRIVEAWAY Giveaway

Swipe your Q Club or Treasure Club Card daily and enter to win this **Bounder Fleetwood RV** valued at \$100,000 - and we pay the taxes! (Or choose the \$50,000 cash option prize!)

GRAND PRIZE DRAWING IS THIS THURSDAY, APRIL 15 AT 8 PM AT THE Q!

* See Player's Club for more details.

Parks & Recreation Head Has a Good Team



Willis Hawkins

Has experience that extends from the Paradise Casino, to Sleepy Hollow to the Parks and Recreation Department.

QUECHAN NEWS Photo by William Isbell

Willis Hawkins grew up right here at Fort Yuma, and has gained experience in a variety of fields and in athletics, all of which helps him in his new position as Director of the Quechan Parks and Recreation Department.

Born in Santa Clara, California, he returned to Fort Yuma with his family when he was only four. Although he began his schooling in Yuma, by the end of his first grade year, the family had moved onto the reservation. Willis was able to attend the San Pasqual Valley School District all the way through high school, where he played both football and basketball.

"Faron Owl was the football coach back then," he says, "but it's all changed up and different there now" with Mr. Owl in charge of baseball and others coaching the football team. Even after graduation, Willis has continued playing on various leagues and in community tournaments.

Upon graduating in 1992, he left almost immediately to attend a special minority transition program at Northern Arizona University in Flagstaff, where he would be for the next two years, "working towards a degree in Business Administration". At that time, he thought he wanted to get into Accounting as a career, and knew that having a Business Degree would be a plus. He also worked at the college bookstore on campus to supplement his income.

year. But, "life happened" in the meantime, he says, and the job he had at the Fort Yuma Trailer Village where he stayed on full-time once the school year ended in '95. About a year later, Willis used his knowledge of accounting and business practices to gain a position as a Revenue Auditor at the Paradise Casino.

He was able to then move over to take the position of Manager of the Sleepy Hollow RV Park when that opened up a couple of years later. There, he learned "the paperwork process" required to run a Quechan Tribal program, and got his first "hands-on" experience supervising others. "I had a clerk and two maintenance guys working with me and we were pretty small, so we did everything over there!"

"Around 2003," wanting to make more money, "I went to work for D&H Electric, and worked for them." Starting as a laborer, he was soon on his way to becoming a Journeyman and running a crew when he was only six months into it, due to his I had some education and experience. "I could read blueprints and they started bumping me up pretty quick," he notes.

But — "life happened" again, and he tore his anterior cruciate ligament while playing ball after work one day. A long period of recovery meant he lost his job, since he couldn't climb a ladder with a bad knee.

"I was out of work for about 8

"But in '94, I decided to come back here and go to AWC," he says, where he continued his education for another months, and I was coming over here (to the Community Center) to work out and stay in shape, getting my knee re-habbed" when he was approached by the Business Enterprises Manager at that time and asked if he'd like to become an interim Coordinator at Parks and Rec. "I tried that for about two months, and they were pleased with what I did, so they offered me the job of Manager of the Rainbow Pool, and I've never looked back!"

Willis stayed on, helping out with all of the community events at Parks and Rec. — basketball and volleyball tournaments, community dinners, and various holiday gatherings, to learn everything he could about how the Parks and Rec. Department interacts with and supports the Quechan community.

Finally, when Parks & Rec. Director Louis Robles decided to retire last May, Willis was moved up to full time Acting Director by November of last year. He was officially appointed as Director in early March of this year.

He says he's looking forward to all of the events planned this year, since he has a "really good crew" working with him now: Tina Welsh in the office, Phil Emerson running the pool, Claudio Palone in the weight room, and Vernon José and Patrick Two Hearts in maintenance, with Recreation Aides Jennifer Black and David Ramirez.

"We're doing more and more things with other departments and programs now, making them more 'community events', rather than strictly as "Parks & Rec events," he notes, "teaming up with ADAPP, Diabetes and other groups. So we're expanding our reach, and helping out in the community even more."

**The Quechan Indian Tribe
is seeking interested tribal members
to serve on the following
Boards and Committees:**

**Quechan Education Committee
QTDHE Board of Commissioners (1)
Kwat'san Cultural Committee
Quechan Health Committee**

**If interested, submit a *Letter of Interest*
to the Tribal Council Secretary
(Georgina Massey)
at the Tribal Administration Office.**

NOTICE OF CHANGE IN SERVICES

Beginning June 1, 2010

(or when current supplies run out)

The Quechan Special Diabetes Project will no longer be distributing the following Diabetes supplies:
Test strips, lancets, meters and alcohol swabs.

We will however, continue to carry Diabetic socks.

All Community members with Diabetes should see their IHS Health Care Provider at least once every three months. At the Primary Care Provider visit, the Doctor will order your test supplies, including glucose test strips and lancets, which can then be obtained through the Pharmacy.

For new or replacement glucose meters and lancet devices you should see
Deborah Drumel, RD, CDE.

We apologize for any inconvenience this may cause.

Should you have any questions please feel free to call me at

(760)572-1286

Lisa Ball, Special Diabetes Project Director

Programs Provide Spring Break Activities



Quechan ADAPP, Parks and Recreation, the Special Diabetes Program and the Wellness Center all came together over the week of March 29 through April 1 to give elementary students on spring break a half day of activities every day. Here, dozens of younger students sit down for a lunch break at the Quechan Community Center before heading home.



The kids really enjoyed getting to use colored chalk to draw all over the Community Center parking lot the first day. Here, one participant draws the outline of another — a popular game with all 85 kids!



Each of the four departments got one day to be in charge of everything that took place that day. On Monday ADAPP handled registration duties and arts and crafts day. Tuesday saw the Wellness Center offering athletic activities outdoors with an obstacle course, volleyball and other games. Wednesday (above) the Quechan Special Diabetes Project sponsored cultural awareness day, with traditional crafts and lots of bird singers and dancers, teaching and entertaining at the same time. On the final day, Parks and Recreation held "let loose fun day" for the kids, with game booths and inflatable jumpers inside the gym!

Photos by Tina Welsh and Willis Hawkins, Quechan Parks & Rec

Huey Lewis, Carlos Mencia Live at Quechan Casino Resort



Carlos Mencia will be at the QCR Saturday, May 22nd at 7:00 PM.

Critically acclaimed comedian Carlos Mencia brings his smack talking, liberally offensive genius to the Quechan Casino Resort on Saturday, May 22nd at 7:00 PM.

His routines are poignant and always hit home, whether it's about immigration, race or politics. Mencia's ability to connect with a diverse audience is what has made him one of the most successful touring comedians in the country.

Mencia's film credits include "Three Amigos Live In Concert" and the independent films, "Out-

ta Time" and "29 Palms." His television credits include guest starring roles on "The Shield" and "Bernie Mac," as well as two solo HBO specials and appearances on "The Tonight Show With Jay Leno," "HBO's Loco Slam" and "Comic Relief VI." Already well-known with COMEDY CENTRAL viewers, Mencia's half-hour special, as part of the "COMEDY CENTRAL Presents" franchise, consistently performs well and his video clips are among the most requested stand-up clips on comedycentral.com. Tickets start at \$40 and premium seat-

ing is available at \$85 per seat.

The following weekend, Huey Lewis & The News will bring over two decades of hits to the Pipa Event Center at QCR. Their show will be on Sunday, May 30th at 8:00PM.

With hits such as *Workin' for a Livin'* and *Power of Love* from the classic hit movie "Back to the Future" as well as *The Heart of Rock & Roll* and *Hip to Be Square* from the "golden era" of 1980's MTV you won't want to miss out on what is sure to be a rockin' good time! Call the QCR Box Office at (800)585-3737 to reserve your seats now!



Huey Lewis & The News will then appear at the Pipa Event Center on Sunday, May 30 at 8:00 PM. Tickets went on sale at playqcr.com on April 3rd. Seats start at \$40 for Carlos Mencia and \$45 for Huey Lewis. You can also call (800)585-3737 to order tickets by credit card for either show. You must be 18 years of age or older to attend the concerts.

HIV/AIDS Day Count Raised

Tom Fernandez of the Quechan Alcohol and Drug Abuse Prevention Project (ADAPP) reports that they've completed going over the count of those who signed up for various events during the annual HIV/AIDS Awareness Day on March 19th, and have discovered that almost three times as many community members took part in

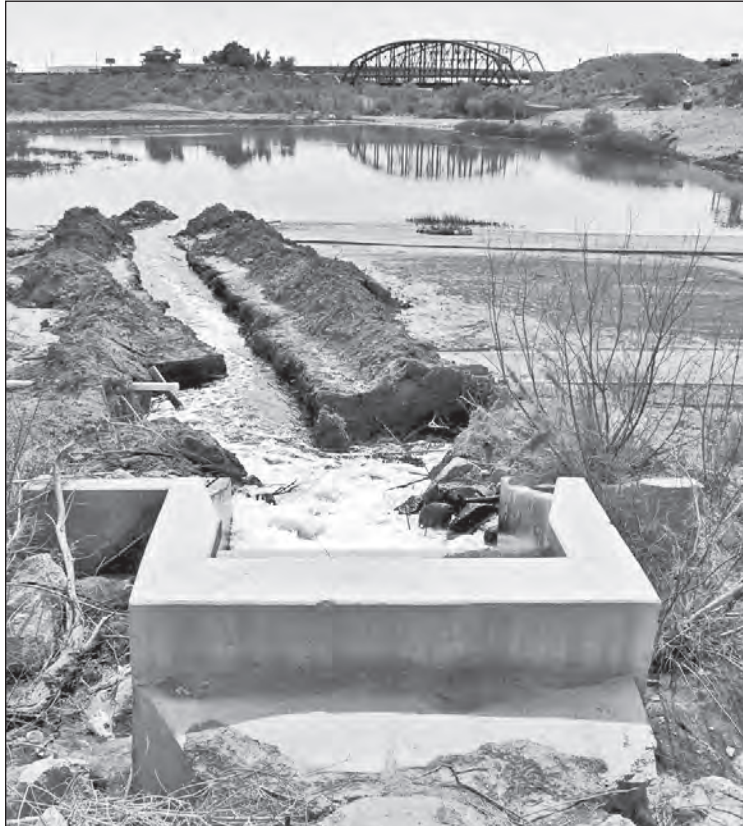
the event than their original estimate reflected.

ADAPP Assistant Secretary Trudy Lopez was given the task of compiling lists of names from the walks and runs that took place to open the events, as well as the names of people who signed up at various information booths at the Community Center. When she had elimi-

nated the duplicates, she was surprised to find that nearly 400 people had been at the Tribe's HIV/AIDS Day through out the evening. "It didn't seem like that many," she laughs, "so we must have had a lot of people coming and going."

The Annual event is coordinated with national and state events held during March.

Record Rains Delay Park Opening



Water flows from the spillway and across a walkway and into the *Anya Nitz Pak* lake. The heavy rains this past winter necessitated draining groundwater that has collected beneath the housing area and Paradise Casino prior to the arrival of the snow melt flow down the Colorado from northern Arizona later this spring. QUECHAN NEWS Photo by William Isbell

This winter's rains have filled the aquifer underlying both the Old Subdivision and Paradise Casino with a surplus of groundwater that needs to be drained before more water arrives via the Colorado River with the spring snow melt.

Walt Brooks with the Quechan Economic Development Administration says pumps were activated on March 25th to begin draining an accumulation of groundwater collected over the past few years. An average of 5000 cubic feet per minute (cfm) was released over the spillway at the base of the levee separating the Casino property from the new Anya Nitz Pak Park for a period of two weeks.

To handle that volume of water, a new ditch was cut to the

park's lake across a previously completed walkway and the beach next to the lake.

Mr. Brooks hopes to build a new, larger collection basin just south of the existing spillway, which will connect to an underground culvert. The catch basin will be filled with large stone "rip-rap" to catch groundwater flows and direct them into the culvert, which will then empty into the lake beneath the surface, preventing similar situations in the future.

Once that project is completed, the ditch will be filled in, and the beach and walkway will be permanently reconstructed. The new basin and culvert will move the opening of the Park this spring back a few weeks from the previous target date.

Photos by Willis Hawkins, Quechan Parks & Rec



The Annual Quechan Tribe Easter Egg Hunt was held at the Diabetes Walking Park below Indian Hill on Saturday, April 3rd.

This year's event began at 10 in the morning, allowing everyone time to get their children together and ready for fun! Over 100 kids, from toddlers to age 12 lined up at the edge of the field, anxiously awaiting the signal to begin. Once Phil Emerson of Parks and Rec shouted "Go!" over the P.A. system, a mad scramble began!



Parents helped out as the little ones carefully checked every square inch of the park. All the participants got a free Easter Basket to hold their eggs (and other goodies). Once the hunt was over, it was time to enjoy the great hamburger barbeque meal that Parks and Recreation, the Diabetes Wellness Center and other volunteers put together. We'll see you again next year!



WALKING FOR A CAUSE

We are proud to announce our Inaugural Kwatsan Radio Walk-a-Thon on May 1st!!!

We hope you can take part in this important event. With your participation you will help raise funds for our station and the Special Diabetes Project on the Ft. Yuma Quechan Nation.

LEARN MORE ON HOW TO HELP, EMAIL US AT

kwatsanradio@gmail.com

OR VISIT OUR WEBSITE

www.kwatsanradio.org



Quechan Senior Center Monday & Wednesday Bus Route

Morning Bus Route:

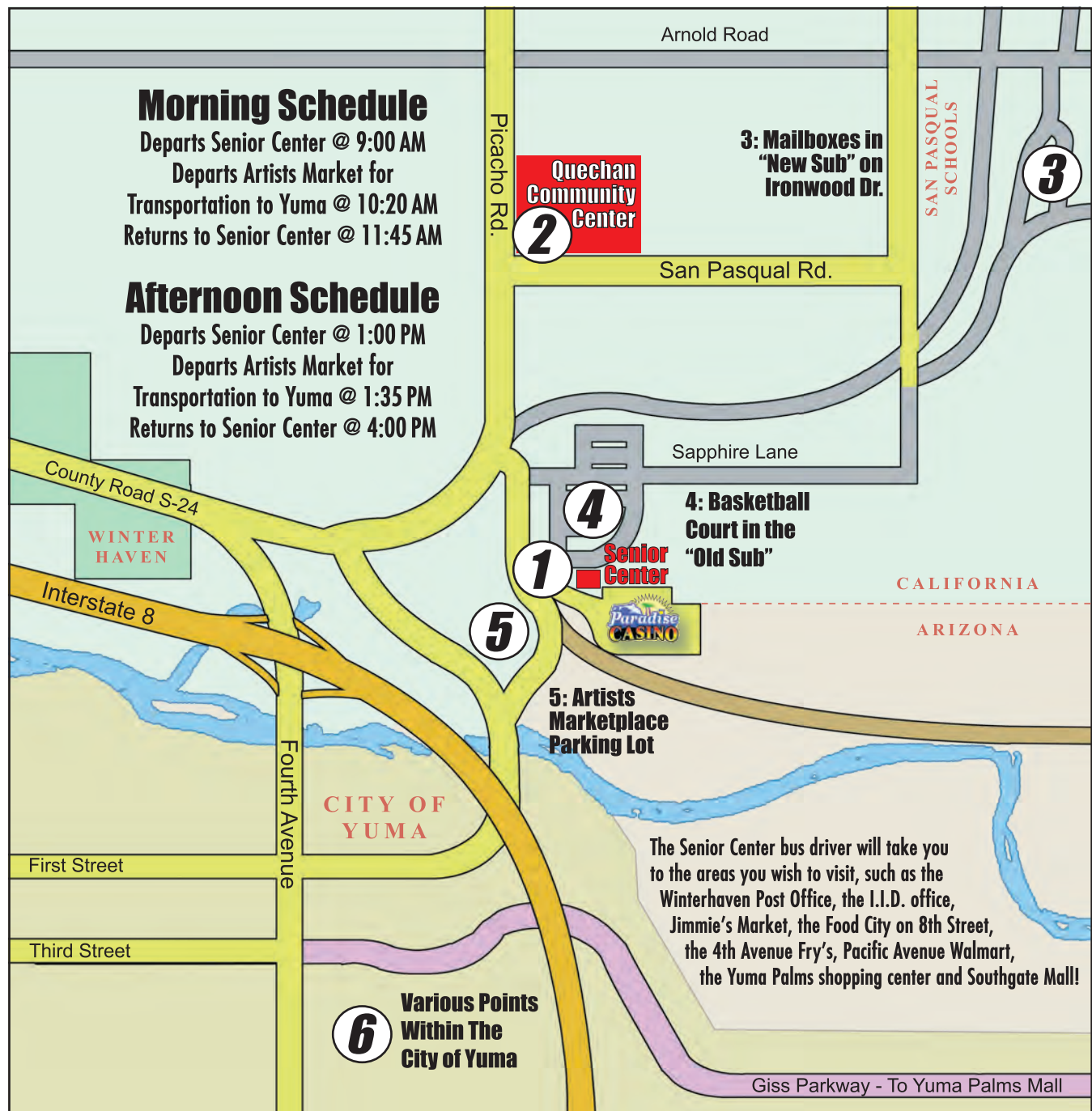
- 9:00 AM: Pick up at Senior Center
- 9:00 AM: Depart Senior Center
- 9:05 AM: Arrive at Community Center
- 9:15 AM: Depart Community Center
- 9:25 AM: Arrive at Ironwood Mailboxes
- 9:40 AM: Depart from New Subdivision
- 9:50 AM: Arrive at Basketball Court
- 10:00 AM: Depart from Old Subdivision
- 10:10 AM: Arrive at Artists Marketplace
- 10:20 AM: Depart from Artists Marketplace
- Parking Lot for Transportation to Yuma
- 11:45 AM: Arrive at Senior Center (Lunch)

Afternoon Bus Route:

- 1:00 PM: Depart Senior Center
- 1:05 PM: Arrive at Community Center
- 1:08 PM: Depart Community Center
- 1:15 PM: Arrive at Ironwood Mailboxes
- 1:18 PM: Depart from New Subdivision
- 1:25 PM: Arrive at Basketball Court
- 1:28 PM: Depart from Old Subdivision
- 1:30 PM: Arrive at Artists Marketplace
- 1:35 PM: Depart from Artists Marketplace
- Parking Lot for Transportation to Yuma
- 4:00 PM: Arrive at Senior Center (Final)

HOMEBOUND PARTICIPANTS:

Bus Runs on Tuesdays & Thursdays
Call The Senior Center 2 Days Ahead
for Service: (760)572-0748



The Quechan Senior Center bus now follows a scheduled route on Mondays and Wednesdays. The bus runs morning and afternoon both days, for those needing a lift to a variety of locations.

A twice weekly bus service is now available for Quechan seniors wanting to run errands. Begun in late February, the Monday and Wednesday service operates on a set schedule, as outlined above.

The Senior Center bus driver, Alonzo Lopez, says seniors can even ride into Yuma on the morning run and take care of business during the day, to be picked up on his afternoon run — as long as they make ar-

rangements to meet him at a set time at one of his usual stops in town. He even makes a slow pass through both subdivisions on his way to the "Bus Stops", and will pick up riders at the curb if they come out a few minutes early to wait for him on the way to those stops. He stops at the mailboxes facing Ironwood Drive in the "new" subdivision, and at the basketball court in the "old sub".

Homebound seniors have

use of the bus on Tuesdays and Thursdays each week. Those riders can even be brought directly to a specific doctor's office (or other locations) in Yuma and Winterhaven, and Alonzo will come back and pick them up on his return trip. All he asks is that seniors call the Transportation Office at the Senior Center and make those arrangements with him 2 days in advance, so he can plan his routes for those days.