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October 23 - 31



INDIAN DAYS - PAGE 3
THE NEWS CARRIER

QUECHAN NEWS

Volume 105, Issue 19 ♦ Wednesday, October 26, 2011

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Items Of Special Interest To Tribe Members



Look For This Symbol

ETSKA NAV AH PAI THE NEWS CARRIER
QUECHAN NEWS

is published by

The Quechan Indian Tribe

350 Picacho Road

Winterhaven, Ca. 92283

Phone: (760)572-3912

Email: w.isbell@quechantribe.com

HALLOWEEN WILL BE HERE SOON!



The Illingworth family in the Ironwood Terrace cul-de-sac has a Sleepy Hollow theme, with a forest of skeletonized, burnt trees, a scarecrow, jack o'lanterns and spooky signs lining the driveway. There's a full moon mural behind it all, and the inside is even scarier! Don't forget the annual Quechan Halloween party coming to the Parks and Recreation Community Center on Saturday, October 29 beginning at 5PM! QUECHAN NEWS Photo by William Isbell

It's almost time for all of the fall and winter season activities here on the Fort Yuma reservation to start piling up on the calendar, with Indian Days just two weeks behind us, Red Ribbon Week upon us right now, and Halloween coming up this weekend! Soon to come will be Veterans Day, Thanksgiving and Christmas! Where has the year gone already?

This year, we're adding a new event to October, with a big Haunted Trail Fun Walk at the Diabetes Walking Park this Thursday night, October 27th from 6:00 to 8:00 PM.

Costumes are optional, and the Diabetes Wellness Center will have treats for everyone!

And with the big Quechan Nation Halloween Party just a couple of days later, it's time to recognize a family that goes just a little batty for the subject. Every year, Georgia Illingworth seems to try to outdo herself when it comes to Halloween decorations, and this year, her family's home on Ironwood Terrace is even more outrageous than ever before.

"We really enjoy Halloween here at my house," she says. "I'd have to say that Halloween

is my favorite time of year."

Georgia gathers bits and pieces of things she likes throughout the year to prepare for the ghouls holiday. "I have to start early because I'm very picky about what I use," she explains. "I like very ugly and scary things, and cute doesn't cut it with me, as you can tell."

When she first went crazy for Halloween, she only decorated the inside of the house. "But now," she says, "if the outside isn't decorated my house seems naked!" Last year the family did a human chop shop theme. "This year many

people came up to me and said I should have a walk through."

So, a few weeks ago, Georgia took a cruise down to "Bard Beach" on the levee and saw all the fire damage along the riverbank from earlier in the summer. Looking at all the charred trees, she thought "what a waste of black silhouettes," so she returned to get her niece Kacey and drove back to to gather up the burnt trees they liked. All those burnt trees were "transplanted" into her front yard for a "sleepy hollow" theme.

"We're huge scary movie

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HALLOWEEN . . .

(Continued From Page 1)

buffs," she explains, "and I get some of my best ideas from movies such as *Trick or Treat*, *Sleepy Hollow*, and *The Texas Chainsaw Massacre* and so on."

"I'm also a huge penny pincher," she laughs. "I hate spending a lot of money on things I can find in thrift stores."

All of her kids' costumes are handmade. And in keeping with the theme, she also makes scary foods such as brain cupcakes, goblin eyes, witches fingers and more. "My treats are always worth it because when I was a

child I used to run to a house for a single candy. I know what a bummer that is, so I make it worth your while to visit my Halloween house!"

"I like to give simple foods a little twist to kick it up a notch," she tells the *Quechan News*. Georgia is so good at it, she's been asked many times to cater Halloween parties.

"So come check us out on Halloween night for a good scare!" she says. "Every day I add something new, so my job is never done!"



Family members and helpful neighbors gather at the Illingworth home to show off their handiwork. In the yard (at left) standing in back are daughters Destiny and Raven, standing on either side of their dad, Roy Illingworth (Georgia's husband). In front are neighbor Isaac Pacheco and the Illingworth's niece, Casey Figueroa, who helped bring in all of the trees for the Sleepy Hollow forest. On the right, the older kids are joined in the kitchen (featuring signs advertising weird dishes, and dismembered body parts hanging from chains) by their younger assistants, Noah Illingworth and another neighborhood helper, Asyeria Pacheco.



Youth Cultural Festival Returns



Every year student volunteers from the University of Redlands visit our Reservation to work on the Yuma East Wetlands (YEW).

This year, about 70 students from the University of Redlands and the University of California – San Marcos will be our guests.

The students will be working on projects at both the Yuma East Wetlands and the Quechan Environmental Program's Bee

Wash project site.

While here, the volunteers focus on the refurbishment of the Colorado River, clearing non-native plant life and replacing them with indigenous trees.

The vision they share with us is to see 100 acres of trees replacing current overgrowth, in an attempt to birth new recreational and commercial opportunities for the parched river bottom where cottonwoods and willows grew, birds nested, and

Quechan Indian tribal members once hunted and fished.

As a partner in the YEW, the Quechan Tribe hosts a Saturday evening dinner for the student volunteers each year, as our way of saying thank you for their service to our community.

We complement the annual dinner by sharing of our traditional songs and dances. The night is known as the Youth Cultural Festival.

The 2011 Youth Cultural Festival will be held at the *Anya Nitz Pak* (Sunrise Point) Park on Saturday, November 5, 2011 from 5:00 PM until 10:00 PM. The Community is welcome and encouraged to attend.

For more information, please contact Allyson Collins, EDA Specialist, at the EDA Office, (760) 572-5270.

QUECHAN ENROLLMENT DEADLINE

Quechan Tribal Members are encouraged to enroll their child(ren) for membership with the Quechan Tribe.

The Quechan Enrollment Application deadline for the present quarter is Friday, December 2, 2011 at 5:00 PM. Completed applications must include the following support documents:

- State Certified Birth Certificate (Copy)
- Social Security Card (Copy)
- If either parent is an enrolled member of another tribe, submit an updated Certified Degree of Indian Blood (CDIB) and a letter of non-enrollment for the applicant.

Applications will not be processed until all the support documents have been received. Completed applications are processed quarterly.

The next quarterly meeting for the Enrollment Committee will be mid-December.

Contact the Quechan Enrollment Office at (760) 572-0752 if you have questions regarding the enrollment application process.

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QUECHAN NEWS
William Isbell

Newsletter Coordinator, Fort Yuma Quechan Nation
350 Picacho Road Winterhaven, CA 92283
Phone: (760) 572-3912 Fax: (760) 572-3910
Email: w.isbell@quechantribe.com

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

Quechan News is here to cover the special events and everyday lives of Quechan Tribe Members, and the issues that affect you in the world today. This newsletter is here to keep the lines of communication open, to expand opportunities, and uplift the Native Spirit of the 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!



Culture & Heritage

Emphasis on Family Activities At Quechan Indian Days



Even wearing a walking cast, Michael Gilbert (in photo at top left) manages to pull ahead of Jodeci Williams and Lacey Acosta, taking third place in the 17 and up dash. Chandra Paz and Larissa Mills had already passed by, to take first and second place in that race. In other Indian Days kids' games action, Vincenti Hartt accepts his winnings from Eileen Valenzuela in the middle photo, for placing third in the 5 to 7 year-old dash competition. Finally, Angel Emerson looks on nervously as Ethan Jackovich makes one last big swallow before whistling to show he's finished eating his crackers.

All Photos by William Isbell



Barely able to contain himself, Josiah Montague nearly spits up his crackers (above)! The Sun Star Dancers of Polacca, AZ won the Parade Grand Prize this year.



Middle School Native Princess Chyna Cachora reaches in her bag for some candy, while Elementary Princess Theresa Valenzuela tosses Strong Hearts Native Society T-shirts into the crowd at the parade.

Community members and guests alike gathered at the old stomping grounds south of the Diabetes Walking Park for three days of festivities, as the Quechan Events Committee presented the 2011 Indian Days Celebration from October 14th to the 16th.

The majority of the first day was dedicated to Tribal youth, as kids from 5 to 25 (or maybe more!) competed in fun contests like foot races, egg tosses, soda cracker eating and chugging a cold soda. The contestants were broken down into age groups, like 5 to 7, 8 to 10, 11 to 13, 14 to 16 and 17 years old and up, to give everyone a "fighting chance" to win a cash prize.

The Friday afternoon art contest had wonderful work by both talented locals and visi-

tors. There were pen-and-ink and pencil drawings, an expertly beaded cape, a traditional ceramic pot, and a Kwat'san gourd rattle and carrying bag set on display. In the end, a guest, Elmer Saufke, of Polacca walked away with the \$100 cash prize for the best art, for his painted glass portrait of a traditional Hopi butterfly maiden.

The dancing group Elmer leads, Sun Star, also won the Grand Prize for best entry at the Indian Days parade on Saturday, so there is a lot of talent (and practice) going on there!

With games (like Quechan bingo, shinny, arm wrestling competitions, volleyball and horseshoe tournaments) spread out over the entire three days, as well as bird song performances and traditional song and dance

competitions for all ages, everyone in the family had a chance to demonstrate their skills and win a prize if they wished. Or—a person could just walk about and mingle, visiting with old friends and sampling the wonderful foods offered at the booths around the perimeter. And don't forget the live bands and dances in the evenings!

One very popular booth for the kids was the toy store set up by Warren Jefferson behind the west bleachers. Many times, a young winner could be seen dashing over to spend their prize, picking out a new doll or a toy gun as soon as the cash was in hand! Of course, if they were able to avoid the temptations of the toys, there were still plenty of fireworks available just a short walk away!

Tribal Member and Spouse of Tribal Member Seek School Board Seats

On Tuesday, November 8th, an election will be held to fill three open positions on the San Pasqual Valley Unified School District Board of Trustees. The polling place to cast your vote will be the school library.

The terms of Tribal members Becky Ramirez and Bernadine Swift Arrow have now expired, and Tribal member Ramon Barton has stated that he will not be running for reelection. Two candidates for those positions have sent the following statements to the *Quechan News*, seeking your support in their bids to fill the empty seats.



Lisa Aguerro works days as the Quechan Tribe's Injury Prevention Officer. Q NEWS Photo by William Isbell

"My name is Lisa Aguerro, and I am a candidate for the San Pasqual School Board."

"I have 3 children who attend schools in the District, with one child each in the elementary, middle and high schools."

"I have been actively involved in two of the three school site councils for many years, with ten years of involvement at the elementary school. I am presently serving as chairperson for both the elementary and middle school site councils."

"My experience as a site council member includes devel-

oping and monitoring the Single Plan for Student Achievement at both sites, as well as developing the School Safety and Wellness Plans for the District."

"I have attended several Board of Trustees meetings over the past year, and have addressed the Board on matters of concern for the respective sites which I represent as School Site Council Chairperson."

"I am fully aware of the commitment required to serve on the School Board of Trustees, and as a stakeholder I am prepared to make the commitment, if elected."



Michael Jack is the Indian Child Welfare Specialist at Quechan Social Services. Photo by William Isbell

Michael Jack says the SP-VUSD is in need of new and innovative leadership that will redirect the Board's primary focus back to student achievement and learning.

"I am running for the Board because I believe that I can provide this leadership and help WINTERHAVEN to be an important part of planning for the next decade."

"This continues my lifetime commitment to educational excellence in my profession and as a volunteer for our schools. Our schools are an important

part of our community's success and growth."

"My two daughters will graduate from the San Pasqual Valley School District, so I have a personal as well as a professional interest in preserving and improving the quality of Imperial County Schools."

"My priority is to focus first on improving the achievement of every student—the high achievers, as well as those who struggle to achieve grade-level success. We need to further examine the impact of various attendance models and use this data to show what the San Pasqual Valley School District would look like if we had no assignment policies."

"As a member of the Board of Education, I will work to develop a stronger partnership with municipal, county and state elected officials to find ways to adequately fund the 21st Century education that we all desire in our community. If we are to elevate our students' achievement, we have to elevate our willingness to adequately fund that achievement."

"The San Pasqual School District must continue to recruit, retain and support the very best teachers for our students."

"As your representative on the School Board, I will listen carefully to parents and teachers and ask for their creative and innovative ideas to encourage all students to succeed. Our schools face many challenges and I'm ready to get to work with you to make a difference. We can build on the strengths of our schools and truly assure a bright future for every child in our community. I would appreciate your vote."

Dr. Curall's Original & Bona Fide MEDICINE SHOW & OLD WEST EXTRAVAGANZA



Friday, Saturday & Sunday
November 11, 12 & 13, 2011
9am-5pm
Desert Sun Stadium • Yuma, AZ

Step back in time to the late 1800s! Experience the sights and sounds of the Old West. You'll see lawmen, outlaws, cow punchers, townsfolk, gamblers, dancehall girls and gunslingers. There'll be gunfights in the streets, stage shows, Native American dancers, Mexican singers and dancers, games for kids of all ages, Old West merchants, great food and more. Listen as a snake oil salesman peddles his wares or sit and watch as card cheats are done right before your eyes. You'll also be able to meet figures from Yuma's past.

So, put on your cowboy duds, gather up the young'ins and bring your family and friends for a day of rip-roarin' fun!

For more information or to find out how you can become involved, call 928-580-6704, 928-314-1231 or check out our website

DrCurall.com or Email: drcurall@gmail.com

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Time for a Big Birthday Shout Out to

Janice Emerson!

Happy Birthday, Mom!
From John and the Grandkids!

The Strong Hearts Native Society
PRESENTATION OF THE 2011

**MR. & MISS NATIVE
SAN PASQUAL PAGEANT**

WILL BE HELD
FRIDAY, NOV. 4, 2011
AT THE PARADISE EVENT CENTER
PROGRAM BEGINS AT 6:00 PM

Proceeds Will Benefit The
STRONG HEARTS NATIVE SOCIETY

For Information Call San Pasqual School
(760) 572-0222 Ext. 2231

The General Assistance Process Explained

The Quechan Social Services (QSS) Program has provided this information to help Tribal Members understand the eligibility and application procedure when applying for General Assistance Services.

Marilyn Swafford at QSS says it is important to apply for General Assistance as soon as your income source stops – the clock starts the day your GA application is signed.

Clients must turn in documents to establish eligibility as early as possible, as your case must be approved within 30 days of the application date, though an additional 15 days may be granted if a report or document requested from a third party is still in process. Cases are reviewed every 90 days for those individuals required to seek employment or families that must apply for State Temporary Aid to Needy Families (TANF).

An individual must complete an Individual Service Plan (ISP) and make progress on the items that lead toward the goal of self-sufficiency. Rates are determined by the rates of the County and State of residence. Our defined service area includes the Fort Yuma Reservation, Winterhaven, Bard and the City of Yuma and its suburbs, but not the Cocopah Reservation.

The following excerpt from the Federal Register/Volume 65, No. 204, Friday, October 20, 2000: Rules and Regulations (Page 63163) explains the procedure in detail:

Subpart C—Direct Assistance — Eligibility for Direct Assistance “Para. 20.300: Who qualified for Direct Assistance under this subpart? To be eligible for assistance or services under this part, an applicant must meet all of the following criteria:”

“(a) Be a member of an Indi-

an tribe; (b) Not have sufficient resources to meet the essential need items defined by the Bureau (of Indian Affairs) standard of assistance for those Bureau programs providing financial payment; (c) Reside in the service area as defined ...; and (d) Meet the additional eligibility criteria for ... the specific programs of financial assistance...”

“Para. 20.301: What is the goal of General Assistance?”

“The goal of the General Assistance program is to increase self-sufficiency. Each General Assistance recipient must work with the social services worker to develop and sign an Individual Self-sufficiency Plan [ISP]. The plan must outline the specific steps the individuals will take to increase independence by meeting the goal of employment.”

“Para. 20.302: Are Indian applicants required to seek assistance through Temporary Assistance for Needy Families?”

“Yes, all Indian applicants with dependent children are required to apply for Temporary Assistance for Needy Families (TANF) and follow TANF regulations.”

“Para. 20.303: When is an applicant eligible for General Assistance?”

“To be eligible for General Assistance an applicant must: (a) Meet the criteria contained in Para. 20.300; (b) Apply concurrently for financial assistance from other state, tribal, county, local, or other federal agency programs for which he/she is eligible; (c) Not receive any comparable public assistance; and (d) Develop and sign an employment strategy in the ISP with the assistance of the social services worker to meet the goal of employment through specific action steps

including job readiness and job search activities.”

You can stop in at the Quechan Social Services office and ask for a complete copy of the applicable program regulations if you have any further questions.

Direct Assistance is available from the Quechan Social Services Program as follows:

1) Call the office at (760) 572-0201 and make an appointment with receptionist Larissa Sandman. Appointments may be made for Monday, Tuesday, Thursday and Friday.

A list of documents needed will be provided. Generally, you will need to bring a copy of your Social Security card; verification of Tribal enrollment for each family member, a copy of a utility bill listing the street address of your residence; a copy of last pay stub or some correspondence disclosing an income source (such as an unemployment insurance claim, TANF Notice of Action, disability pay, institutional release, etc.). If other documents are needed, you will be notified at the time of your interview.

2) Apply for General Assistance with Nickki Miguel. You will need to bring in all your documents and perform the ISP requirements in a timely manner, including job search reports when specified.

Certain individuals may not be required to seek work, but those details will be spelled out at the time of the interview when an applicant is determined to be in a unique situation.

3) Within 30 days, the case will be reviewed and approved or disapproved by the Social Service Director, Marilyn Swafford, for payment on the next scheduled General Assistance payment date (either the 1st or

15th of the month) after all documentation has been turned in to the GA Eligibility Worker.

The payment is calculated from date of application and pro-rated to the first payment date, and then semi-monthly payments apply thereafter while the applicant remains eligible. A written notice of approval or disapproval will be provided to the applicant.

This program outline is brief. If there are any further ques-

tions, please call the office. The program staff reports to Vice President Ronda Aguero.

Miss Swafford also wants to thank everyone for their interest and cooperation in following the guidelines. “We realize the present economy is stressful for all,” she says, “and we strive to serve all participants promptly and in a mutually helpful manner, to provide for basic needs while income and other resources are being sought.”

Social Services Staff Is Ready to Help

Miss Nickki Miguel is the General Assistance Eligibility Worker for the Quechan Social Services Program.



Nickki Miguel

Began working at Social Services in 2009 as a WIA/DOL worker. She was hired full time as their G.A. Eligibility Worker in March of this year.

QUECHAN NEWS Photo by William Isbell

An enrolled Quechan Tribal member, she is 24 years old. Her parents are Kathleen Miguel and the late Nathan Nerva.

“I have lived on the reservation my whole life” she says, “except for when I attended Sherman Indian High School in Riverside. I graduated in 2008.”

After graduation, Nickki returned to the reservation and took a telemarketing job in Yuma before moving on to collections at the Bank of America. She learned valuable office and phone skills at both of those jobs, which helped her when she took positions as a WIA/DOL worker, first at ADAPP, and then moving to Quechan Social Services almost 2 years ago. “I worked with Roxie Deku,” she says “and learned filing and the

basic procedures at Social Services.” She was such a good employee, Marilyn Swafford kept her on as a temporary worker, with a couple of extensions, until Nikki was finally hired as their full-time GA Eligibility Worker on March 9, 2011. She says she has future plans to get a degree in Business.

“What I like about my position most, is helping my fellow Tribal members.”

“General Assistance covers utilities, rental payments and clothes,” she says. “And with per capita being lower, many people who had too much to qualify for welfare might be eligible now. Or, say you’ve lost your job. You could come in and apply for General assistance until your unemployment starts.”

Quechan Alcohol and Drug Abuse Prevention Project Announces Fort Yuma Gathering of Native Americans

Rick Diaz, Director of the Quechan Alcohol and Drug Abuse Prevention Project says his entire staff is excited to announce the coming of the Fort Yuma Gathering of Native Americans (GONA) Conference, which will be sponsored by ADAPP. The Fort Yuma GONA is tentatively scheduled for Thursday and Friday, November 17th and 18th, 2011.

“The gathering of Native Americans is a tribal affair where community healing is achieved through traditional practices geared towards improving the lives of all Tribal members,” he tells the *Quechan News*.

The focus of this year’s event will be centered on substance abuse prevention, substance use addiction, and empowerment while in recovery.

The event is a safe place for Native Americans to share, heal, and plan for action,” says Mr. Diaz, “in a quest to changing behavior related to alcohol and drug abuse.”

Gathering of Nations participants feel each and every community member is of value and has something to offer as a change agent, community developer, and/or tribal leader. The elements of healing at GONA are achieved through the practice of native customs, traditions, and rituals accomplished by Quechan Tribal members working together to teach, share, and experience new strategies to achieve overall health and wellness in Tribal areas.

The four parts of the GONA incorporate the values of four levels of human growth and



The first ever Gathering of Nations at Fort Yuma will be held at the Quechan Community Center. QUECHAN NEWS Photo by William Isbell

responsibility that are found in Native cultures.

- Sense of Belonging (Nurtured during infancy and childhood) – When the concern of the individual is to discover how he or she fits into the family, tribe, and community.

- Mastery (Developed during adolescence) – A time of vision and mastery but emphasizes

work in partnership with other tribes, communities, and governments.

- Interdependence (As an adult) – A time of action, community leadership, independence and interdependence with other families. Learning to connect with other environments and social networks.

- Generosity (The life of a

Teacher/Elder) – This is a time of honoring our elders, who give their knowledge and teachings to future generations. It is looked at as a time of giving back to the communities and sharing graciously.

Planning meetings are underway for the 2011 Fort Yuma Gathering of Native Americans conference tentatively scheduled for mid-November.

Meetings will be held each Wednesday afternoon at 3:00 PM in the ADAPP office until the dates of the event. “We invite everyone who would like to attend the planning sessions,” says Mr. Diaz. “We look forward to your participation and achieving ultimate success. It is our goal to sponsor a GONA at least every 6 months to bring about awareness and healing within the community.”



Expungement Fair Being Planned

Are you having a hard time finding employment due to your criminal record? Perhaps you’ve been trying to be licensed or approved for the placement of foster children but you’ve found out it can’t be done due to a previous criminal conviction?

Well, there may be some good news for those with criminal convictions in the state of California.

The California Superior Court in Imperial and the Quechan Tribal Court are working together to coordinate an “Expungement Fair”

to assist the Quechan Community and the Winterhaven Community residents with the opportunity to petition the California Superior Court for expungements.

Expungements may be granted on most misdemeanors and some felonies. When an expungement is granted by the Courts, the person whose record is expunged may, in most circumstances, treat the event as if it never occurred.

If you are interested in participating in our proposed “Expungement Fair” and would like assistance, please

call the Quechan Tribal Court at (760) 572-5552 or email b.tibbitts@quechantribe.com or tribal.court@quechantribe.com. You will be asked to provide your name and contact information to a Clerk of the Quechan Tribal Court and you will be contacted for further instruction and information as it becomes available.

Judge White says this opportunity will be open to all Quechan Tribal Members and ALL individuals in the Winterhaven/Bard Community, so now is your chance to receive this valuable legal remedy!

Honey Mesquites to Replace Salt Cedars



Cecil Palone, Jared Hartt and Joe Waco of the Quechan Tribe Environmental Department unload honey mesquites for temporary storage near their office. The new, young trees are being transplanted onto the banks of the Colorado River, replacing salt cedars and other invasive species they have spent months removing. QUECHAN NEWS Photo by William Isbell

WARNING This is not your Grandma's bingo!

KAZMIC BINGO

\$2000
In Cash & Prizes!

Saturday, October 29
11pm / Doors open @ 9:30pm
\$7 Paper Buy-in / \$13 Electronic

Cosmic Bingo features
Dance Music ★ Drink Specials ★ Black Lights ★ Disco Ball
Come celebrate Halloween in your best costume!
Be ready, because anything can happen when the lights go out!

Paradise CASINO

Got Drugs? Turn in Unused Prescriptions This Saturday, October 29

The Quechan Tribal Police will be taking part in a national initiative this weekend, to help residents of the Quechan reservation dispose of unwanted and unused prescription drugs during the DEA's National Prescription Drug Take Back Day, Saturday, October 29, 2011.

National Prescription Drug Take Back Day addresses a vital public safety and public health issue.

According to the 2009 Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration's National Survey on Drug Use and Health, more than seven million Americans currently abuse prescription drugs.

According to statistics gathered by the Partnership for a Drug Free America, every day, approximately 2,500 teens use some form of prescription drugs to get high for the first time.

Studies show that a majority of abused prescription drugs are obtained from family and friends, often taken right from the home medicine cabinet.

Officer Juan Rodriguez of the Quechan Tribal Police Department says on October 29, their officers will man a collection site at the Quechan Community Center parking lot in front of the ADAPP building.

Anyone can come to their collection site and turn over old, expired or unused prescription drugs. The QPD will have the open from 10:00 AM until 2:00 PM on Saturday.

Over the past 2 years, nearly 4,000 state and local law enforcement agencies have participated in these events all over the nation, collecting more than 309 tons of pills in that time.

Four days after last fall's Drug Take-Back Day, Congress passed legislation amending the Controlled Substances Act to allow the DEA to develop a process for people to safely dispose of their prescription drugs. DEA immediately began developing this process after President Obama signed the Safe and Secure Drug Disposal Act of 2010 on October 12.

2012 Housing Improvement Program (HIP)

Applications are available for Tribal Members interested in the BIA's

Housing Improvement Program.

Please contact Tad Zavodsky if you would like an application mailed or hand delivered to your home address.

Applications may be picked up until November 25, 2011.

The deadline to submit applications is Friday, December 2, 2011.

2nd Annual Step Out to Stop Diabetes:

1 Mile Fun Walk, 5K Fun Run and 20 Mile Bike Ride

Check in at 8:00AM - Events Start at 9:00AM

**On Saturday, November 5th at the
Diabetes Walking Park: Free with Tribal ID!**

(Includes T-Shirt and Lunch - Cost for Non-Tribal Participants is \$15)

For more information, contact the Quechan Diabetes Project

(760) 572-1286 OR (760) 572-4057

2011 MISS QUECHAN NATION 2012



Councilman James Montague spoke in welcome at the beginning of the night, and Leila Jose, last year's Miss Quechan Nation, presented Leo and Angelito Alvarez with eagle feathers she received in her travels.



MISS ANGELINE LEVY



Brittany Miguel, the current Strong Hearts Native Princess at San Pasqual High was selected the runner-up after the Judges scores were tallied. She is seen above in the native dress and dance competitions.

(QUECHAN NEWS Photos by William Isbell)

Although only two young ladies presented themselves before the assembled Quechan people this year, vying for the honor of being their Nation's "royal" representative throughout the coming year, the 2011 Miss Quechan Nation Pageant still brought out the best in everyone taking part—contestants, judges and audience alike.

The night began with a Grand Entry led by the national banner and the Quechan Nation flag, carried by American

Legion Post 802 members Milson Jose and Francisco Estrada. Following behind was a throng of native singers and dancers, including the Quechan Spirit Runners, the Golding family's Roadrunner singers, the elementary and middle school's Native Royalty and a number of previous holders of the Miss Quechan Nation title.

The current Miss Native San Pasqual high school princess, Brittany Miguel was the first candidate, competing against Miss Angeline Levy as they

demonstrated their dancing abilities and knowledge of *Kwat'san* culture and song on stage before a packed house.

Judges Perdius Escalanti, Marilyn Dewey, Linda Rivera, Charlene Emerson and Phyllis Valenzuela sat at the front corners of the stage as the contestants stepped forward under the direction of emcee Faron Owl.

The outgoing Miss Quechan Nation, Leila Jose took time to report to the people, with a video of her year of service, including her visits to

local military bases and Indian reservations as she walked across America in the Longest Walk 3 against diabetes.

During the Walk, Leila received many wonderful gifts, which she graciously raffled off during the night. Many Tribal members left with handmade native ceramics, as well as blankets, towels, hats and shirts. Leila was even given two eagle feathers, which she passed on to two young men who she sees as possible future leaders of the Quechan Nation,

brothers Leo and Angelito Alvarez.

But the night, of course, belonged to the winner, and that turned out to be Angeline Levy, the daughter of Lorne Levy and the late Arlinda Palone. Although it was a pretty tight competition, the night seemed to turn in her favor when she was asked "If elected Quechan Tribe President, what would be your first priority?" Her first reaction as to quip: "Raise the per capita!", which nearly brought the house down!



Many dances were included, as usual, in both the evening's competition and as events of audience participation. Here, the Golding family sings for both gathered Native Royalty and members of the audience, as everyone awaits a decision of the judges.



Angeline's sunny attitude during the night can be seen in this image of the on-stage dance competition. You can see why she won!



Edith White and George Bryant flanked Angeline to cut the red ribbon and reveal the new layout inside the Paradise Casino. Her first official duty as Miss Quechan Nation for 2011/2012, the ceremony took place the morning after the pageant that led to her selection.