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To Tribe Members**



Look For This Symbol

ETSKA NAV AH PAI  THE NEWS CARRIER
QUECHAN NEWS

is published by

The Quechan Indian Tribe

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New Tribal Council Takes Office

After a marathon session tabulating the votes of their fellow Tribal members, the Quechan Election Board, surrounded by witnesses, finished their first tally of the election results 23 hours after the polls closed the night before.

This election saw the Election Board determined to limit possible challenges to the count based on accusations of rushed procedures.

Once the polls closed at 7:00 PM on the 23rd, the Board took a dinner break and prepared their paperwork to record the results before the public. The doors to the Quechan Community Center were re-opened at 8:30 PM, and Tribal members streamed into the Community Center on Picacho Road to quickly take their places in rows of tables arranged to give clear views of the projection screen behind the Judge seated next to the locked ballot box.

Once the ballot box was unlocked and the seals broken, Election Judge Dorinda Iron Cloud began to remove the folded ballots from the box, one at a time. Over the next 23 hours, with only one rest break,



The newly elected Quechan Tribal Council raises their right hands before Tribal Court Judge Claudette White as she administers the Oath of Office. From the left are Darnella Melançon, James J. Montague, Vice President Ronda Aguero, President Keeny Escalanti, Sr., Clivia Cyndee Miller, Virgil S. Smith and Felix J. Montague. All were all sworn in on Friday, June 3rd, 2011.

QUECHAN NEWS Photo by William Isbell

each ballot was then carefully opened and placed under the projector, showing the top half (with the offices of President and Vice President). The votes for President and Vice President from that ballot were then announced, and the public given time to read along and mark their own tally sheets, before the Judge moved the ballot up to display the votes marked for candidates for Tribal Council.

At 8:30AM on Tuesday morning, doors of the Community Center were locked

and sealed, giving the Board a chance to nap as the public ran home for showers and potty breaks of their own. Everyone returned at the agreed upon hour of 11:00 AM, and the count was taken up again once the ballot box was unsealed for the second time.

And so it progressed, as both Miss Iron Cloud and Election Board alternate Danell O'Neal took turns at the box, projecting each ballot, first announcing the votes on the top half, and then the bottom of each, with Elec-

tion Clerks Melanie C. Bard and Nichole Montague recording the tally under the watchful eye of the public and Election Marshal Kermit Olson. Ignoring the urge to rush through the count, the Election Board and a very patient public stayed the course, finally declaring the count finished at 6:00 PM on Tuesday, May 24th.

The final count had only James J. Montague retaining his seat on the Council, with Keeny Escalanti, Sr., moving

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New Tribal Council

Continued from Page 1

up to the office of President, defeating Mike Jackson, Sr.; the Quechan Tribe's longest serving President after four terms.

The full results of last month's vote can be found below.

The slow and careful count which began election night, lasting late into the afternoon of the following day, apparently contributed to the results being accepted by all. Over the two weeks since the results were

posted, no contests were filed, and the new Tribal Council took their oaths of office in the Council Chamber at 10:00AM on Friday, June 3rd. A formal reception and luncheon followed at the Paradise Event Center.

The new Quechan Tribal Council also includes Vice President Ronda Aguerro and Council members Virgil Smith, Darnella Melançon, Clivia Cyndee Miller and Felix J. Montague.

Results of the May 23rd Election

The vote totals for each candidate, as tabulated by the Quechan Election Board, are given below. These results are the count as posted by the Board at the time this issue was delivered to the printer at 5:00 PM on Friday, June 3, 2011. Please check with the Administration Office at (760) 572-0213 if you have any questions about the Certified Vote Total.

BOLD ITALIC = Elected

Office of Vice President:

Office of President:	
<i>Keeny Escalanti, Sr.</i>	<i>368</i>
Mike Jackson, Sr.	255
Milton Jefferson, Sr.	89

<i>Ronda Aguerro</i>	<i>214</i>
Emilio Escalanti	200
Alton P. Montague	110
Priscilla J. Prettybird	30
Cryselle Montague-Urbe	171

Office of Tribal Council:	
Adelina Apauty	56
Ramon Duke Barton	101
Juliana Comet	166
George J. DeCorse	127
Michelle R, Eagleman	61
Kenrick J. Escalanti	188
Glenda Cachora Ghiotto	106
Marsha A. Hill	117
Michael J. V. Jack	239

Jordan Joaquin	237
Robert Jones	137
Merrill D. Kelly	209
<i>Darnella J. Mellançon</i>	<i>254</i>
<i>Clivia Cyndee Miller</i>	<i>324</i>
<i>Felix J. Montague</i>	<i>251</i>
<i>James J. Montague</i>	<i>250</i>
Rebecca L. Ramirez	38
<i>Virgil S. Smith</i>	<i>407</i>
Bernadine Swift Arrow	202

New Patrol Officer at Quechan P.D.

The Quechan Tribe gained a new Patrolman in mid-May, Officer Francisco J. Cordova. Officer Cordova was born at YRMC and grew up in Somerton, where he attended school. Once he reached his teens, he transferred to Yuma's Cibola High, graduating in 2008.

He attended the Immigration and Customs Enforcement (I.C.E.) program during his senior year to learn more about law enforcement. QPD Chief Tony Badilla served as Cordova's Sergeant while he was in the I.C.E. Program.

After high school, Cordova attended Arizona Western College for 2 and a half years, before moving to the University

of Phoenix to continue his education. He hopes to graduate this fall with an Associate's Degree in psychology, to then pursue a Bachelor's Degree in Business Administration.

While at AWC, Cordova attended their Police Academy, and passed the Arizona POST test to graduate as an Arizona Peace Officer.

"I am currently 23 years old and married with two lovely daughters," he says. "On my days off I like to spend time with my family and travel. I

Francisco Cordova

Born in Yuma, Officer Cordova grew up in Somerton and graduated from Cibola High. He is currently working on a Degree in Business Administration.

Quechan Police Department Photo



like to go out and enjoy life, like taking my family camping or to parks. Life is too short and there is a lot to see and learn on our planet!"

He also says he plans to pursue his law enforcement career as a Police Officer by working for the Quechan P.D.

"My goal is to become a good officer and make sure that our communities are safe."

Water Quality Reports Available

Consumer Confidence Reports (CCRs) for the Quechan Water System, an annual requirement of the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) for 2010 are now available.

These reports summarize the quality of the water provided by each water source and the associated distribution system. Each report has been reviewed for accuracy and approved by the EPA. The report for the Quechan Water System in its entirety, as well as reports for Laguna Dam RV, Riverfront RV, and Sleepy Hollow Trailer Park are available at the Quechan Utility office.

Testing procedures include

breaking each water supply into sections based on the number of customers it serves.

The Quechan Water System consists of five sections and the remaining smaller water systems have only one section each. Within each section, four addresses are selected to supply water samples from the furthest reaches of each section.

Each month throughout the calendar year, water samples are taken from one of these addresses in each section. On following months, samples are taken from the next address on the list. In this manner, each identified address is sampled four times each year.

All water samples are sent to an independent laboratory for analysis. The lab returns a summary of their findings and passes a copy along to the EPA.

The data contained in the annual water quality reports summarizes the results of these tests.

When drinking water standards are exceeded, follow-up actions are noted and reported, and corrective actions then taken, following EPA guidance.

If you have any questions regarding this process, you may call the Utilities Manager at (760) 572-0667 or visit the Utilities Office at 1890C San Pasqual School Road.

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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 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

Braves Running Club Completes Their First Year at San Pasqual



Excited about exercise, students charge across the playground at the start of their final run for the year. They ran around a measured course every day before class, picking up a popsicle stick to mark each lap. Every eight sticks collected adds up to a mile!

QUECHAN NEWS Photos by William Isbell

The end of the school year at San Pasqual Elementary was marked with a number of events to mark the advancement of the seasons and the promise of a new beginning next fall. One of those events was the final run of the Braves Running Club, an exercise program of the Quechan Special Diabetes Project for Indians.

The Braves Running Club was formed after a similar program was tried in 2009/2010.

Sandy Palone of the Quechan Wellness Center, is the adult leader of the Braves.

She says they had a pretty successful year encouraging the kids to exercise with their runs, but she's got a few changes in store for next year, to make it even bigger.

"Next year we plan to re-vamp the morning activities," she says. "We want to give the

10 minute daily activities more of a "field day" atmosphere for the kids who want to participate. The prizes the kids receive will depend on their daily participation."

Sandy also says they will probably continue to have special "Fun Runs" from time-to-time, to help keep up the interest throughout the school year. "This past year we held 4 Fun Runs, and the students who participated in those runs received gift bags."

They also want to keep the Special Education students involved. The Special Ed students had a daily run after the larger group of students, which was a lot of fun for everyone.

Altogether, the Braves Running Club students ran 7,399 miles this year. Here are the top runners in each grade for the 2010/2011 school year:

Special Ed:

Beeondra Bohannon - 31.5 miles

Kindergarten:

Peter Garcia - 34 miles

1st grade:

Damien Cota - 44.3 miles

2nd grade:

Judith Castillo - 53.9 miles

3rd grade:

DeShane Taylor - 69 miles

4th grade:

Tyler Porter - 80.4 miles

5th grade:

Luis Palomera - 63.8 miles

A pretty impressive amount of miles for just a few minutes each day!

"We would like to thank the San Pasqual Valley Unified School District for allowing us the opportunity to continue working with the students," says Sandy. "And we would also like to thank the Quechan Tribal Council for their continuous support."



Second grader Jesse Uvalles, Jr. runs past Special Diabetes Project Instructional Aide Brian Warner, snagging another popsicle stick lap marker as quickly as possible to continue on.

Students lined up to receive special prize packages from Sandy Palone at the end of their final run. Each child got a small web backpack filled with summer toys like squirt guns, water bottles and water bombs.



The first boy to complete his laps and get a prize was Alex Nuñez, and the first girl to finish was Caroline Rios — both first grade students.

Tribal Member Chooses Construction as Career Path

Rose Phipps is a Quechan Tribal member who spent most of her adult life living and working in San Diego until she moved back to the reservation in January of 2008 to pursue her education and be closer to her family and culture.

The daughter of the late Gwendolyn E. Murphy and Gerald E. Moreno, she says, "I was raised by my family here on the reservation until 1990, when I moved to San Diego. Once there, I became aware of the fast paced world of real estate. In 2000, I began work as a receptionist and then moved up to Escrow Assistant for Chicago Title Company in San Diego."

She eventually became a successful Escrow Officer at United Title in San Diego, where she worked from 2001-2008, specializing in high-dollar real estate transactions over a regional span from northern and southern California to Arizona and even Hawaii.

"The opportunities there allowed me to expand my knowledge from basic real estate transactions to land acquisitions, reverse mortgages, 1031 exchanges and bulk sales," she says. "Working at United Title allowed me to gain a wealth of information in the areas of title searches, lien and foreclosure procedures, lien priorities, and chains of title. It also gave me the chance to work with some of the top investors, mortgage loan officers, and business minds in San Diego, and I was able to access to a wealth of knowledge and advice as it pertains to business and organization."

So she gained a real working knowledge of how the real world of high finance and business operates. But the world of real estate is a pressure cooker, and the financial rewards only



Carver Elementary school secretary Lucille Torres points out the windows left inside the school's kindergarten playhouse. The windows show details of the straw bale construction methods used by the YPIC Youth Build crew Rose Phipps was a part of. QUECHAN NEWS Photos by William Isbell

come with expanding markets. "Although my career was secure and profitable, it made great demands on my time. I often worked ten hour days, and took calls after hours and on weekends. This left little time for my children. Over those years I had missed many of their school events and they were often unable to participate in extracurricular activities due to my work schedule."

Though she says her kids were real troopers and never complained, she knew she needed to make a change.

It was the combination of losing her mother, who had been an integral part of her children's lives, followed by the birth of her son, that prompted Rose to reconsider the direction her life was taking her.

"I knew I would need to continue what my mother had started, in passing on the traditions that she grew up with. In order to do that, I needed to be here in Fort Yuma."

While she says she loved her job and co-workers, "it was not something that filled my heart. I could not see Escrow as my life's work. So without a real plan other than my mothers' philosophy that 'things will al-

ways work out', and the knowledge that I had a strong, loving family here to support me, I made the move back to Yuma."

Once here, she found a home in the Foothills, and spent the first part of the year getting reacquainted with small town life. "The 2:00AM train always seemed to wake me!" she says.

As a mother of four and parent to six (including a niece and nephew), she began adjusting to the life of a stay-at-home mom.

Then in March of 2008, she found the Construction Trades Management program at AWC, and realized it might be the new life she was looking for.

"I gathered information, worked with the Quechan Higher Education Department and was ready to begin school by the Fall semester."

Along with the general requirements, the course at AWC enabled Rose to gain hands on experience in concrete, framing, electrical, plumbing, drafting and heating, ventilation and air conditioning HVAC.

Supporting courses taught me the basics of construction management and field operations, document requirements, blueprint reading, OSHA standards, and the National Electrical

Code. I chose geology as one of my sciences to gain construction knowledge of rock science, weather patterns, and natural disasters, with area studies focusing on Yuma's geological history."

Part of her training included work on two homes in the area. One home in Yuma was on 5th Avenue. Her class replaced windows to current code, with pop-outs for the new windows, and added lath and stucco to finish the window replacement. The second home was in the foothills where they enclosed an existing patio to include a bay window, completed framing, and did an electrical rough in. They then

straw bales walls and benches, and the group produced papercrete bricks to enclose the walls.

"The program and its various components opened my eyes to a whole new world. I am thankful to have finished and be one of only two female graduates from the program this school year," she says.

She now hopes to get a Business Transfer Degree. She has only eight more courses at AWC before she can transfer to the NAU Yuma Campus to complete their Bachelors program.

She now spends her time on homework (both hers and her kids!), volunteering at Quechan Head Start, attending school and



The kindergarten students at Carver swarm over their school's playhouse when let out for recess. It is very cool inside, even in the summer.

added another patio, leveled the ground by hand, dug footers and trenches, calculated and ordered concrete, built forms, laid rebar, poured concrete and did the finish work. "That gave me a real feel for construction in Yuma's May heat!" she laughs.

Later that summer, Rose was chosen to work as an instructional assistant on the YPIC summer ARRA Youth Build Project. There, she worked with area youths from 16-21 building a new kindergarten playhouse at Carver Elementary School.

Built with "green" construction methods, the playhouse has

sports events with her children, attending community meetings and serving on the QTDHE Board of Commissioners.

Rose wants to thank the following departments and staff for their support in making the administrative, financial and logistical processes bearable: Quechan Higher Education, The Quechan Tribe, and the Quechan Child Care Center.

"Most of all I thank my family," she admits. "It is their love, teachings, unfailing encouragement and pride for my accomplishments that has made my success attainable."

Tribal Members Recognized at San Pasqual Graduation



Mrs. Hannah presented Jessica Collins-Solorio with the "Golden Warrior" Award for outstanding achievement in academics and personal integrity. Photo: William Isbell

to receive their diplomas. This year's guest speaker was Mrs. Patricia Berryman-Downing, a 1968 graduate of San Pasqual High. A few outstanding Tribal members also stepped forward to be recognized for individual achievements before tossing their mortar boards in the air and celebrating the completion of their basic education.

Jessica Collins-Solorio was among those receiving special mention at the year-end assembly, being named the "Golden Warrior for 2011" by senior class faculty advisors Mrs. Hannah and Mrs. Webster.

The San Pasqual High Class of 2011 made their first step into adulthood on May 27th, as they sat through one final assembly

Mrs. Hannah personally presented the award, which acknowledged Jessica's outstanding achievement in academics,

personal integrity and intellectual growth throughout her high school career. As a member of the Strong Hearts Native Society, Miss Collins-Solorio also received a small scholarship from the just announced Ariel's Wings of Courage Foundation.

Amber and James Espino joined RoseAna Williams and her daughter Jodeci on-stage to reveal their plans for the foundation, and announce the award of the first few scholarships to local students who had done so much in their volunteer efforts over the past couple of years.

The other graduating Strong Hearts receiving scholarship assistance from the Ariel's Wings of Courage Foundation were Aileen Velardé, David Jaime,



The Strong Hearts Pipah Singers also made an appearance, with a group of female seniors dancing in their graduation robes!

Malia Rodriguez, Adriana Brittany Miguel. Brittany also Bandy, Janequa Mills and their received the Strong Hearts' own High School Native Princess, scholarship for 2011.

Splash Day!

Will be this Saturday, June 11
from 10 AM to 2 PM
at the Rainbow Pool!

Everyone is
Invited to Come
and Have Fun!



Congratulations!



*To My Smart and
Beautiful Niece
Anastasia Olivia Mondaldo
On Graduating 6th Grade
June 10th, 2011
Keep up the hard work!*

Love ♥ Always! ♥ Auntie ♥

FORT YUMA

INDIAN HEALTH CLINIC Has Changed to a New and Improved Diabetes Glucose Monitor



**Easy To Use, Fast Results, No Coding Required,
The New Monitor Needs Only A Tiny Blood Sample!!
You Will Receive a New Glucose Meter From Our Pharmacy
When You Pick Up Your Glucose Testing Supplies**

**Any Questions? Call Deborah Drumel RD, CDE
(760) 572-4160 or: 1(800) 862-4911**

30 Students Promoted to High School at May 26 Ceremony



With more boys than girls in the graduating class, some girls had two escorts through the arch leading onto the field. Here is Darlene Teton being accompanied by Eric Meeden and Richard Limones.

Students, parents and family members gathered with faculty, staff and members of the San Pasqual Valley School Board to welcome guest speakers and presenters for the annual eighth grade promotion on May 26th.

The event took place outdoors on the San Pasqual High

athletic field this year, as the planners took advantage of the unseasonable mild weather this year to stage a memorable gathering. A large number of chairs were arranged between bleachers on either side of the field, backed by the permanent stands in the background. Parents, family and student guests were able to sit right on the field with those being promoted, who entered the field through a flowered arch at the rear of the seating area.

Ernestine Nieto, the Middle School Principal took the stage, accompanied by the newly installed San Pasqual Schools Superintendent, Dr. David Bealer and school board members Monica Montague and Bernadine Swift Arrow. Others on the stage were there to present special academic or citizenship awards, including Post 802 Commander Norman Osborne and Sue Haney, a representa-

tive from the Daughters of the American Revolution. At one end of the stage, Yuma Superior Court Judge Maria Elena Cruz sat waiting to present the night's keynote address.

Most of the students came in two-by-two, with the boys entering from the east, the girls from the west, to join arms to pass through the arched portal together, walk the length of the audience and take their assigned positions in a separate seating area just below the stage. With a few more boys than girls, however, some of the girls had two escorts down the center aisle.

Once everyone had entered and took their places, the Associated Student Body President for the middle school, Ennis Jaime came forward to lead everyone in the Pledge of Allegiance. He then stepped back for Mrs. Salli Jones to sing the national anthem *à capella*.

The night's main speaker,



Yuma County Superior Court Judge Maria Elena Cruz gave the keynote speech for the San Pasqual 8th grade promotion.

QUECHAN NEWS Photos by William Isbell

Judge Cruz, took charge of the event, asking for responses from the student body, and reminding them that she had been at the school only a few months before to explain the value of making good decisions in life, and the continuing consequences when you fail to do so.

A graduate of Yuma High

School, AWC and the University of Arizona, once served as Judge Pro Tempore for the Cocopah Indian Tribe.

Her no-nonsense attitude came across when she asked the students "do you remember what I said then?" as she reviewed her previous visit. When one boy said, "No," she called him out, asking, "Where were you that day?" When the student replied he was absent and missed her previous presentation, Judge Cruz replied, "Well, you're staying after tonight, 'cause there's going to be a quiz after!"

And it was that exchange between the adolescent and the Judge that best illustrates what everyone learned at the 8th grade promotion this year: Most of life is just showing up and being involved, plus you must always be prepared to answer for your decisions. Even at a school assembly!



WIA/DOL 2011 Summer Youth Program

The first session of the annual Quechan Tribe WIA/DOL youth work experience program will take place from Monday, June 13, through Friday July 8, 2011.

The second session for the program begins on Monday, July 18 and ends on Friday, August 12, 2011. Each session lasts about four weeks.

Due to federal funding limitations, the youth program will only be serving youths aged 16 through 18 this year. Applications will be taken on a first come first serve basis.

The WIA program began

accepting applications on the 31st of May so that all documentation may be completed by the participants before the first session begins next week.

"We encourage enrolled Tribal members between the ages of 16 through 18 to complete their applications and get them approved as soon as possible," says Mr. Daniel at the Quechan WIA/DOL Program.

"The requests for work sites have been distributed over the last two months, and we are asking for the support of all programs to provide as many work slots for our participants

as possible."

If you think you could use a little help this summer, please don't hesitate to give them a call. You could provide one more student living here on the reservation a life changing opportunity to gain work experience while learning valuable job skills.

If you know of a student who may be interested in gaining work experience, have them visit WIA/DOL (next door to Social Services) at 465A Picacho Road. If you have any questions, you can also call (760) 572-2314.

CONGRATULATIONS!

Andreana N. Jackson

Mike and Mona Jackson, Sr. are the proud parents of Andreana, who graduated from the W.P. Carey School of Business at Arizona State University on May 12, 2011.

Andreana earned a Bachelor's Degree in Business Management. She also received a Certificate of Entrepreneurship in Small Business Development.

You did it, Baby!

We are all so proud of you and your accomplishments!

*All your hard work and studying has paid off!
Enjoy your summer — You deserve a break
before entering the business work force!
We also wish you luck at pursuing your
Master's Degree in the future!*

We ALL Love You!

Go Sun Devils!



Fire Starts on Reservation, Jumps to Mitty Lake Area



Clifford Counter, at Laguna Dam RV shot this photo of the fire travelling up the riverbank, just below the Dam. Reservation residents were in danger of losing both lives and property for over a week as a number of agencies joined Winterhaven crews in fighting the blaze.

Photo Courtesy of BLM Public Affairs Office

Quechan Tribal members serving with the Fort Yuma Agency of the Bureau of Indian Affairs joined other crews from the Yuma Proving Ground, Winterhaven, and the Bureau of Land Management when a fire originating on the Reservation quickly jumped the Colorado River to Arizona in May.

Altogether, 130 men and women battled the Laguna Fire, a 751-acre wildland fire, after gusty winds pressed it north, moving it along the river. The fire started here on May 18, 2011 and remained uncontrolled for almost 10 days. In its path, historical structures were lost and the famed Betty's Kitchen National Recreation Trail was severely damaged.

Quechan Tribal members who helped to save property as they worked on the blaze included Jason Comet, Timothy Williams, Milo Golding, Peter Escalanti, James Jackovich

and John Shepard II and John Shepard IV.

The BIA has distributed posters offering a reward of up to \$10,000 for information that leads to a conviction of who ever started the two-state fire.

More than 130 firefighters from three states worked to save trailer homes on the north end of the reservation, tourist sites, and local farms on the Arizona side of the Colorado.

By late Tuesday, May 24th, firefighters had completed a fireline around the perimeter and the blaze was contained. Inside of that perimeter though, hotspots remained for days.

As late as May 26th, Pamela Mathis, the Public Affairs Officer for the BLM's Phoenix District said, "The Laguna Fire will not be controlled for quite a while. Due to the still smoldering fire north of Yuma, the lands in the recreation areas are hazardous and fire crews are still

methodically checking for these hotspots and clearing debris."

"There are too many safety hazards and we've got to do all we can to maintain public safety," explained Incident Commander Matt Soulier that same day. Thirty firefighters and seven fire engines remained on scene "mopping up."

Soulier said top administrators from the Arizona Game & Fish Department, which operates the boat launch area, met with officials from the U.S. Bureau of Reclamation, the operators of the Laguna Dam, and with officials from the U.S. Bureaus of Indian Affairs and Land Management. So far, estimates of suppression efforts on the fire have totaled at least \$300,000.

If you think you have any information that may help identify those responsible, call 1-800-47-ARSON or visit the web site: www.wetip.com.

*At this time, I would like to thank
The Quechan Tribal Council,
Quechan Higher Education Department, my family and
friends — Especially my father and mother;
Mike and Mona Jackson, Sr. and Daisy Jackson.
Thank You again for the love and support throughout
my undergraduate academic career at
Arizona State University.*

*Thank You!
Andreana N. Jackson*

Quechan Diabetes Wellness Center Summer Class Schedule



Boxing
Monday - Thursday
5:30 to 8:00 PM

Strength Toning
Monday & Wednesday
3:40 to 4:30 PM
and 4:30 to 5:30 PM



Pilates
Wednesdays
6:00 AM & 7:00 AM

Conditioning Class
Fridays
6:00 AM & 7:00 AM



*For more information, please contact
The Diabetes Wellness Center at
(760) 572-4057*

City's Memorial Day Begins With Bridge Ceremony



Gathered on the Ocean-To-Ocean Bridge for the 2011 Wreaths to the Ocean Ceremony are Ruth Patterson of American Legion Unit 19; Betty Davis (Unit 56); Peggy Kish representing the Disabled American Veterans; Cindy Carey and Barbara Rochester of the American Legion Riders; Deborah Tourtillot of the Post 802 Women's Auxilliary and Lemuel Porter, Collin Soto and R. Lee from Quechan Post 802. Photo by William Isbell

The Quechan Tribe once again played an important part in the City of Yuma's Memorial Day remembrances, hosting the "Wreaths to the Ocean" Ceremony atop the famous Ocean-To-Ocean Bridge which links the reservations southern boundary with the City's north end over the Colorado River.

With hundreds of observers collected below the bridge in Yuma's Gateway Park, Post 802 and the Quechan Police Department blocked traffic for members of the various Women's Auxiliaries from Veteran's organizations around the area to

gather at the rail above in preparation of the annual Wreath Toss.

Color Guards from the Yuma Sector Border Patrol, Marine Corps Air Station, The Vietnam Vetterans Association and American Legion Post 19 stood at attention along the river bank. Mayor Al Krieger of the City of Yuma was the featured speaker, reminding everyone of the daily sacrifice of all those who step forward to defend the American people and our way of life.

Meanwhile, a lone bugler awaited his cue atop the small outcropping at the northwest edge of the bridge. As the May-

or finished speaking, he directed everyone's attention to bridge behind him, and told the ladies waiting above the waters that it was now their time.

Betty Davis, President of the American Legion Unit 19 Women's Auxiliary spoke quietly to the others around her, commanding, "Ready, on my count . . . 1, 2, 3 — Toss!" and the six women launched their wreaths over the rail and into the water of the Colorado River below.

Those wreaths should drift on to the Gulf of Cortez and perhaps, over the next month, out into the Pacific Ocean beyond.

QUECHAN POST 802 WOMEN'S AUXILIARY *Involved In Our Community!*

At the end of May, as the 2010/2011 school year came to a close, so did the fiscal year for the Quechan American Legion Post 802. It also proved to be a busy month for the ladies, though last December was their busiest.

Spring saw the ladies involved in both planning and carrying out activities to honor our youth, young adults and fallen comrades. The Women's Auxiliary donated ten gift certificates both WalMart and the Main Street Cinemas to be used as awards, recognizing those students showing outstanding academic abilities at the San Pasqual end-of-the-school year awards assembly.

They also donated 70 new books which were awarded to

those elementary students who showed academic improvement.

The Post 802 Auxiliary also put together a committee to interview young ladies at the high school who were interested in representing the school, community and the Auxiliary at Girl's State this summer.

Their chosen representative this year is Miss Kelly Wong, who departs for California Girl's State near the end of June.

At the last meeting for the fiscal year, the ladies also reviewed applications for their Annual Legion Scholarship, selecting Miss Aileen Velardé for that honor for 2010/2011. The ladies would like to thank all the young women who applied, and Ms. Ophelia Juan at the high school counseling of-



Each Memorial Day the Women's Auxiliary arranges for a group of our youngest Tribal members to act as Flower Girls, setting out wreaths and vases of flowers in remembrance of those who have fought for their country. This year's Quechan Flower Girls included (in the front row) Paris Montague, Josiah Thomas, Ehren Thomas, Sarah Gilmore, Allayna Paz, Delphina Menta, Linda Emerson and Mary Muñoz. Standing in the rear are Sosa Nita Diaz, Virginia Yazzie, Deborah Tourtillot (in charge of the arrangements for the Post 802 Auxiliary), Alicia Menta, Cynthia Menta and Alora Dugan. Thanks, ladies! QUECHAN NEWS Photo by William Isbell

fice for her outstanding assistance in both activities.

Deborah Toutillot chaired the Flower Girls Committee, to lead the final activity of the fiscal year. The girls performed their traditional duties during the Quechan holiday service, placing dozens of donated wreaths from various groups.

The Auxiliary would like to thank the Quechan Tribal Council for their support throughout the year. All funds earned by the Auxiliary have been used to benefit members in the surrounding local communities via their yearly activities.

The Auxiliary will be dark this year over the summer

months. The first meeting of the new fiscal year will take place in September. Meetings are held at 6:00 PM on the third Wednesday of each month, at the Post 802 Legion Hall on Arnold Road. The Auxiliary would welcome new members, both Tribal and non-tribal, interested in joining their group.