



Watch For Students
ETSKA NAV AH PAI



At Intersections & Crossings!
THE NEWS CARRIER

QUECHAN NEWS

Volume 105, Issue 14 ♦ Wednesday, August 10, 2011

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To Tribe Members



Look For This Symbol

ETSKA NAV AH PAI THE NEWS CARRIER
QUECHAN NEWS

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Countdown To Stop Diabetes Has Begun

The Quechan Tribe's Special Diabetes Project for Indians (SDPI) is preparing for a busy fall season, with a number of special events scheduled between now and the annual *Step Out Walk to Stop Diabetes*, together with the American Diabetes Association and other local organizations in November.

It all kicked off with a special presentation at the Q's Pipa Event Center, as James Snyder, MD, and Manju Schorr, MD spoke about the latest about the advancements in research to improve the lives of people living with diabetes. Dr. Snyder is a research endocrinologist with Novo Nordisk, while Dr. Schorr is a clinical endocrinologist in private practice.

The speaking event, sponsored both by the Quechan Tribe and the Yuma Regional Medical Center (YRMC), covered recent progress and previewed possible new advancements in diabetes prevention and treatment which may be only a few short years away, based on the current trends in scientific knowledge.

People turned out to listen to



Lisa Ball of the Quechan Special Diabetes Project for Indians (SDPI) speaks with Doctors James Snyder and Manju Schorr following their presentations at the Pipa Event Center on August 3rd. Theirs was the first in a series of events scheduled in conjunction with the Quechan SDPI to culminate with the American Diabetes Association's annual Step Out Walk in early November.

QUECHAN NEWS Photo by William Isbell

and ask questions of the diabetes treatment experts. It served as a great way to get everyone "jazzed" to take part in the fun (and fund raising) events to take place between now and the big events in early November.

"This fall we're working on another Triple Crown run series," says Lisa Ball, of the Quechan SDPI. "They will consist of a Poker Run, a Ghouls Run at night sometime around the end of October and a Turkey Trot to coincide with the

Thanksgiving season."

The dates for each of the Triple Crown Runs are still to be determined, but Lisa assures the *Quechan News* that everyone will receive plenty of notice to be able to register for each.

"We're planning *Come Play On Our Land IV* for a Friday night in September," says Lisa. "and we also hope to set up a dodge ball tournament sometime this fall!"

The SDPI is also putting together plans to hold meetings

on fall crops to be planted in the Community Garden in the Sunrise Park below Indian Hill. And that's all in addition to their plans to purchase and install exercise equipment stations at the Diabetes Walking Park!

The Actual BIG Event on the SDPI calendar is planned for Saturday, November 5th, 2011 at the Diabetes Walking Park. That's the day of the ADA Step Out Walk.

Christine Winters, Diabetes Program Coordinator at YRMC says "We will have a one mile walk around the Quechan Diabetes Walking Park, a 5K run or walk and a fun bike ride, all taking place together that day."

"A light snack will be available and a healthy lunch will be provided. The walks, run and bike ride will be preceded and followed by programs set up by the SDPI and volunteers from the Tribe." Everyone who enters and provides a minimum \$15 donation will receive a T-shirt and a goodie bag.

Of course, the whole purpose of the Step Out Walk each year is to raise money from our fam-

Continued on Page 5

2 New QPD Officers on Patrol



Cindy Muro-Ramirez

Comes to Ft. Yuma from Rosemead, CA., where she was a Police Explorer with the San Gabriel Police Department while in high school.

QUECHAN NEWS Photo by William Isbell

The Quechan Tribal Police Department (QPD) recently expanded their ranks with the addition of two new Reserve Officers to the force.

Cindy Muro-Ramirez began her two weeks of introductory field training with Field Training Officer J. Brown, Sr. on the afternoon shift of July 7, 2011.

QPD Reserve Officer Ramirez was born in Bellflower, California and grew up in Rosemead, California. She graduated from San Gabriel High School where she played on the girl's basketball and softball teams. She also was a member of the school band.

While in high school, Cindy joined the Police Explorer program with the San Gabriel Police Department.

"Participating in that program made me realize, without a doubt, that I wanted to help the community and become a police officer," she says.

"After high school I continued my education, attending Rio Hondo College where I received my Associates degree in Liberal Arts."

She moved to Yuma in 2005 when her husband was stationed here with the Marine

Corps, and they soon decided to make Yuma their new home. Continuing with her goal of becoming a police officer, she enrolled at the Arizona Western College Academy where she graduated as an Arizona Peace Officer after passing the Arizona POST test.

"Now, here I am, working as a police officer for the Quechan Police Department!" she says.

Touching on her personal life, Officer Muro-Ramirez said, "My husband and I are proud parents of a little girl. On my days off I love to spend my time with my family and friends here in Yuma and in California. I like to go on motorcycle rides with my husband and to the park with my daughter and our bulldog."

She says her goal is to be a dedicated police officer and to continue her education in law enforcement. "With the support of my family, friends and fellow officers, I will fulfill my duties of keeping the community safe for all."

The other new member of the QPD is also a Reserve Officer, Jesus A. Diaz. He was born

in El Centro, but has lived in Yuma his whole life.

"I attended Yuma High School and graduated in 2007," he tells the *Quechan News*. "In high school, I was on the varsity wrestling team all four years."

After high school, he attended AWC where he completed many general education credits. Diaz enrolled in the Law Enforcement Training Academy

Jesus Diaz

A graduate of Yuma High in 2007, Officer Diaz has been a Reserve Officer with the QPD since receiving his Arizona POST certification in May.

Quechan Police Department Photo



offered at Arizona Western College in 2010.

"After 9 long months, I graduated from the academy, passing the Arizona P.O.S.T exam in May of 2011," he says, and he soon joined the QPD as a Reserve Officer to begin his law enforcement career.

"I am not married, but I have had a girlfriend for the past six wonderful years. On my days off, I like to spend time with my friends and family. Some of my hobbies include working out and going fishing.

"My goal is to eventually become a full time officer with QPD. During my time working within the Quechan community, I will strive to be the best police officer I can be. I hope my service will make our community a safer place to live."

COMMUNITY EXPRESSIONS



"A SPECIAL THANK YOU"

TO ALL THE FAMILY MEMBERS WHO WERE THERE FOR MY DAD DURING HIS BATTLE WITH CANCER, WE CAN'T EXPRESS HOW MUCH IT MEANT TO HIM. HE WAS ALWAYS HAPPY TO SEE EACH AND EVERY ONE OF YOU. TO HIS BROTHERS AND SISTERS WHO WERE THERE MONTHS BEFORE, STOPPING BY AND VISITING HIM OUTSIDE WHERE HE LIKED TO SIT AND ADMIRE HIS FLOCK OF CHICKENS HE'D ACCUMULATED OVER TIME; THE FINAL DAYS BEFORE HE PASSED, YOU GAVE IT YOUR ALL, WITH LOVE AND CONCERN, YOU MADE HIM COMFORTABLE, HOLDING HIS HAND AND TALKING ABOUT CHILDHOOD MEMORIES... THE FOOT MASSAGES GEORGE GAVE HIM, ALL OF IT SHOWED THE LOVE YOU ALL HAVE FOR ONE ANOTHER, AND WE WILL NEVER FORGET YOUR KINDNESS.

THE ELDERLY DANCERS, THE SINGERS, LYMAN GOLDING AND HIS FAMILY, WITH GREAT RESPECT, YOU HONORED MY DAD TILL HIS JOURNEY WAS COMPLETE... THANK YOU, MY FRIEND. AND I THANK KEENEY ESCALANTI, FOR YOUR APPEARANCE AND YOUR DEDICATION TO SEE THAT EVERYTHING WENT ACCORDING TO MY FATHER'S FINAL REQUEST; A CEREMONY OF TRIBAL RIGHTS.

THE FAMILY OF PETER N. DECORSE JR.

SALLY JO, AND PETER N. DECORSE III

You can bring your Community Expressions letters to the QUECHAN NEWS office trailer in front of the Senior Center entry on Quechan Drive, or email them to the email address printed in the box at the bottom of this page.

ETSKA NAV AH PAI THE NEWS CARRIER
QUECHAN NEWS
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Have a story idea, or an event you want covered?

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

Native Stamina and Dedication Benefits Family of Firefighters



Doyle Escalanti, Sr. first began been fighting fires at the age of 18, becoming the first American Indian to join the famous "Smokey Bear Hot-Shots" crew in 1990. Now retired, he was invited to observe the teamwork of the local BIA Fire Crew and to give them the benefit of his long experience in wildland firefighting at a guest lecture on July 25th. His daughter, Tree Escalanti (at right) spoke also.

QUECHAN NEWS Photos by William Isbell

Doyle B. Escalanti, Sr. grew up here, attending the San Pascual schools. Although he is enrolled as a member of his mother's Chiricahua branch of the Apache Tribe, his father is Quechan, and he has returned to Fort Yuma to pass on what he knows to his children.

Early in life, he says, he "fell in with the wrong crowd" and began drinking and smoking pot with increasing frequency, until his school work and attendance suffered.

"I left here when I was 18," he says, "and went to Mescalero, New Mexico, where I began fighting fires." Asked how he wound up so far away, he says "I ended up in trouble here on the reservation, and had to go over there, where I ended up in forestry . . . it helped me

get away from [the drinking and drugs], and that's the reason I really liked my job in forestry and fire fighting: it helped me find a way out of that."

He also laughs and says the lack of bars in the middle of the forest helps, too.

While at Mescalero, Doyle learned the basic wildland fire suppressions skills required to be a Type 2 crew member, passing field training in the use of hand tools, engines, pumps, fire shelters, fire weather, leadership training, and wildland fire safety. He was proud to be a part of the Mescalero crew, since many local veterans of WWII had returned home after the war to form a firefighting crew known as the Red Hats.

"They became famous, traveling all over the United

States in the 1950s," he says.

He was with BIA from 1968 to 1989, working with the Engine and Helitack Crews, eventually becoming one of five firefighters to start the Mescalero Hot Shots. "The (Apache) Tribe over there wanted to start something like the Red Hats up again, so they formed the Mescalero Hot Shots. I worked my way up from just a regular crew member there at the bottom, all the way up to Superintendent. We traveled all over the country, to North Carolina, California, Oregon, wherever they need us."

They were so in demand he says, they eventually became the number one Hot Shot crew in the nation.

In 1990 he was the first American Indian to join the Smokey Bear Hotshots out of Ruidoso,

New Mexico, and fought fires with them for two years before returning to Mescalero Forestry as a Crew Rep. In that position, Doyle took Type 2 Crews out across the entire U.S.

During a talk he gave to the local BIA Fire Crew in late July, Doyle told them the reason they were constantly in demand was that Indian Crews will often continue fighting and working a fire, long after other crews fall out for rest.

"When I was fighting fires, I used to get up on my days off to go run like, 8 miles in the morning, come back and lift weights, 'cause you've got to stay in shape when you do this. So go run, even on your own time."

He says such dedication and stamina will pay off. "If you have sons and daughters, they'll

see you working, and follow your example. And you don't have to just stay here. Once you've got your training, and have your Red Card all up-to-date, and you know what your doing, there are plenty of other crews out there who will want you. So, you can go as far and wherever you want to go, if this is for you."

Although he says the years he spent on the line were hard and filled with danger, he also misses the teamwork and sense of accomplishment defeating a large wild fire can bring.

Doyle finally retired in 2007 due to a knee injury.

Now, his dedication and love of forestry and firefighting is being passed on to the next generation though 3 of his 5 children.

Doyle's oldest son, Matthew Davis Escalanti, followed in his dad's footsteps by becoming a part of the Mescalero Hotshots from 1994-1997 until he joined the Army in 1998. Matthew was stationed in Germany and Afghanistan as an Army Ranger.

After his discharge, Matthew returned in 2004 to work for the Bureau of Indian Affairs on Type 2 Crews where he's now an Engine Boss for the Northern Pueblos Agency in New Mexico.

Doyle's daughter, Tree J. Escalanti, also followed her father into his line of work in Mescalero.

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Firefighting Family

Continued from Page 2

ro (New Mexico) BIA Forestry in 1996, where she worked on Type 2 Hand Crew, Engine and Helitack Crews.

From 2003 to 2006 Tree was a part of the Northern Pueblos Hotshot Crew, and served as an Engine Boss with the National Park Service at Carlsbad Caverns and Bandelier National Park from 2007 to 2009. In 2010 she came to the Fort Yuma Agency to serve as Crew Boss/Engine Boss, a position she still holds.

Doyle Lawrence Escalanti, the youngest of the five children, has just begun his first year in firefighting with the Fort Yuma Hand Crew as Lead Sawyer. The crew does Physical Training each morning with either a three mile run or hiking Telegraph Pass.

Doyle Jr. says he enjoys the group cohesion of the fire crew and is excited about being available nationwide.

Doyle Sr. is hopeful that more of the young children in the community will begin to

follow in the footsteps of their fathers, uncles and brothers, being a part of the BIA Fort Yuma Hand Crew. He feels it encourages them to do something better with their lives.

When he first began firefighting he had also taken the wrong road in life, so he wants the youth to know that he understands what they are going through and hopes they see that firefighting is an alternative to alcohol or drugs.

Firefighting is a career that requires physical and mental endurance. To do it, a firefighter must keep his body healthy and his mind clear of outside distractions which could lead to injury or death.

Tree Escalanti sounds very much like her father when she sums up the lessons he has passed on to her: "While it's true that firefighting can have great financial benefits, in the end it's your love for the job that keeps you there, not the money, because it is a very dangerous job."



*To the Quechan Tribe:
We would like to thank
the many families who donated
their time and support during the
Memorial Service for
Our Beloved Dad, Grandfather,
Uncle, Brother, and Husband
Edward "Eddie" Gonzales Meeden
on May 28, 2011.*

*On behalf of Mavis Meeden
and the rest of the Meeden Family*

Ericka Casteñeda

Customer Claims Representative for:

PINNACLE
CLAIMS MANAGEMENT, INC.

Will be on-site at the Quechan Tribe Administration Office:

Friday, August 19 - 1 PM to 4 PM

To provide enrollment assistance and answer your health insurance questions in person.

Please Help Us Find Our Missing GHETTO BLASTER!



ATTENTION!!!

The children and staff of Paradise Child Care Center are asking for your help!!

Dear Community:

Our stereo was taken from the Quechan Community Center. It is a baby blue and gray stereo with CD/Cassette and detachable speakers, clearly labeled "PCCC" and "Paradise Child Care Center."

We do not want to know who took it nor will any questions be asked. We just ask that it please be returned to the Quechan Community Center. The children miss listening to music while they play. Your help in recovering our missing stereo is greatly appreciated!

*Thank you in advance,
Paradise Child Care Center Children & Staff*



Revenue Department: SCAP Now In Full Effect, Last School Clothing Trip Set for Sunday, Aug. 14

The Quechan Tribe's 2011 Fall School Clothing Assistance Program (SCAP) is now in full effect. The parents and legal guardians of enrolled Quechan Tribal member children who are registered to attend school from Preschool through 12th grades can take part in SCAP.

This year there are two types of applications available to assist in providing for student clothing needs. Those parents/legal guardians with application (1) receive a check disbursement and those with application (2) will participate in Tribal Sponsored Shopping Days at a local store.

Based on the established SCAP requirements, the Revenue Distribution Office will

determine the appropriate application. The Fall 2011 assistance amounts are as follows:

Headstart – Kindergarten

\$100 per student

1st – 5th Grade

\$150 per student

6th – 12th Grade

\$200 per student

If you receive application type 1 (for check disbursement), please allow 5 business days for processing. The deadline to turn in receipts is Friday, October 21, 2011.

If you receive application type 2 (to participate in the Tribal Sponsored Shopping Day), the ONLY day remaining to participate will be next Sunday, August 14, 2011.

The shopping trip that day

takes place from 7:00 AM to 10:00 AM. If needed, transportation will be provided to the shopping destination by contacting the Revenue Distribution Office.

Applications from out-of-town students will be accepted for the Shopping Day, although out-of-town transportation will NOT be provided.

Applications for the Shopping Day will be accepted until 5:00 PM on Wednesday, August 10, 2011

Another opportunity to take part in the Quechan Tribe's SCAP Program will take place this November.

Contact Quechan Revenue Distribution at (760) 572-3912, Ext. 220 with any questions regarding SCAP.

New Water Line Installed by Tribe



Tom Duwaynie and Walt Brooks of Quechan Special Projects probe carefully by hand, looking for a waterline connection crossing San Pasqual School Road, as Deshane Taylor, operating the backhoe, looks on. The Special Projects crew was installing an improvement to the Tribe's water system on August 2nd, a few hundred yards east of the Utility office, using funds provided by the Indian Health Service's Public Health Office. The Quechan Tribe is taking over more of these kinds of projects lately, rather than hiring outside contractors to perform such infrastructure maintenance.

QUECHAN NEWS Photo by William Isbell

San Pasqual District Goes to 8AM Start Time for All Classes, Schools

Lack of sufficient funding for summer school this year meant construction on the new classrooms at the San Pasqual Valley Unified District (SPVUSD) schools was able to leap ahead, since the contractors didn't have to make allowances to work around students and staff for the past 3 months.

That means the schools will not be following the extended schedule they put into place due to construction last year.

In a letter sent to parents and guardians explaining plans for the start of the 2011/12 school year, SPVUSD Superintendent Dave Bealer said, "Our District schedule this year reflects all schools starting together at 8:00 AM." Mr. Bealer also enclosed the new bus schedule

for 2011/12, developed to get everyone to school at the same time. Regular school dismissal times are now 2:15 PM for Elementary students from Kindergarten through fifth grade, with San Pasqual Middle School and High School students being released at 3:15 PM each day.

"We have a busy year ahead of us," says Superintendent Bealer, "Sure to be filled with many opportunities to have a tremendous impact upon our students! For those of you who have been following the federal and state budget wrangling, rest assured that San Pasqual Valley District, guided by our District Trustees, is in good financial shape, and will continue working hard to protect student programs."

He also says The District's school facility projects are now about 50 percent complete, with an on-time completion projected for February of next year. "When all the work is done, we will have exciting new school facilities!" he says.

Students, parents and staff are invited to an Ice Cream Social in the schools' Cafeteria this Friday at 2:45 PM. It's a good chance to get reacquainted and meet your new teachers for the upcoming year.

School starts here at Fort Yuma next week, with Monday and Tuesday as Student Minimum Days, with all classes being dismissed at 1:15 PM. Wednesday and Thursday will be full days, with Friday, August 19 also being a half day.



River Montague



On your achievements
at Crane Pueblo,
and Good Luck on your
upcoming year at
San Pasqual!
We Love You,
"Rivestine"!
Your Mom
and
Grandma Nancy

Countdown To November's:

(Continued from Front Page)

ilies, friends and co-workers to donate to the ADA for research, education and advocacy.

And this year it will be an even bigger event for the Yuma area, since the Yuma Bike Club (YBC) will be holding time trials for the first Yuma GM Classic bike race that same day, November 5th, at the GM Test Track at the Yuma Proving Ground.

If you are into bike racing and long-distance rides, that may be the event for you. The GM classic will be a two-day "omnium" taking place on November 5th and 6th at both YPG and in Wellton.

The Classic will benefit both the ADA and YBC youth. "Our

goal is to raise awareness of diabetes in both adults and youth and the direct effect that this epidemic has in our community," says Nancy Vega, YBC President.

"Day one of the GM Classic will be a competitive Individual Time Trial (ITT) Race starting at 7AM at the GM test facility. Starting times are at equal intervals, usually one or two minutes apart, with the highest ranked cyclists starting last." (Starting later gives the racer the advantage of knowing what time they need to beat while also making the event more interesting to spectators.) "The rider with the fastest time is declared the Time

Trials winner."

Day two of the Yuma GM Classic will be a road race in Wellton, Arizona, beginning at 8AM on Sunday, November 6th. That day starts and ends in historic downtown Wellton, and will race over three different distances, 33 miles, 66 miles, and 99 miles, depending on each racer's age and experience category.

If you want to test your athletic abilities there, rather than at the Diabetes Walking Park, you can register online at www.yumabikeclub.org. The last day to register will be November 1, 2011. The 2-day entry fee for the Omnium is \$70.00; and will

cover both the YPG and Wellton events. The single day event prices are \$50 for road races and \$30 for ITT for adult aged Elites and Masters. Single day events for Juniors will be \$20 for the road race and \$10 for the Individual Time Trials.

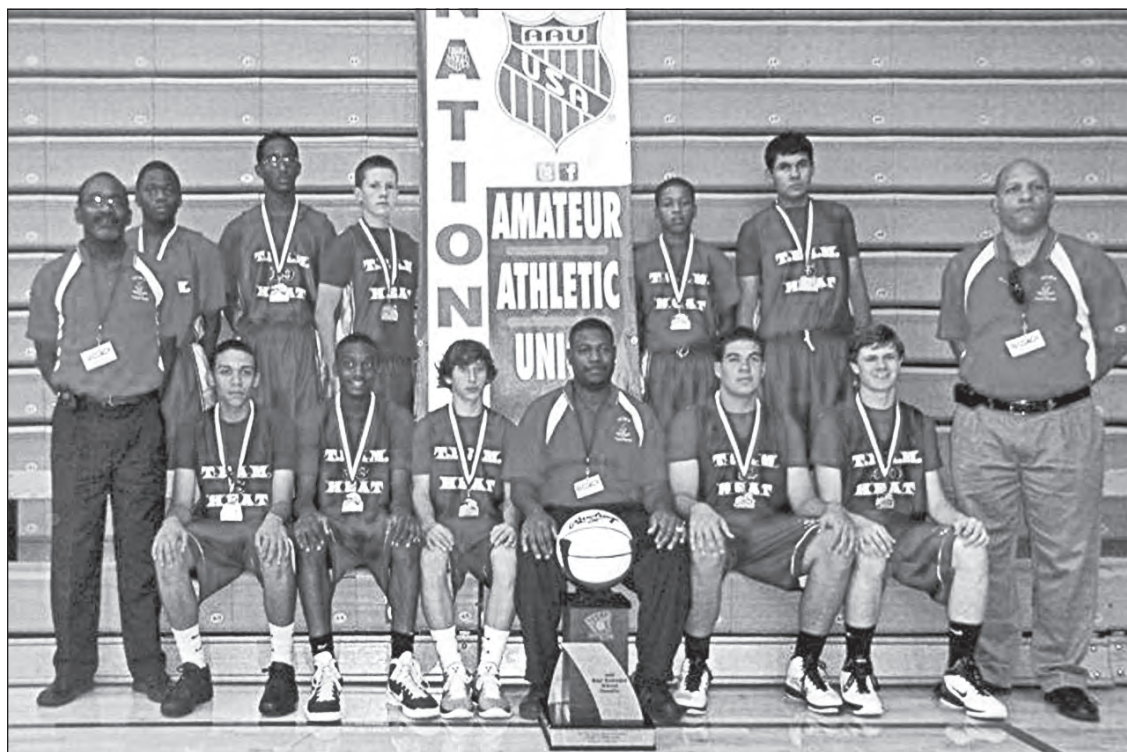
"In preparing the community for the bike ride," says Lisa at the SDPI, "we're purchasing spinning bikes to help them train at the Wellness Center."

So if you are looking for something to do to stay healthy and keep diabetes at bay, there will be plenty to keep you busy between now and November! Look for more to come in future issues of the *Quechan News*.



American Diabetes Association.

National Basketball Championship Team Includes Quechan Tribal Member



Team Heat in Anaheim after their 1st Place finish at the AAU National Championship: In the front row, from the left are Coach Tim Smith, Isaiah Brown, TJ Smith, Carter Rodriguez, Matt Pistone, Cody Harrison and Coach Frank Brown. Standing in the rear are Justice Brown, Jevron Rushing, Jagan Clearee, Kristian McKoy and Quechan Tribal Member David Montague, the youngest member of the team. Photo Courtesy of Team Heat

Even though Yuma's Team Heat has only been around since February 2008, Head Coach Ricky Barnes says he's been fortunate to have the greater Yuma area, including Winterhaven, to locate and develop talent, putting together great teams for their program.

"Our first year was pretty hard due to the fact that most of the parents in Yuma hadn't even heard of or know anything about about AAU basketball," he says. "AAU stands for Amateur Athletic Union, which was founded in 1888." As a part of that Union, Team Heat has teams set up according to the ages of the youthful players involved, to help boys of similar abilities work together as they build a team to take on other, out-of-town teams of the same age groups.

At first, Team Heat struggled

with the Phoenix and San Diego area teams. "We knew we need to make some changes in how our boys played and that we needed to add some more talent in order to compete with the elite teams. We brought in 3 kids that helped change our program and we went on to make history."

According to Coach Ricky Barnes, the Quechan Tribe's David Montague was one of those kids. "We first spotted him playing in the Yuma City Grasshopper league, where he was coached by one of my Assistant Coaches, Frank Brown."

Knowing talent when he saw it, Coach Ricky approached Coach Frank to see if David and his parents would be interested in him playing on Yuma's Team Heat.

"Coach Frank asked him did he want to play, and at first he

said no." But after speaking with other friends of the program, his mom made a strong decision for him to join up with the older boys.

That turned out to be a great decision, with wide ranging consequences for both David as an individual, and Team Heat as an organization.

"We have watched David grow into one of the most dominate players in his age group," says Coach Ricky Barnes. "He impressed me so much he was soon moved to the 12U team (for boys 12 and up) when he was only 11 years old."

At first, David struggled with the older players, and his weight was in question. David continued to work hard and now is one of the true "big men" of the team. He dedicated himself to eating right, working out, and competing.

His coaches give David a lot of credit for helping the team move to the next level of competition, as they pushed through both physical and psychological barriers to even greater wins.

"David helped our 12U team win the AAU Super Regional in San Diego in 2009. With the Super Regional win, we made history by being the first team in Yuma to get all the way to a National event."

The team went to Hampton, Virginia and finished in 8th place out of 32 teams that year. On their return from the AAU National Basketball Championships, they were honored by Yuma's Mayor Nelson when he presented them with a coin from the city for their incredible accomplishments over the 2008/09 season.

Their record also meant they received an automatic bid to attend the National Championships in 2010, once again taking place in Hampton, VA.

Out of the 75 teams competing for one championship, Team Heat - Yuma returned home with a 5th place finish. This year the National Championships were held much closer to home, in Anaheim, CA.

Coach Ricky tells the *Quechan News*, "You can say

that the 3rd time was a charm for us." David's current team, 14U, smashed all opponents over the four day tournament!

"We went 6-0 to bring home Yuma's first National Championship."

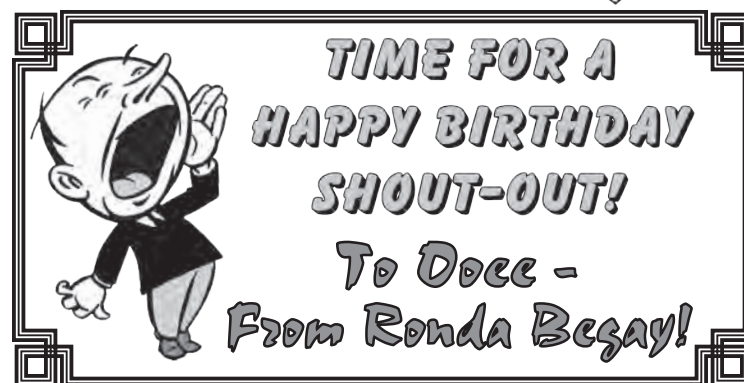
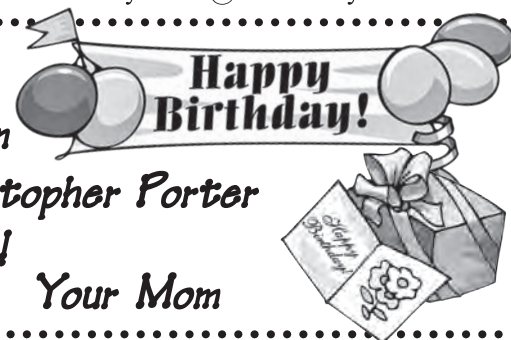
In their time together, Team Heat has traveled from Phoenix, to Tucson, to Surprise, Arizona, then on to San Diego, Anaheim, and Escondido, in California, plus Wichita, Kansas, Hampton, Virginia and even Denver, Colorado.

Their winning record has even enabled them to pick up Under Armour as a partial sponsor for basketball uniforms and equipment. Under the sponsorship agreement, Under Armour will sell organization discounted uniforms and equipment to Team Heat-Yuma. This is still no small feat for an organization which has only about 70 players overall.

Even with that official sponsorship deal, Team Heat is still in need of additional sponsors to help with the uniforms and next year's trip to the Div. II National Championship at Disney World in Florida.

Anyone interested in helping David and his teammates can email Coach Ricky Barnes at info@teamheat-yuma.com

To:
Donovan
and Christopher Porter
Love!
Your Mom



Weatherization Assistance Program Continued



Contractors with the Weatherization Assistance Program will perform an energy audit before beginning the work, to determine what is most in need of an efficiency upgrade. Campesinos Unidos, a contractor from El Centro, will be performing the majority of the work under the program this year. D.O.E. Photo by Dennis Schroeder, NREL

The Quechan Tribally Designated Housing Entity is happy to announce the continuation of its Weatherization Assistance Program (WAP).

The QTDHE-WAP is a partnership program with the Inter-Tribal Council of Arizona, Inc. (ITCA, Inc.) to provide weatherization services to eligible Tribal members living within the Ft. Yuma Indian Reservation. Funding for QTDHE-WAP is provided by the Department of Energy (DOE) through funds made available to ITCA, Inc for weatherization programs.

Campesinos Unidos, Inc. of Brawley will be providing services for this round of funding.

This program is structured to assist households in reducing the amount of money they spend on energy bills through improving the energy efficiency of their homes.

"This is achieved through completing an energy use audit of the homes involved," says Tad Zavodsky, Acting Executive Director for the QTDHE.

"The audits identify areas of

energy waste or leakage, and allow the contractor to make the improvements necessary to reduce energy use, all at no cost to the homeowner."

Weatherization services included in the program are:

- Energy audits of homes which will guide/confirm energy efficiency needs. Each audit usually takes about 4-6 hours and can be conducted with family in the house.

- Utilization of the most cost-effective weatherization services to improve the energy efficiency of each home.

Mr. Zavodsky says those weatherization services may include such items as:

- Installation of insulation in attics and walls.
- Sealing ductwork.
- Tuning, repairing or even replacing unsafe heating and cooling systems.
- Performing health and safety audits on households and educating residents of the findings of those audits.
- New refrigerators (if the energy audit indicates the need.)

The actual installation work for each Energy Upgrade will take place about one to two weeks after an Energy Audit, and will take about 5-8 hours, with the contractor normally completing all the work in just one day. Homeowners who are accepted into the program can expect 2-3 workers in the home while the energy updates are being completed.

Funding for the program is available immediately for eligible applicants. Applications are ranked by a point value system, with priority given to elderly, disabled, low and very low income families and families with excessively high energy bills.

The QTDHE-WAP is available to Tribal members who are considered low-income households under current Federal Poverty Guidelines.

Households interested in receiving weatherization services must complete and turn in a QTDHE Weatherization Assistance Program Client Application as soon as possible.

Applications are available at

the QTDHE office located at 1860 W. Sapphire Lane.

Completed and signed applications, along with copies of your Tribal enrollment card and income verification documents must be delivered to the QTDHE office to be reviewed for initial funding eligibility; incomplete applications will not be considered.

Mr. Zavodsky says as eligible applications are received, the work will be funded according to priority guidelines and a point value system.

Qualified households will be

notified by mail as they are selected.

Mr. Zavodsky also says that there are funds for at least twenty qualified families to receive weatherization upgrades.

For additional information or to request an application packet, please contact QTDHE office (760)572-0243 and ask for Veronica Neblina in regard to the Weatherization Assistance Program. If you need assistance in the application process or need an application packet delivered to your home, a QTDHE staff member will be made available.

The following committees have vacancies:

Education Committee

Health Committee

**QTDHE Housing
Board of Commissioners**

Legislative Committee

**Interested Tribal members should submit a
Letter of Interest with qualifications
to the Tribal Secretary.**

Letters should be received by September 1, 2011.

NOTICE

**TO THE QUECHAN TRIBAL
MEMBERS:**

**AS PER THE QUECHAN TRIBAL
COUNCIL, THERE WILL BE
NO PER CAPITA ADVANCES
FOR THE OCTOBER 2011
DISBURSEMENT.
EFFECTIVE JULY 15, 2011**

QUECHAN NEWS

Guest Editorial

Crippling a Culture

Karris Wilson, is a Quechan Tribal member living in the Los Angeles area. He is currently engaged in a lecture series at a number of colleges there, focusing on the Native American culture and the true meaning of the word "indigenous". This article by Mr. Wilson for the **Quechan News** expresses his frustrations with the increasing acceptance of "Pseudo-Indians".

A growing epidemic was launched roughly around the time the movie "Dances with Wolves" entered the public consciousness, and as a result, a slew of people have become enamored with the idea of becoming an American Indian.

Whether it's spiritual or self-induced through drugs or other means, some believe they are Indian in their hearts or think

they have some type of "Native" connection.

In other scenarios, there seems to be a psychological need to become something they are not as a way of social acceptance and to feel they are special. Some have even gone to the extreme of having their DNA checked.

However, a larger percentage of these Pan-Indian, Pseudo-Indians or just simple *WANNABE* Indians create an image for themselves to exploit American Indian culture as a way to achieve financial gain.

In my experience, I have seen a number of these people create such a complex image that they are able to fool many non-Indians; while some Indians, out of ignorance, even become enablers of these people. Eventually, some members of the Indi-

an community come to support these Pseudo-Indian impostors.

By promoting this fake image, they create cultural myths that are destructive to Indians, crippling our values through pursuit of monetary gains.

Allegedly, one individual (a fairly well-known educator) claims to be Navajo, but when asked by other Navajos to name his clan, he somehow forgets which clan he is supposed to be a part of.

Another has created such an elaborate persona he creates regalia and graphics at a profit and has been involved in acting, yet this wannabe is actually a Filipino who goes by the name *Robert Silent Thunder*.

A number of actors have infiltrated the media as being Indian and in some instances they reveal



Retail Newsletter July 26, 2011

LIMITED TIME OFFER FOR NATIVE THREADS CUSTOMERS



Download RedCloud's new album "1491 Nation" and get 18 tracks of the hottest Native rapper's music ever! Click the "Buy Now" button and enter

When companies offering "Native American Clothing" promote artists like "Red Cloud", with a dubious "Native" heritage producing videos and music extolling an urban, *Latino* gang culture, our true native culture is further obscured from the public's perception. Web Ad forwarded by K. Wilson

Our Washington Representative at the White House: Leila Jose!



Leila Jose, Miss Quechan Nation for 2010/2011 proudly displays the flag of the Quechan Nation at 1600 Pennsylvania Avenue, marking the end of her long journey with the Longest Walk III. The group walked all the way from San Diego to the nation's capital over the past 5 months, to increase awareness of the need to defeat diabetes as a threat to Native Americans.

Photo Courtesy of Leila Jose

that they are not Indian. However, with the recent epidemic actors (such as Jay Tavare) reluctantly refuse to accept they've been exposed for being non-Indian.

Fortunately, Michelle R. Shining Elk, an enrolled member of the Colville Tribes (Lakes and Okanogan bands), from the Colville Indian Reservation in eastern Washington state and owner of The Shining Elk Entertainment Group (specializing in American Indian talent management), ensures an in depth investigation of all her Indian clients. It was the research of Michelle and Pamela Peters (Navajo) which exposed Jay Tavare and other entertainers that led to preventing those individuals from exploiting Indian people.

This may seem trivial to some but when the rap artist *Red Cloud* has been allegedly claiming to be *Lakota* for some time

and now suddenly he's now *Kwat'san*, there is a problem. Once a phony has been exposed, he usually changes his tribe, believing no one will notice. This is puzzling especially when people of the Indian community have long been informed by others that *Red Cloud* is not an Indian, but a *Latino* from Hawthorne in the Los Angeles area!

Sadly enough, the Indian community enables this *pseudo, pan-Indian* or just plain *wannabe* to continue to profit. But now he has performed at the Autry Museum on July 15 as a Quechan. Some fail to see the crippling devastation that's been done to Indian people by these impostors. It's crippling because they present American Indians in a way that alters an ideological perception that we are all the same, creating a number of fallacies, which cripples our cultural survival.