

ETSKA NAV AH PAI  THE NEWS CARRIER

# QUECHAN NEWS

Volume 105, Issue 3 ♦ Wednesday, February 9, 2011

## In This Issue:

**More on Tribal STAR**  
Page 2

**Quechan  
Community Garden**  
Page 3

**Quechan Tribe Files  
Lawsuit Against IHS**  
Page 4

**Tribal Court Advocates**  
Page 5

**Transportation Planning**  
Page 6

**Warriors Pride**  
Page 7

**Pow Wow is Coming!**  
Back Page

**Items Of Special Interest  
To Tribe Members**



**Look For This Symbol**

ETSKA NAV AH PAI  THE NEWS CARRIER  
**QUECHAN NEWS**

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**The Quechan Indian Tribe**

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# Quechan Tribe Hosts Tribal STAR Summit

The Quechan Tribe's Department of Social Services played host to a collection of local administrators, probation officers, social service workers and family support specialists during a day-long January summit, to help promote successful family reunifications in the event a Quechan child finds themselves in one of the California or Arizona foster care systems.

Margarita Rubalcaba, the Quechan Tribe's Family Reunification Specialist worked with two coordinators and their assistant from the Academy of Professional Excellence at San Diego State University to spend an entire day explaining the best practices needed to address "the spirit of the law in the Indian Child Welfare Act." They all agreed discussion of the Indian Child Welfare Act will help promote positive outcomes for Tribal youth.

Billed as an immersion process, the Tribal STAR training is designed to help participants understand and learn Tribal culture and values through experience.

Tom Lidot is a Tlingit Indian from the Chilkat village of



**Local social services employees and visiting instructors** from the San Diego State University's Academy for Professional Excellence gather to listen to Quechan Tribe President Mike Jackson's opening remarks at the January Tribal STAR Summit.  
QUECHAN NEWS Photo by William Isbell

*Tlakw Aan* on the south coast of Alaska. He and Margaret Orrantia, who is Yaqui, brought the day-long course over from San Diego, to give outside guests of the Quechan nation an overview of Native American culture and history, and show how that history impacts the Native distrust of government systems and services.

"We bring Tribal and non-Tribal programs together," said Mr. Lidot, "anyone coming into contact with an Indian child when they are removed from the home, and teach them all how to work together to insure that the children remain close to their culture in order to achieve a better outcome."

Non-Tribal attendees of the

Summit who may "come into contact with Indian children" included judicial assistants, program managers, regional managers, Social workers, sheriff's deputies and family support specialists from both California and Arizona. They came to experience an immersion in the Native experience

**Continued on Page 2**



# Tribal STAR Summit

*Continued from Page 1*



**Selena Palone and Christina Allen**, Tribal employees of Quechan Social Services and ADAPP, came forward to tell of their experiences growing up in the California foster care system. Photos by William Isbell

of the family break-up and to hear first-hand what it's like to be a "Ward of the Court", living in the foster-care system, to reconsider the effects of their decisions and learn better how to consider the welfare of the children involved.

Part of that immersion experience involved local volunteers coming forward, such as Selena Palone and Christina Allen, to tell their stories of growing up inside the California child welfare system, and being shipped off to live among people and cultures they didn't know. Both have returned to the Quechan reservation as adults, where Christina is now on staff at the Quechan Alcohol and Drug Abuse Prevention Program. Both told of their struggles to "fit in" among unfamiliar adults, away from their people and the comforting sounds, smells and laughter of their own people which led to problems with substance abuse and a feeling of never really belonging.

Though their stories were laced with humor, it was obvious to those listening that they might still be unsure of their place in the world, due to the way they were treated as children.

In attending Tribal STAR, participants were able to see the world through the eyes of a child living within the state child welfare "system".

The whole purpose of Tribal STAR is to get adults to better understand Tribal children who are in state and county child service systems and to show greater awareness of the fact they are responsible for keeping a child's sense of self intact. Workers must lessen the trauma of family separation through acknowledging children's fears and issues of abandonment, rather than expecting the child to "suck it up and move on" as they shuttle through the system among unfamiliar people and places.

The Tribal STAR message encourages those working in

the system to begin each case by considering the age of the child's development, and to access resources within the child's own community for help. They say the best way to build that relationship is to *begin* with an apology, to recognize the sense of shame felt by each child entering the system, and the need to recognize the child's own cultural expectations throughout the process.

The ultimate goal is to *keep the child ready* for reunification with his own people, while recognizing that some children may be so traumatized by past abuse or abandonment that they may not want to return. The important thing is to use patience and counseling to assess the child's own goals for his life while he is in the system, to prepare them for becoming the adult they wish to be — not merely seeing what the system may want out of them.

That means the judges, social workers, probation officers and program managers must all learn more about the Native cultures these children come from, to address the language barriers which exist, and even utilize other Native children of the same age as a resource to help them have someone to talk to and share their feelings, to see that they aren't alone in their experience.

"We each value family wellness," according to the Tribal STAR materials, "and make an intentional effort to ensure youth are at the center of our



**While non-Tribal participants listened**, they learned a little of what it's like to grow up in a system that shows no interest in preserving family cohesion nor in preserving Native cultural connections.

decisions and outcomes. We are aware that every interaction is an opportunity for bridge-building." Their entire mission is to keep the best interests of the child at the forefront of every decision along the way, to make sure that the goal of re-

integrating the child back into that child's own community and culture is the number one goal of the entire process.

It is their hope that together, we can all become gatekeepers and the stewards of a successful collaboration.

## NOTICE

**The Quechan Indian Tribe  
is seeking interested  
Tribal Members  
to serve on the following Board:**

**QUECHAN  
ELECTION BOARD  
(1 Judge, 2 Clerks, 1 Marshal  
+ 1 Alternate Member)**

**If interested, please submit a *Letter of Interest*  
to the**

**Tribal Council Secretary  
at the Tribal Administration Office**

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!

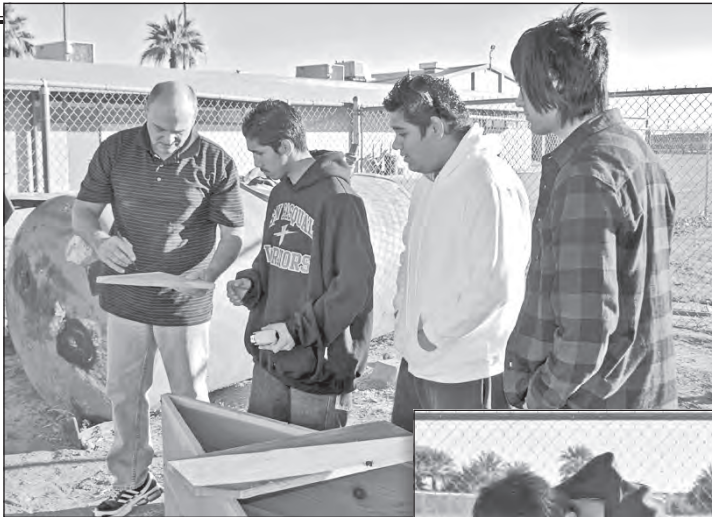
Just call the **Quechan News** office Monday through Friday at (760) 572-3912, or email your stories and story ideas to [w.isbell@quechantribe.com](mailto:w.isbell@quechantribe.com). I'm looking forward to hearing from you!





# Culture & Heritage

## Quechan Community Garden Begins To Take Shape



After months of preparation under the leadership of Prevention Aide/Community Garden Coordinator Brian Warner at the Quechan Special Diabetes Project for Indians, the Community Garden Project has begun to take shape with the installation of planters at the *Anya Nitz Pak* Park below Indian Hill.

At community meetings beginning last November, the Community Garden planning committee gathered suggestions and ideas for what crops should be planted, which they then used to estimate the amount of space needed. Those specifications went to Kofa High science teacher Dean Cain, who drew up plans which were then turned into reality by the San Pasqual High Construction Trades class.

Using insect and weath-

er-resistant, one-foot wide, 3/4-inch redwood planks as their material, Mr. Hesperich's class built 16 large rectangular planters and two smaller wedge shapes to contain the crops.

Last Monday, students from the first and second period classes transported the planters to *Anya Nitz Pak* and received more hands-on construction experience installing them in their chosen location.

The first step was to map out the exact placement of each

planter box, following the approved design. Students then marked and staked their locations and dug down to the depth required. Two planters are designed for use by those who may be confined to a wheelchair or unable to bend down. Those planters are set-up higher. An additional planter has been set almost at ground level, to allow small children to learn the "joy of gardening." Mr. Warner says everything is now ready to begin planting this spring.

**Once the planters were built**, the students brought everything down to the *Anya Nitz Pak* Park and set them in place (below). Moving the boxes off the trailer and into place are Rey Maciel, Josh Rogers, Ildefonso Gonzalez, Jaimz Terry and Kris Rogers.

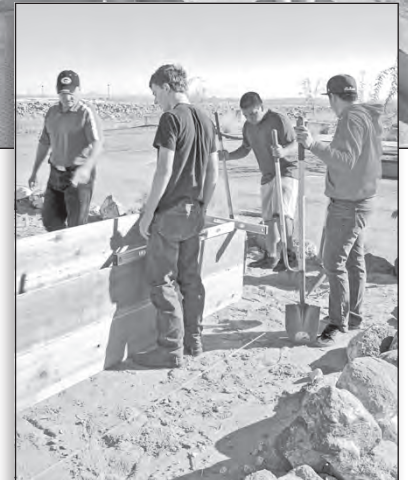


**The San Pasqual Valley High School Construction Trades class** spent their time at the end of January measuring, cutting and assembling the nine new planter boxes for the Quechan Community Garden. At the top, Instructor Jim Hesperich (at left) helps Jeremy Martinez, Joshua Alvarez and Luis Rios measure a reinforcement to be attached to the end of one of two triangular planters they've constructed. Just below, Angelito Alvarez makes a final cut, then asks Rios for assistance in completing assembly of one of the planters. The final photo in this series shows Ruben Cortez and Christian Anglin assembling one of the larger planter boxes inside the school shop building.



**Mr. Hesperich then showed** the Construction Trades students how to align everything according to plan and set them level, to the desired depth. Here, (at left) Mr. Hesperich points out a high spot as Jaimz Terry prepares to lift the planter box so Rey Maciel and Josh Rogers can dig out a trench and set it in place.

QUECHAN NEWS Photos by William Isbell





# SUIT FILED AGAINST INDIAN HEALTH SERVICE ALLEGES QUECHAN TRIBE PUT AT RISK

The Quechan Tribe recently amended a previously filed federal lawsuit, alleging that health care facilities and services provided to the Tribe by the federal government are putting tribal members at risk of harm.

The Tribe is asking the federal court to order the United States to maintain its Indian health care facilities in accordance with minimum, generally accepted, standards of professional medical care.

The United States provides health care to Indians through the Indian Health Service (IHS).

The medical facilities located on the Fort Yuma Reservation

are the oldest in the IHS system, having been built in 1936.

According to the lawsuit, IHS officials acknowledged as early as 1988 that the Fort Yuma medical facilities need to be "completely replaced because the buildings are too old, too small, and in a deteriorating and unsafe condition." The suit also alleges the Fort Yuma IHS facilities are not kept sanitary and are not capable of withstanding a major earthquake.

"The Tribe and its members rely on the federal government for health care, but the services currently provided are totally inadequate" says Quechan Tribal

President Mike Jackson, Sr.

According to Jackson, there is land available on the Reservation for a new modern health facility and IHS' studies support the need for a new facility. Members of the Quechan Tribal Council have petitioned the federal government a number of time over the past three years, hoping the get Congress to approve funding for that facility.

President Jackson has even travelled to Washington, D.C. twice since 2009, to personally speak to Congressional representatives on the issue. His April, 2010 included documentation of the damage the present IHS

facility sustained in last year's Easter Sunday earthquake.

"The Tribe has been waiting for over twenty years for a new facility that meets modern medical standards," says Jackson.

The Tribe filed its lawsuit after IHS disclosed that 44 tribal members were potentially exposed to blood-borne viruses such as HIV, Hepatitis B, and Hepatitis C from October 2008 to July 2009 as a result of IHS' failure to properly sterilize wound-care instruments at the Fort Yuma clinic. "This is just the most dramatic example of the United States' breach of its trust obligations to the Tribe in

the delivery of health care services," says Jackson. "The federal government put the lives of tribal members at risk. IHS has lost the trust of the tribal community."

The United States has moved to dismiss the lawsuit, arguing that the Tribe's concerns should be addressed by Congress, not the court. President Jackson believes the Tribe has a strong case. "If the government is going to provide health care to the Tribe, it must ensure that it does no harm to the tribal people. Congress has not acted to protect the tribal people and we need the courts to step in."

## Parenting Class Based on Book by Phoenix Author

The Quechan Parenting Department at the Education Complex is now meeting every Thursday morning from 9:30 AM to 11:30 AM, to help parents understand that their children's behavior is often a reflection of their own behavior.

Carlotta Sestiaga is teaching the new course, based on the book, "How to Behave So Your Children Will, Too" by Phoenix, Arizona author and psychologist Dr. Sal Severe.

The goal of the class discussions will be to help parents teach their children to behave, how to listen — the first time — and how to be more cooperative.

The book they are using for the course shows how to be consistent and manage anger, preventing arguments and power struggles. It's filled with examples to put parents at ease and help them see how their own behavior influences their children's behavior.

The course will hopefully



**Carlotta Sestiaga** began teaching the new course, "How to behave so your children will, too!" just last week. QUECHAN NEWS Photo by William Isbell

empower parents with specific, positive strategies on how to replace their behavior with patterns that produce more cooperative behavior in their children.

"What makes this book unique," says instructor Carlotta Sestiaga, "is that it doesn't focus on what children do wrong, it teaches parents what they can do differently. It's full of sensible ideas and useful activities

for parents to put the book's message into practice."

"Many parents don't realize that in order to get their children to behave, they need to look at the example they set first," according to the author, Dr. Severe. "And good parenting skills translate into sound human relations skills that can improve lives both at home and at work." Severe says parenting requires

countless sacrifices and continuous hard work, but the rewards are plenty. Those who attend the class will receive many tips on successful parenting based on Dr. Severe's work. Some of his guidelines for increasing cooperation in the home include the philosophy of starting with an attitude of expecting good behavior from your kids.

"And that begins with rewarding good behavior, not misbehavior," he says.

"Think before you talk. Say what you mean. Be consistent."

He also says the path to success in raising well-behaved children is to:

- Coach children on ways to be successful.
- Anticipate problems.
- Use punishments that teach decision-making and accountability.
- Begin teaching responsibility and decision-making at a young age.
- Support yourself even when

others sit in judgment.

- Provide a healthy and pleasant family climate.
- And, even though it can be hard at times, you should love your children regardless of their behavior.

Dr. Severe teaches that it's important to have a sense of humor about raising children, and to use your good judgement in recognizing the difference between mischief and misconduct.

"You've got to believe that discipline is a teaching process. It is not simply punishment," as he says on his website. "Parents should behave proactively by anticipating problems so they can plan to avoid them.

The most important part of the process is to realize it takes time. Have the patience to see the change in yourself and your children.

If you'd like to enroll in this course, or check on their other classes, call Quechan Parenting at (760) 572-0487.





## Quechan Tribal Court Looking to Train New Tribal Court Advocates

The Quechan Tribal Court has begun a new community outreach project, seeking individuals interested in training to serve their fellow Tribal Members as Tribal Court Advocates.

A Tribal Court Advocate serves as a lay advocate to represent individuals in Tribal Court hearings. Advocates will represent those coming before the Tribal Court in matters involving both civil issues and criminal matters.

Those who wish to serve as Tribal Court Advocates, will receive training to gain proficiency and understanding of the Quechan Tribal Constitution, the Quechan Law and Order Code, the Indian Civil Rights Act, as well as help to develop fundamental abilities related to research and writing.

In Tribal Court, Advocates act as spokespersons on behalf of individuals. They speak on behalf of defendants or other parties in civil actions, to provide assistance with legal filings and motions and present a party's issues before the court.

"Becoming a Court Advocate entails a lot of responsibility," says Barrie Tibbits, Clerk of the Court at the Quechan Tribal Court.

"Advocates will be held responsible for a great deal of the handling of the cases they will be representing, such as: case filings; adhering to filing deadlines and format; keeping the client informed of the proceedings; and ensuring that the client's issues are properly presented and defended."

The position is very much like that of an attorney, but as a "lay position" in service to

the Tribal Court, it does not require either a law degree nor admittance to the bar.

In the past, some individuals who have been trained or who have served in the capacity of an Advocate have done so for a fee (that they have set on their own); or many have even offered to serve or take cases free of charge.

Most individuals who appear in Tribal Court are unrepresented, and must plead their own case. The position of Tribal Court Advocate has been created to give Tribal members someone to speak with who is unconnected to the outcome of the case who can provide them with assistance and speak for them, presenting their case in the proper manner.

Training to become an Advocate would give individuals interested in the legal process a good core background on how the legal system works, and may lead to future education and/or employment depending on how far the Advocate chooses to go.

Prior to attending law school and obtaining her Juris Doctorate, Judge White served as a Quechan Tribal Court Advocate. "Serving as an Advocate made me more interested in the law and gave me an opportunity to decide future educational endeavors," she says.

Right now, the Tribal Court is accepting names and contact information to determine what kind of interest there is in an Advocate Program so Judge White can work on developing a training system for them.

The training would not take place in one setting, but rather

over a course of time, as some of the information covered can be fairly difficult to grasp immediately.

"At this point, with no indication of what kind of interest will be generated, the training components are still yet to be determined," she explains.

Ultimately, she hopes to provide the training to help provide essential skills for Advocates to provide diligent and appropriate representation to their clients, as well as give them a full understanding of the ethics involved in client representation.

The training will also introduce Advocates to Tribal Court law and code interpretation; introduce legal research and writing skills; and provide a more thorough understanding of the trial process.

If you are interested in hearing more about this program and becoming a Tribal Court Advocate, please contact a Clerk of the Court and provide your name and contact information.

Once the Court has signed up a large enough group of people interested in learning more about this training, they will set a meeting date and those in the group will be contacted to receive more information about the commitment required to become an Advocate, as well giving applicants a chance to ask their own questions to determine if it is something they would like to do.

Your name and contact information may be submitted to the Clerk of the Court by calling: (760) 572-5552 or by emailing: b.tibbits@quechantribe.com

## IT'S THE Q'S 2<sup>ND</sup> ANNIVERSARY!



**Great new promotions to attract the crowds** like this one at last April's Tax Day Driveaway Giveaway are already underway for next week's Second Anniversary Celebration at the Q!  
Photo by William Isbell

Next Sunday marks the Second Anniversary of the day the Quechan Casino Resort first opened their doors to a waiting public. And to mark the occasion, the "Q" will be serving Anniversary cake and punch in the front lobby area, as well as the south player's club booth and in the food court hallway.

They've also begun a new round of promotions, starting with their \$350,000 Anniversary Giveaway which runs all month.

There will be 10 winners every day, with a total of 2,000 winners projected for the month! Player's Club members will be

picked at random to win cash from 8AM to 8PM every Monday through Thursday, on Fridays and Saturdays between 9AM and 10PM, and every Sunday from 10AM to 8PM.

Everyone at the Q also earns Double Points on Valentine's Day (Monday, February 14th) and 6 times extra points on President's Day, February 21st!

If you don't already have a Player's Club Card, you'll want to get over to the Q today to pick one up - they're free! And don't forget to mention when you're a Tribal member: there may be extras on the schedule just for you!

**The Quechan Indian Tribe is seeking  
Three (3) Tribal Members to serve on the  
Quechan Enrollment Committee  
and One (1) Tribal Member to serve on the  
QTDHE Board of Commissioners**

If you are interested in serving your community  
in either of these positions,  
please submit a *Letter of Interest* to  
Georgina Massey, Tribal Council Secretary,  
at the Tribal Administration Office



# ***Your Input Needed on Public Transit in Our Community***

Last year, a Federal grant allowed the Quechan Economic Development Administration (EDA) to retain the consulting services of IBI Group to assist them in developing plans for a public transit program to meet the needs of residents here on the Fort Yuma Reservation.

With the first phase of their studies completed, the IBI Group has now prepared some preliminary service concepts.

“With IBI, we developed a number of concepts and ideas to best meet a whole range of transportation needs,” says Allyson Collins, an Economic Development Specialist with the EDA. “And we have additional public meetings planned for Tuesday, February 15th with different groups. The largest will be a public meeting late in the afternoon, to present these concepts and get some feedback. Then we can finalize our plans with the Tribal Council, apply for additional grant monies and begin to implement those solutions.”

The EDA's consultant group has submitted service plans designed to address the need for

transportation for residents of the Reservation in getting to jobs, medical appointments, or for shopping, education or any other daily task where access to transportation and ease of mobility has been unavailable, not affordable or just plain inefficient.

One of those concepts would address local travel needs on the Reservation, connecting to both Yuma and “the Q”. Another for regional travel would include El Centro. The EDA and IBI Group are also researching opportunities to better coordinate the transport needs of Tribal program participants.

The local shuttle service might act as a local circulator, improving mobility within the Reservation and Winterhaven communities while also providing a link to the City of Yuma.

The shuttle route would provide for convenient transfers to YCAT, Yuma's public transit service. The shuttle service might also be used by Tribal program staff to arrange travel for clients to appointments and services both on the Reservation

and in Winterhaven, as well as the City of Yuma.

Service would likely be limited to two days per week, possibly operating from 8:00 AM to 6:00 PM on assigned service days, providing trips for Tribal members and residents of Winterhaven.

**Attend the Meeting on  
Public Transit in  
Our Community:  
Tuesday, February 15  
3:00 PM to 5:00 PM  
At the Quechan  
Community Center**

An expanded level of local shuttle service might also be provided to “the Q” at shift start and finish times for casino, hotel, and restaurant day workers. Regular, reliable transportation service to “the Q” might enable additional Tribal members to seek employment there.

The regional bus concept may operate twice weekly with two round trips a day between Fort Yuma, Winterhaven and El Centro. Each outbound trip would depart selected locations on the Reservation and in Winterhaven

at scheduled departure times. Once leaving the Reservation, the bus would operate as an express service along I-8 with limited fixed route stops at the Imperial Valley Mall, DMV, El Centro Hospital, and the Imperial Valley Courthouse.

These could be scheduled stops for both the outbound and inbound trips. Passengers would be able to board the bus at these stops as walk-ons.

Portions of the service (on the Reservation) might also be run as a dial-a-ride for passengers who cannot get to a bus stop but live within a short distance of one (possibly three-quarters of a mile). This regional service could also be used by Tribal programs to arrange travel to appointments and services in El Centro for their clients.

The IBI Group is also looking at ways to better coordinate the use of Tribal program passenger vehicles to best meet the travel needs of program participants. Program managers and staff have expressed concern with the challenges of paying for transportation and various inefficien-

cies in some of the current transportation arrangements.

Both the EDA and IBI will continue to gather information and input, and are researching a range of grants and funding programs to further develop these preliminary service concepts.

In the meantime, your input is needed to help them in their task! Please plan on attending next Tuesday's meeting to share your ideas on what you think of these transit service concepts and what refinements may be necessary before they are final.

The EDA anticipates preparing grant applications in March to seek funding to implement some transit/mobility solutions.

“This is a process that requires study and analysis in preparing a business case to address transportation solutions, prepare grant applications and wait for approval,” Ms. Collins reminds us. “Assuming we're successful, grant approval can still take 6 to 9 months. Depending on the availability of funding, we likely won't see any real transit solutions for a year or so. But we're certainly making progress.”

## ***Seasonal Influenza Now Widespread***

Seasonal influenza (flu) activity has been increasing in recent weeks and is now considered widespread in Arizona. This disease is caused by flu viruses that are easily spread from person to person.

It can cause mild to severe illness, and at times can lead to death. Flu symptoms usually appear from 2 to 7 days after contact with someone who has the flu. Symptoms may include: Fever, chills, body aches, cough, headache, sore throat, extreme tiredness and a runny or stuffy nose.

Some people, such as older people, young children, and peo-

ple with certain health problems, are at high risk for serious flu complications. Compared to the general U.S. population, American Indians are more likely than others to get very sick from the flu, and last year, American Indian people were four times more likely to die from the H1N1 flu.

Most people who get the flu recover fully within 1-2 weeks.

While seasonal flu can be treated with drugs, the best way to prevent the flu is by getting vaccinated.

There are two types of flu vaccinations, one is given by an injection and the other by a na-

sal spray. Getting the flu vaccine each year can keep you from getting sick and keep you from spreading the flu to children and elders—those who can get very sick from flu.

You can decrease your chances of getting or spreading the flu by following these simple tips:

Wash your hands frequently with soap and running water or alcohol based hand cleaners.

Cover your nose and mouth with a tissue when you cough or sneeze. Throw the tissue in the trash after you use it.

If you get the flu, stay home

from work or school and other public places until you are well.

Try to avoid close contact with sick people.

Avoid touching your eyes, nose or mouth. Germs spread this way.

Do not shake hands if you are sick.

Other good health habits that help prevent illness include: getting plenty of sleep, being physically active, managing stress, drinking plenty of fluids, and eating nutritious food.

The Tribal Epidemiology Center of the Inter Tribal Council of Arizona also recommends that

everyone six months and older should receive a seasonal flu vaccine this year and every year, even if they got vaccinated last year.

This year's seasonal flu vaccine protects against H1N1, which caused so much illness last year. Also, it protects against two other flu viruses that are present this year. People who get the flu vaccine protect themselves and reduce their risk of spreading the flu to others.

They say that by getting the flu vaccine every year, you protect yourself, your family, and your community.





# SAN PASQUAL ELEMENTARY

## Students of the Quarter FOR THE SECOND QUARTER OF 2010/2011

### Kindergarten

Abril Cortes  
Lorna Meeden  
Erick Espinoza  
Esmeralda Ramos

### First Grade

Ibitza Mira  
Josiah Holbert  
Merris Durand  
Eddie Arroyo  
Xzavier Juan  
Jessamin Aragon

### 1st Grade Most Improved

Juriah Holbert  
Drew Aguilar  
Alexander Nuñez

### Second Grade

Narely Ruiz  
Izabella Flores  
Issac Pacheco  
Jermone Johns  
Mayra Maya  
Anaya Cachora  
Adriana Martinez  
Roderick Hart

### Third Grade

Kieran Palone  
Fernanda Espinoza  
Gabrielle Villapando  
Eddie Thundercloud  
Natalie Pacheco  
Alexier Nuñez

### 3rd Grade Most Improved

Xaviera Hiraes  
Juan Parada

### 3rd Grade High Honor Roll

Deshane Taylor  
Kieran Palone  
William Buford

Jorge Burgara  
Juan Martinez  
Bryeana McNeely  
Alicia Mendez  
Jahir Quintana  
Stormy Ramirez  
Eddie Thundercloud  
Gabriella Villapando  
Raynessa Zuniga

### Fourth Grade

Andres Ramirez  
Lupe Zarate  
Lesley Barajas  
Robert Belback

### 4th Grade Most Improved

Damarcus Mills  
Ceasar Cerda

### 4th Grade High Honor Roll

Tsai Jones  
Andres Ramirez  
Aracely Aquino Valdez  
Margarita Valesquez  
Freddy Villanueva

### Fifth Grade

Natalie Gonzalez  
Joseph Herrera  
Brandon Holyfield  
Nayeli Ramirez  
Luis Palomera  
Antonia Palone

### 5th Grade High Honor Roll

Angelina Garcia  
Nataliee Gonzalez  
Jamilia Mills  
Joseph Herrera  
Randy Allen  
Kevin Maldonado  
Nayeli Ramirez  
Delphina Velardé

# Warriors Advance To Finals

The Warrior's Varsity basketball team lived up to preseason expectations, qualifying not only for the Regional playoffs, but also hosting a home game after finishing second in the 1A West Division I standings.

The Warriors were the number two seed heading into the tournament, making it two years in a row they have worked hard to qualify for a spot in the post season playoff competition. After a 7 to 5 winning season, the Warriors went head-to-head against the Mayer Wildcats in a Groundhog Day grudge match!

Manny Sanchez started the game sizzling hot, hitting 3 back to back 3-pointers. Redhawk Welch and Chaz Tecumseh added several inside baskets. After leading consistently in the

first and second quarters, the Warriors let the 'Cats slip ahead near the end of the third.

But the entire team managed to come back and hold off the Wildcats, who were then able to tie-up the score at 37 – 37 by the end of the third quarter.

When it was all over, San Pasqual defeated Mayer High School 47 – 37 last Wednesday night before a packed crowd in the first round of the playoffs!

With that victory, the Warriors headed to the Regional finals tournament at Salome High School last Friday and Saturday. Unfortunately, the *Quechan News* went to press just as the out-of-town tournament was getting underway, so the results of their trip were still unknown at the time. GO WARRIORS!



**Angelito Alvarez (20)** jumps to recover the ball just after completing a basket, assisted by Redhawk Welch (14), foiling the plans of the Mayer Wildcats in their February 2nd Arizona Regional game.

QUECHAN NEWS Photo by William Isbell

# Wear Your Warriors Pride!



**San Pasqual varsity cheerleader** (and Quechan Tribal member) Maritza Barley shows off her new San Pasqual sweatshirt. This latest item features colorful logos front and back, with the phrase "Warriors Pride" in huge bright lettering down both sleeves. QUECHAN NEWS Photos by William Isbell



Nancy Williams, cheerleading coach at San Pasqual High, has been promoting school spirit all year in every way possible. She's even been leading the way in the creation and sales of a multitude San Pasqual Athlet-

ics T-shirt designs. You've probably seen both the shirts and the posters advertising them all over Fort Yuma and the schools!

Well, now she has an even "hotter" item: a dark blue, long sleeve hooded sweatshirt fea-

turing the Warrior Mascot on the front, and the ever-popular SP logo with the feathered arrow on the back, and the phrase "Warrior Pride" in bright yellow, 4-inch tall block letters down the sleeves. It's perfect for cutting the winter chill on your morning workout run!

The hooded sweat is available in sizes Small to 4X for only \$25.00 while supplies last.

All proceeds from the sales will go to help out the San Pasqual athletic programs—for equipment, uniforms, hydrating drinks—whatever is needed to give our local students a better edge in competition!

If you'd like to show your support and wear a "Warrior's Pride" hoodie, call the High School at (760) 572-3912, extension 3 and ask for Ms. Williams. She'll hook you up!



# SCHOOL AWARDS



Second grader Roderick Hart steps forward to accept his "Student of the Quarter" Award at the San Pasqual Valley Elementary School on January 28th. The school held the assembly to recognize outstanding student achievements during the second quarter of the 2010/11 year. See page 7 inside for a listing of top students! Q NEWS Photo by William Isbell

The Diabetes Wellness Center  
Presents

**THE LOVE  
RUNS WILD!**

**5K**  
**Run/Walk**

Saturday, February 12 at the  
Diabetes Walking Park!  
This is the 2nd Run of our  
3 Part Triple Crown Series!  
Starts at 9:00 AM Sharp!

**Call:**

**760-572-4057**

**For More Information**

The Strong Hearts Native Society and the Quechan Nation  
Invite You to Join The

*San Pasqual Valley Unified School District*

31st Annual

# POW WOW

**FRIDAY March 4, 2011**

**SATURDAY March 5, 2011**

**SUNDAY March 6, 2011**

San Paqual School Football Field

676 Baseline Road

Winterhaven, California

*2 Miles North of Yuma, AZ*

**SPECIAL DANCE PERFORMANCES:**

**FRIDAY: Grand Entry at 7:00 PM**

**SATURDAY: Grand Entry at 1:00 PM**

**SATURDAY: Grand Entry at 7:00 PM**

**SUNDAY: Grand Entry at NOON**

**ADMISSION:**

**\$7 Adult ♦ \$4 Juniors (11 to 17)**

**Children 10 and Under FREE**

**\$10 Weekend Pass**

**NATIVE ARTS AND CRAFTS**

Jewelry, Painting, Weaving, Musical Performances, Kachinas,  
Fry Bread, Native Artists, Basketry & Ceramics!!

**INFO: (760)572-0222 Ext: 2182**



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