



Mucho Calienté
Fun Run

ATSKA NAV AH PAI



At The Yuma Gateway Park
August 24 @ 6:00 PM

THE NEWS CARRIER

QUECHAN NEWS

Volume 106, Issue 14 ♦ Wednesday, August 15, 2012

In This Issue:

**New Administrator and
HR Director for Tribe**
Page 2

Back-To-School Bash
Page 3

New School Principal
Page 4

**Fight Against Ocotillo
Project Continues**
Page 5

Mail Room Clerk
Page 6

SCAP Changes
Page 7

New Athletic Staff
Back Page

Items Of Special Interest
To Tribe Members



Look For This Symbol

ATSKA NAV AH PAI THE NEWS CARRIER
QUECHAN NEWS

is published by

The Quechan Indian Tribe

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Second Recall Goes Down The Tubes

For the second time in five weeks, the Quechan Tribe has held a recall election which saw the vast majority of qualified voters expressing their opinion on the matter by avoiding the polls. In late June, the Tribe paid for a recall asking if President Escalanti should remain in office. Only 516 Tribal members responded to the question, and defeated the recall proposal by a vote of 316 to 248—a margin of 5 to 4 against removing the President.

On August 2nd, Tribal members were asked to consider a ballot measure to remove Vice President Aguero and three Tribal Council members; Clivia Cindy Miller, Virgil Smith and Darnella Mellançon. This time, even fewer voters turned out for the recall, as only 476 of the 1500 printed ballots were used. And the results showed that only one of the four officials under threat of removal had anything to worry about, as 216 of those casting ballots voted to retain Vice President Aguero in office, while 247 wanted her removed. The fi-



A campaign sign placed at the entrance to the reservation just north of the Ocean-To-Ocean Bridge expressed the sentiment of a large number of Tribal members towards the July 31st recall. In quoting the Quechan Motto, the sign also made the point that WE are *all* in this together. QUECHAN NEWS Photo by William Isbell

nal official vote count showed overwhelming support for the other three Council members subject to the recall, with an average margin of 5 votes to keep them in place to every 4 votes cast to remove them.

Yet, in both recalls, the final tally made no difference, as neither recall produced enough votes to meet the Constitutional provision requiring a majority vote by the adult Tribal mem-

bership to overturn officially adopted Tribal decisions (under Article VII, Section 4).

It appears that the majority of Tribal members, understanding that any total that fails to rise to the magic number of half the adult population of the Tribe, plus one, automatically nullifies any recall, chose to express their rejection of both recalls and never voted. Their decision insured the final tally in both

recalls could not possibly reach the required majority.

So now, perhaps, the question of who should remain in office may be settled . . . for a while, at least. Hopefully, the Tribal Council can now return to the much more important Tribal business matters which require their full attention.

The official abstract of the results of the August 2nd recall can be seen inside on page 2.

Smith the New Tribal Administrator, Cachora-Espino is Made HR Director

The Quechan Tribal Council made a couple of important appointments over the summer, filling the long-vacant

Vernon Smith

Previously served as the Tribal Administrator for almost 9 years, from 1999 though the spring of 2008.

QUECHAN NEWS Photo by William Isbell



Tribal Administrator's position, and promoting from within to keep the position of Human Resources Director filled.

Quechan Tribal elder (and long-time San Pasqual school board member) Vernon Smith was appointed to become Tribal Administrator on July 6, relieving Vice President Aguerro of her additional duties as Acting Tribal Administrator. Ms. Aguerro became the Acting Administrator after a marathon January 4th, 2012 regular council meeting, which led to the Council voting to remove Rob-in Estrada from the position.

Mr. Smith grew up here on the reservation. He attended San Pasqual Elementary as a child, and was a member of the high school's first graduating class in 1955. When he was first appointed to the San Pasqual Valley Unified District governing board in early 2008, he said he looked forward to doing what he could to rebuild the schools' athletic programs. He also wanted to see more physical improvements in the facilities, as well as proper utilization of all the facilities already

in place. Since his interim appointment, Mr. Smith has run for the school board seat he took over and received the voters' approval to continue.

A well-known and respected Tribal elder, Mr. Smith has contributed to the Hokan Songs documentary project, as well as providing oral histories of Quechan songs at Native gatherings, such as the recent occupation of Ocotillo Valley.



Amber Cachora-Espino

Employed by the Tribe in a number of positions over the years, she became HR Director on August 1st.

QUECHAN NEWS Photo by William Isbell

A member of the Quechan and Mescalero Chiricahua Apache Tribe, Amber Cachora-Espino says "First and foremost; it is an honor and a privilege to serve my Tribe as the Human Resources Director."

The daughter of Ms. Bernadine Cachora and Mr. Woodrow Brown, Amber's maternal grandparents are the late Mr. Tedley and Mrs. Shirley Cachora; her grandparents on her

father's side of the family are Mr. Patrick Brown, Sr. and Mrs. Leatrice Matus.

Amber has served as the Assistant Manager of the Fort Yuma Trailer Village with Mrs. Trudy Lopez, who Amber credits with giving her the skills and opportunity to express her knowledge and abilities while they worked together. With the closing of the Trailer Village Amber was transferred to the Laguna Dam R/V Park, where she worked with Mr. Richard Hofacker.

"I have to admit I was sad to leave this department; Mr. Hofacker is true example of leadership, and I will greatly miss him and the staff at the Laguna Dam R/V Park."

Amber holds a Bachelor's Degree in the Science of Business Management from the University of Phoenix and a Professional Degree Certificate in the Legal Environment of Human Resource Management.

After receiving her Degrees, she became affiliated with the Society for Human Resource Management, and has served two terms in good standing. She has also been recognized as one of the most successful alumni of the Yuma campus of the University of Phoenix,

COMMUNITY EXPRESSIONS

We'd like to say thank you to all our friends and family for being there for our daughter/sister in her time of need.

Thank you for all your prayers, kind words and support.

We truly appreciate all of you.

A special "Thank You" goes to Darnella Melançon for all that you've done for our daughter/sister. You truly are a wonderful person and

we will forever be grateful that you were there to help her when she needed it.

*With our sincerest gratitude,
The Menta/Roosevelt families*

You can bring your Community Expressions letters to the QUECHAN NEWS office trailer just north of the Senior Center entry on Quechan Drive, or email them to the email address printed in the box at the bottom of page 2.



QUECHAN INDIAN TRIBE Fort Yuma Indian Reservation

ELECTION BOARD
P.O. Box 758
Winterhaven, CA 92283
Phone (760) 572-0664

OFFICIAL ABSTRACT
RECALL ELECTION JULY 31, 2012

Number of Ballots PRINTED:	1500
Number of Ballots UNUSED:	1024
* Total Number of Printed Ballots USED:	476
TOTAL	1500

*Note: This total includes All Walk-In Ballots Issued, All Absentee Ballots Requested and Sent, All Spoiled Ballots, and All Reported Ballots-Full

Number of Walk-In Ballots:	407
Number of Absentee Ballots Requested:	68
Number of Absentee Ballots Received:	58
Absentee Ballots Not Received:	10
Number of Ballots containing a Rejected Vote:	2
Number of Spoiled Ballots:	1
Number of Rejected Ballots:	0

A vote of YES means: you want to REMOVE the Official from office.

A vote of NO means: you want the Official to REMAIN in office.

Vice President, Ronda Aguerro	Yes	247	No	216
Council Member, Clivia C. Miller	Yes	213	No	250
Council Member, Virgil S. Smith	Yes	213	No	251
Council Member, Darnella Melançon	Yes	202	No	263

Did the number of voters meet the requirement of Article VII Section 4 of the Constitution calling for a majority of the adult members of the Tribe? (>1256/2511 Voters) Yes (or) No

Dorinda Iron Cloud, JUDGE *[Signature]*
 Kermit Olson, MARSHAL *[Signature]*
 Nichole Montague, CLERK I *[Signature]*
 Priscilla Pretty Bird, CLERK II *[Signature]*
 Yolanda Escalanti, ALTERNATE II *[Signature]*

ETSKA NAV AH PAI THE NEWS CARRIER

QUECHAN NEWS

William Isbell

Newsletter Coordinator, Fort Yuma Quechan Nation

350 Picacho Road Winterhaven, CA 92283

Newsletter Office Phone: (760) 572-3912

Email: w.isbell@quechantribe.com

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

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

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



Culture & Heritage

Quechan Community Gathers For a “Back-to-School Bash”



The first order of business for the day was lining up to receive one of the hundreds of free back-to-school backpacks, provided by both Tribal Departments and the San Pasqual Valley Unified School District. Parks and Rec provided 150, Quechan Housing brought over 200, and the school district gave away 38 back packs. Another popular item was the Quechan Police Department's off-road vehicle displayed in front of their booth. That's little Pamela Miller trying out for her spot on the Police force!

QUECHAN NEWS Photos by William Isbell

The entire Quechan community got together on the first Saturday in August, to hold a “Back To School Bash” for area students in the Quechan Community Center. Entire families lined up outside the building, waiting for the doors to open, ready to step forward and claim one of the hundreds of free backpacks made available to all students on a “first come, first served” basis.

Booths arranged along the outside edges of the Community Center provided informational displays, handouts and free school supplies for everyone in attendance.

Tribal departments on hand included the Special Diabetes program, ADAPP, the Johnson/O'Malley Program, Quechan Language and the Tribal Police.

Lisa Aguerro of Injury Prevention raffled two in-car booster seats to winners Marena M. and Phillip R. The Tribal Council also had a booth, with Miss Quechan Nation helping Cindy Clivia Miller and Darnella Melançon in handing out school notebooks, pens and pencils.

Even the new Generation Y2000 youth center in historic downtown Yuma showed up, to tell students about the after school services and recreational opportunities they offer.

And since the theme of the day was “Back To School”, the San Pasqual Schools and Quechan Head Start Program were both on hand to help parents (and students) learn more about the upcoming school year before it even started.

One thing San Pasqual wanted the parents to know is that they've created new parking lots at both the elementary and middle schools, which means the entrances to both schools have changed locations. The elementary school now has a parent's drop-off/pick-up area on the north end of the campus, parallel to Arnold Road. That will allow moms and dads to pull in and drop off their kids without having to worry about the large buses, which are now the only vehicles using the previous parking area on Baseline Road.

The middle school also has an all-new paved parking area and entryway on Baseline. Those parking areas were the final part of the recently completed school construction project.



Sky Alvarez signed up for Quechan Language classes with Judith Osborne (at top). In the center, Xanth and Serene Cañez watch Keanu Soto get a cooking lesson from Chef Juan Velasquez. And Miss Quechan Brittany Miguel gave school supplies to Xia and Deana Cañez (bottom).

New Principal at San Pasqual High

Earlier this year, the San Pasqual Valley Unified School District Governing Board approved the hiring of a new principal for the high school.

John Schweller reported for duty in late June and he comes to the District with thirteen years prior experience as an educator and administrator, having served as a Counselor, Assistant Principal, Co-Principal and Principal at both the high school and middle school levels.

He's also spent twenty plus years working with youths as a basketball coach.

"I have a great passion for education, building relationships with students and providing guidance in their transition from early adolescence into adulthood," he says. "I am excited about the opportunity and challenge that my new position brings and the intimacy of a small school district." He says he also looks forward to working with parents and the community to help prepare students for success in the future.

Warming to the subject of



John Schweller has spent 13 years of his career as an educator and administrator. He's been a Counselor, Assistant Principal, and Principal at both the middle school and high school levels.

QUECHAN NEWS Photo by William Isbell

what he looks forward to in the coming year, he touches on some recent improvements: "We are excited about the new classrooms on campus, including the brand new science lab."

He also reminds us that the high school will be going through the

accreditation process this year, "And we are looking forward to the visit next March by the accreditation committee from the Western Association of Schools and Colleges."

Mr. Schweller and the staff will also implement the "Peace Builder" program, which teaches problem solving and conflict resolution skills. The Program is designed to decrease violence and bullying on campus.

"We are committed to establishing and maintaining a culture of Respect on campus," he says. Respect for the staff, the students, the curriculum and, most important, self-respect.

"With school having just started this past Monday, I hope everyone enjoyed their summer. We were pretty busy here lately, finishing up our preparations for the students returning to campus," he says.

"And I want to thank you for the opportunity to briefly introduce myself, and please be an active participant in the education of your student as we start the new school year."

San Pasqual Valley Unified School District



Will Hold Our 2012
**Elementary Parents Night
Open House**
on Tuesday, August 21, 2012
From 5:30 PM - 7:30 PM

Meet and Greet for Parents in Cafeteria
(Welcome and Introduce Teachers)

FREE Spaghetti Dinner

As Well as Visit the Classrooms
(In 30 Minute Rotations)

PRESCHOOL REGISTRATION FOR SAN PASQUAL VALLEY SCHOOLS BEGINS JULY 24TH, 2012:
9:00 AM - 5:00 PM Monday - Friday

Please bring the following items in order to complete enrollment of your child:

- | | |
|--------------------------------|-----------------------|
| Required Documentation: | • Household Income |
| • Birth certificate | • Physical |
| • Utility Bill | • Immunization Record |



Please welcome our new
Preschool Teacher
Nydia Hernandez, who has
24 years of teaching
experience, with 19 of those
years teaching students in
early childhood.

NOTICE

**The Quechan Indian Tribe
is seeking interested
Tribal Members to serve on the
Quechan Tribally Designated
Housing Entity (QTDHE)
Board of Commissioners**

*If interested, please submit a
Letter of Interest to the Tribal Council
Secretary, Shavon Manchado
at the Tribal Administration Office.*

Deadline for Submissions is Friday, August 24, 2012.

At "Call Back" Audition for "The Voice"!



Nancy Montague, Jr. poses with her April Artist Audition Pass. Her call-back audition was scheduled for Saturday, August 11.

Quechan Tribal member Nancy Montague, Jr. thought she had "blown" any chance of being selected as a contestant for the 2012 season of "The Voice" on NBC Television.

Nancy auditioned for the popular reality talent search program in April, where she was told she was "close" to making the cut. But she thinks her choice of what to sing started out to slow, and she realized as soon as she was done that she should have picked a song that starts out strong, to make an impression right away.

Once she lost out, she was told she'd have to wait until next season to try again. But her sister Densil received an email from NBC in mid-July, asking if Nancy was available for a call-back audition!

Apparently, some of the people who'd made the cut initially either haven't worked out, or are unable to make the live show, so the producers have called on those who "might have been" to "come on down! Nancy returned to L.A. for her call-back last Saturday, and we're still waiting for the results!

Tribal Elder Still Fighting Ocotillo

Quechan Tribal Elder Preston Arrow-weed is still campaigning against the Ocotillo Express Wind Energy Project, sending out invitations to join with him (and others) in on-site opposition to continued development of the Ocotillo Valley site.

“Our Governor says opposition to big energy projects must be ‘crushed,’” he says. “Well, we are the people! Our voices will not be ‘crushed!’ We must stand together to save Ocotillo.”

Mr. Arrow-weed is not against green energy, he just feels there are better ways to achieve it. “Solar on rooftops and parking lots is both cheaper and cleaner,” he points out.

“This whole wind energy thing is a scam. Ocotillo is just the beginning – and it *must* be the end! Forty million acres of public lands are targeted for de-



Preston Arrow-weed

struction, with the San Diego mountains and wilderness next on the list for industrial energy projects.”

As the head of the Ah Mut Pipa Foundation, Mr. Arrow-weed sent out flyers requesting more locals to return to the Ocotillo Valley on July 11th, to remind the public that the *Kwat'san Pipa* remain opposed

to the continued desecration of Native American sacred sites.

The flyers he sent out are direct: “I’m asking for help in saving these beautiful places—and to send a message to our leaders,” they read, in part.

“Stop destroying public lands for private profits by big energy corporations. Stop bulldozing our deserts and blasting the tops off of mountains. Stop endangering the health and safety of our residents—infrasound (which is produced by large-scale wind turbines) is dangerous! Stop the wind scam, stop the bulldozers, and stop killing our wildlife!”

But the most important thing, he says, is for the “decision makers” at the state and national level to stop stealing our children’s heritage; public lands should be protected for us all.

QUECHAN ENROLLMENT DEADLINE

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

The Quechan Enrollment Application deadline for the third quarter of 2012 is Friday, September 7, 2012, at 5:00 PM. Completed applications must include the following supporting documents:

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

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

The Second Quarterly Meeting for the Enrollment Committee will be scheduled for Mid-June, 2012.

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

FORT YUMA INDIAN HEALTH CLINIC

FINAL DAY FOR AUGUST VACCINES

Will Be Wednesday, August 22nd
At The Public Health Nursing Office
(In the Trailers Behind the Main Clinic)

From 1:00 pm – 4:00 pm

Vaccines available for children: DTAP, Polio, HIB, Hepatitis A, Hepatitis B, Measles-Mumps-Rubella, Varicella (chicken pox), Rotavirus, HPV, Meningococcal Virus and TDAP (for ages 11-12)

Vaccines available to adults:

TDAP (Tetanus-diphtheria-pertussis),
Whooping Cough, Pneumonia, Hepatitis A,
Hepatitis B and Shingles (Herpes Zoster)

Winterhaven residents: If You Need Transportation
Call (760) 572-0753 (You Must Call 2 Days Ahead)

If you have any questions, please call:
PHN Dept: (760) 572-4225 or 4226

A Reprieve for Picacho State Park

The past few months have been stressful for the Southern California activist group, Friends4Picacho in their fund raising efforts to keep Picacho State Recreation Area open.

“We have reached out to every individual and organization with any interest or connection to Picacho to help us save this beautiful park,” says Stephanie Buggert, Partnership Coordinator of Friends4Picacho.

“We asked our friends and family, random people we ran into during our work week and anyone who would listen, to join our cause. The hard work paid off! The State officially took Picacho SRA off of their FY2013 closure list!”

Stephanie says Friends4Picacho received the good news from California State Parks just

before the July 1st closure date.

A couple of weeks later, on July 20, the state disclosed that they found \$54 million of previously undisclosed funds hidden for the past 12 years in the State Parks system. State Parks had a \$20.4 million surplus in the Recreation fund and \$33.5 million in the Off Highway Vehicle fund, neither of which had been reported to the State Finance Department.

Once the “oversight” in accounting was revealed, California State Parks Director Ruth Coleman resigned, and at least three other high-level employees of the California Department of Parks and Recreation left in the wake of the scandal, including chief counsel Ann Malcolm and Jay Walsh, a special assistant to Director Cole-

man.

“Our organization is taking a positive approach to this situation,” says Buggert. “Rather than feeling we wasted our time, we want our members and those who pledged money to know that F4P made a difference. We feel we helped the state see that Picacho and other parks on the closure list needed to stay open.”

“Although we are not sure yet how the state wants us be officially involved, Friends4Picacho will continue to support Picacho SRA. We want those involved to know that we will be using 100% of the donations towards improving the park for its visitors.”

If you would like more information, please visit the website: www.friends4picacho.org.

Melissa Valenzuela Keeps The Lines of Communication Open



Melissa Valenzuela is the Mail Room Clerk at the Quechan Tribe's Administrative office complex. She picks up and delivers all mail communications for the Tribe twice each business day. Q NEWS Photo by William Isbell

Every workday, dozens of employees and Tribal members visit the Tribe's Administration Office, to drop off a rush package or pickup an important message. Every piece of mail going in and out of the office passes through the hands of Melissa Valenzuela, the Quechan Tribe's mail room clerk and receptionist's assistant.

Melissa grew up in Winterhaven, where she attended the San Pasqual schools, graduating from Bill M. Manes in 2009.

"I was the Vice President of the School Site Council at Bill Manes, which I served in for two years," she relates, proudly. "I also played volleyball and softball from junior high until I graduated." An active member of the FFA, Melissa also raised a pig as a project for the Yuma County Fair.

Her parents are Monica Montague (who works nearby in the finance department) and Chris Valenzuela. She is the granddaughter of Anthony and Lupe Montague on her mom's side of the family, and Carlos and Rita Valenzuela on dad's.

"I am also the great-grand-

daughter of Henry Montague and Lena Benedict Montague," she says. Her three younger brothers are Christopher Valenzuela, Anthony Montague, and Chano Escalante.

She's worked for the Tribe for over a year now. "I started off as a temp working for revenue distribution alongside Dianna Waters and Chaurora Rodriguez, where I worked with the SCAP program and 'per cap'. I then moved to the mail room which has become my permanent position."

Her typical day starts with picking up the newspapers at the reception desk and delivering a copy to the President's office, the Tribal Council Secretary, and others. Returning to the mail room, the rest of the morning involves sorting all of the overnight mail into two stacks: One stack of all the mail going to California, and the other stack for the other 49 states. She makes her first "mail run" at 10:00 AM, dropping off all of the California mail at the Winterhaven Post Office, where it goes on to Riverside for distribution within the state.

Melissa then heads over to the Yuma Main Post Office on Fourth Avenue, where she drops off all of the outgoing mail addressed to the remainder of the country.

"Since the Tribe has our Post Office Box in Yuma," she notes, "I also *pick up* a lot of mail there, too." As soon as she returns to the office, every piece of mail coming in to the Tribe is then stamped with the date and time it was received. It's all done for legal reasons, to provide a record of exactly when things arrive.

If there is a deadline to apply for a program or benefit, those timestamps help prove that a Tribal member replied before the deadline . . . or if they waited too long and missed it.

"I also open all of the mail addressed to President Escalante and hand that over to (his secretary and Melissa's supervisor) Marsha Emerson. All of the other mail either goes into the interoffice mailbox for the person it's addressed to, or to the Tribal Council member if it's addressed to them." Melissa can also accept and deliver FedEx and UPS packages delivered to the Administration building for all departments.

Every afternoon, she makes another mail run to both Winterhaven and Yuma, dropping off all of the outgoing mail, FedEx and UPS packages she's processed during the day.

"I really enjoy working in the mail room," she says. "And I especially love working with my new boss Marsha Emerson. She is a very kind, funny and energetic person whom I look forward to working with for many years to come."

TRIBAL MEMBERS INVITED TO THE: 2012 SAFFORD PRISON POW WOW



Native participants in the 2011 Pow Wow posed on the grounds of the Safford Federal Correctional Institute. Photo courtesy of Naaman Allen

Quechan Tribal member Naaman Allen has contacted the Quechan News, to extend an invitation to all his fellow Tribal members to attend this year's Safford Prison Pow Wow on Thursday, September 29.

Speaking on behalf of the Native American Community at the Federal Correctional Institution in Safford, he writes:

"We are currently seeking volunteers to assist with the spiritual growth of designated members at our facility. A person may volunteer for: 1) Spiritual presentations such as (but not limited to) Healing of Wounds, The Path, and Self-Worth and/or Visions of Hope. 2) Native American rituals such as Drums, Songs of the People and Out Journey and/or Sacred Dance."

"Our Pow Wow will be celebrated on September 29, 2012. If you would like to come and love to hear from you as soon as possible. You may volunteer alone or come as a group."

"Your participation will help us as we attempt to heal and better ourselves. We are men who know that the road back and the path to a future life is rooted in

our spirituality."

"If you can assist us or know another who can, feel free to contact our Chaplain by writing:

Federal Correctional Institution—Safford

Attention: Religious Services
P.O. Box 820
Safford, Arizona 85548"

"It would be such an honor to have you here to help us celebrate this special day. We look forward to anyone who is willing to help us with prayers and songs to celebrate our way of life." The Pow Wow will begin on Saturday morning with a 7:30 AM Spirit Run. Guests may be received at 10:00 AM, with an Invocation at 11:15 AM. The Grand Entry and the posting of colors will follow. There are a total of 14 dance contests scheduled, including intertribal, fancy, grass, southern straight, northern traditional and many others. A closing prayer is scheduled for 3:00 PM.

The FCI Safford is located 7 miles south of the city of Safford, in southeastern Arizona. You can download the standard visiting regulations for FCI Safford at: http://www.bop.gov/locations/institutions/saf/SAF_visit_hours.pdf

New Coaching Lineup

Continued from Page 8

the game was rewarded this past January, when he was inducted into the 2012 American Football News Hall of Fame for the work and dedication as a minor league football coach.

Upon learning of the award, he thought “There are many coaches out there that have a much better coaching record than I do, so how was I nominated, considered and accepted into such an elite class?” So when he travelled to the event to accept his induction, he asked the President of the Hall of Fame that very question!

“His response was ‘Being a Hall of Fame coach has nothing to do with records, it is based on what you have done to elevate American football.’”

But Coach Blankenship says

he thinks football has helped elevate his life: “Being involved in football has given me the opportunity to meet some of the best people in my life. I have developed relationships most people could only dream of and I have been able to do things with my family (in coaching the game) most people will never have the opportunity to do.”

In his personal life, Ken is married to Jennifer, his lovely wife of 19 years and together they make their home in Yuma, with their 3 children: 18 year old Kaitlinn, Kenny, who’s 15, and 6 year old Kaden.

He tells the *Quechan News* that he is “Looking forward to helping build an even more successful football program at San Pasqual High . . . Go Warriors!”



Jeff Frazine

Has been a junior varsity, strength training and defensive positions coach at Yuma Catholic for 3 years.

QUECHAN NEWS Photo by William Isbell

Mr. Frazine spent three years at Yuma Catholic as a Physical Education teacher before moving to the Crane

School District, where he’s been a teacher for five years now. Coach Frazine currently teaches Social Studies at the Crane Middle School in Yuma.

His goals for San Pasqual football include “teaching the finer points of the game to young athletes who otherwise might have limited opportunities to gain such experience.”

He also hopes to use football as an instrument to reveal the parallels between football and life, as well as showing young athletes the benefits of hard work and self discipline.

In doing so, Coach Frazine says he hopes he can help build community interest in the San Pasqual football program.

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Billy Paige

Played defensive back at the semi-pro level for seven seasons, with three seasons on the Yuma Blitz.

QUECHAN NEWS Photo by William Isbell

Coach Billy Paige has been around the sport of football for close to 13 years. He played 4 years at Kofa High followed by seven seasons at the semi-pro-

Football League (CFL) and three seasons in the Wild West Football League (WWFL) with the Arizona Night Hawks.

Coach Paige says he’s learned

professional level playing defensive back.

Coach Paige played 4 seasons with the Yuma Blitz in the Copper

hard work, sacrifice, dedication and discipline through football, and the determination not to quit. The values he’s learned play a huge part in his life, as a single father to his six year old daughter, LeAnna, who means the world to him.

He says he looks forward to this season and sharing those same lessons and core values, helping the Warriors of San Pasqual become champions!



Changes to SCAP Program for 2012

There have been a few changes made to the annual Quechan Tribe School Clothing Assistance Program (SCAP) for 2012. This Revenue Distribution Program has adjusted to current fiscal realities, and will be issued to qualified Quechan Tribal members only during the fall; there will be no winter SCAP Program this year. So, if you’d like to receive reimbursement for the school clothes you’ve purchased for the 2012/2013 school year, now is the time to collect your receipts and turn them in!

Parents wishing to receive the benefits of this program may apply in person (at the Revenue Distribution Office), by fax or by mail to the Quechan Tribe Administration Office. The Revenue Distribution Department began accepting applications on July 23rd. The deadline for new applications is Friday, September 28, 2012 at 5:00 PM.

Parents of students enrolled in school programs from Headstart through the 12th Grade may receive reimbursement for school clothing, with the amount distributed depending on the grade. Headstart and Kindergarten students will re-

ceive a reimbursement check up to \$100.00, while those enrolled in grades 1 through 12 are eligible for reimbursement up to a total of \$150.00 per student. The custodial parent must complete the application. If the applicant is not the custodial parent, documentation in the form of a Legal Custody Order or Guardianship Order through a court must accompany the application. Notarized statements are NOT accepted.

Enrollment will be verified by the Revenue Distribution Office cross-checking the certified list provided by the Enrollment Department.

Although the deadline for new applications is September 28, receipts verifying your school clothing purchases will be accepted until 5:00 PM on Friday, October 19, 2012.

Mailed in receipts will be accepted only if they are post-marked ON or BEFORE the receipt deadline. Purchases made with a debit card will be accepted. The Quechan Tribe does not accept receipts for purchase made with a credit card or gift cards.

All receipts must be dated from the beginning of the

eligibility period on July 23, 2012 through the deadline date of October 19, 2012. ONLY Original receipts will be accepted, which must include the store name and a list of the items purchased. Please print student name and parent/legal guardian name on all receipts. If you need copies of your receipts please make those copies prior to turning in your receipts.

Faxed or handwritten receipts will NOT be accepted. If receipts are not returned, the parent/legal guardian will not be eligible for cash disbursements during the next S.C.A.P. Program.

Please note that receipts will be accepted ONLY in the Revenue Distribution Office or the Finance Office. DO NOT TURN IN YOUR RECEIPTS TO ANY OTHER DEPARTMENT in the Tribal Administration Office to ensure they are properly received

If you have any further questions on the Quechan Tribe’s Fall 2012 School Clothing Assistance Program, please call Chenaury Rodriguez in Revenue Distribution at (760) 572-0213, Ext. 220 or Dianna Waters at Ext. 274.

Warriors Enter Season Under New Coaching Lineup

The Warriors football program is ready to move forward this season under a redesigned coaching staff that includes returning Coach Sal Piñeda as well as dedicated coaches for both the offensive and defensive lines. The San Pasqual coaching staff has also gained a former semi-pro defensive back.

“We also plan on arranging our schedule so we don’t have to travel such great distances,” says Coach Piñeda, “Where before, we had to travel almost to the border of New Mexico, going all the way to Nogales. We want to hold down on the time needed to get to our games, since we’re going through a rebuilding process this year.”

He looks forward to meeting the incoming freshmen, to see what kind of talent he can find there, as well as working with



Warriors offensive coordinator Ken Blankenship checks the “agility abilities” of Andrew Limones at pre-season practice in late July, as Joey Sandoval waits with fellow Warriors Richard Limones and Gabriel Gilbert for their turn to run the ladders behind him. Coach Blankenship’s abilities earned him a spot on the *American Football News Today* Hall of Fame earlier this year.

QUECHAN NEWS Photo by William Isbell

their returning senior, Quarterback Andrew Lomaintewa.

“We got off to a late start with pre-season practice, with so many athletes either still being on summer vacation or unable to arrange transportation to get to practice . . . so we’re working on that. We’re kind of ‘under the gun’ to get these kids in shape and assembled into a team before the actual season starts!” Still, with the available talent pool here on the res, he is certain things will shape up quickly. “Coach Frazine and Billy Paige will be handling the defense and defensive backs training, while Coach Blankenship and myself are going to be all over the offensive line. This is the second year Patricia Malvido has been our Athletic Director, and we want to develop a really good program for her.”



Salvador Pineda

Coach Piñeda has over 11 years of football coaching experience at all levels. He served as an assistant coach for 3 years under Jason Sanchez before becoming head coach of the Warriors football program this year.

QUECHAN NEWS Photo by William Isbell

Sal Pineda returns to San Pasqual for his second season as Head Coach, after spending the 3 previous years as an assistant coach for the Warriors. This multi-faceted athletic advisor also helped out as an assistant track coach during the 2011/12 school year, as well as assisting the girls’ varsity basketball team.

Coach Pineda demonstrated his dedication to the Quechan community by volunteering for Summer Sports Camp at Quechan Parks and Rec, which ended only a few days ago.

A dynamic motivator and team player with a solid ability to communicate and instruct young adults, Coach Pineda is well prepared to use his knowledge of all the facets of football to lead the new coaching staff in moving the Warriors program forward.

“I enjoy working with young adults, assisting in their progression, as they attain vital life skills,” he says, explaining his philosophy. “Participation in any sport will promote good health, good eating habits, and teach a person both discipline

and responsibility, while they learn and improve their athletic skills and awareness.”

Coach Pineda has built up over 11 years coaching experience in football “at all levels and capacities, from flag football involving kids as young as 5 years old, to the high school tackle football program I’m running here at San Pasqual for this great bunch of athletes from 13 to 18 years old.”

He says that the small student population at San Pasqual will really require him to hone his abilities to evaluate, build and improve athletes, as the squad he’s putting together will have to play both offense and defense. He sees that as a plus.

“We’re hoping to have about 20 kids out here, and they’ll all have to know at least one position on each side of the ball. But that way, we’ll get them all into plenty of games and they’ll all get plenty of time.”

Ken Blankenship

San Pasqual’s Offensive Coordinator has spent a lifetime in football. He was an owner of the Yuma Blitz Semi Professional Football Team from 2004 to 2010. Blankenship also played center and served as head coach for the Blitz.

QUECHAN NEWS Photo by William Isbell



A multi-faceted man with a life-long interest in football, Coach Ken Blankenship has gathered over 22 seasons of experience both coaching and scouting football players for various teams, from the youth and high school level to semi-pro and professional arena football.

Coach Ken has held the head coaching position for 18 out of the 22 seasons he’s been a coach. He’s also spent one season as a defensive coordinator with the remainder of his career as an offensive coordinator.

Coach Blankenship was a re-

gional scout for the American Football League 2 under the leadership of Gary Dowd. He’s even worked with the Arizona Cardinals as a volunteer youth camp coach under the guidance of Coach Mo Streeby.

Coach Blankenship has been a guest speaker and coaching instructor for numerous coaching clinics and was instrumental in bringing the NFL Youth Flag football program to Yuma, Arizona where he served as their vice president for 2 years.

His lifelong commitment to
Continued inside on Page 7