



QUECHAN NEWS

Volume 106, Issue 19 ♦ Wednesday, October 24, 2012

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Look For This Symbol

ETSKA NAV AH PAI THE NEWS CARRIER
QUECHAN NEWS

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JOIN US FOR OUR HALLOWEEN CARNIVAL!

We are now less than a week from the annual Quechan Tribe Halloween Carnival at the Quechan Community Center, set for this coming Saturday beginning at 5:00 PM. Quechan Parks and Rec began taking registrations for the big costume contest on Monday, and they still be taking names up until Saturday afternoon when the Carnival begins at five.

You might also be interested in bringing your best carved jack-o-lantern to the Carnival, since they will have a big pumpkin carving contest (with cash prizes), too! For safety, though, you have to do *all* your carving at home and bring the *finished* pumpkin to the Community Center by 6:00 PM, when the judging begins. The costume contest will also get underway at the same time.

The judges want to be sure everyone gets a good look at all the pumpkins and costumes, so both contests will start soon after the Carnival opens, to let everyone see all the details be-



Bernadine Cachora (of the Quechan Community Health Representatives) goes all out for Halloween every year. To have it ready in time, she began decorating her home on Miguel Drive with hundreds of spooky items in mid-September! QUECHAN NEWS Photo by William Isbell

fore it gets too dark! They will also have all of the usual contest booths for all ages (from kids only learning to walk all the way to seniors over 55) as well as candy bags for all the children!

Phil Emerson and the crew at the Rainbow Pool have spent a long time planning their haunted house this year, so be sure to get up the courage to take a walk through that, too! As

always, there will be plenty of food and drinks for everyone.

"We also want to be sure that parents accompany their kids to the Carnival," says Willis Hawkins, of Quechan Parks and Rec, "to make sure everyone stays safe."

But that's not the only big Halloween themed party planned for the end of October! The Quechan Special Diabetes Project will also be hold-

ing a 5k Halloween Fun Run (or Walk, if you prefer) at the Diabetes Walking Park next to the stomping grounds on Friday evening, October 26th, beginning at 6:00 PM. Sandy Palone says you should come in costume (in keeping with the theme), and stay for the goodies and prizes once all three laps of the park are completed. They will also be placing carved pumpkins along the trail, to light the way. If you want to donate a pumpkin for the Haunted Trail Run, call the SDPI this week at (760) 572-4057.

Then, on Halloween morning at 10:00 AM, all of the little ones at the Quechan Education Complex will be treated to their annual Trick or Treat Day, when a variety of Tribal departments visit the center to set up tables on the lawn and hand out wonderful treats to all the kids. Local daycare centers will also be there this year, so it promises to be an even bigger event than usual this time around!

Related Story on Page 2

Fire Extinguisher Training for Quechan Head Start

The Quechan Tribe is working hard to integrate safety and disaster training into every departments plans, hoping to have every employee ready to do their part in the event of an earthquake, chemical spill, fire or other mishap.

A good part of that planning includes knowing who should be notified in the event of an emergency, who should take charge, and how (and where) to evacuate your building when an emergency does take place.

Of course, it's always a good

strategy to act immediately if you have the training and means to take care of a small emergency, to prevent it from becoming a bigger disaster—especially if you have small children around who can easily become frightened when they see adults acting scared!

To keep such a scenario from occurring, one of the first groups to receive hands-on fire extinguisher training were the teachers and caretakers at Quechan Head Start.

David Hamilton of Assured

Fire Extinguishers, who services and maintains all the extinguishers for the Tribe, provided hands-on instruction to the Head Start staff on October 8th.

David and his assistant used a safe, clean burning propane fire, isolated in a water pan, to give everyone a chance to practice the PASS system: PULL the pin from the handle, AIM the nozzle at the fire, SQUEEZE the handle, and SWEEP the dust coming out back and forth at the base of the flames until they'd put the fire out!



Head Start instructor Miss Dorina (Mata) puts out a propane fire bubbling up from a water pan as Assured Fire Extinguishers instructor David Hamilton mimes the proper sweeping motion. Q NEWS Photo: William Isbell



A large graveyard greets visitors in the front yard, which is also decorated with disembodied spirits. Inside, Linda Blair waits by the front door, near a curio cabinet dominated by an animated, moaning Medusa!



Bernadine Cachora: Just A Little Too Into Halloween!

If you've been north of the San Pasqual schools lately, you may have noticed a graveyard has suddenly appeared in front of the house on the corner of Baseline and Miguel Road.

There are also caged ghosts, vampires and bloody body parts hanging from the rafters of the carport, and more tombstones right in front of the porch! What in the world is going on here?!!

It's just Bernadine Cachora getting excited about her favorite time of year again, as she hauls out over twenty years worth of Halloween decorations she's carefully collected on trips to Hollywood and the coast. If you think the front yard is spooky, you should step inside! There are cobwebs, spi-

ders and skulls hanging from just about every wall and window, pictures that glow with eyes that follow you about the room, and Linda Blair (as Regan MacNeil) stands near the front window, dressed in a pea soup stained nightgown, spinning her head and cackling with an evil laugh!

Right next to Linda, a curio cabinet filled with grotesque knick knacks is dominated by an animated "stone" bust of Medusa with glowing red eyes.

And if you think you might just retreat to the kitchen to escape from the scares, you're wrong! One of Bernadine's favorite TV shows is AMC's The Walking Dead (of course!), so the dining room table is sur-

rounded by coweb covered posters from the series, somber black curtains and more body parts, along with a menu you might not want read.

Transfusion bags full of "blood" hang near the hallway entrance. Down the hall one can see a maze of small glowing jack-o-lanterns amid the cobwebs, as skeletons, ghosts and witches peek out from around all the doors! It seems you can't escape your fate!

Bernadine's grown children still talk about their mother's obsession with "the dark side", and they've even written poems and short stories about growing up in these surroundings. Drop by when you "Trick or Treat" and she might let you read them!

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

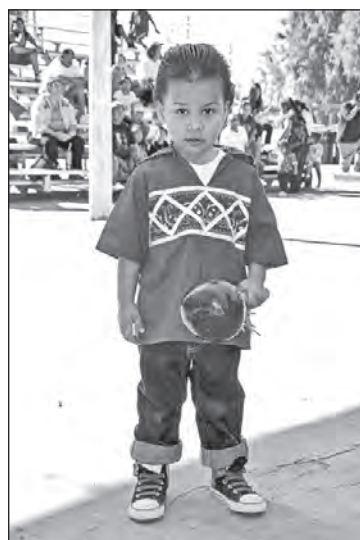
Quechan News is here to cover the special events and everyday lives of Quechan Tribe Members, and the issues that affect you in the world today. This newsletter is here to keep the lines of communication open, to expand opportunities, and uplift the Native Spirit of the Kwat'san Pipá. Your ideas and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

Quechan Indian Days 2012: Keeping Our Traditions Alive!



Choosing winners of the children's traditional dress contest was a particularly difficult task this year, as everyone looked really good. It finally came down to Demi Lopez (in first place), Violet Golding (2nd) and Elijah Herrera as the best dressed kids from infancy to three years old. The elders also had great winners, as the cultural group "Preservers of Kwat'san Ways" took the Overall Sweepstakes Trophy at Saturday's Indian Days Parade. At right, Dorothea and Thomas Montague pose with their trophy, and some of the youngsters who helped them build the float: Ethan Jackovich and Tanzen and Alexander Joseph Nuñez, their great-great nephews!

QUECHAN NEWS Photos by William Isbell



Traditional gourd singing and dance contests also took place on Saturday afternoon. Here, the 13 to 17 year old teen boys compete in gourd singing. The winner was Zion White (facing the camera), while Reno Tapija (in the rear) came in second, and Mickey Salazar (on the left) took third. Able Paz won the boys 8 to 12 gourd singing contest.

The 2012 Quechan Indian Days Celebration was the first expected events with a few new twists, to provide activities for a new Events Committee, community members of every age group. The first new addi-

tion was beginning the celebration on Friday in the Diabetes Walking Park, with children's activities from 11 in the morning until the early afternoon.

The first few hours were co-sponsored by the Quechan Community Health Representatives (CHR) and the Alcohol and Drug Abuse Awareness Program (ADAPP). They brought in hundreds of hamburger patties and hot dogs and started up two charcoal grills at the entry ramadas. With the smell of hot wood smoke drifting across the front of the park, everyone stayed in the area for games like the three-legged race, cracker eating, and a scavenger hunt.

CHR set up a wellness check 'clinic' under the shade of the

west ramada, offering blood pressure and glucose checks. The ADAPP crew took the east ramada, where they set up an assembly line, producing over 400 hamburgers and hot dogs for the famished crowd, which included chips and all the trimmings, washed down with bottled water and juice drinks.

The children's activities wrapped up with a shinny game demonstration right before everything moved over to the stomping grounds next door for the rest of the weekend.

There, the adults had their chance to compete in lots of silly, fun games, like *Don't Spill the Beans*, *Hoop 'n' Spear* and *Balloon Pop* for those from 13 to 50, while seniors got to com-



Senior Tribal member (and the chief law enforcement officer at Quechan Fish and Game) Gordon Osborne was this year's Indian Days Parade Grand Marshal.

pete at *Wastebasket Shootouts*, the *One Handed Paper Crush* and the *Rubber Chicken Toss*.

Indian Days Continues on Page 4

Keeping Our Traditions Alive!

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The competition was so close this year, the judges had many contestants return to the stage to participate in tie-breakers before they could make their final decisions! At left, the top four contestants in the girls 13 to 17 year age group try one last time to secure their positions.. At right, Cedric Lukee raises his hand and whistles, to win the 11 to 12 year olds cracker eating contest on Friday.



QUECHAN NEWS Photos by William Isbell

Friday evening also featured Tribal Trivia games, a public service presentation by the Native Cry Outreach Alliance and a Frybread Contest (presented by Kwat'san Radio) before everyone gathered around the big ramada and participated in Pipa, Bird and Iyll'shah songs and dancing until midnight.

The wonderful, cool weather continued into Saturday, as the public gathered along Quechan Drive to watch the Indian Day Parade. Everyone then fol-

lowed the floats and marchers around to the stomping grounds to kick off the final day of the festivities.

Folks were able to visit food and crafts vendors, strolling about the grounds as contestants changed into their most colorful traditional outfits, to spend the afternoon competing for local fame and cash prizes.

Saturday evening also included a community barbeque under the shade ramadas once the traditional dress and song

and dance contests were decided, followed by various groups taking the stage to sing and dance until 8:00 PM.

Then the Gomez band from Sells, Arizona took over, providing a more contemporary program for the young and young at heart. Those who would rather continue the competition in taking on all challenges at peon retired to a more secluded and quiet corner of the stomping grounds, and continued the games until the wee

hours of Sunday morning.

All-in-all, it was a very fun and smooth running weekend, helped along by the early arrival of unseasonably cool weather almost a week before.

And speaking of local fame, here are the winners of Saturday's Traditional Contests:

Children Infant to 3 Traditional Dress Contest

- 1st: Demi Lopez
- 2nd: Violet Golding
- 3rd: Elijah Herrera

Children 4 to 7 Traditional Dress Contest

- 1st: Anya Numkena
- 2nd: Quinn
- 3rd: Jayven Wynn

Girls 8 to 12 Traditional Dance Contest

- 1st: Leyla Anderson
- 2nd: Royal Phipps
- 3rd: Marianna Shepard

Girls 13 to 17 Traditional Dance Contest

- 1st: Diamond Rivera
- 2nd: Talia Chavez
- 3rd: Neveah Montague

Women 18 to 49 Traditional Dance Contest

- 1st: Roseanna Hills
- 2nd: Claudette White
- 3rd: Allyson Collins

Women 50 and Over Traditional Dance Contest

- 1st: Alva Emerson
- 2nd: Gail Johns
- 3rd: Sylvia Armstrong

Boys 8 to 12 Traditional Singing Contest

- 1st: Able Paz
- (Only Contestant Entered)

Boys 13 to 17 Traditional Singing Contest

- 1st: Zion White
- 2nd: Reno Tapija
- 3rd: Mickey Salazar

Men 18 to 49 Traditional Singing Contest

- 1st: Troy Townsend
- 2nd: Todd Tapija
- 3rd: Larry Hammond, Jr.

Men 50 and Over Traditional Singing Contest

- 1st: Cristobal Emerson
- 2nd: Roland Golding
- (Only 2 Contestants Entered)

Indian Days Parade Winning Entries

- Overall Sweepstakes:
- Preservation of Kwat'san Way
- 1st: Quechan Head Start
- 2nd: Fourth Ave. Jr. High Band
- 3rd: Strong Hearts Society

Hope to see you all next year!

For IHS Dental Appointments:

See Janice Emerson at The IHS Public Health Office in the double trailers

Behind the IHS Clinic
or call her to make an
Appointment at
(760)572-4234



And please be sure to
check in with Janice
when you arrive
for your
appointment, too!

San Pasqual Field Goes Pink!



Strong Hearts members who also play on the San Pasqual Warriors football team asked Mr. Owl if something could be done to "Go Pink" and participate in the annual Breast Cancer Awareness Month campaign to increase awareness of the disease. After discussing options, it was decided to paint the yardage markers on the field pink, and adding a giant pink ribbon on the home side 50-yard line for the October 10th game against Yuma High would get the message out.

Here, San Pasqual's greensmen Mike Bresino and Sergio and Juan Rodriguez put the finishing touches on the giant pink ribbon.

Keep an Eye Out for Snakes!



Quechan Game and Fish Officer Travis Owl captured a four and a half foot long diamondback rattler at a home near the Yuma Main Canal, just west of the Diabetes Walking Park! Quechan Fish & Game Photo

The Officers of Quechan Fish and Game have noticed an in-

crease in calls regarding rattlesnakes in recent weeks, since rattlesnake activity often peaks in the early spring and early fall each year.

"On September 27th, we went out on a call and captured a five and a half foot rattlesnake in the laundry room of a residence near the Main Canal spillway," Officer Travis Owl revealed. "We've also caught 3-foot rattlesnakes on the front porches of homes on Firestone Avenue in the Old Sub and on Ironwood Drive in the New Sub in the past couple of weeks."

"On October 9th, two rattlesnakes were captured, one three foot adult in the Old Sub, and a baby rattler in the New Sub!"

Officer Owl explains that babies can be more dangerous

than the adults. "Adults can control the amount of venom they deliver in a bite," he says, "while a baby can not and will deposit *ALL* their venom in a single bite."

All of these rattlesnakes were found in residential areas, so you need to be on the lookout. Travis says you should Contact the Quechan Police Department whenever you see a rattlesnake. "They can contact Fish and Game over the radio or by telephone and have us respond immediately, 24/7."

Although dangerous, rattlesnakes live here, too. "Fish and Game will always try their best to perform a safe, live capture and relocation of a rattlesnake instead of harming or killing the snake," according to Travis.

Election Board Posts Timeline



The Quechan Election Board appeared before the Tribal Council at the October 18th work session, to open, empty and re-seal the ballot box in preparation for the upcoming general election. Q NEWS Photo by William Isbell

Fire Department Visits Head Start

QUECHAN NEWS Photos by William Isbell



The men and women of the Winterhaven Fire Department visited the Quechan Education Complex on October 8th, to introduce the kids to their equipment and let them climb on the their trucks and trigger the sirens!

Sparky the Fire Dog came along to pose for photos and keep the kids occupied as each student took turns climbing into the cab. That's Braden Taliswaima on the right, activating the siren and getting a high five from the Fire Chief, Steve Taylor.



On Friday, October 5th, The Quechan Election Board posted a notification of the Polling Place at the Tribal Administration Office on Indian Hill, along with a Timeline for events related to the upcoming December 2012 Tribal Council Election.

Here is the Timeline as posted on that date:

October 5, 2012: *Posting of Polling Place*

October 5, 2012: *Notice of Quechan Tribal Council Election*

October 9, 2012: *Notice of Election mailed out to Quechan Tribal Membership*

October 18, 2012: *Certification of empty Ballot Box*

October 18, 2012: *Posting of Eligible Voters List*

November 20, 2012: *Corrected Eligible Voters List*

November 26, 2012: *Posting of Sample Ballot*

December 3, 2012: *Election Day*

The polling place shall be the Quechan Community Center, with the polls open from 7:00 AM until 7:00 PM on Election Day.

QPD GAINs Exposure at Yuma Palms Weekend Event

Quechan Tribal Police Officers Kirk Nerva and Francisco Cordova joined dozens of other area law enforcement professionals at the Yuma Palms Shopping Center for a public demonstration of the National Crime Prevention Council's G.A.I.N. (Getting Arizona Involved in Neighborhoods) program on Saturday, October 6th.

While most of America cel-

brates a "National Night Out" against crime each August, due to our hot weather, Arizona holds off until early October to implement G.A.I.N. The program is designed to heighten crime awareness, generate support and participation in local anti-crime efforts, and promote community relations.

City, county, tribal and federal agencies all set up in front of

the local Target store on the first Saturday in October, to offer the public a close look at some of the equipment used in their operations.

Everyone stopping by were able to enjoy free hotdogs, sodas, water and chips provided by Target, Buffalo Wild Wings, Pepsi Cola, Khalil Bottling Company and Bimbo Bread.

The Tribal Officers were on



QPD Officers are surrounded by curious members of the public at the Yuma G.A.I.N. event outside the Yuma Target store. QPD Photo

hand to meet and talk with the public about the Tribe's safety programs, services and public safety issues, as well as answer questions about future careers with the QPD.

In addition to our ATVs and QPD Police trucks, there was a helicopter, a sand rail, boats, and many other vehicles parked nearby for the public to touch, explore and examine up close.

Vector Control Crew Goes After West Nile Mosquitoes

Every week throughout the breeding season, mosquitoes trapped by the Quechan Vector Control Program are sent to the testing lab of the Yuma Pest Abatement District. In early October, the lab called Henry Ghiotto, supervisor of the Vector Control Program, to tell him that they had a positive result for West Nile Virus from mosquitoes trapped in the rear patio area of the Paradise Casino.

Although David Moreno and Derrick José alternate between trapping and spraying mosquitoes every week, Mr. Ghiotto had them immediately step up their spraying operations in the low lying areas around the Arizona Casino.

Explaining his strategy, Mr. Ghiotto said, "On the tests we did that night, the mosquitoes from the (old) subdivision came back negative, those from up on the hill were negative, and even the mosquitoes we'd trapped in the Sunrise Park were negative." With only one location coming back positive, Mr. Ghiotto hoped they could quickly get things under con-

trol, and stop an outbreak before it has the chance to spread.

"They could have been breeding right there (where they were trapped)" he says, or in the field right behind the Casino property, any spot near the back patio that had collected enough water to allow freshly hatched mosquito larvae the time to mature, take flight, and feed on an infected bird before being trapped. "It could be anywhere right in that area."

"So by the following morning we had already decided that was going to be our hot spot, so we got some more traps out and really concentrated on monitoring that area."

To ensure they knocked the problem down, David and Derrick began to double their pesticide fogging efforts from the *Anya Nitz Pak* Park east along the river trails, and along both sides and behind the Paradise Casino. They are also still spraying "Control 4 Plus 4" mosquito adulticide all around the reservation, in all areas that are known to collect water and harbor egg-laying mosquitoes.



Vector Control has been out fogging mosquito breeding sites nearly every evening since the West Nile Virus turned up in the area.

Q NEWS Photo by William Isbell

"With all the Indian Days events at the Stomping Grounds and the Desert Rage Fights at the Casino this past weekend, we've really concentrated on that area to knock down the population," Mr. Ghiotto goes on, outlining how they stay on top of these situations.

"It used to be a rule that once it drops below 60°F at night, there wouldn't be a problem, but the mosquitoes are here and they seem to be breeding all year round. The population re-

ally thrives during the summer, though, so we're really busy then."

Their trapping and spraying season usually begins in February, ramps up through the hotter summer months when all insects seem to thrive, and then will often taper off sometime in November, especially if there is a morning frost and it just gets too cold for the critters.

"We spray every night, from February on," he revealed, "depending on when it starts to warm up. We'll spray until the population really drops, and then we'll keep our materials on hand so we're ready to start again when we get complaints or if the population starts to kick up again and we'll get a push on to knock 'em back down."

So, even though Henry Ghiotto distributed West Nile warnings to all Tribal Departments and other local offices the second week of October, it seems that the Quechan Vector Control Crew moved quickly to "nip it in the bud."

"Right now," Mr. Ghiotto proudly admits, "we're the only

Tribe with our own Vector Control Program."

West Nile Virus (WNV) is a mosquito-borne virus with symptoms which might include high fever, headache, confusion and disorientation. In rare cases, it may progress to include seizures, muscle weakness, and coma. In particularly rare instances, WNV can even encourage more serious conditions such as encephalitis (an inflammation of the brain) and/or meningitis (an inflammation of the linings of the brain and spinal cord) to develop.

The easiest and best way to avoid WNV is to prevent mosquito bites. Most mosquitos are active at dusk and dawn. Be sure to use insect repellent and wear long sleeves and pants at these times or consider staying indoors during these hours. Make sure you have good screens on your windows and doors to keep mosquitos out. Get rid of mosquito breeding sites by emptying standing water from flower pots, buckets and barrels, and change the water in pet dishes and bird baths every week.

MISS QUECHAN NATION

Continued from Page 8

suddenly step into the position of Miss Quechan Nation part-way through the year. (Brittany Miguel took over the position only four months into the reign of the previous Miss Quechan Nation. She says that since she'd returned to her "normal life" and had almost forgotten about even being involved in the Miss Quechan Pageant and the attendant fame it might have brought, once she stepped into the position on short notice in late February of 2012, she at first found herself nearly overwhelmed by the sudden increase in demands on her time.)

Well, this year, with only two young ladies competing for the position, both contestants really did their best to shine on stage.

For the talent portion of the show, Catherine Kelly asked her brother Joanes Bobtailbear to provide her musical accompaniment (along with

Zion White), while Gina Rivera danced with a group of singers she had grown comfortable with during her tenure as Miss Strong Heart Native Princess at San Pasqual High. Gina's singers included Mr. Vernon Smith, who often instructs the Strong Hearts in their local cultural history and traditions. So both contestants were very comfortable with that part of the program, having danced with their singers many times in the past.

They also both seemed to be very relaxed and comfortable with the simultaneous dance competition near the end of the program, which took place after the nerve-racking process of explaining their platforms.

Despite the vocal quivers that can sometimes appear when the heart races and the mouth suddenly goes dry while speaking in public in front of hundreds of friends and community mem-

bers, they both did a pretty good job of pushing through that hurdle, also! And it's obvious they'll both get better at public speaking, with their quick recovery of composure for the dances that followed.

The outgoing Miss Quechan Nation, Brittany Miguel stepped forward after the final test, and made her formal goodbyes, handing out gifts to friends and relatives who had mentored and assisted her throughout her eight month reign.

At last the moment had come: Pageant emcee Danell Pastores announced the judges' decision, giving the title of First Attendant to Catherine Kelly. Danell then assisted Deborah Tourtillott in unsealing the box holding the new Miss Quechan Crown, and presented it to Brittany Miguel to crown her successor: Gina Rivera, Miss Quechan Nation for 2012/2013!

Gina's Platform: Indian Education

Quechan Tribal member Gina Rivera is the daughter of Rosalinda Whitepigeon and Ricardo Rivera. She graduated at the top

Gina Rivera

A 2012 graduate of San Pasqual, Gina is currently pursuing a general course of study at AWC. She is a firm believer in the value of education.

Quechan News Photo by William Isbell



of her class at San Pasqual High last May, and has enrolled at Arizona Western College to continue her education.

Once she completes the generally required courses at AWC, Gina hopes to transfer her credits to NAU to pursue a Master's Degree in Social Work.

"Education has always been a vital part of my life," she told

the audience and judges, in explaining her values. "And my platform will be the promotion of Indian education."

"I've always been told, 'get to school, you need to go to school if you want to do this, or you want to do that'. And to me I needed that push, because I think I might have had no discipline without school, because

our parents aren't always at home, so that structure is important."

"So I'm encouraging everyone to go back to school, enroll in college. You might say, 'Oh, now I've got to get back in math, and write essays, and do things like that.' But I think that once more people see more Native Americans going to school, then we will be better heard. The world will accept us better, and accept Kwat'san women better, once we get an education."

She says that with so many jobs requiring degrees and certification today, she really wants to help push the message that an education is a real necessity.

A New Crown for Miss Quechan Nation



One special surprise for everyone at the 2012 Miss Quechan Nation Pageant was the fact that this year's winner, Gina Rivera, received a brand new handmade beaded crown to wear during the performance of her duties.

The crown was a gift to the Tribe from the 2010/2011 Miss Quechan Nation, Leila Jose.

During her travels on behalf of the Quechan Nation, Leila noticed a few loose beads and a little wear and tear beginning to show on the crown she had been presented. During a Pow Wow visit to the San Diego area, Leila got together with her cousin, Kateri Kolb, who works as a Dispatcher for the Rincon Tribe in Valley Center.

While she may work in law enforcement to put bread on the table, Kateri's true calling is beadwork. She's made medallions, baby moccasins, earrings, barrettes, graduation caps, gowns, feathers . . . and crowns for Tribal Princesses. Kateri learned how to do the peyote stitch from her mom, the brick stitch from her aunt, and the flat stitch from her roommate while at the Chemawa Indian High School in Salem, Oregon. (She also served as Miss Chemewa in 1996.)

Leila and Kateri worked up a design that used 13 cuts for all the designs like the roses, the logo, and the writing. The crown also features size 10 beads and AB Rhinestones on a leather backing. Leila was only able to present it to the Tribe this month, as it took two years of Kateri's spare time to finish!

The Strong Hearts Native Society Presentation of the 2012

MR. & MISS NATIVE SAN PASQUAL PAGEANT

WILL BE HELD
FRIDAY, NOV. 2, 2012
AT THE PARADISE EVENT CENTER
PROGRAM BEGINS AT 6:00 PM

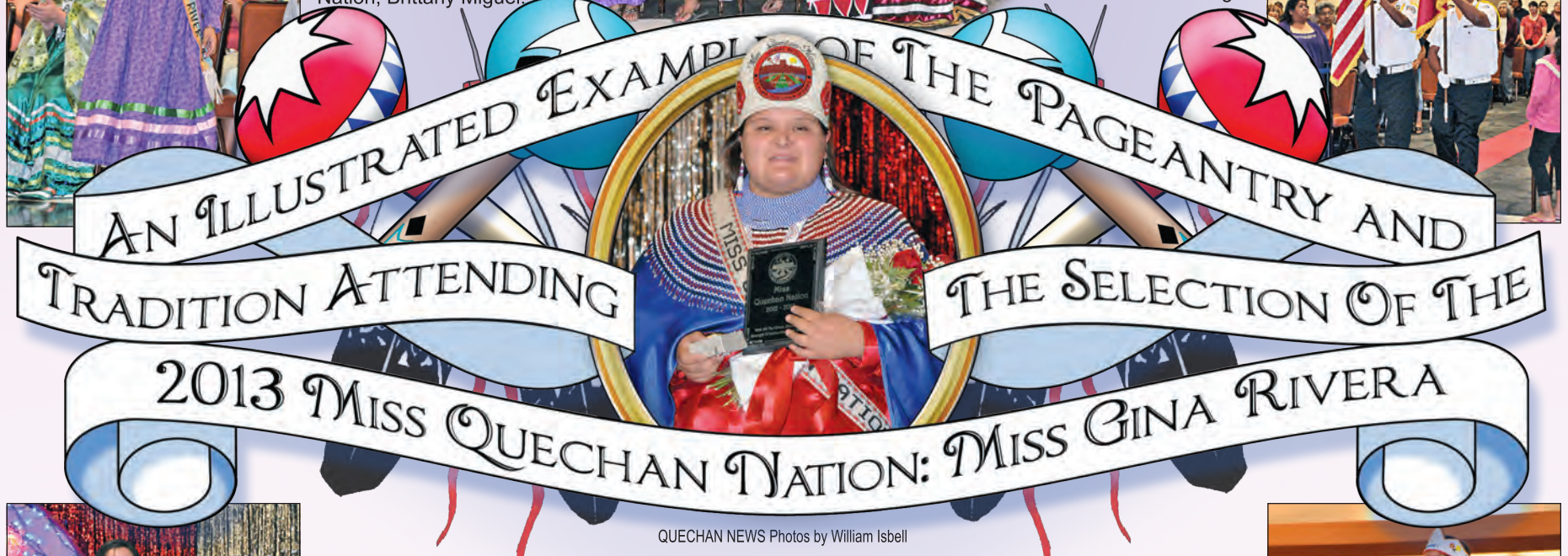
**Proceeds Will Benefit The
STRONG HEARTS NATIVE SOCIETY**
For Information Call San Pasqual School
(760) 572-0222 Ext. 2231



Visiting Native Royalty included this year's new Miss CRIT Jennifer Corona (at left) as well as their Junior Miss, Little Miss, and the 2012/2013 Miss Cocopah, all seen at right with the outgoing Miss Quechan Nation, Brittany Miguel.



Quechan Post 802 members Colin Soto and Milson Jose (seen at right) began the evening's program with the traditional presentation of the colors, marching the flags of the United States and the Quechan Nation up to the corners of stage.



Gina whoops loudly during the dance competition. Vernon Smith (below) was one of the singers who performed along with her.



Singers performing at this year's pageant included Zion White, Brendan Jose, Caine Palone, Daniel Murphy, Vincent Tiger and Isaiah Vasquez. Here, they are on stage singing for the visiting royalty.



Miss Cocopah Shelyne Twist stands to be recognized (above), and Brittany beams at Gina and her first attendant, Catherine.



An entirely new Pageant Committee took charge of the Miss Quechan Nation Pageant this year, making a couple of small but important changes to the program, in the interest of "moving things along". The changes resulted in a shorter, but hopefully more professional presentation.

One change was to have both contestants, Miss Catherine Kelly and Miss Gina Rivera, share the stage for the all-important traditional

dance competition. Another was the addition of a requirement to have the contestants step forward and speak about the "platform" they hoped to develop throughout their reign over the coming year, to give an indication of their public speaking skills as they each explain their plans for raising public awareness of an important subject near to their hearts.

The final big change was the institution of the position of "First Attendant", which goes

to the first runner-up. The job of the First Attendant will be to travel with Miss Quechan from time-to-time, or even stand in for her if two important events are scheduled for different locations at the same time. This will give the Tribe further public exposure in the form of another public face for the Tribe, and allow the runner-up an opportunity to receive a little on-the-job training, in case something happens and she has to

Continued inside on Page 7

