

QUECHAN NEWS

Volume 106, Issue 6 ♦ Wednesday, March 28, 2012

In This Issue:

Nutrition Education
Page 2

Bus Stops Relocated
Page 3

Election Board
Story Corrected
Page 4

Basketball Success
Page 5

SDPI Step Challenge
Winners Named
Page 6

Vandalism at Park
Page 7

Airshow Afterparty
Back Page

Items Of Special Interest
To Tribe Members



Look For This Symbol

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

is published by

The Quechan Indian Tribe

350 Picacho Road

Winterhaven, Ca. 92283

Phone: (760)572-3912

Email: w.isbell@quechantribe.com

Spring Time Means Athletics at Ft. Yuma

The Quechan Parks and Recreation staff are heading into their busy season now, with any number of athletic programs either starting soon, in full swing, or using their facilities, both indoors and out, at the same time.

Many more Tribal members have signed up to be a part of the Yuma City Little League this year. The City's Little League held their opening ceremonies at Desert Sun Stadium in Yuma on Saturday, March 17, and then spread out to make use of almost every field in the area, including the baseball diamond just east of the Quechan Community Center.

Little League will be using the Quechan athletic field Monday through Thursday evenings from 6:00 PM on, and will also make use of the field on Saturdays, until May 24th. Saturday games begin at 8:15 AM, and are followed by more games every couple of hours, finishing up around 4:00 PM.

Even the smallest Tribal members get "spring fever" in



As Quechan Head Start teachers Sandra and Maria watch, their Room C student, André Shepard sinks a basket at the Community Center gym. Waiting for their turns (from left) are Keegan Nuñez (in green), Dylan Emerson (in the background) and Jonathan Smith (in blue). QUECHAN NEWS Photo by William Isbell

March! Quechan Head Start students were playing soccer the first week of the month, then T-ball the second, basketball the third week and they get to play all three this week!

Many more options are open for team sports, and the ad inside on page 4 gives the dead-

lines and entry fees for those who want to sign up.

And don't forget, the Annual Winner Take All Men's Basketball Tournament, scheduled to take place on May 11 and 12.

Quechan Parks and Recreation has sent out flyers to area teams and businesses, inviting

everyone to sign up for their chance at winning \$1500 cash for taking on and beating all challengers in the greatly anticipated double elimination tournament. First and second place teams will also win T-Shirts, as will the All-Tourney and Most Valuable players!

Nutrition Education Program Receives USDA Grant Funding

In an early March press release, Agriculture Secretary Tom Vilsack announced the awarding of grants funded through USDA's Food Distribution Program on Indian Reservations (FDPIR) to provide nutrition education materials and resources for children and parents in tribal communities in nine states. The Quechan Tribe was among the 17 Tribes listed as grantees, receiving \$10,811 to develop nutrition education projects that will incorporate USDA Dietary Guidelines recommendations *within our Native American culture*.

"We are committed to working with tribal communities to drive economic growth, create opportunities through business and agriculture, and to improve the health and well-being of native families," said Vilsack.

The Quechan Tribe's grant funded project should promote healthy kids and healthy families by making sure they have access to nutritious food, education and the support they need to ensure healthy habits. "With that winning combination we can help to reduce and prevent childhood obesity and ensure a stronger future for Indian country," according to the Secretary.

The Quechan Tribe's Nutrition Education Project will be a joint effort of both the Special Diabetes Project (SDPI) and Debbie Hill of the Quechan Food Distribution Department.



Funds will go to nutrition education projects, such as the vegan cooking class, held in the IHS kitchen in 2009. QNEWS Archive Photo, William Isbell

According to the grant application, the six-month project will consist of food preparation classes and physical activity demonstrations to help improve the health and well-being of Tribal members and program participants.

Both the classes and the demonstrations will be conducted by both program staff and qualified independent contractors brought in for their expertise in their specific field. All educational activities will be held here on the reservation, to ensure the maximum number of potential participants, and to make it easy to get to any activity associated with the Quechan Nutrition Education Project.

"We plan to conduct 10 food preparation classes by September 30 of this year," says Debbie Hill. "And our plans are to enroll 10 to 15 participants in

each class, but we can always make room if more people want to participate."

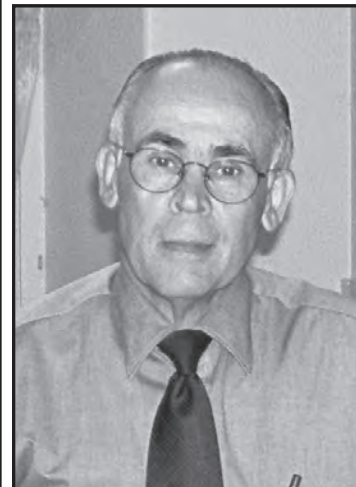
Food preparation classes are planned twice a month for five months, and will be conducted by a Registered Dietician, who will focus on preparing recipes with fruits, vegetables, and whole grains.

The fitness portion of the program will begin with an analysis using the Wellness Center's Polar Body Age system, to assess each person's actual body age through strength, flexibility and Vo2 assessments. Diet analysis will also take the participant's Body Age into account.

"Everyone will have their Body Age re-checked every 8 to 12 weeks," says Lisa Ball at SDPI. "The whole plan is to use this program to help people get healthy enough to lower their actual Body Age."

Fast Facts Ask About... High Blood Pressure

What Should I Know About High Blood Pressure?



Dr. A. Rivera

Blood pressure is created by the force of blood pushing against the walls of the arteries as they resist the flow of blood. When the force is too great, it's called high blood pressure or hypertension.

- For most adults:
 - Normal blood pressure is less than 120/80 mm Hg.
 - Prehypertension (the possible beginnings of high blood pressure is between 120/80 and 130/89 mm Hg.
 - High blood pressure is consistently 140/90 mm Hg or above.

- About 1 in 3 American adults has high blood pressure.
- Most people with high blood pressure do not have any symptoms.
- If left untreated, high blood pressure can lead to heart attack, heart failure, stroke, kidney disease or vision problems.
- High blood pressure cannot be cured, but it can be managed.

What Can I Do About High Blood Pressure?

- Lifestyle choices that can help lower blood pressure include:
 - Loosing weight*
 - Exercising regularly*
 - Eating a diet low in salt and rich in fresh fruits, vegetables and whole grains.
 - Limiting alcohol to moderate amounts (no more than 1 or 2 drinks a day).

* Be sure to take your medications exactly as your doctor prescribes—and order refills from the pharmacy or an online mail order program before you run out. Once you reach your blood pressure goal, you will still need to take your medicine as directed to manage your blood pressure.

Don't Wait!

Talk to your doctor about how you can get to your blood pressure goal today!

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?

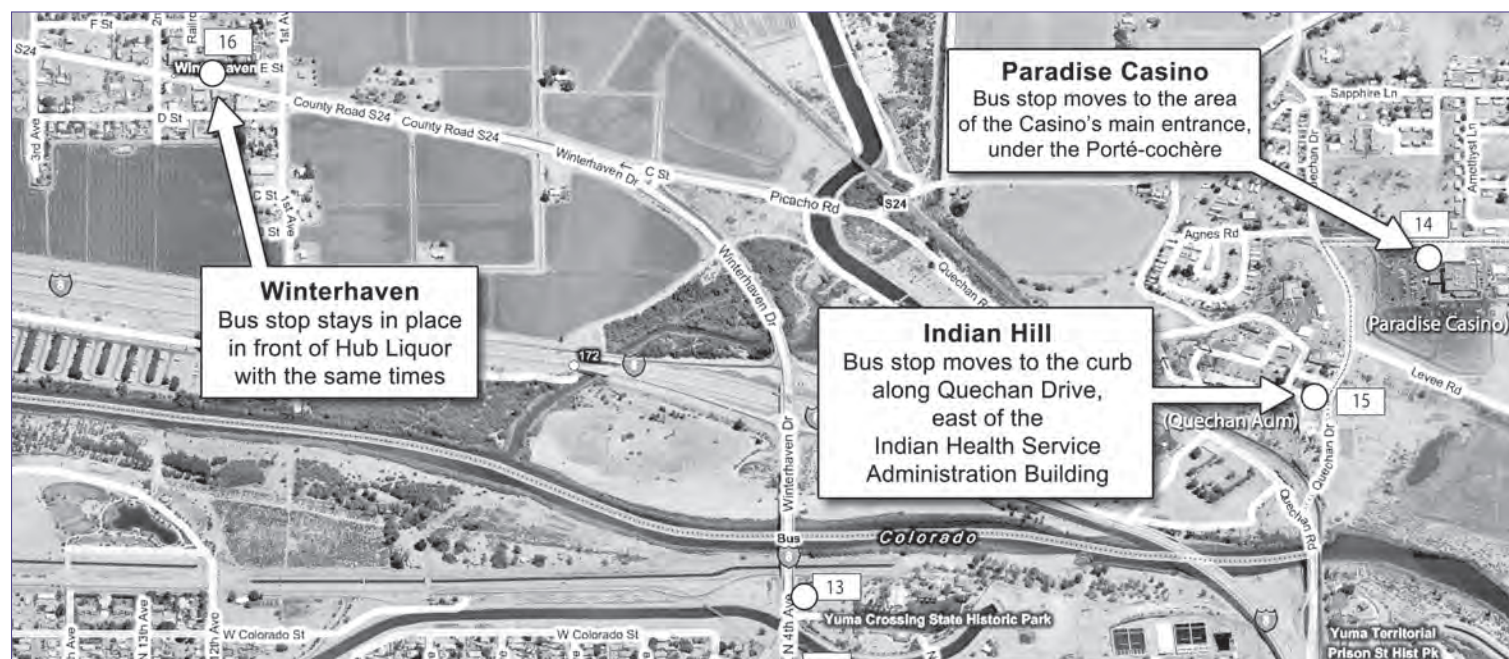
Quechan News is here to cover the special events and everyday lives of Quechan Tribe Members, and the issues that affect you in the world today. This newsletter is here to keep the lines of communication open, to expand opportunities, and uplift the Native Spirit of the Kwat'san Pipá. Your ideas and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



Progress & Development

Changes To YCAT Bus Stops In The Indian Hill Area



An aerial view of Fort Yuma from Indian Hill to Winterhaven shows the new locations for the two YCAT bus stops serving the government center/Paradise Casino area. Service to both of these stops will begin on Monday, April 2nd.

Legends added to YCAT Graphic by William Isbell

Beginning next Monday, April 2, Red Route service provided by Yuma County Area Transit will no longer be using the bus stops located at Agnes Road and Quechan Drive, or at Indian Hill near the Tribal Administration building. The bus will now stop at the Paradise Casino main entrance under the Porté-cochère, with another stop along Quechan Drive on Indian Hill east of the IHS Administration building.

As often happens when rolling out new services, changes must be made along the way and YCAT's extended service is no different. YCAT initially proposed that the extended Red

Route stop at Paradise Casino, but several issues had to be worked through first by casino's management, TGO, EDA, YCAT and the Tribal Council.

The current bus stop locations were in place until it was clear that all the issues could be addressed. Once all issues were cleared up, the Tribal Council agreed to designate the stop at the Paradise Casino.

Allyson Collins, EDA Specialist with the Quechan Economic Development Administration, explains the benefit of relocating the previous bus stop (which once picked up passengers at the corner of Agnes Road and Quechan Drive this

way: "We made these efforts, so that riders catching the bus at Paradise Casino will enjoy the benefits of a brightly lit bus stop, with protection from the sun and rain, and easy access to walking paths to and from the housing subdivisions."

Riders in wheelchairs who have appointments at the Ft. Yuma IHS Clinic are encouraged to arrange drop-off or pick-up service at the IHS parking lot. Just tell the bus driver you are going to the IHS Clinic when you first get on the bus, or call YCAT at (928) 783-2235 prior to the bus arriving at the Paradise Casino stop.

With the bus stop changes,

the Tribe seeks the membership's understanding and cooperation and anticipates the changes will work for all who ride the YCAT Red Route. Notices about the changes will be posted at the current bus stops.

Bus schedule times have not changed.

The Red Route will continue making stops at Paradise Casino at 7:43, 8:43, 10:43 and 11:43 AM, and at 12:43, 2:43, 3:43, 4:43 and 6:43 PM Monday through Friday at 10:43 and 11:43 AM, and 12:43, 2:43, 3:43, and 4:43 PM on Saturday.

Hub Liquor bus stop times are at 6:43, 9:43 AM, 1:43, and 5:43 PM Monday through Fri-

day and at 9:43 AM and 1:43 PM on Saturdays. You can also request connecting trips on the Imperial Valley Transit Route 300 bus (to and from El Centro) at Hub Liquor at 6:28 AM and 7:30 PM only on Wednesdays, by calling (928) 783-2235.

There is no transit service on Sundays or holidays.

YCAT reports that ridership is picking up. In the first few weeks of February the bus serving the Reservation stops and Winterhaven had about 1 rider per week. By the first week of March, ridership picked up to about 6 riders per week at the Indian Hill stops and about 5 riders per week in Winterhaven.

EDA is continuing work on implementing additional transit services with the FTA Tribal Transit Program grant. A public meeting was held on January 25th to hear ideas about possible bus stops for the local and casino shuttle service. EDA will be sharing maps in a future *Quechan News* story to obtain more feedback before any decisions are made.

As always, if you have any questions, please contact Allyson Collins at the Quechan EDA at (760) 572-5270.

For YCAT route information please go to www.ycat.org or ask the bus driver for the latest route information, or you can get route information in the Tribal Administration Lobby.

Get Smart With Sharps! Election Board: We Did NOT Resign!



Quechan Utilities introduced a new educational effort, and their own practical answer to the recurring problem of proper disposal of “medical sharps” (commonly known as needles and lancets), at the recent Native American HIV/AIDS Day Gathering on March 16th. Tarryn Villicaña and Mike Duran of the Utilities Department were on hand handing out free, puncture proof sharps containers (with clear “Biohazard Warning” labels). Utilities still has a few containers available, as well as instructions on how to make your own out of thick walled plastic detergent and bleach bottles, if you have nothing else at home to hold your used sharps. It is *NEVER* a good idea to throw used needles in the trash, or to flush them down the toilet. Your sharps container should also be sealed with tape once it is full. Your used official (red) sharps containers may be dropped off at IHS Housekeeping. Photo Courtesy of Quechan Utilities

The previous issue of the *Quechan News* contained an article which stated that the Quechan Election Board had resigned as a group in late February. That story was in error.

Election Board Clerk Melanie C. Bard phoned the Quechan News office on the morning of March 14 to say she had not resigned, and demanded a retraction of that story. She also said she was in the process of writing a complete explanation of events, and would be providing that information via email to the newsletter coordinator within the day. As of publication, neither that email nor a printed copy of Ms. Bard’s version of events have been delivered to the *Quechan News*.

Although the headline of the story in the previous issue was

misleading, it was based on direct statements made by Election Board Judge Dorinda Iron Cloud, in the Election Board office with Melanie Bard present, when Judge Iron Cloud delivered a copy of the Board’s written statement to the Quechan Newsletter Coordinator.

Apparently, Judge Iron Cloud was only expressing the frustration she (and others on the Election Board) felt they had reached in dealing with the Quechan Tribal Council. It is my understanding that perhaps Dorinda Iron Cloud was only “thinking out loud” and considering options when she said they “quit” and that “the Tribal Council will have to get a new Election Board” if they expected to move forward with any new elections.

I am sorry for any upset the

article may have caused. However, the Election Board has made themselves entirely unavailable for comment or contact by the Quechan Newsletter since late February, and that lack of availability only reinforced the impression that they had, in fact, left their office for good. (Perhaps a better headline for the article in Issue 5 might have been “*Election Board Issues Statement, Walks Out*”.)

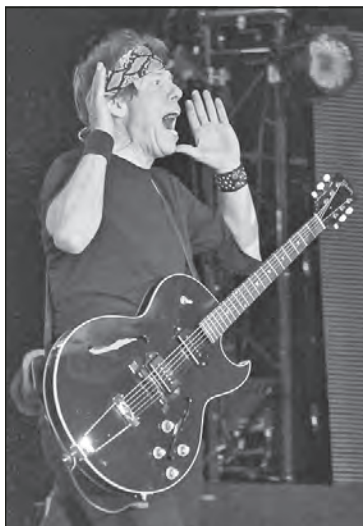
As of today, the Election Board is back on the job.

It turns out that only one member of the Quechan Election Board has resigned, alternate member Danelle O’Neal. A new alternate may be named at the next regular Council meeting on April 3rd.

William Isbell,

Newsletter Coordinator

BIG CONCERTS AT THE Q!



Whipping the audience into a frenzy, George Thorogood shouts encouragement to the audience during his March 10th concert.

QUECHAN NEWS Photo by William Isbell

March saw the Quechan Casino ♠ Resort finishing out this year’s winter concert season, hosting the last of three suc-

cessful shows as George Thorogood and the Destroyers had the Pipa Event Center rockin’ with screaming, excited fans.

Keith Sweat began the concert triple-play, opening at the Q on Friday evening, February 10th. His show, an R&B extravaganza, featured songs such as “I Want Her” (a number one R&B hit), “Make It Last Forever” (a number 2 hit), and “Something Just Ain’t Right” (which made it to number three), all from hits first album, which has sold over three million copies since it was first released in late 1987.

Keith’s show had the audience dancing in the aisles and had many audience members singing their favorites as they drove home later.

It was a similar scene at the

Pipa two weeks later, as the still popular Australian soft rock duo, *Air Supply* brought their late ‘70’s and early ‘80’s sound to Yuma.

Though it’s been years since they’ve had a Top 40 hit in America, Graham Russell and Russell Hitchcock have continued to record and tour heavily throughout Asia and in select U.S. venues. Luckily for us, the Quechan Casino ♠ Resort is on their “select venues” list.

“Keith Sweat and Air Supply were close to being sold out,” says Petra Nielsen, Director of Marketing at the Q. “We only had about 300 seats left!”

So it’s no surprise that “Bad to the Bone” George Thorogood only upped the ante when he blew in with his rockabilly riot on March 10th!

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 second quarter of 2012 is Friday, June 1, 2012, at 5:00 PM. Completed applications must include the following support 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.I.

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

Quechan Coaches Find Basketball Success



San Pasqual middle school Wildcats include Coach Sandy Palone (at left), Isaiah Short, Andrew Limones, Kain Tecumseh, Isaac Collins, Luis Avalos, Gabriel Gilbert and Coach Tony Palone. Adam Wong and Branden Laurenzana hold the team's 3rd Place Division Trophy. Not pictured is José Vaca, Jr.

Anthony and Sandy Palone would like to take the time to recognize the hard work and dedication of the three basketball teams they coach: the San Pasqual Middle School Boys Wildcats, City of Yuma Parks and Recreation 4th through 6th grade boys team, the Wildcats, and the City of Yuma Parks and Recreation 6th through 8th grade girls team, the Monarchs.

The San Pasqual Wildcats finished the season taking third

place in their division, while the boys city team, the Wildcats, made it to the second round of playoffs. "That was very exciting for us," says Coach Sandy, "because we are an expansion team with mostly 4th graders!"

"Our Monarchs girls team, on the other hand, took the Saturday, March 17th City Championship against the L'Ballers with a score of 43-19!"

"This was extremely great for us because our daughters Anto-

nia and Sonya Palone were able to share this honor together."

Both Sandy and Anthony say they are very proud of all the hard work the kids put into the season. "We would also like to acknowledge Daniel Williams and Elisa Nitelet for making the All City Team in their leagues and Stone Braveheart for being selected as outstanding 4th grader in the league. We also want to thank our parents for their dedication to the teams as well and to Dr. Robert Ogie, D.D.S., for sponsoring our 4th-6th grade Wildcat team."



All three team photos provided by Sandy Palone

The City of Yuma Boys 4th to 6th Grade "Wildcats" are at right, above. In the front is Christopher Eaves. In the second row (L-R) are Adrian Limones, Joel Ray, Isaac Hall and Isaac Moreno. In the rear: Angelo Palone, Jovan Aguirre, Coach Stone, Stone Braveheart, Daniel Williams and Coach Tony.

The Monarchs, the 6th - 8th grade City of Yuma girls team includes: Sonya Palone and Nadine Gil (holding the sign), in front of Ny-Lyn Duncan, Samantha Morales Jayna Owens, Erica Baldenegro and Antonia Palone. In the rear are Coach Sandy, Elisa Nitelet, Alexis Stephens and Coach Tony.

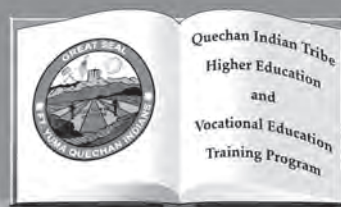


PUBLIC NOTICE

A Non-Point Source Assessment Report and Non-Point Source Management Plan have been prepared by the Quechan Environmental Department.

These documents identify sources of non-point source pollution on the Fort Yuma Indian Reservation and list best management practices to prevent or reduce these pollution sources.

These documents are available for review and comment at The Quechan Environmental Office throughout the month of April (from April 1-30, 2012, during business hours).



**Quechan Higher Education
2012 Fall Semester
Grant Application Deadline:**

JUNE 01, 2012

**Phone:
(760) 572-5268**

**Applications can be picked up at the
Higher Education Office located at:**

**628 Picacho Road
Winterhaven, CA 92283**

**Application
Requirements are
Listed On The
Grant
Application**

A Rewarding Lunch for Step Challenge Winners

This year's Quechan employees winter step challenge, sponsored by the Tribe's Special Diabetes Project for Indians (SDPI) wrapped up on March 12 after 8 weeks of increasingly fierce competition.

Throughout the contest, the Diabetes Wellness Center staff used a spreadsheet program to carefully track and record the miles walked by every member of all 24 teams entered. A few teams quickly established themselves as the leaders, and they were soon battling it out for the lead. The members of those teams were rewarded by the SDPI staff with an outdoor lunch and award ceremony last Friday at the Diabetes Walking Park near the Colorado River.

The winners of this year's Step Challenge were the Thunder Cats Part 2. Their captain was Peter Escalanti IV of the Quechan Maintenance Crew. His four teammates are fellow Facilities and Maintenance staff members Lionel Montague and Emmett Hart, and Quechan Casino Resort employees Indira Page and Anna Miller. All together, they have accumulated a total of 2,050.811 miles at the end of 8 weeks, for an average of about 410 miles per team member! Team Captain Escalanti, who also ran the Territorial Marathon near Somerton in January, set a great example as his team's leader, with 547.775 miles on his pedometer!

Second place was awarded to the Speed Angels, made up of Team Captain Karen Preston and her fellow Head Start employees, Sandra Figueroa, Danette Joaquin, Maria Al-



Lining up for a healthy lunch are Special Diabetes Step Challenge participants Lori Vest, Georgia Hills and Angel Townsend. Jessy Aguirre of the Special Diabetes Project is serving them freshly roasted lean meat and veggie kabobs with brown rice! Q NEWS Photo by William Isbell

faro and Annette Derma. They managed to stay in the top 3 for almost the entire 8 weeks of the Step Challenge.

When the dust settled on March 11th, the 'Angels' had 1,694.238 miles. Their leading walker, Sandra Figueroa, was responsible for just under 498 miles of their total!

Another Head Start employees team, the Speed Queens (made up of Team Captain Penny Correa, with Pat Munger, Lois Haley, Margaret Barajas and Dorothy Davis), jumped out front the first week, gaining a total of 162.2 miles between them. Although they fell out of the top 3 for a couple of weeks, the Speed Queens managed to come back to take the top spot by the end of week 5, and held on to take 3rd place for teams with a total of 1,649.511 miles.

Their top walker, Dorothy Davis, racked up an incredible 733.7, beating the winning team's captain by over 185 miles! Not only that, some of this year's teams made up of five walkers only managed to

cover a few hundred miles. Yet these two individuals, Dorothy Davis and Pete Escalanti, easily beat the totals of a number of the full-size teams!

But, here's a surprise: neither Dorothy nor Pete managed to grab the Most Valuable Player Award!

This year's MVP Award for the Winter Step Challenge went to Barrie Tibbits, of the Quechan Tribal Court, for her ability to motivate a group that normally doesn't sign up for these kinds of activities. Even though her team, the Quechan Quick Steppers only managed to accumulate 233 miles over the course of the eight week challenge, Barrie still brought in her team's pedometers to be checked and recorded every single Monday.

"The actual amount of exercise isn't the only thing we're concerned with," explains Rosie Herrera, who kept track of everyone's progress.

"It's your ability to stick with the program and keep going, that we're after!"

Quechan Parks & Rec. Presents: The Co-Ed Jr. High Spring Jam Basketball Tournament!



April 13 and 14, 2012

Entry Fee: \$100.00

Deadline: April 6

**1ST - 3RD Place Teams
Receive Shirts**

All Tourneys: Medals

MVP: Plaque

AND THE SPRING SLAM CO-ED HIGH SCHOOL BASKETBALL TOURNAMENT!

April 20th, 2012

Entry Fee: \$150.00

Deadline: April 6

1ST Place: Long Sleeve Shirts

2ND & 3RD Place: T-Shirts

All Tourneys: Medals

MVP: Plaque



And Don't Forget: The Kindergarten to 2nd Grade

PEE WEE BASKETBALL

*Games Will Be Played On Saturdays This Spring
SO SIGN UP NOW, WHILE THERE IS STILL TIME!*

Registration for the 16 Years and Older Co-ed Volleyball League

*has been extended to
this Friday, March 30th
at 5:00 PM!*

Entry Fee is only \$75.00!



**For More Information Or To Register
For Any Of These Sports Activities, Contact:**

QUECHAN PARKS & REC
(760) 572-1242 Weekdays From 8 to 5

TRIBE HOSTS AIR SHOW AFTER PARTY

Continued from Page 8

away from the Air Station!

That event was the “Airshow Afterparty,” which gave the public a chance to mingle with the pilots and aircrews of performers like the Air Force Thunderbirds precision demonstration team, the “Tora! Tora! Tora!” aerial attack of Pearl Harbor reenactment, and the pilots of the Navy’s F/A-18E Super Hornets, among many others.

With both the Q and Paradise Casino enjoying exclusive sponsorship as Yuma’s local airshow casinos, they were able to use the Yuma Airshow logo along with their own as “presenting sponsors” in advertising and promotion for 6 weeks prior to the event. The Quechan Tribe was also able to increase awareness of our facilities and events on the Casino’s website and on screen in theater advertising, and social networking, e-mail and web campaigns.

Those visiting the Airshow also noticed our presence, since the Quechan Tribe’s Casinos also had a VIP Corporate Hospitality and Food Chalet at the

center of the Airshow, as well as an unrestricted viewing area with comfortable seating for 60 guests nearby!

“We donated 30 hotel rooms for US Marine officers to stay at the Q,” explains Marketing Director Petra Nielsen, “and provided catering and service for all 18 chalets on the flightline. We even lent the Marines the casino’s bleachers to use at this event.” With Casino signage placed all around the flightline and on the bleachers, an estimated 55,000+ airshow attendees became much more familiar with the Quechan Tribe while at the show!

“In addition the 30 Marine officers staying at the Q, all of the Thunderbird pilots stayed at the Q throughout the week. They paid for their rooms,” explains Mrs. Nielsen.

The pilots enjoyed a special dinner in the Pipa Event Center on the evening of March 17, followed by the Airshow Afterparty in the Pipa’s “pre-function area,” to mingle with fans, sign autographs, and share stories.

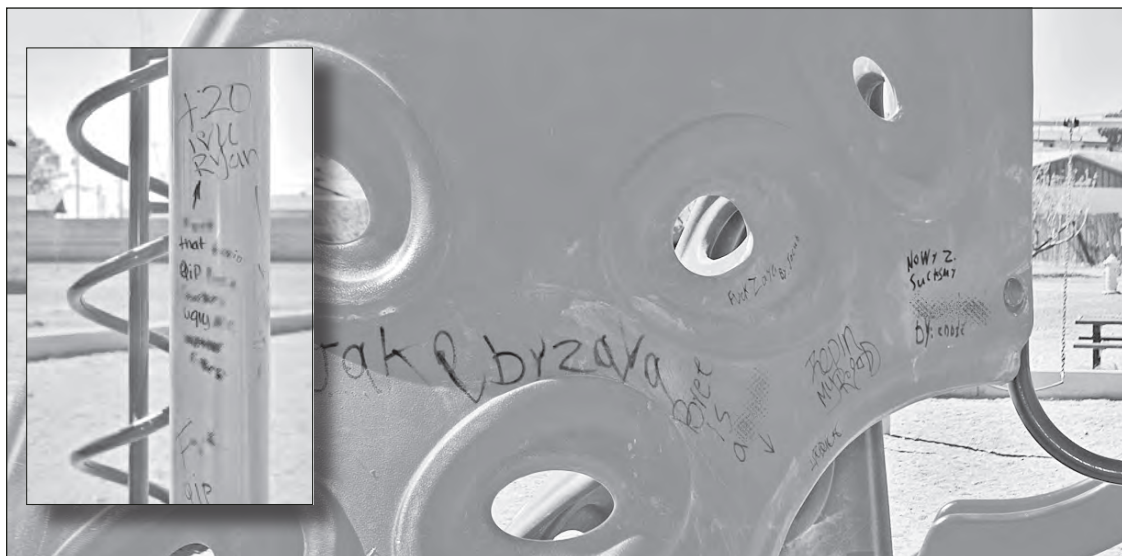


**Offers a Low Cost Spay and Neuter Clinic on the
Yuma 4th Avenue extension at 3780 S 4TH Ave. #H1**

**Dogs only applications can be picked up at
the Quechan Tribe Administration office.**

**For more information please contact
Melissa Montague at (760) 572-0213**

New Playground Already Damaged by Vandals



Although the **really bad words** are blurred in these photos, you can see some of the damage done here. These climbing structures are some of the playground equipment that have been defaced with both obscene words and derogatory comments about the Tribe’s Police Department. Q NEWS Photos by William Isbell

The Quechan Tribally Designated Housing Entity (or QTDHE) has been busy over the last few months, putting the final touches on a project that has put a new face on the park in the old subdivision.

The project was a joint venture, with the playground and some trees paid for by a grant from the Quechan Special Diabetes Project for Indians (SDPI). QTDHE also used funds from their Indian Housing Block Grant to hire an engineer to provide a design to satisfy both the recreational needs of neighborhood kids and provide for storm water retention.

“All of the playground equipment was installed by late January of last year,” says Lisa Ball of the SDPI. “and I was down there recently and saw that kids have written vulgar stuff all over it.” She immediately put in a Police Report with the QPD, and she’s also been assured that “the QTDHE is also investigating the graffiti.”

“If we catch the kids who are doing it, at the least we want them and their parents to take responsibility for cleaning it up, if it will even come off!” she says. “Our playground installer said it may be impossible to get it off of the plastic parts.”

In the meantime, work on the park continues. Local contractor DPE completed work on the grading in early February, which was followed by installation of the irrigation system by Yuma Desert Landscaping, a local tribally-owned company.

YDL also planted a variety of trees. Quechan Utilities also repaired a nearby piping connection and had the system tested and up and running in late February. QTDHE then put in decorative rock and sand for the playground area once all of the curbing was finished. TERO workers also prepared the park for planting grass seed, which should be in by this week.

“This park is a long-awaited benefit and beautification of

the neighborhood,” says Tad Zavodsky of the QTDHE. “It will soon be followed by the ICDBG Roads & Sidewalks Improvement Project on the south side of the Old Subdivision, putting in new curbs, sidewalks, driveways and streets, to match the previous work done on the north side. The project should be starting this summer and will provide some temporary construction laborers jobs for local residents.”

“Although the QTDHE Security Force and QPD both patrol the area, it is going to take community awareness to maintain the park in good condition.”

“We encourage parents to keep their children from defacing or damaging landscaping or equipment in the park and to report any destructive activity they observe to our office.”

Residents who would like to be involved in a community watch program should contact Pilar Trujillo, Tenant Relations Officer at (760) 572-0243.

QUECHAN TRIBE HOSTS AIRSHOW AFTER PARTY AT THE Q



While the USAF Thunderbirds were a major draw (above), many airshow fans also enjoyed the chance to see both old and new Marine aircraft (below).

Replicas of Japanese warplanes (above) "attacked" the Air Station. Later, their pilots were surrounded by autograph seekers at the Q (below right).



One of Yuma's biggest draws in tourism visitors every winter is the Annual Airshow at the Yuma Marine Corps Air Station. Each year, over a month of constant television and ra-

dio advertising, reinforced by "human interest" stories on the news whets the appetite of aviation, action and history buffs, anticipating the opportunity to gather on the normally restrict-

ed MCAS flightline to touch, climb on and possibly sit in all sorts of military hardware, from both today and the past.

This year's MCAS Airshow was particularly important, as it

commemorated both the 100th Anniversary of Marine Corps Aviation and the 50th year the Yuma Air Station has opened their gates to the public to host the free airshow.

And as a major sponsor, the Quechan Casino ♠ Resort was the only business in Yuma to hold an airshow related event anywhere, either on base or
(Continued inside on Page 7)

COME OUT & ENJOY

The Quechan Diabetes Project

KICK BALL

Tournament

This Friday, March 30, 2012!

The Games "KICK OFF"

at 5:30 PM at the Quechan

Parks and Recreation

BASEBALL/ATHLETIC FIELD!

Have a Happy Easter

Join Us At The Annual Quechan Easter Egg Hunt

At The Diabetes Walking Park
On Saturday, March 31, 2012
Beginning at 10:00 AM!

Easter Baskets
For All The Kids
Infants to 12 Yrs!

For More Information Contact
Quechan ADAPP at (760)572-0232
or Quechan Parks & Recreation
at (760)572-1242

Hot Dogs,
Hamburgers,
Chips, Sodas
and Water!

