MEMORIAL DAY IS MONDAY, MAY 27
ETSKA NAV AH PAI THE NEWS CARRIER

QUECHAN NEWS

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Have A Story To Tell? Send It In Via Email!

Area Governments Support New IHS Health Center



Quechan, Cocopah and IHS representatives stand with members of the Arizona Legislature on April 16th, after both the State House and Senate passed resolutions in support of the construction of new Indian Health facilities at Fort Yuma. Tribal Council member Cyndee Clivia Miller and President Keeny Escalanti, Sr. hold a copy of the Resolution, standing next to Arizona Speaker of the House Andy Tobin, one of its signatories. Surrounding them are Cocopah Tribal members Sharon Sink and Raelynn Connors and Coleen Jefferson of the Quechan Tribe; Cocopah Tribal Councilman Neil White, Arizona State Senator Lynn Pancrazi, Quechan Tribal Councilmen Virgil Smith and Emilio Escalanti, Quechan Tribal member Gabriel Massey, Arizona House member Lisa Otondo, Fort Yuma IHS CEO Daryl Melvin, Arizona House member Juan Carlos Escamilla, Maricopa Medical Society CEO Sara Pressler and Cocopah Tribal member Terry Lamb. QUECHAN NEWS Photo by William Isbell

Since 2012, a joint delegation of Quechan and Cocopah Tribal Council members have been working together to attain funding for a new Fort Yuma Health Care Center.

"Last year we traveled to Washington, D.C. to meet with our Nation's leaders and share the need for the new facility," explains Quechan Tribal Council member Clivia Cyndee Miller. "Although the presentation was well received, the possibility of a federal sequestration loomed in the air. The sequestration in fact became reality and we are now facing the impacts of those automatic budget cuts."

Despite the tough federal budget climate, the joint delegation has continued their lobbying efforts, meeting with local governments and other agencies to alert them to the health care needs of the Fort Yuma community.

The legislative bodies of the four governmental entities bordering the Quechan nation all passed resolutions in support of a new Fort Yuma Indian Health Care Center, as the delegations' efforts began to show concrete results over recent weeks.

The City of Yuma came through first, with a resolution passed at their February 6th City Council meeting. The resolution notes the age, deterioration and seismic concerns of the current aging facilities on Indian Hill, and gives the City's strong support to "the design and construction of the replacement Fort Yuma Health Center as the principal facility for providing primary health care services for the people of the Cocopah Tribe and the Quechan Tribe."

The Imperial County Board of Supervisors followed up with a similar resolution at their April 17th meeting.

The following Monday, April 22nd, the delegation traveled to Phoenix with a number of Tribal members to witness State Representatives Juan Carlos Escamilla and Lisa Otondo read the Arizona House Recognition of Support. Across the Capitol Plaza, State Senator Lynne Pancrazi read the Arizona Senate Recognition of Support for the Fort Yuma Health Care Center at the same time.

The joint delegation included all four documents of support from local governments in the presentation they made to federal representatives during their April 23-25, 2013 mission to Washington, D.C.

You Can Help In The Push For A New IHS Health Clinic

Last week, Tribal Council members Michael Jack and Virgil Smith prepared a letter for the Tribal membership, reporting on their recent trip to Washington, D.C., and the pressing need for a permanent solution to the antiquated and potentially dangerous Indian Health Service facilities at Fort Yuma.

In the letter, they note that construction funds are allocated in President Obama's budget, with those funds divided between all of the Tribes in the United States. If the schedule of distributions is followed, the Council expects construction to begin sometime in 2015.

In the meantime, the Indian Health Service is attempting to construct a temporary modular facility due to known safety concerns related to the dilapidated facilities we are currently forced to use. *It is imperative that we do not get stuck with a temporary modular facility and then be passed by for funding from the federal government.*

Therefore, the Tribal Council is working to get an understanding in place so that both the Quechan and Cocopah Tribes may be ensured that a $46 Million facility *will be constructed* which our Tribes' membership can share with the other Tribes in our area.

To help in that process, all Tribal members are encouraged to write letters to the Fort Yuma IHS Director, Mr. Daryl Melvin, which he can then forward on to the IHS Area Director and others above him.

They ask that you include your own comments on the following points when you write:

◆ The Fort Yuma IHS facility is the oldest in the entire nation.

◆ Currently, the foundation of the Fort Yuma Clinic suffers from major cracks due to the age of the structure and past earthquake damage. The seismic rank of the structure is either negative, or, at best, zero.

◆ Once we have the new facility (as it is planned "on the drawing board"), *services not currently offered* in dental, podiatry, radiology and dialysis *will be offered*, once the staff and equipment to support those services are in place.

◆ The Quechan Tribe has already committed 12.3 acres of land for the project site, and a joint agreement between the Quechan and Cocopah on financial contributions of $1.7 Million has been reached, as well as $2.2 Million in facility design. Also, surrounding governments including the Yuma City Council, Imperial County Board of Supervisors and the Arizona State Senate and Arizon State House *all* support construction of a new IHS Clinic for the local Yuma Tribes.

The 2014 Federal Budget is currently under debate, so please address your letters to:

Daryl Melvin, P.E.
Chief Executive Officer
Fort Yuma Health Center
P.O. Box 1368
Yuma, AZ 85366

Public Meeting Notice

Quechan Community Center - 5:30 PM to 6:30 PM
Wednesday, May 8, 2013

In response to the closure of the Picacho Landfill, the Quechan Indian Tribe is taking a comprehensive approach to address solid waste issues on the Fort Yuma Indian Reservation, by developing an Integrated Solid Waste Management Plan. The Economic Development Administration will present the Final Draft of the Integrated Solid Waste Management Plan to the community in an effort to receive input on solid waste issues on the Reservation.

CONGRATULATIONS



Patricia Barton
Administrative Assistant at Quechan Human Resources

Flowers by Yvonne
Easter Bouquet Winner

COMMUNITY EXPRESSIONS

Mr. Isbell;

I enjoyed reading the article about Chris Menta. I had no idea there was a Tribal member who provided air conditioning repair and maintenance services here on the rez.

I recently learned that we also have someone here who paints houses.

I think it would be a great idea to see a classified listing in our paper of people who have similar services to offer. Having this as a permanent listing in the paper would help connect people who have needs with the people who can fill those needs.

I hope my letter will encourage people who have a skill or service to offer the community to contact the newsletter and provide their information for a new classified section where they can be listed.

I believe that the *Quechan News* could be of great service to the community with this kind of information.

Sincerely,
Tanya J. Cooper
Tribal Member

Quechan Indian Tribe,

This letter is to thank you for all the support you have provided over the past five years. It has been a truly great experience that I am grateful for and without your contribution and patience I would not have the opportunity to attend the colleges that I have. It has been a privilege being able to represent the Quechan Tribe here at the University of Redlands.

I've had a great opportunity in California to educate other students about my background and where I come from. The number of Native Americans on campus is miniscule. Over the years, I have enlightened countless students about my Native background. They ask various questions to which I feel grateful to educate them on the Native American culture. Now that I am at the end of the road and have reached graduation, I can use my education as a stepping-stone for the betterment of the Tribe and myself. Again, I thank you for the opportunity to pursue my education and fulfill a dream of graduating college.

Thanks,
Tyler Owl, 2013 Graduate,
Business Administration,
University of Redlands

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 this page.

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

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

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

Culture & Heritage

Despite Windmills, Tribes Still Visit Ocotillo For Cultural Purposes





Prior to leaving for Ocotillo on April 19, Vernon Smith (in photo at upper left) explained the controversy which led to the decision to return and hold an all night memorial ceremony to help an ancestor continue on his journey. Once Mr. Smith finished, Preston J. Arrow Weed also spoke (in the lower left photo), reminding them all that "only the Quechan Tribe is continuing the fight now against Pattern Energy." Once the caravan arrived in Ocotillo, Mark Escalanti, Daniel Ortega, Valerie Jose and Christian Lopez led the way, carrying a banner which read "We Want Respect For Our Ancestor's Remains." QUECHAN NEWS Photos by William Isbell



Kumeyaay Tribal members participating in a three-day language immersion camp were also seen in the Ocotillo Valley that same weekend.

At left, Stan Rodriguez from the San Isabel reservation creates an oak throwing stick, which he will use in a learning scenario on Saturday morning to teach children about traditional hunting methods. Kumeyaay from Manzanita, Sycuan, Barona, Viejas and four reservations in Mexico all took part in the camp.

Tribal members continue to frequent the Ocotillo Valley seeking spiritual and cultural renewal, despite the ongoing (and nearly completed) construction of Pattern Energy's Ocotillo Wind Energy Facility (OWEF).

In mid-April, the Pipa Ah Koots Foundation brought together a convoy of Tribal members to follow four spirit runners into the center of the OWEF to spend the night in a ceremony of remembrance. The group travelled from Fort Yuma to Ocotillo in vehicles bearing the legend "We Want Respect For Our Ancestors' Remains".

Prior to their departure, Tribal elder Vernon Smith explained, "Last October, (Pattern's archaeologist) found two human boneswhere they have their wind machines. They took it in and had it tested. It was prehistoric . . . thousands of years old. One of those bones was definitely Native; *Indian*. That bone was charred at each end. So they took it back, they didn't do anything: they just *left it there*."

He went on to say that when the Quechan Tribe found out about this after the fact, "We were upset. We knew we had been cremating for thousnands of years, and we felt that this belonged to *us*." He said the Tribe tried to take possession of the remains, but were denied.

He said that other Tribes to the west knew they didn't cremate, and decided the remains weren't a part of their Tribal history, so they weren't interested in pursuing any claim.

But the Pipa Ah Koots, especially, felt that the desecration of handling, moving and returning the remains in such a casual way required a ceremony, to ensure that the spirit of that person can rest, and return to his journey in peace, knowing that his descendents still care for him.

And so at least twenty of those descendants travelled to the Ocotillo Valley on April 19, 2013 to sing the old songs in his memory, gather around his remains, and send him on his way.

That visit also shows that the Quechan people remain united against the continuing desecration of this sacred valley which the wind machines represent.

Native American Heritage Commission Offers to Mediate Energy Projects While They Also Ask AG for Opinion on Possible Opposition to Ocotillo

The California Native Heritage Commission (NAHC) finally held the meeting promised for mid-February, to discuss the history of the Ocotillo Wind Energy Facility (OWEF) and the efforts of local Tribes to have their concerns heard by the Bureau of Land Management, the Department of Interior and Pattern Energy before the project is completed.

About 20 Quechan Tribal members travelled to San Diego to the California State Building's basement auditorium on April 22nd, ready to add their voices to the Commission's public record.



Quechan Tribe President Keeny Escalanti, Sr. presented each member of the Commission with a printed copy of his comments, so they could follow along as he made his statement on behalf of the Tribe. We can be sure every word he said was entered into the record as he wished it to be. QUECHAN NEWS Photo by William Isbell

While the meeting got underway at 10:00 in the morning, soon after the Commissioners took roll, they cleared the room to begin deliberations in an executive session.

When the Executive Session ended and the public meeting reconvened at 1:15 PM, the Chairman announced their decisions related to a toll road project, as well as whether the NAHC might want to take part in litigation to protect sacred sites located within the Ocotillo Valley.

In both cases, the Commission voted to proceed. They will now ask the California Attorney General's (AG) office to immediately reopen a lawsuit against the Foothill Eastern Transportation Agency, and to request an informal opinion of the AG whether the NAHC has statutory authority to file an *amicus* brief (as friends of the court). Both decisions were reached with 4 votes "yes", 0 against and 0 Commissioners absent.

Once they took care of other business (such as publicizing their move to a new location at 1550 Harbor Blvd., Suite 100 in Sacramento), Chairman James Ramos opened the floor for public comments.

Natalie McHugh, an attorney for Pattern Energy spoke first, summarizing the contents of a printed text her firm had provided at the start of the meeting. Her presentation said, in effect, that the NAHC has no jurisdiction over the BLM or the federal lands where the OWEF is under construction, so they have no legal authority to take any action requested by the Tribes affected by their facility. She also attempted to show that the Campo Kumeyaay Nation feels that Pattern Energy "has taken many actions that go beyond the level of cooperation normally seen [in their dealings with] developers.

She also attempted to argue that everything that they have found since construction began has been small and isolated. According to Ms. McHugh, their on-site archaeologist contacted BLM and the Imperial County Coroner's Office to take possession of those "fragments", and, as a result, Pattern modified their plans to avoid such locations.

Once Pattern's attorney was finished, Chairman Anthony Pico of the Viejas Band of Kumeyaay Indians and Quechan Tribe President Keeny Escalanti, Sr. rose to speak, one after the other, giving a completely different take on Pattern's efforts to accommodate the Tribes concerns.

Both men pointed out the huge numbers of known archaeological and cultural sites located within the immediate area of the OWEF, as well as their repeated efforts to convince the BLM of their belief in the future of renewable energy, so long as that energy does not come at the cost of erasing the evidence of our Native cultural history.

Many of the Tribal members present also rose to speak to the Commissioners, and every one had the same message: The Ocotillo Valley is a sacred site long shared by all Tribes from the Colorado River to the California coast. Every Tribe in the area has songs and stories of passing through "the Valley of Death," travelling between the sacred mountains to hunt, roast agave, and memorialize their ancestors.

Personal representatives from the offices of California Senator Anderson and Representatives Duncan Hunter and Juan Vargas added statements to the record, noting that the entire process leading to the OWEF seemed to be fast-tracked with no concern for the opinions or history of Tribes in the area.

Residents of Ocotillo also spoke of their frustrations in dealing with those pushed through the construction of the wind facility surrounding their town, with no concern for the noise, dust and destruction to the pristine desert environment the project has caused.

Towards the end of the public testimony, Ila Dunsweiler and Preston Arrow Weed, Quechan elders, spoke of the way government agencies "don't protect us when they come to take our land." Mr. Arrow Weed was especially indignant at the way cremains have been picked up and examined by numerous individuals with no thought given to contacting the Tribes for proper handling according to tradition. "This Valley should never have been disturbed," he insists. "I told them if you ever come across something like this to call us, because we have people who deal with such things, but they never called . . . they went and touched it themselves. Would they like it if I went into *their* cemeteries and started touching

Continued on Page 5

NOTICE

The Quechan Indian Tribe is seeking interested Tribal Members to serve on the following Boards and Committee:

Election Board Clerk #2
Election Board Judge
Education Board Member
Legislative Committee Member

If interested, please submit a Letter of Interest to the Tribal Council Secretary, Alexis Summerfield, at the Tribal Administration Office.

NAHC Meeting In San Diego

Continued from Page 4

their bones? I don't think so!"

John Eagle Spirit Elliott, of the Manzanita Band of the Kumeyaay Nation also said "We have to document and document and document to the federal agencies: *How* is this sacred, *how* is this used? *Nobody else* has to document [their beliefs] as much as we have to document!"

Once the public had their say, questions such as those led Commissioner Jill Sherman to begin her remarks by saying, "Yes, the *legal* obligations were met (by BLM and Pattern), but no *moral obligations* were met. This is an immoral project, because this is a sacred area."

Commissioner Leslie Lohsee stated that she was "Deeply disappointed that the lead agency, the BLM, didn't even bother to show up for the hearing today. That speaks volumes," she said, "about their respect and attitude for the government-to-government consultation process."

NAHC Chairman James Ramos said that it's never to late to start an on going dialogue (between all the parties) to begin to build a mutual respect. He even suggested that whenever new projects like the OWEF are proposed in the future, all involved government agencies should use the NAHC as a mediator between themselves and the Tribes *from the beginning*. Commissioner Reginald Pagaling then made a motion to offer the services of the NAHC as mediators in this (and other such) situations, which the Commission passed by voice vote.

They also voted to ask the Office of the California Attorney General to research whether the NAHC legal standing to take action to oppose the Ocotillo Wind Energy Facility, and to report back to the Commission on their findings at their next meeting.

The Commission also voted 4 to 0 in favor of recognizing the Ocotillo Valley as a sacred sites area, worthy of protection.

We should be hearing more on this at their next meeting.

Grant Helping JOM Improve Library

The Quechan JOM (Johnson O'Malley) Program has been working diligently on improving their services to Tribal members using funds provided through the 2012 Native American Library Services Basic Grant received in June of 2012.

Over the last nine months JOM Director Pamela Manchatta has purchased a new wireless antenna for their computer lab, a new computer, and the software needed to digitize every one of the books in the JOM library.

The Basic Grant has also paid for a temporary worker to attach barcodes to each book in the library and for local library experts to visit and assess the library resources. This will information will help Mrs.Manchatta in making decisions on what new books and equipment to purchase,when the JOM Program receives additional grant funds from the Institute of Museum and Library Services.

Creating a digitized catalog system for the Fort Yuma Education Complex Library is the first step in upgrading their technology. Their long term plan is to eventually switch over to e-books and e-readers, which should also lower costs and allow faster response times when ordering new books for the library, since e-books often cost much less than printed materials.

In the meantime, their new data transmission antenna has increased the internet connection capability at the JOM computer lab. It's made their connection more reliable, eliminating the frequent disconnects that used to interrupt users in the middle of their online projects.

Both Pamela Manchatta and Mr. Cliff O'Niell, the Quechan Tribe's Grant Writer, are now working on a new proposal to insure the second year of funding for the three year grant the Tribe was awarded last June.

INSTITUTE of Museum and Library SERVICES

The Institute of Museum and Library Services is the primary source of federal support for the nation's 123,000 libraries and 17,500 museums. Through grant making, policy development, and research, IMLS helps communities and individuals thrive through broad public access to knowledge, cultural heritage, and lifelong learning.

New Chief of Police Sworn In for Quechan Tribe



Mr. Robert Brodnan takes the oath of office, administered by Quechan Tribal Court Judge Claudette White. The ceremony took place at a special Tribal Council meeting on Thursday, April 18th.

Mr. Robert Brodnan has accepted the position of Chief of Police for the Fort Yuma Quechan Tribe. He took the oath of office immediately after the Tribal Council passed a resolution authorizing his hiring at a special meeting on April 18.

Chief Brodnan has over 40 years of law enforcement experience, which he began accumulating while still a member of the Army Reserves in 1971.

A graduate of the Cook County (Illinois) Sheriff's Department Academy, the Chief has received much additional specialized training over the course of his career. He now holds a Masters Degree in Criminal Justice from Suffield College in Connecticut.

The new Chief served in Illinois with the Barrington Police for 18 years, as well as Spring Grove and Johnsburg. He eventually took over as Chief of Police in Hebron, Illinois, and began to take an interest in Tribal law enforcement along the way.

He moved out west to become the Chief of Police in Zuni, New Mexico in 2005. Since then, Chief Brodnan has also worked for the DHS in Las Vegas, Nevada and become a certified Law Enforcement Officer in the state of California.

FLOWER GIRLS



Are needed for this year's Memorial Day Rememberance. Want to take part?

Call Deborah Tourtillott @ (760) 572-0544

Quechan Delegation Visits Prescott For 2013 Yuman Language Family Summit

All Photos by Gary Gilbert for QUECHAN NEWS



The first night was "Culture Night", and Yuman Language speakers from all over the southwest joined together to share songs and dances they all hold in common. At the left side above are Quechan Tribal member Larry Hammond, Jr. and Tribal Councilman Emilio Escalanti leading this song as the ladies dance.



Lining up for a group portrait at the start of the late March summit are Quechan Tribal members Olivia José, Dianne Moccasin, Perdius Escalante, Alva Emerson, Tessie Escalante and Arlie Emerson.



Additional Quechan delegates stepped in for a second group photo, standing to the right of Perdius Escalanti and Alva Emerson. The three in the rear are Ila Dunsweiler, Larry Hammond, Jr. and Shirley Kelly, while standing on the right in front are Vivian Menta and Gail Johns of the Quechan Senior Center.



Councilman Escalanti spent part of his time at the summit helping out at the registration tables.



Barbara Levy gave instruction on language revitalization using immersive teaching methods.



Arlie Emerson made sure to get a photo with his auntie, Drusilla Burns, a Mojave from Needles.



Tribal Council member Juliana Comet joins the dancing circle with Vivian Menta, Alva Emerson and Barbara Levy, as Larry Hammond, Jr. can be seen leading the songs, seated at the left in the foreground.



But it wasn't just the ladies who danced on Culture Night! Many of the men (including Tribal Councilman Emilio Escalanti, seen in the center in the rear) also got up to join in the dancing circles at the summit.



Grandpa Albert Angulo brought his nipper to trim the mesquites.



Father and son team Greg, Jr. and Gabriel Gilbert got right down to raking up last winter's leaf litter.



While Jacob Villa raked up the mesquite branches his grandpa cut.

SPRING CLEANING AT SUNRISE POINT







Want to help?
To Volunteer, Call Allyson
At the EDA @ 760-572-5270

All Photos by
William Isbell,
QUECHAN NEWS

Tribal Court Judge Claudette White (above) also volunteered to trim the trees, while (below) Sally Jo Valencia spent her time at the park clearing out the weeds.

The entire April 6th cleanup was a family affair: That's Judge White and her son, Zion working along the park's main roadway, while Gregg Gilbert, Jr. can be seen raking up downed branches in the shadows.

Vernon Jose (above) brought out a chainsaw to take down some of the bigger problems. The more delicate trim work was handled by Valverine Barley, seen below.







Jackie Duro and Phyllis Jones (above) spent a few minutes at breakfast looking over a book filled with historical photos of Quechan dwellings, used as reference in creating the Elder Village. After having a bite to eat, Phyllis jumped right in to tackle the thick weeds and brush growing along the riverbank near the village.





Senior Citizens Month at Fort Yuma kicked off with a parade of Quechan seniors and Quechan Head Start students carrying red, white and black balloons, walking the short distance from the Pipa Market to the Senior Center. As they arrived at the Senior Center, the children tied their balloons to the fence outside, to remind their elders they had been there to visit. Once inside the building, Milson José of American Legion Post 80 posted the colors and Christine Emerson led a prayer of thanks. The Head Start sudents all stood up to entertain the adults with three of their favorite songs, including "Twinkle, Twinkle Little Star."
President Escalanti then read the official proclamation designating May, 2013 as Older Americans month. Tribal Council member Juliana Comet followed the proclamation with her own remarks, thanking everyone for attending, and the children for being so well behaved as her fellow Tribal Council members Michael Jack, Emilio Escalanti and Clivia Cyndee Miller watched from the audience. The little ones then enjoyed some fresh milk and cookies from the kitchen! Soon after, lunch was served for the Seniors, who were entertained by local singers singing traditional songs as the meal was served. It all happened on May 1st.
Next week, the 11th Annual Senior Games will take place at the Quechan Casino♠Resort from Wednesday, May 15, through their awards ceremony on Friday, May 17, 2013. The Quechan Tribe expects to host at least 200 seniors from the many reservations throughout Arizona and Southern California at the games this year.

THE QUECHAN DIABETES PROGRAM BRINGS YOU KICKBALL IN MAY!



Children From 8 to 13: Each Team *MUST* Have At Least *ONE* Member Of The Opposite Sex To Play

KIDS KICKBALL GAMES Begin At 9:30 AM On The Quechan Community Center Baseball Field: Saturday, May 18th!

ADULT'S Kickball Tournament

Adults Ages 14 and Up: Each Team Must Have At Least ONE Member Of The Opposite Sex To Play

ADULT KICKBALL GAMES Begin Immediately Following the Kids Kickball Tournament on Saturday, May 18th!

Registration CLOSES Wednesday May 15th!

For More Information On These Exciting DOUBLE ELIMINATION TOURNAMENTS Or to Sign Up a Team

CALL: 760-572-4057

BLM Offering Reward In Petroglyph Vandalism Case

The Yuma Field Office of the Bureau of Land Management (BLM) Colorado River District is investigating recent vandalism of an archaeological site north of Blythe, California.

The site is rich in Native American petroglyphs and was recently vandalized with blue spray paint. Some of the more identifiable spray paint images include a horse or unicorn head, several smiley faces, and what appears to be a marijuana leaf. The words, "Sosa", "B-N-C" and the numbers "625" were also spray-painted on the site.

A number of archaeological remains left by prehistoric peoples are visible at the site, though the petroglyphs attract the most attention.

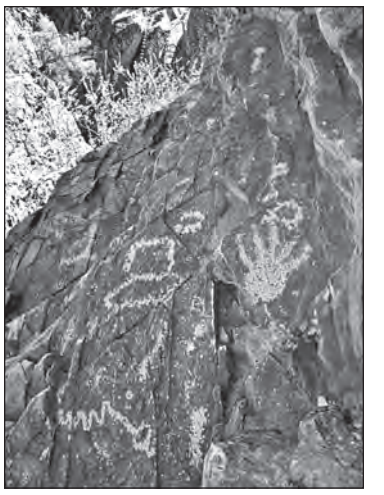
Other features nearby include sleeping circles, geoglyphs, and rock alignments.

Roxie Trost, District Manager of the Yuma Field Office sent out a press release explaining their frustration upon finding the vandalism: "These petroglyphs are just as important today to the Tribes along the Colorado as they were hundreds of years ago," she wrote.

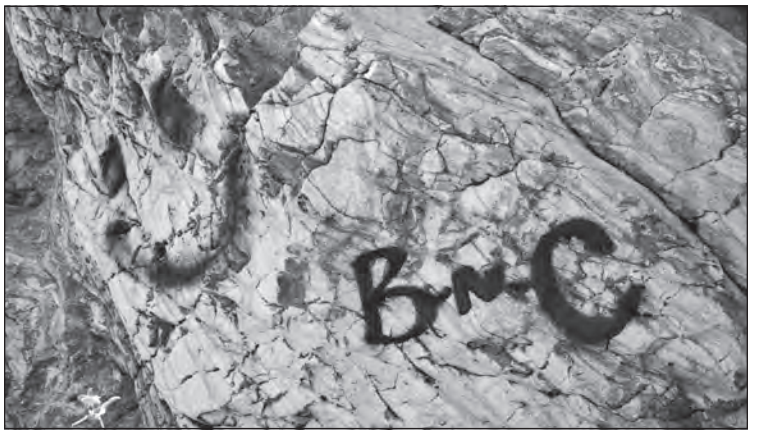
"Altering any archaeological site offends contemporary tribal members who still visit these places as their ancestors did." She also said the cost to taxpayers to restore the site is expected to be at least "several thousand dollars".

A law enforcement investigation is now underway to identify any possible suspects. Photos of the damage were broadcast on KSWT-TV to alert the public.

A reward of up to $1,000 is offered for information leading to an arrest. If you have information regarding this vandalism, please contact BLM Law Enforcement at (928) 317-3274.



The site has many excellent and well preserved panels, painstakingly picked into the surface over many hours using sharpened rock hammers. Q NEWS Photos by William Isbell



The vandals used blue spray paint, covering many areas adjacent to the best preserved panels. A happy face, names and initials, plus a horse's head and a marijuana leaf now cover large portions of the site.

Language Preservation Head Reports on Summit

Courtesy of Barbara Levy, Quechan Language Coordinator

The Yuman Language Family Summit is an annual gathering of all the "People" known as "Yuman Tribes" who share a common original tribal language, culture, customs, and traditions. While the focus of the summit is mainly on "Language." Language teachers, educators, advocates, learners, anyone with an interest in Native American people are invited to attend.

A group of Quechan people traveled to Prescott, Arizona to attend this year's language summit, held at the Yavapai Tribe's "Bucky's" Casino.

This year, there was a lady who came all the way from Poland, visiting the summit along with several friends. Polish women are very tall, like a tree! She says she learned a lot about American Indians, and kept repeating, "I didn't know," everytime she learned someheing new! In the end, her words were, "I am so sorry." She said we had a lot of knowledge of environmental issues, and told me she was involved in a lot of projects on various Indian reservations.

This is the first time that our tribe had such good representation from our elders. Last year, only two other elders went to the summit along with me. Our seniors and elders enjoyed a lot of fun activities at the summit. The Summit's Cultural Night included singing and dancing, with singers from many Yuman tribes. We also had Bingo night, when everyone tried to play Bingo while listening for the numbers in various Yuman dialects such as Yavapai, Kumeyaah, Maricopa and Quechan.

Did you ever recite the numbers from 1 to 75? Try it. It isn't easy, even for language instructors! Everyone had fun and they handed out some nice prizes. I called the numbers when it was time for the Quechan tribe. It was the first time I had to call numbers all the way to 75!



Barbara Levy, the Quechan Language Preservation Coordinator, speaks on Language Revitalization and Immersion at the 2013 Yuman Language Family Summit in Prescott. Quechan Language Photo by Gary Gilbert

Maybe I'll head over to Paradise Bingo to call the Bingo games in *kwat'san* during "Indian Days". (Watch Out!) Come on up to the Language Preservation classroom and start learning those numbers now!

The first of the keynote speakers was Leanne Hinton, Professor Emeritus of Linguistics at the University of California at Berkley, who has worked with various Yuman tribes to write several books about languages, stories, songs, and keeping languages alive. She had a lot of information to provide to the audience regarding preserving languages.

The other keynote speaker was Debra Norris, Deputy Associate Superintendent for Native American Education and Outreach at the Arizona Department of Education.

Ms. Norris served four years on the Education Committee in the Arizona House of Representatives. She has worked with many Arizona tribes, reservation and urban school districts on public policy and education. One of her continuing projects is working with the Tribes' Johnson O'Malley programs.

Debra gave us information on how language teachers can become certified in teaching in the public schools. The first step to take in becoming a certified teacher is for their Tribes to provide them with an endorsement, and send them to schools for further education and training.

She explained why it is important to be a certified teacher, since it allows school systems to include Native Languages as a part of their language study requirements, just like Spanish, German, or French.

Topics from the Tribal presenters at the summit included: Storytelling, language teaching/immersion, language programs, language games for youth, Spiritual Ceremonies of the Mohave, cultural arts and crafts, making a camp dress, beading medicine bags, language teacher certification, curriculum development, putting together lesson plans, and language activities. The agenda was filled with two and half days of sessions, from 9:50 each morning until 4:00 in the afternoon.

Arlie Emerson made his presentation on "Quechan Youth," covering games in the language. I also lead a class on "Language Revitalization and Immersion in 2013", using the "Green Book of Language Revitalization" written by Leanne Hinton as a reference.

Lucille Watahomigie from the Hualapai Tribe was also at the summit. She is an instructor at the University of Arizona's American Indian Language Development Institute, in Tucson. She had an interesting presentation which described the teaching methods and techniques she uses. She told of a class on tribal dresses, which is given only in the Native language being taught. The students are asked to respond to her dress description, which makes it a real learning process for them!

Della Escalanti was the Honored Elder for the Quechan People at the summit this year.

Each tribe is required to choose their own candidates for the position. Honored Elders must have a background in language teaching, sharing knowledge, as well as involvement in their community with language activities, and participate in the language programs.

Della started as a Quechan Head Start Teacher, where she received certification. She still teaches our Quechan children the language three days a week at the Head Start Program. Della was certified there centuries back (Tz Ny na'marsk!) and she is still qualified to work as a teacher at the Head Start program, but she made the decision to leave her job there and come to work for the Quechan Preservation Language Department about 8 years ago.

She is an excellent teacher who enjoys working with children, teaching them numbers, colors, animals, and other subjects, all in *kwat'san*.

Ila Dunzweiler and I decided to nominate her while we were at the summit. We don't know of her being honored elsewhere, so we thought it was only right to take this opportunity.

Ila has worked on her own teaching methods using a CD player for "Jack & Jill", "Hickory, Dickory Dock" and "Numbers". As the Quechan Honored Elder, she received a framed Certificate and a nice gift from the event's organizers: a Native Designed towel with "Yuman Language Summit—2013" embroidered onto it. Congratulations, Della! You earned it and you deserve the honors. It will be a nice keepsake to save and hand down to family members

Tribal Council member Emilio Escalante also attended the summit, since he is a member of the Organizing Committee responsible for the summit's financing. He helped in selling Language Summit T-Shirts and raffle tickets while we were in Prescott. I also serve on the Committee, and we had a meeting to plan next year's summit on the final day, March 27th.

See More Photos on Page 6!

FORT YUMA INDIAN HEALTH CENTER

Dr. Geniel Harrison is New Health Center Medical Director



Dr. Geniel Harrison

Dr. Geniel Harrison grew up in rural Utah. She comes from the Goshute and Navajo Tribes.

Photo Courtesy of Fort Yuma IHS

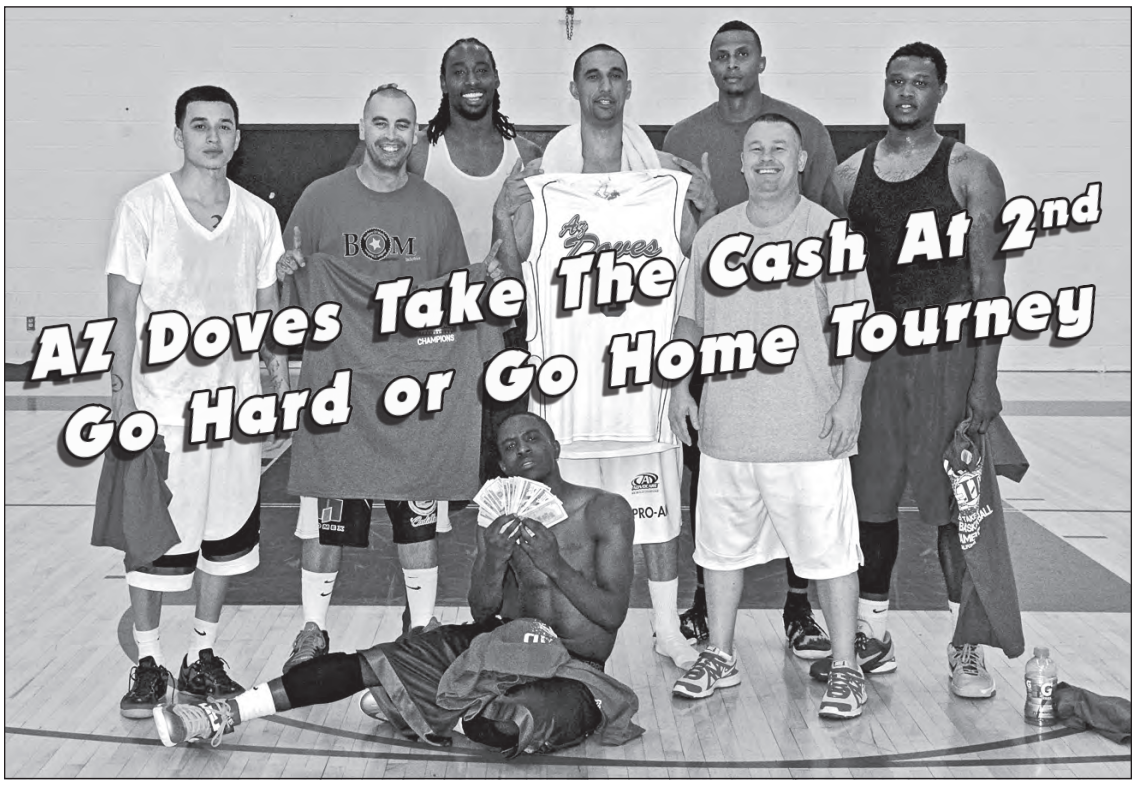
The new Medical Director for the Fort Yuma Health Center, Dr. Geniel Harrison, assumed responsibility for all medical staff on April 8, 2013. She will provide clinical care in Family Medicine and lead clinical services at the Center.

Dr. Harrison grew up in rural Utah and she is familiar with the challenges and beauty of living as part of the western landscape. No stranger to the small communities sprinkled throughout the west and the vast distances in between, her family is from the Goshute Tribe of Utah and the Navajo Tribe.

She attended the University of Utah, receiving her degree in behavioral health and science before receiving her medical degree from the University of North Dakota, School of Medicine. She completed her residency training at the Rapid City Regional Hospital and she is board certified in Family Medicine.

Dr. Harrison gained extensive background in providing health care services to Native American communities across North Dakota and South Dakota. She has recently worked at the Phoenix Indian Medical Center as a primary care medical officer and as an acting Family Medicine department chief. Her clinical work at the Medical Center was in ambulatory outpatient services and the Center for Diabetes Excellence.

Dr. Harrison says, "My passion is working with Native American people for the betterment of stronger and more vibrant communities."



The Arizona Doves pose with their cash winnings after dominating a 13-hour marathon day of basketball at the San Pasqual high school gym on April 27. Their big advantage (besides their incredible teamwork) was the presence of ex-L.A. Laker Zachary Andrews, who became famous during the tournament for his flying dunk shots. Matt Trannon (with the curls) was pretty good at the dunks, too! Sitting in front fanning the $2000 cash prize is Tay Lee, who also won mention as an All Tourney Award winner with Andrews. Standing, from the left, are John Peña, Justin Patané, M.V.P, Matt Trannon, Gabe Sandoval, Zachary Andrews, Ronnie Katich (a little shorter than Zach, in front) and Maurice Jackson. QUECHAN NEWS Photo by William Isbell

The long anticipated Go Hard or Go Home II $2000 Winner Take All Basketball Tournament was held at the San Pasqual high school gym on April 26th and 27th, as 10 teams from as far away at Inglewood, California came to battle it out for the cash.

While there were a few local teams (like Yuma Pest, Yuma Lumber, H.O.B. and The Pack), it was the out-of-town groups that soon dominated play, like the Arizona Soldiers, Inglewood Fellas and the Arizona Doves. The Doves brought in a a real threat as part of their line-up, ex-Los Angeles Laker Zachary Andrews, who dominated the court along with his Arizona Doves teammate, Matt Trannon.

Zach and Matt, both over 6 foot 6, were able to perform flying dunk shots, seemingly at will, with the able assistance on passing and blocking of fellow Dove, Tay Lee. Matt earned MVP for his efforts, leading the Doves to total victory!

Quechan Parks and Rec will also be holding a $1000 Winner Take All Men's Basketball Tournament this coming weekend. The games begin at 6:00 PM on Friday night!

HAND MADE MEMORIAL DAY WREATHS!



AVAILABLE AT THE QUECHAN SENIOR CENTER GIFT SHOP
AT 472 QUECHAN ROAD, WINTERHAVEN CA.
UNTIL MEMORIAL DAY WEEKEND, FRIDAY, MAY 24, 2013
PRICES VARY DEPENDING ON STYLES AND SIZES GIFT SHOP OPENED 8-5
IF YOU HAVE ANY QUESTIONS PLEASE CALL 760-572-0748

PUBLIC NOTICE

If you need help in getting a new Memorial Slab poured, please contact

Norman Osborne

Doug Osborne

Steve Ray or Tino Cano

All Arrangements MUST be made no later than Saturday, May 18, 2013

Kwatsan Radio Wants to Put an End to Bullying



Kenrick Escalanti holds his hand over Peter DeCorse, asking for students to cheer loudest for who they think should get a backstage pass to meet "A Tribe Called Red" at the April 22nd Kwatsan Radio concert. Competing student Audura Barton looks on at right.

In early April, Kwatsan Radio teamed up with Amanda Aguirre of the Regional Center of Border Health and Carlos Flores of the Yuma Fight Academy to help bring awareness to the issue of bullying within the surrounding community.

Kenrick Escalanti of Kwatsan Radio joined Carlos Flores, Nick Soto, Preston Arrow Weed and two on-air personalities, "Mic Titan" and "Thrill House", to bring their anti-bullying message to an assembly at the San Pasqual high school gym on April 17th.

Kenrick told the *Quechan News* that "Carlos Flores is picking up from where he left off at O.C. Johnson Elementary School by continuing to share his story on his youthful experience with bullying."

The entire group shared stories and gave advice to students on combating the ongoing epidemic of bullying while they also promoted the appearance of *A Tribe Called Red,* set for Monday night, April 22nd at the Paradise Event Center. They even asked for student volunteers, giving away free backstage passes to meet the celebrity DJs to those who received the loudest shouts and applause during the assembly.

Their message continued at the Monday night concert, with the proceeds going toward station operations, to help Kwatsan Radio continue its efforts to bring positive events to the community. Billed as an ALL AGES, NO BULLYING event, Kwatsan Radio was asking for a suggested donation of only $5 to get in the door. "But no one will be turned away," they said.

The concert featured opening acts of local interest, including "Mic Titan" as well as traditional singing and dancing. The headliners, *A Tribe Called Red*, is an international aboriginal group from Ottawa, Ontario, Canada who burst onto the scene in late 2010 with their unique version of Electronic Dance Music, or EDM as it's known to fans of the genre. Their loud and powerful fusion style is a mix of Pow Wow vocals laid over electronic beats.



The anti-bullying speakers and winning San Pasqual students went backstage to meet with "A Tribe Called Red" just before the group entertained hundreds at the Paradise Event Center on April 22nd. From left are Carlos Flores, Kenrick Escalanti, Ian Campeau (DJ NJN), Peter DeCorse, Mia Escalanti (with Brad Haro right behind her), Dan General (DJ Shub), Bear Witness and Nick Soto. QUECHAN NEWS Photos by William Isbell

Quechan Indian Tribe
Higher Education
and
Vocational Education
Training Program

Quechan Higher Education
2013 FALL Semester
Grant Application Deadline:

JUNE 01, 2013

If the date shown falls on a Holiday or a weekend, the next working day will become the deadline date.

Phone:
(760) 572-5268

Scholarships Are Contingent Upon Availablity Of Tribal Funds

Applications can be picked up at the Higher Education Office located at:
628 Picacho Road
Winterhaven, CA 92283

Quechan Head Start

Now Enrolling for the 2013-2014 Program Year.

Children must be 3 years old by November 1, 2013.

For more information, contact Danette at
760-572-0263

Tribal Member Miss Native University of Arizona for 2013

Roxanne James Hunter Takes Crown on April 13th

Photo for QUECHAN NEWS by Gary Gilbert



Roxanne James Hunter received her crown from Carol Seanez, a Navajo who served as Miss Native American at the U of A for the past year. The Pageant was held in the North Ballroom of the campus' Student Union building on April 13th.

The University of Arizona has awarded the title of Miss Native American U of A since 1980, selecting one special woman to act as the University's ambassador, representing the Native American people on campus. She is to act as a mother, aunt, sister, and friend for the people and hold herself with dignity and respect. Each applicant must be a full time student member of the Miss Native U of A Committee, complete 2 events with the organization, and have cumulative grade point average above 2.5. Applicants are judged on an application essay, as well as their traditional talent, platform, and public speaking ability during a pageant, which was held this year on Saturday, April 13.

Three contestants competed for the honor at the 33rd Annual Pageant this year, held on the Tucson campus in the Student Union's North Ballroom. They were Royale Billy (Freshman, Navajo), Taylor Chimoni (Sophomore, Navajo/Zuni/San Carlos Apache), and the winner of the contest, Roxanne James Hunter, a Junior and Quechan Tribal member.

Roxanne's uncle, D.J. Hunter, tells the *Quechan News* that "the Hunters and everyone else in her vast extended family on the Fort Yuma reservation and throughout the states of California and Arizona are very proud and delighted. We wish her continued success in her reign." Another uncle, Arlie Emerson, traveled to Tucson to help her during the actual competition. Assisted by Gary Gilbert, Arlie performed the Ah-Keel songs while she demonstrated her talent, traditional dance. Mr. Emerson also created the camp style ribbon dress she wore during the Miss Native U of A Pageant this year.

Roxanne James Hunter is the daughter of Nina Montano and the late Rodney W. Hunter, and grandaughter of the late Maxine Emerson Hunter and the late Mr. James Hunter and Mr. and Mrs. Gloria and Gilbert Montano (of the Yaqui tribe). Her great-grandparents were the late Thelma Aguerro Emerson and the late Mr. Lee Emerson. Roxanne is studying for a Degree in Biological Anthropology at the School of Social and Behavioral Science at the University of Arizona's Tucson campus.

A Gala Event for Tribal Members At the First Annual GREENLIGHT FILM FESTIVAL

Presented By: Yuma County Library District — Your Information connection

Daniel Golding Producer/Director Hokan Media Productions and: KWATSAN RADIO

QUECHAN NEWS Photos by William Isbell

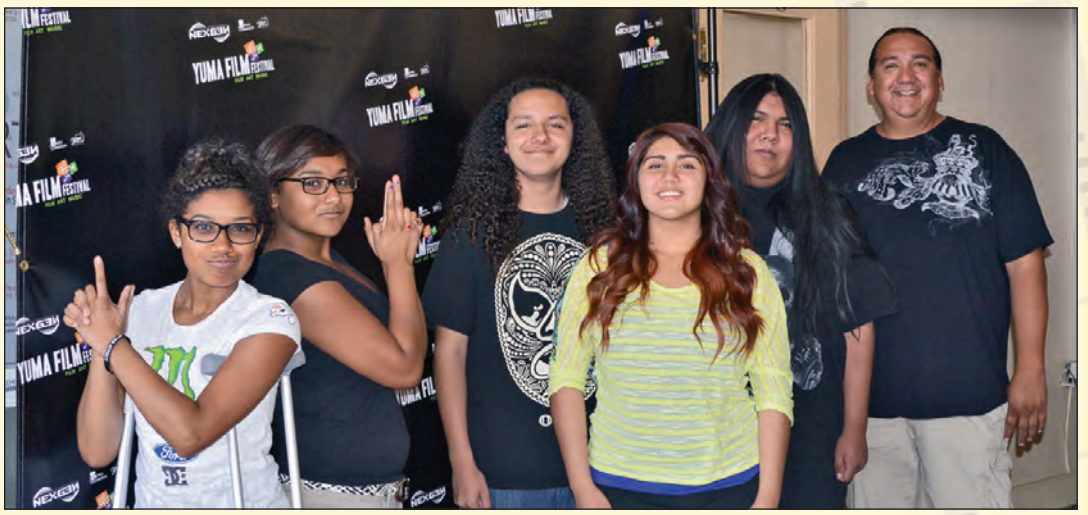
The first annual Greenlight Film Festival presented four student films, created under the guidance of Quechan Tribal member Dan Golding, Producer/Director (and owner) of Hokan Media Productions, a Yuma based film production company. Local high school students (including eight Quechan Tribal members) were given two days of workshop instruction to learn basic film making techniques. Using cameras and editing software provided by the Yuma County Library District, the students were turned loose under Mr. Golding's supervision. The results were showcased at the sixth annual Yuma Art Beat Celebration, at the midway point of the much larger Yuma Film Festival on April 20th. One of the Quechan student films, *Community Center Slaughter* won an award at the Festival!



Richard Illingworth, Anthony Manchado, and Eden and Diamond Rivera were the Tribal members who made *Community Center Slaughter*. That's Diamond on screen at left.



"Power Director" was a series of comedic sketches about a film crew having story problems. In this scene, Melissa Dosela and Isaac Collins are filming Charles Golding and Mia Escalanti.



Quechan film makers pose in front of the historic Yuma Theater, pumped up by the audience reaction to their films projected only moments earlier. From left are sisters Eden and Diamond Rivera, Charles Golding, Mia Escalanti and Anthony Manchado. At the far end is Dan Golding, who supervised the workshops in creating the films for the first Greenlight Film Festival.