

Merry Christmas and



KA NAV AH PAI



Happy New Year for 2014!

THE NEWS CARRIER

QUECHAN NEWS

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

Water Tower Keeps Going Up, Up, Up!



Workers prepare to hoist another curved panel into place as they continue to add height to the new water tower under construction on Indian Hill. Once the steel reinforced concrete foundation was ready, a crew from Southwest Tank and Steel arrived to begin the on-site custom fabrication of the actual tank. The work is expected to be finished in February of next year.

QUECHAN NEWS Photo by William Isbell

The Quechan Tribe typically opens the month of December with a "tree lighting ceremony" around the tall water tower on Indian Hill. Well, it looks like that won't be happening this year, due to the construction of a second 85 foot tall water tower, directly in front of the existing tower which has always served as our "Christmas Tree" in the past.

Set for completion in February of 2014, the contractors as-

signed to the project have made quick progress raising the imposing structure since work began in late September. A footing was dug and compacted, with plywood forms and steel reinforcements for the foundation pad in place and ready for high density concrete to be pumped in by October 3rd.

Soon after, steel workers, welders and a crane operator from Southwest Tank and Steel arrived, offloading tons of steel

plate to begin the on-site construction of our new 780,000 gallon water tower.

The tank is made up of 11 bands of high strength steel. The bottom (tub) row, stands 6 feet tall, and is thicker than the others. Welded to a custom built floor plate, the tub is solidly bolted to giant 3 inch thick threaded steel rods that pass all the way to the bottom of the 3 foot thick concrete foundation ring. When completed, the new

structure will be 40 feet in diameter. Nine of the steel rings that rise above the tub are 8 feet tall, with the final row being 7 feet tall. The crew has already begun welding on some of the finish work, such as the caged ladder that will go all the way to an inspection hatch on the domed top. The last week of November saw the men beginning x-ray inspection of all the welds. More photos of the construction project are on page 2.



Work on the new water tower began with site preparation, digging down to the proper level and compacting the soil to increase it's density. A 6 foot thick ring 40 feet in diameter was then dug down around the perimeter, to set the marine grade plywood concrete footing forms in place. All the while, the entire footing area was watered down and further compacted. Once the plywood forms were in place, steel rebar reinforcement mesh was placed inside the forms and wired securely into place.

Photos by William Isbell, QUECHAN NEWS



Twenty four threaded steel rods over 6 feet long and 3 inches in diameter were carefully positioned, evenly spaced along the centerline of the foundation ring. Once the steel reinforcements were in place, high strength concrete was pumped into the forms and allowed to cure for a week before the 3/8th inch thick steel flooring panels were welded in place. The tub ring was then welded together and bolted down, with hatches and outlets for pipes later cut through and installed. Steel plate for the rings have attachment points welded on.



The ring plates are curved by attaching a chain and cinching it down with a "come along", until it takes the proper shape. The plates are then lifted into position by the crane operator, as workers inside the tank guide them into place by hand. They raise their steel framed wooden walkway once each level is completed. Attachment points previously welded on have steel clip rings and wedges driven into them by hand, hammering the ring into a perfectly round shape. Steel cages on rollers allow the welders to move about the exterior.

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THE NEWS CARRIER

QUECHAN NEWS

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

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

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



Culture & Heritage

Seniors, Head Start Both Honor Veterans Each Year



Quechan Head Start students joined their teachers and classroom assistants in a march around the entire Indian Hill Complex, handing out cookies to the adults who came out to cheer them on. That's São Juan and Andrei Lopez (above, right) giving their cookies to Claudia Lorentz at IHS.

QUECHAN NEWS Photos by William Isbell

One holiday that seems to bring all members of the Quechan Community together each year is Veterans' Day. Tribal members of all ages, from the youngest to the oldest, have their own special ways of commemorating the dedication and sacrifice of our military members, past and present.

Students from the Quechan Head Start program reported to Indian Hill on Thursday, November 7th, to stage their annual march in support of veterans. Dozens of 4 and 5 year olds poured off of busses to march counterclockwise around the entire, historic hilltop, from the Fish and Game building, past the Quechan Police Department, down between the Quechan Language building and the Indian Health Clinic,

and on through the Quechan Administration building and out the east end, to gather around the Eagle Memorial for a festive group photo op!

Many adults on the hill took time out to stand along the edges of their path, waving and cheering as the little tykes chanted "Red, White and Blue! We Love You!" A few of the children ran to greet the cheering adults and present them with small bags of cookies!

Almost exactly 24 hours later, clients and staff of the Quechan Senior Center held their own parade. Arnold Dick, Milson José and Andrew Denard of Post 802 formed a color guard closely behind Perdius Escalanti and Olivia José, carrying a Veterans Day banner at the head of the group, march-

ing from the Pipa Market south along Quechan Drive and into the Senior Center.

Once inside, the colors were posted and a suitable benediction was given. The special guest speaker this year was Quechan Tribal president Keeny Escalanti, Sr., who was followed to the podium by Milson José, representing all of the veterans at Quechan Post 802.

Donald Menta of the Senior Center performed the duties of Master of Ceremonies, introducing all of the speakers and the special guests, bird singers Kenrick Escalanti and Dan Golding, who spent the better part of what remained of the morning performing their songs.

Seniors danced to the music, until everyone broke at noon for a nice, hot lunch.



Just 24 hours later, members of Quechan Post 802 led a group of seniors south on Quechan Drive and into the Quechan Senior Center, to celebrate Veterans Day with patriotic speeches, traditional songs and a special meal.

President Keeny Escalanti, Sr. led off the patriotic speeches.

Singing for the Elders at their Veterans Day celebration (below) were Dan Golding and Kenrick Escalanti from Kwatsan Radio.



Ft. Yuma IHS Clinic Recognizes Exceptional Employees

The management and staff of the Fort Yuma Indian Health Service got together on their front lawn in early November, to honor those individual employees and departments which have made special contributions to the health and well being of local Tribal members over the past year.

"All IHS and 638 Tribal employees are part of our success in delivering health care services throughout our communities," said the Chief Executive Officer of the Fort Yuma Service Unit, Daryl Melvin in an email announcing the assembly.

"We are fortunate to have so many dedicated staff, and I offer my thanks and special congratulations to all those staff honor awardees as well as those nominated for their service."

First among those honored was the man receiving the Chief Executive Officer's Individual Award, Quechan Tribal member Tim O'Brien.

Though his current job title is "Maintenance Mechanic Helper", Tim in fact is the *entire* Facilities Maintenance *staff* at the IHS Clinic at the present!

Mr. O'Brien began his career as a cook for the Clinic way back in 1991.

"After four years (the IHS) had a reduction in force and they closed the dietary department," he told the *Quechan News*, while explaining his current position. "They moved me over to maintenance for a year and then I became the driver."

Tim shuttled patients to and from Phoenix, Tucson and San Diego 5 days a week for about a decade and a half.

Finally, a few years ago, he



Quechan Tribal member Tim O'Brien was presented the top individual award by Fort Yuma IHS Chief Executive Officer Darryl Melvin at their 2013 Honor Awards Ceremony on November 7th. Photo by William Isbell

transferred back to Facilities Maintenance, where Vic Ramos taught him almost everything he knows about the job he's still doing. "He was a Maintenance Mechanic who'd been here since I started at the clinic way back in '91," Tim says. "And after he left I worked with Dave Blevins as his helper."

Mr. Blevins also acted as a mentor of sorts, while he and Tim worked under Luke Johnson as the Facilities Supervisor.

Gary Pollaca then came on board from Phoenix as their supervisor, until Pollaca transferred to Parker in July of 2011. Not long after, Blevins also left the Fort Yuma Service Unit.

For the past year and a half, Tim O'Brien has been the sole employee of the Yuma Clinic's Facilities Department, in charge maintaining the electrical infrastructure of all six buildings on the IHS campus, as well as keeping their heating, boilers and 12 air conditioning systems fully functional.

In spite of the stress you'd

think that would put on most people, Tim has taken it all in stride, and flourished under his own supervision, as *his own* Maintenance Mechanic Helper!

Tim grew up here at Fort Yuma, the son of the late Eunice and Charles O'Brien. A 1983 San Pasqual High graduate, he went to trade school in Albuquerque "to become a cook."

He's been married to Donna for 11 years now, with two kids of his own and five stepchildren. Tim answers to "on-call" emergencies at the Clinic from his home near the end of Picacho Road seven days a week.

Mr. O'Brien was nominated for his Award by Becky Kelly, who says "Tim is among the first to offer solutions when committees and work groups are presented with a problem."

"He is also forthcoming with historical information," she explained in her nomination letter. "Using Tim's information, the work groups have been able to craft effective, well informed

Continued on Page 5



Fort Yuma Service Unit 2013 Honor Awards for Exceptional Service

Chief Executive Officer's Individual Award:
Timothy O'Brien

Honorable Mention goes to Jessica Velarde

Chief Executive Officer's Group Award: Diabetes Project
This project includes our Medical Providers, Nursing Staff, Public Health Nurse, Behavioral Health, Social Service, Appointment Desk, Medical Records, the Computer Applications Coordinator, Quality Management, Cocopah THMP, Cocopah ADAPP, Quechan ADAPP, Quechan CHR, Quechan Special Diabetes Program, Quechan Elders Services and Quechan Senior Nutrition

Honorable Mentions to the Public Business Office: Ruth Cortez, Rebecca Kelly, Paula Veneski and Michael Watkins, and the Pharmacy Department: Jimmy Carter, Terri Hamilton, Maria Perry, Scott Raisor, Aaron Ross and Jessica Velarde

People's Choice for Employee of the Year: Veronica Mack

Honorable Mentions for Employee of the Year: Michael Watkins, Kelly Smith, Yvonne Galvan, Jacqueline Chester, Rebecca Kelly and Janice Emerson

People's Choice Award for Random Act of Kindness:
Cynthia Long, Renee Jones and Jacqueline Chester

Manager's Award for Individual Customer Service:
Maria Neblina and Michael Watkins

Honorable Mentions for Customer Service go out to: Maria Perry, Jessica Velarde, Gary Yazzie, Jacqueline Chester, Sherrie Talaswaima, Janice Emerson and Wanda Burton

Manager's Award for Best Customer Service Group:
Training Facilitators Carolyn Gehrher and Neal McMann

Honorable Mention for Group Customer Service Goes to Behavioral Health: Neal McMann, Maureen Treston and Gloria White, And to the Dental Support staff: Janice Emerson and Walter Palkovitch

The Manager's Award for
Exceptional Achievement Individual: Larissa Ponce

Honorable mention for Exceptional Individual Achievement goes to Maria Perry, Jacqueline Chester and Mary Lou Brown

Manager's Award for Exceptional Group Achievement:
Health Coaches Trivean Garcia, Claudia Lorentz, Neal McMann, Jacqueline Chester and Maureen Treston

Honorable Mention for Group Achievement goes to: Barbara Delcid and Barbara Soto at CHS

IHS Employee Awards

Continued from Page 4

solutions. He works well across functional departmental lines to project a positive image to the community. He has taken on the role of quasi-supervisor as an emergency hire, and displays exceptional interaction with his Tribal counterparts and utility personnel.”

IHS CEO Darryl Melvin apparently agrees with Becky’s assessment of Mr. O’Brien’s work ethic, since he presented Tim with the Chief Executive Officer’s Individual Award at the start of the November 7th assembly.

Another Quechan Tribal member who was recognized for her dedication was Larissa Ponce, recipient of the Manager’s Award for Individual Exceptional Achievement.

Larissa was nominated for her award by Barbara Soto, who wrote: “For months, Mrs. Ponce has worked hard to keep the Contract Health Department afloat. Taking time away from her personal and family life, she has shown so much dedication . . . working for months with out taking time off, making sure bills were paid, meetings were done and everything documented.”

A Health System Specialist in the Contract Health Department, Larissa is the daughter of Larry and Pearl Ullery. She is married to Robert Ponce and together they’ve had five children. She grew up on the Fort Yuma Reservation, where she attended San Pasqual High School. As a student, her sports activities included participation in volleyball and over-the-line tourna-

ments. After graduating, she went to the Arizona Computer Institute in Yuma, earning her certificate in 1992.

“I started working for the Indian Health Service in February, 2000,” she explained, “when I was hired as an operator for 30 days as an emergency hire. When a position for a Medical Clerk opened up in the Contract Health Department, I applied and was selected for that position.”

She also explained her IHS career since then: “My supervisor, Jeanie Yazzie, was my mentor during those years.

Jeanie, who served IHS for many years, taught me all the ins and outs of Contract Health Service, and I still use them to this day.”

“Jeanie was ready for retirement in 2003 and she encouraged me to apply for her position as the Contract Health Supervisor. I did so, and I was selected to move up to that position after she left. I have now been employed with the Indian Health Service for thirteen years, proudly serving our community and people.”

Barbara Soto agrees that Larissa should be proud of the job she is doing. “We truly need more employees like Larissa Ponce, which would make IHS



Mike Watkins

A Quechan Tribe descendant, Mike is a Medical Support Assistant in the Clinic’s Patient Business Department.

Quechan News Photo by William Isbell

a better place to work,” she says. “Through all the stress and demands, she’s held strong and shown her commitment!”

And finally, there is Quechan Tribe descendant Mike Watkins, who received his award nomination from Ramona Polk-Villa at the Admittance Desk.

Recipient of the Manager’s Award for Individual Customer Service, Mike is a Medical Support Assistant in the Patient Business Department.

“Mike is the first one here each morning,” Says Ramona. “He is courteous and goes beyond his duties. He walks new patients to all the areas to show them what resources are available, and shows good communication skills.”

“My mother and my grandmother (Virginia Degrande Chavez) are both enrolled members of the Quechan Tribe,” he tells the *Quechan News*. “My parents are Valerie Watkins and Donald Watkins.”

Mike grew up in Yuma, where he attended Yuma High School. “After graduating, I was a part time student at Arizona Western College while working a full time job.”

“I started working for the Indian Health Service in August, 2006, when I was hired as a transporter. A month later, I started working in the Patient Registration office.”

He says he really enjoys his job at the IHS Fort Yuma Service Unit.



Quechan CHR, the Special Diabetes Program, Elder Services and Senior Nutrition were also recognized as a group for their contributions to the fight against diabetes. Photo by Brandy Cachora, Quechan Senior Center

“I have met a lot of wonderful people throughout the years. I would like to thank all of my family, our patients and my co-workers. I truly found a career that fits me perfectly.”

Additional co-workers apparently agree, since Mike also received an Honorable Mention for Employee of the Year!

The largest group award for the day went to everyone involved in combating the scourge

of diabetes here on the reservation. There were three awards in one for that fight, which went to Quechan ADAPP, Quechan CHR, the Quechan Special Diabetes Program for Indians, Quechan Elders Services and the Quechan Senior Nutrition Program, among others.

This year’s IHS awards demonstrated the great contributions Tribal members make in promoting good health!

CORRECTING THE RECORD:

Last month’s cover story stated that the Harkins Valley Art Theater on the northeast corner of Mill Avenue and Fifth Street in Tempe is “near the University of Arizona campus” (which is in Tucson). Actually, it’s a LOT closer to the Arizona State University, which is about a block to the east in Tempe! — Ed.

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 First Quarter of 2014 is Friday, March 7, 2014, at 5:00 PM (Arizona Time). 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 next Quarterly Meeting for the Enrollment Committee is scheduled for Mid-March, 2014.

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



THE QUECHAN TRIBE HONORS OUR VETERANS

QUECHAN NEWS Photos

by William Isbell



Darwin Titus Welsh joined his cousin Jamahke Welsh and Xavier John, two members of the Second Street Singers from Parker, in singing honor songs.



The Quechan Post 802 Honor Guard, under the command of U.S. Army veteran Colin Soto, fired a 21-gun salute at the closing of the Annual Quechan Tribe Veterans Day Remembrance Ceremony on the 11th day of the 11th month of 2014 . . . 96 years after the first Armistice Day.



John Nevells, a Game Warden with Quechan Fish and Game, provided the lyrics for *The Star Spangled Banner* and other patriotic songs at the assembly.



Post 802 Commander Norman Osborne raised the flag assisted by his brother Gordon.

Members of the community joined veterans from the Quechan American Legion Post 802, local law enforcement representatives, the San Pasqual high school band and volunteers from the Winterhaven Fire District in remembering the dedication and sacrifice of local veterans on November 11th.

The group gathered together just south of the Quechan Eagle Memorial near the Tribal administration office, to listen to patriotic

music provided by John Nevells and the high school band. Miss Alora Dugan from San Pasqual Middle School led everyone in the Pledge of Allegiance, and Dolores Lopez (of the Post 802 Auxiliary) provided the words of prayer.

Tribal Councilman Emilio Escalanti came forward to offer his remarks of appreciation to all who have volunteered in defense of our nation. His words were a reminder of the constant vigilance required to secure our

freedom. "The ability to worship and choose, as well as the freedom to move about as we do," he said, "is only because of the men and women who serve. Some have given all for our right to do what we wish to in this country. We appreciate that because of that, we as a Tribe can choose our own government, while the native just south of us don't have that right. It's only because of those who fight for us that we have that right, and for that we thank you!"



Ex-Tribal Councilman and current QPD Officer Vincent T. Durand served as lead speaker.



Game Warden Travis Owl provided the final touch, playing "Taps" after the 21-gun salute.



A color guard from the Yuma Sector of the U.S. Border Patrol attended the ceremony, to support their Quechan partners in law enforcement.



The San Pasqual Warriors Band, newly reassembled for the first time in decades, was also there to provide the musical accompaniment.



Emilio Escalanti of the Quechan Tribal Council also stepped forward to address the crowd.



The Strong Hearts Native Society returned to their traditional venue for this year's annual Miss San Pasqual Native Pageant, holding the contest inside the Quechan Community Center.

The Warriors Athletic Booster Club took up a position at the front entry, selling hot, delicious frybread

tacos to the crowd streaming in. The funds raised by the Booster Club will go to help buy Lettermen's jackets and other gear for student athletes this year, so Pageant Emcee Faron Owl made sure to mention the great food available just outside three or four times during the evening!

The actual Pageant got

started with the visiting Second Street Singers from Parker, Arizona joining local singers at the foot of the stage, to set the mood with traditional songs. Local ladies, contestants and visiting Native Royalty collected in front of the singers to dance to the music, as the Quechan Post 802 color guard gathered

at the entrance with Lyman Golding and the Roadrunner Singers, waiting for their cue to march in and mark the official start of the contest.

With a quick announcement from Mr. Owl, the audience stood on their feet, the Second Street Singers moved to the rear to join with the Roadrunners, and Post 802

posted the colors to the tune of Lyman Golding's honor songs. Outgoing *Shiyii* Marianna Bobtail Bear gave the invocation, and the pageant was underway.

At that point, Mr. Owl called up two adults to recognize their contributions even before the 2013/14 Miss Na-

Continued on Page 8



Six eighth grade young men from the middle school volunteered to become *Mahi Kwanamii's* (Warriors) this year, to learn and pass on traditional *kwat'san* songs. They joined the new *Mahi Kwanamii* for the high school and the outgoing Middle School Warrior on stage throughout the program, singing for the girls during their talent competitions. Seen above, singing in front of the seated outgoing Native Royalty (from the left) are: Joe Roosevelt, Jacob Menta, Anthony Montague (the new High School *Kwanamii*), Phillip Galindo, Daniel Sanovia, the outgoing Middle School Warrior, Owen Barley, Victor Alvarez and Cedric Lukee.

2013 Miss Native San Pasqual Pageant

Continued From Page 7

tive and *Mahi Kwanamii* candidates began the competition in earnest. The Strong Hearts had selected their recently retired agriculture teacher, Mr. Allen Irwin, and the soon to be retired IHS Public Health Nurse, Ms. Claudia Lorentz, to receive special, handmade pottery mugs in recognition of their years of service to the local community.

Mr. Irwin had taught at the

San Pasqual Valley Unified School District for 30(!) years before retiring at the end of the 2012/13 school year, and Claudia Lorentz will be leaving her job on December 31st. Both say they will stay right here, close to the Quechan reservation.

Candidates for the Middle School Princess included Cynthia Emerson and Sky Alvarez, who came in as the runner-up

to Teresa Valenzuela, once the contest had been decided. The new High School Princess is Lucille Allsup, with Winter Alvarez coming in as her runner-up. The Elementary Princess for this year is Marianna Shepard, who competed unopposed yet still completed all the requirements, including her cultural presentation speech and dance talent, to earn the title.



LUCILLE ALLSUP

The 2013-2014 San Pasqual High Strong Hearts Native Princess is a member of the Oglala Lakota Sioux Tribe.

QUECHAN NEWS Photo by William Isbell

The new Miss Native San Pasqual High this year is Lucille Allsup, the proud 17 year old daughter of William and Judy Allsup. She is a member of the

ture goals include continuing my education at AWC, then transferring to Northern Arizona University to obtain my Bachelor's degree in nursing."

Oglala Lakota Sioux Tribe.

In her introductory speech at the Pageant, she said, "My fu-

She also tells the *Quechan News*, "I am honored to be the 2013-2014 Miss Native High School Princess. Becoming Princess was also a goal, and I want to thank everyone who helped me to reach this goal."

Lucille was also sure to say "A big thank you to my parents for their undying support in my endeavors and their undefeated love for me. Thank you!"



THERESA VALENZUELA

A member of the Kwat'san Tribe, the new Middle School Native Princess also served as the 2010-2011 Elementary School Princess.

QUECHAN NEWS Photo by William Isbell

An 8th grade student at San Pasqual Middle School, Teresa Valenzuela is the daughter of Eileen and Eddie Valenzuela. She is an enrolled member of the Quechan Tribe.

"My intentions in life are to graduate from high school and go on to attend a school of performing arts to become a professional dancer," she says, when asked about her future options in life.

Keeping her options open, the new Middle School Princess reveals, "I would also like to attend a school of culinary arts to become a chef."

It appears that while Teresa

the responsibilities of a Native representative of her people, having been selected as the Elementary School Princess three years ago.

At that time, Teresa explained that she enjoyed both dancing and movies about dancing, so it's pretty obvious that her first option for the future is a dream that still holds an appeal for her.

She also said she looked forward to travelling throughout the area to attend cultural events while representing her school.

Having already fulfilled those responsibilities once before has given Miss Valenzuela a good understanding of the re-

is still in the process of firming up her path for the future, she already knows how to fulfill

quirements and responsibilities of her position, since she was also quick to give very specific credit and thanks to a number of adults who have given her guidance and assistance in achieving another Strong Hearts title so early in life.

"I am honored to be the San Pasqual Middle School's Native American Princess this year," she told the *Quechan News*, in her written explanation of her goals for the year.

"I would like to thank my great-aunt and -uncle, Dorothea and Thomas Montague for the traditional guidance they provide for me, and thanks to Arlie Emerson and Lyman Golding for their traditional songs during my talent portion at the Pageant." And of course, she also gives credit for her success "to my mom and dad for all their love and support."

In addition, six young men volunteered to become Warriors (*Mahi Kwanamii*) for the Middle School this year, to learn and pass on *kwat'san* songs under the guidance of Mr. Owl, local elders, and the year's new High School *Mahi Kwanamii*, Anthony Montague.

The program ended with the outgoing Elementary Princess, Brina Iron Cloud asking Mr. Lyman Golding to return to the stage with the Roadrunner

Singers, to lead a special series on honor songs in memory of the Roadrunners founder, lost to the community earlier this year.

Visiting Native Royalty from Parker joined the entire Pageant entourage on stage to dance in memory of Willard Golding.

With that emotional presentation completed, the entire assembly applauded the presentation of new Strong Hearts native Royalty, lining up to congratulate them all in person.



MARIANNA SHEPARD

The new Native Princess at San Pasqual Elementary School is descended from the Kwat'san, Cocopah and Pima Tribes.

QUECHAN NEWS Photo by William Isbell

A nine year old fifth grade student at San Pasqual Elementary, Marianna Shepard says she likes being involved in community events, and that she also loves to play baseball.

Growing up with Quechan, Cocopah and Pima blood flowing through her veins, Mariana Shepard is the daughter of John P. Shepard, III and Jeneen Comet. "My maternal grand-

maternal grandparents are Tim and Donna O'Brien."

Asked about her future plans, Marianna says "My goal is to graduate from high school and go on to college." She also wants to thank her family and the community for their support. "I would also like to thank Donald Medart, Ethan and Jayven for singing for me, Auntie Frances for sewing my dress!"



ANTHONY MONTAGUE

A sophomore at San Pasqual High, this year's Mahi Kwanamii is a Quechan Tribal member.

QUECHAN NEWS Photo by William Isbell

A Quechan Tribal member, this year's San Pasqual High *Mahi Kwanamii* is the son of Chino and Monica Montague.

"I am 16 years old and a sophomore this year," he says. "My mom and dad have both been very supportive and I want to thank them for everything."

In discussing his motivation for trying out for the position of "High School Warrior", Anthony said, "Learning Pi Pah songs has been a great experience for me and I encourage

our Quechan youth to learn our traditional ways."

Anthony says he would also like to

thank local Quechan elder Preston Arrowweed for sharing his knowledge of the Pi Pah songs with the members of the Strong Hearts Native Society.

"I would like to thank my good friend Owen Barley for singing with me every chance we get. It is going to be fun singing with the middle school Pi Pah singers and I will do my best to help them learn the songs." He also wants to thank everyone else who's given their support so far this year.

New Animal Control Ordinance: Full Enforcement in January

After months of discussion, hours of careful review and a number of Tribal Council meetings, the Quechan Animal Control Ordinance was approved and passed into law at the Council's regular monthly meeting on November 5, 2014.

Resolution 236-13 made the ordinance effective immediately upon its enactment, and it becomes fully enforceable on January 1st, 2014.

In passing the Animal Control Ordinance, the Tribal Council stated that its main purpose was to ensure the protection of all residents of the Fort Yuma Indian Reservation and neighboring communities from the threat of Rabies through regulating the movement, impoundment and treatment of animals.

The opening paragraphs of the full Ordinance (ARTICLE I, CHAP. 1, Sec. 101 (b) and (c) further state that "The cost of such regulation are appropriately borne, to the greatest extent possible, by those Tribal members, Indian and non-Indian residents of the Reservation, and Indian and non-Indian Persons or entities doing business within the jurisdiction of the Tribe, who choose to keep an Animal or Animals as pets, or whose business significantly relies upon the strict control of Animals from entering upon or crossing over lands under agricultural production" and that "All fees authorized to be assessed and collected herein shall be reasonably designed only to defray the costs of such regulation."

That means that dog owners on the Fort Yuma Indian Reservation need to be aware of the following points in order to be

in full compliance with the new Animal Control Ordinance:

1) All dogs older than four months of age shall be vaccinated for Rabies and their owners must purchase a license from the Quechan Fish and Game Department. A durable dog tag will be issued to the owner at the time of purchasing a license.

2) Owners of dogs living on the Reservation for 30 days or more must obtain their dog license within 30 days of entry onto the Reservation.

2) All dogs are prohibited from roaming at large on the reservation. Owners of dogs must confine the dog to their property and the dog tag must be worn by the dog at all times.

3) Dogs found roaming at large will be picked up and delivered to the Quechan Housing Authority and held for 24 hours. If the dog is not picked up by the owner within 24 hours the dog will be transported to the Humane Society of Yuma. All boarding fees and fines shall be paid prior to the release of the dog to the owner.

4) Owners of dogs will be responsible to maintain control of their dogs at all times and have them properly licensed, or face penalties according to the Fine Schedule adopted with the Animal Control Ordinance.

Fines will range from \$25.00 for first time less serious violations, such as dogs found to be at large or being leashed in such a way that the dog is still able to move beyond the owners property line, to as much as \$500.00 for a second offense of tormenting a dog, keeping a dog known to be vicious, or for interfering with an officer in the enforcement of the ordinance.

While a large part of the new ordinance is taken up with the proper vaccination, registration and control of dogs for the health and safety of people living here in the Fort Yuma area, Chapter 8 consists of three sections which address cruelty to animals.

Those sections make it clear that owning a pet is a responsibility, and that food for pets must be free from contamination and of a sufficient quantity and nutritive value to maintain good health; that potable water is accessible at all times either free-flowing or in a clean receptacle; that pets have convenient access to natural or artificial shelter as protection from extreme temperatures, and with adequate ventilation; and that animals receive medical treatment for injuries, parasites and disease.

Animal cruelty is defined in the ordinance as overwork, torture, torment, cruelly beating or unlawfully killing an animal, or causing or procuring an animal to be overworked, tortured, tormented, cruelly beaten or killed.

Quechan Fish and Game Wardens and Quechan Police Officers are authorized to issue citations for violations of the ordinance, while civil citations issued for those violations will be adjudicated in the Quechan Tribal Court.

This article contains only a partial list of the regulations included in the Animal Control Ordinance. A complete copy of the ordinance and a Schedule of Fines may be obtained at either the Quechan Fish and Game Department or the Tribal Administration offices.



Imperial County Behavioral Health Services (ICBHS) has been providing mental health services to the residents of Winterhaven and Bard at the San Pasqual Family Resource Clinic since 2004.

Located in Winterhaven at 676 Baseline Road, Building 306, ICBHS provides a variety of Specialty Mental Health Services for both children and adults. All services are provided in a strength based, empathic, professional manner. Services include:

» Medication support services provided by our staff Psychiatrist and a Licensed Vocational Nurse. Services include nursing and psychiatric assessment.

» Psychotherapy Services provided by clinicians who are trained on evidenced based therapeutic models such as Trauma Focus Cognitive Behavioral Therapy, Depression Treatment Quality Improvement, Aggression Replacement Training and Cognitive Processing Therapy.

» Rehabilitative and Targeted Case Management Services provided by Mental Health Rehabilitation Technicians to assist with skill development and linkage to services.

The Program Supervisor at the clinic is Raquel Villa.

If you would like an assessment for a child, adolescent, adult or older adult, contact the Access Unit
Monday thru Friday from 8:00 am to 5:00 pm at:
(760) 572-3891 or 1-800-817-5292

Kwat'san Qi'ya!

THANKSGIVING DINNER

Come in, sit down and eat!
Ka'xav, ka'na'k ets ka'muum!

Food, Groceries
Atsaa'maats

Turkey
'Oro'tt

Squash, Pumpkin
Ax'mat or Xam'at

Sweet Potato
Kaa Mo'ott

Corn
Tathits

Bread
Muuth'ily

Submitted by Barbara Levy, Language Coordinator
of the Quechan Language Preservation Program

To enroll in a Language Course, call (760) 572-4412



Efrain Gonzalez and James Hunt unload some of the 350 pounds of clothing airlifted to Yuma for free distribution by Selah Outreach Ministries during their upcoming outreach at the Old Subdivision Park on December 26. Photo Courtesy of Dawn Hunt

Praise the Lord everyone!

Selah Outreach Ministries is happy to remind everyone that we have been available to the Quechan community since 2009. Conducting our first outreach on the Quechan Community Center Baseball Field in Winterhaven, we later relocating those events to the Old Subdivision Park.

Founded by and brought forth by the power of the Holy Spirit and Mr. and Mrs. James Hunt of Yuma, Selah Outreach Ministries has been blessed by the Crossroads Mission as well as various associations including Full Gospel Light-house of Yuma. Those groups are ready and willing to provide necessities to assist in our Ministry's efforts.

Most recently, Clothing From Heaven (founded by Efrain Gonzalez of Manhattan Beach, California) was made aware of Selah Outreach. This non-profit organization was founded to distribute clothing within a 500 mile radius of Manhattan Beach to any and all in need of resources.

On November 10, 2013, Mr. Gonzalez made himself available to our Ministry, transporting 350 pounds of shoes, clothing and jackets to Yuma by private plane for our upcoming December outreach. (If you have a need, Clothing From Heaven can be reached on their Facebook page.)

Selah Outreach Ministries not only provides the Gospel to those in need who are ready and willing to find hope, we also provide dinner at our functions, activities for the children, plus music and clothing for everyone, all to make a difference in their lives.

We are very pleased to inform the Quechan Community that Selah Outreach Ministries has been faithful in conducting services without fail every three months throughout the fall and winter seasons. These begin October 31st. Our next outreach will take place on December 26th, and again in March for Easter Services. Come and bless us with your presence and experience a movement of GOD that can change your life and the love of Christ as well as charity for others. If you should ever have a need, please feel free to approach us at any time. We love each and every one of you and we are ready and willing to lend a helping hand if possible.

Thank you and GOD Bless you,

Mr. & Mrs. James Hunt of Selah Outreach Ministries

2103 Youth Cultural Festival

Continued From Page 12

alongside the visitors.

One group worked on staining the wood arbor and ramadas at Sunrise Point Park with a linseed oil mix, while another group of young men worked with the Quechan Environmental Program crew in harvesting arrow weeds. Those bundles were set aside to replace the old ones on the brush hut at the Elder Village on Sunday. Meanwhile, a third group worked on stabilizing the bank line, placing straw wattles along the river's edge at the Gateway Park.

After a six hour work day, the students enjoyed a two-hour break – some took a nap, some visited the Quechan Language Program to take part in their Fall Festival on the lawn, and some enjoyed a swim in the river.

Saturday evening activities began with a "College Life", discussion, guided by the TAMIT leader Pamela Villesenor, who assisted them in discussing their feelings on setting their goals for college. Activity packets handed out during the presentation were also sprinkled with a wealth of information on pursuing higher education.

Later that evening, the festival began with dinner, sponsored by Paradise and Quechan Casinos. During the meal, the students and community members enjoyed a short film by Fred Phillips Consulting, Inc., outlining the history of the Yuma East Wetlands.

Everyone also saw the film "Songs of the Colorado" and were able ask questions of the

film's producers and the singers featured in the film. Traditional singing and dancing from Ah-Keel Dancers, Strong Hearts and the Road Runners followed the film and panel discussions.

The Native Royalty on hand was led by Gina Rivera, the reigning Miss Quechan Nation.

Miss Rivera had one message for the youth: "Stay in School."

She spoke to the students about the importance of education for each of them, encouraging each one to not ever give up.

Last year's Strong Hearts Elementary Princess Brina Iron Cloud and Middle School Princess Melissa Dosela were also on hand, in their last big appearance before their successors were chosen, along with visiting royalty Alana Pulskamp, the Daughter of Morongo.

On Sunday morning, the students were treated to a hot breakfast, hosted by the Elder Village Focus Group and the Fort Yuma United Methodist Church.

Pastor Bob Klein welcomed the students, opening up both the church and sanctuary after the meal, allowing the students to tour the 110 year old church. Appreciation for the meal was shown by the students, presenting hand-made gifts to the Focus Group members present.

The students then returned to the park and the Elder Village for their final activity – a work service project which had them replacing the old arrow weeds on the brush hut's roof with new bundles. The arrow weeds har-

vested by the males of the group on Saturday were used for this project.

Once their work was completed, the students enjoyed their final water break and a talk from EDA Director Brian Golding, Sr. Mr. Golding gave them more information on the Elder Village project and joined them in the annual group photo – this time in front of the newly refurbished brush hut.

All in all, the event was judged to be a success by everyone involved.

The organizers of this event at the Quechan Economic Development Administration wish to acknowledge and thank the following for their support: the Quechan Tribal Council, Paradise and Quechan Casinos, Top Flavor Farms, T & P Farms, Fred Phillips Consulting, the University of Redlands, TAMIT youth leadership, the Quechan Facilities and Maintenance Grounds Crew, the Quechan Environmental Program, Quechan Security, Quechan Police Department, Quechan Fish and Game, Quechan Parks and Recreation, the Quechan Senior Center, Quechan Utility Company, Miss Quechan Nation, the Elder Village Focus Group, Kenrick Escalanti, Daniel Golding, Brian Golding, Sr., Ben Velasquez, Janyse Collins-Solorio, Barbara Levy and Mark Owl.

Thank you to everyone who stepped up for your assistance in the spirit of volunteerism! We couldn't do it without you! See you next year!

Happy Birthday, Bernita Golding! Mom, You're the Best!

You are the strongest woman we know. You deserve so much for your good deeds, your unconditional love and for your role in the Church.

We thank GOD every December 11th because that is the day he made You!

*From your nice, sweet daughters, Seneca and Jessica
and your beautiful granddaughters, Gina, Dallas and Emma Rose*

WE LOVE YOU!



TRIBAL COUNCIL BUSINESS

Resolutions Passed From October 3 through November 25, 2013

The Quechan Tribal Council passed 16 Official Resolutions from early October until this issue of the Estka Nav Ah Pai went to press. The Resolutions are listed below in numerical order, as they were passed and adopted by the Council. The effect of each Resolution is covered by its Title. For further information on these Resolutions, please contact the the Tribal Council Secretary, Alexis Summerfield, or her Assistant, Erna Jackson at the Tribal Administration Office: (760)572-3912, Ext. 204 or 207.

Resolution 233-13: A Resolution to approve a scheduled maintenance service agreement with Arizona Generator Technology Inc. Approved by a vote of: 4 for, 0 against, 0 abstained, 2 absent at a Regular Council Meeting on November 5, 2013.

Resolution 234-13: A Resolution to accept the award and approve the budget for the Indian Health Service Grant for the Program Year September 23, 2013 through September 30, 2014. Approved by a vote of: 4 for, 0 against, 0 abstained, 2 absent at a Regular Council Meeting on November 5, 2013.

Resolution 235-13: A Resolution to approve the budget for the Community Health Representatives Services Program, Fund 208 for the Calendar Year January 1, 2014 through December 31, 2014. Approved by a vote of: 4 for, 0 against, 0 abstained, 2 absent at a Regular Council Meeting on November 5, 2013.

Resolution 236-13: A Resolution to adopt an Animal Control Ordinance. Approved by a vote of: 4 for, 0 against, 0 abstained, 2 absent at a Regular Council Meeting on November 5, 2013.

Resolution 237-13: A Resolution to approve the operating budget for the Quechan Fish and Game Department, Fund 312, to provide animal control services for the Calendar 2014. Approved by a vote of: 4 for, 0 against, 0 abstained, 2 absent at a Regular Council Meeting on November 5, 2013.

Resolution 238-13: A Resolution to approve the Fine Schedule for animal control services. Approved by a vote of: 4 for, 0 against, 0 abstained, 2 absent at a Regular Council Meeting on November 5, 2013.

Resolution 239-13: A Resolution to adopt the revised Personnel Policies and Procedures 2013 Organizational Chart. Approved by a vote of: 4 for, 0 against, 0 abstained, 2 absent at a Regular Council Meeting on November 5, 2013.

Resolution 240-13: A Resolution to approve submittal of operating budget proposal for continued services of the Quechan Indian Tribe's Food Distribution Program for Federal Fiscal Year 2013-2014. Approved by a vote of: 4 for, 0 against, 0 abstained, 2 absent at a Regular Council Meeting on November 5, 2013.

Resolution 241-13: A Resolution to review and certify eighteen enrollment applicants as officially enrolled members of the Quechan Tribe. Approved by a vote of: 4 for, 0 against, 0 abstained, 2 absent at a Special Council Meeting on November 19, 2013.

Resolution 242-13: A Resolution to review and certify one enrollment applicant as an officially enrolled member of the Quechan Tribe. Approved by a vote of: 3 for, 0 against, 1 abstained, 2 absent at a Special Council Meeting on November 19, 2013.

Resolution 243-13: A Resolution to certify the rejection of Applicant #1, an applicant who did not meet the required enrollment criteria. Approved by a vote of: 4 for, 0 against, 0 abstained, 2 absent at a Special Council Meeting on November 19, 2013.

Resolution 244-13: A Resolution to certify the rejection of Applicant #2, an applicant who did not meet the required enrollment criteria. Approved by a vote of: 4 for, 0 against, 0 abstained, 2 absent at a Special Council Meeting on November 19, 2013.

Resolution 245-13: A Resolution to certify the rejection of Applicant #3, an applicant who did not meet the required enrollment criteria. Approved by a vote of: 3 for, 1 against, 0 abstained, 2 absent at a Special Council Meeting on November 19, 2013.

Resolution 246-13: A Resolution to authorize participation in the US Department of Health and Human Services Administration on Aging, Title VI Part A and Part C Programs for Grant Period April 1, 2014 through March 31, 2017. Approved by a vote of: 4 for, 0 against, 0 abstained, 2 absent at a Special Council Meeting on November 25, 2013.

Resolution 247-13: A Resolution to approve a Joint Powers Agreement for the Andrade Pedestrian Improvement Project. Approved by a vote of: 4 for, 0 against, 1 abstained, 1 absent at a Special Council Meeting on November 25, 2013.

Resolution 248-13: A Resolution to approve the budget for the Andrade Parking Lot, Fund 304, for Calendar Year 2013. Approved by a vote of: 5 for, 0 against, 0 abstained, 1 absent at a Special Council Meeting on November 25, 2013.

Resolution 249-13: A Resolution to approve retroactively re-appointment of the Chief Judge to the Quechan Tribal Courts. Approved by a vote of: 3 for, 1 against, 1 abstained, 1 absent at a Special Council Meeting on November 25, 2013.

Resolution 250-13: A Resolution to approve the amendment to increase the one-time TERO fee to 2%. Approved by a vote of: 5 for, 0 against, 0 abstained, 1 absent at a Special Council Meeting on November 25, 2013.

Christmas Events

— Christmas Movie Nights —

Begin at 6:00PM at the Quechan Community Center

Tuesday - December 10th Tuesday - December 17th

Thursday - December 12th Thursday - December 19th

Monday - December 23rd

Gingerbread House Making

Begins at 6:00PM on Wednesday, December 11th, 2013,

Also at the Quechan Community Center

The Quechan Tribal Toy Giveaway

Begins at 5:00PM on Wednesday, December 18th, 2013,

At The Paradise Event Center

The Christmas House Lighting Contest

Begins at Dusk on Friday, December 20th, with the Winner to be Announced the following evening at the —

Quechan Tribal Christmas Dinner

Which will take place at 5:00PM on Saturday, December 21st, At The Paradise Event Center

A note from Claudia Lorentz, R.N.:

Public Health Nurse - Fort Yuma IHS Service Unit

After 18 and 1/2 years, I will be retiring effective December 31st, 2013.

I will miss the community and want to thank you for your kindness. Yuma is my home and you may see me around at some of the community events.

Thanks again, to all of you.

PUBLIC NOTICE

Construction of the new water tank will require the connection of its plumbing to that of the existing tank. During this process, water service will be shutdown to all buildings on Indian Hill during the lowest demand hours of the very early morning.

There is also a possibility of reduced water service to the Quechan Reservation and the Paradise Casino during this period.

While a date for the interconnection has not been determined as of press time, it will most likely occur during the month of December.

Be on the lookout for bulletins or call
Quechan Utility Company: 760-572-0667
for more information.



Visiting college students spent three days on the Fort Yuma Indian Reservation in early November, cleaning, replanting and rebuilding the natural areas of the Sunrise Point Park. They also spent their evenings here learning about traditional Quechan culture through songs and demonstrations.



Thirty college students visited the Quechan Reservation over the first weekend in November, for three days of work service, camping, and fun. Twenty-seven students from the University of Redlands and three students from the Teaching and Mentoring Indian Tarahat (TAMIT) high school leadership program (from the Fernandeño Tataviam Band of Mission Indians) arrived to help out the Quechan Tribe's wetlands restoration efforts. In the process, those students

gained knowledge and valuable hands-on experience in riparian restoration at the Yuma East Wetlands while also participating in a variety of cultural experiences. The students arrived on Friday afternoon, setting up camp at the Sunrise Point Park. The first event of the weekend is always a favorite for the students — the Sweat Lodge ceremony. Every year, Phil Emerson and his family host an opportunity for the volunteers to enter into the sweat lodge at his home on

Picacho Road. Mr. Emerson explained the importance of the ceremony, and how it is practiced in the cultures of many Tribes. The Emersons shared traditional songs as well. On Saturday, the students set about on a long day of planned activities, jumping right in to the work service projects at the Sunrise Point Park, Elder Village, and the bank line of Yuma's Gateway Park. Local members of the Strong Hearts Native Society worked right



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