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ETSKA NAV AH PAI THE NEWS CARRIER
QUECHAN NEWS

is published by

The Quechan Indian Tribe

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

Quechan Art Draws Appreciative Crowd



Quechan Tribal members mingle with local patrons of the arts at the opening night reception for the first ever "People Of The Colorado" art show at the Yuma Art Center, a project of the the Ah-Mut Pipa Foundation and Kwatsan Radio. QUECHAN NEWS Photo by William Isbell

It's been a little over a month since the official opening night reception for the "People Of The Colorado" at the Yuma Art Center, and the general public still seems fascinated by the artistic talent on display in historic downtown Yuma.

A joint effort of the Yuma Fine Arts Association, the Ah-Mut Pipa Foundation and Kwatsan Radio, *The People Of The Colorado* art show was conceived for the purpose of stimulating Tribal culture by blending traditional modes of

expression with contemporary methods of exposure. In the process, it is hoped that by encouraging local artists right here at Fort Yuma to get used to submitting their work for display in shows at the Yuma Art Center, a new synergy will develop which will benefit the local cultures on both sides of the river.

"I was thrilled to see the exhibit open with such a good turnout from the general population and the Quechan Tribe," says David Woodward, the Di-

rector of Yuma Fine Arts Association (YFFA). "The opening reception went very well. There were over 175 people in attendance (that first night), and I thought Brian Golding and the singers did a great job."

Brian Golding, Sr., of the Quechan Economic Development Administration, is an on-air talent at Kwatsan Radio. He helped set up the show with the encouragement of his mother, Pat Golding, who has been a member of the YFAA Board of Trustees since late 2012.

Once the subject of an all-Quechan art show was presented to Preston Arrow-weed, the Ah-Mut Pipa Foundation advertised the show and released the call to artists through internet ads, word-of-mouth and printed appeals.

Both Kwatsan Radio and the *Quechan News* carried the message, and in the two months prior to the April 1st deadline for submissions, 20 Tribal members applied to be a part of the show, delivering everything

(Continued on Page 3)

Tribal Government at Opening of New Federal Courthouse Yuma

An impressive roster of local and national representatives gathered at the Pivot Point Conference Center on April 24th, to dedicate a new federal courthouse named in honor of Judge John M. Roll. Members of the Quechan Tribal Council, Tribal Court Judge Claudette White, and representatives from the Quechan EDA joined notables such as Senators John McCain and Jeff Flake, Representatives Paul Gosar, Raul Grijalva and Ron Barber. Gabrielle Giffords, who was wounded in a January, 2011 attack that left Judge Roll dead, was also present and spoke at the dedication.



Quechan Tribal Council member Emilio Escalanti was able to meet and speak personally with federal officials such as Arizona Representative Paul Gosar once the formal ceremony was completed (above). The new U.S. Courthouse is named for Judge John M. Roll, who was assassinated during an attack in Tucson which killed five others and wounded Arizona Representative Gabrielle Giffords. Q NEWS Photo by William Isbell



Basic explanations which compare and contrast our various legal systems by Quechan Tribal Court Judge Claudette White

For this month's column in the *Etska Nav Ah Pai*, I have a fairly serious message, on the subject of:

EXPUNGEMENTS

If you are having a hard time finding employment due to your criminal record, or if you are trying to be licensed or approved for the placement of foster children but can't due to a previous criminal conviction, please consider participating in this upcoming event.

The California Superior Court, the District Attorney, the Public Defender, as well as volunteer Attorney Veronica Henderson and the Quechan Tribal Court are working together to coordinate an "Expungement Fair" to assist the Quechan Community and Winterhaven Community residents with the opportunity to petition the California Superior Court for expungements. Expungements may be granted on most misdemeanors.

The previously scheduled "Expungement Fair," had a fairly dismal participation rate, due to speculation and rumors that the event was a "sting" or "set-up."

The Courts and participating parties are not working to mislead people in any way. We are working together to provide a great opportunity to help people clear their records to make them more employable, licensable by agencies for various purposes and for their own personal reasons. People participating or anyone with outstanding warrants should understand though, that if you have an outstanding warrant, you should seek assistance within the Courts to clear up that matter *first*, before participating in this event. A warrant is an outstanding matter that this fair is not set up to deal with. We are at this time solely trying to help people clear their records and expunge matters which can be expunged.

If you are interested in participating, or have additional questions on the expungement, please call (760) 572-5552 or email b.tibbitts@quechantribe.com or tribal.court@quechantribe.com and provide your name and contact information to a Clerk of the Quechan Tribal Court and you will be contacted for further instruction and dissemination of information.

Expungement is open to all Quechan Tribal Members and ALL individuals in the Winterhaven/Bard Community. And please note: Only criminal convictions in the state of California are eligible for expungement at the upcoming expungement fair.

Thank you for your time,

Tribal Court Judge Claudette White

FOURTH OF JULY REMINDER

Vendors, the 4th of July Celebration is approaching fast.

To get an assigned booth at the 4th of July Celebration, vendors must obtain a valid Business Permit with the Quechan Indian Tribe.

The EDA Office welcomes you to submit a Business Permit Application.

If you would like an application you can contact Frank Venegas at the EDA Office (760) 572-5270 for more information.



No vendors will be accepted without a valid Business Permit on file.



The Deadline for Booth/Vendor Reservations is Friday, June 27, 2014.

The EDA Office is located at 604 Picacho Road, Suite 4, Winterhaven, CA 92283



Office Hours: 8:00AM – 5:00 PM, Monday through Friday
Closed During Lunch Hour: 12:00 PM – 1:00 PM



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QUECHAN NEWS
William Isbell

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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

People Of The Colorado Show At The Yuma Art Center

(Continued from Page 1)



Lightning songs were part of the first night's program (left); River Montague sold his first item in 20 minutes (above) and Frederick José Andrews displayed flower flutes and butterfly stickpins (below).



Within the first half hour of the opening reception in May, a Yuma Art Center employee was busy placing "sold" signs next to many of the works by the youngest artists. Meanwhile, a patron spent time puzzling out the messages contained in works by Kenrick Escalanti, while others swarmed around the sculptures of Woody Brown, asking Barbara Levy a thousand questions.

QUECHAN NEWS Photo by William Isbell

from beadwork to jewelry, to paintings, digital creations, to wood carvings, photoshop experiments, musical instruments and quilts. The diversity of materials and modes of expression on display are amazing.

After finding space for everything, framing and hanging the photos and drawings, and preparing the bulkier items for protected display under dedicated lighting fixtures, Mr. Woodward has gotten very familiar with each and every piece.

"The work of Woody Brown is amazing," he says. "His carvings show different people and each one has a different feeling. He says he has almost 40 dolls carved. I would love to see more of his work."

The Yuma Fine Arts Association Director also says he finds Cameron Chino's work very interesting and very contemporary. "It draws a very different emotion everytime you study it," he notes. "He is an artist I would like to follow."

The artists participating in the show are: Faith McKinley, Larry Rodriguez, Preston Arrowweed, Kenrick Escalanti, Leon Rainbow, Frederick Andrews, Yolanda Hart Stevens, Mia Escalanti, Woody Brown, Cameron Chino, Katherine Smith, River Montague, Alyssa Menta, Darlene Teton, Erica Duncan, Donovan Manchado, Greg Hill, Bonnie DeWeaver and Gary Menta. Mr. Woodward has made it clear the YFAA hopes to have

a similar show in the future with even greater participation.

He also says that the show has been a great success by nearly every measurement. "I would like to thank everyone who is participating in this exhibit and everyone that helped to make it possible. The sharing of (Quechan) culture is a gift to our community and I feel richer for being able to experience it."

The People of The Colorado is scheduled to be at the the Yuma Art Center through Tuesday, June 24. Stop by and see it! The Art Center is open every Tuesday through Thursday from 10AM to 6 PM; Fridays from 10AM to 7 PM and every Saturday from 10AM to 5 PM. They're closed on Mondays.



Teresa Valenzuela ended her year as the Strong Hearts Middle School Indian Princess on a high note, receiving special recognition from both the Strong Hearts and the President of the United States. Here, School Superintendent Dr. David Bealer presents Teresa with the President's Education Award, accompanied by a signed letter from President Barack Obama. Theresa also received a public "Thank You" and an award for the service she performed as a Tribal representative of her family and community as an Indian Princess.

QUECHAN NEWS Photo by William Isbell

FORT YUMA INDIAN HEALTH CENTER *Announces a New Early and Late Appointment Policy*

The Fort Yuma Health Center posted their new "Late and Early Appointment Policy" in late May. The policy, which went into effect on May 28th, was shared with both the Quechan and Cocopah Tribal Councils in January 2014 to gather public comment.

The new "Late and Early Appointment Policy" was also shared with IHS staff members at their May 2014 general staff meeting.

Lt. Cmdr. Scott Raisor, Acting Quality Manager at the Fort Yuma Service Unit has provided the following important excerpts from the new policy:

The purpose of this policy is to provide a consistent patient-centered experience using appointment management practices and with the goal of maintaining access to services and minimizing loss of appointments, which restrict clinic access for (1) those who can't make it on time, (2) those that

arrive early and (3) those who arrive on time.

In the event a patient arrives early or late for an appointment, patient registration or front desk staff will notify the provider's nurse. The nurse will advocate on the part of the patient to the care team and providers in determining what options, if any, are available to accommodate the patient.

Early Arrivals:

a. Patients will be notified that they will see their provider at their appointment time.

b. In the case of a patient who arrives significantly early for an appointment usually 60 minutes or more, if any earlier unfilled appointment slot is available, the patient's appointment may be changed. In this case, canceling the original later appointment and making the new/earlier appointment.

c. If no earlier appointment slots are available and the provider is ahead of their clinic

schedule, the nurse may review all scheduled appointments. For resource-intensive or procedure-based appointments, the RN will discuss with the provider and determine if provider can see a patient earlier than appointed time without creating clinic delays.

Late Arrivals:

a. The nurse on duty will explore options with the patient:

For routine appointments, 1. The patient may choose to reschedule the appointment.

2. The nurse may determine some level of service that can be provided which is acceptable to the patient. The patient may choose to wait with no guarantee of a specific time.

b. The exception to the above options is for the acutely ill patient. The nurse will determine if these patients need clinical triage/assessment to decide if they need immediate medical care or transfer to the local Emergency Room.

SAN PASQUAL VALLEY MIDDLE SCHOOL 8TH GRADE PROMOTION LIST



The Strong Hearts Pipa Singers sang three traditional songs at the start of the May 29 middle school promotion event. They are (left to right): Victor Alvarez, Joseph Roosevelt, Cedric Lukee, Chano Escalante, Randy Allen, Jr. and Phillip Galindo.

QUECHAN NEWS Photos by William Isbell

Randy Allen
Karina Almaguer
Sky Alvarez
Victor Alvarez
Jetzy Aranda
Nereyda Ahumada
Evelin Barajas
Amanda Barley
Marian Cabriaes
Jasmine Castillo
Paulina Cardoza
Isadore Clark
Angel Curiel
Anna Delgado
Khamile Durand
Jose Duenas Rios
Cynthia Emerson
Chano Escalante
Phillip Galindo
Angelina Garcia
Lavelle Gilmore
Reece Ghiotto
Saiah Golding
Jocelin Guerrero
Ryan Jefferson
Ida Jose
Cedric Lukee
Cassandra Lopez
Fernanda Lopez
Kevin Maldonado
Catherine Manchado

Donovan Manchado
Irie Mandujano
Erica Marin Ojeda
Austin Meyers
Jamilia Mills
Josiah Montague
Melissa Navarrate
Susana Orozco
Sisby Palomino
Antonia Palone
Dresana Palone
Megan Pitcock
Jose Ponce
Nayeli Ramirez Santamaria
Ari Robles
Daizia Rodriguez
Jessica Roosevelt
Joseph Roosevelt
Francisco Samudio
Daniel Sanovia
Natalia Short
Teresa Valenzuela
Ashlee Valenzuela
Leslee Valenzuela
Andres Valle
Victor Vasquez
Delphina Velarde
Alondra Velasquez
Jacob Villa
Kimana Wilson

ASU Graduate:



**Kristen
Odessa
Yellowjohn**

Quechan Tribe

*Bachelor of Arts in
Communication*

Photo Courtesy of Kristen Payan

Kristen Odessa Yellowjohn, daughter of Debra Escalanti, and granddaughter of Donald and Mercedes White Escalanti, has graduated from Arizona State University, awarded *Cum Laude* status in recognition of her high academic achievement.

She has received her Bachelor's Degree from the School of Social and Behavioral Sciences in Communications. When asked about what drew her to this field of study, she reflected on her life with her grandmother.

Kristen says she often found herself acting as an intermediary at times, representing her grandmother's pressing health concerns to physicians, hospital staff and others in leadership positions. She recognized that communication was both vital and essential in translating the trust her grandmother had for her into action.

"Communication provides a platform for advocacy and is essential to conveying individual information and helps facilitate decision making more effectively," she says.

Kristen received University Grants through ASU and took out student loans to pay for her tuition as she successfully maintained honors status throughout her undergraduate years while also raising her son Kodiak.

She says she dedicated her time to maintaining good grades, which allowed her to reap the benefits and support necessary to sustain her educational path. It took long hours of study, loss of recreational time, limitations on finances and created distances in relationships in order for her to maintain her good standing within the University. However, what appeared to be limitations on the surface were actually the life experiences that shaped her vision of who she wants to be: insightful and successful.

She has applied for entrance into Lambda Pi Eta, the Honors Society of the National Communications Association. Her short term goal is to apply her knowledge either through working on political campaigns, or public relations and strategic planning within the gaming industry or creating new avenues for organizational development. Her long term goal is to continue her education while considering career paths in gaming or pre-med. Kristen fully expects to gain the knowledge necessary to become more versatile in her approaches, to develop into a visionary leader through the experiences that extend beyond the bounds of her imagination. She can be reached at kyellowj@asu.edu.

Social Services Director Hopes to Add ICWA Worker

Over the past few years, a series of federal and state grant reductions as well as general budgetary woes led to a reduction of staff positions at Quechan Social Services.

And though Michael Jack took over in 2012, keeping things organized and even expanding services for a short time, he was later elected to the Quechan Tribal Council, leaving Social Services in search of a full time director once again.

The search for a new Quechan Social Services Director ended in November 2013, with Dr. Rod Nelson being hired to oversee a currently much smaller, but no less important Tribal department.

Dr. Nelson comes to the Tribe with a varied educational background and a great deal of experience he will be able to apply to the position. He earned his first degree, a Bachelor of Science in Political Science and Social Work from the University of Utah in 1978. From there, he attended the University of Arizona, gaining a 1981 Master's Degree in Child Development and Family Relations (Counseling Psychology). Six years later, he'd also collected a Ph.D. in Clinical Psychology from William Lyon University.

Since completing his formal education, Dr. Nelson has gained nearly 30 years of experience as a licensed marriage and family therapist, psychotherapist, and a forensic interviewer in public agencies, private agencies and private practice. During that same period, he has taught classes at the University and community college level, both part-time and



Dr. Rod Nelson has served the Director of Quechan Social Services since November of 2013.

QUECHAN NEWS Photo By William Isbell

full-time, in the disciplines of Psychology, Sociology, Family Studies and Life Span Development. Dr. Nelson also spent about 18 months as a Child Protective Case Worker, in the Agency for Children, Youth and Family with the Arizona Department of Economic Security.

Dr. Nelson says that his major responsibility at present is to represent the Quechan Tribe in all Indian Child Welfare (ICWA) matters, since for the time being, they don't have an ICWA case worker on staff at Social Services.

However, since Dr. Nelson has been called to give an expert witness testimony by Judges and Commissioners in Yuma County and the State of Arizona for cases involving dependency, guardianship and custody actions, he is also filling in as our ICWA Worker himself quite often right now.

He says he's hoping to hire a full time ICWA case worker sometime in the next few months, providing the budget and other details to cover the

position can be worked out.

That will give him more time to concentrate on the other areas of Social Services, such as providing advice and counseling for Tribal members on their rights in regards to their children's welfare. As Quechan Social Services Director, Dr. Nelson is also responsible for the oversight of the Tribe's general assistance to those who qualify, as well as providing assistance to those who need other social services through associated county, state and federal agencies.

In the meantime, Dr. Nelson is assisted in all this by clerk/receptionist Maricela Barley and file clerk Diana Hale.

Mari says, "I am just here to be that smiling face at the door who directs you to the proper person or program, whether in person or over the telephone." She also issues referrals for agencies such as the Crossroads Mission, Quechan Housing Authority and the Yuma Community Food Bank.

"If someone needs a referral to the Yuma Community Food Bank," she explains, "they can stop by the office in person or call the office at (760) 572-0201 Ext. 21 and I can issue one to them, and then fax it directly to the food bank." Mari is also in charge of their Donation Room, which holds items that have been donated by our community for our community.

According to Mari, "Anyone is welcome to come by the Social Services office and see what is available to them, from everyday clothing for adults and children to toys, blankets and other household items."



Spotlight on Gabriel "Gibby" Hemmer

Quechan Tribal member Gabriel "Gibby" Hemmer pitches for the San Diego Christian College (SCC) Hawks. This year, for the first time in the school's history, the Hawks won their Division in the National Association of Intercollegiate Athletics (NAIA), earning a place at the NAIA World Series in Lewiston, Idaho. There, Gibby pitched 8 strikeouts, which earned him a spot on the 2014 NAIA Baseball All-American First Team.

A descendent of the Jackson family, Gabriel comes from a long line of tribal athletes. He is currently ranked number one in the nation, having 13 wins in a total of 122 innings



pitched. Gibby is also ranked 5th in the nation in strikeouts, with a career total of 127.

During his sophomore year summer break, Gibby worked as a security guard at the Paradise Casino and played in several basketball tournaments at the Quechan Community Center. As a senior at SCC this year, Gibby filled out 18 recruit packets for the Major League Baseball First-Year Player Draft which was held in Secaucus, New Jersey during the first week in June.

ASU 2014 American Indian Commencement Ceremony



Quechan Higher Education Program Director Ora Lee Valisto made the trek to Tempe, to support the Quechan Tribe's 2014 Arizona State University graduates. Here, she joins Crystal Rope, Crystal's grandfather, Donald Escalanti and Quechan Tribal Council member Emilio Escalanti outside of the Grady Gammage Auditorium following ASU's American Indian Commencement Ceremony on May 15, 2014. Our 2014 graduates of ASU are listed below.

Photos Courtesy of Crystal Rope



QUECHAN TRIBE ASU GRADUATES: SPRING 2014

Crystal Rope

Bachelor of Science in Nutrition (Dietetics)
with a minor in American Indian Studies

Tina Salinas

Bachelor of Science in American Indian
Studies - Minor in Justice studies

Kristen Odessa Yellowjohn

Bachelor of Arts in Communication

Richard Montague

Bachelor of Science in Nursing

PIPA Market

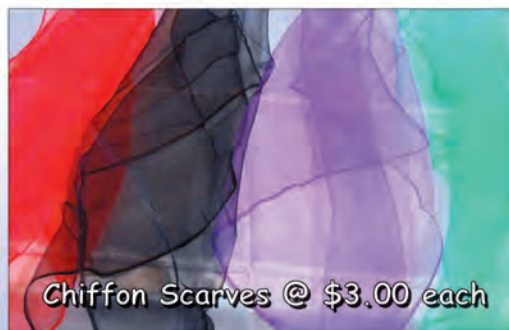
Indian Beans: 5 lb. package @ \$19.00
2 lb. package @ \$8.50

Come see us! We have fountain drinks,
coffee, non-foods, food items, snacks,
eggs, milk, etc.

Call us! @ 760-572-2260



Solid Color Scarves @ \$8.50 each



Chiffon Scarves @ \$3.00 each

QUECHAN INDIAN TRIBE
FORT YUMA INDIAN RESERVATION

Tickets available online!

TEEN DANCE

#TeenDanceYuma

Friday, June 20: **SUMMER BASH**
Friday, July 18: **Glow Jam**

Dance from 8:00 PM - Midnight
at the Yuma Civic Center
Ages 13 - 19 - \$5 per event
with your High School ID!

For more information,
visit our Facebook page!

1440 W. DESERT HILLS DR.
YUMA, AZ. 85365
928-373-5040 • ycc@yumaaz.gov

Graduation Night For The

San Pasqual Class of 2014



Senior Class Advisor **Faron Owl** (standing at right) was presented with a crystal apple by senior class representatives **Lucille Allsup**, **Elizabeth Lizzaragga** and (not seen) **Ceara Ingraham**. Mr. Owl's fellow teacher and Senior Class Advisor, **Mark Surdyka**, also received the same award.

QUECHAN NEWS
Photos by
William Isbell



The entire senior class, as well as the audience of family members, faculty, and local dignitaries found the speech by Valedictorian **Jacob Emerson** to be the highlight of the evening, as he gave a humorous recitation of life as a student up to this point, which generated peals of laughter.



Jacob Emerson is seen at the podium during his well-received remarks to his class.

Cassandra Aguilar-Derma

Zayana Bohanon

Saul O. Camacho

Peter N. DeCorse

Emily Durand

Jesus Flores

Iliana Garcia

Brian Gaxiola Marquez

Jonathan Guillen

♦ Top Six Seniors ♦

Valedictorian:

♦ **Jacob Emerson** ♦

Salutatorian

♦ **Josue Peña** ♦

♦ **Lucille Allsup** ♦

♦ **Elizabeth Lizzaragga** ♦

♦ **Max Maldonado** ♦

♦ **Julio Renteria** ♦

Ceara Ingraham

Rodrigo Miranda Garcia

Kevin Ramirez

Maria Ramirez

Erik Robles

Myrna Santamaria

Adolfo Sigala

Matthew Abishi Thomas

Jayson Villalpando



Lucille Allsup also took time to thank her adoptive parents for their part in her success.

Friday, May 30th, 2014



The **Post 802 Color Guard** was there (as always) to start things off with the posting of the colors, which allowed Class President **Ceara Ingraham** to lead everyone in the Pledge of Allegiance. Color Guard members included **Francisco Estrada**, **Frank Venegas**, **Milson José** and (on the left) a small volunteer who joined them in marching down the center aisle.



Strong Hearts Shiiyii Myra Andrews used her last appearance before the Class of 2014 to lead the evening's invocation.



Retired ag teacher Allen Irwin returned to impart a few snippets of "Graduation Wisdom" before snapping a "selfie" with the class!



Norman Osborne of Quechan Post 802 presented four American Legion Awards to graduating seniors. Here, he presents a Citizenship Award to Quechan Tribal member **Zayana Bohanon**. **Johnathan Guillen** also received a Citizenship Award, while **Iliana Garcia** and Tribal member **Jacob Emerson** were presented with the American Legion Constitution Awards.

**SAN PASQUAL HIGH SCHOOL
CLASS OF 2014
SCHOLARSHIP AWARDS
WEDNESDAY NIGHT,
MAY 28, 2014**



Anne Hanks Memorial Scholarship	Max Maldonado
Rachel Rodriguez Memorial Scholarship	Elizabeth Lizzaraga
ACSA Scholarship	Jacob Emerson Josue Peña
Quechan Legion Post 802 Scholarship Awards	Jacob Emerson Elizabeth Lizzaraga
Scholarship & Colleges Awards	Saul Camacho Kevin Ramirez Iliana Garcia Johnathan Guillen Myrna Santamaria
Brenda Rodriguez Memorial Scholarship	Iliana Garcia
Anthony Garcia Memorial Scholarship	Jacob Emerson
Beverly Langager Memorial Scholarship	Elizabeth Lizzaraga
Yuma Southwest Construction Scholarship	Josue Peña
Talent Search Award	Jacob Emerson
Post 802 Ladies Auxiliary Scholarships	Jacob Emerson Max Maldonado Elizabeth Lizzaraga
Rufus & Celia Espino Scholarship	Myrna Santamaria Elizabeth Lizzaraga
ASB/AVID Awards	Josue Peña Lucille Allsup Jayson Villalpando
Charlotte Deeds Memorial Scholarship	Max Maldonado
California Schools Employees Association Scholarship	Jacob Emerson
Teachers Uni-Serve Scholarship	Jacob Emerson

Penelope Jefferson Completes MBA Program at the University of Phoenix

On October 18th, 2013, I still had 9 credits to go until I would complete the Masters of Business Administration Program and earn my degree. The University of Phoenix Yuma Campus is small, so their once-a-year commencement includes students who are close to finishing his or her program.

So – they allowed me to walk down the aisle with the rest of my class and stand with them as a graduate, even though I wouldn't actually pick up my diploma for another six months. The ceremony was held at the Dr. Don E. Schoening Auditorium at Arizona Western College.

In January of 2008, I began working to improve the quality of my life, which meant changing my lifestyle. The first thing I did was to become alcohol and drug free, return to church and begin looking for a job.

As an addict in recovery not many doors opened to me, and one day as I was out job hunting I mistakenly drove to University of Phoenix.

They said come on in and we can get you enrolled into college and work on building your work skills, so you will be more employable. I was just 6 months clean and sober at that time. Even though I didn't really feel like I was ready or able



Penelope Mary Jefferson stands proudly in cap and gown next to the symbol of her *alma mater* on graduation night.

Photo Courtesy of University of Phoenix

to make it all the way through a college course, it still sounded like a good idea for me.

After enrolling I went home, not expecting them to call or anything. Well, they called back and convinced me to believe in myself. So, I gave college a try and went to the first class, which was offered to me free of charge, to see if I could do it before I made my final decision.

After that first class, I thought I can do this, 15 years passed since I last attended college. I just kept going, through many hurdles, even though I didn't have a valid license and needed a ride to every class. But I was determined to find a way around those obstacles, to stop finding excuses for not succeeding, and

start down a road to a better life.

For the first 3 years of college, my significant other drove me to and from class every week.

Even with the loss of my son, I kept on going and only missed one class throughout the 6 years. Times were tough, but somehow I made it, through the grace of God is what I believe.

I spent many days, nights, and early mornings at the computer working to find the right answers. My main mentor was my Father's wife Helena, though other relatives in the community also guided and encouraged me.

I am thankful for the support of the United States Government and the Quechan Tribe for their assistance in funding my education, allowing me to earn the Bachelors of Science in Business Management Degree, by July of 2012.

Following completion of the undergraduate program, I enrolled in the University of Phoenix School of Business Graduate program. I completed the Masters of Business Administration Program at the University of Phoenix Yuma campus on April 8, 2014. The business graduate program requires a 3.0 GPA, and I was able to graduate with a GPA of 3.11!

Quechan Head Start



Is now accepting enrollments for the 2014-2015 School Year

**Contact: Danette Joaquin
at (760) 572-0263**

Here's a BIG Birthday SHOUT OUT!



**To Miss Louann Levy!
Happy Birthday • June 14, 2014!**



**From your
Coworker,
Angela Sandoval**

Tanya Dixon Offers Thanks To Those Who Helped Her Succeed

Tanya Hicks-Dixon is an enrolled member of the Quechan Indian Tribe, whose parents are Denise Dugan-Tecumseh and James Hicks. She spent her early childhood years growing up in San Diego, and returned to the reservation to attend San Pasqual Elementary School. “I later continued my education at Colonia Community Learning Center in Dallas, Texas,” she tells the *Quechan News*, “and Cedar Valley College in Lancaster, Texas.” She returned to live on the Fort Yuma reservation as an adult.

Continuing her story, Tanya says she has lived and worked on the reservation for many years. “I have been a participant of the WIA/DOL program since November 2012 and was assigned to various depart-



Tanya Dixon proudly displays the diploma she recently earned at the Yuma School of Beauty.

Photo Courtesy of Yuma School of Beauty

ments throughout the Quechan Indian Tribe while I was there, such as Facilities and Maintenance, Head Start, Finance and Social Services.”

“The WIA/DOL program has truly been a beneficial and rewarding experience for me,”

she explains. “The staff and employees there are such a blessing, they are AWESOME!!!”

Tanya really gets into “singing their praises”, explaining why they are so awesome: “They help you out on everything from the application process, to orientation, career resources and resume writing support services, to helping out with job searches and job fairs.”

Tanya says she decided to pursue her true calling in the beauty industry while she was a participant in the WIA/DOL program.

“Since I was a little girl I have always had a love and passion for hair, makeup and fashion. I have always wanted to be a cosmetologist but just could not balance it out, since I am the sole provider of my four sons.”

A widow and single mother, Tanya says that when she first considered the challenges involved in working to support her family while attending beauty school, “I just didn’t see it happening.” But with her fiancé (former EDA planner) Michael Abraham helping and supporting her, she was able to see it through.

Confident of her fiancé’s support, Tanya went to both WIA/DOL and the Quechan Higher Education Department to receive their assistance in getting her enrolled in the Yuma School of Beauty (YSB) early last July. She stuck with it for the full ten months, and graduated with Pivot Point credentials from YSB on May 23, 2014.

“I am currently awaiting my testing dates for the State Cos-

metology Board,” she is happy to report. “Once I’ve passed that test, I can obtain my license. In the meantime, I am very busy in preparing to open my very own hair studio this summer, Royal-T’s Hair Studio, which will be located at 2115 South Arizona Avenue, Suite #2 in Yuma.”

Tanya realizes that the support of her community played a great part in her success so far.

“My heartfelt thanks and appreciation goes out to all of the WIA/DOL staff (Mr. Daniels, Louann, Angie and Tina), the Higher Education staff (Ora Lee and Tarryn): You guys are the BEST!!!! Michael Abraham you are AMAZING!!!! And to the Quechan Tribal Administration, the Tribal Council, and Family and Friends: Thank you once again!”

Quechan Water Quality Reports Available from Utilities Office

Consumer Confidence Reports (CCRs) for the Quechan Water System, an annual requirement of the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA), are now available for 2013.

These reports summarize the quality of the water provided by each water source and the associated distribution system. Each report has been reviewed for accuracy and approved by the EPA. The report for the Quechan Water System in its entirety, as well as the report for Sleepy Hollow Trailer Park, are both available at the Quechan Utility office.

Testing procedures include breaking each water supply

into sections based on the number of customers it serves.

The Quechan Water System consists of five sections, with the remaining smaller water system (at the Sleepy Hollow Trailer Park) having only one section. Within each section, five addresses are selected to supply water samples from the furthest reaches of each section.

Each month throughout the calendar year, water samples are taken from one of these addresses in each section. On following months, samples are taken from the next address on the list. In this manner, each identified address is sampled four times each year.

All water samples are sent to an independent laboratory for analysis. The lab returns a summary of their findings and passes a copy along to the EPA.

The data contained in each of the annual water quality reports summarizes the results of these tests.

When drinking water standards are exceeded, follow-up actions are noted and reported, and corrective actions then taken, following EPA guidance.

If you have any questions regarding this process, you may call the Utilities Manager at (760) 572-0667 or visit the Utilities Office at 1890C San Pasqual School Road.

Kwat'san Li'ya!

Summer time fun!

It's very hot, do you feel it?

'Apilytan, ma'avk?

Shall we go swimming?

Xalytuu'úp 'ayáawum

What time shall we go swimming?

At four o'clock.

'Anyáa kaalyaviim xalytuu'úp 'ayáawum?

'Anyáa tsuumpápm.

Shall we eat watermelon?

Tsam'iitó 'atsuuqáawum?

Shall we have a drink?

'Atsuusíts 'uuséevum?

Submitted by Ila Dunsweiler and the
Quechan Classroom Dictionary Project.

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

Time For A Big June 16th Birthday Shout Out!

To:
Jaelyn Chaipos ~
Happy Birthday!

Mom and Dad Love You!
Love, The Chaipos Family

HUMANE SOCIETY OF YUMA



The HSOY Spay & Neuter Clinic is not a full-service veterinary clinic and does not perform emergency services. It is important that you establish a relationship with a local veterinary clinic.

Humane Society of Yuma's Spay & Neuter Clinic
4050 S. Avenue 4 1/2 E, Yuma, AZ 85365
HSOYUMA.COM Phone:(928)247-9115

Surgery		Additional Services	
Feline Spay	\$70	Microchip	\$25
Feline Neuter	\$45	Toe Nail Trim	\$10
Feral Spay	\$35	Ear Cleaning	\$20
Feral Neuter	\$20	Puppy Package	\$20
Canine Spay	\$70	Kitten Package	\$70
Canine Neuter	\$45	Ear Mite Treatment	\$45
Additional Surgery		Vaccinations	
In Heat	\$10 and up	Rabies	\$20
Pregnant	\$15 and up	Da2PP	\$15
Overweight	\$15 and up	Bordatella	\$15
Hernia Repair	\$20 and up	FVRCP	\$15
Dewclaws	\$25	FeLV	\$15
Pain Medication	\$10-\$25	Rattlesnake	\$25
Tests		Wellness Exam	
FeLV/FIV	\$20	Exam	\$25
Fecal Exam	\$15	Exam w/Vac.	\$15
Parvo	\$20	Health Cert.	\$20
Giardia Test	\$20	Dental Cleaning	
Heartworm	\$20	6 & Younger	\$125 + extractions
Ear Swab	\$45	6 & Over	\$125 + extractions
Bloodwork	\$20 and up	Extractions	\$5-\$15



Ask about our walk-in vaccination clinic hours, and about our selection of dental care products!

HSOYUMA.COM
(928)247-9115



Koda Wilson

Quechan Tribal member Koda Wilson has accepted life's challenge and graduated from Marc and Eva Stern Math and Science High School. That educational institution is rated 21st in the state of California, and 147th in the nation according to *Newsweek* magazine.

The Marc and Eva Stern High School is located on the campus of California State University Los Angeles, so Koda has already been able to take classes in calculus and physics at the university. Attending the College Ready Academy has

Koda Wilson Heading to the U of A

prepared him for success in the next level of higher education.

His family members include father Karris Wilson, a higher education consultant, grandfather Paul Wilson and great grandmother Rose Wilson.

"Understanding the importance of achievement has been vital in Koda's education," his father says, "and attending a high achieving middle school followed by a top rated, rigorously academic high school has nurtured his strong work ethic. This is only one step toward his future, with more to come."

Koda has a number of academic awards that places him in the top percentage of high school students. Awarded both *Summa Cum Laude* and *Magna Cum Laude* during his years in high school, Koda also received a Presidential Award signed by Barack Obama. In addition, Koda served as President of the Student Leadership Board during his junior year. That record

of achievement points to his continuing to strive for a goal of academic leadership throughout his college years.

Koda also attended Sacramento State University's American Indian Summer Institute (directed by Ricardo Torres), which helped him learn about the university system and the processes required when applying to higher education institutions. Koda also visited other campuses such as University California Davis, which assisted him in making his college choice decision.

In December of 2013, Koda was accepted to the University of Arizona in Tucson with a partial scholarship, where he will major in Mathematics. Although he received letters of acceptance from such diverse institutions as UC Davis, UC Irvine, and a few Ivy League schools, Koda says the University of Arizona provides the best fit for his future plans.

Tribal Council Hires Tax Professional

President Keeny Escalanti, Sr. and the Quechan Tribal Council have hired Brian Skinner, a Certified Public Accountant (CPA), to provide tax services and tax advice for the Tribe's Elders.

Skinner owns a tax practice in Tempe, Arizona, where he along with several employees provide accounting and tax services to individuals and businesses. He also owned a business in the Tucson area providing tax and accounting services to non-profit and government organizations. He has worked with two other Indian communities in Arizona as an accounting consultant.

He currently lives in Gilbert,



Brian Skinner

Arizona with his wife and two sons but grew up in Morenci working on a family ranch.

Mr. Skinner will be on site at the Quechan Senior Center for

a series of informational meetings this Thursday and Friday, June 12 and 13, from 9AM to 5 PM. On both days he will be in the lobby from 11AM to 2PM and he will be available for individual appointments during the remainder of the day.

Seniors wishing to meet with Mr. Skinner should contact Karen Ward at the Senior Center to sign up for the appointments. If you'd like to use his tax preparation expertise, bring copies of your tax records for the years in question, or be prepared to sign a copy of IRS Form 2848, which will allow Mr. Skinner to request copies of your past filings directly from the IRS.

TRIBAL COUNCIL BUSINESS

Resolutions Passed During The Month of May, 2014

The Quechan Tribal Council passed 11 Official Resolutions in May before this issue of 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 Tribal Council Secretary, Alexis Summerfield, or the Executive Secretary, Marsha Emerson, at the Tribal Administration Office: (760)572-0213, Ext. 204 or 206.

Resolution R-83-14: A Resolution to approve an amended Exhibit A, Amendment Three for the formula for the YCIPTA Contribution to the Memorandum of Understanding. Approved by a vote of: 6 for, 0 against, 0 abstained, 0 absent at a Regular Council Meeting held on May 6, 2014.

Resolution R-84-14: A Resolution to approve Revision #1 for the operating budget for the Community Health Representatives Services Program for Calendar Year 2013. Approved by a vote of: 6 for, 0 against, 0 abstained, 0 absent at a Regular Council Meeting held on May 6, 2014.

Resolution R-85-14: A Resolution to approve Revision #1 for the tentative budget for Quechan Child Care and Development Fund program for Fiscal Year 2013/2014. Approved by a vote of: 6 for, 0 against, 0 abstained, 0 absent at a Regular Council Meeting held on May 6, 2014.

Resolution R-86-14: A Resolu-

tion to approve Revision #1 for the supplemental budget for the Quechan Police Department for Calendar Year 2013. Approved by a vote of: 6, for, 0 against, 0 abstained, 0 absent at a Regular Council Meeting held on May 6, 2014.

Resolution R-87-14: A Resolution to approve Revision #2 for the operating budget for the BIA Law Enforcement Services for Calendar Year 2013. Approved by a vote of: 6 for, 0 against, 0 abstained, 0 absent at a Regular Council Meeting held on May 6, 2014.

Resolution R-88-14: A Resolution to approve to adopt Revision #1 for the operating budget for the Quechan Justice Systems Project. Approved by a vote of: 6 for, 0 against, 0 abstained, 0 absent at a Regular Council Meeting held on May 6, 2014.

Resolution R-89-14: A Resolution to approve the amended application budget for Quechan Head Start Program for Fiscal Year 2014/2015. Approved by a vote of: 4 for, 0 against, 1

abstained, 1 absent at a Regular Council Meeting held on May 6, 2014.

Resolution R-90-14: A Resolution to appoint a member to the Quechan Legislative Committee for a two year term. Approved by a vote of: 6 for, 0 against, 0 abstained, 0 absent at a Regular Council Meeting held on May 6, 2014.

Resolution R-91-14: A Resolution to reappoint a representative to the Yuma Regional Partnership Council through the First Things First. Approved by a vote of: 5 for, 0 against, 1 abstained, 0 absent at a Regular Council Meeting held on May 6, 2014.

Resolution R-92-14: A Resolution to expend funds for financial aid to Applicant #1 attending vocational education for the Summer 2014 program year. Approved by a vote of: 5 for, 1 against, 0 abstained, 0 absent at a Regular Council Meeting held on May 6, 2014.

ASU Graduate:



Crystal Rope

Quechan Tribe

**Bachelor of Science in Nutrition
(Specialty of Dietetics)**

Photo Courtesy of Crystal Rope

ment Ceremony on May 15, 2014. Crystal has earned a Bachelor of Science in Nutrition (Dietetics) with a minor in American Indian Studies.

She will be attending the Washington Internship for Native Students in Washington D.C., assigned to the United States Department of Agriculture's Economic Research Department, FMS branch. She departed on Friday, May 30th and should return on July 26, 2014.

Quechan Tribal member Crystal Rope has completed four years of study at Arizona State University (ASU) in Tempe, graduating at the ASU American Indian Commence-

QUECHAN POST 802



Outgoing American Legion Post 802 Commander Norman Osborne and newly selected Post Commander Frank Venegas invite all area veterans and interested community volunteers to join them and their fellow Legionaires at their monthly meetings:

**The Second Saturday of every Month
at 9:00 AM at 1496 Arnold Road
Winterhaven, California 92283
Phone (760) 572-3300 for information**

Good Job, Jacob!

Graduating senior Jacob Emerson was presented with at least a dozen items in recognition of his sterling academic achievements at the annual San Pasqual High Scholarship Program Dinner, Wednesday evening, May 28th.

Among the items seen here are a gold cord (signifying his position as class valedictorian), a silver cord (showing he has met the California State University requirements), a medal for outstanding academic achievement and leadership, plus checks and certificates connected to at least seven scholarships!

QUECHAN NEWS Photo by William Isbell



THE 2014 MEMORIAL DAY

WREATHS TO THE SEA

CEREMONY

ON THE OCEAN TO OCEAN BRIDGE

QUECHAN NEWS Photos by William Isbell



Zöe Rico and Anisia Lemon joined Zöe's mom, Jennifer Sigala, in tossing the big Quechan Post 802 wreath from the Ocean-To-Ocean Bridge this year. In the background, also sending of wreaths of remembrance to the Sea of Cortez, are Brian Lutz, Barry Holland and Yodie Jones from the Yuma Disabled American Veterans Chapter 11, with Sofia Hassell representing American Legion Unit 56 in Yuma and Ruth Patterson of American Legion Unit 19, also from Yuma.



The entire group of flower girls for the 2014 Quechan Tribe Memorial Day activities were (front row, L to R): Paisley Montague, Rubi Cornejo, Noreen Hill, Rayziah Zuniga, Miamikah Jack, Anya Numkeenah, Anisia Lemon, Malynn Hill, Xamaura Osborne, Chlöe Short (and in the rear) Raynessa and Raylona Zuniga, Dora Aragon, Angel Emerson, Zöe Rico, Jade Marquez and Alora Dugan. Thank you for your community spirit, girls!



LAW ENFORCEMENT MEMORIAL



Representing the Quechan Tribe at the memorial were Quechan Tribal Police Chief Robert Brodnan, Tribal Police Sgt. James Jackson and Gordon Osborn, from Quechan Fish and Game.

QUECHAN
NEWS
Photos by
William
Isbell



Chief Eric Odden of the U.S. Border Patrol served as M.C. for the day, directing the Yuma Sector Rifle Squad to fire a 21-Gun Salute at the end of his comments. The ceremony opened with the National Anthem, sung à capella by Haille and Elissa Lines while everyone stood at attention during the flag raising.



This year, the Yuma Sector of the U.S. Border Patrol held a Law Enforcement Memorial ceremony in front of their South Avenue A headquarters bright and early on Wednesday, May 14th. The ceremony honored 11 Yuma sector agents who have fallen in the line of duty, with special emphasis on the five who had given their final sacrifice to protect our nation's borders since 2003. The Border Patrol invited Tribal representatives from both the Cocopah and Quechan Tribes to take part, in recognition of the close cooperation practiced with both reservations, here on the international border with Mexico. The Quechan Tribe sent three representatives, seen at left. The event was the first of a series of emergency responders memorials throughout the month of May.



The Yuma Sector Color Guard stepped off at the opening command, to raise a U.S. flag, as well as the Border Patrol flag and another for the Department of Homeland Security, all in sync.