

In This Issue:

Rental Recertification
Page 2

Kwatsáan Revitalization
Page 3

Meet Jolene Vasquez,
ICWA Specialist
Page 4

New Manager For
Senior Nutrition Center
Page 5

EP Expo at the Q
Page 6

Pow Wow Set For
1st Weekend In March
Page 7

ADAPP Clients
Tell Their Stories
Page 8

Tax Time Phone Scams
Page 9

Missing Quechan Doll
Page 10

January Resolutions
Page 11

Upcoming Events
Back Page

Kwatsáan Revitalization Project Moving Ahead



The newly selected elder language mentors and the apprentices who will join them in the language immersion process designed to revitalize the Kwatsáan language under project manager Penelope Mary Jefferson gathered to meet Barbara Levy and the staff of the Tribe's legacy language preservation program on January 21st. Both groups were also introduced to members of the University of Arizona's American Indian Language Development Institute that same day, to discuss future plans for the grant funded program. QUECHAN NEWS Photo by William Isbell

The long anticipated and eagerly awaited Quechan Language Revitalization Project has made a great deal of progress over the past three months, after the Quechan Tribal Council met with the Kwatsáan Language Committee and others to select Tribal member Penelope Mary Jefferson as the Project Manager for the grant funded project. Since her appointment,

Miss Jefferson has already attended a short training session at the University of Arizona's American Indian Language Development Institute (AILDI) in Tucson.

At that session in November, participants were introduced to the Miromaa Language Documentation and Conservation software system, which enables the full recording, tracking and

documentation of words, phrases, pronunciations and progress in indigenous language immersion programs.

Daryn McKenny spent over 10 years steering the revival of the Awabakal Aboriginal language along the coast of New South Wales, Australia. He helped establish the Miromaa Aboriginal Language and Technology Centre in Newcastle,

NSW in 2003, where he serves as the Centre's General Manager. He was at the AILDI meetings last November, to provide instruction in the innovative software he's developed which empowers Indigenous people worldwide to be hands on at all levels of language activity.

"Daryn came all the way from Australia to teach par-

(Continued on Page 3)

Kwatsáan liyáa!

Quechan Sentence Structure

Recent rains will lead to new plant growth all over the Kwatsáan Reservation. Here are some sentences dealing with spring planting:

Tsoovóow aváamk.

"It's Planting Time" or in its literal meaning:
"Planting time has arrived."

| | |
|----------------------|-----------------------|
| Tsoovóow | aváam+k |
| <i>planting.time</i> | <i>it.arrives+END</i> |

Xuumáarənyts athíts tsoovóowk oonóok.

"The children are planting seeds."

| | |
|-----------------------------|---------------|
| Xuumáar+ny+ts | athíts |
| <i>children+the+subject</i> | <i>seed</i> |

| | |
|--------------------------------|----------------------------------|
| tsoovóow+k | oonóo+k |
| <i>they.plant+same.subject</i> | <i>they.are.moving.about+end</i> |

Sentence Structure Samples From
Kwatsáan liyáa Matkku'éeyk!
(Learn the Quechan Language!)

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

Happy Birthday!

To my wonderful
Husband, Steven
and our little Jacob!



We Love You!

From Delilah, Marissa and Sarah Laurenzana

THE QHA CORNER: Rental Recertification is This Month!

Re-certifications will be taking place for all QHA Rental Participants. It is MANDATORY that Participants attend in order to continue their eligibility in the Low Rent Program. Failure to appear will result in Non-Compliance of HUD Regulations, which is grounds for termination of occupancy.

The Schedule is as follows:

Tuesday, February 17, 2015 & Wednesday, February 18, 2015
At the Ironwood Community Center from 10:00 AM to 7:00 PM

- For Tenants of Ironwood (New Subdivision)
- And in Rental Units Along Foster Road

Thursday, February 19, 2015 & Friday, February 20, 2015
At the Elderly Community Center from 9:00 AM to 6:00 PM

- For Rental Tenants in the Old Subdivision
- The Mesquite Subdivision
- And in Rental Units Along Picacho Road

And again on Saturday, February 21, 2015 at the Elderly Community Center from 11:00 AM to 3:00 PM for any one who missed their designated scheduled date.

On Thursday, February 26, 2015
at the Elderly Community Center from 9:00 AM to 5:00 PM

- For Tenants Living in the Elderly Units

The following information is needed for every member of the household composition:

- Verification Letter for Per-Capita
- Verification of Income (examples: W2's, pay stubs, unemployment benefits, welfare notice of action letter, social security benefits, child support, alimony, veterans benefits)
- Birth Certificate • Social Security Card • Tribal I.D.

All adults 18 years or over must be present and will need to sign all re-certification documents. Please be advised that we will not recertify a household without all necessary documents. Re-certifications will be done on a "walk-in" basis.

QHA appreciates your full cooperation in this matter. If you have any questions or concerns, please contact Veronica Neblina @ (760) 572-0243.

Quechan Housing Authority

1860 W Sapphire Lane Winterhaven, CA 92283
Phone: (760)572-0243 FAX: (760)572-0245



Newsletter Coordinator, Fort Yuma Quechan Nation
350 Picacho Road Winterhaven, CA 92283
Newsletter Office Phone: (760) 572-3912
Email: w.isbell@quechantribe.com

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

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

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



Culture & Heritage

Language Revitalization Project Is Now Up and Running



Penelope Mary Jefferson is the project coordinator for the newly formed Kwatsáan Language Revitalization Project. In late January, Penelope gathered her Kwatsáan mentors, the newly selected language immersion interns and the existing Quechan Language Program instructors to visiting faculty members from the University of Arizona's American Indian Language Development Institute (AILDA). The AILDA group has been visiting Tribes in the area to introduce themselves, explain their program, and share ideas for their annual college level summer sessions in Tucson. During the meeting, everyone explained their experience and interest in speaking and preserving their native language. Local Kwatsáan language mentor Rudy Allen was one of those speakers. At right (above), AILDI Senior Program Coordinator Alyce Sadongei tells of her interests. QUECHAN NEWS Photos by William Isbell

(Continued from Page 1)
 participants how to implement the Miromaa program," according to Ms. Jefferson. "This will give us the tools we need to retain Quechan language through the ages. As a recent college graduate, over half the work I did in earning my degrees was through computer technology like this, so I can see the value in having it to pass along what we know to future generations." Since her return, Penelope Jefferson has been casting about for a group of local elders willing to spend the next few years as mentors to younger adults, to pass on everything they know about the Kwatsáan Language (as well as other aspects of the local culture). She has found

those mentors, and together they have located a group of students to serve with them as their apprentice Kwatsáan speakers.

The program is designed as a immersive process, where everything will be done in the Kwatsáan tongue, so the elders will get used to speaking the language on a daily basis, and the younger adults will learn to hear and process the words and syntax as everyday conversation. As new words are learned, the Miromaa software will be used to help them record every step of their new found (rediscovered) abilities.

The first elders taking part in the program are Daisy Simms, Rudy Allen, Nancy Montague, Sr. and Lucinda Polk. Their

learning partners will include Milson Jose, Sr., Yolanda Perez, Ivana Kelly and Philena Roosevelt. Faron Owl and Lucia Polk have also joined the project as professional consultants.

All (except for Mr. Owl, who was teaching class at San Pasqual High that day) gathered for the first time as a complete group on January 21st in the Quechan Language classroom in the old Head Start building on Indian Hill. There, they met with the current instructors of the Quechan Language Project, as well as visiting faculty members from the AILDA in Tucson, who introduced everyone to what's coming up in their summer instructional program.

The guests, Senior Program



Kwatsáan revitalization immersion apprentices Philena Roosevelt and Ivana Keely are both eager to learn the language of the ancestors, and to pass it along to their descendants in the years to come.

Coordinator Alyce Sadongei, and faculty members Tyler Peterson and Phil Cash explained what the local Tribal members can expect when they head to the U of A a little over

a year from now, to receive further intensive instruction in all manner of immersive culture and language projects. Everyone involved seems to be looking forward to the possibilities.

Delonie Snowden is New Senior Nutrition Manager

After many long months of operation without a “dedicated” person to fill the position full-time, the Quechan Tribe has now hired Delonie Snowden as the Manager of the Senior Nutrition Center.

The center had been under the direction of Acting Manager Don Menta for most of that time. Don now returns to his previous full time position as the Senior Center’s Mainte-

nance Supervisor. During his tenure, Mr. Menta was assisted by Keith Emerson, who kept the lines of communication open through emails, correspondence and scheduling announcements. Keith will remain on-staff as the Senior Center’s part-time office assistant.

The new manager, Ms. Snowden, is an enrolled Quechan Tribal member who grew up here on the reservation.

Her parents are Valverine Barley and Leonard Snowden, and her grandmother was the late Jackie Duro while her grandfather was the late Mark Barley.

As a local, Delonie attended all three of the San Pasqual Schools, where she was heavily involved in sports. Recalling her time at San Pasqual High, Ms. Snowden tells the *Quechan News*, “I was named MVP for

basketball my senior year and received the Scholar Athletic Medal from the U.S Army that same year.”

A member of the Strong Hearts Native Society while in high school, she also participated in their Annual Pow Wow. Reflecting on those years, Delonie says, “I am very proud to be a graduate of San Pasqual.”

Once she had graduated, Delonie attended Fresno City

College for four years in their Native American Studies program. She then returned to the Fort Yuma reservation, switched her major to education and began substitute teaching at the Harvest Preparatory Academy in Yuma, where she eventually taught Reading Interventions.

Picking up the story at that point, she continues: “I spent ten years in the Education sys-

Continued on Page 5

Jolene Vasquez Joins Social Services as ICWA Specialist

One of the lead agencies at Quechan Social Services is their Indian Child Welfare Department, which oversees the referrals and case management of all Tribal members under the jurisdiction of the Indian Child Welfare Act (ICWA).

The primary goal of the Indian Child Welfare Department is to prevent the breakup of Quechan Tribal families and to prevent the permanent removal of Tribal Children from the custody of their parents. While budget cuts meant this department had been without staff for nearly a year, a new person was selected last summer to revive the position of ICWA Specialist. That person is Jolene Vasquez.

Born in Yuma, Jolene was raised on the reservation and obtained her high school diploma at San Pasqual. “I grew up on a small farm and we raised our own beef, chickens and vegetables,” she tells the *Quechan News*. “I also helped my grandmother with her hog farm here on the reservation. I have four siblings all of whom live off the reservation in other states, and my mother is the director of the Quechan Tribe



Jolene Vasquez, the Indian Child Welfare Act Specialist for Quechan Social Services has been on the job since last July. She has been busy with a huge case load ever since!
QUECHAN NEWS Photo By William Isbell

commodity program.”

She also states that she is proud of her Quechan, Shoshone, Paiute and Mission Indian roots.

Jolene also moved away from the reservation in the late 90’s and went on to get her business degree in Columbus, Ohio where she worked for a large law firm.

She raised two daughters in the Columbus suburb of Upper Arlington, Ohio. “I loved Columbus and all that it had to offer,” she recalls. “While I was there, I traveled a lot in the mid-

west and along the east coast, to Boston, New York City, Pittsburgh, Chicago, among others. I love baseball and have been to six major league stadiums; I would love to have the opportunity to visit them all before I leave this world!”

She says she finally returned back to the reservation in June of last year.

“I was torn because I left my two daughters, Mercedes and Tessia, behind in Ohio,” says the proud mother. “Both girls love Ohio and not sure where they will go once they complete

school. My youngest daughter Tessia is in her second year at Ohio State in their Biochemical Engineering Program. She hopes to spend a year studying abroad in Spain before she heads off to Med school on the east coast.”

Jolene says one of the main reasons she returned home was to be near her mother, Debbie.

“I am very close to her and wanted to make up for some lost time that I missed during my years away,” she explains. “I also want to be able to help our tribe so I could possibly make a difference somewhere.”

Jolene began making that difference when she went to work for Quechan Social Services last July. She says she “hit the ground running” with a backlog of ICWA cases waiting for her from day one.

“There were a lot (of pending cases) then, and there is still a lot to do for this program,” she says. “I have visited with two other tribes and was able to see how they run their programs. It was nice to see some of the more advanced programs that they had for their people. I know that as time goes on, and we gain

more experience, that we would be able to do this as well.”

She wants to grow the ICWA Department to include additional helps such as a fostering program, a program for fathers, a family and finance program, a support group for young parents/single parents, and a grandparents as parents program.

In the meantime, she is busy just fulfilling her main requirements of assisting families in whatever way possible, to help them fulfill their court ordered plans. Doing so means she must also work cooperatively with county and other social service agencies to ensure that services they provide are both appropriate and culturally relevant.

Her job also requires her to coordinate and collaborate with both Fort Yuma Mental Health and the San Pasqual Valley Unified School District. As our ICWA Specialist, she looks out for the welfare and emotional well-being of Quechan family members and their children and helps to promote the education and retention of Quechan youth in our local schools. A tough assignment, but she seems to be ready for anything!

Snowden New Senior Nutrition Manager

Continued From Page 5



Senior Nutrition Center Manager Delonie Snowden (at right) meets with Administrative Assistant Keith Emerson, to quickly come up to speed on the Center's current status. QUECHAN NEWS Photo by William Isbell

tem working with children. In 2012 I began working for the Cocopah Indian Tribe, where I served as an Academic Advisor and their Johnson O'Malley Coordinator."

She says that her time working for the Cocopah Tribe was well worth it, as she gained knowledge in budgeting, working with elders, families and Social Services, and learning about the Cocopah Culture.

Delonie currently serves as President of the School Site Council at the San Pasqual Middle School, where her eldest daughter, eleven year old Marley Barker, is in the sixth grade. Marley's younger sister Jovi Barker (who is eight) attends San Pasqual Elementary.

She proudly notes, "They are both well behaved High Honor Roll Students. Education has always been important to me and I know my daughters will be very successful in their future."

Turning to her present responsibilities for the Tribe, Delonie says, "The Senior Nutrition Center has not had a manager in two years. I would like the community to be pa-

tient with the me and my staff as we try and build the center to its highest potential. Our Elders are the reason our tribe has survived so long and we owe them more than just a hot meal.

I want the center to be a place of comfort, good company, tradition, fun, health and wellness. My Grandmother Jackie loved this center and I know she is proud of me. I have the confidence that, as a team, we can make the Tribe's Senior Nutrition Center the best place it has ever been."

Ms. Snowden mentions some current and future plans in that regard: "We recently set up the a pool table and a basketball hoop. We are also in the process of putting together a healthy new menu, a revamped gift shop, and bringing back the salad bar."

"I would like to give a special thanks to our creator, my parents, the staff and the elders for their positive and negative inputs; we need both to continue making adjustments. Our goal is to be a place the elders can count on for the services we provide and much more."

QUECHAN TRIBE PHONE LISTINGS BY DEPARTMENT

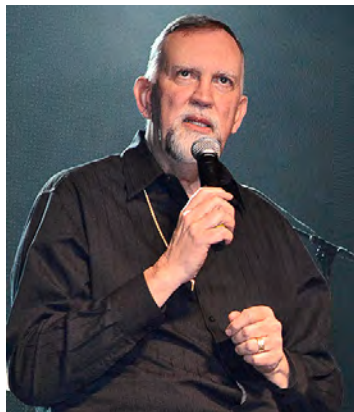
| TRIBAL DEPARTMENT | PHONE | POINT OF CONTACT | FAX |
|--------------------------------|---------------|--|----------------|
| Administration Office | (760)572-0213 | Linda Cruz - Receptionist | Ext: 200 |
| ADAPP (888-572-2191) | (760)572-0232 | Claudia Reyes, Acting Director | (760) 572-0235 |
| Andrade Parking Lot | (760)572-2959 | Chano Escalanti | (760) 572-2102 |
| Bureau of Indian Affairs | (928)782-1202 | Irene Herder, Superintendent | (928) 782-1266 |
| Business Enterprises | (760)572-0668 | Barbara Cachora | (760) 572-0653 |
| Community Health Reps. | (760)572-0753 | Sosa Diaz | (760) 572-2988 |
| Commodities Distribution | (760)572-0740 | Debbie Hill, Manager | (760) 572-5066 |
| Diabetes Prevention | (760)572-1286 | Sandy Palone, Director | (760) 572-4363 |
| Diabetes Wellness Center | (760)572-4057 | Michael Throssel | (760) 572-4363 |
| Economic Development | (760)572-5270 | Brian Golding, Sr., Director | (760) 572-0519 |
| Education Center | (760)572-3100 | | |
| Elder/Family Services | (760)572-2914 | Charlotte Hills | (760) 572-3638 |
| Enrollment | (760)572-0752 | Rebecca Ramirez | (760) 572-5264 |
| Environmental Director | (760)572-2969 | Chase Choate | (760) 572-2102 |
| Facilities/Maintenance | (760)572-0741 | Richard Hofacker | (760) 572-0800 |
| Grounds Supervisor | (760)572-0919 | Mike Jackson, Jr. | |
| Fish & Game | (760)572-0544 | Gordon Osborne | (760) 572-2102 |
| Head Start Program | (760)572-0263 | Danette Joaquin, Interim Dir. | (760) 572-0264 |
| Higher/Vocational Education | (760)572-5268 | Ora Lee Durand, Director | (760) 572-3069 |
| Historic Preservation Office | (760)572-2423 | Arlene Kingery | (760) 572-0515 |
| Hospital - IHS | (760)572-4100 | TOLL FREE: 1-800-862-4911 | (760) 572-5267 |
| Housing (QTDHE) | (760)572-0243 | Augustine Tumbaga | (760) 572-0245 |
| Hub Liquor | (760)572-0301 | Carla Hills | (760) 572-2716 |
| Injury Prevention | (760)572-0437 | Lisa Aguerro | |
| J.O.M. - Indian Education | (760)572-0648 | Pamela Manchatta, Director | (760) 572-0603 |
| Laguna Dam Trailer Park | (760)572-0798 | | (760) 572-2891 |
| Mechanic Shop | (760)572-0772 | | (760) 572-2102 |
| Mosquito Abatement | (760)572-4075 | David Moreno | |
| Museum - Gift Shop | (760)572-0661 | Pauline José & Willa Scott | (760) 572-2102 |
| Paradise Casino (888-777-4946) | (760)572-7777 | Charles Montague | (760) 572-2471 |
| Paradise Casino HR | (760)572-5485 | Christina Jackson | (760) 572-2210 |
| Paradise Child Care Center | (760)572-5440 | Judith Sanchez | (760) 572-2102 |
| Parenting | (760)572-0487 | Danette Joaquin, Director | (760) 572-5769 |
| Parks & Recreation | (760)572-1242 | Willis Hawkins | (760) 572-2752 |
| Pesticides | (760)572-0771 | Henry Ghiotto | (760) 572-2587 |
| Pipa Market | (760)572-2260 | Christoble Emerson | (760) 572-2102 |
| Quechan Casino ♣ Resort | (760)572-3900 | Charles Montague, Interim | (760) 572-2040 |
| Quechan Casino HR | (760)572-1640 | Christina Jackson | (760) 572-2034 |
| Quechan Daycare | (760)572-2480 | Judith Sanchez | (760) 572-2102 |
| Quechan Language | (760)572-4412 | Barbara Levy, Coordinator | (760) 572-2101 |
| Quechan Newsletter | (760)572-3912 | William Isbell EMAIL: w.isbell@quechantribe.com | |
| Quechan Police Department | (760)572-0394 | James Jackson, Acting Chief | (760) 572-0501 |
| Quechan Police Dispatch | (760)572-2933 | James Jackson, Acting Chief | (760) 572-2752 |
| Rainbow Pool | (760)572-2825 | Philbrick Emerson | (760) 572-2752 |
| Security Department | (760)572-2794 | Jerome Two Hearts Cell: (928)920-2809 | |
| Senior Nutrition Center | (760)572-0748 | Delonie Snowden, Manager | (760) 572-5867 |
| Sleepy Hollow RV Park | (760)572-5101 | Dave Pasqual, Jr. | (760) 572-5101 |
| Social Services Director | (760)572-1080 | Rod Nelson | (760) 572-2099 |
| Social Services Clerk | (760)572-1080 | Maricela Barley | (760) 572-2099 |
| Tribal Court | (760)572-5552 | Claudette White, Judge | (760) 572-5560 |
| Tribal Gaming Agency (CA) | (760)572-1755 | Dwayne Waters | (760) 572-2018 |
| Tribal Gaming Office (AZ) | (760)572-5464 | Marrianna Bobtail Bear | (760) 572-5478 |
| Utilities Department | (760)572-0667 | Rose Ana Williams, Manager | (760) 572-3867 |
| WIA / DOL Director | (760)572-2314 | Earl Daniel | (760) 572-2735 |



For the third year in a row, Presley Productions brought their first E.P. EXPO for 2015 to the Quechan Casino Resort, filling the Pipa Event Center with lights, loud music, and cheering fans celebrating the warm glow of nostalgia for *The King*. The annual event features the best of professional Elvis Tribute Artists like Dwight Icenhower, Jay Dupuis and Jacob Roman, as well as three days of competition among impersonators wanting to break into the business in a big way.

This year saw sixteen artists competing for the right to return next year as a star, all determined to give their all to recapture the glory and adulation that Elvis attracted every time he appeared in public. The Expo lasts for three nights, with each night following the same pattern:

Fans can enter the Pipa an hour before the show, to find their seats and then explore the vendors' booths selling Elvis memorabilia at the back of the hall. The lights dim at 7:00PM, and a live band begins playing on stage, building the excitement for a nightly recreation of an actual concert from the past. Thursday night had Dwight Icenhower performing "The King on Tour". After the concert, the new artists take to the stage one at a time to perform for an hour. An intermission in between allows the fans to cool down and catch their breath. Thursday was special, because Jacob Roman also appeared between the first and second rounds of the competition to wow the crowd with "Elvis: The Early Years". On Friday, Jay Dupuis joined Dwight and Jacob as they performed "The Hits". Saturday was Jay's night to shine, as he presented a live recreation of the big Las Vegas concerts of the late 60's and early 1970's before the final round of competition.



An old friend of Elvis and the head of his security detail Sam Thompson visited on Saturday night, to share personal stories.



Dwight Icenhower, Jacob Roman and Jay Dupuis teamed up on stage on Friday, giving fans a live retrospective of the king's entire career, from the fifties through the sold-out Vegas years of the '70's. All three are seen above, at the end of the show.



Cynthia Pepper, who played Midge in the movie "Kissin' Cousins", mingled with fans and posed for pictures with many of them.



Even Gabe Massey got into the act, dressing up as Elvis to cover the event for Casino Marketing. He looks so much taller with hair!



Elvis fans are able to visit with vendors during the intermissions, to pick up live concert photos and replicas of his jewelry for their collections, as well as meet people who knew and worked with the king.



The best of the competitors won a trophy and \$2500 on Saturday night.



Sixteen competing Elvis tribute artists entertained the crowd each evening, and gathered on stage as a group at the end of the show on both Thursday and Friday to soak up the cheers of the adoring fans!

The Strong Hearts Native Society and The Quechan Nation
 Invite You to Attend The
 San Pasqual Valley School District's
35th Annual POW WOW

**Friday, Saturday
 and Sunday
 March 6th, 7th & 8th**

**At the San Pasqual High Football Field
 676 Baseline Road
 Winterhaven, California
 (2 Miles North of Yuma, AZ)**

SPECIAL DANCE PERFORMANCES:

FRIDAY:

Grand Entry at 7:00PM

SATURDAY:

1st Grand Entry at 1:00PM

2nd Grand Entry at 7:00PM

SUNDAY:

Grand Entry at NOON

ADMISSION:

**\$7 Adults ♦ \$4 Juniors (11 to 17)
 Children 10 and Under FREE
 \$10 Weekend Pass**

NATIVE ARTS AND CRAFTS

Jewelry, Painting, Weaving, Musical Performances, Kachinas,
 Fry Bread, Native Artists, Basketry & Ceramics!!

Jingle Dress
 Dancer Bria Gray
 from Phoenix, AZ

Sponsored in part by:



The Quechan Nation

INFO: (760)572-0222 Ext: 2109

**2015'S NEW YEAR,
 NEW YOU: WEIGHT LOSS
 CHALLENGE HAS BEGUN**

Local community members joined the staff of the Quechan Special Diabetes Project at the Diabetes Walking Park early on the morning of January 17th, to weigh in and begin their *New Year, New You* exercise regimen to lose those extra pounds that accumulate over the holidays.

Open to all Tribal members, this year's weight loss challenge is also open to employees of the Tribe, the Paradise Casino, the Quechan Casino ♠ Resort, the San Pasqual Valley Unified School District, and the Indian Health Service. *New Year, New You* for 2015 is an individual "personal best" weight loss challenge, scheduled to end with a final weigh-in on March 18th.



Pascha Nierenhausen checks the scale's numbers as **Anna Hartt** of the Diabetes Wellness Center records her weight at the start of this year's challenge.

QUECHAN NEWS Photo by William Isbell



**Come out and support the
 San Pasqual Strong Hearts Native Royalty,
 The Quechan Ah-keel Dance Group
 and all your fellow Tribal members who will be
 marching in this year's Silver Spur Rodeo Parade!**

This year's Ropin' Ridin' Wrestlin' & Wranglin' Parade will take place on February 14, 2015 beginning at 9:30 AM. Parade heads north from 4th Avenue & 14th Street to Orange Avenue, then east on Giss Parkway to turn left onto Main Street through the Downtown Yuma Gate!

This Year's Steer Wrestling Main Event
 Is Sponsored by:



Local Clients Credit Quechan ADAPP With Support in Recovery

Much of the time, the things that happen at the Quechan Alcohol and Drug Abuse Prevention Project (ADAPP) slip by unnoticed by the community at large. After all, the personal and group counselling which takes place within their walls is by nature a confidential process, which allows their clients to open up and speak freely, without fear of judgement or repercussions. Clients (and staff) wouldn't be able to candidly discuss life's set-backs, decisions made under the influence, or the true sources of difficulties and their possible solutions if they knew everything they said and did would be passed on as topics of daily conversation for others.

The sensitive nature of what goes on between a recovering addict, their counselors and their peers means a balance must be struck, honesty encouraged, and shelter guaranteed. Due to the dynamics involved, it's rare for community members who have undergone recovery to come forward and tell their stories to the public, exposing their past errors for all to see, to reach out and tell others that help is available for others in the thrall of addiction, if only they will overcome their own fear, admit to their need for recovery and seek out the help available right here, at ADAPP.

This month, two clients currently involved in the Quechan ADAPP Program have decided to step forward and tell their own stories, in their own words, to encourage others who may be thinking about finding help in addiction to go ahead, make the commitment, and step forward and make their path right with their family, their friends, and most of all, themselves.

First up: Travis Manchado—



Travis Manchado has spoken to local high school students to tell the story of his recovery.

QUECHAN NEWS Photo By William Isbell

Hello.

I am a grateful recovering addict named Travis. I am here to tell you a little bit about myself and my journey to recovery.

I was young when I first started drinking and using drugs, which both became major problems for me as I got older. I was always getting into trouble with the law, going in and out of jail and being placed on probation for long periods of time.

On September 20th, 2012, I decided enough was enough, and asked Fort Yuma ADAPP for help with my alcoholism and addictions. Soon after, they were able to give me the chance to get into a patient facility in Phoenix called Native American Connections.

I stayed in rehab for 45 days then, and learned a lot about myself and my addiction, and more importantly, what I could do about it. While I was there, I also introduced myself to Alcoholics Anonymous (AA) and Narcotics Anonymous (NA). It is suggested in the NA program that participants get a sponsor and go through the 12 steps, which are a set of principles designed to help you live a better

life.

Today my life revolves around my recovery. I still attend the Fort Yuma ADAPP program on a daily basis and I still go to recovery meetings in town. At those meetings in town, I've learned that just because I've stopped drinking and using, my life is not normal, it's just better.

On June 30th, 2013, I became a certified Peer Support Specialist. This will allow me to work in a facility to help fellow addicts or those with mental disabilities to go through recovery and empower themselves.

In December of last year, I was honored to share my strength, hope and experience with the freshman class at Cibola High School. It was an amazing experience for me to tell my story to those students, hoping that one day they would remember my story and not ever want to pick up a drink or drug, no matter how hard life gets.

I would also like to thank everyone who has been a big part of my recovery and for loving me even when I couldn't love myself.

A big thank you to the staff at Fort Yuma ADAPP: Claudia Reyes, Jessica Paddock, Colleen and Doreen Jefferson and Fernando Acosta.

A special thank you goes out to Kerri Comet and my son, Anthony M. Comet-Manchado for allowing me to start my first two weeks of recovery in their home and a year after. To Nicole Zavala and Dennis Rolland, thank you for also being a part of my life and recovery.

Again – I'm a thankful recovering addict named Travis.

Also hoping to pass along some hard won wisdom, is another local community member;



Stephen Ramirez spent almost 5 years living from house-to-house, nearly homeless, due to addiction.

QUECHAN NEWS Photo By William Isbell

Stephen Ramirez . . .

Hello. I would like to introduce myself. My name is Stephen Ramirez: I am Quechan, raised on the reservation, and I am a proud Recovering Addict. I am also a client at Fort Yuma ADAPP. I have struggled a lot with alcohol and drugs as a child and as an adult.

I thought it was cool to go to a party, not thinking about the consequences of what I was getting myself into.

To support my habit, I was stealing at the age of 23. I disappointed my family and my peers as well as myself, as I lost my job and put everyone through my trials and tribulations. I was basically homeless as I was living house-to-house for 5 years.

Reality finally hit me when I was sitting in jail doing my time and thinking about my daughter as I was seeing her through that glass. "My daughter is everything to me" I realized. "I am not going to let anyone take my place in her life."

Once again I found myself lost, and I relapsed in March of 2014. That relapse resulted in my being sentenced to 36

months on probation. My probation officer recommended that I attend ADAPP.

I now consider them my family. They helped me get to rehab, which I've completed. I came back to ADAPP for myself.

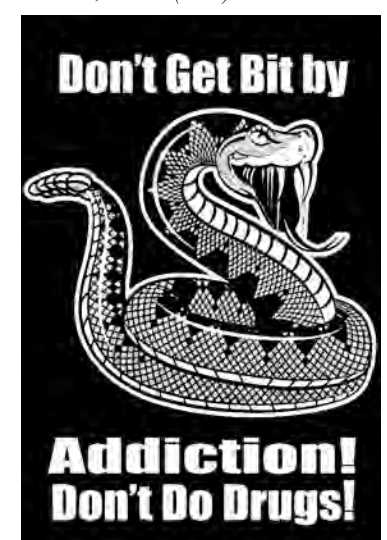
I went through many obstacles to get where I am in my recovery now. I'm not saying it was easy. I had many mishaps, but I will not let anyone bring me down. My new family is ADAPP, whom I love. I got love back from them, too.

While in rehab, I've learned a lot about myself, and why I had an alcohol and drug addiction. Now I am very happy with my sobriety, though I am still learning. I would like to say that after what I've been through, there is help.

I would like to thank ADAPP for all the support and help that they've given me. And to my angel daughter Elena Rebecca Ramirez, who is always by my side: I love you.

Thank you, Stephen Ramirez.

If you'd like to know more about the Quechan ADAPP program, or you'd just like to talk, call anytime, day or night. Here at Fort Yuma, the number is (760) 572-0232, or toll free off the rez, call 1(888) 572-2191.



IRS Warns Phone Scams Continue To Be A Serious Threat

Aggressive and threatening phone calls by criminals impersonating IRS agents remain near the top of the annual “Dirty Dozen” list of tax scams for the 2015 filing season, the Internal Revenue Service (IRS) announced today.

The IRS has seen a surge of these phone scams in recent months as scam artists threaten police arrest, deportation, license revocation and other things. The IRS reminds tax-

payers to guard against all sorts of con games that arise during any filing season.

“If someone calls unexpectedly claiming to be from the IRS with aggressive threats if you don't pay immediately, it's a scam artist calling,” said IRS Commissioner John Koskinen. “The first IRS contact with taxpayers is usually through the mail. Taxpayers have rights, and this is not how we do business.”

The “Dirty Dozen” is compiled annually by the IRS and lists a variety of common scams taxpayers may encounter any time during the year. Many of these con games peak during filing season as people prepare their tax returns or hire someone to do so.

Phone scams top the list this year because it has been a persistent and pervasive problem for many taxpayers for many months. Scammers are able to

alter caller ID numbers to make it look like the IRS is calling. They use fake names and bogus IRS badge numbers. They often leave “urgent” callback requests. They prey on the most vulnerable people, such as the elderly, newly arrived immigrants and those whose first language is not English. Scammers have been known to impersonate agents from IRS Criminal Investigation as well.

“These criminals try to scare and shock you into providing personal financial information on the spot while you are off guard,” Koskinen said. “Don't be taken in and don't engage these people over the phone.”

The Treasury Inspector General for Tax Administration (TIGTA) has received reports of thousands of contacts. The IRS has become aware of nearly 3,000 victims who have collectively paid over \$14 million as a result of the scam, in which individuals make unsolicited calls to taxpayers fraudulently claiming to be IRS officials and demanding that they send them cash via prepaid debit cards.

These callers may demand money or may say you have a refund due and try to trick you into sharing private information. These con artists may know a lot about you and sound convincing when they call.

The IRS reminds people that they can know pretty easily when a supposed IRS caller is a fake.

Here are five things the scammers often do but the IRS will not do. Any one of these five things is a tell-tale sign of a scam.

The IRS will never:

- Call to demand immediate payment, nor will the agency call about taxes owed without

first having mailed you a bill.

- Demand that you pay taxes without giving you the opportunity to question or appeal the amount they say you owe.

- Require you to use a specific payment method for your taxes, such as a prepaid debit card.

- Ask for credit or debit card numbers over the phone.

- Threaten to bring in local police or other law-enforcement groups to have you arrested for not paying.

If you get a phone call from someone claiming to be from the IRS and asking for money, here's what you should do:

- If you know you owe taxes or think you might owe, call the IRS at 1-800-829-1040. The IRS workers there can help you with a payment issue.

- If you know you don't owe taxes or have no reason to believe that you do, report the incident to the TIGTA at 1-800-366-4484 or at www.tigta.gov.

- If you've been targeted by this scam, also contact the Federal Trade Commission and use their “FTC Complaint Assistant” at FTC.gov. Please add “IRS Telephone Scam” to the comments of your complaint.

Remember, too, *the IRS does not use email, text messages or any social media to discuss your personal tax issue involving bills or refunds.* For more information on reporting tax scams, go to www.irs.gov and type “scam” in the search box.

Additional information about tax scams is available on IRS social media sites, including YouTube at <http://www.youtube.com/irsvideos> and on Tumblr at <http://internalrevenueervice.tumblr.com>, where people can search “scam” to find all the scam-related posts.

Park Model For Sale

1860 W. Sapphire Lane | Winterhaven | CA | 92283



- Beautiful One Bedroom
- Custom Wood Cabinets
- Laminate Countertops
- Exterior Thermo Coat Paint
- Dual Pane Windows
- VCT Tile Flooring
- Walk-In Shower
- Asphalt Shingles
- Exterior Lighting With Motion Detector



Quechan Housing Authority

1860 W. Sapphire Lane
Winterhaven, CA 92283
(760) 572-0243

- * Payment in Full
- * No Financing Available

\$35,000

Brand New Park Model for sale. 2x4 exterior wall construction, R-19 insulation in exterior walls and flooring, R-39 insulation in ceiling and spray foam underneath roof.

Exterior (energy efficient) thermo coat paint, with dual pane low-energy efficient windows. Equipped with 2 mini-split A/C units. Custom wood cabinets and laminate counter tops, 1/2" sheet rock on the walls and ceiling. 6 panel hollow core interior doors, 6 panel metal exterior door with walk in shower and VCT tile flooring.

Funds of successful sales will be used to jumpstart a construction trade program for Tribal members.

No Hud Construction Code Label nor Hud Approved Set-Up, Transportation and Installation are not included

save the date: FEB 19, 2015
4:30PM-7:30PM (AZ TIME)

San Pasqual Valley Unified School District's
 Annual Health and Safety Fair
 Winterhaven, California



For information, contact Rigel Garibay:
 (760) 572-0222, Ext. 2612
 rgaribay@spvusd.org



**STAND UP
 FOR YOUR
 PEOPLE**

A book about Native American
 religious rights in prison. Non-fiction.
 Available as a 300 page E-Book for \$4.25

Order Today
\$14.95 + 3.99 S/H
 SOFTCOVER

Midnight Express Books
 Box 69, Berryville, AR 72616
 www.MidnightExpressBooks.com

PUBLIC NOTICE

The Fort Yuma Quechan Tribe
 Is Seeking Letters of Interest
 From Enrolled Tribal Members
 For The Following Positions On The
QUECHAN ELECTION BOARD:

- Judge, Clerk, Marshal +**
- One Primary Alternate Clerk**
- One Secondary Alternate Clerk**

Please Submit Letters of Interest to:
 Tribal Council Secretary Alexis Summerfield
 At the Tribal Administration Office
 Monday - Friday During the Hours of
 8:00 AM - 12:00 PM and 1:00 PM - 5:00 PM

QUECHAN TRIBAL DOLL MISSING



Some time ago a tribal doll went missing from the display at the Quechan Tribe's Cultural Center, located within the Quechan Casino Resort.

The doll has significant meaning to the people of the Tribe and an exhaustive search effort has been made to locate the doll. Sadly the doll has not been found.

The Quechan tribe is asking for help from the community in locating this doll and returning her to her rightful owner. This Native American doll is wearing a red, blue and white dress with a bright blue shawl and purple head covering. She measures approximately fifteen (15) inches tall.

If anyone has any information about the doll, please call: Perdius Escalanti at (928) 580-6605 or Tessy Escalanti at (928) 750-2601.

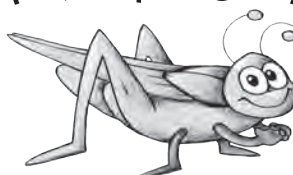
The Cultural Center holds many artifacts and is rich with history that surrounds the Quechan tribe. Quechan Native American dolls are hand made and in the early years were made of clay, plant material, beads and hides.

Today, in our modern times, many doll makers incorporate the use of cloth. At the Quechan Cultural Center visitors may encounter pottery, pelts, dolls, baskets and many other cultural and historical items that are indigenous to the tribe.

If you have any information on this doll, please call:
Perdius Escalanti at (928) 580-6605 or Tessy Escalanti at (928) 750-2601

Spring Activities at Quechan Parks & Rec!
Register now and reserve your spot!

**Boys/Girls
 Grasshopper
 Basketball**
 (3rd, 4th & 5th grade)



Deadline FEB 27th



**Adult Co-Ed
 Volleyball
 League**

Deadline March 6th

**Adult Horseshoe
 Tournament**



Sign up on the day of the Tournament,
Saturday, March 14th
 beginning at 9:00 AM
 Entry Fee: \$25 per team

Call Parks & Rec at (760) 572-1242 for more information

TRIBAL COUNCIL BUSINESS

Official Resolutions Passed During The Month of January, 2015

The Quechan Tribal Council passed 8 Official Resolutions in January before this issue of the Estka Nav Ah Pai went to press. The Resolutions are listed below in numerical order, as they were approved or disapproved 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-1-15: A Resolution to approve the Etska Nav Ah Pai budget for Calendar Year 2015. Approved by a vote of: 5 for, 0 against, 0 abstained, 1 absent at a Regular Council Meeting held on January 6, 2015.

Resolution R-2-15: A Resolution to approve the Quechan Head Start Budget for the Fiscal Year 2015/2016. Approved by a vote of: 5 for, 0 against, 0 abstained, 1 absent at a Regular Council Meeting held on January 6, 2015.

Resolution R-3-15: A Resolution to approve the Historic Preservation Department budget for the Calendar Year 2015. Approved by a vote of: 5

for, 0 against, 0 abstained, 1 absent at a Regular Council Meeting held on January 6, 2015.

Resolution R-4-15: A Resolution to remove the Quechan Election Board Judge. Approved by a vote of: 3 for, 0 against, 0 abstained, 3 absent at a Special Council Meeting held on January 21, 2015.

Resolution R-5-15: A Resolution to remove the Quechan Election Board Clerk. Disapproved by a vote of: 1 for, 2 against, 0 abstained, 3 absent at a Special Council Meeting held on January 21, 2015.

Resolution R-6-15: A Resolution to remove the Quechan Election Board Marshal. Ap-

proved by a vote of: 3 for, 0 against, 0 abstained, 3 absent at a Special Council Meeting held on January 21, 2015.

Resolution R-7-15: A Resolution to accept the resignation of the Quechan Election Board Clerk. Approved by a vote of: 3 for, 0 against, 0 abstained, 3 absent at a Special Council Meeting held on January 21, 2015.

Resolution R-8-15: A Resolution to amend R-232-14 on the Appointment of the Quechan Election Board Alternate Clerk. Approved by a vote of: 2 for, 1 against, 0 abstained, 3 absent at a Special Council Meeting held on January 21, 2015.

Strong Hearts Society Looking For 2015 Pow Wow Volunteers

The Strong Hearts Native Society, in collaboration with the Quechan Indian Tribe, invite all to their 35th Annual Pow Wow March 6, 7 and 8, 2015.

The Pow Wow is an annual event promoting the San Pasqual Valley Unified School District's Cultural Educational Program, with Traditional Native American Singing and Dancing. Each year, the Pow Wow helps to raise funds for the Strong Hearts' Elders, Scholarship and Princess Programs.

The Strong Hearts Native Society Pow Wow has established San Pasqual Valley Unified School District as a leader in

cultural preservation throughout the state of California.

We invite all community members to participate in our cultural program.

We are in need of volunteers that are dependable, friendly, motivated by helping others, to operate the vendor gate.

Your assistance is needed to make this event a success. Please check out the Pow Wow schedule in the third column of this story.

If you are able to volunteer your time, please contact the Strong Hearts Advisor, Mr. Owl via email at: fowl@spvUSD.org.

You will receive a free sou-

venir Pow Wow t-shirt in exchange for volunteering your time to help out at the Pow Wow!

— Vendor gate —
two volunteers for each shift

Friday, March 6, 2015

6:00 PM to 8:30 PM

8:30 PM to 10:30 PM

Saturday, March 7, 2015

9:30 AM to 1:00 PM

1:00 PM to 4:00 PM

4:00 PM to 7:00 PM

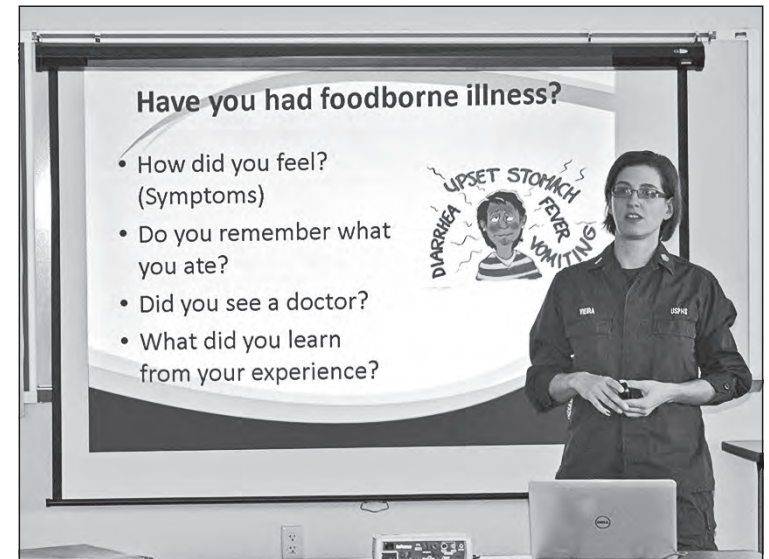
7:00 PM to 9:30 PM

Sunday, March 8, 2015

10:00 AM to 1:00 PM

1:00 PM to 4:00 PM

IHS Provides Food Handler Training For Local Residents



Lt. J.G. Kendra Vieira, Environmental Health Officer at the Fort Yuma IHS Office of Environmental Health, speaks to a recent class for those who handle and prepare food for a living. She provides the classes free of charge at the Senior Center. Q NEWS Photo by William Isbell

Although there are basic precautions everyone should follow when it comes to preparing food for our families at home, once a person gets involved in handling food for the public they enter a whole new level of responsibility. That responsibility to the public is why a person has to get a "Health Card" from the local Department of Public Health Services before they can work in a restaurant, nursing home or operate a food vending cart for a living.

Lt. J.G. Kendra Vieira from the Fort Yuma IHS Clinic helps local residents acquire their "Health Cards" to work in area kitchens (and provide fry bread and other goodies at local events) by teaching a free one day class for food handlers every couple of months. Her most recent class was held at the Quechan senior Center in mid-January.

The course covers basic facts

about potential hazards to food safety, how food becomes unsafe, how food flows from its source through the distribution system, into the kitchen and on to the customer, and the methods used along the way to prevent contamination.

Lt. Vieira also provides "hands-on" instruction in proper hand washing techniques, as well as brain teasers to encourage creative thought, which helps her students stay aware of the constant need to remain vigilant in preventing cross-contamination.

The January class saw at least a dozen Tribal members show up to either attend the course for the first time, or as a refresher in hopes of future employment. A more extensive Certified Food Managers course will also be offered from June 17-19, 2015. For more information, contact LTJG Kendra Vieira at her office by calling (760) 572-4242.

**THE QUECHAN SPECIAL
DIABETES PROGRAM
AND QUECHAN
PARKS & RECREATION**

**5-On-5 Flag
Football League**



*Kicks Off the 2015 Season
This Saturday, February 7th at the
San Pasqual High Football Field!*

The Games Begin At 9:00 AM!

**FOR MORE INFORMATION CALL THE DIABETES WELLNESS CENTER
OR THE SPECIAL DIABETES PROJECT: (760) 572-4057/1286**



**COMING TO
FORT YUMA
ON
POW WOW
WEEKEND!**

**THE MEN'S ALL INDIAN
\$1,000 Winner Take All!
BASKETBALL TOURNAMENT**

**Takes Place Friday and Saturday
March 6th & 7th, 2015 at the
Quechan Community Center!**

Entry Fee is \$250.00 Per Team
Registration Deadline is Feb. 27th, 2015
Sign Up NOW at Quechan Parks & Rec!



*The Quechan
Tribettes
Softball Team
is organizing a
40th year reunion!*

Back in the day, we played in the City of Yuma Leagues at the Sanguinetti Ball Field on Third Street. The Tribettes were the female athletes who played ball representing the Fort Yuma Quechan Tribe. We also traveled to play against the CRIT Tribe and the Cocopahs girls softball teams.

Mr. Harold Wah at the Pipa Market was our sponsor.

Coaches for the Tribettes included: Joe Nerva, Nate Nerva, Byran Obrian, Ladd Bouts and Jack Bouts

The following Ladies played on the team:

| | | |
|------------------|---------------|---------------|
| Michelle Gilbert | Mary Neal | Tweety Jones |
| Peggy Jefferson | Jaime Neal | Pearl Ullery |
| Jaime Hopkins | Delores Brown | Gloria Derma |
| Tammy Hopkins | Judy Cachora | Bernie Bouts |
| Debbie Townsend | Pearl Robles | Becky Pizanno |
| Dorinda Townsend | Terry Long | Avis Nerva |
| Becky Townsend | Beverly Jones | Ramona Polk |
| Alma Neal | Emma Morrison | Yolanda Polk |
| | Norma Jones | |

Please help us locate these ladies and their families.
If you know anyone associated with the Quechan Tribettes listed above, please contact Norma Jones Nelson at (928) 783-4305

Big Ry's Jumping Castle

Size: 13 Ft. X 13 Ft.!



**For More Info,
Call Big Ry At**

**(928)
388-0711**