



# QUECHAN NEWS

VOLUME 101, ISSUE 19 ♦ WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 28, 2007

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Look For This Symbol

ETSKA NAV AH PAI THE NEWS CARRIER  
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is published by

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# Happy Holidays!



Now that the weather is cooling down and the holiday season is upon us, things will really pick up at Fort Yuma over the next month. The Annual Thanksgiving Dinner has just passed, marking the start of a full month of community togetherness, that will include the Annual Quechan Christmas Dinner (which is now only 2 weeks away!) as well as many other yearly seasonal events.



The next event on the calendar is the Annual Lighting of the Indian Hill water tower (at left), coming up this Friday at 7 PM. The most recent (and well attended) community event was the Annual Thanksgiving Dinner. More photos of that gathering at the Quechan Community Center can be seen on the back cover.

Photos by William Isbell for QUECHAN NEWS

Next weekend will see the Artists Marketplace hold their Cultural Day and Open House on the 8th.

Parks and Recreation will host the Christmas Home Lighting Contest (with cash prizes for the top three entrants), toy giveaways for those 12 and under, and of course, the annual winter co-ed basketball tournament to keep athletically inclined school-aged youngsters occupied over the school break.

The Paradise Casinos Winter Concert Season also swings into high gear now, keeping both locals and winter visitors alike entertained through the holidays. December will see Patty Paige on hand for two shows this coming Saturday evening, followed by the great Ronnie Milsap in only two weeks. Then, 2007 will go out with two shows by country singer "stuttering" Mel Tillis in the Atlan-

tis Room on Saturday, December 29th. While all of that is exciting enough, the Casinos will also be hosting a Christmas Toy and Food Drive and featuring all sorts of incentives to keep the crowds coming back for more.

Now is also the time to get your paperwork in to take advantage of the Winter Clothing Assistance Program. You can read more about that on page 4.

The Quechan Tribe will also host their Annual Employee Christmas Party later this month at the Yuma Civic and Convention Center on the 21st. With door-prizes, live entertainment and dancing, that's sure to be one of the biggest events of the season. Hope you make it!

And finally, when all of that is over the new year will see the long-awaited (and delayed) official opening of the new Senior Nutrition Center, with guests arriving from all over the southwest to take part in a full day of native celebration.

## Christmas Season Special Events

At Quechan Parks and Recreation, Coming in December!

**Home Lighting Contest**  
Begins At Dusk, About 6:00PM

**Thursday**  
**Dec. 13th**  
Enter Now!

**Christmas Toy Giveaway**  
At the Quechan Community Center

**Saturday**  
**Dec. 22nd**  
From 1 to 5PM

**Christmas Dinner**  
At the Quechan Community Center

**Saturday**  
**Dec. 15th**  
At 5:00PM



# School Board Seats go to Quechan Tribe Members

Although voters went to the polls for local and state elections on November 6th, the people counting the ballots for the San Pasqual Valley School District really took their time in verifying this latest election.

With a total of only 472 votes listed for the San Pasqual School Board on Imperial County's official election results website, it seems the results could have been known as early as the day after Election Day, when the *Yuma Sun* was reporting that Quechan tribe member Bernadine Swift Arrow had easily captured the lead in the race for three open seats. But Imperial County Voter Registrar Dolores Provencio and her employees did not finish the count and publish their results until the early morning hours of Tuesday, November 20th. Even then, they were still listed as "Unofficial HPUD - Write Ins Pending!"

At that time, the Election Board website showed these candidates in the lead: Bernadine Swift Arrow, the Director of the Johnson/O'Malley Program at the Quechan Education Complex (QEC) had 100 votes, including late absentee ballots. She was closely trailed by Rebecca Ramirez, Site Director at the QEC (with 95 votes), and Patrick McCoy, an employee of the Quechan Tribe's Paradise Casinos, having 75 votes.

Surprisingly, the current Board President, Rory McDade, Sr., who had trailed Mr. McCoy by 2 votes (showing 67 votes to Mr. McCoy's 69) for 3 weeks prior to absentee ballots being counted, suddenly had the exact same number of votes on the Imperial County website, and was shown as the victor for the third open

seat on the school board.

Employees at the San Pasqual Administration Office told the *Quechan News* they had no information on what caused the delay, only that Imperial County appeared to be completing a canvass of all votes for every election district before releasing the final results on any election this year.

In any case, it appears that at least 2 of the Quechan Tribe members who had entered the race will be sworn in at the next Board meeting, scheduled for Tuesday evening, December 11th. Together with incumbent board member Monica Montague, Quechan Tribe members will then hold a majority on the school board. That will provide the Tribe an important voice in future decisions on the administration of the San Pasqual Valley Schools over the next four years.

Rebecca Ramirez says her platform was founded on the importance of the financial decisions that need to be made, and how to channel the funding available right now, to be more effective.

"We don't need to be chasing every last funding dollar, spending more money to try to qualify for every last possible Federal Grant out there," she says. "What we need to do is look at what we have in-house right now, and channel that directly into educating the kids we have. We need to look at efficiency in education."

Rebecca says that she thinks what may have hurt one of the lower performing incumbents in this election was her insistence on emphasizing "the wider view".

"Barbara Bensel was running a commercial where she stressed her 'vast experience' and the

need to 'consider the wider view of what's required to help our schools perform to standards'," the QED Director says. "We don't need a 'wider' view right now, as if what the whole outside world thinks is important. We need to narrow our focus on what the students right here in our community need to help them achieve!"

Echoing the view that what ails the schools is an out-of-touch Administration, Bernadine Swift Arrow says more personal contact is needed, to find out what the students actually need in their pursuit of academic success.

She asks, "With less than 200 students in the high school, why is it (Superintendent Susan Smith) doesn't know each one of those students by name?"

Both staff members at the Quechan Education Center think that the real problem facing the public schools here is an attitude on the part of the Administration that the schools should be run as if they were large schools in a city, with a huge administrative staff overseeing and approving every decision.

Their philosophy is that these are small schools, with an isolated, rural population. It should be possible for the schools to join hand-in-hand with the students and guide them all the way through their school careers, almost providing them with a custom education on an individual basis.

"It's not like we are dealing with thousands of students and a huge population base here," says Miss Swift Arrow.

At presstime, it remained to be seen if the final seat will be decided in favor of incumbent Rory McDade, Sr. or Patrick McCoy.

## Hello - This is Drugs and Alcohol Talking!

Submitted by Quechan Tribe President  
Mike Jackson, Sr.

I've come to visit once again . . .

I love to make you suffer: mentally, physically, spiritually and socially. I want to make you restless so you can never relax. I want you jumpy, nervous and anxious. I want you to be agitated and irritable so everything and everybody makes you uncomfortable. I want you to be confused and depressed so that you can't think positively or clearly. I want to make you hate everything and everybody - especially yourself.

I want you to feel guilty and remorseful for the things you have done in the past that you'll never be able to let go of. I want you to feel sorry for yourself and have you blame everything but your addiction for the way things are.

I want you to be deceitful and untrustworthy, and to have you manipulate and con as many people as possible. I want to make you fearful and paranoid for no reason at all. I want you to wake up at all hours of the night screaming for me. You know you can't sleep without me: I'm in your dreams!

I want to be the first thing you wake up to in the morning and the last thing you touch before you black out. I'd rather kill you, but I'll be happy enough to put you in the hospital, an institution, or jail. But you know I'll still be waiting for you when you get out . . . I love to watch you slowly going insane. I love to watch all of the physical damage I'm causing you. I can't help but sneer and chuckle when you shiver and shake, freeze and sweat at the same time; when you wake up with your sheets and blankets soaking wet! It's amusing to watch you make love to the toilet bowl, heaving and retching as you're not able to hold me down. It's amazing how much damage I can do to your internal organs while at the same time I work on your brain, destroying it bit by bit.

I deeply appreciate all you are sacrificing for me. The countless good jobs. All the fine friends that you deeply cared for - and still gave up for me. And more: all those who've turned against you through your inexcusable actions - I'm even more grateful.

And especially your loved ones, your family. The most important people in the world, you threw away for me! I cannot express in words the gratitude I have for the loyalty you've shown me.

You've sacrificed all these beautiful things in life just to devote yourself completely to me. But do not despair my friend: you can always depend on me. For after you have lost all these things, you can depend on me to take even more.

You can depend on me to keep your mind, body and soul in living hell. For I will not be satisfied until you are dead, my friend.

- Author Unknown



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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 San Pasqual Valley. Your ideas and input are welcome!

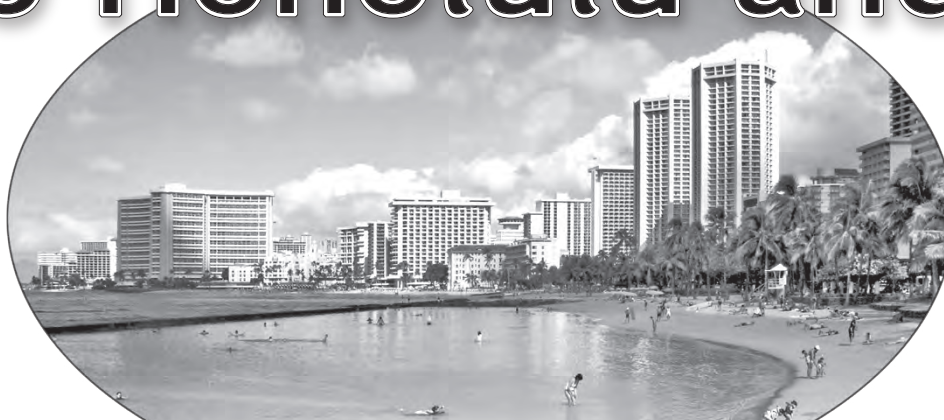
Just call the QUECHAN NEWS office Monday through Friday at (760) 572-3912, or email your stories and story ideas to [w.isbell@quechantribe.com](mailto:w.isbell@quechantribe.com). I'm looking forward to hearing from you!



# Heritage & Culture

## Fall Travel Program For Seniors Spectacular: Visit to Honolulu and Kona!

Dancers from all over the South Pacific islands are a major part of the entertainment at the Polynesian Culture Center in Honolulu.



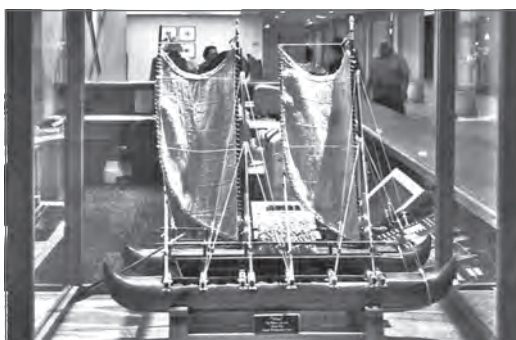
October 24th Thru November 1st, 2007

Quechan Councilman James Montague and his wife Corie took the time to pose for portraits and keep a tangible memory of the trip.



It was a busy week as the Quechan Seniors travelled to two islands to see the sights. Above in the center is a view of hotels along the beach in Honolulu where they spent the first four days at the Outrigger Waikiki. Down the left side below are the battleship USS Missouri of WWII and the interior of the USS Arizona Memorial at Pearl Harbor, followed by a model of a sea going Polynesian ship from the days of sail. On the right side below is a view of the first night's Fire Show at the Cultural Center, one of the many group lunches at the hotel and a Pacific sunset.

Senior Center Photos by Gene Moore



The second Senior Trip this fall was lead by professional tour guides Dean and Debbie McWilliams. Departing from Phoenix Sky Harbor Airport, the non-stop flight was longer than the 4 PM departure and 7:35 PM landing times shown on the schedule, due to the plane passing through five time zones between Arizona and Hawaii!

Landing in Honolulu, the group spent most of the first day at the Polynesian Culture Center, where they enjoyed seeing a variety of dance groups on both rafts and on stage, taking part in a luau, and attending IMAX shows in a huge dome theater. With all 7 tribes of the South Pacific represented, it was a true feast for all of the senses.

After the total immersion of day one, the seniors got a full day on Friday to just sleep in and go sightseeing on their own. Many took advantage of the opportunity to go shopping for souvenirs or just laze about on the beaches, enjoying the novelty of ocean breezes and salt sea air.

Saturday began with a visit to Pearl Harbor to visit the USS Arizona Memorial, with some service connected seniors taking advantage of the lower prices offered at the

base PX to collect more souvenirs available only in Hawaii. Then it was off to visit a Macadamia nut farm, a Shinto Temple and Pali Lookout as the tour made a complete circuit of the island of Oahu.

Sunday morning saw them visit the world's largest flea market, followed by more time to get out and explore on their own.

On Monday, the tour made the short flight to the big island of Hawaii, to stay at the Outrigger Beach Resort in Kona. The afternoon and evening was free time, because the next day would be go-go-go!

On Tuesday, the group boarded a bus for a complete circle of the largest of the islands, taking the coastal highway to see a coffee plantation, the black sands beach, Hawaii Volcanoes National Park and an orchid nursery, as well as viewing the famous Rainbow Falls.

The last day on the islands was dedicated to a tour of the eastern end of Oahu. After flying back to Honolulu, the bus made stops at Diamond Head, Kahala Estates and Hanauma Bay, as well as taking a look at the famous blow hole, where the crash of ocean waves creates a geyser-like spectacle of mist!



# QUECHAN TRIBE COLLEGE LETTERMAN STYLE JACKETS!

*Now is your chance to show your pride for all to see by wearing one of these extraordinary, high-quality Quechan Tribe Letterman Shell Jackets!*

## AVAILABLE IN TWO STYLES

**Heavy wool torsos with vinyl or leather sleeves:**

**Both have a HUGE Quechan Tribe Seal that fills the back, with a smaller seal over the left breast - and both jackets will have your name embroidered front and back in red!**

**The Leather Sleeve Jacket sells for \$180.00**

**The Vinyl Sleeve Jacket is available for only \$90.00**

**Embroidered Quechan Tribe Hats/Caps only \$12.00!**

**To order, contact Cathie Soliz, Quechan Tribe Property & Supply Manager at 572-0213, Ext. 229  
Payment is due upon order.**



Tina Salinas is shown wearing a jacket with genuine leather sleeves, which has snap button cuffs and elastic waistband. Terry Bay is wearing the vinyl version with red stripes on the woven collar, waistline closure and the woven sleeve cuffs.

## ATTENTION COMMUNITY MEMBERS OF THE QUECHAN TRIBE

**NOVEMBER 30th**  
FROM 10:00AM - 22:22

**Bring & save your empty laundry detergent bottle for a FREE refill.**

**Free to the whole community**  
Welcome tribal and community members. Stop by to pick up a free refill of laundry detergent and other items donated by NRC.

**See you at the Tribal Administration Office!**



## Winter School Clothing Assistance Program Deadline December 28th

Parents and legal guardians of Quechan Tribe students enrolled at any educational facility may apply at the Tribal Administration Office for assistance in providing new winter clothes for their children, through the Winter School Clothing Assistance Program (W.S.C.A.P.).

Any student may be accepted for a clothing allowance, from those as young as Head Start to high school aged, and even those enrolled at a College or University (as long as they are full-time students). You can even apply for funds for a student in Technical School, or one who is home-schooled or enrolled in a G.E.D. program.

G.E.D. students are eligible for one-time participation only, however. Parents or guardians can pick up an application pack-

et at the Reception Desk of the Tribe's Administration Office. Please be careful to follow all of the instructions.

For 2008, the enrollment deadline for the program is the close of business on Friday, December 28th, 2007, so those who wish to participate still have time to pick up an application and get their children enrolled.

Once your packet is in hand, be sure to enroll all of the eligible students you are responsible for, and get your school's administrator to sign page 4, verifying your child's enrollment.

Each enrolled child will be eligible for a check in the amount of \$150.00 to reimburse the expense of winter clothes.

After you've turned in your packet, you can expect the Revenue Distribution Department

to take about 7 days to process your application. Checks will not be issued unless all receipts are turned in.

All receipts that are turned in for reimbursement for W.S.C.A.P. must be dated between November 1st, 2007 and January 31st, 2008.

Save ALL receipts, to provide proof of your purchases under this program. You have until 5 PM on Thursday, January 31st of 2008 to turn in those receipts.

Those who miss this deadline will not be eligible to receive a check for next year's W.S.C.A.P. Students who are attending school out-of-town will receive a Target Gift Card (rather than a check), and those who fail to turn in their receipts on time this year will receive a Target purchase order in lieu of a check.

# Veterans Parade

## CONDUCTED BY QUECHAN HEAD START



The Annual Quechan Day Care "Thank You Veterans" Parade was held on Thursday morning, November 8th on Indian Hill. Following the traditional route from the area south of the old preschool cafeteria building, east to the Quechan Museum and then around the outside road of the hill, over 40 preschool children and their adult guardians marched all the way around to the Police Station and Hospital Complex to finish their march at the Quechan Tribe Administration Offices.

Waving patriotic bunting and chant-



ing "Red, White, Blue: We Love You!" the assembly was a big hit as adults poured out of their offices to wave back and cheer the tykes' effort. Uniformed staff from the Indian Health Service even turned out on their lawn to stand at attention and present the national colors in a show of patriotic solidarity for the youngsters. It's good to see a valuable lesson learned through a practical application that also involves a little exercise!

Photos by William Isbell

## During This Year's CHRISTMAS TOY AND FOOD DRIVE

For every \$5 in non-perishable food items you purchase and turn in along with your receipt at

# Paradise CASINOS

You will receive

**\$10** In Free Slot Play!

See Casino for complete details  
HURRY! Food Drive Ends on Sunday, December 16th!

# PIPA Market

convenience store  
At The Corner of Picacho Road and Quechan Drive  
Fort Yuma Quechan Reservation, CA.

## Quechan Artist's Work Selected for Display at Phippen Museum

After sending out requests for submissions to native communities all over the southwest, in late October the Phippen Art Museum of Prescott, Arizona completed juried selection of 12 artists for the display of their works at a special exhibition that will remain in place through February 10th.

With scores of artists competing, only a very small group made it through the entire process, and one of those artists was Woody Brown, a wood carver and bead artist of the Quechan tribe. Two of his recent hand-carved dolls will be included in the four month show entitled "Native Myths and Legends 2007".

The show is intended to show how native artists interpret their own tribal legends through contemporary and traditional art forms, to create visual representations of their viewpoints in their favored media. To highlight the importance of this show, nationally recognized sculptor Doug Hyde was one of the members of the jury that reviewed the submissions and selected the pieces for the show. A 10½ foot



Woody Brown and his son Bosphus "Bubba" Brown show the two carved and beaded dolls selected for the show.

tall bronze copy of Hyde's "Chief Joseph" will greet visitors as they enter the "Myths and Legends" exhibition at the museum from a hillside.

Although cash awards were available for only the top three spots of the twelve artists selected, Woody's carvings were of such fine workmanship that they easily made it into the show from the scores of

entries submitted over a two month period. Since Fort Yuma was one of the last communities contacted for submissions, Woody was barely able to get his photos and write-up completed before the deadline, but he's glad he made it.

"For a long time, I didn't think I'd hear from them," he says, "but they finally sent me a letter a couple of weeks ago, asking me to bring

my dolls up, because they made it into the show."

He also says that without the help of Kimberly Bell, who typed up his application for the show, and Deborah Drummel's photos, he wouldn't have made it. Thanks also goes to Johnny Norton and Shirley Kelly for their help and support.

One doll, 10-inch tall carving of Sin-nu-ach Ur-ra-uv, the "Lightening Woman" is carved from cottonwood root and covered with beads. Featuring an 8 pointed beaded star as the base, it represents her praying before the start of her dance.

The other doll selected is his just completed work, Quaa-se-thee, the "Medicine Man". A 14-inch tall tour-de-force of wood carving, he holds a meticulously painted rattlesnake in one hand and a gourd rattle in the other, as he uses the contents of his medicine bag to hex misfortune on his enemies. His headdress is made up of 122 individually hand-carved feathers inserted into tiny holes drilled into his cap.

Dedicated to his mother, Latrice Hawthorne Brown Matus and



The male figure on display is a 14 inch tall carving of Quaa-se-thee, the medicine man.

his sister Dolores, on the bottom of each doll's base next to his signature is the legend, "For once I listened", in reference to the fact that he spent most of his youth refusing to listen to his elders.

Now, it seems, listening to his elders and their traditional teachings are giving him the opportunity to expand his horizons.

# STUDENTS CONDUCT SAFETY INSPECTIONS AT SCHOOL

Federal statistics claim that each year, there may be as many as 200,000 visits to emergency rooms due to injuries children have received on playgrounds. Although some of these injuries can be attributed to the normal lack of caution children often display in their rough and tumble world, a great deal of the incidents can also be traced back to improper installation of playground equipment, lack of maintenance and the need for a soft surface to absorb the falls that often occur around swingsets, slides and outdoor gym equipment.

In an effort to reduce the chances of avoidable injuries here at Fort Yuma, Lisa Aguerro, the Quechan Tribe's Injury Prevention Coordinator, led two groups of students at the San Pasqual Elementary School in a learning exercise, showing them how to conduct their own inspection of the play areas at the school, and helping them (and the school) become aware of the need to keep an eye open for everyday hazards.

Mrs. Aguerro joined forces with Mrs. Stevens, the 2nd grade teacher, and Mrs. Oglesby who teaches 3rd grade, to design a math lesson



involving practical applications of measurement, recording numbers, and comparisons. Each classroom had a day of classroom instruction on how to use a bag of equipment they received to perform their inspections, which they all got to take home when the course was complete.

Each child was given a large drawstring nylon bag (suitable for transport of all kinds of treasures



**Maricela Guerrero and Allysa Shepard** (at top left) carefully go over their findings, while below them Yuliana Morales and Lucio Gonzales take a water break. The boys above, Christopher Crowder, Samuel Luna and Randy Aguerro check sand depth. They are also the team that found a loose bolt on a playground slide.

Quechan Injury Prevention Photos by Lisa Aguerro

a kid might collect) that held a water bottle (for drinks, in case the day they did their inspection turned hot), a small plastic shovel (for digging down and checking the depth of the soft sand layer around the playground equipment) and a colorful tape measure (for checking the height of platforms and the distance between railings). The students spent an afternoon learning how to read the little marks on the tape measure and how to record the results, and went over the contents of a 3 page form they would be using to conduct their inspection.

They also found out how to look for worn parts and search for loose bolts, choking hazards and sharp edges. Once the classroom portion was covered, Mrs. Aguerro returned the following day to lead the students through the actual inspections at the end of the school day, between 2 and 3 PM.

The second graders got the first chance to climb over every piece of equipment on the playground, with the third graders repeating the exercise a week or so later over two days. Each class of 18 students broke up into 6 teams of 3, with two kids performing the measurements and digging into the sand, and a third to keep track of what was being measured and record the results.

They measured how far past the equipment the soft sand extends, how high the tallest piece of equipment is, how much room

is in front of the slide to land on, and if there were any openings in the safety rails that were between 3½ and 9 inches. They made sure there were no foreign objects (like rocks, toys or trash) on the play-

ground, and checked for loose bolts, which one team of boys did find on a slide.

It made for an interesting and different sort of math class.

Once all of the data was collected, it was reviewed by the teachers and the Quechan Injury Prevention Office. The children received grades for a math assignment, Mrs. Aguerro completed another assignment (with a group of helpful volunteers) and Mrs. Ponce, the Principal at San Pasqual Elementary, got a complete report on the condition of her playground facilities. It was a win-win for everyone involved.

All of the problems found in the survey were relatively minor, but with all of the kids now being aware of them, you can be sure they will be addressed very soon. The students are watching, after all!

## Employment Opportunities

*Temporary construction jobs with local contractors are available through the Tribal Employment Rights Office (TERO).*

*Applications will be accepted if you fall into one of the following categories:*

- **Tribal Members**
- **Native Americans**
- **Individuals residing on the reservation, providing support for Native American families.**

**Contact Pearl Cowan  
Quechan Tribe TERO**

*For applications and more information.*

**(760) 572-2013**

These jobs are not offered by the Quechan Indian Tribe. Applicants are referred to other contractors/agencies for employment.



GOVERNOR ARNOLD SCHWARZENEGGER

### PROCLAMATION

Throughout California, Native Americans play incredibly important roles in our state's culture and success. As the first people to inhabit this land, they enjoyed the beauty and resources of California long before the arrival of European explorers in the 1500's. Their customs and languages are invaluable parts of our state's history, which is why I am honored to observe Native American Heritage Month.

California is home to sixty-nine indigenous tribal groups, with a total population exceeding 300,000. Each of these men, women and children bears an awesome legacy that continues to influence California today. Whether through their vocations or through their commitment to their traditions, Native Americans contribute great strength to our state and a wonderful richness to our diverse population.

While tribes and tribal elders do an extraordinary job in upholding their customs, California is also working hard to ensure that Native Americans retain their centuries-old traditions. Just last month, I signed a bill that made it legal for Native Americans with verifiable tribal membership to possess and collect feathers, skins, carcasses and other parts of non-game animals, which was not legal prior to this new law. Now, these items can be used for ceremonial and spiritual purposes important to maintaining the unique identity and culture of each tribe.

I am honored to join all Californians in celebrating Native American heritage during this month, and I express my gratitude to all those who work hard to promote and preserve this heritage for generations to come.

**NOW, THEREFORE, I, ARNOLD SCHWARZENEGGER**, Governor of the State of California, do hereby proclaim November 2007, as "Native American Heritage Month."



**IN WITNESS WHEREOF**, I have hereunto set my hand and caused the Great Seal of the State of California to be affixed this 1st day of November 2007.

*Arnold Schwarzenegger*

Arnold Schwarzenegger  
GOVERNOR OF CALIFORNIA

STATE CAPITOL - SACRAMENTO, CALIFORNIA 95814 • (916) 445-2841

# Foundation Testing to Confirm Water Tower Safety

Plans to expand the capacity of the Quechan Tribe's water system through construction of a new water tower north of the All American Canal has lead to a review of the seismic stability of the current water tower on Indian Hill.

While conducting the required seismic zone engineering study for new construction, the Environmental Health Department of the Indian Health Service (IHS) looked at the plans and records on the installation of the existing water tower. In order to confirm the assumptions made about the security of the original tower, IHS requested a specialized seismic survey be conducted.

Bill Hirt, of the Quechan Water and Sewer Department has contracted with Saguaro Geo Services (SGS) of Tucson, Arizona to conduct the survey. Brad Herbert and Bob Cummings of SGS arrived in early November with a crew from GSI Drilling to spend four days atop Indian Hill performing the first part of the test.

Mr. Cummings explained that "Based on some old records, it was concluded that there might need to be some additional tie-down reinforcements for this water tank (on the Hill)."

A series of test holes were drilled in the bedrock surrounding the base of the tower and anchor bolts installed and grouted in place for the actual test, which will be performed in either late December or early January.

The objective of the test will be to verify that the 15-foot long anchor bolts currently installed around the base of the tower, which descend into the concrete base and bedrock below, are sufficiently strong to keep the tower securely in place in the event of the kind of seismic event that can be expected here.

Brad Herbert, a geologist with SGS, says he thinks the tower will meet the Seismic Code requirements as it is, since the existing anchor bolts are set in concrete that should have flowed onto any cracks in the bedrock beneath, and increased the "bond strength" of the entire foundation.

"The existing bolts are set in concrete their entire length" he points out. "When the structural engineer (that requested the tests) determined that there wasn't enough strength to resist the seismic forces, he didn't take into account that bond strength between the concrete and the rock; he just

took into account the tensioning of the bolts."

So to prove the bond strength is sufficient, three holes 3 inches in diameter were drilled 35 feet into the bedrock on the south side, and one each to the east and west of the tower's foundation. Each hole is then partially filled with pea gravel, followed by a thin layer of sand to create a base for a concrete plug that will be poured in to "grout" the rods to the bedrock. Huge threaded steel rods, similar to the anchor bolts in place around the base of the tower, are then inserted into the holes with a few inches sticking up for later use during the actual tests.

It is the concrete to rock bond that is to be tested, so each hole will have between 18 and 32 inches of concrete poured in at a set depth to test the bond of bolt-to-concrete to-rock at that point, which will be between 13 and 15 feet depending on the appearance of the core samples recovered from each hole.

The holes are then capped over for safety. The concrete is left to dry for at least 53 days, when SGS will return to perform the dynamic testing on the bond strength of the test anchors.

"We're going to come back with



Drilling crew from GSI Drilling carefully monitors their progress on the west side of the water tower, at left. Water used as a lubricant for drilling into the granite bedrock on Indian Hill is recycled throughout the process. QUECHAN NEWS Photos by William Isbell



a special jack and pull them out so that we 'fail' the concrete," says Mr. Herbert, "and we'll measure the point where the concrete fails." The jack has a specially calibrated scale between the jack and the bolt that records the amount of stress released at the point at which either the concrete fails, or the rock surrounding it releases the plug. "Then we'll be able to determine what the actual bond strength is between the rock and the concrete."

Once the bond strength of each test hole is known, he says "We can apply that to all these bolts (at

the base of the tower) and from that determine what the actual resistance is here."

If the tests results are favorable (meaning the current arrangement meets the code), nothing further will need to be done. But if the bond strength is less than desirable, more anchor bolts and an additional ring of steel will need to be installed at the base of the water tower to ensure it stays intact in the event of an earthquake.

The *Quechan News* will be sure to bring you the results, once completed, in a later issue.

## HALLOWEEN COSTUME WINNERS



Last month, Quechan Tribe employees went all-out in their Annual Halloween Costume Contest, with a "deadly serious" competition for a Grand Prize of \$100 cash and bragging rights for a year. Judges this year were Lisa Aguerro of Injury Prevention, Juanita Flores from the Senior Nutrition Program and Luz Lopez, Quechan Tribe Human Resources Benefits Clerk.

At left (as Death himself), James Espino of the Quechan Education Complex (QEC) Security Detachment took first prize of \$100. In the center is Maria Marquez, a temporary Health Aide at CHR, winning 2nd place and \$75. To the far right is Susan Koteen, a cook at QEC, who got \$50 for third.

Photos by Luz Lopez, Quechan Tribe HR Benefits

## Tribal Council Appoints New Committee Members

At a special meeting convened by the Quechan Tribal Council on the morning of Tuesday, November 20th, four resolutions were adopted appointing new members to various Tribal Committees. The four Committees had requested letters of interest from tribe members over the past three months, to fill positions with expired terms, or to take the positions of members who had stepped down over the past year.

The Quechan Cultural Committee, which has the authority to request appointment of specific individuals under the ordinance governing that group, had previously made it known that they recommended the appointment of Mr. Manfred Scott. During the meeting, the Council agreed, voting 6 to 1 in favor of the Cultural

Committee's recommendation.

Others appointed to serve on the Cultural Committee at that meeting are Marianna Bobtail Bear, Kendrick Escalanti, Cristobal Emerson and Arlie Emerson.

Appointed to the Quechan Tribally Designated Housing Entity (QTDHE) Board of Governors were Milton Jefferson, Sr., Michael Amadore, Roseanne Williams and Vernon Smith.

There will be two new members serving on the Quechan Tribal Enrollment Committee, Marianna Bobtail Bear and Bernadine Swift Arrow. They will serve for two years, until November 28, 2009.

The final committee member appointed at the meeting was Marilyn Hammond, who will be serving on the Quechan Health Committee.



**Freddie Andrews** (above) provided the entertainment with native flute music, while Lindsey and Alle Swift Arrow insured their personal popularity for the evening, handing out slices of pumpkin pie.



**Volunteer Tobey Owl delivers plates to elders** (above), while the long lines of those moving through the serving lines can be seen in the background. Plenty of volunteers turned out this year to help the Quechan Parks and Recreation crew put on a successful dinner, with most helping out on both lines (below), and serving over 500 hot meals in record time.

All Photos by William Isbell for QUECHAN NEWS



**San Paqual Princesses** (above) Marilyn Galindo and Maritza Barley from the high school and middle school came out to greet the guests and make everyone feel at home. Of course, some of the younger kids (below) had no trouble at all feeling at home and getting into the spirit of things!



## Thanksgiving Dinner - November 17th, 2007

# The First Annual Elder Health Resource Fair

Will be held at the new Quechan Senior Nutrition Building

**Friday, December 7th From 10AM to 2PM**

Open to those 55 and over and all Elder Caregivers, please bring **ALL** of your medications, prescription and non-prescription, plus **ALL** the health supplements and vitamins you take. A complete assesment for possible negative drug interactions will be performed for free!

### Other Available Resources Will Include:

Home Assessment Signup	Blood Pressure Check	Flu Shots Available
Walking Club Signup	Blood Sugar Check	Nutrition Guidance
	Foot Health Check	Exercise Demonstration

### With Additional Information About:

Medicare and Health Insurance	Healthy Menu Planning
Emergency Preparedness	Health Screening

**Transportation Provided by  
Quechan CHR**  
Call (760)572-0753 for pick-up

### Participants Will Include:

Quechan Injury Prevention Office	Quechan Diabetes Wellness Center
Indian Health Service	Quechan Community Health Representatives (CHR)
Senior Nutrition	

**Questions? Call Lisa Aguerro at Injury Prevention: (760)572-0437**