



QUECHAN NEWS

VOLUME 101, ISSUE 14 ♦ WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 12, 2007

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To Tribe Members



Look For This Symbol

ETSKA NAV AH PAI THE NEWS CARRIER
QUECHAN NEWS

is published by

The Quechan Indian Tribe

350 Picacho Road

Winterhaven, Ca. 92283

Phone: (760)572-3912

Fax: (760)572-3910

With Ground Broken, New Housing Started

During a public ground breaking ceremony on the last day of August, members of the Quechan Tribe Council handed over a giant replica of a check to members of the Quechan Tribe Board of Commissioners, representing funds set aside for the construction of the first all new subdivision since the early 1990s.

With a great crowd of tribe members, local media and employees of the departments and contractors involved, Bob Letendre of the Quechan Tribally Designated Housing Entity (QTDHE) took charge of the event, that featured free battery powered hand held fans to keep the heat under control and a sit-down picnic breakfast under a giant tent with huge cooling fans providing a welcome breeze.



Quechan Housing Commissioners accept the check for over \$6.6 Million from President Mike Jackson, Sr. and Councilwoman Cryselle Montague-Urbe.

Vernon Smith formally opened the day's events with a prayer and blessing that reminded everyone present of the need to



Breaking ground at the new subdivision are (from left) Housing B.O.C. members Vernon Smith, Milton Jefferson, Pearl Robles, Julianna Comet and Kathy Webb-Howard, Quechan Council members Vincent T. Durand, Merrill Kelly, Cryselle Montague-Urbe and Quechan Tribe President Mike Jackson, Sr. QUECHAN NEWS Photos by William Isbell

work together and remember that everything we do should be for the benefit of the generations to come.

"We ask a special blessing this day," he said, "as we step forward to work together to create a new environment for our people to live in harmony."

After sharing some of the details on the hard work it took to get this entire project to come together,

Mr. Letendre went on to say, "This project has the distinction of being one of the largest tribally funded housing grants in the

United States. At \$6.6 million, it represents an enormous commitment to housing for the people of this tribe."

Over \$2 1/2 million of that total goes to construction of new infrastructure, such as roads, utilities and the sewer and drainage systems required to create the new subdivision, as well as a new park and the sidewalks along the streets.

The remaining funds have been set aside for the construction of both rental and home ownership properties. Those homes will all have an entirely new look, with solid construction, more square footage than previous homes on the reservation, modern appliances, upgraded features and a great emphasis on energy efficiency.

Before turning the podium

over to Quechan Tribe President Mike Jackson, Sr., Mr. Letendre also took time to mention that \$400,000 in funding for the project was contributed by Lyle Setwyn of Indian Health Services.

He finished up with the observation that, "I have talked with all of the subcontractors, and they have all stated that they are all committed to providing us with exceptional quality at the very best prices."

"This is what it is all about," said Mr. Jackson, "and we are very proud on the Tribal Council after working together with both the Housing Board and staff in turning over six-point-six million dollars to meet the needs of our people."

He went on to say, "As every
Story Continues on Page 3

New Printer, Industry Standard Bring Changes To Quechan News Look

Longtime readers of the *Quechan News* have noticed the page sizes and look of this publication change over the past year, as the paper went from a custom printed size of 11 inches wide by 17 inches tall to a more normal "Tabloid Printing" size of 11.375 inches by 13.75 inches per page.

Previously, this publication was designed using an 11 by 17 inch size, which is a common size for office printers, producing two 8 1/2 x 11 inch pages when folded in half. However, for newspaper printing, that is not an industry standard size at all.

So, with the change in staff late last November, the page layout was also changed to hold down printing charges, going to what is called a 27 inch web-press layout, which has been a standard size since the late 1950's. That allowed more frequent use of pre-existing templates within the In Design program used to create the paper, streamlining operations to allow a twice monthly publication, among other benefits.

However, since then, two things have happened in the printing world of Yuma that means another change to the size and design of the *Quechan News*.

One change was that the printer we have been using for years, Sun Graphics, was sold by Western Newspapers to their long time print manager, Glen Sparlin.

Since Sun Graphics is no longer a division of Western Newspapers, they no longer receive the discount they had in place for print jobs produced on the 27 inch web press owned by *The Kingman Daily Miner*, where the

Quechan News was being printed until the last issue.

That meant a new web press had to be located to print *Quechan News*, if we didn't want to suddenly begin paying 30% to 40% more per issue!

Mr. Sparlin at Sun Graphics then approached *The Sun* here in Yuma, and together with the newsletter coordinator, William Isbell, negotiated a 28% lower price for printing the newsletter right here in Yuma.

The Sun was given our page layout sizes and electronic files to run tests before the last issue was printed, but they inadvertently failed to notice the *Quechan News* was set up as 27 inches wide. Because of that, you might have noticed the bottom of each page on issue 13 was missing about an eighth of an inch.

The second change is that *The Sun* has gone to the new industry standard 24 inch web size, meaning each page is about 90% smaller than before, to save on paper, ink and other printing resources.

So, another re-design was begun with this issue. Although the new pages are only one inch narrower for the printed area, they are about 2 and a quarter inches shorter, top to bottom. The main design differences are that the front page now has a taller contents strip down the left side below the masthead, which means a little less space for the headline next to it, rather than being above the contents, as before.

The type has also been reduced from 11 points to 10 points to fit the smaller pages. Let us know what you think of the new look!

Construction Completed At New Senior Nutrition Center



Crews from Martin's Lanscaping laid landscaping cloth and red volcanic cinders in the retention basins, which have drip irrigation systems for the plants and river rock at the bottoms for drainage. QUECHAN NEWS Photos by William Isbell

The weeks immediately before and after the Labor Day Holiday weekend saw a flurry of activity at the site of the new Quechan Senior Nutrition Center, as detail work was being completed.

Walt Brooks, Project Manager for Don Peterson Engineering says the last day scheduled for any actual construction on site should be this Friday, with his final walk-through and sign-off set for Monday, September 17th.

Once his final inspection is done on that date, he will hand over the keys to the Quechan Tribe, and the project will be substantially complete as far as actual construction, less than a year after the project began.

Of course, with a project as big as this one, there is more to do before the doors open, the kitchen begins operating, and elders can file in and start taking meals in the new facility. The staff at the Senior Nutrition Center only completed their final selections for interior furnishings and office equipment at the end of August.

With a 30 day delivery schedule, most of the new desks, tables and chairs won't arrive until the

end of this month, and they will still have to be assembled and put in place when they get here.

Once that has begun, there is also the matter of moving everyone from the old building down the street, which will take a couple of days, too.

But for now, the building is done, phones, internet and satellite television systems have been installed and tested, and the kitchen stands ready to be stocked with groceries in anticipation of opening day.

With a new walk-in freezer (the size of the entire kitchen in the old building), separate wash and prep areas, the kitchen is a wonder of modern electronically controlled industrial efficiency.

Two Southbend professional 9 burner gas ranges have been installed, with over 100 square inches of cooking surface on each. They are mounted on rollers for ease of maintenance, and constructed of industrial grade stainless steel with cast-iron grates.

The Blodgett dual control oven has a choice of 60,000 or 80,000 BTU operation, depending on if it is used for heating, baking



or broiling. Equipped with three speed convection fans, the oven is mounted at counter height, enabling cooks to fill and empty the five shelves inside without having to stoop or bend.

There are both heating and cooling cabinets in the kitchen, also on wheels. Large trays of items like macaroni and cheese could be prepared hours before being needed in the kitchen and placed into a cooling cabinet for chilling down to any desired temperature just above freezing.

Only a half hour prior to serving, the trays could then be placed in a thermostatically regulated steam chest heating cabinet, and brought back up to a serving temperature as high as 200° if needed.

The entire electronically controlled kitchen is designed to maximize efficiency by streamlining the workflow, allowing the cooks more time to be creative in meal planning.

There is much more to be shown the public, once the building opens for business in early October. The *Quechan News* will announce the Grand Opening date in the next issue!

ETSKA NAV AH PAI THE NEWS CARRIER
QUECHAN NEWS

William Isbell

Newsletter Coordinator, Fort Yuma Quechan Nation

350 Picacho Road Winterhaven, CA 92283

Phone: (760) 572-3912 Fax: (760) 572-3910

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 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. I'm looking forward to hearing from you!



Progress & Development

Now That Construction Has Begun

Many Can't Wait For The New Housing Subdivision

Continued From Front Page

one knows, there is a long list of people here, waiting to get into housing. The Council realized this was needed, so we set aside the money to make sure this happens."

Emphasizing the need to work together to bring such a large scale project to fruition, President Jackson continued, "Six-point-six million dollars is a lot of money, but the Tribal Council knows there is a need here, so we're working together in unison, like we should be, for you, the people in the community. . . . Any future Tribal Council, staff or Housing Board (should be aware) there is always going to be a need for housing here, and hopefully they will all work together in unison for this common cause for you, the tribal membership. That's what it's all about."

Pearl Robles, the Vice-Chair for the Quechan Housing Board of Commissioners (BOC) spoke next, welcoming everyone present to the long-awaited ground breaking.

"When we as a Board of Commissioners began putting this project together, it seemed like a never ending task," she began. "But here we are, ready for our new homes to be built, and it truly seems like a new beginning."

She took time to offer commendations to the staff at QT-DHE, the Tribal Administration, Maintenance and the Work Force crew for all of their hard work and dedication in getting the new subdivision off to a great start, and for their continuing dedication in



Formal Check presentation shows some of the major personalities involved in getting the new homes subdivision off to a great start. From left are: BOC members Milton Jefferson, Vernon Smith, Julianna Comet, Pearl Robles and Kathy Webb-Howard, standing with Quechan Tribe Council members Vincent T. Durand, Mike Jackson, Sr. (President), Merrill Kelly and Cryselle Montague Uribe.

QUECHAN NEWS Photo by William Isbell

putting their best foot forward, and getting the job done.

She finished her remarks with the thought that, "Our hopes are to create a safe and healthy environment for our future tenants."

Former Tribal Administrator Vernon Smith spoke again, reemphasizing the fact that the entire project is receiving no federal funds. This marks a historic occasion he said, because "These are funds derived from our Casinos. That means that there will be things we will be allowed to do that we are not able to do with funds that come from the federal government."

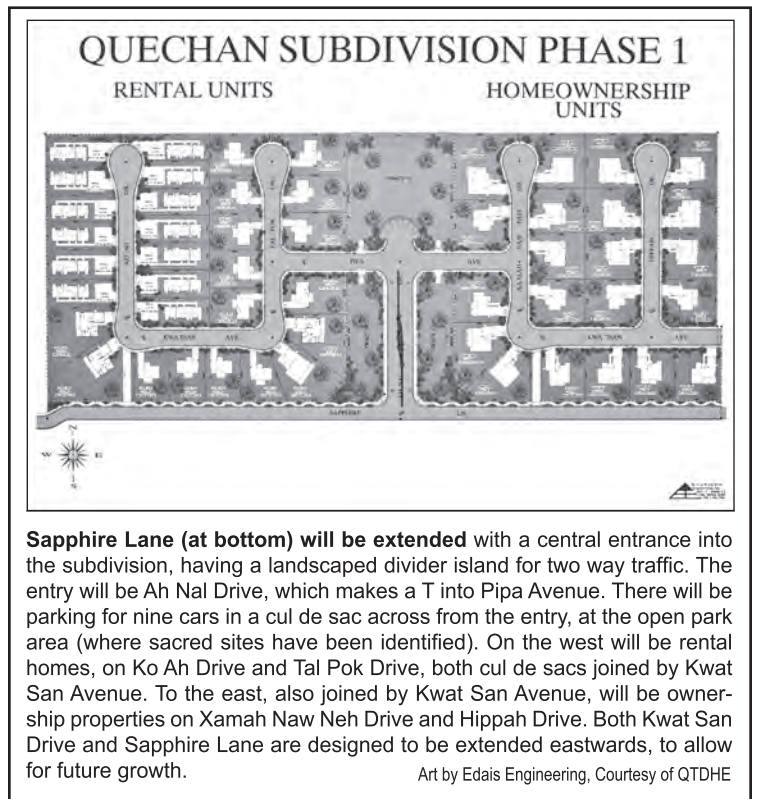
"Federal funds," he said, "come with a lot of strings attached."

By funding this entire project ourselves, "We are free from that. We can build these homes much cheaper, for less money, using our own money."

Recognizing the fact that this has never been the case before, he also said "I'd like to thank everyone that has been a participant in making this become a reality. We looked long and hard at all of the homes that have been built before (through federal funding), and decided 'Why not do this different?'"

"We always seem to get the same kind of buildings: They all look the same, so you will note from our plans and drawings here, that these homes will look completely different" he said, from what has come before.

He finished by thanking everyone who has helped to bring this about, including those "past Council members who had the vision and the imagination to say 'Let's get this started, so that we can make it possible to use our own funds.'" We need more peo-



Sapphire Lane (at bottom) will be extended with a central entrance into the subdivision, having a landscaped divider island for two way traffic. The entry will be Ah Nal Drive, which makes a T into Pipa Avenue. There will be parking for nine cars in a cul de sac across from the entry, at the open park area (where sacred sites have been identified). On the west will be rental homes, on Ko Ah Drive and Tal Pok Drive, both cul de sacs joined by Kwat San Avenue. To the east, also joined by Kwat San Avenue, will be ownership properties on Xamah Naw Neh Drive and Hippah Drive. Both Kwat San Drive and Sapphire Lane are designed to be extended eastwards, to allow for future growth.

Art by Edais Engineering, Courtesy of QTDHE

ple of vision, he said, "So that we as a tribe, can continue to survive by using our own funds."

It was this ability to look ahead that makes this a tremendous break from the past. "All of this would not have become a reality without the Council's participation." He stated: "When the Tribal Council sat down to look at all of the options, they could have filed for federal grants, and we'd still be waiting for that, but they said, 'No. We're going to use our own funds.' We are all very grateful for that decision."

After thanking the contractors for the fine work they have done so far, putting in the utility lines and preparing the site for streets,

he had one last thing to mention.

"The Board of Commissioners is aware that the site here, and the areas to the east, a lot of that is sacred. A lot of ceremonies were held here (in the past). We know that." Reassuring those concerned with honoring the past, he said, "We are going to do all that we can to protect those areas. When we can identify those areas, we will make sure that there are no buildings built on them, we will protect them, and we may even put signs up," marking the sacred sites for all to identify them.

"We used them (in the past) for a specific purpose, and we will continue to maintain them, in the sense that they will be protected."



New Senior Nutrition Building Will Have Room For Expanded Programs

With a new Program Manager for the Senior Nutrition Program already in place, the staff is preparing to expand services once they move into their new facility in mid-October. Among other things, they will have more exercise equipment such as treadmills and weight machines, as well as a pool table in the Rec Room.

Barbara Levy, the Recreation Coordinator for the program says that with the larger dining facilities and industrial kitchen, they will be encouraging members of the community to come in and share a meal from time to time with their elders. If you have an aunt, uncle, parent or grandparent who is eligible to take meals at the center, you can share a hot, delicious lunch with them at the new center for a donation of only \$2.50 per meal.

The donation is required from those who aren't yet eligible to be a part of the Senior Nutrition

Program. To be eligible, you must be either 55 years of age (and older) or handicapped and at least 50 years of age.

Although they are required under their funding to serve only lunch daily (from 11:00 AM until 12:30 PM), breakfast is also served most days, from 7:00 AM until 8 o'clock.

"As part of our Outreach Program," says Ms. Levy, "we want to reach out to more people to come in and congregate with us, to eat and to be able to make use of our facilities."

Those facilities are being readied for occupancy right now, as the staff and elders move the files, computers and some equipment from their old building into the new for the next month.

With a lot of new desks, tables, chairs and exercise equipment still on order (and being delivered every week), they don't expect to be moved into

their new offices and ready for a grand opening until they return from the senior trip to Tennessee during the first half of October.

"If anybody wants to come by and look at the new building, to take a tour while we're moving in, they're certainly welcome to give us a hand during the move!" says Barbara. "We'll be having a 'Moving Party' for the next month, and can use the help!"

The projected opening day, when the first meals are served in the new building, is the Monday after they return from their trip, October 22nd.

Once in the new building, they hope to have beaded capes made by the elders in Bead Class for sale in the new Gift Shop, as well as other items. If you have craft and gift items you'd like to offer for sale, call Barbara Levy at Senior Nutrition, 572-0748, and she'll help you make arrangements for their display.

Paradise Casinos Closed 20 Hrs For Generator Install

Barrett DeFay, Marketing Director for the Quechan Paradise Casinos says that new back-up generator systems have been installed at both the Arizona and California Casinos, ready to take over within seconds of any power failure that may strike the area.

The rare closing of the Casinos 24/7 operation began on Tuesday, August 28, 2007, when they briefly closed their doors for the installation of the new equipment at 8:00 PM. The casinos reopened a little after 3:00 PM the next day, Wednesday, August 29th.

Just the next night, thunderstorms moved through the Winterhaven and Yuma areas, bringing spectacular lightning displays during the early morning hours of Thursday. Although there were no reported power outages, the Casinos had obviously beaten the odds in getting their new generators installed just before they might have been needed!

A special \$10,000 cash and prize giveaway called "The \$100,000 Win-a-thon" was set up

to help celebrate the Casinos' 11th anniversary, welcoming customers back after the power outage on Wednesday. There were drawings for cash and free slot play totaling over \$10,000 from 6:00 PM until 9:05 PM that evening.

While the maintenance was being conducted, the driveway to the Casinos off Quechan Drive was closed, with the Quechan Tribe Police watching the intersection and keeping traffic moving.

The casinos have closed only three other times in the last ten years: in June of this year for generator maintenance, in 2002 due to a nearby brush fire and in 2000 to install a new online slot system.

Paradise Casino Arizona & Paradise Casino California are owned and operated by the Quechan Indian Nation. With a total of over 820 slot machines, 21 blackjack tables, a live poker room, 24-hour restaurant, Bingo and two bars, the two Casinos make up the largest employer on the Fort Yuma Reservation.

Quechan Parks & Rec Men's Fall 2007 Basketball League



**Deadline For Entry is Friday
September 14, 2007
Entry Fee: \$175 per Team**

**First Game at 6:00 PM
Wednesday, Sep. 17, 2007**

**Games Will Be Played Every
Monday and Wednesday Evening
Starting at 6:00 PM and 7:00 PM**

Call 572-1242 For Information

FORT YUMA INDIAN HEALTH CLINIC NEWS YOU CAN USE:

5 Week Diabetes Course To Start On September 19

Deborah Drumel, the Registered Dietician and Certified Diabetes Educator at the Fort Yuma Indian Health Clinic has announced a new 5 week course in Diabetes Management, beginning Wednesday, September 19th.

Classes will be held every Wednesday until October 17th from 1:00 PM until 4:00 PM at the Fort Yuma Health Center, either in a newly remodeled room in the Clinic or in the meeting room of the Health Services Administrative offices just south of the Clinic.

The free course will cover such subjects as: what Diabetes is and how to recognize it and its symptoms, preventing complications, and healthy meal planning.

Deborah says the class is not just a group of boring lectures that students follow along in a work

book or handouts.

She uses many different approaches to get their message across, from PowerPoint™ presentations, to videos, to hands-on teaching tools like food models which show students the exact portion sizes recommended.

"I also have vials that show just how much fat or sugar is in various foods," she says, which students can hold in their hands to gain a clear understanding of just how much a gram of fat really is.

By using the plastic replicas of food items, everyone can see just what a dietician means when they tell you to have only two servings of bread, or a single "slice of watermelon". After all, one person's idea of a "slice" might constitute a "nibble" for someone else, or a "plateful" for others!

In addition to healthy eating

tips and meal planning, the course will cover how to make healthy changes in your daily routine, and the importance of exercise. Ric Pollard, an R.N. at the Health Center will be on hand for week four with his interactive physical activity program that covers both strength and flexibility.

Finally, the course covers diabetes medicines and the use of insulin for maintenance, plus sick day management and taking care of your feet.

Overcoming diabetes takes a combination of mind, spirit and emotional control, to keep yourself aware of your limitations and daily needs in maintaining a balance. This course is designed to keep you aware of that balance.

To register, call Deborah Drumel at the Fort Yuma Indian Health Clinic, (760) 572-4227.

Basic Computer Classes From IVC Have Started at Ed Complex

Last week saw a couple of firsts for both the Imperial Valley College and the Quechan Education Complex, as nine students began their introductions to computers under a new instructor from IVC, teaching for the first time in the English language.

Trained as a Computer Engineer at the University of Baja California in Mexico, Jesus Castro has been working as a computer technician at the Gadsden and San Luis School Districts for the past two years. He spends his days as one of a group of three techs, rotating among nine area campuses solving problems, rebooting downed systems, and providing instruction for both the school's adult staff and the students.

Although there is a system of work orders in place at the schools, for a "first in, first out" method of going through the day's assignments, "When I go to a school, and I can fix another problem," he says, "even if it's not the first thing on the list, I will do it, and fix it while I am there."

It is that flexibility and willingness to bend to the needs of his customers that brought Jesus into teaching, and the hallmark of his method in the classroom. He is the newest Adjunct Professor for Computer Literacy at Imperial Valley College, serving the Wintehaven/Bard area.

Although there are people enrolled in the Basic Computer Literacy course (CIS100) with a good deal of experience using their own computers both at work and at home, some students are brand new to the concepts being taught.

To get everyone up to speed, Jesus spent the first night (September 4th) in very basic instruction, explaining that a "bit" is an individual 1 or 0, representing yes or no, on or off. Each "byte" of information is a group of 8 "bits", making a discrete packet of information, going back to the days of punch card programming.

He then went on to explain that there are a million "bytes" to a Megabyte, and a billion "bytes" to a Gigabyte. You could see the



Hands on instruction is available once Jesus moves from his portable white board. Most of his instruction is given using a large projected image, as he demonstrates how to use software live for the students. Photos by William Isbell

lights going on all over the room, as the students finally got an explanation for a term they hear bandied about by computer salesmen and on commercials every day.

The class also got a little instruction on how wireless networks function, and how most computers today either have a "Wi-Fi" card installed or have provision for one, allowing you to take your laptop

to wireless "Hot Spots" like bookstores and coffee shops, to access the internet for free and check your email, or even order a book that may not be in stock.

Once everyone had discussed the basics of computers, and gone over the differences between Windows XP and the new Windows Vista operating system, Jesus went through an on-screen tutorial on



how to set up your desktop appearance and configure your mouse to work the way you expect it to work.

Over the next few weeks, the students will learn both the Windows operating system and the popular MS Word software.

Once they have completed this first course, they will be able to take additional courses teaching

more advanced uses of both MS Office Word and Excell for only \$20 per unit of instruction.

Rebecca Ramirez, Director of Education Programs at the QEC, says that teaming up with Imperial Valley College has brought benefits to both IVC and the Quechan Education Complex.

IVC benefits through attracting more students to their adult education courses, and being able to expand their offerings as more students express an interest and ask for specific instruction.

The Education Complex benefits by gaining instructors paid for by IVC. The college also installed 5 new desktop computers, a laptop for the instructor, plus the video projector used in the class.

The next class will be MS Word I, running from October 16th until November 20th. Classes meet from 5:30 PM until 8:30 PM. The cost is \$35.00, or \$20.00 if a continuing student from the Basic Computer Class. Call the QEC at 572-3100 for more details.

New Parenting Classes in October, Still Room in the Current 'Sibling Rivalry' Class

With the "Sibling Rivalry" course starting date moved back a week to August 29th, this six week class that helps parents develop strategies to defuse situations and cope with the little jealousies that develop in every family still has room (and time) for additional parents to take part.

Meeting every Wednesday evening at 5:00 PM, the two hour a week class will end October 6th.

All Classes at the Parenting Center (on Picacho Road, just northwest across from the Pipa Market) feature refreshments, games and prizes, to encourage creative problem solving and innovative participation by both students and instructors.

The most recent course, "Choices in Parenting" is part of the Native Parenting Course that runs year round. It is designed to

give parents the tools needed to plan realistically and consider traditional Indian Parenting methods under modern conditions.

"It helps parents develop a picture of where they have come from, what they face, and where they want to be," according to Adina Alvarez, Parenting Director.

The most recent Native Parenting Class concluded on September 11th, and will be offered again in a new session beginning Tuesday, October 16th. This is a six to eight week course depending on the subject discussed for each session, and meets every Tuesday from 9:30 AM until 11:30 AM.

Transportation and child care are provided for those taking part in both the current course and the upcoming Native Parenting class. New classes covering other topics will begin in early November.

The Quechan Tribe

Requests Letters of Interest for new members to serve on following Tribal Oversight Committees:

**Education Committee
Housing Board
Cultural Committee
Enrollment Committee**

Enrolled Quechan Tribe members with an interest in serving on any of the Committees listed should submit a Letter of Interest to:

**Committee Membership
Tribal Council Secretary
Quechan Tribe Administration Office
(760) 572-2013, Ext. 204**

Quechan Community Center Gets New Parking Lot

The work of putting down a new parking area for the Quechan Community Center has been completed, a little more than a month after the job began.

Desert Road Builders (DRB) of Yuma brought in huge amounts of fresh, hot asphalt, and had a crew of as many as twelve men hard at work in the late summer heat to correct drainage problems, scoop out new water retention areas and create spillways in newly installed perimeter curbs.

"We were bringing in an average of 700 tons of paving a day,

over five days," said Mark Kelland of DRB, during the last week of construction. "Our dump trucks haul about 20 tons a load, and with 35 to 40 loads a day, that's a lot of asphalt."

Actual site preparation began in late July, with graders and street sweepers coming in to cut out some of the worst sections at the lower, outside ends of the lot, and sweep up over 35 years of accumulated dust and gravel. Curbing was newly installed along the front of the Rainbow Pool and ADAPP Building on the east side,

and some curbs were cut away around the other three sides to put in spillways for drainage.

DRB also drew up plans and installed new curbs around adjacent buildings (see related story below) and grade contoured those areas for proper drainage prior to laying the asphalt.

Most areas around the Community Center got a two inch overlay of new, continuous asphalt, laid down by a 20 ton Ingersoll Rand PF-5510 automatic road laying machine. It takes three men to run that machine, with between

five and seven others raking and sweeping the newly laid surface behind the paver, checking the seams between sections before a 5 ton steel roller comes along to press each section into a seamless whole.

Previously, there were some areas that formed small lakes in the center of the parking lot, and just to the west of the gym entrance, whenever it rained. Those areas were especially prone to erosion as the years went by.

"We fixed those spots with almost six inches of paving, as

opposed to the 2 to 2 1/2 inches everywhere else," says Kelland. "It will have a lot better drainage now, and the water shouldn't pool up there anymore."

This was a particularly hot job, with temperature reaching over 112° in the afternoon, humidity over 30%, and the black, gooey asphalt coming out of the paving machine at over 300°! To prevent heat stress, DRB was doing most of the work from 6:00 AM until about noon each day.

The parking spaces were all re-striped as part of the repairs.

Diabetes Project/CHR Building and Utilities Parking Also Paved

After almost a month of preparation, the crew from Desert Road Builders got down to business on a Friday afternoon in late August, and began laying pavement over the previously dirt parking areas for a number of offices just north of the Quechan Community Center.

The Diabetes Special Project Office, Community Health Representatives and Quechan Utilities Office as well as the Diabetes Wellness Center on San Pasqual Road all had new curbs installed around their buildings, to direct rain water into new retention basins before the pavement was laid down. Most of the concrete curbs are over ten inches high, and well anchored into the somewhat sandy soil. With a thick 2 inches of asphalt and gravel pavement installed over their footings between the buildings, the new curbs should help to keep the area much drier and certainly less muddy during summer cloudbursts and winter rains.

The entire month of August was kind of "touch and go" as far as parking in the area was concerned. "We didn't know from one day to the next where they were going to let us park," said a CHR staff member who didn't want to be identified.

"There were days I'd come in and (the paving crew) wanted to park in my spot and have me park across the street, so they could be



A crew from Desert Road Builders spent the better part of Friday afternoon on August 24th using an automatic paving machine to lay down a thick, asphalt based parking lot inside newly installed curbs. QUECHAN NEWS Photos by William Isbell

closer when they were levelling the dirt or putting in a curb, and I had to tell them, 'Hey, I work here, you park across the street!'"

The last few days of the installation seemed to be especially difficult for the staff and clients of CHR and the Diabetes Special Project. The paving equipment takes up a lot of space, and rumbled around the close confines between the Wellness Center and ADAPP Building for most of Friday and all of the following Monday morning, as strip after 10-foot strip of thick, hot paving was laid down and then mashed together seamlessly by men driving huge, vibrating steel roller machines.

The noise and vibration got so pervasive that the Wellness Center staff just closed down the morning of August 27, rather than having to keep moving their cars around as various sections were

laid out and tied together.

So, as with all changes, there were adjustments to be made, but now that the work is finished most of the people who work in the area seem pleased with the results.



The new gutters between ADAPP and the Wellness Center involved a lot of detail work to get right.

SIGN UP NOW FOR THE

2007 NISA NATIVE AMERICAN WORLD SERIES

From Friday, September 28th
thru
Sunday, September 30th

IN SALT LAKE CITY, UTAH

At The Valley Regional Complex
5200 West 2700 South
Taylorsville

An Entry Fee of:
\$350
Is Due By Sep. 17

Men's, Women's and Co-Ed Divisions!

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NATIVE ART SUBMISSIONS REQUESTED: ENTER NOW!!

The Phippen Museum in Prescott, AZ, has announced a "call for entries" from Native American artists who would like to participate in our upcoming exhibition entitled "Native Myths and Legends."

The show will be juried by three well known Native American artists – Oreland Joe, CA; Hyrum Joe; and Doug Hyde – renowned artists in two and three dimensional mediums. All categories of work will be considered – sculpture, weaving, ceramics, drawing, painting, pastels, and mixed media.

Work submitted must follow the theme of the show: Native Myths and Legends. The artist should include a written statement as to how the work relates to the exhibition theme.

Artists of all levels will be considered for this show, with the work being selected within the medium category. Jurors will evaluate the work based on its connection to the exhibition theme and overall quality of execution in the medium selected.

The jury panel will be looking for creative and imaginative points of view and interpretations of the theme. Each entry requires a fee of \$10 per piece.

An artist may submit up to five pieces of artwork for consideration. The jury decision will be made based on photographs submitted with the application.

Photos of each piece under consideration must be 4" x 6" minimum size. It is important to have

good quality photography of your artwork to ensure that the judges can easily view and evaluate your work under the best conditions.

All decisions of the judges are final.

Winning entries will be featured in the Main Gallery of the museum, with a complementary show of professional artists' work shown in the Cultural Hall to further expand upon the selected theme.

Juried work selected will be on display from November 17, 2007 (with a preview opening on evening of November 16) through February 10, 2008.

Schedule for Competition:

- Jury application with photographs of artwork being submitted for judges' consideration – due at Phippen on September 15, 2007.

- Jury process occurs - September 18 – 21, 2007.

- Jury selection announced – by September 30, 2007.

- Artwork must be received from winning artists at Phippen for exhibition – by no later than October 23, 2007.

Applications can be downloaded from their website at:

www.phippenartmuseum.org.

The *Quechan News* office at the old Senior Nutrition Building also has about 25 applications available that you can pick up there, while they last.

All questions should be directed to Deb Bentlage, Phippen Museum Curator, at: dbentlage@hippenartmuseum.org or call 928.778.1385.

West Nile Virus Warning Issued For Area

The Fort Yuma Indian Health Service has issued a warning to all area residents concerning the return of the West Nile Virus (WNV), an infection spread by mosquitos.

This has been a particularly active year for the virus, with the last three samples at mosquito pools taken in July and August near both the Quechan and Cocopah Reservations showing a high percentage of positive results for WNV.

West Nile Virus is transmitted *only* by the bite of an infected mosquito, and *cannot* be spread from person to person. It can infect both the brain and spinal cord of humans and certain animals, such as horses and other livestock.

The Indian Health Service notes



Only the female of the species sucks blood, using the proteins within to help create the eggs for the next generation. IHS Photo

that only about 1 in 4 people infected will experience moderate, flu-like symptoms, including:

Fever, headache, body aches, fatigue, occasional skin rash and swollen lymph nodes.

Most people infected with the virus may never develop symptoms; however, some may become ill between 3 to 15 days after being bitten.

You can lower your chances of being infected by taking some simple precautions. Mosquitos breed in standing water, so dispose of old tires (which collect and hold rain water), and replace the water in bird baths, dog dishes and wading pools at least every other day.

Unused swimming pools should be drained or treated by tribal vector control.

Personal protection is a MUST: Avoid outdoor activity from dusk to dawn, and if you are out after dark, wear long sleeved shirts and long pants.

A good insect repellent containing DEET should be used, while carefully following the directions on the label.

To get the mosquitos in your neighborhood under control, call

Arizona American Indian Tourism Association Partners with Arizona Super Bowl Host Committee

PHOENIX – The 2008 Arizona Indian Festival, presented by the Arizona American Indian Tourism Association (AAITA), is already highly anticipated. Thanks to a newly-formed partnership between AAITA and the Arizona Super Bowl Host Committee, the event can now be considered "super." The 2008 Arizona Indian Festival will be part of the Host Committee's Super Celebration Series, a series of officially sanctioned events leading up to Super Bowl XLII in Glendale, Arizona. Slated for January 18-20, 2008, the Festival will take place at Steele Indian School Park in downtown Phoenix.

"Our organization is honored to have the 2008 Arizona Indian Festival designated as one of the Arizona Super Bowl Host Committee's signature events," said Robin Fohrenkam, AAITA president. "This will be an opportunity for all of Arizona's tribes to showcase their unique cultures and traditions on a global level. We hope to inspire Festival attendees to visit Arizona's vast tribal lands and discover what the different tribes have to offer."

The 2008 Arizona Indian Festi-

val will celebrate the heritage and diversity of the state's 22 federally recognized American Indian tribes. In a single location, visitors will be able to explore reconstructed traditional villages and experience the sights and sounds of Native dance and music. Festival attendees will also have the opportunity to peruse and purchase high quality, authentic American Indian arts and crafts by Arizona artisans as well as enjoy Southwestern culinary specialties.

"The Host Committee saw the 2008 Arizona Indian Festival as a natural fit for our Super Celebration Series," said Bob Sullivan, Host Committee president. "We wanted to provide our visitors with experiences that are uniquely Arizona. The Native American culture is certainly an integral part of our state's heritage."

About the Arizona American Indian Tourism Association:

The Arizona American Indian Tourism Association (AAITA) is a non-profit organization dedicated to promoting, supporting and advancing the efforts of Ameri-

can Indian tourism in Arizona. The mission of the organization is to promote the development of American Indian tourism in Arizona while respecting the cultural integrity of tribes. AAITA enjoys the leadership of a diverse membership that includes participation by Arizona tribal entities, American Indian business entrepreneurs and diverse governmental and private agencies.

About the Arizona Super Bowl Host Committee

The Arizona Super Bowl Host Committee is a private, non-profit Arizona corporation that serves as a liaison with the National Football League in organizing local efforts and preparations leading up to the Super Bowl. It has the responsibility to implement Arizona's action plan for Super Bowl XLII, which culminates with the game on February 3, 2008 at University of Phoenix Stadium in Glendale.

For more information about the 2008 Arizona Indian Festival, contact June Shorthair (602-254-1952 or jms@rednoteinc.com).

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Saturday, Sept. 29th

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Bleachers: \$25.00

INJURY PREVENTION OFFICE STRESSES SMOKE DETECTOR MAINTENANCE

A recent Sunday afternoon house fire at a mobile home on Baseline Road near Winterhaven has prompted Lisa Aguerro of the Quechan Injury Prevention Office to remind everyone that their smoke detectors need to be checked no less than once a year, and maintained like any other appliance.

While the lone occupant of the trailer was able to get out, she had to be airlifted to the hospital because of smoke inhalation. She lost not only her home, but also her minivan parked nearby.

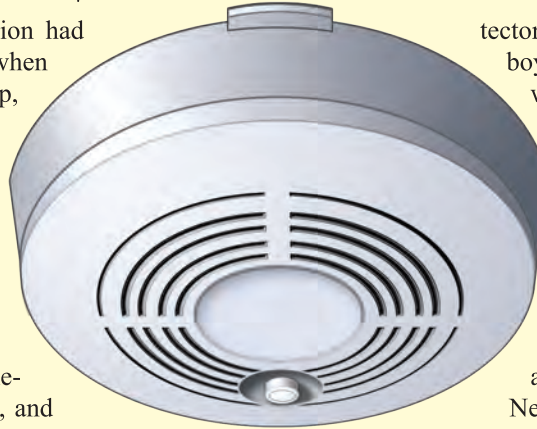
Although it is unknown if that home was equipped with a smoke detector, it does serve to show that seconds count when it comes to safely escaping a

fire. If the fire in question had occurred late at night when the occupant was asleep, things could have turned out much worse.

The United States Fire Administration's Quick Response Program compiles daily information on their website by conducting a Google search for new media reports on fatal fires, and posting the results.

Recent results included the following tragic cases:

On June 12, five children ages 2 to 7 died in a fire in Pittsburgh when they were left home alone. The cause of that fire is still under investigation but it is



thought to have started by children playing with matches.

Less than two weeks later, on June 25th, two young brothers, only 6 and 7, died in a house fire in Cherry Valley, Illinois. Their home had no working smoke de-

ectors. In July, a four year old boy and his 39 year old mother were both killed while trying to escape their burning home in Cressons, Pennsylvania.

During the same day, August 6th, four members of a family (children aged 3 months and 11 years, as well as two adults) perished in Marion, New York, while three in another family (ages 4, 10 and 48) died in Port Lavaca, Texas. Officials in New York believe that fire was caused by insect repellent citronella candles that weren't properly extinguished at bedtime.

Finally on August 13, a family

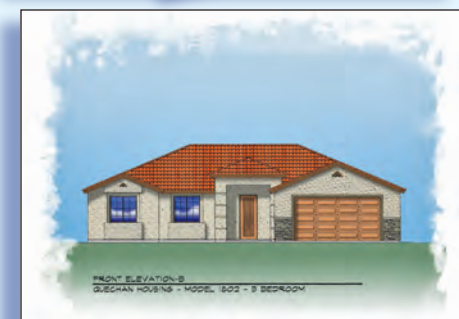
of six, with four children ages 8 to 16, died in a home in St. Joseph, Missouri that had no working smoke alarms.

Don't become a statistic!

The Quechan Injury Prevention Office has FREE batteries for your home and office smoke detectors. Just call Lisa Aguerro at 572-0437 during the week, and ask for yours. You can also drop by her office (in the north wing of the offices between the Quechan Language Program and The Artist's Market, next to the Mens Room) and pick them up during working hours.

Also, be sure to set a date, like your birthday, that you can remember *every* year, to test your smoke alarm's battery!

Handout on New Housing Subdivision Available at Quechan Housing Office



ground information on the major contractors involved in this tribally funded project.

For those wanting to purchase a home in the new subdivision, or just those wanting to familiarize themselves with what it takes to put together a project of this size, the professionally printed folder contains handouts that will both inform and delight the reader.

There are a number of renderings, provided by Edais Engineering of Yuma, showing the front elevations of some of the homes to be built. Originally sent to QTDHE in black and white, the renderings were converted to full color at the *Quechan News* office, and are each printed on their own separate 8 1/2 by 11 inch sheet, for maximum clarity.

Also included are two pages of the features to be included in each ownership home. There will be energy saving features such as highly efficient 16 SEER central

air conditioning, R-44 insulation in the ceilings, R-23 in the walls, and R-8 insulated ductwork where needed.

All windows will be Super Max Coat dual panes, and the homes will feature 50 gallon high efficiency water heaters. The homes will also be plumbed for reverse osmosis systems at both the refrigerator and kitchen sink, to provide clear, good tasting water, and prevent mineralizing damage to fixtures and ice makers.

The folder also contains a plan of the first phase of the new subdivision, showing all the streets, as well as the landscaped common areas around the homes.

The contractors working on the project have also included details on their backgrounds and construction experience.

One of those contractors is Specialty Electric, which has a staff of 70 to 80 full time employees, and they have installed electrical services in such upscale developments as Yuma East Estates for the Jacobson Company, Barkley Ranch for Kamann Development

and the giant Glen Curtis Coyote Wash Subdivision in Wellton.

Don Peterson Engineers, Inc. has been doing business in Yuma for 26 years, and has its own workforce or subsidiary companies that perform steel fabrication and erection, commercial plumbing and fire protection, water/sewer and storm drain installation, structural concrete and rough and finish carpentry, among other services. They have served as the general contractor on the Somerton Department of Public Safety Building, the Quechan Senior Nutrition Building, and the Yuma Community Bank Building.

Bob Letendre and the staff of the QTDHE have a group of these informative booklets, as well as pamphlets from the National American Indian Housing Council on how to go about applying for a mortgage, available while they last at the Quechan Housing Office on Sapphire Lane. Just stop by during their normal business hours, Monday through Friday from 8:00 AM to 5:00 PM and ask for yours.