Volume 106, Issue 9 ♦ Wednesday, May 9, 2012

## In This Issue:

Cooking for Toddlers Page 2

Elders Month March Page 3

Tribal Member Tries
Out for The Voice
Page 4

Grasshopper Winners
Page 5

New Patrol Cameras Page 6

Exceptional Youths!
Page 7

Men's Go Hard Or Go Home Basketball Back Page





#### The Quechan Indian Tribe

350 Picacho Road Winterhaven, Ca. 92283 Phone: (760)572-3912 Email: w.isbell@quechantribe.com

# Tribe to Save Millions On Bonds Repayment

The Quechan Tribal Council has successfully completed the sale of new tax-exempt revenue bonds, with more favorable terms for the Tribe. The new bond issues lower the interest payments which financed construction of the Quechan Casino Resort.

QUECHAN NEWS Photo by William Isbell

The Quechan Tribal Council has notified the *Quechan News* that the Tribe successfully completed the sale of \$29,685,00 in tax-exempt revenue bonds on March 29, 2012.

These bonds were purchased by a select number of large, institutional investment companies. The bond offering was structured with a 13-year term which is comprised of five years of interest only payments followed by eight years of principal and interest payments to fully repay the bonds by maturity.

The new bond transaction will serve to provide a number of important benefits for the Tribe:

- ◆ It reduced the interest rate on approximately \$26 million of debt from 15% to 9.75% (which amounts to a 35% reduction in costs to the Tribe);
- ◆ Saved in excess of \$1.6 million per year in principal and interest payments over the next three years;
- ◆ Paid off the Morongo loan in full.
- ♦ It has also eliminated the required principal balloon payment on the Morongo loan (which was originally scheduled for 2015) in the amount of \$12.9 million.

In addition to refinancing the debt, the new bonds will be used to fund a required debt service reserve account as well as to pay related debt professional fees associated with issuing the bonds.

As a result of this transaction, the Tribe will achieve cumulative principal and interest savings of more than \$15,800,00 over the next five years.

#### COME JOIN US FOR SOMETHING NEW!

### Cooking for Toddlers & Preschoolers: Insights from a Professional Chef



This Wednesday
Evening, May 9
From 5 PM to 7 PM
at the Head Start
Multipurpose Room
In The Quechan
Education Complex
(628 Picacho Road)

For more information, contact Annette Derma, Health & Disabilities Manager at: (760) 572-0263 or via email at *derma9@aol.com* 

This Workshop is made possible through funding from The Imperial County Children and Families First Commission







# COME PICK A HAND CRAFTED MEMORIAL WREATH MADE BY OUR VERY OWN ELDERS!



SOLD AT THE QUECHAN SENIOR CENTER GIFT SHOP AT 472 QUECHAN ROAD, WINTERHAVEN CA. ON SALE UNTIL MEMORIAL DAY, FRIDAY, MAY 25TH, 2012

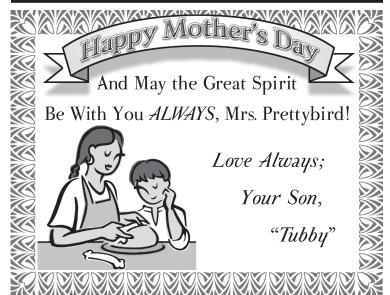
PRICES VARY DEPENDING ON STYLES AND SIZES GIFT SHOP OPENED 8-5 IF YOU HAVE ANY QUESTIONS PLEASE CALL 760-572-0748





The Quechan
Utilities
Sanitation Crew
is now on
summer hours,
6 AM — 2:30 PM

Trash routes will continue to be picked up on the same day so please have your containers out the night before, if possible. Also all septic pumps must be paid in full at Utilities at the time of the work order - no payment will be accepted at the time of pumping. All septic tank pumping requests must be placed by 2:30 PM or the emergency rate will be charged.





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

# **Head Start Marches With** Elders To Open Senior Month







Quechan elders, led by Milson José and Norman Osborne from Post 802, were joined by Head Start students (at left, above), marching from the Pipa Market to the Senior Center. Once there, a blessing was given in front of the building, and Mr. Jose posted the colors inside. After milk and cookies, the children sang two songs. The seniors then enjoyed traditional dances to the music provided by Willard, Lyman and Shawn Golding (at right, above). Lunch was served at the end of the festivities. QUECHAN NEWS Photos by William Isbell

Older Americans Month got reminder that they'd been there off to a colorful, rousing start to help honor their elders. as nearly 90 Head Start students from 6 classrooms joined with Ouechan Spirit Runners Phil Emerson, Richard Smith and Rod Escalanti, to follow the Post parade from the Pipa Market to spoke a blessing over the day. the Quechan Senior Center.

celebration which honors our to the community. Their prescence in the event represents the *kwat'san's* continuing cycle of life. They all came holding responsible for who! Once at the Senior Center, their teachers helped the kids tie the balloons to the front fence, to serve as a

Before they entered the building, the parade paused as a delegation of seniors and staff came out front to welcome them, and they all stopped to bow their 802 color guard in leading a short heads as Christine Emerson

Once inside, the elders had a The students joined in a table set up offering milk and cookies to each of the little elders' lives and contributions ones, to show their appreciation for the smallest ones among us.

The kids further reciprocated by singing two songs, "Twinkle, Twinkle, Little Star" balloons and wearing T-shirts and "If You're Happy and You Month, as it has been done eveteachers keep track of who was on their buses and returned to year, the Proclamation was read the adults laughed and applaud- Keeny Escalanti, Sr. ed the performance, of course!

up to listen to the official Proc- for the elders, encouraging eve-

lamation of Older Americans ryone who to get up and dance.

The final part, and it of different colors, to help their Know It' before they hopped ry year since at least 2007. This wouldn't be a kwat'san event without a meal being served, the Education Complex. All of by Quechan Tribal President was an excellent lunch of roast beef, small potoatoes and a The Golding family also sang fresh green salad, followed by But the whole event was set- two honor songs out of respect a warm apple crisp for dessert.



# "Close, But No Cigar": Tribal Member Auditions to be "The Voice"

Although she's always enjoyed singing, and often had people compliment her on her voice, Quechan Tribal member Nancy Montague, Jr. never really gave much thought to making a career in entertainment.

Yes, she'd been in a few bands when she was younger, and served as the Vice President while singing with the Haskell Indian College Music Club in Kansas. One rock band she put together at Haskell even "jammed at the school auditorium" a couple of times, but, band politics and educational the group folded when the others dropped out of school.

So Nancy never really expected anything to come from the fact that she can sing.

But her little sister, Densil, had accompanied her to open at Haskell, and she never forgot how poised and in control Nancy seemed to be. Her older sister had a command of the it out" when called for, that left there were good jobs waiting an impression.

"She gave me chills, watching her on stage," says Densil.

But at the time, Nancy only thought of her younger sister



Nancy Montague, Jr. poses with the Artist Audition Pass which allowed her to make a bid for fame and fortune at the L.A. Convention Center. along with thousands of other singers. QUECHAN NEWS Photo by William Isbell

open mike nights just to get into the clubs." Positive comments smoke to butter me up."

Even though some of the David Waters. mike nights at some clubs while club owners asked her to come back and sing as an entertainer, Nancy always told them, "Man, I've got to go to school!"

> But when another sister, Leoat the Paradise Casino, Nancy returned to Fort Yuma to put in almost 4 years in the Marketing Department. All the while,

pressures being what they are as "just a member of my little dream to "put together my own entourage, hanging with me at band with my Tribal members." Though life has a way of derailing our dreams as we plug from Densil were seen as her along to keep paying the bills, younger sister just "blowing she managed to put together Fat Cat with Julio Sestiaga and

The dream was derailed on the night of their first (and only) gig, when they learned the news of the death of Kurt Cobain. "We were playing downtown at material, and an ability to "belt" na, called her in 1997 to tell her Jimmie D's, first gig, and Kurt Cobain dies, and a lot of stuff came out I don't even want to talk about, but that was it — our one and only gig!"

> So, she went on with her life in the back of her head was the as a "responsible adult," stay-

River, Paris and Paisley, who, she says, all sing, too.

her little sister Densil called from her far away home in Minnesota, to tell Nancy she'd been accepted to audition for the next season of The Voice on NBC.

Nancy was understandably perplexed, since she was only barely aware of the program (not having a TV), and hadn't even known they were looking for new talent. But her sister show all the rime, and was exploring their website when she found a page titled "How To Audition for The Voice". Con- to accept the reality of the situvinced Nancy could make it, Densil registered her sister, selected Los Angeles as the nearest city holding open auditions. Rochelle Owl then linked to the website, downloading the Artist's Audition Pass Nancy needed to get her foot in the door.

When Densil first told her she'd be auditioning for a chance at national TV exposure, Nancy's reaction was "I thought she was 'April fooling' me, 'cause she'd already tried to get me into American Idol and Idol had an age limit, so I didn't get into that." And with The Voice audition almost two months away, she even told her mom, "I'm not going to fall for that!"

But when they went online to check things out for themselves, it all turned out to be true!

Still, there was the little problem of getting to Los Angeles. "And out of the blue, my brother's ex, Josephine Cole, the angel, called me from Rincon and offered me a ride!" Nancy exclaims. "A month had passed, and Densil had called me back already and told me I had to get to LA, and that she'd pay for the band back together!"

ing home and having three kids, gas," so with her ex-sister-inlaw (who is "still a part of the family") wanting to come get Then one day, out of the blue, her, and put her up overnight to allow her to get to the audition, all of her doubts and secondguessing disappeared.

Nancy says the entire process was the definition of the word "cattle call", often used to describe a large open casting offer. She says they arrived at the L.A. Convention Center at the appointed day and time, and were amazed to see "thousands explained that she watched the of people" all lined up around the parking lot and streaming into the building.

> Since it took so long to come ation, Nancy admits she was barely prepared to take part. She'd even forgotten her I.D., and had to call Josephine back to have her bring it to her at the front of the line, hours later!

> Once inside, all the singers were placed in groups of ten, and they had to enter a small room, sing an opening and one chorus (à capella), and hand off to the next person in line. Four judges sat behind a table, ready to pass instant judgement on less than one minute's worth of work. "Sorry to say, none of you made it," was the verdict, "though, pointing right at me," says Nancy, "you were close, but no cigar!"

> She says that her choice of what to sing, "Hotel California", was arrived at just before she entered the room. "I know that was the wrong choice, 'cause I needed something really strong, and it starts out slow." But the entire experience has reawakened all kinds of possibilities in her mind. "I'd really like to hear from Julio and Dave again. Maybe we can put the

#### **QUECHAN ENROLLMENT DEADLINE**

Quechan Tribal Members are encouraged to enroll their child(ren) for membership with the Quechan Tribe.

The Quechan Enrollment Application deadline for the 2nd quarter of 2012 is Friday, June 1, 2012, at 5:00 PM. Completed applications must include the following support documents:

- State Certified Birth Certificate (Copy)
- · Social Security Card (Copy)
- · If either parent is an enrolled member of another tribe, submit an updated Certified Degree of Indian Blood (CDIB) and a letter of non-enrollment for the applicant.

Applications will not be processed until all the support documents have been received. Completed applications are processed quarterly.

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







# Suns Take



The Suns, the 2012 Grasshopper Spring Basketball Champions gather for a group photo after winning the final game of the playoffs on April 26. From left are Coach Deshane Taylor and players Keija Koteen, Stone Braveheart, Deshane Taylor, Jr., Paris Montague, Marianna Shepard, Michael Phillips and Andrew QUECHAN NEWS Photos by William Isbell Amador. The Suns went undefeated all season!

Third through fifth grade Tribal members (and other local students) were able to take part in the usual spring Grasshopper Basketball League at the Quechan Parks and Recreation gym (at the Community Center) over the past two months. The wrapped up their spring



Though Sixers like Demarcus Mills and Asia Nerva had a height advantage over opposing players like Paris Montague, the Suns were unstoppable.

season with a hard-fought finals series, playing the last game on regular season, and had now Thursday night, April 26th.

Five teams signed up for the competition this year: The Timberwolves, the Native Swoops, the Suns, the Sixers and the vious some of the Sixers held Lakers.

The playoffs began at 6:00 PM on Monday, April 23rd, at it against the Timberwolves. The 'Wolves advanced to go up against the Suns when they beat the Native Swoops 27-18.

The 2nd night of the Grassand Lakers also going at it, to determine who would move on the final game on Thursday. The Suns and 'Wolves played at one of their most essential playfollowing them at seven.

that the Sixers advanced after ous collisions on the court, the taking out the Lakers 19-11, and the Timberwolves fell to to their miraculous, undefeated the Suns with a score of 19-13.

undefeated throughout the advanced against the Timberwolves in their first playoff game, things didn't look good for the Suns, since it was obheight advantage over the Suns.

Perhaps with the title as a motivating factor, the Sixers, with the Native Swoops going under the direction of Coaches Tanya Dixon and Kirk Nerva, could rally and defeat the previously untouchable Suns, led by Coach Deshane Taylor.

Well, it turns out that Mr. hopper playoffs saw the Sixers Taylor had welded together a very cohesive team. Even though the Sixers had nine players to the Suns seven, and 6:00 PM, the Sixers and Lakers ers, Paris Montague, found herself knocked over and nearly The outcome on the 24th was squashed three times in vari-Suns still managed to hold on record for the year, capturing Although the Suns had been the Grasshopper title, 22 to 11!



Quechan Higher Education 2012 Fall Semester **Grant Application Deadline:** 

# JUNE 01, 2012

Phone: (760) 572-5268

Applications can be picked up at the **Higher Education Office located at:** 

628 Picacho Road Winterhaven, CA

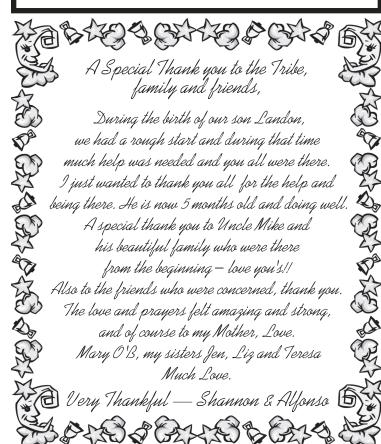
92283

Application Requirements are Listed On The Grant Application

Quechan Tribally Designated Housing Entity

The Board of Commissioners will hold its regularly scheduled monthly meeting on Monday, May 14, 2012. The meeting will be held at the QTDHE office location beginning at 5:30 PM.

The Board welcomes public comments and/or concerns. Tribal members who would like to meet with the Board of Commissioners should submit a written request to the Board by 5:00 PM, Wednesday, May 9, 2012, addressed to Mr. Augustin Tumbaga, **QTDHE** Executive Director.



# ICSO Receives In-Car Cameras Via California Casino Distribution Funds



New cameras in each patrol vehicle can begin record action as much as 30 seconds before a Deputy hits the record button. The system is fully integrated with the on-board computer. Q NEWS Photos by William Isbell

has equipped all patrol vehicles light bar is switched on. in Winterhaven with state-ofthe-art video cameras, thanks to contributions the Quechan Castate distribution fund.

The new Motorola MVX1000 cameras can be activated manually from inside the vehicle, or by using a remote microphone was for \$45,000, but we found The cameras also automatically

When a Deputy returns from Winterhaven substation. patrol, a secure wifi connec-

"Our original grant request \$65,000.



The Imperial County Sheriff begin recording any time the office paid the difference," says Lt. Scott Sheppeard, of the

The final tab, which includes tion at the station automatically cameras to monitor activity in sino ♠ Resort makes to a special downloads all the new video the back seats of all their verecorded on shift, where it is hicles, along with an interview stored on a server for later trans- room video recording system at fer to DVDs for use in evidence. the substation, came to around

"We are certainly thankful for Deputies wear on their belts. this better, more up-to-date the generosity of the Quechan technology, and the Sheriff's Casino fund," says Sheppeard.



We are hoping to raise the initial funding to pay for our 501c3 IRS status and the Non Profit Corporation notification in our local newspaper. We would like to humbly thank everyone for helping to make our vision come true.

Native Cry Outreach Alliance I Native Cry Outreach Alliance Inc.

/www.NativeCry.org/www.facebook.com/nativecry



#### About Native Cry Outreach Alliance

Native Cry will provide services for Native American youth ages 10-20 in the area of suicide prevention and depression. Services to be provided are: Mental Health Assessment for suicide and depression, Mental and physical health awareness with counseling and education. NCOA will also provide skill building for positive coping mechanisms.

Our mission is to help troubled children, teens and young adults to make better choices when dealing with depression brought on by traumatic events such as abuse, disease and death. NCOA will also help build a network of peer counselors by holding seminars and workshops relating to suicide prevention and depression that teach detection and healthy coping mechanisms.

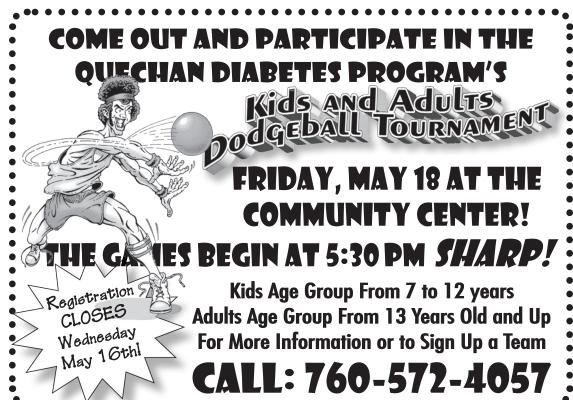
NCOA Co-Founder and President Rayna Madero will help design and deploy different events and activities pertaining to Indigenous youth and young adults. "I have lost many more friends and family to violence and alcohol/drug abuse," she says. "And I saw a need for passing on positive coping skills after losing both a close friend to treatable health issues and a niece to suicide within two years of each other."

Located in Yuma, Arizona, NCOA will initially serve the Quechan and Cocopah Indian reservations. We will also serve members of other tribes and form alliances to promote exchange programs. Office hours will be Monday through Thursday for supported programs and half-day Fridays for staff and planning.

We will serve Native American individuals between the ages of 10-20 who are in need of guidance and counseling due to thoughts of suicide or depression. NCOA will staff trained counselors, mentors and teachers who will help clients understand their emotions and teach positive coping skills.

Native Cry plans to have its 501(c)3 and be fully operational by September 10th, 2012 (World Suicide Prevention Day). Our offices will be located in two buildings, rented from the Quechan Indian Tribe, at the south end of Maiden Lane in downtown Yuma. There will be two offices for private counseling, a large activity room and a community garden area. NCOA will be hiring positions and looking for persons to contract as we obtain grant funding.

NCOA plans to receive most of our funding through federal and state grants, while some funding may come from generous donors, local businesses and tribal organizations. Native Cry is a small organization, and everyone will carry more than one job title. NCOA is a family established non-profit that will teach and support positive family values, and each member and volunteer will be taught beneficial reinforcement skills while adhering to a family environment.



# Six Year Old Takes Second At Her First Jiu-Jitsu Competition!



Naveed Reyes stands on the 2nd place podium, wearing the medal she received in the Mesa, Arizona competition.

Naveed Reyes, daughter of placed second in the 45 to 51 All Kids Jiu-Jitsu Tournament class and I liked it." at Westwood High School in Brazilian Jiu-Jitsu Federation.

Sunrise Elementary School active, too." first grade student had entered a Jiu-Jitsu competition, since martial arts discipline in January of 2012.

The six year old studies un-Ouechan Tribal member Dana der Instructor Mike Garcia at Chino and Jesus Reves, Jr. has the Yuma Brazilian Jiu-Jitsu Acasemy at 280 W. Catalina pound beginner's weight class Avenue. "My mom signed me on Saturday, April 21st at the up for it," says Naveed, " and 4th Annual Arizona Kid's Cup my grandma took me to the first

Grandma Shirley Chino ex-Mesa, Arizona. The competition plains, "We signed her up for it, was sanctioned by the Arizona to give her something to keep her active. Her father is very This was the first time the athletic, and he likes to keep her

And Naveed herself also apparently enjoys the activity, she only begun her study of the since she says she's looking forward to another competition sheduled for this summer!

# Tribal Member, Fire Cadet Organizes Relay for Life Activities

Chief Steve Taylor of the Winterhaven Fire Protection District is extremely proud of one of his youngest volunteers, Fire Cadet America Nerva, a Quechan Tribal member.

"We've been calling her 'Captain' America here at the station," says Chief Taylor, "because she has the heart of a champion and has dedicated the last month or more to ensuring this year's Relay for Life event will be the best one yet!"

Relay for Life is an annual American Cancer Society event, where teams from all over the area gather at Desert Sun Stadium in Yuma, to continuously walk the perimeter track, relay style, collecting funds for cancer research based on the miles covered by each team.

over the evening of Saturday.



Fire Cadet America Nerva

of Sunday, the 29th.

America because last year she was involved in an off-road vehicle accident and hurt both her hand and a foot, to the point that her Doctor said she may have permanent damage," according is apparent with the 2011 Com-This year's Relay took place to the Winterhaven Fire Chief.

But America didn't let the April 28th and into the morning injury stop her. She worked on Fire Protection District.

getting her foot flexible and strong again, and soon she was walking—so she could walk with her fellow firefighters in this year's Relay for Life!

The daughter of Quechan Tribal Police Officer Kirk Nerva and his wife, America, the 13 year old has been a Fire Cadet at WFPD for over a year now.

America is a hard worker who treasures the time she spends with both friends and family. She enjoys working out at the gym, as well as runningfor exercise, and to increase the "This was a special event for stamina she'll need to stay in the field of firefighting.

> One of her dreams is to become a Firefighter/EMT, just like her godfather, Chief Taylor.

Her dedication to that dream munity Achievement Award she received from the Winterhaven

# Weekly Trip To/From El Centro Available From Imperial Valley Transit



#### Winterhaven to El Centro, California:

Route 350 operates every Wednesday upon request by calling (760)482-2900 or 1-800-804-3050, by Tuesday at noon. The bus leaves Winterhaven at 6:26 AM from in front of Hub Liquor and arrives in El Centro at 7:50 AM via Holtville and IVC.

#### El Centro to Winterhaven, California:

Route 300 leaves in the afternoon, about 5:40 PM (and other times at various locations in El Centro, IVC, and Holtville). In the afternoon, if a passenger wishes to travel beyond Holtville to Winterhaven, the bus will continue on and end in Winterhaven at 7:25 PM. If no passengers inform the driver they need to go to Winterhaven, the route will end in Holtville.

#### Fare cost

The fare is \$1.00 for general passengers and 50 cents for seniors and disabled (Discount at age 60 for seniors can be established through any recognized ID with a birth date). There is also a day pass for \$3.50 but it needs to be purchased at Imperial Valley Transit. Discounted ticket books for \$16.00 (20-Rides - General) or \$10.00 (Senior/Disabled 20-Rides) can also be purchased at the IVT offices or at the Holtville City Hall. To get additional details on the route, passengers can call (760)482-2900 or 1-800-804-3050.

# Baske ball Tourname

Local Basketball fans received a special treat over the final weekend of April, as Deshane Taylor and Felix A. Montague brought in talent from as far away as Phoenix and San Diego to battle it out in their Winner Take All Basketball Tournament. The entire contest was organized, publicized and successfully brought about almost entirely through the efforts of the two Quechan Tribal members. Fans were able to enjoy the four opening games of the double elimination tournament on the evening of Friday, April 27. On Saturday, everyone returned to the San Pasqual High School gym for a fourteen hour slugfest as 7 teams assembled from all over the desert southwest wore themselves out in a battle for T-shirts a small trophy and \$1500 in cash. Second and third also received trophies and T-shirts.



Muro stands in front with their first place trophy. The players (starting in the front row) are Ritchie Williams, Keoni Watson and "Big Mario" Muro. In the second row are Silas Shakleford, Vernon Halton and Anthony Javey, while at the top in back are Byron Anderson and Lawrence Pinnick. In the Tourney's final game, the Heat trounced the Arizona Assassins 85 - 72.

QUECHAN NEWS Photos by William Isbell The photos above give some idea of the level of the competition

enjoyed by everyone who came out to watch the Tournament. These images show just how high the players were clearing the floor in their attempts to overcome their opponents and win that \$1500 cash prize!

## CONTINUES EVERY DAY

New construction continues to move forward at all 3 school sites, with construction crews now focusing on "site work", the final phase of San Pasqual's update. During site work, final landscape grading, sidewalks, curbs, gutters and parking will be completed.

Construction will be complete shortly after school is out. San Pasqual will have 4 new school buildings, two at the elementary and one each at the middle and high schools. The new buildings will contain 20 classrooms, including science labs for both middle and high school students.

over the summer, "deep clean- efficient features include air ing" everything while school conditioning units that were is out as well as moving equipment into the new classrooms. Grounds staff will be perform- windows are dual-glaze low E ing finishing touches on the (Emissivity) rated, all light fixlandscape to ensure everything tures are energy efficient with is ready for school in August.

The new buildings are designed to be very energy efficient: The "Building Envelope" is the area that separates an air-buildings are as energy efficient conditioned space from uncon- as the budget allowed. ditioned space or the outdoors, such as on the roof. San Pasqual funding sources and reviewschools' building envelope is ing plans for the next phase of designed to exceed California construction, but there is no

The staff will be very busy by 15% to 20%. Other energy the highest efficiency available at the time of construction, all occupancy controllers, the roofs are fully insulated to an average of R32 and the masonry walls are grouted solid. The new

The District is researching Energy Commission Standards expected start date at this time.



Team C Construction employees Tomas Romero, Jacínto Piña and José Saravia (in the foreground) from El Cajon work on pouring and smoothing new curbs for an all new driveway going in north of the elementary school office. QUECHAN NEWS Photo by William Isbell