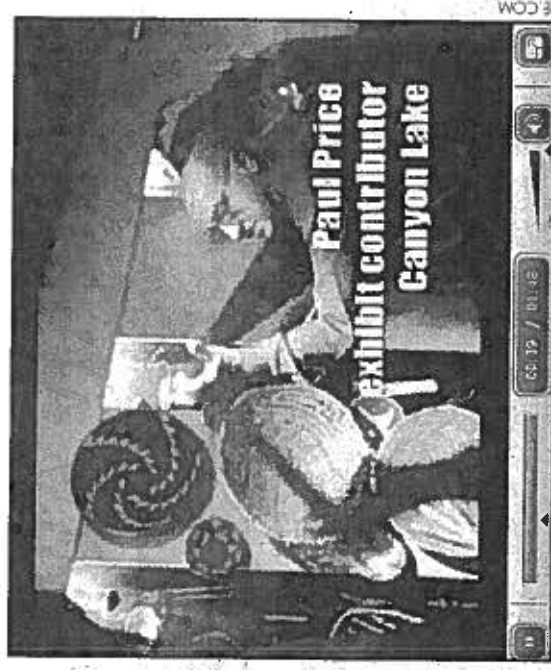


# THE FRIDAY FLYER

FEBRUARY 20, 2009

THE FRIDAY FLYER

B-7



These pictures are from a pe.com video clip produced by Melissa Eiselein.

## TV personality Huell Howser visits Perris depot

BY SHARON RICE  
EDITOR, THE FRIDAY FLYER

Canyon Lake artist Paul Price, a specialist in Native American history, culture and art in Southwest Riverside County and North San Diego County, was on hand when Huell Howser, host of the popular "California Gold" television series, visited the new museum at the historic Santa Fe Depot in Perris on January 31. Howser and his team were at the museum to film a segment for a series on railroad history in California.

In a brief video of Howser's visit that can be found in the archives of *The Press-Enterprise* website, pe.com, Paul can be seen with baskets and other Native American artifacts. He is listed as a contributor to the museum. *The Friday Flyer* readers may recall that Paul's paintings, sculptures, mazes, murals and architectural details were prominently featured at the Pechanga Resort and Casino when it opened in Temecula, and he is—the designer of Pechanga's logo.

Paul's commercial art background is both national and international in scope.

Paul grew up in the Meadowbrook area of Perris and is very familiar with the history of this area—a history that obviously includes the railroad.

According to an article written for the *Dispatcher* in 1959, "The California Southern Railway was constructed from National City north to San Luis Rey, now Oceanside, by the end of 1881. Just north of Oceanside, the line curved to the right, following up the Santa Margarita River to Fallbrook Station... It continued up through the rugged Temecula Canyon to the town Temecula, 78 miles from National City. The track was laid up the valley to Elsinore Station, later called Elsinore Junction, near the south end of the lake. There the rails curved to the right, up San Jacinto Canyon, generally known as Railroad Canyon."

The historical account continues, "At a point about 11 1/4 miles, by rail, from Elsinore... a station was established

named Pinacate, which means 'stink bug.' This station served the nearby gold mines, the principal ones being the 'Good Hope' and the 'Virginia.'" (Pinacate Station is now the site of the Orange Empire Railway Museum in Perris.)

According to a history of the area, the line that ran between Perris and Elsinore through the canyon now home to Canyon Lake was washed out first in 1883; after the third washout in February 1927, the line was finally abandoned. Local pioneer and Canyon Lake resident Elinor Martin briefly discusses the history of this railroad, which figured into her Evans family history, in her book, "Images of America, Canyon Lake."

The museum Huell Howser is seen visiting in the pe.com video clip is the newly refurbished historic Santa Fe Depot at 4th and D streets, which is about a mile north of the Railway Museum. It houses displays set up in January by the Perris Historical Society, of which Paul is a member. The restoration of the build-

ing was substantially completed in early 2008; it was formally dedicated on October 29. There are future plans to build a Metrolink station adjacent to the depot.

