Tribe Finds Increased Salmon Populations After Goldsborough Creek Dam Removal

Emmett O’Connell, NWIFC - Coho populations on Goldsborough Creek have increased significantly since a dam was removed in 2001, according to data collected by the Squaxin Island Tribe.

“This shows us that dam removal works in restoring salmon populations,” said Andy Whitener, Natural Resources Director for the Squaxin Island Tribe. “If you give salmon habitat to spawn and rear in, they’re going to use it.”

In 2003 more than 60,000 juvenile coho, the first batch of coho that benefited from the increased habitat, migrated out to sea. “The out-migration is the largest we’ve seen in the five years following the dam removal and the number of coho being produced has increased steadily,” said Joe Peters, Fisheries Biologist for the Tribe.

Coho especially benefited from the dam removal because it opened up access to a series of wetlands that provide important salmon rearing habitat. Unlike most other species of salmon, coho spend an additional year in freshwater before heading out to sea. “The removal of the dam has helped coho throughout the watershed,” Joe said. “Even coho that didn’t spawn in the upper watershed can now access these wetlands.”

Since the dam was removed, the Tribe, with help from the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, has operated a pair of smolt traps on the creek above and below the former dam site. Smolt traps are safe and effective devices for counting young fish. Smolt comes from the word “smoltification” which is the term used to describe the physiological changes that young salmon undergo while in freshwater, just before migrating downstream and entering saltwater.

“The smolt traps give us a good idea of the production, post dam removal,” Joe said. The joint effort with the U.S. Corps of Engineers to study Goldsborough ends this year, but the Tribe will still maintain a smolt trap on the lower creek. The Goldsborough Creek smolt traps are part of a large network of smolt traps in the deep South Sound operated by the Tribe.

The tribe also conducts yearly adult spawning surveys on Goldsborough Creek above the former dam site. “We get a good look at these salmon at both ends of their lifecycle – as they leave as juveniles and when they return as spawning adults,” Joe said.

“The success we’ve seen after the dam came out shows directly how much salmon really do depend on good habitat,” Andy said. “It’s important to, not only provide access to salmon habitat, but to also make sure that habitat is protected.”

Halloween Was Spooktacular Fun!!!

See more great Halloween Fun on Pages 12-18
Articles and opinions expressed in this publication are not necessarily the opinions of this publication or the Tribal Council.

The Klah-Che-Min encourages Tribal Members to submit letters, articles, photographs and drawings to be considered for publication, but are subject to editing.

Contributing writers and artists include Squaxin Island community members and staff.

Submissions Deadline: 15th of each month

SQUAXIN ISLAND
TRIBAL COUNCIL:
Jim Peters: Chairman
Andy Whitener: Vice Chairman
Vince Henry: Secretary
Russel Harper: Treasurer
Will Penn: First Council Member
Pete Kruger: Second Council Member
Charlene Kraie: Third Council Member

Klah-Che-Min Staff:
Theresa M. Henderson: Ext. #3945
thenderson@squaxin.nsn.us

And the MLRC is Stocked FULL of GREAT Christmas Gifts!

A Great Big Thank You
Kim Burrow, Director of Hotel Operations - I would like to extend to all the tribal artists huge thanks for your overwhelming response to my request for art submissions. I have really been impressed with the quality and variety of the pieces submitted, it was my goal from the beginning to use only Squaxin and local native artists in the hotel addition, and, thanks to your efforts, this will be possible. I would also like to thank the staff from the museum for all their support and assistance, not just to me, but to the tribal artists. Your encouragement of them really made the difference I think that pride in ownership was reflected in each piece of art.

To date, we have purchased over 700 pieces of art including prints, a welcome figure, a cedar spindle, a cedar mask, a carved cedar canoe, a small totem pole and carved cedar valves. As we reach the 60% completion mark, I look forward to the day we begin to display the art purchased. I hope that many will stop in and see the beautiful work your friends and relations have supplied for our hotel addition. It is truly going to be beautiful!!!

And FYI
The new hotel will consist of 30 business kings, each standard, with a microwave and refrigerator. There will be 50 double queens, 6 luxury spa rooms, 6 luxury suites, 4 handicap accessible rooms and 2 luxurious suites that have been named the Coho Suite and the Chinook Suite. These two rooms will each have a spa tub, walk-in showers, a microwave, a full size refrigerator, a complete dining room, electric fireplaces, leather furniture, a computer, a 42-inch plasma TV and a stereo with a sound system.

There will be three retail shops, but the tenants are yet to be determined. There has been mention of an art gallery or jewelry store. The new restaurant will feature traditional salmon cooked on an open pit in the floor of the restaurant paired with a steak house. The identity/name of the restaurant has yet to be determined.

The new hotel will also feature concierge and valet service, and will have two additional meeting rooms, the T’Peeksin and the Steh-Chass.

The tribal rate for a standard room is $67.00 weekday and $82.00 weekend. The spa room rate is $112.00 weekday and $128.00 weekend. We do require that all guests pay a security deposit for the suites and spas.

We have not yet priced out the Coho and Chinook Suite, but they will be somewhere in the $400.00 range.
Community

In honor of the 50th Wedding Anniversary of Alene & Bob Whitener
Their children and grandchildren
Request the pleasure of your company
At an Open House on Sunday December 3rd, 2006
From 1:00 p.m. – 4:00 p.m. at the
Squaxin Island Museum & Senior Center
Festive appetizers & cake will be served.

150 SE K’wuh-Deegs-Altxw Shelton, WA 98584

The couple of honor have requested no gifts
Other than your best wishes!

Where Are You???
Happy Birthday Allen (12/2)

~*~*~Legend says ~*~*

Five years later....

~ sorrow ebbs and flows ~
yet remains an everlasting
~ radiant, loving glow ~
~ of memories not so long ago ~

In loving memory of
Bruce A. Johnson
~*~Who rides the Warrior’s Spirit Horse ~*~free among the Stars ~*~

May 17th, 1944 – December 20th, 2001

Love ~ his Wife ~Peg

ALLEN MOSIER
We Love You and Miss You!!!

Allen Mosier has been missing since September. He was last seen in a wooded area behind the Squaxin Island Reservation (Kamilche Loop Area) on September 28th. To date there have been no credible reports or information provided about his whereabouts. If you have any information, please contact the Mason County Sheriff’s Office at (360)427-9670, ext. 226., or you may contact family members at (360)427-1301 or (360)280-0301.
Community

Here's a look at Little Creek's Current Food & Beverage Information

CREEKSIDE BUFFET
Breakfast 9-11am $7
Lunch 11:30-4pm $9
Dinner 4:30-11pm Sunday-Thursday $14
Friday and Saturday $18
Sunday Brunch 9am-4pm $13
Monday Nights - Landlovers Buffet $13
Call 462-7126 for reservations

SEAFOOD BAR
Open noon-11pm Monday-Saturday
10am-11pm Sundays

ISLAND GRILLE
Sunday-Thursday 6:30am - 10pm
Friday and Saturday 6:30am- Midnight
Breakfast served daily until 11am
Saturday and Sunday breakfast served until 2pm
Early bird specials served in the Island Grille daily

BATDORF AND BRONSEN COFFEE
& DANCING GOATS ESPRESSO BAR
Open daily in the hotel lobby and on the casino floor

SKOOKUM SPIRIT LOUNGE
Open Monday - Thursday 4pm-10pm
Friday 4pm-1:30am
Saturday 10am-1:30am
Sunday 10am-10pm
Monday Night Football food and drink specials with
$1 hotdogs and $1 tacos Kickoff starts at 5pm

FOR MORE INFORMATION
Brandi Peters
Marketing Coordinator
Little Creek Casino Resort
360.432.7041 ph
360.432.7494 fx
bpeters@little-creek.com

Who Are These Handsome Protectors of Freedom?

Little Creek Casino’s 8th Annual Holiday Bazaar

Tables available for $25.00 each table per day
Friday, November 24,
Saturday, November 25 and
Sunday, November 26th

To Reserve your table please contact:
April Olson, 360 432-7032

(LCCR Employees & Squaxin Tribal Members receive discount rates on tables)

Also, remember to buy your raffle Ticket!
Price: $1.00 each or 6 for $5.00

Watch for the list of raffle items to be posted.
Darlene & Amanda will have their baked goods,
chili and frybread too! See you there!

Tribal Council Resolutions

06-99: Approves the contract with Leslie Ching to
serve as a Judge for Tribal Court

06-100: Approves the contract with Thomas Meyer to
serve as a Prosecuting Attorney

06-101: Approves the services of a Public Defender
from the Native American Law Center of the University of Washington School of Law
**Maintenance Training**
Submitted by Office of Housing -
On November 14 and 15 the Office of Housing hosted a “Train the Trainer – Home Maintenance Workshop” at LCCR. This class was presented by Donna Fairbanks and Don Sam from the National American Indian Housing Council.

Representatives from Umatilla Housing, Muckleshoot Housing, Skokomish Housing, Northwest Office of Native American Programs, Tulalip Housing, Housing Hope of Everett, Makah Housing, Lower Elwha Housing Authority, Lummi Nation Housing, SPSTHA and Squaxin Island Tribal Housing were in attendance at the workshop.

This training was designed to educate participants on ways to train both current and future tenants/homeowners on basic home maintenance techniques and how to care for the home they live in. The manuals provided a “Hands On” approach to learning various ways of accomplishing home maintenance.

The Office of Housing would like to thank Washington Mutual for sponsoring this training.

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**Pathways Home**

**Native American Homeownership Class**
Submitted by the Office of Housing - The Office of Housing would like to congratulate the tenants who completed the Pathways Home Native American Homeownership Class.

The training consisted of four evening sessions that were held in October and included information on the following topics:

- Budgeting for Homeownership and Calculating Affordability
- Evaluating Credit for Homeownership
- Applying for a Home Loan
- Meeting your financial obligations
- Protecting Your Investment

Molly Morris from Key Bank presented the Pathways Home Curriculum along with Gayle Hoskison from USDA-Rural Development sharing information on USDA Housing Programs. The Office of Housing presented the information on Home Maintenance and Repair. This class is beneficial for anyone considering purchasing a home and also offers valuable information for those already in a home.

The Office of Housing will be conducting Pathways Home Native American Homeownership Classes on a quarterly basis. We would like to welcome anyone interested in attending this class to contact Lisa Peters @ 432-3871.

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**Molly Morris, Diane Beattie, Lisa Ewing, Tiana Henry**

**Lisa Ewing, Herb Johns and Shari Johns**

**Molly Morris, Diane Beattie, Lisa Ewing, Tiana Henry**

**Lisa Ewing, Herb Johns and Shari Johns**
Community Development

Financial Skills Workshops
Submitted by Office of Housing - Building Native Communities - Financial Skills for Families is the latest addition to the workshops being offered to the community by the Office of Housing.

The two evening sessions were presented by Consumer Counseling Northwest and the Office of Housing. The participants gained new information about the following:
• Developing a spending plan
• Understanding credit and your credit report
• Accessing credit

Whether you are starting a business, buying a home or paying off debt, personal financial literacy is the first step to gaining control over your financial future.

Come join in on the fun and attend the next Building Native Communities class which is scheduled for November 30 and December 14 from 5:00 p.m. – 8:00 p.m. each evening.

Call Lisa Peters @ 432-3871 to reserve your spot at the class. Hope to see you there!!

Angel Keating, CCNW

Haley Peters, Ginny Mae Berumen

Linda Evans and Jamie Adams

Michael Roberts Jr., Patricia Green

Holiday Spending Tips
Follow these tips to help prevent overspending during the holidays.
• Buy only those things fitting into your holiday spending plan.
• Keep records of spending so you know where most of the money is going.
• Check three sources for expensive items.
• Pay items charged on time in order to avoid interest charges.
• Keep the sales slips and warranties.
• Avoid shopping when tired, hungry or when stores are crowded.
• Set an amount of money to be spent for each person.
• Shop with a list.
  - Consider options instead of giving a material gift, such as giving IOUs. An IOU is for a service you can perform for another person, such as babysitting, mowing grass, washing windows, shoveling snow, making a batch of cookies or a meal sometime during the year, etc.
  - Use your imagination and keep your holiday budget reasonable.

Tips for a Warm, Cozy and Efficient Winter
• Wash and replace furnace filters every month. A clogged furnace filter reduces energy efficiency.
• Replace screens with storm windows and storm doors.
• Install plastic covers on single-pane glass.
• Repair or replace loose weather-stripping and caulking.
• Remove window air conditioners or cover them to keep cold air out.
• Open drapes on sunny days; keep closed at night and on overcast days.
• Humidify the air to feel warmer at cooler temperatures.
• Heat only rooms in use.
• Instead of turning up the thermostat, put on a sweater.
**Transportation Planning News**

Lynn Scroggins - A copy of Squaxin’s FY06-08 Transportation Improvement Program (TIP), approved by the BIA Indian Reservation Roads (IRR) program per Federal Lands Highway Program 23 USC 204, may be obtained and is available for public review at the Squaxin Administration Building, located at SE 10 Squaxin Lane, Shelton, WA 98584. Comments and questions about Squaxin’s IRR-TIP may be directed to Lynn Scroggins, 360-432-3952. Any comments or questions should be received at the above address before close of business on January 4, 2007.

The FY06-08 IRR-TIP contains Squaxin priority projects eligible for BIA funding and their funding levels. The projects listed include BIA safety ($3,000), administrative capacity building ($3,000), Klah-Che-Min Dr. new preliminary engineering and construction ($233,686), Squaxin safety ($7,500).

Squaxin’s transportation priority list was updated several months ago. It identifies many BIA and non-BIA priority projects, eligible for BIA and other funding when other Squaxin transportation planning documents are updated. As a result, Squaxin is embarking on a transportation planning document update this year with BIA and Squaxin funding support. Transportation planning documents to be updated and/or developed include Squaxin’s long-range transportation plan last updated in 1998, inventory last updated in 2000, TIP, (new) transit plan, (new) preventative maintenance plan, and (new) safety plan.

Transportation provides access to opportunity and well being. To get involved in Squaxin’s transportation document update process or if you have any questions, please contact Lynn Scroggins at 360-432-3952. Squaxin community support is needed and welcome.

**More Holiday Safety Tips...**

- The winter holidays are a time for celebration, and that means more cooking, home decorating, entertaining, and an increased risk of fire due to heating equipment.
- Use caution with holiday decorations whenever possible, choose those made with flame-resistant flame-retardant or non-combustible materials.
- Keep candles away from decorations and other combustible materials.
- Carefully inspect new and previously used light strings and replace damaged items before plugging lights in. Do not overload extension cords. Read instructions for installation and maintenance.
- Always unplug lights before replacing light bulbs or fuses.
- Don’t mount lights in any way that can damage the cord’s wire insulation (using clips, not nails).
- Keep children and pets away from light strings and electrical decorations.
- Turn off all light strings and decorations before leaving the house or going to sleep.
- Unattended cooking is the leading cause of home fires in the U.S. When cooking for holiday visitors, remember to keep an eye on the range.

**Food Safety During and After Power Outages**

1) How long can food stay safe in the refrigerator with no power?

In newer refrigerators that were not opened during the outage, foods should still be safe to use after 4 hours. In older refrigerators, or ones that were opened during the outage, it is difficult to make an assessment of how long foods will stay safe. The best rule is “When in Doubt, Throw it Out”. If you have an accurate food thermometer, 45°F or colder is the safe zone. Once food approaches 70°F it is considered to be at room temperature, and should be discarded.

These are a few guidelines for various types of food:

- Hard cheeses, butter, margarine are safe unless mold or rancidity develop
- Fresh vegetables and fruits are safe as long as they are not slimy.
- Eggs are safe for two days if shells are intact.
- Fresh poultry, meats, cold cuts, hot dogs, and other perishables should be discarded or eaten if food approaches room temperature.
- Milk and other dairy products should be discarded after the refrigerator power is out for more than 4 hours.
- Mayonnaise, vinegar and oil commercially prepared dressings, jellies, jams, relishes, ketchup, mustard, and pickles may be left unrefrigerated unless they have been contaminated with poultry, fish or meat products.

2) How long will food remain safe in the freezer?

If the opening of the freezer was kept to a minimum, a well stocked freezer that is in good condition should keep foods frozen for up to 48 hours. Fully stocked chest freezers will keep foods frozen for up to 72 hours. Large cuts of meat and poultry will stay frozen longer than baked goods or smaller items.

3) What previously frozen foods will be safe to use or re-freeze?

Frozen poultry, fish, meats, fruits, and vegetables can be safely refrozen if they still have ice crystals present, or are still cold (40°F or colder), but there may be some loss of quality. Re-frozen foods should be used as soon as possible. When cooking the re-frozen foods, keep in mind that they have been thawed once. If thawing is necessary, do it in the refrigerator, or use the microwave and cook immediately after.

Discard any food that has an off color or odor, or food that has warmed to room temperature for an unknown amount of time. Again, “When in Doubt, Throw it Out”

**Safety Tips for Decorating Your Christmas Tree**

- Carefully decorating Christmas trees can help make your holidays safer.
- When decorating Christmas trees, always use safe tree lights (check lights for indoor or outdoor use).
- Never use electric lights on a metal tree.
- Follow the instruction label on how to use the lights.
- Always unplug Christmas tree lights before leaving home or going to sleep.
- Never use lit candles to decorate a tree, and place them well away from tree branches.
- Try to keep live trees as moist as possible by giving them plenty of water.
- Choose a sturdy tree stand designed not to tip over.
- If using a artificial tree, be sure it is fire-retardant.
- Children are fascinated with Christmas trees; keep a watchful eye on them around the tree, lights, and wiring.
- Store matches and lighters up high, out of reach of children, preferably in a locked cabinet.
- Be sure the tree is at least 3 feet away from any heat source or blocking exits.
- Safely dispose of the tree when it begins dropping needles.
Attention College Students and Families of College Students
Squaxin Island Tribal Elders would like to send a little greeting now and then to acknowledge our college students and their hard work. They would like to remind them that their families back home at the Tribe love and miss them.

Please contact Sally Brownfield with names and addresses. 427-7132 OR kamilche@htc.com

What Does it Mean to be a Mentor?
Lynn Olson, Mentoring Coordinator - I wrote this reflective piece at the end of a mentoring relationship I had with a young person. My hope is that it will encourage you to become a mentor.

During these past nine months, Chris gave me the opportunity to be her mentor. The greatest gift any person can be given is to have a protégé that wants to learn all that you have to teach. It’s amazing when you redirect an effort, offer constructive criticism, or help to solve a problem of a young person.

Letting Chris go on to new opportunities is so difficult and yet I am so proud of her. You put loads of work into a mentee and prepare them for their next stage in life, but you’re not ready to let them go emotionally. This young woman became a very important part of my life. There is still more work to be done, mentoring and teaching her new skills to prepare her for the next part of her life. I want to be one of the people who continue contributing to her education.

I hope you get one time in your life to have such a rewarding and unforgettable experience with someone you mentor. Chris told me I changed her life forever - she doesn’t realize, she changed mine too.

Mentor a young person, our future. They are counting on us to lead them into future success. With all their energy, enthusiasm, and willingness to learn, we owe this to them. You’ll never forget nor will they, for the rest of your lives.

"Become a mentor and watch them soar."

For more information, please contact:
Lynn Olson, Mentor Coordinator
Tu Ha’ Buts Learning Center
Squaxin Island Tribe
70 SE Squaxin Lane
Shelton, WA 98584
360-432-3957 office
360-490-7037 cell
360-426-7897 fax
lolson@squaxin.nsn.us

News from Bordeaux Elementary School
We are having a very busy fall at school. We hosted a kindergarten, first and second grade family reading night called K-2 Bulldog Night! Families and staff wore their pajamas! We had a wonderful time reading stories and ended the evening with milk and cookies. Thank you to all who came and enjoyed the evening reading with their children.

Thank you to all parents who filled out a conference questionnaire after attending your children’s parent teacher conference in October. Your comments will help us to refine our parent conferences and make them as helpful and useful as possible for our families.

Family Science Night is coming up soon! Thursday December 7, from 6:00 - 7:30 p.m., Bordeaux will be open to show you what our students are learning in science! We invite you to come see what our kids are learning in science! You will be able to visit classrooms in all grade levels and learn from the students!

Have you noticed that we are dressing funny on Early Release days this year?

December 6 Miss-Match Day
January 24 Pajama Day

We continue to wear our red and white school colors for school spirit on Fridays! And PTSO parents sell Popcorn or ice cream most Fridays at lunch for 25 cents.

Upcoming!
Thursday December 7th, from 6:00-7:30 p.m.
Science Experience Night in Bordeaux classrooms.
All families invited!

Higher Education
The deadline to apply for funding for winter 06/07 quarter is Friday December 15, 2006 by 5:00 p.m. If you need assistance with higher education paperwork, please call Lisa Evans @ 432-3882. Please see the Higher Education Calendar for important dates and deadlines. Please visit our website for scholarship information. http://www.squaxintribe.org. Click on the Government button on the top menu bar. Then click on the Learning Center button on the left menu bar. Then click on Scholarship Opportunities button on the left menu bar.
**Learning Center**

**Update**
GED classes are available to Squaxin Island tribal members, community members, and casino employees. Classes are held Monday and Wednesday evenings from 5:00 p.m. to 7:30 p.m., in the classroom upstairs in the old tribal center building (above the gym). You must be 18 years of age to participate in this program. For more information you may contact Walt Archer at 432-3826.

**Computer Lab**
The Computer Lab is open Monday through Thursday, 3:30 to 6:00 p.m. and Friday 3:30 to 5:00 p.m. in TLC. Students and parents must read, complete and sign the TLC Computer Use Agreement before students will be allowed to use the computers. The Computer Lab is open to adults from 9:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. The computers are intended to be used only for educational purposes such as homework, research and reports, etc.

**Private Tutoring Sessions**
Private tutoring Sessions will be offered in TLC. A certified teacher will be available for private individual tutoring sessions. If your child needs a little extra help in any academic area, please call to schedule an individual tutoring session. Please be aware that there is often a waiting list for these services. Call Lisa Evans at 432-3882 or stop by TLC to schedule your appointment.

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**Squaxin Youth Cultural, Educational and Activities Calendar December 2006**

Co-Sponsored by DASA
All activities are Drug, Alcohol and Tobacco Free!!

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<td>Any Questions Call: Mark Snyder 701-1561 Jeremiah George 229-0547 or Bill Kalteppa 463-6361</td>
<td>Homework Help is available Mon-Thur From 3:30-5:00!!</td>
<td>Computer Lab is open Mon-Thur 3:30-6pm and on Friday 3:30-5pm</td>
<td>B-Ball 4:30-6pm</td>
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<td>Christmas Party 5-8pm Gym</td>
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<td>New Years Eve!!</td>
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_Squaxin Island Tribe - Klah-Che-Min Newsletter - December, 2006 - Page 9_
1st Annual Intertribal Elders Dinner  
October 24, 2006

Ann Parker - Thanks to the casino and many volunteers, the consensus of the guests leaving the dinner was that it was a great success. Lila Jacobs, Elder Committee President, said guests told her they couldn't believe our first dinner had come off so well. They were pleased with the many gifts made by the elders and other volunteers. There were over three hundred guests. On entering, they were presented with a bag of gifts and a cedar rose corsage or stem and a magnet with a small cedar rose on it.

Tribal Chairman Jim Peters gave permission to proceed with a reciprocal dinner since our elders have attended dinners given by other tribes for many years and have not reciprocated in the past. The casino immediately consented to set up the food and tables in the new event center. They also contributed many gifts for the give-away and raffle. The casino set up three lines for the buffet so elderly guests would not have to stand in long lines to get their food. Those who were not able to stand in line were told to remain seated and were served by the youth and tribal elders.

One of the features that was unique to our dinner was the presentation of colors by our veterans. All the other tribes were invited to bring their own tribal flags and display them along with the Squaxin Island, United States, WA State and POW/MIA flags. Our colors were carried by Don Brownfield, Ron Whitener, Harry Fletcher and Cecil Cheeka. Glen Parker and Pam Hammond introduced all the veterans in attendance. The colors were retired at the end of the dinner.

Colleen Woodard/Tyler, Elder Coordinator, was the emcee. The Squaxin Island drummers were joined by guest drummers at the beginning of the entertainment. Jamie Henderson and her sister, Jolene, performed the Lord's Prayer in sign language. Brooks Farrell sang and was accompanied by Joe Mailhot on the guitar. The last entertainment was the Squaxin branch of the Fantasia Baton Corp.
Elders Activities

"Indian Life" Quilt
By Rose Brownfield
To Be Raffled
Don’t miss out on this great quilt
Entitled "Indian Life" by Rose Brownfield
Tickets $1 or 6 for $5
Available at Colleen Woodard’s Office or through Rose
Winner will be drawn at General Body meeting
Supports Elders’ travel fund!

A Trip to Taholah’s First Elders Gathering
Rose Brownfield - The invitation was a last minute one for our elders for the follow-
ing day to Taholah’s first Elders gathering, but a group of us wanted to go despite the
weather. There were 19 in attendance from Squaxin. Taholah had a good turnout,
despite the weather and short notice. Several of our group won door prizes or raffle
items. We all had a good time.
Halloween Fun
Halloween Fun
Halloween Fun
Halloween Fun
Veterans Update

Information by Joe Seymour and Glen Parker, photos by Joe Seymour - Tribal veterans Glen Parker, Harry Fletcher and Joe Seymour attended the 1st Annual Tribal Veterans Symposium at the Couer D’Alene Casino in Worley, Idaho. The symposium was held on November 8th and 9th. The event was attended by tribal veterans from Montana, Oregon, Washington and Idaho. The event opened with posting of an eagle staff and the U.S. flag by Couer D’Alene tribal veterans and with a song by the Pierce Heart Drum group.

The symposium concluded with a dinner honoring all area veterans at the event center in the casino. At the dinner all tribal WWII veterans were recognized, given an eagle feather by Coeur d’ Alene Veterans Tribal Representative Ernest L. Stensgar and asked to speak on their experiences in the military. Harry Fletcher was among the veterans honored.
Do You Have a Healthiest Kids Passport?

The Healthiest Kids Passport rewards Mason County families, with children age birth to 9, for participating in healthy activities with their children, such as keeping their immunizations up-to-date. You can pick up a Passport at Mason County Public Health (303 N 4th Street in Shelton). For more information call 360-427-9670 x 400 or go to the Mason County web site www.co.mason.wa.us and click on the Healthy Kids Campaign link.

Monthly Health Tip: Does YOUR Child Need the Flu Vaccine?

The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention recently expanded its recommendations for flu vaccine, advising that all children 6 months to 5 years of age be immunized each year (children need two doses the first year they get flu vaccine, then one a year thereafter). Every year in the United States approximately 200,000 people are hospitalized and 36,000 die from complications of influenza. Children and older adults are most vulnerable to the virus. Children hospitalized by influenza usually have a high fever, wheezing, cough, or pneumonia. Flu is characterized by the following symptoms:

- Fever - can get as high as 102 degrees, especially in children, and can persist three or four days.
- Headache
- Aches and pains
- Fatigue – the flu usually starts with a period of exhaustion and can persist for two to three weeks.
- Sneezing, stuffy nose, sore throat – these are common symptoms of a cold, but they sometimes occur with flu.
- Chest discomfort, cough - mild to moderate with colds, but can be severe with flu.

The (FLU) is highly contagious and is spread from one person to another by coughing, sneezing, or talking. Here are some tips to help you reduce the risk of getting the flu:

- Don’t share drinks, lip stick, towels, toys, food, utensils, or anything else that might be contaminated.

For information about upcoming flu clinics, call the Flu Line at 427-9670 ext. 599, or toll-free from Belfair, 275-4467 ext. 599.

* The Healthiest Kids Campaign is made possible through a grant from Washington Health Foundation

Positive Indian Parenting

Squaxin Island will present
Positive Indian Parenting

When: Beginning January 3, 2007
Where: Squaxin Island Museum
Time: 12:30-3:30 (Lunch Provided)
Duration: 10 weekly classes will be available

Focus: Exploring values and attitudes in traditional child-rearing practices and applying these values to modern skills in parenting.

Child care available
Incentives for participation
Please join us!

Call Terrie Remick (432-3926)
orBeverly Hawks (427-3473) to sign up

For those who have already signed up for the classes, thank you for your patience!

Congratulations
October Mammogram Winner
VERNA ELLISON

Looking For Youth Talent

Come Show Off Your Talents in
The Squaxin Island Tribe
Youth Talent Show

I am looking for youth interested in showing off their talents.

Dancing, Singing, Artwork, Piano Playing...........
We want to see what you can do!

Interested?
Bring your ideas December 4, 2006
from 4:30 - 6:00 p.m.
in the Health Promotions Building
across from the clinic
Snacks Provided.

This a drug and alcohol free event.
For more information call Janita Johnson, CHR
432-3972
Health Events December 2006

Diabetes Support Group
Welcomes everyone to attend a workshop
January 23rd
“Tips on How to Beat the Winter Blues”
With Brenda Dorsey

Brief Community Walk
Every Thursday at 12:40 p.m.
Meet at the Elder’s Building after Senior Lunch

Smart/ Food Label Reading Workshops
Contact Patty to schedule a family & friends session

Let’s Get the Walking Stick back!
Diabetes Prevention Walk
Wednesday, December 13, 2006 at 12:40.
Meet in front of the Tribal Center.
A holiday treat for all walkers.

Mammogram & Women’s Health Exams
December 22
Contact Rose Algea (360)432-3930

Shop Smart/ Food Label Reading Workshops
Contact Patty to schedule a family & friends session

Come visit our Health Promotions Programs
We have exercise videos
(Sit & Be Fit, Yoga, Walk Away the Pounds & more)
You can come and use them
in building across from clinic.
Work out alone, with us,
or schedule a time for a group.

Contact Patty Suskin (360)432-3929
or Janita Johnson (360)432-3972

Answers on Page 22.
Flu Facts
Pam Peters R.N. - We are expecting our adult flu vaccine in late November. The clinic does have the flu vaccine for children from 6 - 23 months of age.

The incubation period for influenza is 1-4 days with an average of 2 days. Adults are typically infectious from the day before the symptoms begin, through approximately 5 days after illness onset. Children can be infectious for greater than or equal to 10 days, and young children can shed the virus less than 6 days before their illness onset.

Uncomplicated influenza virus illness is characterized by the abrupt onset of fevers, aches and pains, headache, fatigue, nonproductive cough, sore throat and runny nose. Among children, earaches, nausea and vomiting are also commonly reported. These symptoms typically resolve after a limited number of days for most people. The risks for complications and hospitalizations are higher among Eiders older than 65 years, young children, and persons of any age with certain underlying health conditions than among healthy older children and younger adults.

Wow! Healthy Vending Machines
Come check out the vending machines downstairs in the Learning Center. There is a variety of healthy options to choose from. Flavored bottled water, carbonated bottle water and much more. All proceeds go to benefit youth council and youth programs.

Twanoh State Park is Ideal Location for Excursion

What
Twanoh State Park

Where
On lower Hood Canal, 8 miles west of Belfair.

To do
Early fall is the perfect time to visit this beautiful state park, a short drive from the Squaxin Island Reservation. Coho and chum salmon on their way to spawning streams roll and jump just offshore. Chum salmon are spawning up the park’s little creek. Fishing is not allowed in the creek. Lots of different birds, including great blue herons and shorebirds, stop by to get a snack of little baitfish. Harbor seals are often seen just offshore. There is a launch ramp and dock for boaters, and many Hood Canal anglers launch at this spot. Moorage buoys are $10 each night.

The park also is a good spot for beachcombing, picnicking and loafing. The park has beautiful views of Hood Canal. There are 2.5 miles of trails.

Shellfishing: Twanoh is a popular spot for crabbing and oyster gathering -- in season. Crabbing season is during the summer months. Oyster gathering usually is open year-round at Twanoh, but it is currently closed because of water quality problems. For more information, call 360-236-3330 or go to www.doh.wa.gov/ehp/sfl/biotoxin.htm.

Camping: Twanoh is usually a year-round camping park, and it’s a great place to stay while exploring Hood Canal. However, call ahead about the sewer system renovation and drinking water availability. State Parks wants to make sure the water and sewer system are safe before opening it to the public. The park’s day-use area remains open. For more information, call 360-275-2222.

Safety
Wear sandals, rubber boots, sneakers or waders on the beach, as there are plenty of sharp-edged barnacles, rocks and oyster shells. Keep an eye on kids near the water. Don’t harvest or eat shellfish out of season. Pets must be on leashes and are not allowed on the beach. Glass bottles or containers are not allowed on the beach.

Rules
The park is open from 6:30 a.m. to dusk. People launching boats must have a State Parks launch permit, which is $5. Annual permits can be bought at parks or online at www.parks.wa.gov.

For more information, call 360-902-8844.
More information: Go to www.parks.wa.gov.

Equipment
Rubber boots or sandals, picnic supplies, fishing gear, camera, binoculars, birding guide, warm clothes, rängear, sunglasses and sunscreen.

Directions
Take U.S. Highway 101 past Shelton to Purdy Cut-off Road. Turn right onto Purdy Cut-off Road and follow it to the intersection with state Route 106. Turn right onto Route 106 and follow it about 12 miles to the park.

Twanoh State Park on lower Hood Canal has 3,167 feet of shoreline, including this stretch of gravelly beach. The shoreline has great views of wildlife and Hood Canal scenery.

A young great blue heron wading the shallows at Twanoh State Park draws a bead on a school of small fish. Herons are spooky birds, but a lot of them roam Hood Canal, and they will approach you -- if you stay as still as a rock.
Health & Human Services

Merry Christmas

7 Tips for a Healthy Holiday
Holiday gatherings revolve around family, friends and traditional holiday food. You can still participate and stay healthy. Enjoy those delicious holiday meals, but learn to make smart choices to avoid unwanted pounds, high glucose readings, high blood pressure or a raise in your cholesterol levels.

FOLLOW THESE TIPS TO MAKE THIS ONE A HEALTHY AND HAPPY HOLIDAY SEASON:
1. Keep up the exercise. Continue your regular exercise program over the holidays and, if possible, do more. Try working out early in the morning and stay as active as possible during the day. Exercise will help you control blood glucose levels, blood pressure, raise your good cholesterol, burn calories and reduce your stress levels. Also, plan non-eating events. Take your friends or family shopping, skating or dancing. You’ll have fun in a healthy way.

2. Eat off the plate. When at a family function, instead of eating directly out of the serving bowl or bag, place the food on a plate. This way, you can judge how much you are eating.

3. Eat slowly. Savor each bite, enjoying the taste of the food. Remember that it takes at least 20 minutes for your brain to notice that you are satisfying your hunger, so you will eat less if you do it slowly.

4. Share healthy choices. Choose to share a healthier food such as vegetables, fruit, or try air-popped popcorn with butter flavored cooking spray and add cinnamon sugar. If you are home, consider preparing and freezing several quick, healthy meals or have some healthy frozen meals available.

5. Stay away from the buffet table. Sit as far as possible from the food and avoid seconds. Always fill half of your plate with fresh veggies and go for the leanest meats. If you can’t help having dessert, try a small portion of your favorite dish or opt for fresh fruit.

6. Don’t go to a party on an empty stomach. Before attending any event, eat a snack or light meal. Foods high in protein, like chicken or cottage cheese, as well as a spoonful of nuts like pecans, peanuts or almonds, will help you satisfy your appetite and you will eat less later on. Or, if you think vegetables will be scarce, eat some before you leave the house. If you are the host, fill your table with flavorful vegetable dishes and prepare low-fat and low-carb versions of your favorite family holiday foods.

7. Get rid of edible gifts. Most of us get chocolates, candy and other delicacies loaded with carbs and fat. The best advice I can give you is to share them. Bring them to parties or give them away to your friends.

Happy holidays!

Diabetes Support Group Learns About Teeth and Mouth Care
Michelle Wiley, Dental Hygienist, presented information on “Diabetes, Oral Health and Tobacco” at the Diabetes Support Group in October. Seventeen people enjoyed lunch and learned more about how to take better care of their teeth and mouth.

Join us from noon to 2:00 p.m. on Tuesday, January 23rd. Brenda Dorsey, Counselor, will discuss “How to Beat the Winter Blues” Contact Patty Suskin, at (360)432-3929 to RSVP for lunch.

Diabetes Screening at the Director’s Meeting
Thank you, Don Whitener! Don is seen here having his blood sugar checked by Janita Johnson, Diabetes Prevention CHR. As part of Diabetes Awareness Month, Patty Suskin and Janita checked blood sugars for tribal community members in various locations. If you missed the diabetes screening dates, feel free to call us or stop by health promotions. We would be happy to poke your finger to check your blood sugar!

Spencer Sweet Potato’s Jazzy Crossword Puzzle Answers

www.dolessaday.com

Fiber

Potassium

Vitamin

Saxophone

North Carolina

Squaxin Island Tribe - Klah-Che-Min Newsletter - December, 2006 - Page 22
Health Fair a Success at Tribal Center!
*And More About Other Activities from Health Promotions*

Melissa Grant - October was a very busy month in the Health Promotion Offices, especially with the Health Fair on October 19, 2006 which took a lot of hard work and planning. There were 20 vendors that participated and there were 75 people who attended. I also had a lot of activities going on with the youth, including the after school Nutrition Nibbles program where I gave youth some samples of nutritious fruit and vegetable dishes. For the month of November, they sampled pumpkin pancakes, sweet potato fries and corn chili. Also, there is a great new program called Media Smart Youth for kids ages 10 and older. This programs teaches youth about the impact media plays on decisions they make. I also have a great vegetable steaming program for adults. Please feel free to give me a call if you have any questions about any of these program dates and times. Melissa Grant at 432-3884.

Web Site Provides Info for Caregivers

Paula Henry - The Aging and Disability Services Administration web site added a new “Caregiver Resource” section in conjunction with National Caregiver’s Month. There are topic areas and helpful resources on this site.

The web site is http://www.adsa.dshs.wa.gov/caregiving/

If you need assistance or have any questions, give me a call or stop by my office. My number is 432-3934 and my e-mail is phenry@squaxin.nsn.us.

Meal Program Menu

A salad bar will be available at each meal, as well as fresh fruit or fruit salad. Beverages available each meal: milk, crystal light, water, coffee, tea, hot chocolate. Menu is subject to change. Free to seniors 55 and older. All others $3.

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<tr>
<th>Monday</th>
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<td>merry Christmas everyone!</td>
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Community

New Employees

BAGLEY FAMILY REUNION POTLUCK

APRIL 7, 2007

Calling All Family . . .

of Florence, Clara, Joshephine, Hazel, John, Violet, Frenchie and Marion!!!

For more information, or for suggestions, Call Terri Capoeman:
427-3501
(cell) 561-2913
tcapoeman@htctc.com
OR
Gloria Hill
462-0117

Phil Wozniak
Assistant Director,
Planning & Community Development

As the new Assistant Director for Planning and Community Development, I’m very pleased to have this opportunity to work in such a friendly and supportive community. Previously, I worked for the Washington State Department of Social and Health Services doing such varied jobs as Child Protective Services Caseworker, Regional Administrator for Aging and Adult Services, Director of Administrative Services and Director of Human Resources. Most recently, I was the Manager of the Materials Management Center for the Washington State Department of General Administration. I have many years experience, not only in social services, but also in building and warehouse management, budgeting, quality improvement and program development.

Personally, I have a love for history, a passion for the theatre and a desire to be on my boat. I’m a volunteer for Habitat for Humanity. My wife, Carol, is a Long-Term Care Consultant. She is a charming extrovert who easily upstages me at social events. We have three grown children and six grandchildren who we don’t get to see often enough.

Don Whitener
Deputy Executive Director

I was born and raised in Kamilche, however I have been moving around the country for the past 40 years working for the B.l.A. So it is great to be back home among family and friends and working for the Tribe. Just in case you want to know, I love pie.
Community

Theresa Ann

Happy Birthday to You
Happy Birthday from Me
I’ve missed you a lot!!!
It’s how it will be

We walk different roads
You went away
I’ll Never Forget…. Great times in past days

I wish you the Best
Straight from my Heart
Never thought Ever
Our Closeness would Part

Tweety Bird, Squirt,
Theerrrrrrr & Butt
Just some of your nic-names
You are loved so much

Remember Green Cookies
When we were so Young
Trying to make it all better
When my impatience was done

On Grove Street in Shelton
Stress Free it was Fun
We were carefree and happy
We enjoyed the warm sun

Remember scalped tickets
For Pat Benatar
When the concert was over
There wasn’t a car

Vinny’s car was stolen
We did not forsee
Beautiful beadwork gone too
Hand-made from me

We were so Bummed Out
After having such fun
Vinny’s car was his baby
We were all so young

The three of us waited
In Seattle’s bright lights
To get a ride home
After this horrific night

We passed time together
We passed time apart
We each found a partner
A family we’d start

We both got good jobs
The Tribe was so small
We each got a house
We shopped at the mall

We took our Girls out
Janet Jackson sang strong
Heart still is my favorite
I still sing along

We went out alone
To Paula Abdul
We did the Puyallup
Had babies close too

So much has happened
Our lives moving on
Years flying by faster
With each passing dawn

I’ve changed a lot
Shedding so many Tears
Finding new Strength
Letting go of my Fears

Now I’m a Grandma-Ma
To a Girl & a Boy
They’re both Little Treasures
They bring me such Joy

I Walk Alone Now
And I Still Rock Out
Ignoring Knives in My Back
It’s Safer NO Doubt

By
Joanne F. Decicio

Joanne F. Decicio & Theresa A. Henderson. Picture appeared in the Visitor’s Guide for the Shelton Mason County Journal and was taken a few months after Joanne delivered her son Dillon and after Theresa had delivered her daughter Tiffany. The picture displays baskets made by their late Grandma-Ma, Theresa F. Nason, who was a Master Basketweaver as well as a basket made by Joanne’s Mom, Barbara A. Henry (Theresa’s Auntie), who is also a Master Basketweaver.
### Community

#### Happy Birthday

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### What’s Happening

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Event</th>
<th>Details</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>3</td>
<td>Squaxin Indian Bible Church</td>
<td>11:00 a.m.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4</td>
<td>Church</td>
<td>7:30</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5</td>
<td></td>
<td>Family Court</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6</td>
<td></td>
<td>AA Meeting 7:30</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>7</td>
<td></td>
<td>Bible Book Club 10:30</td>
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<tr>
<td>8</td>
<td></td>
<td>Mary Johns Room Food/Transportation</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>9</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>10</td>
<td>Squaxin Indian Bible Church</td>
<td>11:00 a.m.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>11</td>
<td>Criminal/Civil Court</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>12</td>
<td>Church</td>
<td>7:30</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>13</td>
<td></td>
<td>Council Mtg.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>14</td>
<td></td>
<td>AA Meeting 7:30</td>
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<tr>
<td>15</td>
<td></td>
<td>Bible Book Club 10:30</td>
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<tr>
<td>16</td>
<td></td>
<td>Mary Johns Room Food/Transportation</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>17</td>
<td>Squaxin Indian Bible Church</td>
<td>11:00 a.m.</td>
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<tr>
<td>18</td>
<td>Church</td>
<td>7:30</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>19</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>20</td>
<td></td>
<td>AA Meeting 7:30</td>
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<tr>
<td>21</td>
<td></td>
<td>Bible Book Club 10:30</td>
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<tr>
<td>22</td>
<td></td>
<td>Mary Johns Room Food/Transportation</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>23</td>
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<tr>
<td>24/31</td>
<td>Squaxin Indian Bible Church</td>
<td>11:00 a.m.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>25</td>
<td>Merry Christmas</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>26</td>
<td>Church</td>
<td>7:30</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>27</td>
<td></td>
<td>AA Meeting 7:30</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>28</td>
<td></td>
<td>Bible Book Club 10:30</td>
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<tr>
<td>29</td>
<td></td>
<td>Mary Johns Room Food/Transportation</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>30</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### Merry Christmas & Best Wishes

To Everyone

At Island Enterprises, Inc.
And All the Companies
Within IEI
KTP – IEI – SCTC –
Squaxin Childcare -
SCDC – Salish Seafoods –
Island Construction
Wishing You All a Safe and Happy Holiday Season!!!
Miss you!!!
Joanne F. Decicio

#### Happy Birthday

Patrick Stapleton  12/19
Tyson Kruger      12/19
Charlene Cooper   12/21
Ronnie Penn       12/21
Larrinea Nichols  12/22
Elroy Ellerbe     12/22
Jaimie Cruz       12/23
Alacyn Wilbur     12/23
Holly Henry       12/24
William Penn      12/24
Tahnee Kruger     12/24
Jesus             12/25
Richard Johns, Sr.| 12/25
Astrid Poste      12/25
Jasmine Rivera    12/25
Carol Tadios      12/25
Nicholas Cooper   12/26
Karina Farr       12/26
Edward Cooper     12/27
Andrea Neilson    12/27
Jocelyn Campbell  12/28
Jessica Stone      12/28
Kathy Block       12/28
Patti Puhn        12/29
Penni Giles       12/29
Richard Gouin     12/30
Koreena Perez     12/30
Community

Congratulations!
For a job well done.
Tenaya Johnson, Marissa Morkin-Sigo
and Shawn Lincoln-Sigo
All passed the W.A.S.L. and received a letter from the Governor
Keep up the GREAT work
Love,
Mom-Sister, Dad-Uncle Cleve,
Nana-Mom, Tac’lor, Little Cleve,
Lilly, Tony and Kierra

Happy Birthday
To My Wonderful Sister, Tonya
Love, Lisa

Happy Birthday
To My Beautiful Niece, Davina
Love, Aunt Lisa

CONGRATULATIONS #41
Austin Brearley-Lorentz
and the Black Hills Huskies
on your SUPERB season!!!
We are proud of you,
2006 Bantam CHAMPIONS!!!

CONGRATULATIONS
McKenzie Brearley-Lorentz
and the Black Hills Huskies
Cheerleaders on your INCREDIBLE domination at competition!!!!!
We are proud of you,
Say we are proud of you...
Hey, hey, hey

Happy Belated 20th Birthday
Michael Trotter
Love, Mom, Dad and the Sisters

Tyler Burrow
A Happy 16th birthday (11/29)
Love, Mom Dad & the Susuters

Happy Birthday
To My Beautiful Davina
Love, Aunt Lisa

Happy Birthday
Sexy Mamma
Love, Davina and Tanalee

Who Loves You Boo?
We Do!
Momma, Daddy, Kale & Nyla

Happy Birthday
Jasmine Marie Rose
Love, Terri and the Family

Happy Belated 14th Birthday
Koreena Ann
Love, Mom, Sisters and Brother

Happy Belated 14th Birthday
Jamie Cruz
Love, The Capoeman Family

Merry Christmas
To My Wonderful Children, Patrick, Malachi, Lisa and Eli
Love, Mom

Happy Birthday
To My Wonderful Sister, Tonya
Love, Lisa

Happy Birthday
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Love, Mom

Happy birthday
Sexy Mamma
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Online Multicultural Curriculum For Training Teachers Developed by Tribal Member Sally Brownfield for PBS

Tribal member and longtime teacher Sally Brownfield recently completed a major online curriculum project for PBS that trains teachers how to add multicultural literature to their classes.

According to Sally, the entire project consists of eight workshops dealing with issues related to various cultural backgrounds. Her focus was Workshop Three which deals specifically with Native American issues.

Sally developed the curriculum working with students at the Skokomish Reservation’s Hood Canal School. Sally and her eighth-grade students studied the literature and issues related to the Indian boarding school program through community involvement and self-examination. Sally began with her students’ questions and supported them through a cycle of investigation, discussion, presentation, and reflection as they sought answers. The students used Shirley Sterling’s novel *My Name Is Seepeetza* and the poetry of Laura Tohe as lenses through which to explore topics of their choosing. The class visited the Skokomish Tribal Center to interview tribal elders about the impact of the residential boarding school program on the community. Author Shirley Sterling also visited the class and answered student questions related to her novel, her life, and their research topics. As Sally’s students uncovered a subject that has long been painful in the Native American community, they wrote, talked, and worked together to construct new knowledge and reflect on how their discoveries changed them.

After Sally completed the three-week course with the students, PBS spent three days on site, re-creating the course and filming their work.

"It was great," Sally said. "This gave the students an up-close chance to see how the filming in done."

Sally’s curriculum is used by a number of public school districts across the country as well as Washington State University (WSU) School of Education, can be viewed online at http://www.learner.org/channel/workshops/tml/workshop3/commentary.html. It is also widely used at educational conferences nation-wide.

The PBS web site also contains a page featuring well known Native American author Joseph Bruchac who further discusses the major impact boarding schools have had on Native American communities.

"Although this is a generalization -- as with any students, not all Native American children learn in exactly the same way -- there are several ways in which we work with Native American students specifically," Sally said. "For example, the wait time -- the time from when a teacher asks a question and then calls on someone to answer that question -- must be longer. In the United States, the average wait time is three seconds. When you look at a class of students, most often you’ll see the non-Native American -- mostly Caucasian -- children raising their hands quickly. Traditionally, most Native American students are taught that words are precious and you can never take them back, so they learn to take time to think carefully about what it is they’re going to say. And by the time a Native American student does that, the question’s been answered and the class has moved on to other questions."

"If teachers are aware of this, they can make everybody wait a little longer before calling on someone, because research shows that if you lengthen wait time, you get much higher quality answers from all students. Students who answer questions as fast as possible have a much higher rate of error than those who wait and think."

Sally, amazingly, completed this project as a volunteer. She did not profit in any way from the development of the curriculum. It is - strictly - a gift from the heart!