Art Teachers Needed

The Chehalis Tribal Cultural Program is looking for community artists to teach traditional art classes for the holidays. Classes can range from basket weaving, bead work, carving, drum making, and hand crafted projects.

If you are interested in teaching a class to community members, please submit a project plan, and a bid to the Heritage and Culture Program at the Resource Center.

NATIVE VOTERS ROCK!

Congratulations to everyone who worked hard on getting so many people to register to vote in this year’s presidential election. The Native vote greatly helped make it a historic day. Awesome effort.

Dynamic Speakers Talk About Traditions, Responsibilities and Diabetes Wellness

About 140 adults and youth attended the community wellness dinner at the Lucky Eagle Casino held on Tuesday, October 22, 2008. The Wellness Center, through SEPI Diabetes Prevention Program, and the Chehalis Youth Program sponsored this event. Keynote speakers were Barbara Mora and Chance Rush.

The two dynamic guest speakers, Chance “Cloud Boy” Rush and Barbara Mora, gave some inspirational messages. Barbara Mora (Paiute/Dine) is a traditional artist and author of *Living Our Belt and Wisdom to Live Full with Diabetes*. Chance Rush opened the evening by sharing his belief that wellness is powerful medicine. He started off by saying, “Our Native people are dying, either by diabetes or suicide! We need to do our part in stopping these tragedies!”

He continued by saying, “There is saying that our youth are our future. That’s wrong. They’re not our future. They’re right now! Parents, talk with your children about their problems. Have ownership of who you are, and share with them the important things.”

Barbara Mora shared her life story, and her personal experience with type 2 diabetes — “She is a quiet and very sincere individual. She reminds you of someone who talks in a whisper, and to hear them, you have to move a little closer to listen to what they’re saying.” Barbara was diagnosed with diabetes twelve years ago. Since that time, she has come to use her traditional beliefs and practices to live well with diabetes.

When asked why she does this, she said, “I was tired of watching three generations dying from diabetes. My family told me”

See Dynamic Speakers, page 4

Tribal Election Draws Largest Voting Turnout

By Fred Shortman, Editor

At the Annual Meeting on Saturday, September 6, excitement was in the air awaiting the results of the Business Committee elections. It was the largest voting turnout ever recorded in tribal history with 338 tribal members. 239 tribal members crowded the Youth Center and listened to Enterprise Directors and General Managers present their reports regarding our tribal investments.

Polls opened on 8 am and the annual meeting started at 10 am and lasted until 7 pm. Our Events Coordinator had the casino provided lunch and dinner.

The Elders held a delicious bake sale and a fifty-fifty raffle during the meeting. Congratulations to Dianne DeVlin for winning the raffle.

Enterprise Report

David Youckton, Enterprise Director, discussed the hotel, Saxas, and the Chehalis Tribal Construction Company.

The first Chehalis Tribal 2009 Calendars were given out. They were very impressive and all the proceeds from selling the calendars will go to next year’s calendars.

Lucky Eagle Casino Reports

John Settsrenston, General Manager gave a report on the Lucky Eagle Casino. It was a great power point presentation on past year’s calendar. Since that time, amazing what hard candy and a football can do to make 100 plus troops happy.

Rick Spence delivered a nice speech on his life experience and coping with life after his time in the services.

When asked why she does this, she said, “She loves to plant both vegetable and flower gardens, 3

Many Show Respect to Veterans

By Fred Shortman, Editor

Veterans Day originally was formalized by Armistice Day back in 1958 to honor the WWII veterans. Citizens felt that all the veterans of all the wars should be recognized. In 1954 Congress changed the name from Armistice Day to Veterans Day. In America, the holiday is celebrated for approximate 2.9 million US veterans with parades and ceremonies throughout the country.

On November 12, the 7th Annual Veterans Appreciation Day Dinner was held at the Lucky Eagle Casino Events Center. It was an awesome turnout honoring all the veterans with over 500 people showing up.

The theme for this annual event was MEA-POW. Each speaker was given a gift of a coastal Salish sash and a Pendleton blanket. The featured speaker was Tom Cat Nelson who was a POW in WWII. He was a POW in Japan as well as survivor of the invasion of Pearl Harbor.

Another featured speaker was Christopher Seymore who was in Iraq for two terms. He is married to a Chehalis tribal member, Shayla (Youckton).

He spoke about his experiences and remembered receiving care packages sent to him and his platoon. He said it is amazing what hard candy and a football can do to make 100 plus troops happy.

Rick Spence delivered a nice speech on his life experience and coping with life after his time in the services.

Joe Begay, Navajo, who was in the Special Forces, talked about his life experiences and education, and how he was selected to be an actor in the movies. He never talked about his time in the service until his daughter found a picture of him in his uniform. As a Native American he’s proud to have served his country. This was something special for all of those veterans who attended. The Intertribal Warrior Society started the event by bringing in the flag. This volunteer group has two waving.

See Veterans, page 4

Youth Encouraged to Become Weavers at Conference Held at Ocean Shores

By Fred Shortman, Editor

Youth, adults and Elders attend Basket Weavers Conference to share and learn different weaving styles, 2

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See Veterans, page 4

Youth Encouraged to Become Weavers at Conference Held at Ocean Shores

Youth, adults and Elders attend Basket Weavers Conference to share and learn different weaving styles, 2
By Cindy Gamble, Health Services Director

Over 200 Learn About Health at Annual Tribal Fair

The recent Health Fair held at the Lucky Eagle Casino was a great success with over 200 people participating. There were over 43 vendors providing information ranging from language and culture, to face painting, dental by gene, and checking blood pressure and cholesterol levels. The Diabetes Prevention Program conducted 48 blood sugar tests with a finger stick, and the CTWC staff had over 30 participants who had their blood fats tested. Participants learned what their cholesterol, HDL, and triglyceride levels were. We had a fabulous lunch catered by the Lucky Eagle Casino. Jana Peters was in charge of that and did a wonderful job of organizing the lunch and setting up the entire event with the tables and chairs. Masi! Thank you Janu! The health fair planning committee was made up of Cheryle Starr, Cindy Gamble, and Orinda Goddard. Orinda shouldered the majority of the organization. She did her best and continued ensuring that the entire health fair ran smoothly. Masi! Thank you Orinda!

Thank you to the Chehalis Tribal Health Center and other tribal employees who supported the health fair by participating as vendors and/or as participants. We could not have done it without you! We want to especially thank all of our community members who took time to come and visit the health fair. This fair is all about you, and we are so glad you attended. Masi! See you next year.

By Diana Devlin, Cultural Coordinator

Many Generations Learn Basket Weaving at NNABA Conference

Elders are happy to share, and youth are eager to learn traditional weaving

On October 2-5, thirty-seven Chehalis tribal families attended the 14th Annual Northwest Native American Basket Association (NNABA) convention hosted at Ocean Shores Quinault Casino.

NNABA was founded in 1996 and provides opportunities for weavers to study basketry and showcase their work. Basketry also provides a healthy social, cultural, spiritual, and economic environment for indigenous basketry. NNABA works to ensure access to traditional cultural resources, gathering sites, educates Native Americans, and the general public of the artistry, practices, and concern of basketry. The organization also provides opportunities for Native youth to learn and creates markets that allow weavers to increase their income and artistry in basketry.

Our traditions are maintained in a cultural and spiritual environment for all weavers to enjoy and carried on with respect for our Elders, and for Mother Earth.

Basket weaving is one of the most important cultural artistic expressions of Native Americans. Despite pressures to abandon our heritage, it remains an integral and important element of tribal identity. Through the persistence and patience of a few Elders and other teachers across the region, the art is being preserved.

Friday, October 3, kicked off the weaving classes. Wall-to-wall tables were set up in the casino’s banquet hall to serve the participants. Various types of weaving classes, from beginner to master classes, were offered. Tables with floating balloons attached to them signaled that “Youth Weave Classes” were being offered. Quinault had received a grant assisting tribal youth to receive free classes for the first day of the conference. Our youth were excited to work with teachers who shared their many experiences.

Sasha Starr helps her daughter, Alexis (age 2), make a basket while her cousin, Gordon Klatush (age 14, foreground), works on his basket.

The newly-hired Cultural Coordinator, Diana Devlin, and Heritage Coordinator, Elaine McCloody, dedicated their time insuring everyone attending the conference was taken care of, from pre-registration, to having a place to stay. The Chehalis Tribe’s Heritage, and Culture Programs are proud to have had one of the best representations of youth weavers, beginning weavers and experienced weavers at the conference, with 57 adults and 55 children attending. Nancy Romero, Elders’ Coordinator, took 53 Elders to the weaving conference. Yvonne Peterson and Katherine Barr were featured weavers at the conference.

Adults attending the weavers gathering agreed to donate one handmade item to the Heritage and Culture Program in exchange for being sponsored by our program. Please remember to get those donated items back to us soon and maintain your eligibility for the next NNABA Conference.

The following evening, a banquet was held for NNABA members. At the dinner NNABA business was presented to its members. The Chehalis Tribe, represented by Diana Devlin, Cultural Coordinator, Elaine McCloody, Heritage Coordinator, and Dan Penning, Language Coordinator, presented NNABA with $5,000 contribution check from the tribe in support of NNABA’s long-standing cultural preservation efforts of Native basketry. A proposal was submitted by Cheryle Starr, Chehalis Tribe Events Coordinator.

By Fred Shortman, Editor

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Check Out Upcoming Events at the Great Wolf Lodge

Thanksgiving – November 27
Santa’s Arrival and Tere Lighting – November 29
Santa and 4 elves will be skydiving into the south end dirt parking lot - 2 pm. 2:30 to 5:00 Santa will be greeting guests until lighting of the tree.

Great Winter Escape and Santa Visits 6 pm - 8 pm in the Grand Lobby on December 5, 6, 12, 13, 19, 21, 22, and 23.

Music Performances, December 5
Chehalis Girl Scout Carolers, 6:30 pm - 7:00 pm
Toledo High School Musical performance 7:00 pm - 8:00 pm

Business Committee
David Beech, Chairman
Dan Zona, Vice Chairman
Dwain Goddard, Secretary
Cheryle Starr, Treasurer
Dan Gibson Sr, 5th Council Member

Chehalis Tribal Newsletter Staff:
Fred Shortman, Communications Coordinator

The Confederated Tribes of the Chehalis Reservation..."People of the Sand."
Many Generations Learn Basket Weaving at NNABA Conference

Honoring our Elders:

My name is Dianne Devlin; I am the new Cultural Coordinator. My grandmother was Gerrie Parsons; my mother was one of six sisters from the Bent family line. I have eight brothers and three sisters. If any family lives off the reservation, except my Sister Sally Pikutark and Terry Devlin, I have grown children, Lance, and Stefanie and one grandson, Tyron.

I grew up here and watched the many changes our tribe has gone through to make our dreams come true and make a better way for our children. In doing so, we have always known that we must never forget our traditional ways and to be proud of who we are. I will be working with Native art form this community and Salish communities around the area to preserve and mentor our traditions. I will also be working with Dan Penn on cultural classes for the Language Program and Elaine McCloud on cultural classes for the Heritage Program. I am very proud to be a part of a great program and working with good people.

The Heritage, Culture and Language Programs are located in the old dental office. Stop by or contact by 709-1621.

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In October 2008, more than 50 Elders traveled to Maui, Hawaii for vacation. This is the Chehalis group enjoying a luau at the Royal Lahuna Resort.

Ida Marie Rosander, 85, Parents Stephen Jack-Johanna Comenoute; Grandparents, George Jack and Lucy Heck; Annie Charley and Amos Comenoute; 1 sister, 3 daughters, and 6 grandchildren.

Ida was married three times: first husband was Clyde Calvin Beckwith; second marriage was to Lyle Secena; and the third lasted 50 years to Leonard Rosander who passed away in 2003.

Ida Rosander grew up on the Chalisa Reservation in her parent’s house on Howanut near Anderson Road. Howanut Road wasn’t the official name back then—it was known by a route number. She remembers helping prepare the family dinners. They had some big feasts. Her best friends were Pearl Sanders and Irene Secena. They would hang out at the Sanders house that was located between what is now Purcell’s and Hamilton’s on Howanut Road. There’s a gravel road still there that goes to the river.

Ida and her friends enjoyed all other’s company and did everything together. They rode horses on the property. They joined the Oakville 4-H Club while in school, where they learned how to embroider. They also played softball in the field at Pearl’s house. It was decided to let her run the bases, because she wasn’t a very good hitter. They learned how to weave baskets, but Ida said hers were not up to her standards, so she gave it up. Presently, she’s starting up again, and her skills as a weaver are improving.

After the reservation boarding school was closed down, they had to attend Oakville public schools. She remembers Hattie Hayden (Pikutark) telling her stories about when the Indians first attended school there, they were called names and weren’t treated very nice. She commented, “They must have gotten used to the Indians when I finally started going, because I can’t remember it being as bad as she had told me.”

As Ida was growing up, the tribal meetings were held in an old school house. She remembers it never getting very warm during the winter months, because of the broken windows. They were held monthly on the first Tuesdays of the month. Following the potluck dinner style, everyone attending the meeting was encouraged to bring a dish to be shared.

Ida was married three times throughout her life. The first was to Clyde Calvin Beckwith, and she had one daughter with him. Her second marriage to Lyle Secena lasted didn’t last very long. Her third marriage was to Leonard Rosander, which lasted for 50 years before he passed away in April 2003. She had two daughters with Leonard who have since passed away.

Ida and Leonard had a home on Howanut Road and in Taholah. It is no longer there, having been destroyed by a fire archeage.

She remembers when they decided to build a new home on Howanut Road. Clarence Youckton asked what they were going to do with the old house. They were taking a road trip to visit family in California, and told Clarence that if he could move it before they returned he could have it. He was able to drag it over to where he was going to do with the old house. They were taking a road trip to visit family in California, and told Clarence that if he could move it before they returned he could have it. He was able to drag it over to where he was going to do with the old house. They were taking a road trip to visit family in California, and told Clarence that if he could move it before they returned he could have it. He was able to drag it over to where he was going to do with the old house. They were taking a road trip to visit family in California, and told Clarence that if he could move it before they returned he could have it. He was able to drag it over to where he was going to do with the old house. They were taking a road trip to visit family in California, and told Clarence that if he could move it before they returned he could have it. He was able to drag it over to where he was going to do with the old house. They were taking a road trip to visit family in California, and told Clarence that if he could move it before they returned he could have it. He was able to drag it over to where...
Barbara and Macha Rose Bush both spoke of the importance of wellness for the future of the Native people and the need for all these events to keep going. She also said, "I believe we need to keep going. She also said, "I believe we need to keep doing things that help us stay healthy and happy."

Bob and Barbara Mora treated the audience to story telling, flute playing and singing. Copies of Barbara’s book “Using Our Wit and Wisdom to Live Well with diabetes” are available at the Wellness Center.

Kevin Albert, Tribe Member and Chehalis Tribal Construction employee, works on the water line project along 18th Avenue SW. The entire project was done by this Chehalis tribal enterprise.

If you have any questions please contact: Cheryl Kent, Events Coordinator (360) 273-2824

1. What is the purpose of the Chehalis Tribal Community Christmas Dinner?
2. Who are some of the keynote speakers at the Annual Meeting?
3. What is the goal of the Veterans Honored event?
4. What steps are being taken to ensure the safety of visitors at the Pacific Northwest Natural Gas?
5. What is the focus of the annual meeting?

1. The purpose of the Chehalis Tribal Community Christmas Dinner is to celebrate the holiday season and provide a space for community members to come together and enjoy a festive meal. It features a variety of guest speakers and performances, including a presentation on traditional healing by Dr. Rita Blumenstein, and a panel discussion on diabetes prevention and treatment by representatives from the Washington State Diabetes and Nutrition Agency.

2. Some of the keynote speakers at the Annual Meeting include Dr. John Lee, a renowned authority on traditional Chinese medicine and alternative healing practices, and Dr. Margaret Anderson, a local expert on indigenous health and wellness. The meeting also features presentations on a range of topics, including the history and cultural significance of the Chehalis tribe, as well as updates on current events and initiatives in the community.

3. The goal of the Veterans Honored event is to pay tribute to the service and sacrifice of veterans, honor their contributions to their country and to the community, and provide an opportunity for current and former military personnel to connect with one another. The event features a variety of speakers and performances, including a keynote address by a local military veteran, as well as a musical performance by a local band. Attendees are encouraged to bring their flags and wear their veteran pride.

4. To ensure the safety of visitors at the Pacific Northwest Natural Gas, the company is implementing a range of measures, including the installation of additional security cameras, the deployment of additional security personnel, and the implementation of stronger access control procedures. The company is also working with local law enforcement agencies to share information and coordinate efforts to prevent and respond to incidents.

5. The focus of the annual meeting is to provide an update on the current state of the Chehalis tribe, including updates on the tribe’s financial health, community development initiatives, and other matters of interest to tribal members. The meeting also features opportunities for tribal members to provide input and feedback on proposed initiatives, as well as an open forum for questions and discussion.