

April 2009

Vol.  
2/4

# Program News

## Many Ways for Youth and Families to Avoid Substance Abuse

By Lorrie Bonifer, Family Services, Prevention Specialist

There are exciting activities offered in April and May to help youth and families prevent drug and alcohol abuse. Please join us:

■ **Every Thursday, starting April 16:**

*Drug and Alcohol Prevention Youth Group*, 4 - 5 pm at the Resource Center.

■ **April 29 and 30: Drug and Alcohol Substance Abuse (DASA) Youth**

*Leadership Conference*, 8 am – 6:15 pm, Great Wolf Lodge. We have a group of youth who will give a presentation on the Choice and Consequence Event that was held at the Youth Center on March 11. If they win, they will earn scholarships to go to CADCA in Washington, DC, in 2010.

■ **May 25: Community Garden Project meeting**, starting at 10 am, at the Youth Center. Lunch will be provided.

■ **The Prevention Program** is looking for people to name the youth group and submit art representing our youth preventing drug and alcohol use. There will be two \$100 prizes awarded, one for naming our group, and one for the art which will be used on flyers and posters. Winners will be announced on May 29. Submit your art or name to Lorrie Bonifer, Prevention Coordinator, at [Lbonifer@chehalistribe.org](mailto:Lbonifer@chehalistribe.org) or call 360-709-1717. All entries must be submitted no later than May 12 at 12 noon.

## Program Available to Assist Graduating Seniors

By JJ Shortman, TELO Coordinator

Attention all Chehalis tribal and community members! It's that time again, our high school seniors are starting to catch "senioritis" as they prepare to escape the rigors of high school. As most of you know, the Chehalis Tribe celebrates our graduating seniors with a dinner and recognition ceremony. We also have funds in place to help with anything your senior might require to make the culmination of the last thirteen years of hard work complete.

If you are aware of any community or tribal member getting ready to graduate, please contact our office to get a questionnaire. We will need their name and the schools they attend to find out if they will be graduating on time.

Also a bit of other news: We have hired two new gifted employees - Jason Gillie and Anna Teague - and our staff is at full capacity. They will allow the After-School Program to stay open until 6 pm, Monday through Friday. For more information, call JJ, Tawni, Jason or Anna at 709-1888.

## Workers Wanted for Spring Clean Up

Six clean-up laborers/helpers are needed for a project at \$10 per hour, not to exceed 60 hours for a April 22-29 clean-up project. Drug testing, heavy lifting will be required.

If you are interested, contact Human Resource Department at 360-273-5911.

# CHEHALIS TRIBAL NEWSLETTER



♦ "People of the Sands" ♦

## Honoring Helen Elders: Sanders



■ She commits her time and energy to the Allottee's Association, page 3



## Red Cedar Hat Club Strives to Pass On Traditional Weaving

■ Elders, youth, and adults work together on weaving projects to share and learn together, page 2



Farley Youckton and his wife Dinell, Deanna Eldridge, and John and Erica Lewis pause for a photo as they arrive by limousine. It is a tradition for Awards Ceremony nominees and attendees to dress in formal attire.

Photo by Stephanie Pickernell

## Lucky Eagle Awards Recognize, Set High Standards for Employees

By Mae Wheelwright, Human Resources Director, Lucky Eagle Casino

On Tuesday, March 24, the Lucky Eagle Casino held its 13th Annual *Associate of the Year* Banquet at Great Wolf Lodge. The Casino is committed to recognizing the associate's contributions which help make our business successful and our workplace more inviting. Front line associates are the face of Lucky Eagle Casino, and they provide our guests with "a more rewarding experience." These individuals possess unique skills and talents which help set Lucky Eagle Casino apart from other casinos in a highly competitive arena.

This special recognition dinner is one way the casino rewards those who have provided outstanding guest service. An excellent meal, entertainment, and manager presentations set the stage for the evening.

The casino believes this helps to strengthen relationships and builds a family atmosphere at the casino. Other recognition programs that continue to encourage associates to strive towards better customer service are "Catch a Rising Star," "Stars on Parade," and "Soaring Service." These programs help build strong morale, and a culture where associates feel recognized for their hard work.

In order to receive the prestigious honor of Associate of the Year, several selection criteria and high standards must be met. Each year, through a lengthy selection process, the Associate of the Month Committee works hard to narrow down the selection to just one candidate from a field of 12 top-notch Associates of the Month.

See Recognition, page 4

## Tribal Community Provides Opinions and Direction

By Sarra Burnett-Lisle, Administrative Assistant, Planning Department

On Tuesday, February 24, the Community Assessment and Bingo Night was held to gather our friends and family to get their opinions on many of the tribe's departments. We wanted to know how we could better serve this community, making it a more fun, educated, and safer place to be.

Our survey results have been tabulated, and the information we received was very helpful, giving us many ideas to improve the Chehalis Reservation. A total of 187 people filled out the surveys; 127 women and 60 men. There were 116 Chehalis tribal members who filled out the survey, the other 71 were a combination of non-tribal members and others who are affiliated with other tribes.

We've found that many of you are satisfied with the Chehalis Tribal Wellness Center and the services they are offering. Suggestions show that top priorities for new services are massage therapy and a pharmacy. Also worth noting, the top class that you would like to see offered is weight control. We also see a need for parenting classes, men's health, and support groups. You would like to see some wellness classes -- strength and conditioning, aerobics classes and kick boxing. Be sure to let your health care provider know if you are interested in any of these classes, so they see the real interest around the community!

There is also a real interest to learn more about our tribal culture and heritage. Over half of the community is interested in taking Chehalis language classes, wood carving classes, basket weaving, drum making, and other cultural classes. The language

See Survey, page 4

## Mexican Food Restaurant Opens at End of the Trail II Convenience Store

By Fred Shortman, Editor

Enterprise Director David Youckton's annual meeting report last November noted that the quick service restaurant serving chicken at the EOT II was consistently losing money each year. Cost reduction measures by management helped somewhat, but the restaurant was still operating at a loss. It closed a few weeks ago.

A new fast food Mexican-style restaurant called MexiGo opened on March 31. The kitchen and serving areas were thoroughly cleaned and restored to a new attractive finish. The restaurant is in the convenience store, but separate from EOT operations. Carolyn Sloppy is supervising the restaurant.

The menu, similar to a Taco Bell franchise, includes a selection of tacos, burritos, gorditas, nachos and salads. The items are value-priced from \$1.09 to \$4.99. Hours are 9 am to 7 pm, seven days a week. So come on in, say hello, and order a burrito to go!



Patricia Gitchell receives her lunch from Manager Carolyn Sloppy at the soft opening of the new MexiGo Mexican Restaurant located inside the EOT II.

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## 2 Master Weavers Make Generous Offer to Tribal Community: “Let Us Share Our Skills With You”

Red Cedar Hat Club members recently made Easter baskets during their weekly meeting in the Resource Center.



By Diane Devlin, Heritage Coordinator

A group of Elders who call themselves “The Red Cedar Hat Club” based loosely after the Red Hat Club, enjoy sharing basket weaving techniques, new patterns or styles, but mostly they just like to visit with each other and have fun. Originally, the Red Cedar Hat Club gathered every Thursday from 11 am–3 pm in the Resource Center. The club has grown since its beginning. The gathering has been rescheduled to accommodate the needs of the community, for every Thursday evening from 4-7 pm at the Tribal Center.

The atmosphere is relaxing, as everyone enjoys each other’s company laughing, sharing memories, and working on different projects together. Someone might bring in a basket they want to finish. There is lots of sharing and trading materials with each other to assist in finishing a project.

The Heritage and Culture Programs are working with Marie Griswold who volunteers to share her weaving skills with community members. Each Thursday, she brings her own materials and offers her Master Weaving skills for

free to all who attend.

The Red Cedar Hat Club members believe in giving back to the community, preserving a traditional art that will last for generations when freely given, sharing materials, different techniques, special projects, and knowledge of what they have learned from other Master Weavers. Yes, the class is free. Make no mistake, if you want to become a weaver, you’ll need to learn all the hard work it takes to accomplish this.

The weavers are available to answer questions you might have in assisting you on the journey to become a basket weaver, all the while, teaching you how to gather and care for your own weaving materials.

The table is open to anyone who wants to stop in and bring a weaving project they need help with, or join a project the Red Cedar Hat Club is doing. They wish to express to the community that they enjoy helping anyone who comes to the weavers gathering, and it is open to all ages. So come and sit, learn and enjoy this weaver’s gathering.

## Baby Board Class has Never Faded from Native Traditions

For two weekends during March, 20 tribal members gathered at the Tribal Center for a two-day workshop to make baby boards. Trudy Marcellay volunteered her time and skill at making baby cradle boards and offered to teach the classes for free. The Heritage & Culture Program paid for the materials to make the baby boards.

Two types of baby boards were taught during the classes. The Colville baby cradle board, noted for the round top, was offered to 10 people on March 14 and 15. The second type of baby board was the Yakima baby cradle board taught on March 28 and 29 to ten more tribal community members.

Baby boards have never really faded from the Native American traditions of raising babies. To this day you will still find baby boards

made or passed down from grandmother to Jodie Smith made a Yakima baby board in a class taught by Trudy Marcellay.



daughter to granddaughter. Each tribe had a different style of baby board. The board was used to protect and discipline the child. Cradle baby boards had a hoop that attached to the board and looped over the head of the baby for further protection, should the board be dropped. Mothers would often bead colors around the hoop and dangle rattle, shells, or bones with beads for the baby to play with. There was no limit to how much a board could be embellished, with some being entirely beaded.

Babies would usually need more than one board. As they grew the first baby board, a larger board was made for the baby. If anyone is interested in seeing the finished baby boards, stop by and see a picture of the proud artists with their baby boards made on display at the Heritage and Culture Program office.

## Wellness Center Now Provides On-site X-rays

By Cindy Gamble, Wellness Center Director

The Chehalis Tribal Wellness Center is proud to announce the arrival of a new X-ray machine and digital processor. The machine is installed and staff is being trained.

When a Wellness Center provider orders an X-ray, a nursing or medical assistant staff member will bring the patient to the imaging room for the X-ray. The X-ray is processed on-site and the provider can look at it almost immediately. The image is then sent to South Sound Radiology where it is reviewed by a radiologist. On-site X-rays will improve our providers’ ability to make a prompt diagnosis and communicate more closely and quickly with our patients.

For CHS eligible patients, the radiology

bill is covered as long as there are IHS CHS funds available. For direct care and self-pay patients, South Sound Radiology will bill your insurance and you for your portion. The Wellness Center will bill for taking the X-ray. For self-pay patients without resources, they will be responsible for paying the Wellness Center and South Sound Radiology in advance.

We feel having on-site X-rays is a great addition to the Wellness Center. Making it more convenient to patients, and a quick and useful diagnostic tool for providers. We thank the tribal leadership and other departments such as Accounting, Planning, and IT in assisting in making this a reality!

## Tribe’s Great Wolf Lodge Receives Thurston County’s Best New Enterprise Award

By Fred Shortman, Editor

The Great Wolf Lodge was selected as the *Best New Business* of 2009, one of four organizations that received an award from Thurston County’s Economic Development Council. The Great Wolf was one of 12 businesses considered. To qualify each had to meet certain criteria, including having an economic impact within the region.

Things that set the Great Wolf apart included community support and interaction, and how they promoted jobs and anchored the growth of Grand Mound. Also noted was the Lodge’s generosity to the community, and its record of helping non-profit organizations. They also received recognition for partnering with Big Brothers and Big Sisters and United Way.

In addition to winning the award, the Great Wolf Lodge hosted the EDC’s annual meeting and business recognition awards ceremony. About 250 people attended the event. The keynote speaker was Roy Heynderickx, the new president of Saint Martin’s University.

The focus though, was on the award winners, starting with the Lodge, which

opened a year ago. “This is a huge honor. We accept this award on behalf of all 600 pack members and the Chehalis Tribe.” Lodge General Manager Derrek Kinzel said. “We greatly appreciate this.”

Twelve businesses were nominated for awards, and the winners were selected by a six-person committee, including Michael Motte, Chief Executive of Capital Medical Center and John Setterstrom, General Manager of the Lucky Eagle Casino.

“All the winners received high marks for the way they conduct business, by promoting the county’s quality of life,” John Setterstrom said. “I’m pleased to see the Great Wolf Lodge receive this high honor and recognition. As a business leader it is an honor to work for the Chehalis Tribe and this community. It’s exciting to assist and watch the tribe’s economic growth as they continue to strengthen themselves and the communities around them.”

On a special note at this EDC’s Annual meeting the Lucky Eagle Casino was recognized as one of the top 3 candidates for Top Corporate Business Award.

## Try Controlling the Size of Your Food Portions. It Could Be Your Key to Weight Loss

By Cindy Beck, ND, Program Coordinator SDPI

Cookies as big as frisbees. Muffins the size of flower pots, bowls of pasta so deep, your fork can barely find the bottom. One reason people’s waistlines have expanded over the past few decades is because food portions have too. People today eat way more than they used to, and way more than they need to. This means that we’re constantly taking in more calories than our bodies can burn. Unfortunately, lots of us don’t realize that we’re eating too much because we’ve become so used to seeing (and eating!) large portions.

Portion sizes began to increase in the 1980s and have been ballooning ever since. Take bagels, for example: 20 years ago, the average bagel had a 3-inch diameter and 140 calories. Today, bagels have a 6-inch diameter and 350 calories. One bagel that size actually contains half a person’s recommended number of grain servings *for an entire day!*

Take this quiz to determine your portion control prowess:

1. Your “portion” of food should be the amount listed as a “serving” on the Nutrition Facts label.  
A. yes B. no C. it depends
2. A 2-tablespoon serving of peanut butter is roughly equal in size to:  
A. a pair of dice B. a ping pong ball C. your pinky finger
3. Twenty years ago an average serving of movie theatre popcorn was five cups. Today it’s:  
A. 6 cups B. 9 cups C. 11 cups
4. How many chips do you think people eat, on average, from a 170-gram bag versus a 85-gram bag?  
A. up to 50% more B. up to 25 % More C. up to 40% more
5. True or False-People eat about the same volume of food each day

### Answers

1.C - it depends. A serving size listed on the Nutrition Facts label is a standardized amount of food determined by the FDA, so consumers can compare calories and nutrients among brands. It’s not necessarily a recommended portion.

- 2.B - ping pong ball. Although peanut butter packs a wallop of fat [16 grams] and calories [190], it provides nutrient-rich calories and half the fat is nutritious mono-unsaturated fats.
3. C - 11 cups. What used to be a reasonable treat, providing 270 calories, now weighs in at 630 calories. And that’s not even the biggest; some buckets hold 16 cups of corn. If you add “butter topping” it can total 1500 calories! Skip the extra butter, and buy a small or medium to share.
4. C - up to 40% more. Researchers on five different occasions gave men and women an afternoon snack of potato chips that were packaged in bags that looked the same except that they progressively increased in size (from 28 grams to 170 grams). For both men and women, the snack intake increased significantly as the package size increased. From the 170-gram bag, women ate 18% more and men 37% more than when served the 85-gram bag.
- 5.TRUE. Penn State researchers have found that people don’t rely on a calorie level to know when they’re full; they eat until they’ve reached a certain volume of food.

## Chehalis Tribal Newsletter



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Articles and opinions expressed in this publication are not necessarily the opinions of this publication or the Chehalis Tribal Business Committee.

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Contributing writers, artists, and photographers include Chehalis tribal community members and staff.

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The Confederated Tribes of the Chehalis Reservation...

“People of the Sands”





# Honoring our Elders: Helen Sanders

**“...is committed to help protect all tribes involved in trust land issues.”**

Helen Sanders was born in December 1927 to Daisy Ford and George Sanders. Her grandparents, on her mother’s side, were Josephine “Quisah” and Sidney Ford Jr; on her father’s side were Lucy Quapaw and Jim Sanders. She had nine siblings; Lenora, Jim, Sid, Andy, Will, Pearl, Ruby, Helen, and an infant who died at birth. Helen was married three times to Roy Secena, Alston “Bud” Mitchell and Gerald Kirshling. While married to Roy Secena, the couple had one daughter, Susan Secena-Sanders. Helen has three grandchildren and two great-grandchildren.



Helen loves spending time with her great-grandchildren. She is pictured here with the 15 month old twins (L) Morgan and (R) Tristan Hanna enjoying Easter together.

Helen was born and raised in her family’s home on Howanut Road next to Black River where she presently lives. Like the rest of the families at that time, they had horses, cows, chickens and a large vegetable garden. She considered herself a tom boy and preferred working outdoors helping her father mend fences or cut wood. Her sister Pearl did the house chores.

Her dad fished on the Black River by the house, and farther down the Chehalis River. She remembers sitting in the front of the dugout canoe while he used a long pole to guide them to his fishing grounds, “the old channel,” on the Chehalis River. The fish helped supplement their income. Some of it was smoked and canned and eaten for months.

Her father worked for the Shaffer Brothers Logging Company. He used an old misery whip (two handled saw) falling and bucking timber. The company logged on the hills south of the reservation. Her father got up early in the morning, milked the cows, then left the milk for a Darigold milk truck to pick up as he caught the “crummy” in front of the house to go to work.

It was the Great Depression, so Helen’s brothers Jim and Sid went to work for the CC Camps. These were forestry jobs that were given to teenagers and young men to help them learn trades and earn money. Because the older brothers were away working, Helen grew up with Andy, Will, Pearl, and Ruby. Her brothers and sister Pearl graduated from Oakville High School. Ruby wasn’t able to graduate, because she ended up in Tacoma’s Cushman Hospital with TB. She was able to survive the disease and married after being released.

Helen’s mother was a huge influence in her life. She remembers watching her sitting in her rocking chair while singing Indian songs and making baskets. During the Depression, women would bring clothing to their home and trade for baskets. Her mother would take the clothing apart to make cloths for her children. She knew the

value of her baskets and made a good trade. Helen remembers the big Sunday dinners her mom prepared. She would invite Uncle Ben Sanders’ family over, including Oliver “Ferpo” and Grover. The sisters, Lillian and Violet, didn’t come over very often, because they were busy at home. After dinner, the boys would sit and play cribbage.

On Sunday mornings their family attended church at the Oakville Methodist Church. After the services they went to the little tribal center and attended church there too. The parents and the children together would play games outside. They liked to play Antie-I-Over with the other children. It was fun for all.

While in school Helen played basketball and baseball with Pauline Klatush and Bernice Secena. Due to the Depression, the school didn’t travel to play other schools. Two close-by teams were picked, and everyone enjoyed the games.

Helen lost several of her brothers and a sister to tuberculosis. Back then, many people died from TB. Her sister Pearl died from it while at business school in Tacoma in her early twenties. Her brother Andy was attending WSU and died at age 21. Her uncle Ben Sanders had TB, and her mother took care of him. This might have been what exposed and infected a lot of her family.

After graduating from Oakville High School, Helen continued helping her mother around the home. She remembered her brother Will long ago mentioning that, “Things aren’t right,” in the reservation logging industry. This memory fueled Helen’s desire to help out and make a difference for Indian people. In 1968 she became a dedicated member of the Allottee’s Association. This organization was set up to protect individuals from poor management practices of the BIA.

Helen recalls feeling frustrated with BIA land management practices, so she took out a large loan to start purchasing land allotments to help reduce the policy

of termination of reservation land. The allottee’s also worked to secure a better price for their forest products. The Association filed a law suit against the Department of the Interior (BIA) for mismanagement of the forest resources on the Quinault Reservation. A major decision by the US Supreme Court spelled out clearly the trust responsibility of the government to the allottees.

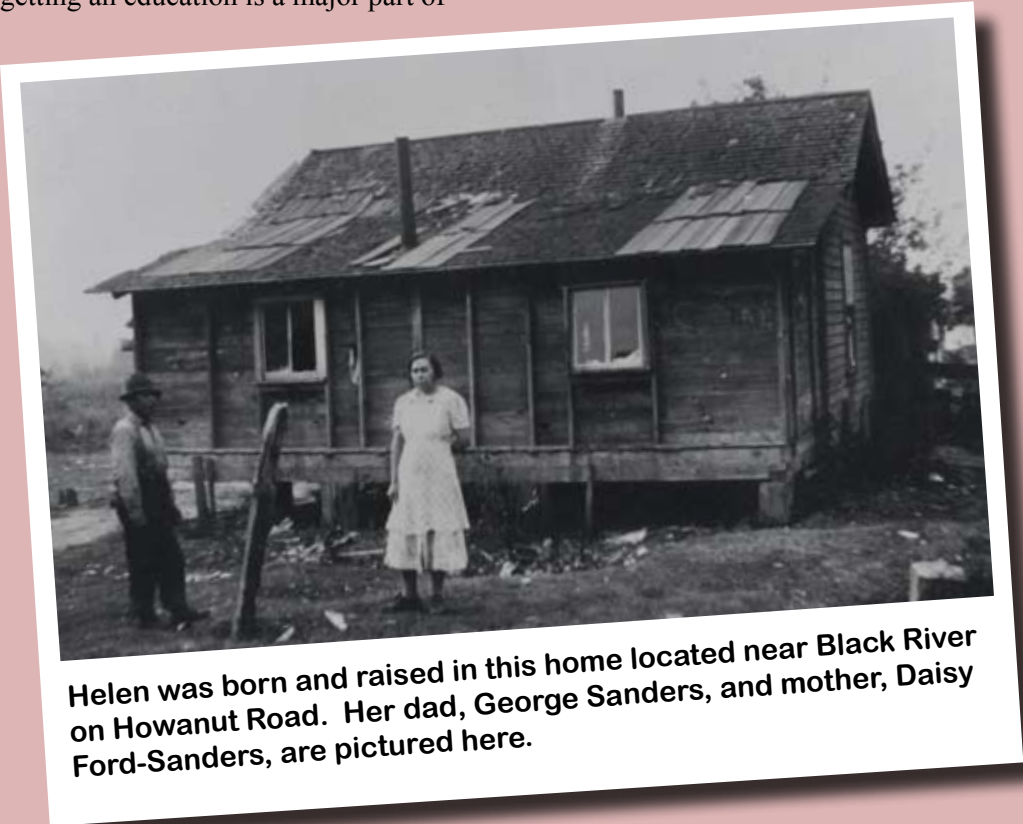
Helen remains committed to protecting allottee’s trust land. Her mission is to educate allottees on BIA policies and procedures and inform them of how other tribes are effectively working with the BIA.

Helen enjoys working in her garden and taking care of her yard. She doesn’t go fishing like she used to but says, “There is nothing like hooking that big Chinook.” She still goes ocean fishing out of West Port.

Helen is a dedicated mother, grandmother and great-grandmother. She is known for encouraging the family’s youngsters to pursue higher education, telling them that getting an education is a major part of

being successful in life. She also advises, “Don’t forget where you come from. Always remember your Native side.”

Helen’s name was on the Quinault tribal enrollment for a number of years. She said, “The reason that I didn’t change to Chehalis earlier was I was working to see if we could get representation for all the tribes which the Quinault Reservation was created. This includes the Chehalis member that had allotments on the Quinault Reservation, as well as other tribes instead of only those on the Quinault rolls.” She says making the decision to become a Chehalis tribal member a year and half ago was an easy one. She continued, “Having lived on the Chehalis Reservation most of my life, I came back to where I should have been all along.”



Helen was born and raised in this home located near Black River on Howanut Road. Her dad, George Sanders, and mother, Daisy Ford-Sanders, are pictured here.

## Tribal Staff Profiles: Water Resources Technician and Diabetes Prevention Director

My name is Harry Pickernell. I am a Chehalis tribal member. I work in the Water Resources Division of the Department of Natural Resources.

I have been married to my lovely wife Stephanie (Bray), for 17 years. We are the proud parents of two awesome boys, Ty and Harry, Jr. I am the sixth child of seven born to Gerald, Sr., and Lorilee (Youckton). I have three brothers and three sisters. My dad is the son of William and Rose Pickernell and was the minister for the Oakville Shaker Church before his passing in 1994. My mom is the daughter of Clarence and Jessie Youckton, and currently resides in Nisqually with my sister.

I was born in McCleary, Washington, and lived in Oakville until first grade. While in first grade we moved to Ellensburg so Dad could pursue a bachelor’s degree at Central Washington University. In second grade we moved to Taholah, which sparked my appreciation for nature and its resources. In eighth grade we moved back to Oakville, where I stayed until graduating in 1987. While attending Oakville High, I enjoyed playing and lettering in football and baseball. After graduation I moved to Tempe, Arizona, for one year before returning home for good.

Prior to working for the tribe I held many jobs; banquet set up, grocery stocker, wood cutter, and dish washer, but I had



**Harry Pickernell Sr.,  
Water Resources  
Technician**

yet to establish a career. As luck would have it, in 1994, I attended New Mexico State University and successfully completed a survey training program, and was hired by the tribe as a surveying technician. Initially, it was a blast; blazing and traversing trails, and plotting and setting corners throughout the whole Chehalis Reservation. Upon completion of the reservation-wide survey, there was little work for a surveyor, so I transferred to the Water Resources Division.

During my 15 years of service to the Chehalis Tribe, the Department has accomplished many things that I am proud to be part of. The Tribal Laboratory is certified by the EPA to analyze total coliform in drinking water, and accredited by the WSDOE to analyze fecal coliform and turbidity in surface water. We have developed many great relationships with local agencies, such as EPA, WSDOE, counties and schools. We are currently sampling 95 sites throughout the Chehalis Basin, thanks to a grant from the WSDOE, to get an abstract view of the quality of the waters in the basin. A project of this scale has never been completed, or even attempted, in the past.

My greatest hope is that people will one day realize the importance of healthy waters for healthy living.

Hello, tribal and community members. My name is Pat Odiorne and I am the Director of the SDPI Diabetes Prevention Project. I have been the Registered Dietitian and the Certified Diabetes Educator for the program for the past four years. The new Wellness Center is a great place to work. The tribal and community members here are working hard to educate themselves on diabetes.

I am the eldest of three children and my parents are Margaret and William Cornelus. We grew up on a farm in Newport, Washington, raising milk cows and cattle, chickens, and a large vegetable garden. At harvesting time, we would can most of the produce. Canning and freezing is a hobby of mine.

Being raised on a farm, I continued learning more about food preparation. In high school, I joined the local 4-H Club, entering contests at local fairs.

I attended Washington State University, received a BS degree in Home Economics and Institution Management, then completed my Dietetic Internship in Milwaukee, Wisconsin. After graduation, I moved to Aberdeen, Washington, and worked as the Dietary Director for the Grays Harbor Community Hospital.

I met my husband, Ray Odiorne, while he was stationed in the Navy at the Pacific



**Pat Odiorne, RD, CDE  
Director Diabetes  
Prevention**

Beach Naval Base. We were married in Aberdeen, moved to Dallas, Texas, and had a girl. Ray and I yearned to return to the Washington. Some friends told me about an advertisement for the Dietitian Position with the Chehalis Tribe. This was the opportunity I was looking for, eagerly applied, and was awarded the position.

After 23 years in “Big D” we moved back to the beautiful Northwest. Ray, who is a computer technician, transferred to a Tacoma company. Our daughter, Melissa, met and married a great man, Captain Chris Lilley, stationed presently at Fort Lewis.

I enjoy my position in the prevention of diabetes. It is a preventable and manageable disease. My 25 years in diabetes care has taught me a lot, mainly the old adage, “An ounce of prevention is worth a pound of cure.”

When I’m not at work, it’s nice to be at home working in my flower garden. My favorites are my rose and rhododendron gardens. I also enjoy cooking, entertaining and playing “Texas 42” (dominoes).



# 4 Recognition

(continued from page 1)

Over 280 associates and their families attended the fun-filled event, which took place in the Chehalis Grand Ball Room at Great Wolf Lodge. Each Associate of the Month arrives at the banquet by limousine, which adds to the exciting atmosphere. Each year, everyone enjoys dressing up in their finery, including ball gowns and suits, as they share in recognizing their co-workers on this momentous occasion.

Videos were shown which highlighted each nominee, and managers provided speeches on the unique qualities of their department's candidate. The Associates of the Month for 2008 included:

- January-Daryl Shortman; Buffet
- February-Dinell Youckton; Food & Beverage
- March-Eva Mendoza -Roca; Table Games
- April-Gloria Bramer; Kitchen
- May-David Williams; Kitchen
- June-Mel Hjelm; Cage
- July-Darshan



Grandmother Lorilee Pickernell with grandson Daryl Shortman, February Associate of the Month, enjoy a limousine ride to the Great Wolf Lodge with Daryl's uncle James Pickernell, and mother Carmen Shortman.

## Grand Mound Tribal Convenience Store and Gas Station Opens to Public

By Fred Shortman, Editor

It was a wet, cold and windy morning for the Grand Opening of the End of the Trail III Convenience Store located in Grand Mound. But the weather didn't dampen the spirits of tribal and community members who showed up to celebrate our new gas station and convenience store. It was a friendly atmosphere as everyone visited and received their raffle tickets for the door prizes. People enjoyed free hot dogs and popcorn as they waited for the blessing of the store. Centralia's KMNT Radio Station was there broadcasting live as everyone braved the weather. The new EOT III signs were blinking their messages that the store was open to the public.

Lovgren; Administration  
August-Robert Housley; Video/IT  
September-Craig McCown; Shipping/  
This year, the lovely Roberta Secena delivered the blessing which began the evening by remembering the importance of the gifts in our lives. The honorable Stan Speaks, Regional Director of the BIA, and John Setterstrom presented the award for Associate of the Year. The top honor went to Gloria Bramer, Lead Line Cook in the buffet. Gloria is a hard-working and dedicated team member, who provides outstanding service to all of our guests. Additionally, three Executive Awards were presented: the Extra-mile Award (going the distance), awarded to Dinell Youckton; the Guest Service Award (providing Soaring Guest Service), awarded to Parrish Preston; and the Teamwork Award, (contributing in a meaningful way to the success of the team) awarded to William Thoms.

At 1 pm Bones (Elder Dan Gleason) performed the blessing and raffle tickets were drawn. Congratulations to everyone who won a prize. The winner of the grand prize, a barbecue, was Charles "Duffy" Black. At the February soft opening, the paving for the truck fueling station wasn't completed. Now it is done, and you can see the big trucks rolling in to fuel up. Thurston County is finishing their nearby projects, bringing a new look to the area. The Chehalis Tribe is looking forward to seeing this new business continue grow, providing more jobs and more customer service.



Sharon Francis, Lydia Fromm and Bev Starr have re-opened Drive-Thru Espresso and Cigarettes. Store hours are Monday-Saturday 6 am- 9 pm; Sunday 6 am to 6 pm. Pre-order your espresso or cigarettes to speed up your stop-and-go at 360-273-0284. Have a great espresso day!

# Survey

(continued from page 1)

program is currently headed up by Dan Penn. He is doing a fantastic job creating materials for classes and teaching our people the language that our ancestors spoke for hundreds of years.

The highest ranked way to learn Chehalis is by listening to CDs. If this is your preferred method, you are in luck! Dan offers a range of audio material, from the alphabet, to whole lessons on CD. You can call him at the tribe or e-mail him at [dpenn@chehalistribe.org](mailto:dpenn@chehalistribe.org) to get your copy. Dan also offers a language class on Wednesdays from 5:00-6:30pm in the resource center, which he follows with a carving class from 6:30-8:00 pm in the wood shop. On Fridays you can attend class again from 3:00-6:00 pm where you will carve and learn the Chehalis language at the same time. Dan commits time every week to teach the children in Head Start and students at Oakville High School. Please contact Dan if you have questions and would like to be involved in the language program.

Another appealing finding was that many tribal members are interested in home ownership, though the top reasons they cannot take the plunge to buy a home include down payments and bad credit. There are options within housing to helping with down payments. They may be able to put you in their down payment assistance program, or offer



Grandparents Nadine and Jim Burnett with granddaughter Amara Penn wait to start playing Bingo during the Planning Department's Survey Night.

you information about loans that are geared toward helping natives buy homes. Diana Pickernell offers financial literacy classes that can help rein in spending habits and help correct habits that lead to bad credit. Credit counseling is also an option. Diana could arrange classes if there is enough interest. If you are interested, please contact Diana at the tribe, or e-mail her at [dpickernell@chehalistribe.org](mailto:dpickernell@chehalistribe.org).

There are complete survey results available in the Planning Department if you are interested in the comprehensive results. Later on, we will also be releasing a more in-depth analysis of the results with determinations of what changes will take place. There will be many exciting plans going into effect based on survey results; you can look forward to seeing changes in the near future. Be sure to plan on attending meetings so you can stay in the loop, and ensure that your voice is heard. Thank you for your participation!



Have you wondered how work is progressing at the Community Center site? Saxas has completed about 45 percent of the construction. The Chehalis Tribal Community Center will feature a swimming pool and spa, exercise room, basketball court with seating for 500 spectators, locker rooms, offices for education, language and heritage staff, six classrooms, a gathering room and large kitchen for community events and General Council meetings. The Youth Program will also move to new offices, and have a kitchen, activity rooms and their own full-size basketball court. The new building is tentatively scheduled to open in middle or late September.

## Chehalis Art Calendar to Cameo in New Moon Movie

By Janet Chapman, Project Manager

The Chehalis Tribal Enterprises' Arts & Economic Development project, the 2009 K'ah tuK'ee Tachee calendar, featuring Chehalis, Colville, Squaxin and Skokomish artists, is going Hollywood! CTE has been approached by the film makers of the very popular Twilight saga to use the calendar as set dressing in the next installment, *New Moon*.

The second book in the series takes place primarily on the Quileute Reservation in LaPush, in and around the home of characters Billy and Jacob Black. The calendar, which the set designers picked up at a retail store somewhere in western Washington, will hang on the wall of the Black's home in the movie.

The calendar, which is something to be proud of in and of itself, was singled out for the movie set to lend authenticity to the Native American characters and their surroundings in this wildly popular story that spans four books. The first movie, *Twilight*, debuted in November 2008 and the immense popularity has the second movie filming now, and the third, *Eclipse*, in pre-production. It speaks volumes to the quality of not only the calendar, but our local artists, that our calendar was chosen to represent the art of the Northwest Coast in a mainstream Hollywood movie.

*New Moon* will be in theaters in November, 2009.

### Cemetery Clean-up

May 15  
Meet at the Tribal Center  
Starts at 9 am - 4 pm

This has been an annual event that's happened for many years preparing for Tribal Days. Bring your gloves, tools, and energy and be prepared to work. Lunch will be provided. Contact Cherylle Starr or 360-273-5911 for more information

### BASKETRY WORKSHOP WEAVERS TEACHING WEAVERS AT GREAT WOLF LODGE

Sponsored: Hazel Pete Institute of Chehalis Basketry

Friday & Saturday  
April 15 & 16 from 9 am-4 pm  
Doors open 6:30 PM - Everyone Welcome!  
HPI Conference Rate Available

Join master weavers in a "sit beside" art-basketry. Each master weaver will have kits for participants between \$10 and \$50. Dinner Friday Night Only. Registration Fee: \$75 Sunday Only: \$40; Vendor Tables Available  
Contact Trudy at 360-273-7274

### WIC Program Dates (Women, Infants and Children)

Thursday, May 7, 2009

8:00 AM - 4:00 PM

at the Wellness Center

The WIC Program provides healthy foods and nutrition information for you and your child up to age 5.

Bring your child, medical coupons or paystub, and identification.

Contact Deb Shortman at 306-273-5504 for more information.

### Walkers Wanted

Third Thursday of Each Month  
April 16 At noon starting  
at the Tribal Center  
Minimum Qualification  
Walk or exercise 20 minutes. Great Benefits  
Good health and lowers risk of Diabetes.

**Fun** Spring Fling **Food**  
at the Wellness Center  
April 28 11am-1:30 pm

Join in on the Food, Fun: Crafts, Door Prizes, Drawings, Games and Recipes Demonstration. For more information contact Lynn Hoheisel at 360-709-1744