

June 2009

Vol. 2/6

Program News

Head Start Program Announcements

- **The last day of Head Start’s AM and PM school is June 26.** We are pleased to announce the Head Start graduation ceremony is **June 26** at the Youth Center starting at 5:30 PM. Everyone is invited to share this special moment.
- **Summer AM/PM Child Care begins June 29.** Childcare will begin on July 13 for the all day class and Early Head Start. We will be accepting children from 6-weeks to 5 years old. Contact Evelyne Kalama at 360-273-5514.
- **Recruiting Now for Fall 2009-10 Head Start School Year.** The Head Start Program and Early Head Start are now accepting applications for the 2009-10 school year. Please contact us for an application at 360-273-5514.

Nearly 100 Tribal Walkers Bring Back Walking Stick

By Pat Odiorne, Diabetes Program Director

The SDPI Diabetes Prevention Community Walk was held on May 28 with 91 Chehalis community members participating. This was the best turn out since the Walk was started in October, 2005. Many departments and businesses on the reservation participated in the walk including Head Start, Wellness the three EOT Landing Eagle Casino. participating competition Island, Skokomish, Shoalwater Bay, the reservation the walk including Chehalis Tribal Center, Elders, stores, Eagles Hotel and Lucky The other tribes in the walk included Squaxin 64 walkers; 0 walkers; and 10 walkers. The walking stick will display Chehalis Center month of June.

The tribe with the most walkers gets to keep the walking stick.

The Community Walk is held on the third Thursday of every month. The community is invited to participate to raise awareness of diabetes in Indian Country, and spread the word that diabetes can be prevented by regular exercise and healthy eating. The next Diabetes Prevention Community Walk will be held Thursday, July 16, so plan to join us for the exercise and help us keep the walking stick for another month!!

Tribal Web Site Now On Line

By Fred Shortman, Editor


Our Chehalis tribal website is up and running: ChehalisTribal.org. IT Department Senior Systems Analyst Steve Raher has been working diligently on it. It is still under construction, but the shell is on line. You can find past issues of the newsletter on the website. As Steve works with the tribal program directors, you’ll see more improvements and additional information.

If you have any question or comments, contact Fred Shortman at 360-709-1726 or email fshortman@chehalisTribal.org.


CHEHALIS TRIBAL NEWSLETTER

“People of the Sands”

Honoring Lee C. Starr Elders:



■ He loves family, fishing, and working on cars, page 3



Together Youth, Adults, and Elders are Learning How to Weave

■ Loom class teaches how to weave vests in the traditional Coastal Salish style, page 2

Ball Tournament Starts with Families, Ends with Families



The Chehalis Tribe’s Annual Memorial Day Weekend Baseball Tournament, “Tribal Days,” is one of the most joyous events of the year. The reason? Families come together and everyone has fun, especially the youth. Youth Center staff Tony Medina, Marla Medina, Teresa Pannkuk and Chris Klatush made sure the youth were busy and happy.

■ Tribal members first take care of those who have passed on...then the Indian-style ball games begin!

By Fred Shortman, Editor

It was a cool, sunny, Friday morning for the scheduled cemetery clean up day. The work on the cemeteries has been a long-standing tradition to prepare for the Memorial Day Weekend. In the past the men would gather, bringing their own tools and equipment to work as a team to clean the cemeteries, and prepare the ball fields for the weekend. The women would prepare the meal for everyone who helped, providing a feast when they were finished cleaning. Percy Youckton, our Chairman in the mid eighties, volunteered the employees to help clean the cemeteries. Chehalis tribal employees gathered

on the front porch of the tribal center and awaited the blessing before heading out to the four cemeteries. Bones performed a somber blessing due to a recent death in the community, then about twenty Chehalis tribal employees headed out to the cemeteries. Soon you could hear the riding lawn mowers roaring, and see a large group of people gathered around the maintenance truck selecting their tools to get work started.

It was nice to see community members working alongside the employees. Everyone scattered about the tribal cemeteries to clean

See Tribal Days, page 4

Enterprises Get Revamped Offices

By Fred Shortman, Editor

Chehalis Tribal Enterprises will move into new offices by mid-July. The Enterprises staff is split between the “Bed & Breakfast” building on Anderson Road and the Chehalis Tribal Center. The 4,200 square-foot modular building previously served as the Lucky Eagle Casino administration building. The five-section modular units were stored next to the Tribal Wellness Center for many months. On May 27, Pete’s Modular Moving Company began moving the modular units to their new location on Anderson Road.

To avoid flooding, the building was placed on a raised foundation 4 feet over the highest recorded flood (Dec. 2007). Chehalis Tribal Construction finished the ground clearing and civil work. The building will be refurbished by SAXAS Construction into a modern building with a new roof, reception area, offices, conference room, outside porch, and ADA-compliant access ramp.

Anna Hartman, Enterprises HR coordinator said, “The office brings the Enterprises staff under one roof which will increase our internal communications and efficiency.” The staff includes seven Enterprises employees and two tribal attorneys who are eagerly looking forward to having modern office space.

David Youckton, Enterprises CEO, said: “Enterprises’ new offices will enhance the Chehalis Tribe’s first impression when we meet and great new business partners.”

There are no immediate plans for the Bed & Breakfast house at this time. However, Enterprises has identified the property corner of Anderson along Hwy 12 for future economic development. “Since Anderson Road is the gateway to the Chehalis Reservation, the B&B property deserves special consideration for its future development,” according to Chris Richardson, Enterprises Managing Director.

Cancer Walk Doubles in Size and Support

By Orinda Goddard, Health Services Assistant

The 2009 2nd Annual Cancer Walk had 114 walkers participate. The walk took place on Sunday, May 24. It was a great turnout with 65 more walkers than last year. Starting at the display board on the family services building, the walk route proceeded to the gas station and back. It was a 5K walk, which is three miles long. Several different tribes were represented in the walk: Chehalis, Quinault, Skokomish, Muckleshoot, Nisqually, Lower Elwah, Yakima, Coeur D’Alene, and Tlingit.

The walk was a last-minute planned event coordinated by Joyleen McCrory and Orinda Goddard. It was organized in two days with a lot of help from staff and Tribal members. We have to thank our Tribe for all the wonderful

donations and help that we got to make this wonderful event happen.

Four cancer survivors joined the walk: Jo Aldrich, Theresa Youckton, Georgette Wells, and Farralee Walseth-Burnett. It’s such a blessing for these women to be a part of this walk. Dan “Bones” Gleason drove around to make sure the walkers got plenty of water to stay hydrated and provided rides for those who needed it. Law Enforcement Sergeant

Jake Dickerson also made himself available to ensure the safety for everyone.

At the end of the walk, participants were greeted with fresh water and applause. The first ones to complete the walk were some of our youth: 1st Cameron Snell (age 7), 2nd Kristen Secena (age 7), and 3rd Chavez Secena (age 9). The oldest ones that joined to walk were Dora Underwood (Quinault)

See Cancer Walk, page 4



Over one hundred people from the Chehalis and other tribes walked 5 kilometers to show support of cancer victims and survivors, and increase awareness of cancer prevention and treatment.

Chehalis Tribal Newsletter

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2 Tribal Youth Learn by Attending Leadership Conferences



Youth made the Chehalis Tribe proud by taking home the first-place prize for a drugs and tobacco use prevention presentation in the professionalism category. Pictured in front row, from left to right are: Deidra Hawkes, Lorrie Bonifer, Erica Mendez, Rosa Angularra, and Chayse Youckton. Back row, left to right are: Director of DASA, Racheal Mendez, DJ Hammer, and Washington State Attorney General Rob Mckenna.

■ Washington Prevention Youth Forum

By Lorrie Bonifer, Prevention Specialist

Our application was accepted to be a part of the Washington State Drug and Alcohol Prevention Youth Spring Forum of '09 held this year at the Great Wolf Lodge, April 29 – 30.

The goal of the Washington Prevention Youth Forum is to provide an enriching educational and networking opportunity for youth, volunteers and professionals working toward prevention of substance abuse and violence. We want to reach the continuum of individuals – youth and adults – from highly experienced to new in the field, and continue to build on our foundation and success in Washington state.

We competed against 36 teams from all over the state. There were approximately 300 youth at this forum. Our team name is: Teens at Chehalis Tribe Against Alcohol,

Drugs & Tobacco. We won the Presentation Style/Professionalism category and received a flip video camera.

I would like to thank our group for all of their hard work. They created a skit, told personal stories and gave a professional power point presentation. What an honor to work with such a great group.

We are still looking for a name for our group and art work. You have a chance to win and earn money. If interested please submit your information to Lorrie Bonifer at lbonifer@chehalistribe.org or you can reach me at 709-1717. Also, please contact me if you are a youth age 13-18 and would like to participate in the prevention group, and/or you are interested in participating in or being a chaperone for the Youth Leadership Summit to be held in Yakima this October.

■ Standing Tall Youth Leadership Conference

By Fred Shortman, Editor

The 20th Annual Standing Tall Youth Leadership Conference was held in May at the Great Wolf Lodge. There were 17 of our youth and many tribal youth from Canada and the Pacific Northwest at this youth conference sponsored by the Quinault, Suquamish, and Chehalis Tribes.

Stand Tall and Speak Out is a movement to encourage children and youth to speak out with respect, integrity, confidence and a spirit of public service whenever they see or experience injustice: violence, discrimination and abuse. Youth are encouraged to want the world to be a better place, and to make a positive impact on the world. This conference was for youth who may be encountering academic or/and social challenges. Its goal was to give youth a new perspective and inspiration to achieve their goals.

Most of the youth were inspired by Chance Rush's class entitled "Take a Chance with Chance." His dynamic and down-to-earth approach made the class fun. He stressed that it's okay to be Native and to not to be embarrassed by it.

Many of the youth enjoyed the cultural classes that were available:



This thank-you gift was given to the Chehalis Tribe from the Quinault Nation, and accepted by Chehalis Elder Art Medina.

Marla Medina said, "I was impressed with our youth. They didn't play in the water park as much as I expected. They committed themselves to participating and learning from the classes and curriculum. I'm so proud. Great job!"

Fatal Virus Found in Three Cats on the Reservation

By Amy Loudermilk, Rez Animal Coordinator

Three out of four feral cats trapped recently near the tribal center have been diagnosed with the feline leukemia virus. If you have an outside cat that could have come into contact with a feral cat, it is suggested that you take it to a veterinarian and have it tested for the virus. Feline leukemia virus (FeLV) is a highly contagious and fatal virus found only in cats. FeLV is not transmittable to humans, dogs or any other animal species other than the cat family. There is no relationship between feline leukemia and human leukemia. Cats pass the virus through saliva and close contact, by biting another cat, through shared food bowls, and from milk during nursing.

Symptoms of FeLV include weight loss, vomiting, diarrhea, labored breathing, persistent infections and anemia. However, the virus can lay dormant with no outward symptoms. Cancer may occur in cats infected with FeLV. The virus also interferes

with a cat's natural ability to ward off other diseases and makes the cat very susceptible to picking up infections. There is no cure for FeLV and most cats survive less than two years following diagnosis. Since the virus is highly contagious, get your cat tested before it spreads to other cats.

If you suspect your cat may have come into contact with a feral or FeLV positive cat, get it tested right away. The cost for the test is \$35 - \$50. A vaccine is available as well to protect your cat from catching the virus. Cost for the FeLV vaccine is \$18 - \$30. A booster will be needed four weeks later, and then just once a year. As long as you continue to vaccinate yearly, your cat should remain free of FeLV. The only way to completely protect your cat from FeLV is to keep it indoors. If you have questions, contact Amy Loudermilk at 360-709-1813 or E-mail @ Aloudermilk@chehalistribe.org.

Youth, Adults, and Elders Learn to Weave Vests in Coastal Salish Style

By Gail White Eagle, Instructor

The Culture Program sponsored a three-day Salish weaving class for anyone interested in learning or refreshing their weaving skills. There were 10 tribal and community members who came to learn this weaving tradition. There were 10 looms available for Elders, youth, and community members to make their Salish vests. It was a unique experience watching the youth and Elders laughing and learning together. Everyone clapped and encouraged each other as their names were announced upon completion of their weaving project. They displayed their vests, proud of their accomplishment and a job well done.

Instructor, Gail White Eagle said, "It was an honor to teach this class. There were many incredibly talented and focused students in this class. They brought so much good energy every day. I really was impressed and proud to share with them my knowledge of Salish weaving techniques."

History of Salish Weaving

Salish weaving existed over 3,000 years ago among many Salish Tribes in the Northwest. After the coming of the settlers in the late 1800s, Salish people adjusted to European style clothing, and northwest traditions, culture, Salish weaving, and many other art forms began to fade.

Although unfamiliar among society today, Salish weaving is emerging as a rare art form thanks to many cultural preservationists in the Northwest. Yarns were spun out of mountain goat wool, hair from specially bred dogs, and fibers from indigenous plants such as Indian hemp and stinging nettles. These yarns were then used to create blankets, shawls, and other



Gordon Klatush, age 14, works on his vest. In the background, Elder Marie Griswold focuses on her vest.

garments.

There are three basic weaving techniques: plain, twill, and twine, and blankets are categorized as: classic, colonial, and hybrid. Most high-class blankets and other art were decorated with beads, abalone, dentillium, or other decorative items.

Traditionally, all blankets were tokens of esteem, particularly mountain goat wool blankets. All high-class blankets were named. Usually, the blanket designs were created with a form of nature or animal origin in mind. When a blanket was presented at a gathering, the name of the blanket was also presented. Among Salish people, blankets have long been a symbol of wealth and prestige because of the time, skill, and materials involved in weaving a traditional garment. The recipient is honored by receiving such a fine gift, thereby gaining status during ceremonial gatherings such as potlatches, weddings, or naming ceremonies.

If You Need Referrals to Outside Providers, Chehalis Tribal Wellness Center Can Help

By Norine Wells, CHS Manager

Indian Health Services (I.H.S.) funds two types of health care services. One is Direct Care and that pays for services provided at Indian Health clinics or tribally operated clinics. Indian Health Service also funds Contract Health Services (or CHS). Federal regulations govern how CHS funds are spent. CHS funds can only be used to purchase health care services not available at the Chehalis Tribal Wellness Center (CTWC).

- All patient referrals for outside services must be written by a CTWC provider to determine the medical priority level for funding.
- If you need a referral to an outside provider, make an appointment with your CTWC provider to discuss your health care.
- A second referral from your CTWC provider is required for additional services such as procedures, lab work, tests, facility fees, or follow-up exams. Only the services written on the patient referral form will be covered by CHS.
- Lab tests and x-rays are services that are available at the Chehalis Tribal Wellness Clinic and will not be paid for without prior approval by your CTWC provider. Please review your CTWC patient referral form to ensure your outside health care is going to be covered. Services that do not fall within the established medical priority level one (1) will not be paid.

Payment for medical services is based on available funding and medical priority level one (1) spending. The CHS program experiences a shortfall in funding every year toward the end of the funding cycle.

The CHS Manager and program support staff are not medically trained to authorize medical referrals. CTWC patients are asked to discuss health care options with a CTWC provider to ensure informed decisions can be made about care. Only CTWC providers can set the medical priority level for services and make necessary referrals.

For emergency or urgent care, patients are required to notify the CHS program within 72 hours from date of service or date admitted. Notification can be provided to the CHS Program by calling (360)709-1725 or (360)273-5504.

Patients are required to inform outside health care providers of private insurance coverage, including coverage by the Chehalis CHS Program.

If you have any question, call the CHS office at 360-709-1725.

Behavior Health Program Phone Number Has Changed

The correct number for the Chehalis Tribal Behavioral Health Program is 360-709-1733. The Program has an Office Administrator who is available to answer phone calls, make appointments and assist clients. We look forward to your call!

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.

The Chehalis Tribal Newsletter encourages tribal members to submit letters, articles, photographs, and drawings to be considered for publication. These are subject to editing.

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: Lee Curtis Starr

“...learned fishing and car mechanics from his dad, and still has a passion for building hot rods...”

Lee Curtis Starr was born in 1944 to Violet Sanders-Starr and Benjamin Starr. His grandparents on his mother’s side are Andrew Sanders and Lucy Simmons. On his father’s side are Phillip Starr and Army Starr from Muckleshoot. He is the second oldest of his 10 brothers and sisters: Amil Starr, Sr., Benjamin Starr, Beatrice Christensen, Wilma Graciano, Laura Starr, Starla Starr, and Lucille Starr. Amanda Starr, Betty Starr, and Louise Starr are deceased. Lee met his wife, Frances, through the Shaker Church. They have been married for 43 years, and have one son, Lee B. Starr, and two daughters, Leah Secena, and Eloise M. Starr. They have six grandchildren and one great-grandson.



Lee and his wife Francis met at the Shaker Church. They’ve been happily married for 43 years.

Lee grew up on the Chehalis Reservation on South Bank Road and lived there for most of his life. His parents taught him about respecting elders. When he was young, he would split and haul wood to keep the Shaker Church and mess hall warm. Lee remembers playing outside the Tribal Center while adults attended meetings. He also remembers the Tribal Days Baseball Tournaments. There were ball games and dances. Men would gather around the oak tree to play bone games. “Those were good old days,” says Lee. Some of his childhood friends were Artie and Gary Smith. When they were teenagers they would work at Drew Berry Farms in Gate City to earn gas money. The money enabled them to go to drive-in movies and baseball tournaments. “Life was simpler back then,” says Lee. When he was 12, Lee learned how to fish from his father under Sickman Ford Bridge. Lee and his brothers made extra money packing the fish from the river to the top of the bridge. They caught a lot of fish back then, and didn’t get much money for them. He also learned how to hang and mend nets, as well as to respect the river. When he turned 16, his father allowed him to establish a fishing ground above the bridge. Years later when his mother passed away, Lee inherited her fishing grounds. In his teen years, Lee worked for Johnny Benn learning how to train and care for his race horses. It was special to travel with Johnny and Maggie Benn to the horse races in Spokane and Portland. He helped feed, water and care for the horses. He was also assigned to cool down the horses after racing. He says he thoroughly enjoyed it and made a few dollars. Lee attended the Oakville School until

10th grade. School was a struggle and living with such a large family, Lee needed an income. He started helping his mom build a home on South Bank Road where Starla lives now. He enjoyed working alongside Percy Youckton. He also helped build houses on the Skokomish Reservation with Lesley Beckwith. They also helped build Mildred Secena, Maynard Starr’s, and the tribal housing homes on Tahown and Lacamus Lanes. Later on, Lee worked in different logging camps alongside Mike Simmons. As a logger he traveled to Canyon River in Gridsdale, and Lake Quinault learning different aspects of the logging trade from operating a cotton brother to choker setter. He also learned to run a skidder and handled dynamite to blow up stumps to create water holes. In 1959 his mother built a fish house on their property, and became the fish buyer for Strittmater Fish Company. This business enabled the Chehalis tribal fisherman to bring their fish in to sell. She did this for a long time. Lee’s brothers and sisters helped with this family business. This commercial fishery caught the eye of the Washington State Fishery. The state claimed it was illegal for the Chehalis Tribe to fish throughout the year, and that the tribe needed to follow the laws of the state. In the 1970s Lee’s mother and Strittmater went to court against Washington State Fisheries over our fishing rights. They won in a court decision, and were therefore pioneers in establishing the Chehalis Tribe’s fishing rights. Their efforts set the stage for our tribe to exercise its fishing rights today. Lee’s parents were always looking for business opportunities to support their family. They operated a smoke shop on

their property from 1976-78. They also sold fireworks. The fireworks enterprise was like the fish selling business: it caught the attention of the Grays Harbor Sheriff’s Department. Lee remembers law enforcement coming in and confiscating their fireworks. Afterwards they received permission from Ruth Penn to sell fireworks on her property. They took the fireworks to her property and sold them out of the back of their truck. Like fisheries, the tribe wanted to regulated itself, and started the process of rescinding Public Law 280 which removed State criminal jurisdiction on the Reservation and return the authority to the Tribe.. We have come a long way since the groundbreaking efforts of Lee’s parents and other tribal members. During many years of his life, Lee worked alongside his dad learning to be a mechanic. His ability and knowledge allowed him to start building hot rods. Buying them and fixing them up is one of his great joys that he learned from his dad. Now he’s passing on his passion of building and working on cars to his son, Little Lee. Lee presently works for the Chehalis Tribal Housing

Authority. He has worked for the department for 20 years as a maintenance man and plans on retiring next year. “It will be nice to spend more time with my family and grandchildren,” says Lee. Lee says, “The tribe has grown a lot in many ways...building the Lucky Eagle Casino, EOT gas stations, Great Wolf Lodge, and other buildings. The children have many resources available to them, more than we had when I was in school. Some of it is good. Some of it is bad. It’s would be nice to see our children grow up and make something of their lives and do something good, and not be a statistic. With the decline of the fish runs, the tribe needs to continue figuring out ways to supplement the runs. It’s nice to see the tribe is building a hatchery. Hopefully the next generation will see the benefits.”



Lee (far right) helped with Johnny Benn’s race horses. Miracle Lady is the winning horse in this 1961 photo taken at the Spokane Race Track. The jockey is Glen Dixon, and the handler and partner is John Hungry.

Tribal Staff Profiles: Dentist and Head Start Teacher

Dr. William Elton (Bill) was born in an Air Force family. His family travelled to Libya (North Africa), Illinois, Virginia, Oklahoma, Utah and finally to Washington. Bill’s interested in dentistry started long ago. While in the second grade in Africa, little Billy went to the dentist. The dentist removed a baby tooth, with its long root intact, and gave it to him. The next day during recess Billy showed his friends his tooth. One of the boys told him that the dentist was tricking him, because the tooth was really a dog’s tooth. Billy knew the tooth was his own, and thought that the other boy was incorrect, and that he, himself, was pretty smart in dentistry. After that incident, whenever asked by teachers what he wanted to be, Billy would say, “A dentist!” Young Bill went to Brigham Young University, and served a two-year mission in Chile. He married Michelle MacKay a year after returning, and finished his undergrad



Dr. Bill Elton, Dentist

studies. He moved to Illinois and got his dental degree at the University of Illinois Dental School. Since the Army paid for his undergraduate school, Bill then entered the Army Dental Corps where he served in Oklahoma, New Mexico, Texas, Italy, Colorado, Korea, and Washington. While in the Army he received residency training in General Dentistry and then specialized in Prosthodontics (dental prostheses). After 26 years he retired from the Army at Fort Lewis in 2004. In 2005 the Chehalis Tribe hired him as our dentist. Bill says he enjoys helping the tribal community with their dental health, and seeing everyone’s wonderful smiles. He loves children, and has four children of his own. He has nine grandchildren. When not working in the dentist’s office, Bill enjoys fishing, camping, skiing, landscaping, scuba diving, family history, and being with his wife.

My name is Tracy Mitchell and I am the Full Day Teacher for the Chehalis Tribal Head Start. I grew up on a cattle ranch in Melrose, New Mexico. We raised beef cattle, sheep, goats, pigs and horses. I was very active in 4H and FFA for many years, showing horses, sheep and cattle at fairs around the state. I also participated in rodeos, doing barrel racing and pole bending. At age 18, I moved to Arizona. I met my husband, Mike Smiley, in Alaska. We have three children: Hilary is 20, Tanner is 18, and Jesse is 16. We moved to Rochester in 1996 and I enrolled my son in the Tribal Head Start Program. A few weeks later I was asked if I wanted a job working at the daycare. I happily accepted and enjoyed working there for two years. In 1998 I left to be a Classroom/Bus Aide for the Rochester Head Start Program. I also got my CDL while working there. After being there a year, I was given the opportunity to come back to



Tracy Mitchell, Head Start Teacher

work for the Tribal Head Start as a Teacher’s Aide and have been here ever since. I worked as the Aide and Bus Driver until 2002. In 2002, I received my Child Development Associate certificate and was promoted to PM Class Teacher, and then in 2005 I was given the position as the Full Day teacher. I earned my Associates Degree in Early Childhood Education in 2007 from Bay Mills Community College in Brimley, MI. I have thoroughly enjoyed working for the Head Start Program for the last 10 years and hope to be here for a long time. It is has been a joy to watch children grow and change over the years and hope that I had a hand in some part of their success. I have made lots of friends while working here and many of you have made me feel like I am a part of your family. Thank you for accepting me into your community.



In late May, Chehalis tribal youth participated in a practice pull from Solo Point to Owens Beach with Squaxin, Nisqually, Puyallup, Muckleshoot, and Cowlitz tribal canoes. Pictured left to right are pulling pairs: Patrick Simmons/Asa Simmons, Heather Daniels/Kayla Teague, Kelsie Klatush/Cheyne Youckton, Deidra Hawkes/Gordon Klatush, Frances Pickernell/Julia Lee, and Skipper Skylar Bracero.

2009 Paddle to Suquamish

Feel free to join the Chehalis Canoe Family anywhere along the canoe journey, share and learn with the canoe families, and travel with “One Heart, One Mind” through the Puget Sound waterways. Community support is greatly appreciated as we practice our culture with the youth, elders and other canoe families. This is a drug/alcohol, and violence free journey! Everyone is welcome!
Drum Practice/Canoe Meeting: Every Tuesday, starting June 9 at 6:30 PM at the Youth Center
Blessing of the Tulap tit Weath Canoe: Saturday, July 25 at 10 AM at the Tribal Center
Itinerary: Lummi: July 26-27; leave July 28
Suquamish: Land August 3; protocol to follow until Aug. 8.

4 **Tribal Days**
(continued from page 1)

headstones, weed-eat, and cut the grass that the riding lawn mowers couldn’t get. It was quite a teamwork effort -- people worked alongside each other to get an important job done. As they worked together, families shared their memories of their loved ones with other families. It was quite a unique healing experience.

A fantastic lunch was provided at the youth center with a selection of hamburgers, hot dogs and chicken that was provided by the casino. Cheryle Starr, Events Coordinator, had a raffle and some nice gifts for everyone who worked in the cemeteries that day. It was hard work, but very gratifying to see the cemeteries well groomed for those who visited to pay respects, pray and leave flowers on Memorial Day.

That Good Ol’ Indian Baseball Feeling

Friday was the start of the baseball tournament. The weather cooperated throughout the weekend, making it an outstanding sunny weekend. There were 11 men’s teams, eight women’s and eight coed teams who showed up to play hardball at Tomahawk Stadium. This year, most of the games were held on the reservation baseball fields and only a few games were held at Oakville High School, making the tournament more convenient and enjoyable.

The excitement of baseball was in the air. You could smell the delicious foods wafting from the food booths and hear the announcer on the loudspeaker, the ringing of the bat as a ball was driving into the field and the wild cheers of the crowd.

There’s nothing like good old-fashioned Indian baseball!

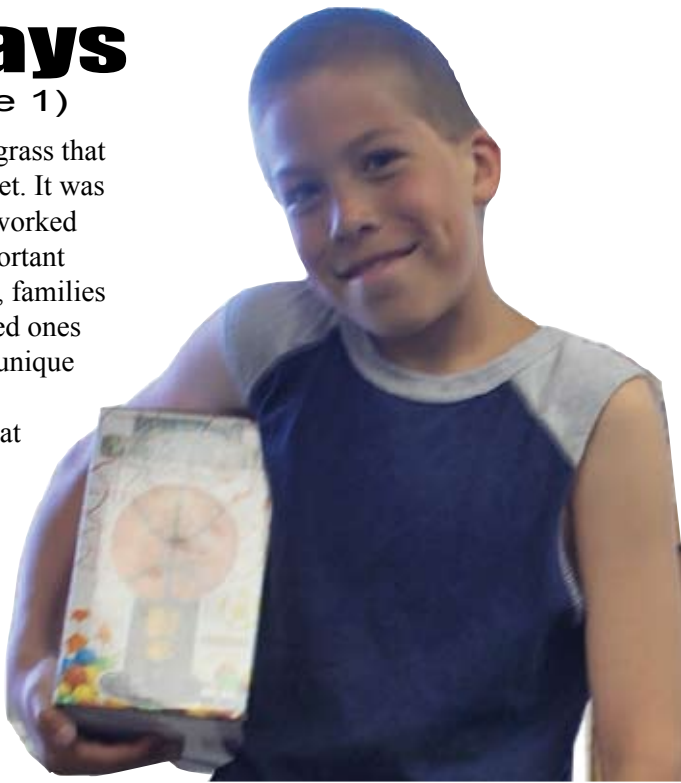
Don Secena said, “This is a great traditional gathering. This tournament kicks off the summer’s Indian baseball season. It’s nice to visit with all of our friends and family who travel from other tribes that we don’t see often enough. Also it is Memorial Day weekend, a special time to remember the ones who aren’t here anymore.”

Kids Just Want to Have Fun

On Saturday and Sunday, the sound of the siren filled the air, signaling that it was time to start youth activities. You could see children running towards the basketball court anticipating the exciting activities at the Youth Center. Tony Medina, Youth Center Director, could be seen pulling his wagon full of prizes to the basketball court as children laughed and smiled in anticipation of the prizes they could win. With the weather being so warm, the squirt guns were the first to go.

Great Food and Shopping

The annual fish and clam bake is always an attraction for the Memorial Day Weekend. The fish, clam and oyster plates remained priced at \$5.00. A delicious seafood feast was made available for Saturday and Sunday. The food went fast, so when you’re here next year, don’t hesitate, or you’ll miss out. Another awesome job by our Vice-Chairman, Don Secena and his group of volunteers: Mary Secena, Robert Cayenne, Dennis Cayenne, Ray Secena,



Devon Boyd, age10, won this year’s Eagle Award for retrieving the most foul balls.

Jr., Fred Shortman, Shawn Ortivez, Johnny Atkins, Lori and Mike Tovrea. Many thanks to those who donated salads, pop and chips. The vendors also made this tournament a success. They provided not only food, but Coastal Salish artwork, toys and souvenirs throughout the tribal grounds. There was some impressive artwork for sale: beadwork, and cedar bark hats and baskets, as well as crocheted items, printed shirts, hats, and sweats. The Elders provided breakfast, lunch and a rummage sale at the Elders Center. Volunteers assisted in setting up the rummage sale.

Youth Awarded for Gathering Foul Balls

A special “Eagle Award” was handed out to a youth who collected the most foul balls during the weekend. This is the third year for this little known award, which is sponsored by Sally Pikutark. She was inspired by the memory of how her son and Marvin, Jr., returned foul balls many years ago. The winner of this year’s Eagle Award was Devon Boyd. Congratulations and great hustle in returning all those foul balls!

A Tournament that will Live on in our Memories

On Monday the Memorial Day Weekend Baseball Tournament came to an end. Many teams played enthusiastically all day. Even though they were tired, that “never quit” competitive spirit kept driving them to do their best. At the end there has to be a winner, but the good sportsmanship that all the teams displayed throughout the weekend was something to be proud of, making this tournament something special to remember. Because it was Memorial Day, there was an ending prayer by Annie Jones honoring and thanking all the teams and their families who came to this annual gathering. Everyone prayed for the safety of families as they returned to their homes, and prayed for those who had passed on. Afterward, both George “Chops” Youckton and Dale Klatush, Sr., agreed that this was a particularly memorable Memorial Day Weekend Tournament. “This baseball tournament had the most people we’ve seen. It was good to visit with families and friends who came out and enjoyed the weekend.”

Cancer Walk (continued from page 1)

and Jo Aldrich (Chehalis). Many walkers of all ages completed the walk. After, the last walker finished, the raffle began. Everyone received some kind of prize for walking, so nobody went home empty-handed. The best prize was being able to walk for a cure for cancer. We would just like to give a special thanks to all the walkers and all the helpers.

This event wouldn’t have happened without you and your support. Big thanks to all our programs and vendors for the donations, including: Lucky Eagle Casino, Great Wolf Lodge, Tribal Enterprises, Eagles Landing Hotel, SDIP, Native Women Wellness Program, Language, Tribal Days vendors, and Business Committee. There was even more that donated. Thank you all for making

Tournament Summary

When the final game of the tournament ended, awards were handed out to each division: 1st Place received championship jackets; 2nd Place received hooded sweatshirts; 3rd Place received crew neck sweatshirts; 4th Place received T-shirts; Allstars received duffle bags; Special awards for MVP; Best Bat, Best Glove; and Best Catcher

Men’s Hardball

Darrin Jones, Tournament Director
Ang Youckton, Shannon Jones, Scorekeepers

- 1st Place- Little Boston Pistols
- 2nd Place-Little Boston
- 3rd Place-Nisqually
- 4th Place-Young Bloods



The Little Boston Pistols from Port Gamble S’Klallam won the men’s hardball championship jackets. They lost the first championship game, and won the second game defeating the other Little Boston team.

Women’s Slow Pitch Softball

Cheryle Starr, Tournament Director
Carla Thomas, Diana Pickernell, Scorekeepers

- 1st Place-Natives (Returning Champs)
- 2nd Place-Muckleshoot
- 3rd Place-LaPush
- 4th Place-New Blood

The Lady Natives returned and defended their championship. They were able to defeat Muckleshoot in the championship game (11-1). Congratulations go to: Amy, Sandra, “G”, Norm, Laria, Leesa, Treen, Sharon, Maxie, Dora, Melissa. Way to play outstanding baseball, ladies! Sorry, no photo available.

Coed Slow Pitch Softball

Cheryle Starr, Tournament Director
Carla Thomas, Diana Pickernell, Scorekeepers

- 1st Place-Taholah
- 2nd Place-Muckleshoot
- 3rd Place-LaPush
- 4th Place-New Blood



Taholah (in blue uniforms) won the championship, and Muckleshoot (in orange) had to play all day to finished the second. It was a great day for baseball!

Thanks to Volunteers!

Cheryle Starr sends out a special thanks to all the volunteers who contributed to making this weekend so successful: Tournament directors, umpires and scorekeepers; Darrin Jones and Angie Youckton for running the Men’s Hardball Tourney; Carla Thomas for helping run the Women’s, and Coed Tournament; announcers, Chubby Pickernell made it for Saturday and Steve Medina; grounds keepers, Ray Secena, Jr., and Amil Starr Jr.; clean up crew, Carla Thomas, Geo Jack, Ethan Wittwer, Cheyne Youckton, Devon Boyd for all their hard work; umpires and scorekeepers, Any Zaidy, Casey Pickernell, Chet DeLamater, Tony Youckton, Joey Fulton, Doug Davis, Wayne Barr, Darrin

Jones, Corey Sullivan, Roger Sullivan, Shannon Jones, Ray Lopez, Rueben Lopez, Jerry Youckton, Carla Thomas; Youth Center activities, Tony Medina, Marla Medina and Teresa Pannkuk; Tournament Preparation, Carla Thomas, Angie Youckton, and Joyce Thomas.

Pictured from left to right are: Nora Ortives (Lil’ Miss Head Start), Emily Pickernell (Lil’ Miss),Malena Canales (Jr. Miss),Deidra Hawkes (Miss Tribal Days).



Summer Youth Workers Wanted!

The Chehalis Tribe and Lucky Eagle Casino are looking for summer youth workers. There is criteria to qualify for the summer youth positions, so contact the below numbers if you are interested.

Contact Chehalis Tribal Human Resources at 360-273-5911

Contact Allison Carter at the Lucky Eagle Casino Human Resources at 306-273-2000 ext. 223

DENTAL CARE HOURS

A reminder to all patients of the Chehalis Tribal Wellness Center Dental Program:

We are open for late appointments on Mondays. The CTWC is open from 9:30 AM-6:00 PM Mondays only. This late day helps patients get appointments after school and work. There are still late Monday dental appointments available—call 360-273-5504 for an appointment today!

Tuesday-Thursday Dental Hours are 8:00 AM-4:30 PM

Draft a Will Clinic
At the Wellness Center
June 22, 10AM - 2:00 PM

Are you an Elder age 60 or over? Would you like to get help with drafting a will? If so, The Northwest Justice Project will be conducting a Will Clinic here at the Chehalis Tribal Wellness Center. There is a will packet and you will need to get an Individual Trust Inventory Report (ITR) or Trust Inventory Report from the BIA and bring it with you. This will be a one hour appointment. Schedule one by contacting Christina Hicks, Community Health Coordinator at 360-709-1741 or email chicks@chehalistribe.

Head Start Graduation
at the Youth Center

June 26 starts at 5:30 PM

Everyone is invited. Come join us in celebrating our Head Start graduates. Any questions contact Lloyd Commander at 360-273-5514.