By Fred Shortman, Editor

The Chehalis Canoe Family participated in the 2011 Paddle to Swinomish. This is the fifth year of participating in the canoe journey. The Chehalis Canoe Family includes community members who lived, prayed, and travelled together. Some travelling with our canoe, tuaulip tit wi7 (Tulaip tit weah), and others supporting us by travelling by land canoes. 5 Elders, Twenty-one youth, and twenty-five adults travelled from the Squaxin Island to Swinomish. At times elders, tribal and community members visited us at our campsites or witnessed protocols along the journey.

Living and traveling with “one heart, one mind” as a family is a holistic and instrumental part of learning about each other. Although, we were travelling together for only a week, being a part of the tribal journey’s you begin to recognize the values that are missing from the world in general, such as: Doing things “In a good way,” being positive; standing each other up, being happy to see each other; working together to keep our camp clean; respecting each other’s space; and praying for the health of the earth, families and communities. Our elders and leaders provided teaching, giving our Canoe Family a strong core. Everyone who participated and represented the Chehalis Tribe was totally awesome! Great job, everyone!

Being able to travel in our canoe is the most honourable way to remember our ancestors who traveled in the same way. Becoming nomadic people by moving from one being able to practice our culture, and the other being able to survive in this modern world. Many destinations were difficult having to pull for 4-6 hours along the sacred waterways overcoming the challenges each day brought.

Life on the Journey

Mother nature started off with challenges as it rained heavily at Squaxin Island creating blue tarp camping. The following morning for the start of the journey she provided a heavy fog to Solo Beach in Nisqually. With the help of our support boat captain we made it safely.

See Canoe Journey, page 4

Vocational Rehabilitation Annual Outreach Luncheon

Wednesday, September 21 from 12:00-2 PM at the Community Center’s Gathering Room

Community and employees are all invited. Key note speaker will be artist - Laura Whitlock. Please come and join us.

For more information please contact Barb Russell, 360-709-1633 or Orinda Goddard, 360-709-1735.

Program News

Program Offers Incentives on Learning about Colon Cancer Prevention

The Chehalis Colon Health Program would like to congratulate Harry Pickernell, Sr. for winning this quarter’s drawing. Harry won a new laptop computer and prize, just for learning how he can prevent colon cancer! There are monthly and quarterly drawings for everyone who takes steps to prevent colon cancer. The next quarterly drawing on October 1 will include an overnight stay at the Great Wolf Lodge.

If you are interested in learning about how to prevent colon cancer, please contact either Patti Walker or Cindy Beck at the Chehalis Tribal Wellness Clinic.

Winning at our Health in the July issue.

The Chehalis Tribal Wellness Clinic.

Drivers Think Safety First to Protect Children at Bus Stop

School beginning drivers should be aware that kids our on the roadways. What is the most dangerous part of the school bus ride? The bus stop is the most dangerous part of the bus ride. Children: stop! Children are at greatest risk when they are getting on or off the school bus. Children: stop! Children are at greatest risk when they are getting on or off the school bus. Children are at greatest risk when they are getting on or off the school bus. Children are at greatest risk when they are getting on or off the school bus.

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The Chehalis Colon Health Program offers an assortment of healthy snacks. The August drawing will be held on Friday, September 2.

Please submit your most yummy muffin recipes to the CHP and win something in the raffle drawing for those who participated in the CHP during July. She received an assortment of healthy snacks. The August drawing will be held on Friday, September 2.

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Community Economic Justice Project Aims to Protect Authentic Indian Arts and Crafts

The Confederated Tribes of the Chehalis Reservation...

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

For more information contact BJ Brown at 360-462-3256.

Photo by Cecilia Kayano

Chehalis Tribal Newsletter

Website Cell Phone Application Assisting Families to Protect Children

Put safety in your hands using the FBI’s new Child ID application for your mobile phone. You’re shopping at the mall with your children when one of them suddenly disappears. A quick search of the nearby area is unsuccessful. What do you do? Now you have a free new tool from the FBI that can help. Just launch a new Child ID mobile application created by the FBI — providing a convenient place to electronically store photos and vital information about your children so that it’s literally right at hand if you need it. You can show the pictures and physical identifiers such as height and weight to security or police officers on the spot. The app also includes tips on keeping children safe as well as specific guidance on what to do in those first few crucial hours after a child goes missing.

The app encourages you to share the word about this app with family and friends, especially during upcoming activities in your community to raise awareness on crime and drug prevention.

For more information to go to their website www.fbi.childapp also available on Facebook, Twitter and Youtube.

Business Committee
David Barnett, Chairman
Don Severson, Vice Chairman
Stephanie Pickernell, Treasurer
Don Secena, Vice Chairman
David Burnett, Chairman

SEATTLE, Washington — The American Friends Service Committee (AFSC) Indian Arts and Crafts Committee, comprised of American Indian and Alaska Native community members and allies, has launched a project to ensure authenticity of Indian art and artifacts and promote economic justice for Native artists in Washington State by seeking ways to improve upon the safeguards set out in the Federal Indian Arts and Crafts Act (IACA). The Committee has focused on raising awareness about the IACA within urban Native communities and organizations. Tribal communities and non-Indian art communities statewide and is working with the non-profit law firm, the Northwest Justice Project (NJP).

More than three-quarters of a century have passed since the IACA was adopted as a “truth-in-advertising” law. Lack of enforcement has resulted in a vast and persistent pool of fraudulently marketed Indian arts and crafts that market Native style arts and crafts as authentic.

The law has been amended to protect a critical source of income for federal-and state-recognized tribal artists, families and their communities. During 2010 the latest amendment to the IACA that was passed broadens the fines for violators as well as strengthens federal investigative and enforcement authorities beyond the Department of the Interior and the Federal Bureau of Investigation.

The Committee’s outreach to inform people about the IACA and prospects for improvement in Washington State is building momentum. Plans to organize educational panels and activities in the months ahead will engage a variety of audiences around the state.


For more information contact BJ Brown at 360-462-3256.

Download...
Hello, my name is James Gutierrez. I am the Executive Director of the Chehalis Tribal Housing Authority. We have work for the Housing Authority since the end of April.

I have worked in housing for two years at the Housing Authority of Thurston County, real estate agent, and for the City of Renton for about twelve years. My work has been with all aspects of housing from helping individuals and families to develop multi-family housing projects. I especially enjoy seeing members working with first time home buyers. A safe and stable home is vital for a household to grow and meet their full potential. All of my work with our housing programs to have their greatest impact, we need to work with our partner agencies to ensure that we are fully supporting our clients.

We are in the Tumwater area and attended college at the University of Washington, and moved to a little farm in the Lewis and Clark area about eight years ago. We have two sons. I feel like I am blessed and loved by my family and live close to my home.

I am looking forward to working with Tribal Elders, Tribal Elder, and community to meet the housing needs of our community. I have many questions about our agency, programs, or housing in general, please feel free to stop by anytime. I look forward to meeting you soon.

Executive Director
James Gutierrez
Canoe Journey

(continued from page 1)

Each person was responsible for decorating their own regalia and making gifts for the final protocol. Four time was well spent in camp as adults and youth were seen working on their items. This is a unique opportunity to learn and share some of their skills with each other from: sewing, carving, basket weaving or sharing family’s history or stories strengthening the families bonds.

Final Landing

On Monday, July 25 in the midst of a downpour the 75 canoes and families reached their final destination at the Swinomish shore. Witnessing and participating in the Final Landing will last for a lifetime in each person who was there.

A special note for the landing Washington State Governor Christine Gregoire was a puller paddling on the hosting Swinomish Canoe “Salmon Dancer.” Hands up to those that helped along the Journey.

The Swinomish Tribe and it’s people worked hard in preparation of hosting this annual event. It was the first time they have hosted in the 23 years of the canoes journeys. Hosting is a lot of work, and it improved their tribe’s immensely spiritually, culturally and economically. What an outstanding job they did, providing huts, bathroom, showers and laundry rooms. Can’t forget the volunteers as they cooked, cleaned, others who provided rides and to and from the campsites. We offer our a huge thank you for the volunteers.

Hand-Up in Thanks

It was an honor to have our Champion David Burnett show up in different locations to support our canoe family. Even in the down pour on the landing, he volunteered to help bring our canoe to its resting place on the Swinomish Shore. Thank you so much champion for your support.

Our canoe family give a “Hand Up” to John and Mary Setterson for your time and effort and helping us all the way with their support boat “The Clarity” for the fourth year in a row. Providing power with muscle needed, and assisting our canoe family and get to our final destination is greatly appreciated.

To Elders Donna and Elleye Choke for assisting us in our reservation in various locations, those were some very early morning for you. Again, Thank you so very much!!

Final Protocol

One youth, Skyley Baker was voted to lead our songs in final protocol at Swinomish. He did an awesome job! We took the floor at Squaxin Island Tribe. There were weekly practice pulls for the new you and adults. This builds timing, strength and endurance in preparation for the canoe journey. These are very important training to prepare for any worst case scenario while travelling on tougher, open water.

On July 17, tribal and community members witnessed the blessing of the Chehalis canoe. Bones performed a blessing for the canoe and prayed for the safety of all the canoe family members and other canoe families who were participating in this years journey. Canoe family Elders, members and leaders used cedar boughs and Chehalis river water to bless the canoe, praying for a safe journey.

What is the Canoe Journey?
The canoe journey is a spiritual and healing time. It is time for participants to strive to conduct themselves in a manner that is honorable for the Chehalis people. The canoe journey is not a vacation: It is serious work. The canoe is a sacred cedar tree, a healing medicine to our spirit, a connection to our ancestors and the Native and Chehalis tribal spirituality. We learn to care for our canoe with dignity and respect.

All canoe family members sign a waiver and code of conduct promising to adhere to the Chehalis canoe family’s mission statement and philosophy. We promise to promote the growth, healing and well being of our tribe through cultural experiences aimed at strengthening, preserving and rebuilding Native American values, beliefs, and practices related to the canoe tradition.

Adhering to the mission statement and philosophy of the canoe journey promotes growth, healing and well-being of our tribe through cultural experiences.

Rules to Remember

Canoe journey participants agree to the following code of conduct:

- Be kind and respectful to others.
- Compliment and help others, especially the youth with their actions and words. Refrain from use of negative talk, feelings, thoughts and complaining. Practice positive thoughts to carry the canoe in a good way.
- Respect the canoe journey leaders, their advice and opinions, honor their age and wisdom.
- Respect the works and actions of the skipper and support boat captains.
- Participate in the activities - setting up and taking down camp, pulling the canoe, protocol and dancing.
- Never refer to the canoe as the “R” word. Consistently refer to canoe as respected vessel that will be take to a swim to apologize and bring honor back to the canoe.
- The use of profanity will result in the offender to be required to perform 25 push-ups. It’s a good lesson and gets you in shape for the following days pull.

Next years journey will be hosted by the Squaxin Island Tribe. For more information please contact with Sylvia Caynef at 360-888-6638.

Chehalis Canoe Family Dinner is Saturday, October 8 starts at 1 in the Gathering Room.

The Chehalis Canoe Family pictured after performing formal protocol in the Suquamish Tribe’s “House of Awakening Culture.” Pictured top row (L-R) are April Romo, Omegic “OJ” Johnson, Julie Lee, Tony Highhouse, Ana Simmons, Brent Simmons, James Cayenne II, Gui White Eagle, Todd De Lamar, PJ Simmons, Ronnie Rosbaugh, Lyakie Bracero-Rosbaugh, Skyley Bracero. Middle row (L-R) are Halisa Highhouse, Haila Highhouse, Josie Smith, Marcus Youlkont, Hayley Parkinson, Danielle Sarabia, Skyley Baker, Joy Hamilton, Ed Hamilton, Fred Shortman, Deidra Hawkes. Front row (L-R) are Valsa Highhouse, Whitney Lewis, Cheyenne Pickernell, Connie Baker, Richard Romo, Jr., Shayden Baker, Ethan Wittwer, Kayshawn Lorton, Sean Allan, Antonio Sanchez, Alex Shortman, Kayloey Trot. The ground crew is essential on the journey. They set up camp, and moved from day to day. Adults and kids worked together unloading the cargo van, setting up tents, and assembling a makeshift kitchen at Squaxin Island.

Chehalis Canoe Family “Secena Stick Game” sings. Tribal youth Skyley Baker was voted to lead the songs. Pictured (L-R) are Ethan Wittwer, Pat Johns, Kayshawn, PJ Simmons, Skyley Baker, and Cheyenne Pickernell.

During Final Protocol hosting Swinomish tribal leaders came and played the shalal games during the Chehalis Canoe Family “Secena Stick Game” song. Tribal youth Skyley Baker was voted to lead the songs. Pictured (L-R) are Ethan Wittwer, Pat Johns, Kayshawn, PJ Simmons, Skyley Baker, and Cheyenne Pickernell.

The Swinomish Elders, Council and Royalty greeted each canoe family during the final landing ceremonies. It was an emotional and awe-inspiring moment for everyone who witnessed the event.

Chehalis Canoe Family “Circling Up” to bless the canoe and pray for a safe journey before loading the cargo van and leaving for the Squaxin tribal camp ground.

Youth Puller Cheyenne Pickernell stands up to request permission to come ashore at So Point in Nisqually. It is an honor to be selected to request permission to land or leave a hosting tribe’s shores.

Our hands go up to honor John and Mary Setterson for providing their support boat “Clarity” guiding us safely on the water.

Pictured here is an early foggy morning as John receives supplies onto the boat and we are transferred onto his support boat.