

NISQUALLY ABSCH News



Nisqually Tribal News

4820 She-Nah-Num Dr. SE Olympia, WA 98513

Phone # 360-456-5221

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www.nisqually-nsn.gov

March 2024

Rise Above Event with former NBA player Chris Herren

By Debbie Preston

Following an hour-long basketball clinic with Washington State Governor Jay Inslee, wife Trudi, former Sonics coaches Lenny Wilkens and George Karl watching, kids attending took a seat to listen to a harrowing cautionary tale from Chris Herren, former Boston Celtic, who has been telling his story for more than a decade.

Herren detailed growing up with an alcoholic father and despite his vow to never be like that, began his own addictions in middle school and into high school. In college and the NBA, his abuse of alcohol and drugs led to losing his job in basketball and overdosing four times on heroin.

He told kids to always find someone to trust and talk with about their feelings. When asked what he would do if he could go back in time, Herrin replied "Wipe away the memories that my children have of me before I got sober."

-Continued on page 4-RISE ABOVE



Kids follow the orders of the drill master, Carla McGhee, two-time NCAA national champion with the Tennessee Lady Volunteers and an Olympic gold medal winner.

Lenny Wilkens and CJ talk before the event begins.

Tribal Council Business

Nisqually Tribal Council

Meeting Minutes

Date: 2/1/124

Minutes Approved on:

Meeting Called To Order: 1:32

| | | |
|--------------------|-------------------------|---------|
| Willie Frank | Chairman | Present |
| Antonette Squally | Vice Chairman | Present |
| Jackie Whittington | Secretary | Present |
| David Iyall | Treasurer | Present |
| Chayannah Squally | 5 th Council | Absent |
| Guido Levy Jr. | 6 th Council | Present |
| Leighanna Scott | 7 th Council | Present |
| Derrick Sanchez | Sergeant of Arms | Absent |

Guest: Carmen K, Lisa B, Stephanie S, Jordan S, Adrian S, Kyle S, Wayne L, Chantay A, Mary s, Nate C, Justine C, Pete A, Deb P, David W, Alvin A, Shannon B, Jeff W, Heidi P, Junior S, Joe C, Leon D, Tony S, Kayla S, Andrey S, Nettsy B, Brad B, Keoni K, Rodney M.

Additions:

Carmen Kalama – **Enrollment Concern Regarding Enrollment Applications. Council will reach out to the committee and the department.**

Alvin Aganon/ Shannon Blanksma – **Approval of February 1st, 2024, Budget Consent Calendar.** Motioned by David Iyall, seconded by Jackie Whittington. Motion passes, 4-0-1 Antonette Squally Abstains.

Alvin Aganon/ Shannon Blanksma – **A Resolution Amending the Nisqually Financial Services Policies and Procedures. Resolution #5.** Motioned by David Iyall, seconded by Jackie Whittington. Motion passes, 4-0-1 Antonette Squally Abstains.

Alvin Aganon – **A Resolution to Approve and Authorize a Letter of Intent with Kitsap Credit Union. Resolution #6.** Motioned by David Iyall, seconded by Antonette Squally. Motion passes, 5-0-0.

Lisa Breckinridge – **Approval of a MOU between the Washington State Parks and Recreation Commission and the Nisqually Indian Tribe for Collaborative Development of Phase 2 of the Nisqually State Park.** Motioned by Antonette Squally, seconded by David Iyall. Motion passes, 5-0-0.

Lisa Breckenridge – **Approval of a MOU with Washington State Parks and Recreation Commission and the Nisqually Indian Tribe for Law Enforcement Assistance.** Motioned by Antonette Squally, seconded by David Iyall. Motion passes, 5-0-0.

Stephanie Scott – **Concerns about having to turn in an application to housing multiple times, to receive funds to fix up old home.**

Junior Slape – **Speaking on behalf of his mother with concerns about a Housing Policy flaw. Keeping an elder from being approved to move into elder’s village, because she owns a home off reservation. She willing to sell her home so**

Continued on page 3-TC MINUTES

How to Contact Us

Tribal Center 360-456-5221
Health Clinic 360-459-5312
Law Enforcement 360-459-9603
Youth Center 360-455-5213
Natural Resources 360-438-8687

Nisqually Tribal News

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Leslee Youckton
youckton.leslee@nisqually-nsn.gov
ext. 1252

The deadline for the newsletter is the second Monday of every month.

Nisqually Tribal Council

Chair, William (Willie) Frank III
Vice Chair, Antonette Squally
Secretary, Jackie Whittington
Treasurer, David Iyall
5th Council, Chayannah (Chay) Squally
6th Council, Guido Levy Jr.
7th Council, Leighanna Scott

Where to Find Information:

Squalli Absch Newsletter

- Mailed, on website

Street Buzz

- Mailout, on She Nah Num

Facebook and website

Nisqually Indian Tribe Facebook

- geared toward educating the public

She Nah Num

- Private Facebook page

Website - www.nisqually-nsn.gov

In this issue:

| | |
|----------------------------|--------|
| TC Minutes | pg. 2 |
| Buildings News | pg. 3 |
| Rise Above Continued | pg. 4 |
| Boldt 50 | pg. 6 |
| Hunting Tags | pg. 7 |
| Boldt 50 Part 4 | pg. 8 |
| Public Works | pg. 9 |
| Garden | pg. 10 |
| Community Services | pg. 13 |
| Announcements | pg. 15 |



Building Department Happenings

By Jessie Fox, Executive Assistant to the Building Department Director

Apprentices Create Custom Tribal Artwork

Three Native Building Department Apprentices: Sean Jose, Heidi Wichman, and Alex Choke, have been using their artistic talents to create custom decorative trim for the new Protocol Housing site. Although these homes were outsourced and not built by the Building Department, we always love to include

native artwork that will ensure these homes are a special part of the community. These custom wood pieces are near completion and installation will begin soon.



Building Department Director Gives Remarks at Harnyss Grand Opening

David Iyall and Wayne Lloyd attended the Harnyss Kick-Off Event this past January in Texas. Wayne, who is familiar with Harnyss, was asked to give some remarks and briefly spoke about the potential benefits of Harnyss hydrogen storage in helping to give the Nisqually and other tribes, energy sovereignty.

Harnyss is a pioneer in advanced hydrogen storage technologies, exclusively dedicated to promoting clean energy storage and utilization.

Their leading-edge solutions enable the provision of safe, efficient, and environmentally friendly energy storage systems and independent power generation. In addition to hydrogen storage expertise, they offer renewable energy microgrids that are both reliable and economical.

Their focus is on delivering low-pressure hydrogen storage components to industry, scalable microgrids, emergency backup power systems, and are actively expanding into the EV, light construction, and material handling sectors.

Continued from page 2- TC MINUTES

she can be closer to the health center and elders center.

Jordan Scott – Would like to be added back on to housing list to qualify for a home and have an equal chance as other tribal members.

Nate Cushman for Brent Bottoms – **A Resolution to Approve and Authorize the 2024-2025 Contract Renewal Agreement with Wellpath for Inmate Health Care Services. Resolution #7.** Motioned by David Iyall, seconded by Antonette Squally. Motion passes, 5-0-0.

David Wolff – **A Resolution Amending Title 17 (Gaming) of the Nisqually Tribal Code. Resolution #8.** Motioned by Antonette Squally, seconded by David Iyall. Motion passes, 5-0-0.

Chantay Anderson – **Approval of a new JD: Compost Technician.** Motioned by Leighanna Scott, seconded by Jackie Whittington. Motion passes, 5-0-0.

Sommer Sanchez – **Approval of January 19th, 2024, Minutes.** Motioned by Guido Levy Jr, seconded by Jackie Whittington. Motion passes, 5-0-0.

Debbie Preston – **Approval of WA State Arts Commission Budget and increase as funds are received.** Motioned by David Iyall, seconded by Antonette Squally. Motion passes, 5-0-0.

Janette Dorner – **Land trust presentation.**

Willie Frank – **A Resolution Adopting the Nisqually Tribes “Building a Healthy Foundation” Policy. Resolution #9.** Motioned by Antonette Squally, seconded by David Iyall. Motion passes, 5-0-0.

Executive Session 3:35 - 4:10

Motioned to Adjourn by Antonette Squally, seconded by David Iyall. Motion passes, 5-0-0.

Meeting ends at 4:11



Continued from cover-RISE ABOVE



Coach George Karl talks with Hanford McCloud about the cedar hats and then grins in appreciation after Hanford gifted him the hat. Chairman Willie Frank III and Coach Karl seem to be hatching a plan. Chis Herrin gets a blanket and a hug.
-Photos provided by Aztec Sovereign and Debbie Preston





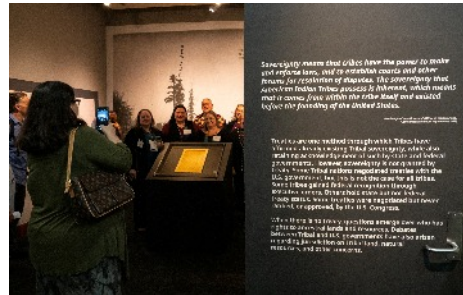
Treaty and Boldt 50 Exhibit at the Washington History Museum

By Debbie Preston

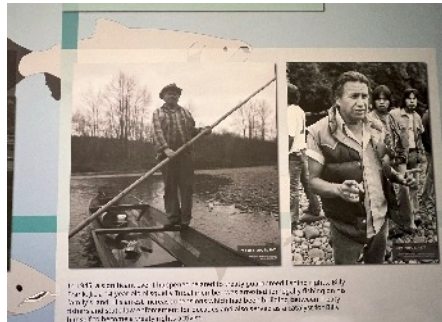
The Washington State Historical Society hosted the tribes of the Medicine Creek Treaty to get a look at an original page of the treaty before it went on display to the public on Feb. 9 in the Washington History Museum in Tacoma.

Additionally, those in attendance, including the Nisqually, Squaxin Island and Puyallup tribes and Steilacoom took in the Boldt 50 exhibit that is in tandem with the treaty exhibit across the hall from one another. The piece of the treaty is the "original, hand-written Article III of the 1854 Medicine Creek Treaty that guaranteed fishing rights to tribal treaty signers." The document is on loan from the National Archives and Records Administration.

The museum is located at 1911 Pacific Avenue Tacoma, WA 98402. It is open from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. Tuesday through Sunday. On the third Thursday of each month - there are extended hours from 10 a.m. to 8 p.m. and free admission on this day from 3 to 8 p.m. <https://www.washingtonhistory.org/visit/>



Group picture not all, but many of the tribes. The Washington Historical Society hosted a dinner for the tribes before taking them up to get the first view of the exhibits. Nisqually Tribe Vice Chair Antonette Squally talks about the emotions that go with looking at the treaty, both good and bad with Nisqually 5th Council Chay Squally, tribal member Tayonnah Birdtail, Nisqually Tribe Chairman Willie Frank III and Nisqually governmental liaison Hanford McCloud standing to witness. Many pictures were taken with the page of the treaty. The exhibit includes a copy of the whole treaty on the wall. Across the hall from the treaty is the The Boldt Decision at 50 exhibit. Nisqually governmental liaison Hanford McCloud works to identify someone in a picture taken of the courtroom during the trial presided over by Judge Hugo Boldt. Nisqually Vice Chair Antonette Squally and Culture Director Joyce McCloud take in the The Boldt Decision at 50 exhibit. Nisqually Tribe Vice Chair Antonette Squally, upper left, Nisqually Culture Department Director Joyce McCloud, Nisqually Tribe 5th Council Chay Squally and a next generation representative get a look at the page of the original treaty of 1854.





U.S. v WA 50 or Boldt 50 at Muckleshoot

By Debbie Preston

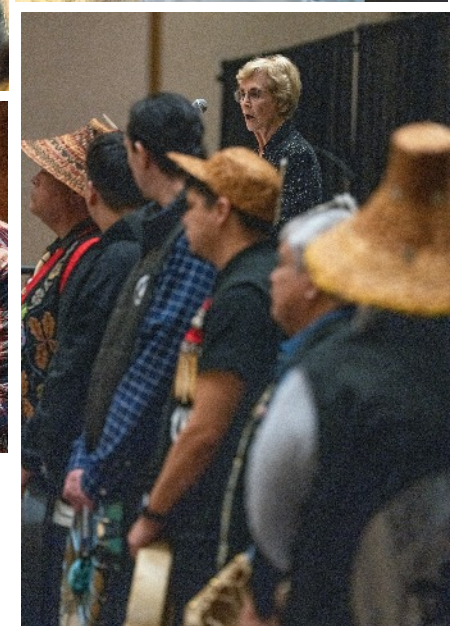
The Muckleshoot Indian Tribe hosted the two-day US V. WA 50, aka Boldt 50 commemoration put on by the Northwest Indian Fisheries Commission and attended by an estimated 500 folks from tribes, governments and the public to continue to honor and understand the power of the treaties, reaffirmed by Judge George Boldt's decision 50 years ago.

There was the debut of the documentary film, "Fish War," commissioned by the Northwest Treaty Tribes and filmed by North 40 Productions.

Additionally, the maquette, or small model, of Billy Frank Jr. was on display along with descriptions of the ongoing process with installation expected sometime in early 2025 in the U.S. National Statuary Hall.

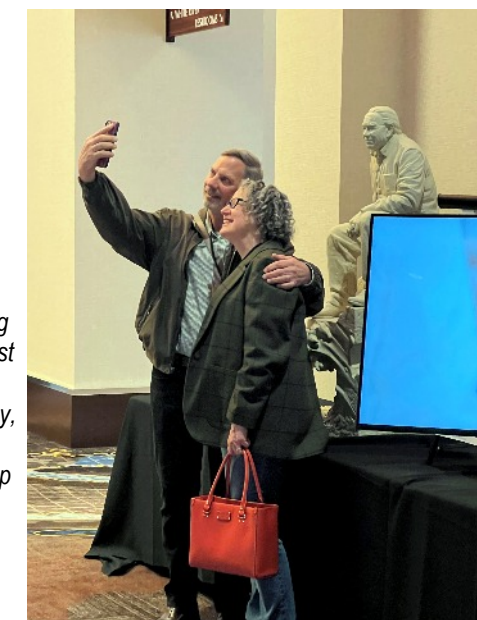
Attendees, including GI James, listen in the Muckleshoot Events Center to speakers at the conference.

Ramona Bennett, treaty rights fighter from pre-Boldt to now, listens to some of the speakers at U.S. v WA, aka Boldt 50.



Nisqually Tribe Chairman Willie Frank III conducts an interview about his father and the statue of him that will go into the National Statuary Hall. Artist Haiying Wu will begin work on the full figure once approval has been given for the design by the Architect of the Capitol in Washington D.C. As is often the tradition, some attendees worked on beading or weaving while listening to speakers. Virginia Boldt Riedinger, daughter of Judge George Boldt, talks about her father and his moral courage with the Muckleshoot tribal singers in front.

Continued on page 7-BOLDT 50



Nisqually Chairman Willie Frank addresses the audience about how the tribe has developed since the Fish Wars.

Wilbur Slockish Jr., traditioan chief of the Klickitat Band of the Yakama Nation, talks about spending three years in jail all over the United States for fishing. He missed milestones of his children like first steps, birthdays and first days of school.

Joe Peters, Squaxin Island Tribe Natural Resources Policy representative, talks to Doreen Maloney, Upper Skagit Indian Tribe elder and the tribe's general manager and fisheries manager.

David Herrera, Skokomish tribal member and Fisheries and Wildlife Policy Representative, picks up a book recently published about Judge George Boldt.

The maquette, or small model, of the Billy Frank Jr. statue was at the event, prompting many a selfie and photo.

The 2023-24 Hunting Season Ends February 28, 2024 Please return your hunting tags to DNR

The Nisqually Wildlife Program in the Nisqually Department of Natural Resources would like to remind tribal hunters that the general big game 2023-24 hunting season closes at sunset on Wednesday, February 28th 2024. Please return all tags to the DNR office. This includes all tags issued to you, even if you didn't fill the tag. Hunters that return *all* tags within 10 business days of the close of the hunting season (by close of business on Wednesday, March 13th), will be entered into the end of season raffle. This year's prizes are two \$300 Cabela's gift certificates. You are only eligible for the drawing if you return *all* tags by March 13th. The drawing will be held by Fish Commission soon after March 13th.

Note that the bear season will open on April 1, 2024 and go through December 31, 2024. Furbearers are generally open until March 31, 2024. Please see the 2023-24 Hunting Regulations available at the DNR office for more information.



Boldt Decision - Part 4 Tribal Authority

By George Walter

This article is the 4th in a series about Boldt Decision, issued 50 years ago. Tribal sovereignty, the right of a tribe to manage its own affairs on its own reservation lands, is well established in federal law and confirmed by many U.S. Supreme Court decisions. Sovereignty usually is linked to the land – a tribe has the right to manage its affairs on its own reservation. Ongoing disputes primarily involve limits to sovereignty, for example taxation and law enforcement. States, including Washington, have often argued for strict limits on tribal sovereignty.

The Boldt Decision, by providing for tribes to regulate fishing activities off-reservation, extended elements of tribal sovereignty beyond a specific land base. In order not to get this extension confused with overall tribal sovereignty, I think it makes sense to call this Tribal Authority; that is, the Boldt Decision established that the fishing clause of the treaties provided for tribes some degree of legal authority over activities beyond their reservations. The Nisqually Indian Tribe, post-Boldt under the direction of Fisheries Manager Billy Frank, went about exercising and steadily extending this authority. The first major examples were the two federal court lawsuits that Nisqually filed in federal court against Tacoma Power and Centralia City Light (the two hydroelectric facilities operating on the Nisqually River). These lawsuits were initially heard by Judge George Boldt at the federal courthouse in Tacoma.

The cities moved for dismissal of the lawsuits, arguing among other things that the Tribe did not have standing to bring such litigation. The Judge dismissed the Tacoma lawsuit without prejudice (that is, the Tribe could refile as needed) and referred the matter to the federal hydroelectric licensing agency, now called the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission (FERC). Further Federal Court proceedings against Centralia were put on hold as well, but not dismissed.

In 1977 the first FERC hearing occurred and eventually Centralia was brought under FERC license. The two State of Washington agencies, the Departments of Fisheries and Game (now merged in one agency, WDFW) also joined the litigation. In 1983 the FERC Hearings Examiner issued an order mandating that Tacoma and Centralia meet certain minimum flows on the Nisqually River to protect fish habitat, and that decision is very complimentary of the Nisqually Tribe's efforts to ensure protection of its fisheries and treaty rights.

Here's the important thing. The Federal Judge, the Federal Agency, and the State of Washington all recognized that the Nisqually Tribe had the authority to be involved as an equal in this litigation. No one, not even the two cities after they lost their first appeal, argued that the Tribe did not have legal standing to be involved, even though the hydroelectric utilities were not located on the Nisqually Reservation.

A key element of Billy Frank's plan for the Nisqually fishery was to develop a large hatchery. The Nisqually River was the only major river in South Puget Sound without a hatchery and, as salmon were managed in those days, putting out large numbers of Chinook and coho salmon from a hatchery was the main way

to ensure a good harvest. But Nisqually was making little headway with securing a location or getting the funding needed for hatchery construction.

In 1980 Billy proposed to the head of the state Department of Fisheries that the state and the Tribe together plan toward achieving this major hatchery. A MOA was signed, and Congressman Norm Dicks used it and arranged for the Tribe, through the US Fish and Wildlife Service (USFWS) budget, to receive funding for a hatchery feasibility study at the Clear Creek site. And, as we all know, the hatchery ultimately was funded with several federal appropriations, constructed and dedicated in 1991.

Again, the authority of the Nisqually Tribe to take all these actions was never questioned. The State, the Congress, the USFWS and Fort Lewis all accepted that the Nisqually Tribe, because of its treaty fishing rights, had the authority to undertake all these actions. It is likely that none of this would have happened this way were it not for the Boldt Decision.

The Nisqually Tribe has continued to expand in many ways its authority in natural resources management. For nearly 40 years we have had the Nisqually River Council, and the Tribe has played a consistent and ongoing role guiding council activities, including the annual watershed festival. The Nisqually Tribe was selected as the lead agency for salmon recovery planning in the Nisqually River watershed. Likewise, the Tribe was selected as the lead agency for water planning in the watershed. This latter process led to the Nisqually Tribe, exercising its expanding authority, securing off-reservation groundwater rights for the Tribe of 3.0 million gallons/day.

When the USFWS was unable to complete acquisition of all the land it wanted for completion of the Nisqually National Wildlife Refuge, the Nisqually Tribe, using its authority (and some of its own funds), purchased the Braget Farm. As part of the overall deal, the portion of the Braget Farm west of the railroad tracks was turned over to the USFWS for refuge management.

Today, the Nisqually Indian Tribe is recognized as the "expert" for natural resources management in the Nisqually River watershed and nearby marine areas. The counties and state agencies regularly defer to the authority of the Nisqually Tribe in these matters. That authority has its roots in the Boldt Decision, it was carefully nurtured initially at Nisqually by Billy Frank and by successive tribal leaders.

All these examples involve environmental issues and are based on the principle that treaty fishing rights necessarily implies habitat of sufficient quality and quantity to support these rights (sometimes this principle is called Boldt-Phase II). Since the late 1970's the Nisqually Tribe, again using its Tribal Authority as discussed here, has proceeded as if this principle was established law and that various governments and agencies were obliged in law to protect salmon habitat.



Toilet Paper Message from Public Works!

What should be flushed down the toilet? Only toilet paper and, well you know.

What shouldn't? Those new, so-called flushable personal wipes, say a growing number of city sewer managers, who are dealing with humongous clumps of these wipes clogging up pipes and sewers across the country.

Unlike toilet paper, which quickly breaks down in water, these other products despite their claims of being "septic safe" and "breaking down like toilet paper" tend to stay intact gumming up sewer systems and overflows into streams or basements from jammed pipes and broken pipes.

The moist cleaning wipes-sort of an adult version of a baby wipe, which also aren't flushable, are just part of the problem. Other products including pop-off scrubbers on toilet cleaning wands are increasingly being marketed as "flushable."

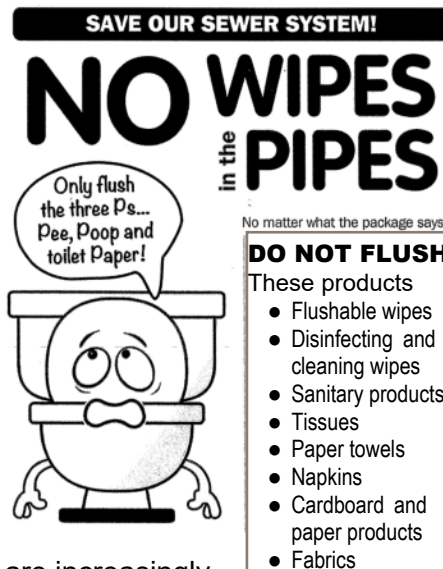
"Just because you can flush it doesn't mean you should. The package may say "Flushable" but in reality, they aren't."
-Tony Berkson, Nisqually Public Works Director

And the problem is not just here. This summer a 15-ton bus-size glob of wipes and hardened cooking grease, nicknamed "fatberg" by the Brits was discovered in a London sewer pipe after residents complained of toilets that would not flush.

When Consumer Reports, however, tested several brands of wipes labeled flushable they found that while toilet paper disintegrated after only eight seconds the wipes still hadn't broke down after 30 minutes.

Wipe manufacturers and an industry trade association are working on better flushability testing standards and a more prominent "Do Not Flush" logo on other products.

In the mean time when it comes to flushing, just stick with what we call the three P's: pee, poop and (toilet) paper.



New Policy and Procedure for Funding Requests

The Tribe has a new policy and procedure in place pertaining to funding requests from Nisqually Tribal members for a personal/family event or activity, including but not limited to memorial tournaments and like events.

Funding for these event requests is a maximum of \$2,000.00 with requests being on a first come first serve basis.

The application for these requests is in the Financial Services office located in the Administration building. Question on the application process can be directed to Cindy Pennigton in Financial Services. 360-486-9598

Housing Department Update

Accepting applications for HUD-funded Programs!

- Community Rental Assistance
- Rehabilitation and Modernization

Upcoming Events:

- March 20, 2024 @5:30 p.m.- Healthy Yards & Garden Workshop
- June 12, 2024 @5:30 p.m.- Create a Healthier Home Workshop
- September 18, 2024 @5:30 p.m.- Septic Sense Workshop

Office Closures:

- March 8th- Billy Frank Jr. Day



Community Garden

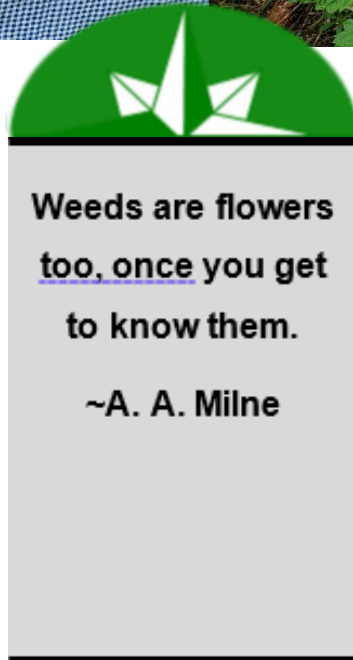
THE DIRT

March 2024



Natures Wellness Basket

- Cedar leaves and bark
- Cattail roots and flowers
- Dandelion flowers/buds and roots
- Usnea
- Big leaf maple flowers
- Devils Club bark
- Princess Pine
- Cottonwood Buds
- Chickweed
- Nettle
- Fir tips
- Horse tail
- Fiddlehead ferns from lady fern
- Miners lettuce
- Plantain
- Red Alder bark
- Skunk Cabbage
- Violet leaves and flowers



Indoor Seeding:

Broccoli, Cabbage, Cauliflower, Kale, Collards, Chard, Peas, Celery, Lettuce, and Basil.

**This section will be used to inform you of what seeds you should be starting indoors. Whether that be a green house or a warm very sunny window.*

Direct Seeding:

Beets, Carrots, and Cilantro.

**This section will be used to tell you what seeds you should be directly seeding into your garden beds, pots, or planters.*

Produce Availability:

- Beets
- Carrots
- Kale
- Collards
- Chard
- Parsley
- Brussel Sprouts

If you have any questions or want to know more about anything in this month's article, please contact Chantay at anderson.chantay@nisqually-nsn.gov
Written by: Chantay Anderson, Garden Program Manager



Monthly Garden Tips:

This month you can start weeding your garden beds, just try not to overwork your dirt as it can create hard lumps when it dries out.

Start to harden off onion starts outside to prep them for transplanting soon. Do this by putting your starts outside during the day and when nights are on the warmer side.

Plant bare root berry plants and grapes in late March- early April.

It's not too late you can still prune your raspberries.

Plant or vegetable of the month:

Cattail

This plant is one of our most versatile plants and can be used for food, medicine and as a material to make things with. The farmer's almanac provides some useful information on all the different ways the plant can be used as food and Nativetech.org also provides useful information on how Native Americans used the plant for food, medicine and as a technology. Remember if you decide to harvest cattail to try some for yourself. Make sure to harvest from a clean site to avoid pesticides and any other harmful chemicals.

Try this recipe!

Feeding 7 Generations A Salish Cookbook by Elise Krohn and Valerie Segrest



CATTAIL ON THE COB

This is a delicious and simple way to enjoy the cattail flower heads! Cattail is high in beta-carotene, niacin, riboflavin, thiamin, potassium, phosphorus, protein, amino acids and vitamin C. Harvest in clean, pristine areas to avoid contamination. Do not harvest near heavy agricultural areas, dairy fields or the sides of the road.

You Will Need:

- Young cattail flowers
- A pot with a tight-fitting lid and steam basket
- 1 cup of water
- Butter and salt

Prep time: 20 minutes.

Preparation

1. Harvest the flowering heads in spring to early summer by clipping with scissors or a knife. Flowering heads are in the center of the plant. Peel away the outer sheaf. You will see the top male flower and the bottom female flower. Both can be used, however, the top male flower has more "meat" to it.
2. Bring water to a boil, then wash the cattails.
3. Add steam basket full of cattail flower heads to boiling water. Turn heat down to low, cover and steam for 10-12 mins.
4. Add butter and salt to your liking. Nibble the stalk as if you were eating a tiny corn on the cob. The center of the stalk is tough, but the outer cattail flower is tender, nutritious and delicious!

Recipe by Elizabeth Campbell, Spokane





Artificial Intelligence: Update, Is it smarter than last year (or even us)?

Tips from the IT-WebDev Department

We produced an article on Artificial Intelligence in April 2023; it's been a year to date and now its time to review where does AI stand today? Will it or has it already become a part of our everyday lives? AI is most definitely making the headlines in the legal arena. Accusations of copyright infringement are a common theme.

Microsoft launched a new Bing search app in February of 2023, since that time several additional tools have been created to enhance online searches and interactivity to include Arc Search, ChatGPT, YouChat and Google's Bard to name a few. The tech stock markets have also climbed as a result of both speculation and claims about these new AI-powered tools. "More specific, accurate and personalized results within microseconds" are descriptive terms used to define this new technology.

But let's dive deeper into the reality and facts of AI. There's an old saying as applied to databases – "garbage in, garbage out" (perhaps that's why R2D2 from Star Wars resembles a trash can). This reference applies to the quality of data that a computer system maintains; the data goes in (provided by a person) and comes out (presented by a machine). The key point in this analogy is that the data is the most important aspect, not the person and/or machine. Data must be accurate, unbiased, applicable, truthful, consistent, error-free, and uncompromised – these attributes must remain firm with the lifecycle of the data.

Data must also not be plagiarized or allow for copyright violations. U.S. Supreme Court Chief Justice John Roberts warned that courts will need to consider the proper use of artificial intelligence (AI), portraying it as a new frontier for change. At the end of 2023, there were nine separate class-action lawsuits against AI firms in the USA, including OpenAI, Meta and Google parent company Alphabet.



One of those, Getty Images vs Stability AI, is also being tried in the High Court in London.

Editor's note: A strong word of caution; I recently tested a popular medical resource website while researching a medical symptom. I provided the data the online questionnaire offered, answering its automated questions – at the end of the "chat", the final result (health recommendation) was in direct conflict with the data I had provided and it appeared the data I provided was either neglected or ignored.

On October 30, 2023, President Biden issued a landmark Executive Order to ensure that America leads the way in seizing the promise and managing the risks of artificial intelligence (AI). On Tuesday, January 30, 2024, WA state Governor Jay Inslee signed an executive order to develop guidelines for how the state adopts generative artificial intelligence into its own systems to ensure its ethical and transparent use. "This executive order lays out a year-long process for agencies working together to assess the feasibility, benefits and challenges of integrating this technology into agency operations and services," Inslee said. "It's our duty to the public to be thorough and thoughtful in how we adopt these powerful new tools."

Groundbreaking technologies present unknowns, and these include risks and unintended consequences. Several AI models still have significant quality limitations, raise privacy and security concerns, some even reinforcing social biases. Whatever the peril or promise of generative AI, we are just scratching the surface in how we understand this new technology. In response, more national and state governments are stepping up to put guidelines in place to support innovation while also looking at guardrails that address security, privacy and other growing concerns among the public as this technology expands. We'll be sure to monitor further developments of this technology and provide updates in future Squalli-Absch newsletter articles.



Community Services Information

Vocational Rehabilitation Program (VR) Do you have a disability that has become a barrier to your employment goals? If so, you may be eligible for VR services. The overall goal of the V.R. program is to assist Native American People with disabilities in making informed choices that encourage the achievement of gainful employment while promoting personal empowerment, independence and integration into family, community and workplace with respect to individual cultural and traditional values. To be eligible for VR services the client **MUST** have a documented disability that is a barrier to employment. Clients must be enrolled in a federally recognized tribe and residing in Thurston County. For questions or to set up an appointment to apply, please contact Amber Sutterliect 360-456-5221 Ext 1283. Email address is sutterliect.amber@nisqually-nsn.gov

Move-In Assistance Program

This program is available only to Nisqually Tribal Members and provides assistance for costs associated with **new** housing rentals (not for existing rental assistance). The program may provide up to \$3,000 for first month's rent, last month's rent and deposit upon application and eligibility review.

The following are required documents for the application process:

- Rental Agreement/Lease signed by the Tribal Member and Landlord
- W-9 signed by Landlord
- Deposit Agreement signed by Landlord
- Policies and procedures document signed by the Tribal Member stating they understand the policies set forth by the program and Tribe.
- Income Verification

If you would like to inquire about your eligibility for this program, please contact Community Services Administration. You can speak to the following staff members, who will be able to check your eligibility and schedule an appointment to review the application and required documents.

- Marie McDonald at 360-456-5221 ext. 1234 or email mcdonald.marie@nisqually-nsn.gov
- Jason Sharp at 360-456-5221 ext. 2104 or email sharp.jason@nisqually-nsn.gov

Emergency Food Voucher Program

This is a federally funded program and is available only to Nisqually Tribal Members. It provides

assistance in purchasing healthy food(s). You must meet eligibility requirements to receive a food voucher. This program is income based and proof of income must be provided when applying. ******This program is currently out of funds; a notice will be published if any new federal funds are allocated to Nisqually******

Workforce Development – Cash Assistance (Formerly known as TANF)

The Workforce Development Program provides various assistance to federally recognized tribal members. Monthly cash assistance is a service provided to households that include children. Recent changes will allow us to start providing employment and training support services even if you don't have a child in your custody or care. If you have additional questions regarding support services provided or eligibility, please contact either Jesse Youckton at 360-456-5221 ext. 2210 or Amber Sutterliect at 360-456-5221 ext. 1283.



Fisheries WaterCorps Tribal Internship

U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (Lacey, WA)

Duties: Biological field sampling, lab, and fish hatchery support
Workstation: Lacey, WA
Duration: 6 months, likely starting in early June of 2024
Benefits Include:

- \$600 per week living stipend and AmeriCorps status and benefits
 - \$3,247 education award, student loan forbearance, etc.
- Career building experience and professional development training



Minimum Qualifications:

- Registered Tribal Member
- Age 18-34
- High School Diploma or GED
- A strong interest in Natural Resource Conservation Science

For more information and to apply, contact:
 Dan Spencer: Daniel.Spencer@fws.gov





RSV Vaccine for Elders, Babies and Pregnant People

By Addie Spencer, MD

You may have seen the ads on TV or heard about the new RSV vaccine from your friends. Right now, there are two RSV vaccines on the market:

- Arexvy
- Abrysvo

They are both safe and recommended for Elders over age 60. They can help prevent severe respiratory illness from the germ called respiratory syncytial virus. We don't know how long this protection will last after receiving the vaccine.

Most insurances cover the cost of the vaccine. Many pharmacies including Tim's pharmacy in Yelm have the vaccine. Sometimes their supplies run short, so it is good to call ahead to check.

- NTHWC patients have the option of seeking the vaccine at any pharmacy and using their insurance, to assist with the coverage of the vaccine.
- PRC Eligible Patients can ask their medical provider for a referral to Tim's pharmacy for the vaccine. Before going to Tims the PRC eligible patient will need to obtain a PO #, from the Business Office Staff.

The NTHWC medical clinic has been giving RSV vaccine to babies and toddlers this fall and winter. It is recommended for babies under 8 months old and for some children ages 8 through 19 months. If you would like information about the RSV vaccine *nirsevimab* for babies, please feel free to schedule a visit with one of our medical providers.

RSV vaccine is also recommended for pregnant people from week 32 through week 36 of pregnancy during September to January. They should ask their prenatal provider for this vaccine.

We still have plenty of winter ahead of us, so call 360-459-5312 now to schedule a visit with your primary care provider to discuss which vaccines are best for you.



Need Diapers?

Diapers are NOT CHEAP
Often times, those in low income families face high costs and limited supplies of this essential need.

1 in 3 Mothers in the United States struggle with diaper scarcity.

Diapers are necessary
When supplies are low or absent, it can add to the challenges of maintaining consistent childcare and steady employment.

SPIPA is excited to be able to provide Diaper Distribution services to eligible Consortium Tribal Members

The Diaper Distribution on Reservations Project works with other SPIPA Programs to deliver diapering needs to eligible families with children age 0-18 residing in the SPIPA service area.

Eligibility

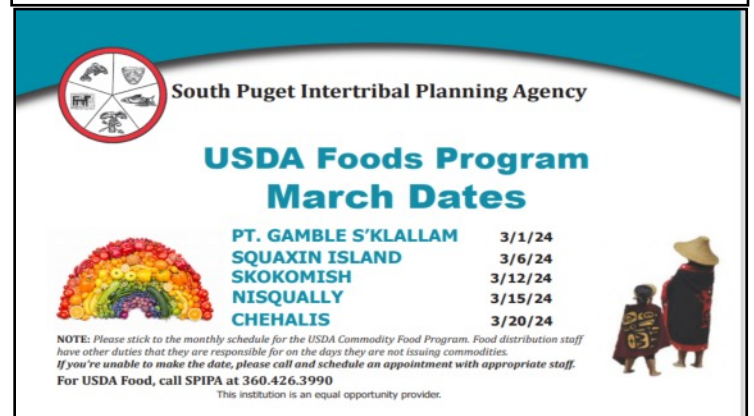
- Atleast one household member is enrolled in a SPIPA consortium Tribe
- Must meet income guidelines

If you qualify for:
Food Vouchers
LHEAP/ Weatherization
USDA Foods
WIC
Workforce Development Programs
You are eligible to receive diaper distribution.

For more information
fill out this form today, or for questions, email DDOR@spipa.org



Form is available at:
spipa.org/family-and-community-resources/



South Puget Intertribal Planning Agency

USDA Foods Program March Dates

| | |
|----------------------|---------|
| PT. GAMBLE S'KLALLAM | 3/1/24 |
| SQUAXIN ISLAND | 3/6/24 |
| SKOKOMISH | 3/12/24 |
| NISQUALLY | 3/15/24 |
| CHEHALIS | 3/20/24 |

NOTE: Please stick to the monthly schedule for the USDA Commodity Food Program. Food distribution staff have other duties that they are responsible for on the days they are not issuing commodities. If you're unable to make the date, please call and schedule an appointment with appropriate staff. For USDA Food, call SPIPA at 360.426.3990
This institution is an equal opportunity provider.



South Puget Intertribal Planning Agency

WIC Program March Dates

| | |
|----------------|---------|
| SQUAXIN ISLAND | 3/12/24 |
| NISQUALLY | 3/13/24 |
| CHEHALIS | 3/14/24 |
| SKOKOMISH | 3/20/24 |

This Institution is an equal opportunity provider.
Washington State WIC Nutrition Program does not discriminate.

NOTE: These dates are future projections. While we strive to keep these dates and times, they may be subject to change. This program is not always able to accommodate walk-ins due to their other duties.




Announcements

We want to wish our son JJ 🍀 a Happy 21st Birthday.
We're proud of the young man you've grown
to be in this short time.

Hope you always know how much we love you.
Mom, Dad, Ike, & the Brat



March 22,
Happy Birthday Mom,
We miss you!
Love the McDonald Family

Happy B-Day
Dom the BOMB!

Happy Birthday
Ray-Bean!

Happy Birfday
Ace Youckton!

Tribal Estate and Will Planning

Tribal Estate Planning Services provided by Emily Penoyar-Rambo

Services offered:

- Last will and testament
- Durable power of attorney
- Healthcare directive
- Tangible personal property bequest
- Funeral/burial instructions
- Probate

Zoom meetings will be set up for the first and third Thursday of each month. Available appointment times are 8:30 a.m., 9:30 a.m., 10:30 a.m. and 11:30 a.m.

Please call Lori Lehman at 360-456-5221 to set up an appointment.



FREE Rides
Monday through Friday

Transit available
6:00 a.m. to 6 :00 p.m.
Open to all tribal, community
and tribal employees. We offer
rides from 6:15 a.m. to last off
rez ride at 5:15 p.m.

Contact Adrian Scott,
Motor Pool Coordinator/Dispatch
At 360-456-5236

Nisqually Indian Tribe
 4820 She-Nah-Num Dr. SE
 Olympia, WA 98513



Annual sq'w'alt'abs Coastal Jam

April 5, 2024

5:00pm-12:00am

@ Nisqually Youth Center

MC: Antone George



Please join us for

Honorary Special:

Special ceremony in memory

Of our past Skipper

Tandy Squally Hyasman

We will be retiring his Skippers Paddle

It will forever Be displayed at

Nisqually's Longhouse



20th Annual sq'w'alt'abs

Wellbriety Pow-Wow

APRIL 5TH, 6TH, AND 7TH 2024

VENUE: Nisqually Youth Community Center

Coastal Jam on the 5th - Friday @ 5:00 pm

Grand Entry: Sat. @ 1pm and 7 pm & Sun. @ 1pm

WHIP MAN:

MASTERS OF CEREMONIES:

ARKRA DIRECTOR:

MARCUS WALLAHEE

CASEY WALLAHEE

ISAAC WESTON

HOST DRUM: CARAKSIDA

Head Man Dancer: Melvin Blacketer/Head Woman Dancer: Bridget Baglespaker

Royalty Contest: Miss Wellbriety and

Wellbriety Warrior

Dance Competition w/cash prizes

Golden Age 60+ 1st \$600 2nd \$500 3rd \$400

Adults Sr- 1st \$600 2nd \$500 3rd \$400

Adults Jr- 1st \$600 2nd \$500 3rd \$400

Teens- 1st \$300 2nd \$250 3rd \$200

Junior- 1st \$150 2nd \$125 3rd \$100

..... Dance Specials

Men's Fancy and Women's Jingle

1st \$1000 2nd \$800 3rd \$600

Owl Dance

1st \$600 2nd \$400 3rd \$200

#MADW - RED DANCE SPECIAL

Open Aves- 1st \$1000 2nd \$800 3rd \$600

Sonny Eaglespaker special

"Celebrating Life"

3-man Hand Drum Contest

DANCE PERFORMANCES:

Saturday: Manala Productions

Sunday: the Round Valley Dancers

All Dancers-Registration closes @

3:00pm on Saturday April 6th

There will be a small fee for registration

The First 7 drums- to register will

be paid

Vendor and Royalty Contest

Contact: Daydisha McCloud

(360)456-5221 ext: 1239

E-mail: mcloud.daydisha@nisqually-nsn.gov

For Counsel see info number: (800) 456-2221

Grove Hyasman ext. 255

Wellbriety Speakers/Kitchen with great prizes

Camping Spaces are available by the Ball field

Nearest Hotels are - prairie hotel, yelm, wa or Best

Western (Lacey) -> (360)456-5655 or

Fair Bridge Inn & Suites (DuPont) -> (253) 912-8900

This is An Alcohol/Drug free event.

Nisqually Tribe is not responsible

for injuries, theft, or short-changed

Thank You.

