Rain Fails to Dampen Spirit of Chehalis Tribal Days Memorial Weekend

Families fill the bleachers to watch softball games on Saturday. Many return to the annual tribal baseball tournaments to see old friends, family, and watch fun filled weekend of baseball.

By Fred Shortman, Editor

In a cost, most May 21st morning employees and community members gathered for cemetery clean up day. Cemetery clean up is a way to honor our ancestors in preparation for the Memorial Day. The Memorial Day was full of work with lawn mowers and weed cutters humming and singing their song as they manicured the grass. Many volunteers pulled weeds and lovingly waked head stones while sharing memories with each other. When the work was finish the cemetery looked beautiful.

Miss Tribal Days Pagant

The Elders gathered with seventy community and tribal members to witness the crowning of the 2010 Tribal Days Princesses. They were smiling as they listened to each contestant and waited to vote for the four divisions of Miss Tribal Days contestants. The younger ones became bashful as their parents helped them with their speeches. Contestant speeches detailed their family lineage and why they should be selected for Miss Tribal Days Princesses.

3 on 3 Basketball Tournament

The first 3 on 3 basketball tournament for Tribal Days was held at the main gym in the Community Center. Joyce Thomas volunteered to run this portion of the weekend.

Three teams entered the 14 and under. The winners were Markie, Gro & Rose. In the Adult division first place went to Bobbie, Jada and Reesie. Joyce said, “The youth were very competitive and they had a blast. We are looking forward to having this tournament again next year. Thank you Fau Fau Boyd for helping make our event happen.

Annual Cancer Awareness Walk Brings Families Together Walking In Support for a Cure

Provided by Jessie Goddard, Joyleen McCrory, Orinda Goddard and Fred Shortman

In recognition of each and everyone who contributed to the Cancer Walk and participated in this Annual event, we would like to thank you. The Chehalis Tribe has supported this event with hope that those who have suffered issues from cancer, have struggled with the illness, or have courageously battled this disease (and are now in remission) can continue walking/running for a cure. Our community has suffered many losses to this disease. Because it is so hard to include each and every person, by name, we want to say “Thank you very much, to everyone who donated, helped or participated with this event.”

The Cancer Walk began at noon on Sunday, May 30 with 158 walkers. Our Cancer Walk is to show support in finding a cure. “We just wanted people to walk together for one reason just as

See Cancer Walk, page 4

Annual Ceremony Returns Honoring the Salmon

By Andy Olson, Fisheries Biologist

The Salmon Ceremony returned in 2010 after a year off due to a lack of Spring Chinook. In 2010 the forecast for Spring Chinook was actually lower than in 2009, but the Fish Committee and Business Committee agreed that this year was even more important to celebrate the returning of the fish, showing them and the river the respect and reverence they deserved. They decided the fishery would be limited to just enough fish for the ceremony and no more. The number of fish counted on the spawning grounds in 2009 was 650 with a forecast of over 1200. The 2010 forecast was even lower at 909 fish returning, so it was even more important to limit the Tribe’s impact on this year’s run. An immediate closure was made following the Salmon Ceremony with a call to remove all the gear from the river to prevent impact on wildlife and salmon by closing the Siletz River.

Intensive surveys are planned to count every fish and also to help the Black River and Chehalis Spring Chinook through the new hatchery and by the conservation of tribal fishermen. Even with the decision to have the Ceremony, the river and the fish had to cooperate.

It was close but the river gave the people what they were hoping and praying for and the celebration of Fellowship and the First (Spring) Salmon returning was excellent. The fishermen (Shawn Otissee, Bill Secena, Bruce Klatsum, Darin Jones, John Yoakum and Maynard Stary) fished hard and the catches were cooperating. May in 2010 was one of the wettest since 1945 and the river was not warming, clearing, or dropping. Even the eel (Lamprey) redds weren’t visible in their usual places. The trees finally leafed out and Dennis said he had seen a few flying ants, a sure sign the Springers would be here soon. We scheduled

See Salmon Ceremony, page 3

Two youth receive awards for academics and sports

Youth commitment achieve praise from their family and community, page 2
Youth Receives Presidental Award for her Commitment to Academics

By Cassandra Pope, Proud Mom

I want to share with my tribe, how proud I am of my daughter, Desirray Klatush. Not only is she beautiful, but also smart, caring, respectful, funny and a talented tribal youth. Desirray is an enrolled Chehalis Tribal member. She is an eighth grade student attending Washington Middle school in Chehalis. Recently she received the Presidential Award for Academic Excellence. This award is given to students who demonstrate academic excellence in all areas and maintain a minimum 3.5 GPA. Cassandra sends this message to her daughter, Desiray, "Mom loves you baby girl, and is so proud of you. You make your whole family proud of your accomplishment in receiving this award. Thank you for letting me share my daughters achievement with everyone."

Awesome job Desiray, and keep the great work!

Desiray Klatush is pictured with her mom, Cassandra Pope, after receiving her President Award. She was honored for her commitment to academics, keeping her grades above 3.5 throughout the school year.

Youth Receives Recognition for his Outstanding Play in Sports

By Fred Shortman, Editor

Shawn Youckton is an eighth grade student attending Oakville middle school and has enjoyed playing baseball his whole life. As an eighth grader he played for the Oakville high school baseball team, and committed himself to getting good grades to maintain eligibility for baseball. He achieved eligibility and much more, receiving an award for playing the game he loves. At age 13 Shawn was recognized for his outstanding baseball playing League coaches honored him by voting Shawn to the All League Baseball Team.

This is an historical moment as Shawn is the first eighth grader in the school’s history to be voted All League. Shawn was also honored by receiving the Joshua Gillie Award for inspirational athletic achievements at the eighth grade graduation. At the baseball awards banquet he received the MVP award with Tucker Johnson. You’re an inspiration to everyone and keep up the good work!

His father, Marvin Youckton, said, “I’m really proud of him. He’s taken his game to the next level and his dedication and talent is proof of that.”

By Fred Shortman, Editor

Tribal Officer Johnny Gonzales awards four youth with certificates for heroism. These youth responded quickly and selflessly in helping a friend in a time of need.

Johnny Gonzales, Chehalis Tribal Law Enforcement Officer, shared his powerful story of witnessing how drugs destroy families. While working in the Community, he dealt with a lot of calls that were the direct result of the use of drugs. He shared that meth doesn’t discriminate. It doesn’t matter whether you’re young, old, male or female. Meth users age dramatically from the outside in, while heroin users age dramatically from the inside out. Most drug users don’t understand they can never achieve the same high they got from their first use. He stated that prescription drug abuse will soon surpass meth use.

Four youth were recognized during the dinner and received an award for heroism. Junior Jacka and Michael Boyd carried little Gary Ortizve during a medical emergency and Gordon Klatush and Shane Youckton called 9-1-1 to help their friend. thanked the Community for your heroism.

Elder Elaine McCauld spoke on suicide and the lasting effects it has on families. She encouraged those who spoke to continue to share their story and send out their message, turning tragedy into something positive. Using nursery rhymes and a legend, he continued, “It’s hard living in two worlds! One is just as important as the other. It’s hard to practice our culture, while we are trying to survive in this world.”

There are always alternative things to do to stay away from drugs. He encouraged young people to keep busy. Carving has kept him on the path which he started when he was 12. It might be basketball, baseball, weaving or anything you enjoy doing. He concluded, “Just find your niche and help one another to find theirs. Praise one another to give each other strength. The window of opportunity might not happen again.”

Gail Hurst led an exercise on, How well do you know your children? with winners receiving gas cards. Many youth helped her distribute a survey to hear voices from the community, youth and elders on what they’d like to see. Great job Kuah and all the youth helpers!

Lorraine Mellner said, “Thank you for the collaborative effort from the Clinic, Chehalis Tribal Police, and IASAP Grant through SWPPA. The speakers deserve a Huge Thank you for singing their songs by telling their stories about tobacco, domestic violence, alcohol and drug abuse that directly affected their lives.

By Fred Shortman, Editor

Event Demonstrates the Dangers and Effects Drug Abuse has on Families

Chelalis Tribal Newsletter

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

Submission deadline: 6th of each month
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Chehalis Youth attended the Standing Tall Youth Conference at the Great Wolf Lodge in May. Pictured (L-R) are Corrie Medina, Chance Rush, Monica Lopez, Cody Revay, Brian Castillo

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The Confederated Tribes of the Chehalis Reservation... “People of the Sands”
Henry Culte was born July 4, 1888. His father was of the Satsop tribe and his mother was of the Chehalis tribe. Henry was of mixed blood. His grandfather was a Chief. He had many grandchildren from different tribes because of the world has many eyes. If you lie to me, you’re not telling to me… the world is looking on you. Therefore, in the future you will live a short life.” He said if they got to the river before the birds were up, they would live long. But if they slept late; they would live a short life. When he grew up he would tend his family. He had a small farm and made his living by fishing. In his younger days after a rain the river would clean itself out. No other river would do that. Weipoot and Humptulip had the same language. They had friendly relations between them. Chenois Creek were separate Indians from the Humptulip. Henry doesn’t know their language, no one spoke it in their days. When he was a child, he used to be asked “to measure the mouth of the south wind.” They’d him out on the tile flats barefooted and he’d slip along with his hands outstretched; measuring the mouth of the south wind. This so it would go down more high by his feet was and dived 5 times and they are still living. His grandfather told him that if he didn’t fish, the world has no eyes. If you go to the river before the birds were up, you would live long. But if they slept late; they would live a short life. When he got to the river, he would rub his body with twigs from the river. They would be maybe 6 to 8 inches long; ones that had sunk into the river when it was running. He would rub and rub under his arms; this would take away all the odor. He has never had odor under his arms. The old people were careful. They kept their beaches perfectly clean. They used to bury their garbage. When they killed a deer; they would bury what was left… Nowadays this isn’t true. A lot of people eat sturgeon. The Indians used to trade all the time. Indians east of the mountains used to raise corn and trade it over here. The Indians east of the mountains used to raise corn and trade it over here.

Salmon Ceremony (continued from page 1)

By Glen Connelly, Environmental Specialist

As I’m sure all of you know, the Chehalis River has been flowing through our watershed and into the Pacific Ocean for tens of thousands of years. Salmon and other native species have flourished here and the tribal people have learned to thrive here too. The Tribe has a direct connection to the river. The river is not only a natural part of a river system and without it, the river basin would not be so beautiful, so productive. The river is also a place that has learned to live with floods and has tried to focus development on the Chehalis Reservation. It’s a beautiful place.

Sadly, many people who don’t understand the language of the river. They think that the river needs to be controlled and contained. There has been a loud outcry from communities that mistakenly believe that the river needs to be controlled and contained. The river needs to be controlled and contained. The river needs to be controlled and contained. It is a beautiful place.

We are going to take over all this country. The Governor Stevens told them people says, “We going to take over all this country. We are going to pay you for this country, each person, man, woman, baby, all. He lay down his hat that it was so many acres of big sturgeon hats, you know? I said “I’ll give all the kid a piece of sturgeon hats. Want to sell, you sell all, half of full gold.” All of some them got was four hundred dollars apiece. Wasn’t enough to fill my pockets with. We had to ask him if we could give us a check. We could have this whole Grays Harbor County to Russia and get more than four hundred dollars apiece. All of this Chehalis Territory, away down to the ocean. Ocean Shores and that was all was got. They offered two cents an acre for good farming land, and if sand or anything other than farm land, they charged you two cents an acre. Riley Pete said “I’m going to put mine in the frame. He says four hundred dollars for my whole country?” I don’t know whether he spent that money or what. I went to his funeral, you know, but he had so many relatives; they must have took four thousand dollars. That’s all he got for the Oakville Territory, you know.

These people at Oakville, they’re nearly all related to me. Now my cousin over here, he raised a family at Taholah. I raised a family at Skokomish. Now my other cousin, John Hayden, he raised a family at Oakville. There’s a group of Indians in the tribe. His mother and my mother were sisters. I was married to one of the Heck family, you know. My first wife. I didn’t get married. I stole her from Oakville. I took her this way and they say I can’t find her now. She was the one that they broke their record and that was the only time we saw that they do. So we moved to Taholah. We could never read a book or find a job in Taholah. I couldn’t live with those people unless I was married… so I had to get married (laughing).
**4 Tribals Days**

Throughout this tournament.

Tony Medina Leads Fun Youth Activities

On Friday and Sunday while baseball was being played the sound of a siren echoed through the air. Children were seen running towards the basketball court to participate in the fun activities that Tony Medina scheduled for the youth.

The Little Boston Team from Port Gamble's 5'Kilam won the men's hardball championship jackets. They won in acordial fashion by defeating the younger Little Boston team by 10 running them in the seventh inning of a scheduled 9 inning game.

The Lady Natives returned and defended their championship. They were able to defeat Taholah in the championship game. It was an outstanding display of the combination of offense and defense by all the softball teams. Hope to see everyone next year!

Coeid Slow Pitch Softball

Cheryl Star, Tournament Director

Carla Thomas, Lisa Powell-

3rd Place-Quileute (Lower Elha)

Taholah successfully defended their championship against the All Nations coed softball team. It was a great day for baseball! No photo available.

**Cancer Walk**

(continued from page 1)

Our theme stated, ‘Walking together for past, present & future of a loved one.” “Walking for a cure,” said Joyleen McCroy, Family Services Assistant Director. Each participant received a turtle, considered symbolic of the Chehalis Tribe’s aluminum sports bottle.

“I would like to thank all the programs and businesses that donated to the 3rd Annual Cancer Walk. I heard we had a great number of walkers,” said Orinda Goddard, Assistant for the Vocational Rehabilitation Program. She added: “Due to playing softball all weekend, I was unable to participate in the whole Cancer Walk. Hope next year I will be able to be among all of you that walk for a cure!”

Some of the gifts received from the departments, programs and enterprises of the Chehalis Tribe included: a $50 Shell card, a $50 Fred Meyers Gift Card, an iPod Shuffle, a tent, a cooler, planter with plant, three sleeping bags, camping gear, balloon tank and balloons, two $25 Shell cards, a one-night stay at the Eagle’s Landing Hotel, a $100 Casino Steakhouse and $50 buffet gift certificate, four movie passes, a set of pots and pans, and more.

Cancer Walk

(continued from page 1)

with participants having to walk to the gas station and back. We had Breast Cancer, Colon Cancer and Prostate Cancer Survivors walking. Raffle tickets were issued at the event, including an aluminum sports bottle. The winners were: a number walker a little break, rehydrating with water was laughing and joking with each other as they walked together. There were a number of tribes represented in the walk: Chehalis, Nooksak, Lower Elhah, Yakama, Quileute, and Warm Springs. Pets were represented by two dogs that walked with their owners and even one wore her tee-shirt.

Volunteers were available to assist with walkers and provide water along the path and call-out for support vehicles for those who requested it. Law Enforcement was also available insuring safety for the walkers. At the end of the walk, you could hear the cheers and applause as walkers made it to the finish line. Many walkers had their pictures taken after completion of the walk. We look forward to seeing you next year. We can never thank you enough.

Photos taken at the Chehalis Tribal Days 3rd Annual Cancer Awareness Walk 2010 will be available soon. Requests for copies may be made by contacting Christina Hucks at 360-709-1741.

Tony Medina, Youth Center Director, encourages youth during the hula hoop relay race. This was one of the many fun activities for the youth during the Tribals Days Memorial Weekend. Every youth was a winner and received prizes for their participation.

**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 baseball jackets, 3rd Place received crew neck sweatshirts, 4th Place received T-shirts. All-stars received duffle bags, Special awards for MVP, Best Bat, Best Glove, and Best Catcher

**Women’s Slow Pitch Softball**

Cheryl Star, Tournament Director

Carla Thomas, Scorekeeper and Assistant Tournament Director

1st Place-Taholah

2nd Place-All Nations

3rd Place-Skokomish

4th Place-Quileute (LaPush)

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