

SAMISH INDIAN NATION

SAMISH NEWS

CERTIFIED ELECTION RESULTS SAMISH NATION ELECTION JUNE 29, 2008

Votes cast = 190

Position #1 Chairman

Thomas Wooten 190

Position #4 Secretary

Dana Matthews 143

Leslie Smith 68

Position #7 Council Member

David Blackington 151

Chris De Kay 77

Jan Flagg 70

Shawn Mac Avoy 96



Samish Election Board

Front Row: Kyle Rogers, Jessica Wight, Stephanie Reinauer

Back Row: Sandy Hansen, Greg Winters, Lisa Weber, Ray Gorynski, Darlene Graddon

Budget Committee Meeting



This year's budget committee will meet on:

**October 17, 2008 at 10:00am
Council Chambers at the RV Park**

The Samish members invited this year to be part of the budget committee for 2009 attended the accounting 101 class offered last year for a good understanding of grants, contracts and discretionary funds. We normally need about 7 members to be part of this process. I welcome any Samish member interested in being part of the budget committee in the future.

Please contact me by cell phone number (206) 491-1776 or by email tamararogers@samishtribe.nsn.us
Thank you and it's my pleasure serving as your Council Treasurer.

Tamara Rogers
SIN Council Treasurer

SAMISH NEWS

SAMISH TRIBE BUYS PRIME HIGHWAY 20 LAND

Elaine Walker, Anacortes American on October 28, 2008

The Samish Indian Nation acquired about 14 acres of prime Highway 20 frontage at Anacortes' east edge on Oct. 13, but has not yet decided how best to develop the land, said Samish Tribal Chairman Tom Wooten.

"We were concerned about securing it," he said. "Large pieces like that are hard to come by."

All options are on the table for the land across the highway from Frontier Ford, including a hotel or casino, Wooten said, adding that the Samish want to do something that benefits both the community and the tribe.

"We're a shareholder in the city. We intend to work with the city toward common goals," he said.

The property bounded by Thompson Road and Stevenson Road was purchased from Bill Wooding for almost \$8.6 million, according to figures from the Skagit County Assessor. It is in Anacortes city limits in the light manufacturing zone.

Wooding, who could not be reached for comment Monday, once proposed the site as a location for a Fred Meyer-type retail store, but he and other landowners in the area were unable to convince the city to rezone it for such a development.

"I think we will probably pursue putting the land in trust so that won't be an issue," Wooten said.

The tribe has options not available to previous landowners because of compacts with the state and tribal sovereignty on trust land. Wooten said this was a reason the tribe was able to acquire the property.

After a public hearing process, the land will eventually be removed from the tax rolls. Wooten said that the Samish will continue to work with the city to develop agreements as the two governments have done with other tribal properties. In those agreements the tribe has agreed to meet city building codes and to pay fees equal to property taxes for city services such as fire, police and emergency medical care.

"The tribe has been here forever and we want to continue to be part of the community," Wooten said.

Nothing will happen quickly — it took the Samish six years to get its Campbell Lake land placed into trust.



"Fee to trust is a long, arduous process," he said.

In addition, the economic situation is not inviting to new business.

"It will be a couple years before the economy turns around so you can borrow money to do anything," he said.

This just means that the tribe has time to deliberate and make a good decision, said Leslie Eastwood, the Samish Tribe's general manager.

"We are trying to be hopeful and cautious at the same time," she said.

State compacts allow tribes to sell things such as cigarettes, gas and liquor on tribal land. A convenience store is another possibility at the location, Wooten said.

"Those types of things bring revenue," he said.

Just like other governments, the Samish Tribe is feeling the economic pinch as the federal government cuts back spending on programs.

"We have to make it up somewhere," he said.

The tribe was watching for a big parcel to open up, and when the March Point land unexpectedly became available they acted quickly.

"It was an opportunity that presented itself and the tribe couldn't pass it up," Wooten said.

An Early Fall Day

Late September, the weather was still warm this year. The urge to drive to the mountains and spend the day looking for forest (ruffled) grouse and wild chanterelle mushrooms was too great to resist. These were things I grew up doing as a child, going with my family around Guemes and Fidalgo Islands seeing grouse and picking mushrooms in the spring and fall. Sadly those times are gone. The encroachment on the natural habitat of the Islands was too great for the forest grouse; houses now stand where the best mushroom spots were.

I now have to pack a lunch and drive sixty miles to get to where things were, forty years ago on our home Islands. My son (Jeff) asked to go, which is a time to enjoy and look forward too, when the day to day trials and tribulation can be left behind, if only for the day. As we drove to our new traditional hunting spots we reminisced about our previous hunting trips and of how far we now have to travel to enjoy what our ancestors had in their back yards.

Our mushroom spot has been one we have been going to for a few years and been mindful to take only what we can use and enjoy, ensuring that each year on our return they would be waiting for us. As the river road wound along we noticed that other people were at the spot we have gone to year after year. We decided to look for Grouse and stop on our way home to look for mushrooms.

We found a likely spot for Grouse, an old clear cut with good cover and food source and an old gravel road, everything a grouse could ask for. Grouse are a smaller bird and well camouflaged and well adapted to its environment. Jeff was able to get one of the two we saw. At the next spot an old log landing it was my turn. So far it has been a good day and with good thoughts and feelings

we continued our hunt. Returning back down the river road we got to where the interlopers had been at our mushrooming spot. As we entered the forest it was evident that several people had been skewering the underbrush for mushrooms. It did not take long to realize that market hunters had cleaned out almost all of the delectable fungi. As we searched for ones they missed I began to think of how our usual and accustomed area has been ever changing.



The things that came to mind were urban growth, logging practices of the past and lastly the economy. The market hunters were trying to make a living. It is hard to fault people for doing what they can to make ends meet. This begs the question what can we do as a tribal nation to make sure that the natural resources that we enjoy are available for generations to come. The need of working with the State and other tribes to manage and sustain the resources that things like forest grouse and wild mushrooms need, as well as everything else that comes from the wild.

Our Natural Resource Department is dealing with all these issues and many others. I would ask and encourage your continued support of their activities for all our members and everyone who enjoys the outdoors for whatever the reason, tribal and non-tribal alike.

My hope is you have enjoyed my story and can relate it to many of your own, and that they show how we (Tribal people) are tied to our history, culture, past and present in our ever changing environment.

Chairman Tom Wooten

Message from the Vice Chairman

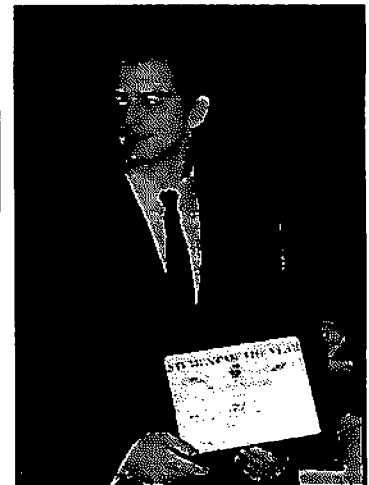
Dear Samish Brothers & Sisters,

I want to offer congratulations to the newly elected members of the Council and to thank the people who ran for office but were not elected this time. The Council is the direct representative of the Samish People and it is good to see an increased interest in serving. I especially want to thank Chris DeKay & Billy Jo Settle for their many years of service on Council. It was a joy and learning experience working with them. The current Council is a good, dedicated group with many exciting and difficult issues ahead of us. It is an honor to be on Council during these times of political, financial and cultural growth.



On another topic: I have asked for permission from Washington State Parks to restore the landscaping around the base of the Maiden Pole at Rosario Beach. I assume we will be given permission to do the work in October. If you would like to volunteer for a fall day of gardening and good Samish fellowship please let me know at timking@samishtribe.nsn.us or tim@tland2c.com or (206) 786.6032

Respectfully,
Tim King



Student of the Year

Samish Tribal Member Tyler Rogers of Sequoyah Middle School was awarded Student of the Year by the School Board of the Federal Way Public Schools. Tyler also the same year was awarded once again Student of the Year by the Federal Way Lions Club.

Congratulations Tyler, we are all so proud of you!

Remembrance for Ken Hansen

A remembrance feast for Ken Hansen (TSA-WAC-TON) is being hosted by the Hansen family. All are welcome to celebrate the life of our Tribes previous Chairman.

DATE: Sunday May 17th, 2009
TIME: 12:30 PM
LOCATION: Fidalgo Bay Resort and RV Park
Community Building

Thank You. "The Journey Continues".

Mary and Roger Hansen



Thank you Samish

ELDER GIFT CARDS

Tom and the Council,
I want to acknowledge receipt of the Elder's Visa Card and to express my deep gratitude. This is so deeply appreciated. From the bottom of my heart, thank you!

Judith Schladio
.....

Mr. Wooten,
What a joy it was to receive the Visa gift card from the tribe! I am truly grateful for this gift. It will go towards the taxes on my home. Please express to the council and the tribe my appreciation for this most wonderful gift.

With Sincerest thanks,
Peggy Bea Dire
.....

Dear Samish Tribal Council,
I want to say I really appreciate the Visa gift card. It will help buy food and gas for me. Thank you very much. I am proud to be a Samish Elder.

Thank you again,
Joan Wills
.....

Dear Friends,
I received my gift card – and many thanks to you. This will be used mostly at the grocery store – prices seem to be going out of reach. My son, Von sends his thanks too.

Thinking of you with appreciation,
Bea McNew
.....

To Thomas Wooten and the Samish Tribal Council,
The gift card you gave me was a much needed and appreciated surprise. Thank you very much!

Sincerely,
Terry Gorynski
.....

Tribal Council,
Thank you so much for the Elders Gift Card. It was much appreciated. Also, thank you for the Visa cards for those children attending school. It was put to good use.

One of those young students is now 19 years old and has an appointment to the Naval Academy in Annapolis. He is representing the Samish Nation and the State of Washington. He is now a sophomore. His name is Joshua James Stewart.

Thanks Again,
Donna (Fannahill) Louthain
.....

To the Samish Indian Nation,
Thank you for the surprise gift card. It came at a time when everything else is falling apart. It is much appreciated.

Judy Fees

Dear Mr. Wooten,
I want to take this opportunity to express my gratitude to you as well the council for the generous gift. As an "Elder," I appreciate the thoughtfulness given us in the receipt of the gift cards.

I am planning carefully on how well to use it. This is another fine example on how we members of the Samish Indian Nation take care of our brothers and sisters.

Again my thanks to each of you,
Renee (Blackinton) Kroker
.....

What a wonderful surprise. Thank you so much for the gift card! It was appreciated very much.

Eve Austin
.....

Dear Tribe,
I'm so very, very sorry for sending this thank you so late, please forgive me.

I fell in May and broke a few bones. So what with not being able to go any place for some time and feeling very sorry for myself this card got put off. I can't thank you enough for the money and yes I'll get my steps fixed very soon. Again, "Please forgive me."

With love to all of you,
Lela Scheffelmaer
.....

Tom,
I wasn't sure who to send this Thank You to. The \$500.00 check was a wonderful surprise yesterday. Thank you, Thank you!

We hope to be at the meeting next year. We have missed a few years. Coming from California, the gas is getting to us in our motor home. But we sure don't want to give up this kind of travel and hope to see you next June.

Thank you again for thinking of the elders. We do appreciate it!

Pat Naylor
(Daughter of Evelyn Ryder, Barrett)
.....

Now' Si'am,
I was just going to write you a note thanking you for the Pendleton blanket that was presented to me during the S'a' mesh hosting of the Canoe Journey. The new Pendleton blanket "the Record Keeper," is perfect – just the right gift for me. I appreciate it and thank you and have been happy to serve on council for all these years.

Then I received the Elders gift card – I had forgotten that council had made that motion, so the card was a wonderful surprise. I am sure that all the 169 Tribal Elders appreciate the gift. Hy'shka si'am for all you are doing for S'a'mesh as a whole and for the members. Hoy' Keache Copps. Hoy' Kwe Che!

Co lath see SAH, Chus

Thank you Samish

SUPPORT IN THE COMMUNITY

Tom,
Thank you so much, Tom, for the time that you, Tim King and Dana Mathews gave to our State Park Commissioners and executive staff at Rosario Beach on August 8 this year.

Your presence at the gathering added so much to the depth of their experience and understanding of the Rosario area. Hearing the Kokwalalwoot story from your own tradition put the visit and the rest of the day in good perspective as well.

I am sorry that Director Rex Derr could not join us as planned. His mother was suffering serious medical concerns back in Olympia, and he left town the evening before to be with her.

I also want to thank you personally, Tom, for working with me to develop a strong cooperative effort in caring for this special place we all treasure. I look forward to the future times we share as we manage the area together.

Sincerely,
Jack Hartt, Park Manager

SUPPORT TO OUR FAMILY

Dear Chairman Wooten and Samish Council Members,
On behalf of myself and my family, I would like to express our thanks and appreciation for your support during the recent burning ceremony that was held at Weaverling Spit to honor in part, my ancestor, Susan Samson (Seyam Schielot) and family.

Special thanks to Tom Wooten for the song that he shared at the burning ceremony as well as his thoughtful remarks. We all appreciated the fact that he was able to be there with all of us.

This was a very moving and memorable occasion for myself and for all the members of my family that were in attendance. As Chairman Wooten said, this burning was a long time in coming, and we all felt that it was a very spiritual and meaningful event.

We so appreciate Council's support, and for allowing us to use the facilities at the RV park to accomplish a long-awaited goal of honoring my ancestors who have waited so long.

With Sincere Thanks,
Cheryl Chatt

.....

Dear Samish,
I want to send out a thank you to all Samish for the burning that was done in June partly for our family, the Sampson's.

Since I was little, I have followed my sister, Cheryl Chatt, everywhere and I am glad she has led our family back to the tribe. Thank you to all Samish for accepting us and allowing me to be part of this beautiful and moving ceremony. I especially loved the singing.

Sincerely,
Janine Jijina

EDUCATION

Dear Ms. Holland,
I would like to thank the Samish Indian Nation for their continued support throughout my educational career. All of the financial support I have received over the years has truly helped me attain my goal of becoming an Accountant. I truly feel that by attaining this degree I have accomplished my dream of becoming financially stable and will always be secure in my future.

Without the help of the tribe I would have never been able to reach my goals and I wanted to let you know how much it is appreciated. Since graduating in June, in the top of 15% of the business class, I have been on several interviews and soon hope to attain a job of my dreams. I feel since I had less stress of the financial burden school brings I was able to focus more on school and my grades. I graduated with honors and plan to attain my Certification as a Public Accountant (CPA) and possibly a certification in fraud accounting as the area of fraud sparked my interest and I would like to help put an end to this devastating crime, which hurts so many people every day.

Again, thank you for placing your confidence in me and helping me attain my dreams. Your support as wonderful people and through the financial means was truly a blessing.

Sincerely,
Erica Markley

POLITICAL CONTRIBUTIONS

Dear Chairman Wooten,
Thank you the Samish Nation for the generous donation to my re-election campaign. Your support is truly appreciated.

I look forward to continuing to work with Michael Moran on issues important to you.

Debbie Regala
State Senator
27th District

.....

Dear Chairman Wooten,
Thank you very much for the campaign contribution. I had a very strong showing in the primary and look forward to returning to the legislature next session to work on issues you mentioned. I appreciate your support and look forward to working with you!

Best,
Jueme Herrera
18th District

Enrollment Information Needed

THE FOLLOWING MEMBERS HAVE NO VALID ADDRESSES IN THE ENROLLMENT DATA:

James Barrett	Lloyd Barrett	Lyle Barrett	Shane Barrett
Mauricia Bill	Chester Blackinton	Lisa Bleeck	George Bob
Marcie Bob	Christopher E. Clark	Holly Clifton	Randy Daniels
Gary Davies	Carolyn Edwards	Timothy Edwards Jr.	Michelle Foster
Darlene George	Christian Gidlof	Gordon Gidlof	Katherine Graves
Wayne Graves	Kelly Hatch	Heidi Hawkins	Theo Hawkins Jr.
Debra Higgins	Brandon Horstman	Laura Hovland	Kirk Hudson
Hope Hudson	Oliver Hudson	Gordon Jack	Marcy James
Terry Jones	Patricia Kavanaugh	Corey King	Keegan King
Matthew King	Shannon King	Bryce Louis	Martin Louis
Shelbie Lucy	Brody Lundin	Dinah Lundin	
Charlotte MacDonald	Jennifer MacDonald	Kurtis MacDonald	Shannon McCary
Winnifred Marchand	Ryan McCary	Heather McIntosh	Paul Michaels
Gordon Misheal	Edwin Mitchell	Bryan Perry	Everett Perry
Shirley Parminter	Skyler Ransier	Richard Ritter Jr.	Kelee Rock
Juliette Scates	Colleen Scheel	Shawn Sherman	Corey Smith
Jo-Anne Smith	Wesley Smith	Robin Spivey	William Steele
Ronald Thompson Jr.	Patricia Tomlinson	Ada Torres	Angela Williams
Norman Underwood Jr.	Ralph Underwood Jr.	Sheri Underwood	Jeffery Wooten
Victor Mario Underwood			

We are either still searching for these people or their mail has been returned back to our office, at which point the address is removed from the system as no good. We have been having problems with not getting everyone's address changes correct. If you change your address and it affects your children's address then please let us know who they are so theirs may be changed as well. Thank you for all your help.

If you are a Veteran or those of you who have an Indian name, please contact our Enrollment Department so we can record this information in our database. Thank you.

ANYONE REQUIRING A NEW CARD MUST PAY \$5.00 FOR A REPLACEMENT. CHECKS MADE PAYABLE TO "SAMISH INDIAN NATION". IF YOUR PRESENT CARD DOES NOT HAVE A PHOTO ON IT THEN PLEASE SEND A PHOTO ALONG WITH THE REQUEST AND CHECK TO THE ENROLLMENT DEPARTMENT.

Card Changes

Whenever someone changes a name, address, etc. they must send verification of that change. In the case of a name change we must have either a copy of the court document or a copy of a marriage license. **When it comes to an address change we need a copy of a bill, a copy of your driver's license with that change, rental document or etc. We can no longer take this information over the phone, we must have a valid home residence. We will accept Post Office Boxes but they must also have a valid residential address. Until we have this information we will not issue a replacement card with the new information on it.**

Samish Enrollment Department

2918 Commercial Avenue

P.O. Box 217

Anacortes, WA

98221



Phone: (360) 293-6404

Toll Free Phone: (800) 365-9062

Jan Flagg, Enrollment Clerk

Extension 106

jflagg@samishtribe.nsn.us

Businesses Owned by Tribal Members

If you would like to advertise your business in the Businesses Owned by Tribal Members, please call Nicole Herman at (360)293-6404 or toll free at (800)365-9062 extension 110 or email her at nherman@samishtribe.us

COAST SALISH NATIVE ARTISTS WANTED

To display tribal oriented artwork on consignment at the Fidalgo Bay Resort store.

Please contact Michael Madsen at:
(360) 293-5353 or (800) 727-5478
for an appointment to show your work.

Samish Discounts at Fidalgo Bay Resort

Sunday through Thursday - 50% off
Friday & Saturday - 25% off

This includes RV Sites
and Convention
Center Rentals.

General Meeting and Canoe
Journey Weekends are **FREE**
to all Samish Members.

Tribal Card Required



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Brie Keller and
Nada Thompson

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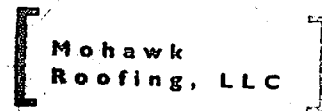
**VERIZON
WIRELESS
DISCOUNTS**



Verizon Wireless offers discounts to all employees and members of Samish Tribe, which include 17% off your monthly calling plan \$34.99 or higher, discounted phones and PDA's, 25% off accessories, and discounted broadband cards. These discounts are valid for all new lines of service and upgrades.

Josh Johnson, Sales Representative. Jason can assist you with getting your discounts when starting new lines of service, upgrading your phone, purchasing phones and accessories, and adding data features.

Phone: (206) 300-4051



Tyrone McLeod
15766 Indian Road
LaConner, WA
98257

Phone 360.770.7317

Email cedar.mountain@hotmail.com



ALLEN-BRADBURY CONSTRUCTION, LLC.
Accountable Building Contractors

901 Algona Blvd. North, Suite A
Algona, WA 98001
Phone: 253.218.2288
Fax: 253.218.2292

michaelj@allenbradburyconstruction.com

Natural Resources Department

SAMISH NATURAL RESOURCES DEPARTMENT CONDUCTING CLIMATE CHANGE STUDY IN FIDALGO BAY

Climate change is a topic that seems to be everywhere. Rising temperatures, rising sea levels and shifting rain/snow patterns could have a very significant effect on tribal shellfish harvest, salmon populations and restoration efforts in the Salish Sea ecosystem. Some models predict a sea level rise of up to several feet in our area which would have a major effect on the Samish Indian Nation's Resort and shellfish harvest activities on Weaverling Spit. Most of these models are large scale regional efforts, however, and there is not much local information at the present time. Models are not refined enough to predict climate change effects on smaller scale ecosystems such as Fidalgo Bay.

The Washington Department of Natural Resources (WADNR) has funded the Samish Natural Resources Department (SDNR) in an effort to gain local base level data within Fidalgo Bay for use in potential climate change analysis on the local level. Natural Resource Technicians Jennifer Weeks and Todd Woodard have deployed 16 continuous temperature monitors in the intertidal areas of Fidalgo Bay around Weaverling Spit. These data loggers record water temperature readings every hour of every day that they are deployed. Sensors have been deployed in areas within eelgrass beds as well as areas outside of eelgrass beds in order to gather data that over time may be used to model climate change effects on Fidalgo Bay's wildlife and plant populations as well as provide data helpful in guiding restoration efforts in the Bay. WADNR has also provided funding for the continued operation of the weather station located on Weaverling Spit so that the Tribe may continue gathering data for climate change analysis and modeling efforts in the region. "We are very pleased with the partnership between the Samish Indian Nation and the Washington Department of Natural Resources," says Woodard.

This is important local information that we hope to use in understanding the possible effects of climate change as it directly relates to the Tribe's natural resource protection.



The mission of the Samish Indian Nation Natural Resource Department is to preserve, protect and enhance all natural resources within the Samish historical and cultural territory by helping integrate community values, and ecosystem health in every decision that upholds the Tribes Sovereign right for protection of all natural resources.

Health Notes

MEDICARE INFORMATION

If you have Medicare Part D (drug coverage) you may be eligible to have assistance with paying the premium, the deductibles and the co-payments for that coverage. If your income (single person) is \$1301 or less per month, or (couples) \$ 1751 or less per month, and your available assets are under (single) \$11,990 or (couples) under \$23,970 you can have the premiums paid for you, and reduction or elimination of the deductibles, co-pays and coverage gap.

If you have Medicare Part B coverage, you may be eligible for help paying that premium (you are paying almost \$ 100 per month premium for that coverage...it is taken out of your Social Security check). If your income (single person) is under \$1170 per month or (couples) under \$1575 per month, you may get assistance. The asset limits are lower than for the Part D (see above); for help with Part B premiums, your assets must be below \$4000 (single person) or \$6000 (couples)

For assistance applying for either of these programs, please call Erin and Joanne in Contract Health Services.



When your doctor recommends a shot for something other than flu, pneumonia and hepatitis, your Part D plan should pay for the vaccine. You may wish to ask your doctor about

the new vaccine for shingles. Your Part D plan is required to pay for this, but call your plan to check the coverage, and find out what the co-pay will be, and where you will be able to obtain it. Some pharmacies can provide this, but advance planning is required, as this serum is costly, they have to special order it and it requires special handling.

Finally, for those folks approaching retirement age. Remember that Social Security retirement income eligibility is separate from Medicare eligibility. For most folks, Medicare eligibility starts at age 65 (earlier if you are deemed disabled). The eligibility age for Social Security income is rising. We encourage everyone to call Social Security for an appointment three months before your 65th birthday month, to learn about Medicare, and sign up if appropriate. You are not 'automatically' signed up. The annual statement you receive from Social Security should tell you at what age you can receive Social Security income.

Do You Have Diabetes or Know Someone Who Does?

The incidence of diabetes is continuing to increase at alarming rates. If you or anyone you know is struggling with diabetes or pre-diabetes, we would like to hear from you!

The Samish Indian Nation has a unique Diabetes Program offered through the Indian Health Service to assist and support tribal members with diabetes in their self-management efforts.

For more information, please contact the Samish Health Department for a confidential consultation.



If you move or change health insurance, don't forget to call Joanne or Erin.

Samish Contract Health Services

1017 29th Street
P.O. Box 919
Anacortes, WA
98221



Phone: (360) 293-6404

Toll Free Phone: (800) 365-9062

Joanne Liantonio extension 125
jlantonio@samishtribe.nsn.us

Erin Soucy extension 126
erinsoucy@samishtribe.nsn.us

Keith Tucker extension 201
ktucker@samishtribe.nsn.us

Social Services Notes



Benjamin Jojola grew up mostly on the reservation of *Isleta Pueblo*, located just south of Albuquerque, New Mexico. Attending high school at Chemawa Indian Boarding School in Salem, Oregon. Benjamin had the experience early on of getting to know people from tribes all over the country, seeing the strength of shared beliefs and the diverse beauty of culture, language, and art. This continued at the Institute of American Indian Art in Santa Fe, New Mexico where Benjamin studied two-dimensional, three-dimensional design, arts appreciation of the American Indian, and museum studies. Exploring the rich history of “**ALL OUR RELATIONS**” and his ancestor’s from Taos, Laguna, Hopi, and Isleta. Benjamin has worked with many tribes both in the southwest and the northwest as a cultural resource person in areas of Native art from the tribal school to college level. However, a science based prevention program “*Project Venture*” exposed Benjamin to the many possibilities of utilizing his youth mentor skills to create effective *alcohol, tobacco, and other drug (ATOD)* free programs. These days Benjamin lives in the fertile Skagit Valley of Washington state with his wife and two sons, close to his daughters and grandchildren, and returns home to Isleta often. His focus now is working with the *Samish Indian Nation* as their Substance Abuse Prevention Specialist creating (ATOD) free activities and events that are culturally rooted. Also, sharing his experience with others and learning from theirs, especially with young adults of all backgrounds through experiential education, such as challenge courses, wilderness excursions and farming with the intent of helping youth to connect to their inner strength, to that same beauty and power in others, and to the roots and home of all of us – **Mother Earth.**

Washington State Department of Health

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CONTACT US

Samish Social Services Department

2918 Commercial Avenue, P.O. Box 217
Anacortes, WA 98221

Phone: (360) 293-6404 Toll Free (800) 365-9062

Rebecca Peck, Social Services Director

Extension 128

rpeck@samishtribe.nsn.us

Robert Ludgate, Family Services Specialist

Extension 119

rludgate@samishtribe.nsn.us

Benjamin Jojola, Substance Abuse Specialist

Extension 122

bjojola@samishtribe.nsn.us

Jim Straight, Chemical Dependency Counselor

Extension 114

jstraight@samishtribe.nsn.us

Judy Lavallee, Mental Health Therapist

Extension 127

Head Start/Community Childcare



October was a busy month for the preschoolers in The Samish Head Start/Community Childcare. We visited Gordon's Pumpkin Patch and The Anacortes Public Library. The Anacortes Fire Department visited both classrooms to teach the kids about fire safety.

We are also enjoying our monthly visits from our resident native storyteller Benjamin Jojola. Last, but not least, each child received a free bike helmet donated by The Anacortes Fire Department.

Congratulations to Samish tribal member Michelle Johnson on her new position as Head Start Lead Teacher!

Community Childcare is up and running with the help of our new teacher assistant, Carol Tingley.

If you would like more information about getting your child in to our Community Childcare Program please contact Debbie Aldridge at (360) 588-8806 or email her at daldridge@samishtribe.nsn.us

Technical Arts Grant

Dear Samish People,

My name is Tyrone McLeod and I am a firm believer in community support for the technical arts. This is why I have chosen to give a grant in the form of \$500 to any Samish Tribal member pursuing life interests in a craft or Technical Art.

The grant for the Technical Arts can only be used to offset the costs of your craft, for example tools, classes, workshops and supplies. There will be no bias on your craft being traditional or modern.

I would like to give the Technical Arts Grant to everyone applying, however I cannot and do encourage all-non recipients to apply the following year.

I encourage any person compelled to give money for the Technical Arts Grant to please call me and donate for next years grantees. More money to give to tribal members equals more grant recipients. Thank you for your interest and support.

All applicants please apply by sending a Bio, cover letter, and a photo sample of your work. Letter must address the following questions: What does Culture mean to you? How does your craft or intended craft represent your culture? In what ways can your craft improve the lives of the Samish People? First Nations People? All People? Don't forget a return address and phone number.

All applications are due by December 31, 2008.

-Tyrone "SKIP CUM 3" McLeod

