

## Elections Are May 3rd!

The time has come to make your voice heard - tribal elections are fast approaching! The Elections Committee is working hard to ensure a fair, legal, and efficient voting process.

### What Does the Elections Committee Do?

Each year, the Tribal Council appoints members to the Elections Committee, who then elect their officers. Their main job? To oversee the election process and ensure fairness. They also assist in planning the spring General Body meeting, which is organized by tribal administration at the request of the Tribal Council Chairman.

To guarantee accuracy and transparency, the committee brings in an outside consultant to print and record ballot counts. Ballot counting is closely supervised by candidate representatives, committee members, and tribal law enforcement.

### Get Involved!

The Elections Committee is currently looking for volunteers to help make this year's election process smooth and successful. If you're interested, now is the perfect time to step up and support your community! If you'd like to serve on the committee or are interested in volunteering the day of the meeting, please reach out to Melissa Puhn at mpuhn@squaxin.us or (360) 426-9781.

### Who's Up for Election?

*This year, two important Tribal Council positions are on the ballot:*

Council Member 3	Currently held by Vince Henry Sr.
Vice Chair	Currently held by Jaimie Cruz

## Your Vote is Your Voice

It is very important to vote. It has only been within the last century that all Americans have had the right to vote and many Americans sacrificed a lot to gain this right. With this right, our Council will always be accountable to the people who put them in office. However, for this accountability to work, and for our community to remain strong, we must exercise our right to vote, and we must do so responsibly.


Voting responsibly is not always an easy task. The voter must first understand the issues at hand, as well as how he or she feels about these issues on a personal level. The voter must then examine each candidate that is up for election, and make an educated choice (this is the difficult part). The voter needs to know where each candi-

date stands on the issues at hand, and decide what issues are most important to you as a voter and base a decision on that.

Also within this, there is the human element: whether a candidate will be dedicated in serving their constituents and community, how they will handle a crisis, and if the candidate will make the right decision when new issues arise. All these factors together can make it very hard to make a decision and as a result many Americans do not vote. There are many reasons why people chose not to vote. Many times, two major candidates have similar backgrounds/ they take the same stands on issues and, as a result, it seems unimportant who is elected. In addition, a majority of young people do not vote because the issues at hand are not a problem for today.

Each and every one of you are encouraged to get out and vote, think of your future and make a difference.

*Your participation matters! Stay informed, get involved, and make your vote count!*



# 2025 GENERAL BODY MEETING

SATURDAY, MAY 3, 2025  
9:00 AM - LITTLE CREEK EVENT CENTER

Sign in starts at 8:30 a.m.

**EARLY BIRD RAFFLE AT 9:00AM**

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- Annual Reports
- Q&A with the General Council
- 2025 General Elections for:
  - Tribal Council Vice Chair
  - Tribal Council Member #3

**Information booths & DOOR PRIZES!**

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QUESTIONS? CALL 360-426-9781



# Squaxin Island TRIBAL NEWS

10 S.E. Squaxin Lane  
Shelton, WA 98584

PHONE: (360) 426-9781  
TOLL FREE: (877) 386.3649  
FAX: (360) 426-6577  
[www.squaxinisoland.org](http://www.squaxinisoland.org)

Articles and opinions expressed in this publication are not necessarily the opinions of this publication or the Tribal Council.

The Klah-Che-Min encourages Tribal Members to submit letters, articles, photographs and drawings to be considered for publication, but are subject to editing.

Contributing writers and artists include Squaxin Island community members and staff.

Submissions Deadline:  
15th of each month

## SQUAXIN ISLAND TRIBAL COUNCIL:

- KRIS PETERS: Chairman
- JAIMIE CRUZ: Vice Chairman
- JIM PETERS: Secretary
- JOSHUA WHITENER: Treasurer
- JEREMIE WALLS: 1st Council Member
- VICKI KRUGER: 2nd Council Member
- VINCE HENRY: 3rd Council Member

Klah-Che-Min Staff:  
THERESA M. HENDERSON: EXT. #3945  
thenderson@squaxin.us

K L A H - C H E - M I N

## Council Corner

### April 10th Tribal Council Meeting

#### Updates on Housing, Natural Resources, and Community Events

The Squaxin Island Tribal Council convened for its regularly scheduled meeting to address a variety of topics ranging from housing policy concerns and enrollment approvals to environmental restoration initiatives and upcoming cultural events.

#### Meeting Highlights

Council Chair Kris Peters opened the meeting at 9:10 a.m. with a prayer offered by Vicki Kruger. The council approved both the day's agenda and the minutes from the March 13, 2025 meeting.

The council also discussed several upcoming community events, including the Canoe Blessing, Arts Walk, and the annual General Body meeting scheduled for May 3rd. Vicki Kruger offered to drum with the youth at the General Body meeting's opening.

#### Natural Resources and Environmental Initiatives

James Peters presented a series of resolutions related to culvert mediation and appointments to leadership, legal, and policy roles. The council approved all three resolutions.

Scott Steltzner shared exciting developments in Blue Carbon Estuary Restoration, securing nearly \$3 million in funding. The Goldsborough and Deschutes estuaries are the main beneficiaries. Additionally, the McDonald Property may soon be acquired and managed through an innovative agreement with The Nature Conservancy, potentially opening new avenues for environmental stewardship.

#### Government and Legal Affairs

Legal counsel Nathan Schreiner discussed mineral rights concerns related to the Packwood Property and introduced draft legislation on election activity restrictions near voting sites, mirroring state law. The council plans to review this further in a future session.

Kris Peters highlighted a landmark moment in Olympia as the city council signed a purchase agreement for the Plum Street property. This move is seen as a major step toward strengthening economic development and Tribal presence in the area.

#### Enrollment and Citizenship

Aleta Poste reported five new enrollments of children and outlined steps being taken to process older applications, especially following the lifting of the enrollment moratorium. A relinquishment resolution was also approved.

#### Kennedy Creek and Cultural Projects

Guest Kerensa Mabwa provided an update on the Kennedy Creek project, which includes plans for camas planting and community involvement. This multi-year collaboration emphasizes restoration, education, and cultural preservation.

#### Casino and Legislative Updates

Ramon Nunez gave a Little Creek Casino update, and Mara Machulsky and Peggen Frank briefed the council on legislative developments, including budget priorities and recent Fish and Wildlife Commission appointments.

#### Closing

The meeting adjourned at 1:10 p.m. after discussing updates in executive session, including finance policy and further enrollment matters.





## Council Corner

### April 24th Tribal Council Meeting

The Squaxin Island Tribal Council convened at the Council Chambers on April 24, 2025, to address a wide range of community and administrative matters.

### Youth Present Shelton School Flag Proposal

One of the most moving moments came during public comment when OMS Native Educator Laurie Chapel and students from Olympic Middle School requested the Council's permission to fly the Squaxin Island Tribal flag at their school. Students, descendants of tribal families, shared heartfelt testimony about the importance of representation and cultural pride. Council fully supported the effort and encouraged continued youth leadership.

### Sweat Lodge Proposal

Steven Dorland, Redwolf Krise, and Patricia Green proposed the construction of a community sweat lodge near the Tribal garden. While logistical and safety details remain under review - such as drainage, emergency response, and fire regulations - Council supported the idea in principle and encouraged staff to work out the logistics. The lodge is envisioned as a cultural, extracurricular project accessible to all.

### Community Development and Grants

Chad Bedlington reported that the new six-plex housing project is progressing, with occupancy expected in the fall. The Tribe is also advancing with road roundabout designs and master planning options for community growth. Two grant applications were approved to support community and victim services.

### Health & Wellness Services Expanding

Rachel Armas shared that the tribal clinic recently announced extended hours, ongoing success with behavioral health services, and a drive to improve billing efficiency. A search is underway for a full-time dentist, and a partnership with other tribes is being explored for a shared crisis response team.

### Childhood Development Updates

Janita Raham shared they are updating policies at the Child Development Center (SICDC). Three governance policies - covering conduct, responsibilities, and tuition - were formally presented for review.

The meeting adjourned at 12:30 p.m. following an executive session.




## Feedback forms: [squaxinland.org](https://squaxinland.org)

Feedback forms are available for tribal members to provide feedback at the top of each department's main page, as well as the Tribal Council page.

Your valuable feedback will go directly to the director of the department and Executive Director, Erika Thale. Please take time to let us know what great ideas and concerns you have.

**Squaxin Island**



# Tribal Council Meetings


## Public Comment Period

**SECOND & FOURTH THURSDAYS**  
Each month

Tribal Council is implementing a new Public Comment Period with every Council Meeting. This period will be a standing item on the agenda, from 9:15 - 9:30am. Attendees are encouraged to bring their comments in written form, and each individual's time will be limited.

REGISTER FOR THE PUBLIC COMMENT BY TUESDAY BEFORE THE MEETING:

Email Melissa Puhn to get on the Public Comment Period:  
[mpuhn@squaxin.us](mailto:mpuhn@squaxin.us)



**Suicide & Crisis Lifeline**

# Dial 988

for mental health emergencies.

Text **NATIVE** to **741741** for free, 24/7 support.  
**#WeNeedYouHere**





# Need a Tribal ID?



**Contact Aleta Poste:**

(360) 432-3923

[acposte@squaxin.us](mailto:acposte@squaxin.us)





# RUNNING FOR TRIBAL COUNCIL



## Vince Henry

### Running for Council Member 3

Hi all! Vince Henry, Sr. here, and I would like to take the healthy risk and put in my run for re-election of my position on Tribal Council.

I have thought long and hard about this decision and come to the conclusion that it is necessary for me to retain my seat, because we have a lot on our plates that still needs a lot of work.

I humbly ask for your support so I can continue to help get our tribe back in order so we can all continue to move forward in a good way.

I see lots of opportunity coming our way; we just have to be patient and let projects develop.

I will not give up on our tribe.

I am strong, dedicated, and compassionate of Squaxin Island Tribe and know we will always persevere.

It would be a huge honor to serve on our Council again.

Thank you!

- Vince Henry, Sr.



## Jaimie Cruz

### Running for Vice Chair

txʷəl gʷəlapu, gʷəlapu dʷi:šəd, dʷyayayəʔ

My name is Jaimie Cruz, and I'm honored to formally ask for your support as I run to retain my seat as the Vice-Chair of the Squaxin Island Tribe.

I am a proud mother, daughter, auntie, sister, cousin, and community leader who is committed to OUR people, OUR traditions, and OUR future.

#### About Me

- Granddaughter of Evelyn Miller Krise and Buddy Miller
- Daughter of Leanora Mesplie-Krise (Squaxin) and Timo Cruz
- Mother to Hazel Sesal and Angeline Slocum - Jay Lehman
- Lifelong Squaxin Island Tribal member
- Cultural leader and community caretaker
- Clam digger, geoduck harvester, and advocate for OUR lands and waterways for our U&A

#### My Vision

- Is a community that uplifts one another - especially OUR youth and those who are struggling
- Empowering youth through education, support, and leadership rooted in tradition and culture
- A transparent and economically strong tribal government that is accessible to our General Body
- Support stronger mental health rooted in cultural knowledge and practices for more efficient healing of OUR people's traumas
- Protection of OUR lands, waters, and ways of life for future generations
- Unity through respect, even when we hold different values or ideas

#### Qualifications and Experience

##### TRIBAL EMPLOYMENT:

- Squaxin Island Tribe Education Department since 2013
- Teen Advocate - Tu Ha' Buts Youth Center (2018 - Present)
- Truancy Prevention Specialist (2021 - Present)

##### LEADERSHIP & REPRESENTATION:

- Affiliated of the Tribes of Northwest Indians, Squaxin Delegate
- Turning Pointe Board of Directors
- Kamilche Canoe Club Member (since 2016)
- Squaxin Island Canoe Family - Active Member
- Vice-Chairwoman of the Squaxin Island Tribe 2022 - present
- Council Representative for the Enrollment Committee, Housing Commission, and Musuem Board

##### PUBLIC ENGAGEMENT:

- Coordinated voter registration drives
- Opening/Closing speaker - Environmental Lobby Day at the Capitol
- MC Squaxin General Body 2023 & 2024
- 2024 Young Leaders Panel, Centennial Accord Suquamish, WA





# RUNNING FOR TRIBAL COUNCIL



**Cameron Henry**

Hello everyone, for those of you who don't know me, my name is Cameron Henry. My parents are Marvin Henry Sr. and Kathy Anderson (Hurley). I've been married to my beautiful wife, Annie-Beth Henry (Whitener), for 15 years and we have three amazing children, Bailie, Brooke and Bennett. I want to take a moment to announce my intentions of running for Tribal Council.

My dad raised my siblings and me on the reservation and a lot of my friend's moms helped to parent me as well and I consider myself extremely fortunate to have grown up in such a tight knit community. My wife and I also lived in tribal housing for a few years until we were able to purchase our home between the village and Shelton. The Village will always be my "home".

I was raised hunting, fishing, and clam digging, and I am still an active participant in all of these things. Our treaty rights are something I'm very passionate about and I've been an outspoken advocate for our rights since I was old enough to sit on our committees. Over the years I've been a member on our hunting, fishing, and shellfish committees, and am still a member on the combined "Natural Resources" committee.

As someone who has, and still does rely on the income from clam digging, I'd like to see other buyers allowed to purchase our shellfish. We're currently

limited by Salish and their market for how many digs we can have per week. I feel like it would be a huge benefit to our harvesters if we allowed other buyers on private tidelands and tribally enhanced beaches instead of only state tidelands like it currently is. More and more of us are participating these days, so it doesn't make sense to limit our people because Salish is only capable of taking so many pounds per week. I understand that the biggest reason that other buyers aren't allowed on our enhanced beaches is because the tribe paid for the seed and manpower of planting and maintaining them. A possible solution would be to impose a shellfish tax on enhanced beaches to cover the cost of enhancement.

I feel like something we can work on is getting more of our youth involved in our treaty rights. More needs to be done to encourage participation. Whether that means gifting new clam diggers their first fork and bucket, or giving incentives to our fishermen and hunters for bringing youth out with them. When I was a kid, the Tribe offered hunter's education and that's something I'd also like to see offered again. The resources we have are extremely important and the interactions with relatives and other tribal members are just as valuable. I remember the first time my cousin invited me to go beach seining or hunting and I've been hooked ever since. I encourage everyone to get out there and practice some or all of our treaty rights.

Another thing I'd like is to give our tribal member employees a way to be able to speak their minds without the fear of retaliation. As a tribal employee myself, I've seen firsthand the retaliation some of our people get for speaking out on topics they don't agree with. In my eyes that's not right. As tribal members we shouldn't have to fear reprimands or potentially losing our jobs for bringing awareness to certain issues and I'd like to see us come up with a solution for this.

Education is no doubt important and we need to keep encouraging our people to seek higher education. We also need to acknowledge that not everyone is the same, and we should also be encouraging people to join the trades. We also need to come up with a solution for our relatives that aren't meant to work in a 9-5 setting. If we allow other buyers on our clam beaches, it would increase opportunity and give those relatives the income they might need to make it in these crazy times.

Economic growth is another important topic. I've said it before that I feel like our neighboring tribes have been leaving us in the dust when it comes to economic growth. I'm grateful to be seeing and hearing about the projects that we have planned and I'd like to keep the momentum going. I'd also like

to see the tribal members more informed on current and future projects as well.

These are just a few things that I've been thinking about and I can go on and on but I'll keep it somewhat short for now. I'm always open to discussion and enjoy hearing others thoughts and opinions. Without open communication, we won't be able to truly understand the needs of the community as a whole and enact positive change. I'm dedicated to doing everything it takes to learn and be the best I can be in the position. Thank you for the consideration and I'd appreciate your support at the General Body meeting to be an advocate for our people.





# GREAT NEWS!



## Thank You! To All of Our Valued Employees!

If you would like assistance updating a resume or have questions about any of our open positions, please reach out to Jessica in Human Resources.



## SUMMER YOUTH

If you are a Squaxin Tribal member between the ages of 16 and 21 and would like an opportunity to work this summer, please visit the link below for an application. Please attend the workshops below to complete the online application

### Workshop dates:

- May 15th, 22nd, 29th from 3-5 PM
- Squaxin Island MLRC:  
150 SE Kwuh-Deegs-Altux Shelton, WA.  
98584
- This workshop is to assist with resume building and applying Online.
- Food and drinks will be provided.

### What to Expect:

- Program Runs - Monday, June 30th- Friday, August 8th.
- Little Creek Casino Resort applicants will have an additional orientation workshop.
- Applications must be submitted by Monday, June 2nd by 4 PM.

### CONTACT US

360-432-3865

Jlcruz@squaxin.us



## Squaxin Tribal Transit Department is Hiring!

Are you a Tribal Member without a CDL?  
Great News! Mason Transit is offering FREE CDL  
Training for Tribal Members!

### Requirements:

- Must be a Tribal Member
- Commitment to work for the Transit Department for at least 1 year after obtaining your CDL

### Benefits:

- Free CDL Training
- Secure Employment
- Serve Your Community

### Apply Now!

For more information, contact: Squaxin Transit  
Department Phone: (360) 432-3951

Email: [mnerney@squaxin.us](mailto:mnerney@squaxin.us)

For an application contact Human Resources:  
(360) 426-9781 or Email : [apply@squaxin.us](mailto:apply@squaxin.us)



# LITTLE CREEK CASINO RESORT



## What's Happening at the Creek?

### Break the Bank

Saturdays | 4PM–9PM | Win up to \$5,000 Cash

Smash your way to riches! Grab a hammer, break open the piggy bank, and uncover a surprise cash prize - every hit could mean a huge payday!

### Fortune Falls

Fridays | 4PM - 10PM | Win up to \$2,000 Cash

Let fortune rain down this spring! Play the fan-favorite PLINKO game and watch your prize fall into place - you could score up to \$2,000 in cash every single hour!

### Jackpot Drawing

Sunday, May 4 | Drawings at 2PM, 4PM & 6PM

Get ready for a May money bloom! We're springing forward with jackpot drawings that grow bigger every time:

- 2PM – \$2,000 cash
- 4PM – \$4,000 cash
- 6PM – \$6,000 cash

If you hit a jackpot of \$1,200+ in April, you're already in the running. Must be present to win!

### Forever Young (50+ Promotion)

Tuesdays | 10AM (Cookies) | 6PM & 7PM Drawings | Win \$1,000 Cash

Tuesdays are blossoming with fun for our 50+ crowd! Start your morning with fresh Crumbl cookies, then try your luck in the evening for free play and \$1,000 cash prizes. Springtime has never been sweeter!

### Iced Out Gift Giveaway

Sundays & Thursdays | Earn 9AM–9PM | Pickup 1PM–9PM

Shine bright all month long! This May, get iced out with dazzling jewelry gifts. Collect all four sparkling pieces and you'll be entered to win a Tiffany & Co. gift card. It's your time to sparkle - while supplies last!

### Swing & Win

Wednesdays | Drawings 6PM–8PM | Grand Prize at 6:30PM on May 29

Swing into spring and aim for the green! Play golf to earn entries and win free rounds, with the grand prize - a brand-new Titleist club set and bag - awarded at the end of May. Tee up for a season of winning!

### Kings & Queens of Dice

Mondays, Tuesdays, Wednesdays | Win Your Share of \$1,250

Who will rule the dice this May? Roll your way to victory in this exciting challenge. The player with the longest roll of the month will reign supreme and claim the top prize!

### May Bingo

May 16–18

Friday Blacklight Bingo: Doors open at 5PM | Early Bird at 8PM | Regular Session at 8:30PM

Saturday & Sunday: Doors open at 11AM | Early Bird at 1PM | Regular Session at 1:30PM


Play bingo and win a share of over \$25,000 in total cash prizes!

### Upcoming Entertainment

Wanted Bon Jovi Tribute | May 10th 8PM

Aaron Lewis | June 12th 8PM





Little Creek Casino Resort will be recognized by our GUESTS as the friendliest entertainment facility in our marketplace.

**Joseph** ★★★★★ Apr 23, 2025  
Always like staying at the Little Creek Casino. Rooms are clean and plenty of reasonable dining options. Liked: Cleanliness, staff & service, property conditions & facilities

**Kaelyn** ★★★★★ Apr 22, 2025  
Loved the poker tournament! Liked: Cleanliness, staff & service, amenities, property conditions & facilities

**Aaron Boedecker** ★★★★★ Apr 10, 2025  
Good deli/cafe. Friendly staff and an entertaining atmosphere.

**Cher Schroeder** ★★★★★ Apr 16, 2025  
Great customer service 🍷

**Jill Wagner** ★★★★★ Apr 6, 2025  
I always have fun and meet the nicest people.

**Chasity Shorter** ★★★★★ Mar 29, 2025  
I visited the casino for the sole intensive purpose of Seven Inlet Spa. The spa was great, but the sauna and steam rooms were so small! Dawn and Trisha were Amazing. If you are getting a body scrubs, wraps, or massages these 2 are highly recommended! Chef's kiss!!!

Congratulations  
 Team Member of the Month  
 Wayne Stout

We're celebrating Wayne from our Facilities department for the month of April! Wayne's dedication to efficiency, proactive maintenance, and innovative problem-solving keeps our operations running smoothly and guests happy. Known for his professionalism and collaborative spirit, he's always ready to lend a hand, share his expertise, and mentor others. His reliability, transparency, and commitment to excellence make him a true cornerstone of our team. Congratulations, Wayne — this recognition is well-deserved! 🎉🏆





## Clam Fresh Nursery

Salish Seafoods' nursery, Clam Fresh, marked a season of growth rooted in community, tradition, and a deep respect for the waters that sustain us.

Every clam seed we raised carried more than potential - it reflected our team's commitment, our stewardship of local waters, and the long-standing connection the Squaxin Island Tribe holds with the land and sea. It carried the legacy of stewardship, the dedication of our team, and a vision grounded in the Tribe's enduring relationship with land and sea. Our work was about more than just expansion - it was about investing in the future.

### Growing with Purpose

Clam Fresh nurtured approximately 15 million Manila clam seed - juvenile shellfish - that was planted when it matured. Our team included four tribal members whose cultural insight and commitment helped guide our operations.

In partnership with clam enhancement, we set a bold goal: plant 41.5 million clam seed by the end of 2025 - our largest effort yet.

These clams will be planted across a mix of enhanced, state-leased, and private tidelands - each carefully managed to support ecosystem health and uphold tribal harvesting agreements.

- Enhanced tidelands - Restored to support shellfish habitat
- State-leased tidelands - Public lands allocated for tribal use
- Private tidelands - Where the Tribe holds harvesting agreements

Each site supports healthy ecosystems and sustains traditional practices.



### Strengthening Our Foundation

To meet these goals, we're advancing our five-year strategic plan, with major infrastructure upgrades already completed or underway.

#### SLOPED CONCRETE SLAB

This new slab supports saltwater filtration, header tanks, and sterilization systems. Its sloped design ensures fast, clean drainage, improving water quality and saving labor.

#### BOILER SYSTEM OVERHAUL

We replaced the outdated boiler with a more efficient, code-compliant system, now positioned closer to the saltwater tanks to reduce heat loss and fuel use.

#### COVERED SALTWATER SYSTEMS

We installed protective structures over key systems to prevent UV exposure and contamination, improving durability and cleanliness.

#### ENCLOSED BOILER ROOM

The new enclosure retained and redirected heat to maintain water temperature during cold months, cutting propane use and protecting shellfish.

#### ELECTRICAL SYSTEM IMPROVEMENTS

Upgrades included weatherproof outlets, new conduit, switches, and breakers - all supporting safer, more reliable operations.

#### CLEARING A BOTTLENECK: ALGAE TRANSFER TRENCH

One of our biggest infrastructure limitations was the algae transfer trench, a critical component of our nursery system that carried filtered saltwater and micro algae from the greenhouse to the nursery tanks. This system was essential for delivering consistent nutrition to developing clam seed. However, the original trench was constructed with undersized 1" piping, which restricted flow and created delays in daily operations, from filling tanks to feeding seed stock.

After carefully evaluating a full trench rebuild, our team identified a smarter path forward. By modifying and upgrading the existing piping infrastructure - rather than replacing it entirely - we

were able to meet our system needs while significantly reducing costs and minimizing disruption to our operations.

This revised solution ensured we maintained full functionality and system efficiency without the extended downtime a complete rebuild would have required.

#### Once fully implemented, the upgraded trench will:

- Increase algae and water flow
- Improve feeding efficiency
- Reduce manual labor
- Support future expansion

This upgrade will offer immediate impact and long-term benefits.





## Key Projects for 2025

As we continue to grow our capabilities and refine our systems, the final phase of our five-year strategic plan remains central to our work. These projects represent more than routine upgrades - they are thoughtful, forward-looking investments in the health, efficiency, and long-term viability of our nursery operations.

Each initiative is guided by both technical goals and the cultural values that shape our mission.

- **Algae lab expansion**  
Supporting consistent, high-quality algae production
- **Rotary drum filtration system**  
Delivering cleaner water and less manual maintenance
- **New seed grading dock**  
Improving seed sorting and management
- **Aluminum dock upgrades**  
Enhancing operational safety and efficiency
- **Bio-reactor addition**  
Expanding algae production capacity through advanced biological systems
- **Power upgrades**  
Ensuring consistent, reliable electricity for critical systems
- **Freshwater system upgrades**  
Improving water quality and access for cleaning and support operations
- **Fueling station**  
Increasing on-site efficiency for equipment and transport refueling
- **Saltwater filtration upgrades**  
Enhancing water clarity and reducing contamination
- **Saltwater pasteurization upgrades**  
Strengthening bio-security by improving sterilization capabilities

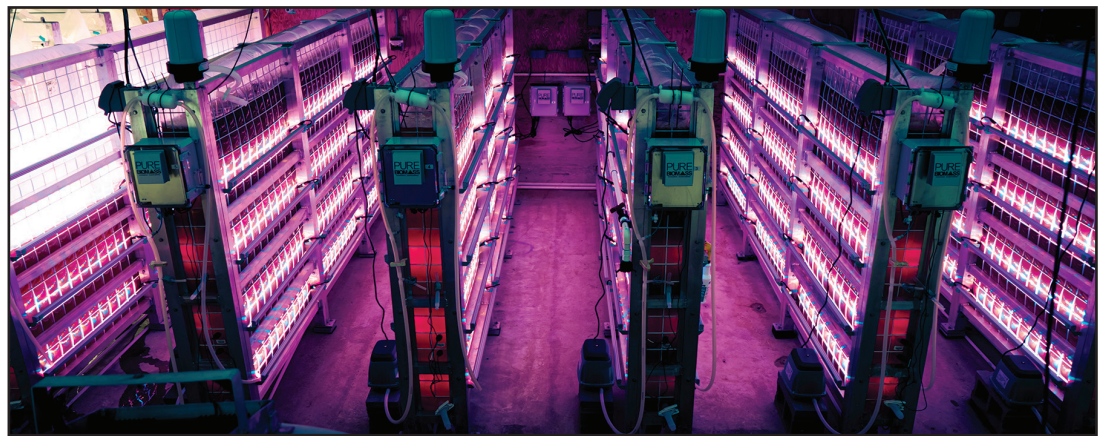
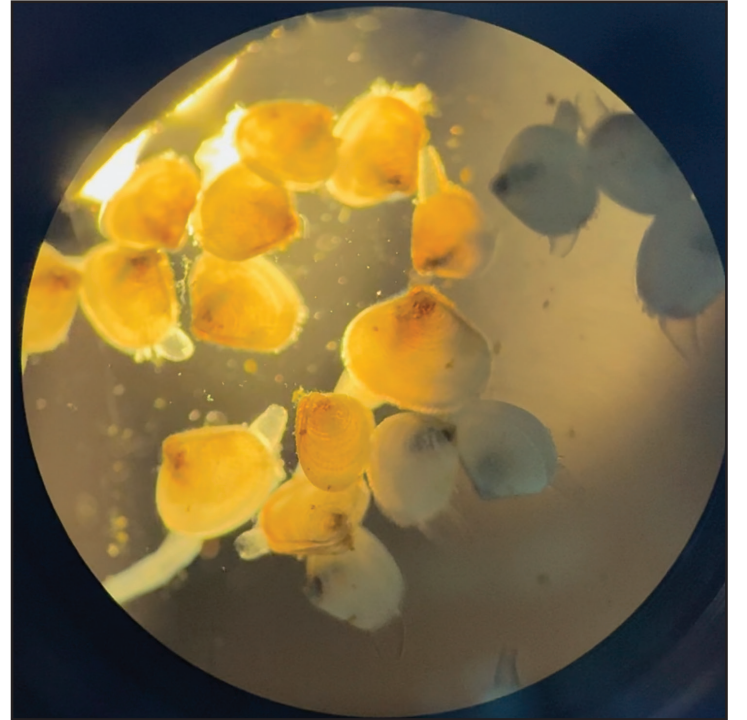
These projects prepare us for today's needs and tomorrow's opportunities.



## Rooted in Leadership and Innovation

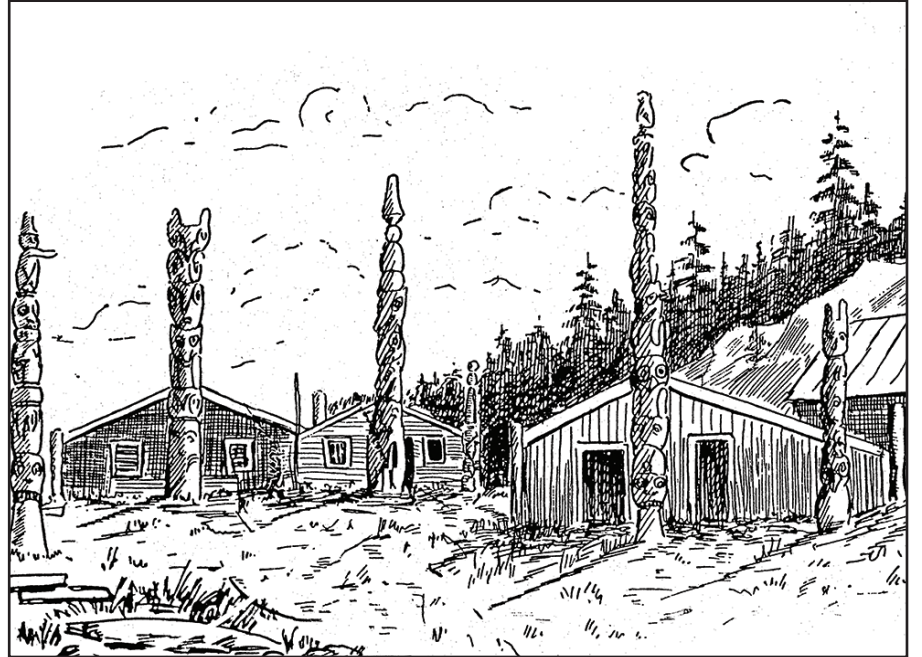
As Clam Fresh continued to expand, strong leadership and on-the-ground experience remained essential.

Clam Fresh Manager Tyler Johns said, "The Squaxin Island Tribe has shown that Manila clams are one of the most active fisheries for decades. When the Tribe purchased Clam Fresh, we made it our goal to build a commercial shellfish seed facility that can maximize our Manila clam seed production. That seed is planted across all our farms for our community to harvest. This facility is capable, and provides sustainability to shellfish farming, tribal employment, and maximizing our Manila clam harvest opportunities."





Squaxin island




**South Puget Intertribal Planning Agency**  
**USDA Foods Program**

**May Distribution Dates**




**5/16/2025**  
**SQUAXIN ISLAND**  
**11:00am-1:30pm**  
**At SPIPA IPC**

Scan the QR code or call 360.426.3990 to apply!




**Graduating in 2025?**

Do you know someone who is graduating high school, has received their GED, completed their AA, BA, MA Degree, or has received a certificate for a vocational/technical program?

The Squaxin Island Tribal Council, Education Commission and the Tu Ha' Buts Youth Center would like to recognize and celebrate these individuals at the . . .

**28th Annual Sg<sup>wi</sup>ig<sup>wi</sup>**  
**Tuesday, June 17th, 2025**  
**5:00 p.m. at the Squaxin Ball Field**

**To be recognized, please fill out the graduate recognition form by:**  
4:00 p.m. on Friday, June 6th, 2025

**Go to the following link or scan the QR code:**  
[https://squaxin.formstack.com/forms/2025\\_graduates](https://squaxin.formstack.com/forms/2025_graduates)

**Questions?**  
Mandy Valley  
(360) 432-3882  
mvalley@squaxin.us  
Fax: (360) 426-7897



- 70 SE Squaxin Lane, Shelton, WA 98584 -



# YOUTH CENTER



## Bordeaux

Spring is in full swing at Bordeaux Elementary! As we approach the end of the school year, we're reminding all students and families about the importance of staying engaged and focused right up to the last day.

### Important Dates:

- May 2 3-Hour Early Release
- May 14 1.5-Hour Early Release
- May 23 No School
- May 26 No School – Memorial Day

Even though the end of the year is near, we encourage everyone to maintain good attendance. Everyday counts, and continued learning and participation are key to finishing strong!

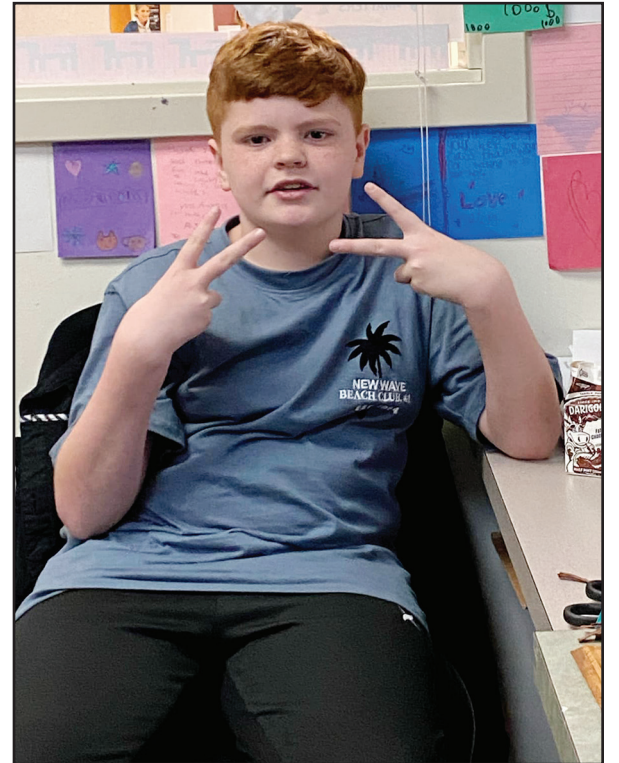
If your family is facing any challenges with attendance, schoolwork, or anything else, please don't hesitate to reach out. I'm here to help and support in any way I can.

### Contact Information:

Tamika Krise, Student Advocate  
Email: tkrise@sheltonschools.org  
Facebook: Tamika StudentAdvocate



Haven working on her cedar headband shes been working on with Ms. Aurora



Emory spreadin' love and peace!



# Bulldogs!

# Yay!



Walter Hall



Kacen during lunch group





## After School Program in April

Spring is here and the youth are enjoying the sunshine.

April 12th, from 10:00 -11:00 a.m., we held our annual Easter event for all youth and their families at the Squaxin gym and T'Peeksin Park. The first egg hunt was for the little one's ages 0-4 in the gym. While parents got to help them gather their eggs, others were able to have a light snack and drinks or take pictures with the Easter Bunny and Chick! The Easter Bunny and Chick made a surprise entrance to meet and hang with all the kids, and they were awesome. We had ages 5-7 in the gym playground, 8-10 and 11-12 were at T'Peeksin Park. All the golden eggs were found, and the youth got to collect their gift cards and take all their candy home! It was so wonderful to see the youth and their families having a good time on a sunny Saturday - no rain yay! All of us at the TYC hope you all had a wonderful Easter holiday.

On Mondays in April we did cultural activities in the Rec Room with the youth, and this month was focused on loom beading. The Youth had some cool loom projects they continued to work on throughout the month. Milah's working hard on a corn snake and Breezy is beading butterflies.

Monday, April 1st to Friday, April 4th was Griffin's spring break and Shelton schools' early release conference week. We had free choice, played on the playground, made pretzels, and played some fun rez games in the field under the large tent with the advocates. They had a great time playing those games. Thank you to the advocates for those fun games and prizes!

Monday, April 7th to Friday, April 11th was Shelton schools' spring break, and we had some fun activities planned for the youth. They got to play at the T' Peeksin Park, go swimming, have free choice, play games outside with their friends, and ride scooters and bikes during their break. The youth also got to

attend movies and got to see the Minecraft movie! It was all around a fun and an enjoyable time, especially for the kids!

On Wednesday April 16th, the youth got to make oatmeal cookie pies, which they were a quick, ten-minute, bake recipe, so they got to enjoy them right afterwards!

On Tuesday, April 22nd, we had a fun and messy time making smoothie bowls with fresh mixed fruit, granola, and honey. It was a hit, so we will be making these more often!

On Wednesday, April 23rd, we had a great time playing outside and examining the dandelions that are growing. The traditional medicine focus in April was the dandelion, and the youth learned the correct way to identify them and how to harvest them.

Friday, April 25th was movie night and swimming for the youth from 4:30 - 6:00 p.m. They had a great time getting to swim, then watching a movie. They enjoyed their late snack, popcorn, and drinks while watching the movie.

Update: Swimming for all after school youth will now be on Mondays, Wednesdays, and Fridays from 4:00 - 5:00 p.m. Make sure to have your youth bring their own swimsuit and towel. We have a limited number of swimsuits and towels to borrow.

Stay tuned for the upcoming June after school calendar, weekly schedule and the Summer Recreation registration in May, on our Facebook page, Tu' Ha Buts Youth Center, or join our Remind app! Text SquaxinTYC to 81010 - The Remind app will text our weekly hours and any urgent updates directly to your phones!



Ziya and Lily enjoying the sunshine on the swing during spring break



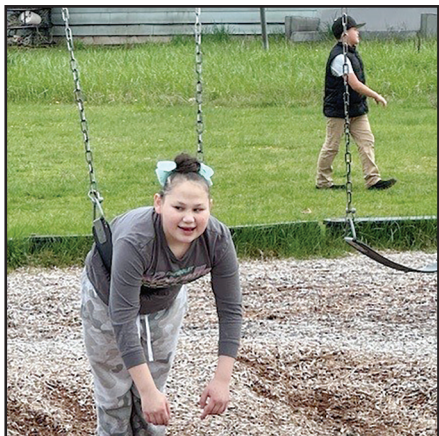
Nana showing her moves during spring break



Pretzel making activity during Griffin spring break



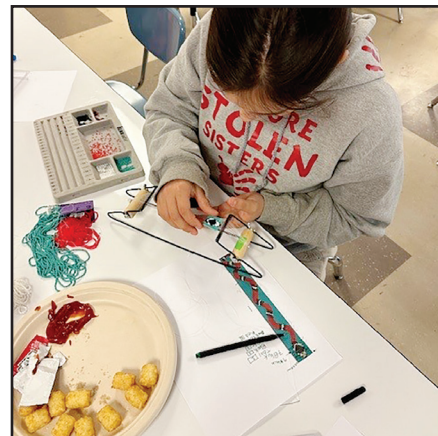
Armahni, Lily, Eviana, Avaiah, Oliva, Satayla Nanaleya and Roklyn



Allie swinging during spring break and Jose in background playing football with his buddies



Catori loom beading a hello kitty during her spring break April 10th



Milah beading a loom corn snake during spring break



Toby, Satayla and Roklyn hanging out being dare devils during their spring break



# YOUTH CENTER



Youth hunting eggs ages 0-4



Easter Bunny and Chick



Elias Coley looking for the golden egg



Youth finding eggs during the hunt



Easter egg hunt in gym



Youth waiting for their hunt at T' Peeksin Park



Youth getting ready for their hunt at T' Peeksin Park, ages 8-10



Families getting in on the hunt with their little ones in the gym

## May 2025

Kasia: 360-432-3801 | Kenna: 360-432-3895 | Sara: 360-432-3992 | Rec Room: 360-432-3986

Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
			After-School 3-6pm DIY Activity: Sock Plushies	After School: 12:30-6pm STEM: Popsicle Stick Tower Challenge
After-School 3-6pm Cultural Activity: Beading	After-School 3-6pm Cooking: Soft Pretzels & Playground	After-School 2:30-6pm Traditional Medicine Soap Making for Mothers day  GSD Early Release at 2:30	After-School 3-6pm DIY Activity: Spring Oil Pastel Art	After-School 3-6pm STEM: Rainbow Flower Experiment  SSD 3 Hour Early Release
After-School 3-6pm Cultural Activity: Beaded Earrings	Closed American Indian Day	After-School 1-6pm Traditional Medicine: Calendula SSD 1.5 hour Early Release GSD Early Release at 2:30	After-School 3-6pm DIY Activity: Painting Rocks	After-School 3-6pm STEM: Catapults  Early Summer Rec Sign Ups 5-6pm in Rec Room
After-School 3-6pm Cultural Activity: Loom Beading	After-School 3-6pm Cooking: Cherry Hand Pies & Playground	After-School 2:30-6pm Traditional Medicine: Candle Making GSD Early Release at 2:30	After-School 3-6pm DIY Activity: Painting Mini Canvases	After-School 3-6pm STEM: Balloon Tower Challenge
Closed Memorial Day	After-School 3-6pm Cooking: Apple Muffins & Outdoor Play	After-School 2:30-6pm Traditional Medicine: Spring Bingo  GSD Early Release at 2:30	After-School 3-6pm DIY Activity: Spring Sun Catchers	After-School 3-6pm <b>Movie Night</b> 4:30-6:00pm
<b>Key:</b> SSD – Shelton School District GSD – Griffin School District	<b>After-School Mealtimes:</b> Early Snack: 3:00pm-3:45pm Late Snack: 4:00pm-4:45pm	<b>Activity Time:</b> 5:00-5:45pm <b>Swimming: Monday, Wednesday &amp; Fridays : 4-5pm</b>	This calendar and its activities are subject to change at any time.	



## Oakland Bay Junior High

Hi all, we are now nine weeks out from the end of the school year. We recently had our second trimester appreciation assembly in which we had a good amount of our students honored for their GPA, attendance, or attitude. I appreciate all of you parents/guardians who have been keeping up on your students about homework and holding them accountable at home; this has led to an increase in performance at school. I believe that our students will be able to finish out this trimester strong and will stay focused, even with the weather starting to look more like summer.

I also want to say that I am available at the education center after school from 3:00 - 5:00 p.m. if students need help catching up in class or just extra help in general. I encourage students to take advantage of this, because it is a valuable resource for students, no matter the grades they have. Also, please keep up on your students' homework; it is still the number one reason that students are missing assignments or having lower grades than they should have.

I am looking into taking a group of 8th graders at OBJH and to Shelton High School so they can check out the Native Ed room and the campus. I am hoping that this will help ease some of the social anxiety that students have when they become freshman. They will also be able to see some of their former upper-classmen.

**STUDENT OF THE MONTH!** The student of the month this month is Allie Johns. She was recognized at our end of second trimester assembly and was hand picked by our vice principal. She was given a giant Peep as a reward and was brought in front of everyone and celebrated. I am super proud of Allie for the work that she has put in at school and the friendships that she has made.

Caleb Kinzner



Allie Johns



Alex Edwards



Emilio C. at Starbucks

# SAVE



9TH OF MAY

# 2025

# THE

# DATE



# SQUAXIN

Ball field

## JAM SESSION

LED BY THE SQUAXIN TEENS + CULTURAL FAM



*The Ravaged Forest* is the true story of Helen (Mitchell) Sanders, a Native American woman who sought justice for her people and their lands. From the Chehalis Reservation to owning a logging company on the Quinault, Helen's discovery of ruined Indian forests led her to a historic lawsuit against the government. Set in the Northwest, this inspiring story reaches far beyond to all readers.

<b>Order through Amazon</b>	\$9.99 Kindle
<b>By author Sandra Crowell or book title</b>	\$19.99 Paperback
	\$24.99 Hardcover

**Coming Events**

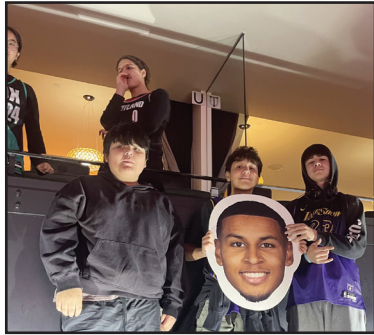
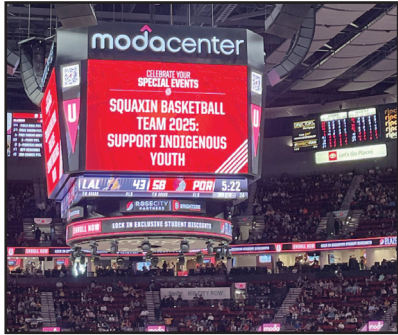
Oldtimers' Fair, Matlock, May 3-4 Mary Knight H.S., Matlock, WA  <i>Website: AuthorSandraCrowell.com</i>	May 10, Lewis Co. Museum, Chehalis, 3-5  May 19, McMenamin's Oly Club, 7 p.m. 110 N. Tower Ave, Centralia  May 24, Duffy's restaurant, Aberdeen, 9-1 1605 Simpson Ave. Aberdeen, WA
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## Basketball

Our Squaxin basketball team had the opportunity to attend the Portland Trailblazers vs. LA Lakers game on April 3, 2025! This was such an awesome experience for these kids. and they had so much fun! The event gave us a shoutout on the big screen!

Tae'Lor Glass, Youth Sports Coach  
(360) 688-8452



## Teen Program

The Squaxin Island Teen Program filled Spring Break with meaningful activities focused on environmental stewardship, cultural connection, and community building.

Teens teamed up with Erica Marbet, the Tribe's Water Resource Biologist, to maintain the rain gardens at the Legal Services building and toured several water monitoring sites. They visited stormwater basins and learned about the Tribe's ongoing efforts to protect and manage local water resources.

This hands-on experience gave participants a closer look at how science and community care work together to protect the land and waters of Squaxin Island.

At the end of the week, the teens attended a Seattle Mariners game on April 9th with me (Keesha) and Caleb, the OBJH Advocate. The trip offered a chance to relax, connect, and enjoy a memorable outing after a week of hard work and learning.

For more info contact me at:  
(360) 463-0681  
Kvigilsnook@squaxin.us



Janelle and Aleigha

## Higher Education

Just a reminder that summer quarter is by special request only! You must write a special request letter to the Education Commission, along with a Memorandum of Commitment, summer class schedule, and official grades from spring 2025.

The deadline for summer 2025 is June 13th.

Also, August 8th is the deadline to turn in all completed paperwork for the 2025/2026 school year. New and returning students will need to complete the packet for the 2025 fall quarter/semester.

Paperwork can be emailed or picked up at the Education Department between the hours of 7:30 a.m. - 4:00 p.m.

If you have any questions, or need any assistance, please feel free to give me a call or email.

Don't forget to turn in your final grades and any receipts from spring quarter/semester by July 1st.

Thank you,

Mandy Valley  
Higher Education Coordinator  
mvalley@squaxin.us  
(360) 432-3882



Teens and Caleb



# Squaxin Elders



## Elders Sewing Class Tuesdays at 12:30 p.m.

We are making quilts for foster kids, and you can learn how to quilt to make your loved ones something to always remember you by. Everyone is welcome at no cost. Made with LOVE.

Learn to Clean and Thread Sewing Machines and Sergers

Make the most out of your tablets!

Need Sewing Tips and Tricks?

# Bring It Fridays!!

I will be in the Elder's Building most Fridays to help Elders with more advanced and one-on-one projects. Bring your equipment in for tips or set up help. Email me at [JEMeyer@Squaxin.us](mailto:JEMeyer@Squaxin.us), or stop by the Elder's building, to let me know what you would like to bring in for help or if you have any questions on what I can help with!

Need Help Connecting your Smart Devices?

Have a Cricut you don't know how to use?

## FOSTER CARE/KINSHIP APPRECIATION DINNER

MAY 22, 2025

5 PM

SQUAXIN ISLAND COMMUNITY KITCHEN

Please join us for the Foster Care Appreciation Dinner. There will be dinner, crafts, as well as some raffle items. This event is for previous and current ICW placements. For any questions please contact  
Shaelynn Clark 360-490-7269 or [sclark@squaxin.us](mailto:sclark@squaxin.us)



# MLRC Language Keeper/Cultural Ambassador Visited the Daycare to Talk About Salmon





# CHILD DEVELOPMENT CENTER



## Pedal Power at SICDC!

We're filled with gratitude at Squaxin Island Child Development Center as we celebrate the arrival of our new bikes and the improvements to our covered play area! Our children are absolutely loving the opportunity to ride in a safe, open space - rain or shine. The joy on their faces as they zoom around on bikes is priceless, and our teachers are thrilled to see the confidence and coordination growing with every ride.

Bike riding isn't just fun - it's a powerful part of early childhood development. It helps build strong muscles, balance, and coordination, while also boosting confidence and encouraging physical activity. These skills lay the foundation for lifelong health and learning. Riding together also teaches our little ones about taking turns, following rules, and encouraging one another - important social-emotional skills they carry into the classroom and beyond.

Families can support this growth at home by encouraging biking in safe spaces, celebrating small milestones (like learning to steer or pedal), and modeling safety by wearing helmets together.





## Exploring with All Senses: The Magic of Sensory Play in the Fox Room

At Squaxin Island Child Development Center, we know that even the tiniest hands are busy learning in powerful ways. In the Fox Room, our infants recently explored a sensory bin filled with freshly picked dandelions - and it was a beautiful reminder of how meaningful sensory play can be in early development.

As the infants reached, grasped, and crinkled the yellow blooms, their senses came alive. They explored the soft petals, earthy scents, and bright colors with wide eyes and curious fingers. For our youngest learners, these kinds of experiences help build neural connections in the brain, supporting language development, fine motor skills, and sensory awareness.

Sensory play isn't just fun - it's foundational. Through simple activities like this, infants begin to understand their world, strengthen coordination, and build trust in safe exploration. We're so proud to offer these experiences rooted in nature, curiosity, and culture. Thank you for supporting our little learners as they grow through play - one dandelion at a time.



SICDC  
**OPEN ENROLLMENT**

Exciting news! Early Head Start open enrollment for qualifying families of Infants 1 month to 6 months old!

**SECURE YOUR SPOT TODAY!**

**Learning**



**Family Support Network**



**Health & Wellness**



**Contact to Apply!**  
Use information below

3851 SE OLD OLYMPIC HWY  
SHELTON, WA 98584  
KAITI KRUG, PROGRAM MANAGER  
360-426-1390  
KKRUG@SQUAXIN.US



## 6 Tips For Raising Healthy and Happy Cats

By Michele C. Hollow of Pet News and Views

Cats are a lot like us. We cat parents know that while it is nice being around loving family and friends, we value our independence. Maybe we all have a little cat in us. We also know that once we gain the trust of a cat, we'll have a friend for life. A happy and healthy cat will reward us with affection. Showing them trust is easy. Following are six tips for raising healthy and happy cats.

### 1. Cat Naps

Cats sleep between 13 and 16 hours a day. They like having a warm and comfortable place to curl up in, even if that is on your bed, in an open linen closet or in her own personal cat bed. One of my cats sleeps on my desk while I work because she likes being near (at least that is what I tell myself) and she loves the big window that floods the room with sunlight.

### 2. You are what you eat applies to cats too

Poor nutrition leads to health problems. Look for a cat food that lists meat as the first ingredient. Cats are carnivores and must have meat in their diets. My cats are fed once in the morning when we have our breakfast, and once at night to coincide with our dinner time. After breakfast and dinner, I pick up and clean their bowls. They are left empty because a grazing cat that eats too much food can develop diabetes and other serious ailments. The Association for Pet Obesity Prevention found that 58.3 percent of cats in the U.S. are overweight, and obesity leads to illness. My cats are not finicky. Some cats can be. So, try a few varieties of food until you find something your cat enjoys.

### 3. Good grooming

While cats groom themselves it is important to brush them. Make it a ritual. When my cats see me take out their brush, they come over and start to purr. Brushing their fur cuts down on hairballs, which means they won't ingest a lot of their fur when they are cleaning themselves, and you will have less fur in your home and on your clothes.

### 4. Cats like clean litter boxes

Ever notice that as soon as you clean the litter box, they want to use it? I can't say that I blame them. No one likes a dirty bathroom! Use a dust-free litter that's free of harmful chemicals, additives and synthetic scents. There are lots of eco-friendly bio-degradable products on the market to choose from.

### 5. Playtime

Cats love to hunt and play. They know exactly where the laser pointer is kept and as soon as I reach for it, they are ready for the chase. Just don't shine it in their eyes. Another favorite toy is a fishing rod with a fabric bird on one end. My cats love to chase and jump after this toy. Playtime is when we bond, and cats get a lot of mental stimulation and exercise from playing.

### 6. Bonding time

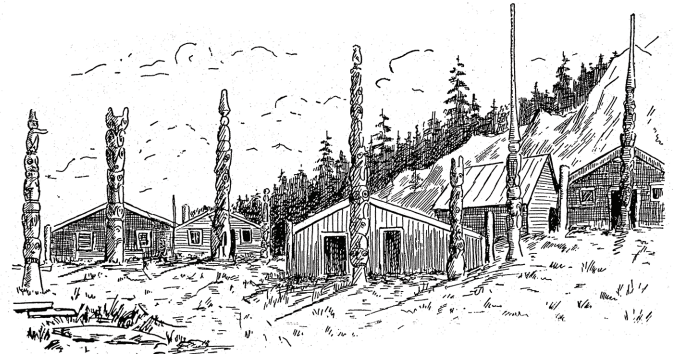
Spending time with your cat benefits both of you. I make time in the morning before I start my work day. We wake up together and I talk to them while I give them their breakfast. After breakfast, we play with the laser pointer. I am at home, so we play after lunch and again after dinner. They reward me with purrs and cuddles.

- Gus the doggie guy



## Squaxin Transit

(360) 280-7612 | (360) 480-1402 | (360) 432-3951



### Squaxin Island Tribe's Office of Housing

**Housing staff is available. Please do not hesitate to call or email with any questions or concerns.**

#### The Office of Housing contact information:

- ⇒ Liz Kuntz — Housing Manager  
⇒ Email: lkuntz@squaxin.us PH: 360-432-3937
- ⇒ Lisa Peters — Housing Counselor  
⇒ EMAIL: lpeters@squaxin.us PH: 360-432-3871
- ⇒ Kristin Penn — Housing Occupancy Specialist  
⇒ EMAIL: kpenn@squaxin.us PH: 360-432-3863
- ⇒ Ashly Sigo — Housing T-HOPE Specialist  
⇒ EMAIL: asigo@squaxin.us PH: 360-432-3888
- ⇒ Gus Nilsson — Housing Enforcement Officer  
⇒ EMAIL: gnilsson@squaxin.us PH: 360-432-3953
- ⇒ Guy Cain — Housing Maintenance Technician  
⇒ EMAIL: gcain@squaxin.us PH: 360-432-3957
- ⇒ For Housing related emergencies call  
Maintenance PH: 360-545-2768



Squaxin Island Tribe  
Office of Housing  
10 SE Squaxin Lane  
Shelton, WA 98584

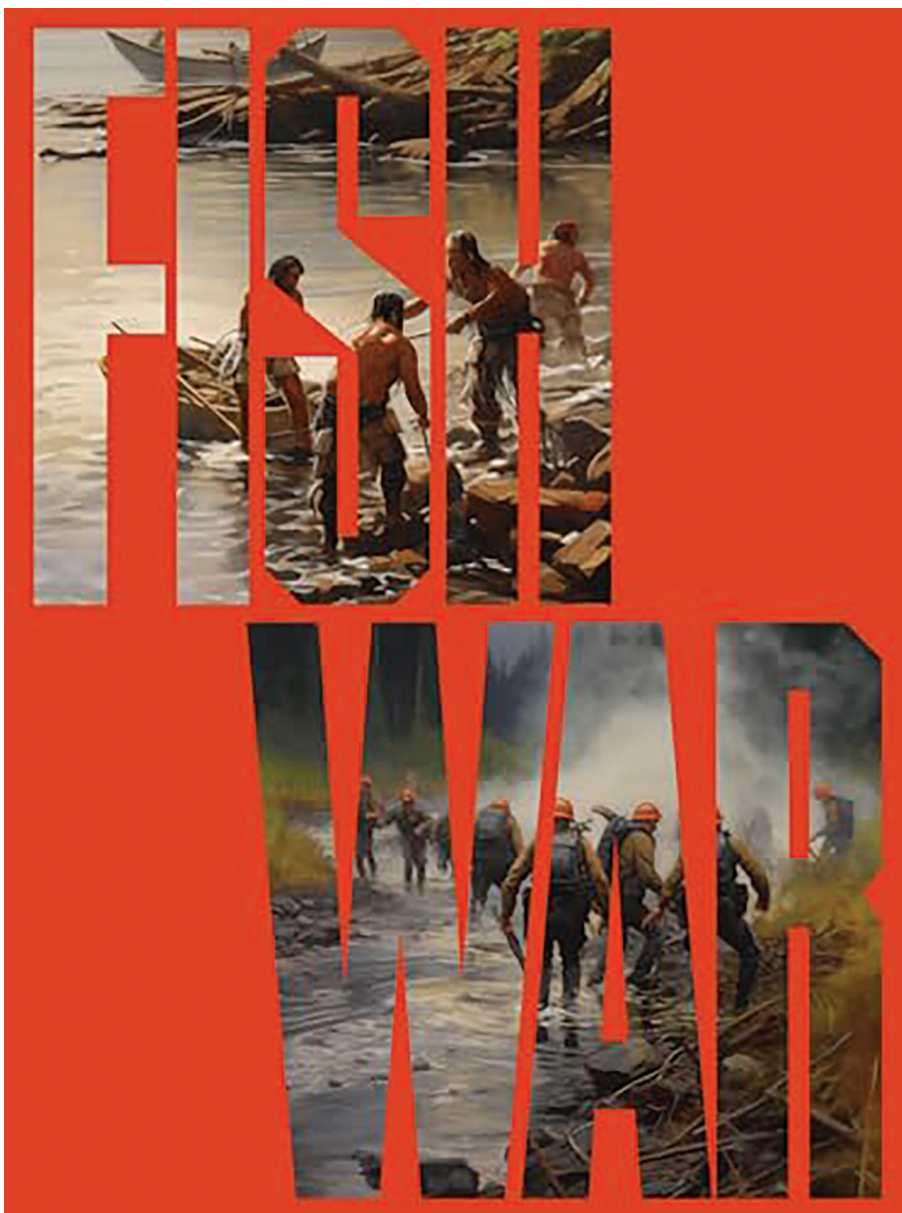
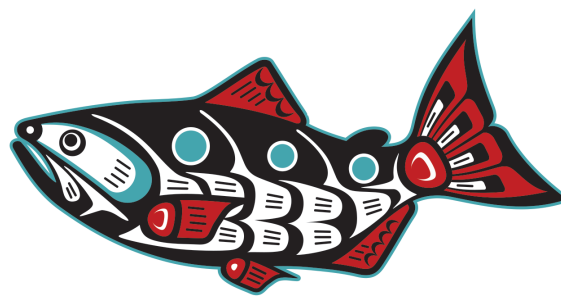


**Your Voice Matters:  
Participate in the Tribal  
Cultural Survey!**



We are excited to announce the launch of our Tribal Cultural Survey, designed to gather your insights and perspectives on how we can better incorporate our shared cultural heritage into tribal programs, events, and initiatives.

Your input is invaluable in shaping our tribal government's efforts to preserve, celebrate, and strengthen our cultural identity for current and future generations. By completing the survey, you are directly contributing to decisions that honor our traditions and reflect our collective values.



MASON COUNTY  
Public Health & Human Services

JOIN US FOR THE 2025

**SUBSTANCE ABUSE  
PREVENTION  
SUMMIT**

FRIDAY

**MAY 2, 2025**

Skokomish Community Center

19731 N US Highway 101 - Skokomish, WA 98584

**8:30AM - 3PM**

**Prevention is Key**

The goal of the Prevention Summit is to provide an enriching training on prevention strategies, networking and resource sharing opportunity for youth, volunteers, and professionals working toward prevention of substance abuse, violence, tobacco/vaping and other destructive behaviors. Focus will be on promoting the social determinants of health and ways to integrate prevention efforts within our community.

Registration Link:

[bit.ly/masonsummit2025](https://bit.ly/masonsummit2025)



REGISTRATION CONTACT:

(360) 427-9670 x406

elayman@masoncountywa.gov

Thank You to our Community Partners



**Fish War Now Available to Purchase!**

<https://geni.us/fishwar>



# COMMUNITY



5/1  
Ali Lewis Seymour  
Jeremiah Tosh Lewis  
Leo Eugene Henry

5/2  
Brendan Louis Kirk  
Julio M. Valencia  
Robert James Jones  
Veronica May James

5/3  
Kim Renee Cooper  
Krystal Ivy Murray  
Xavien Malosi Manu-Saenz

5/4  
Kenai Anthony James  
Lillie Shirley Ann Dorland

5/5  
Ahree Kyla Allen  
Daniel Blaze Snyder  
Lauren Mackenzie Costello  
Payton John Lewis

5/6  
Jacqueline C. Smith  
Justin Cruz Saenz-Garcia  
Raven Rose Thomas

5/7  
Eric Bryant Castro  
Jaidon Israel Henderson  
Josiah Legend Perez

5/8  
Ashley Mariah Renee Smith

5/9  
Colleen Kaye Merriman  
Jacob Donald Spezza  
Justin D. Johns  
Morningstar Theresa Green  
Takoda Noelani Tahkeal

5/10  
Breanna Madelaine Woslager  
Kassidy Rose Whitener

5/11  
Jeromy Scott Meyer

5/12  
Janelle Malynn Krise

5/13  
Dawn Marie Green  
Julie Merrae Owens  
Syrus Paul Barry Perez

5/14  
Marlene Kaye Anderson  
Treyson Francis Spezza

5/16  
Laureen Rosander

5/17  
Bryan Alan Johnson  
Christi Jean Sharp  
Donna Mary Wood  
Jaclyn Evasue Meyer  
Kasper Mae Allen  
Niko Daniel-Lee Howland

5/18  
Barrett Warren Coble  
Marlene Kaye Hobucket  
Shawnee R. Kruger  
Wolf Deschain Slagle James

5/19  
Bristol Alexis Sigo

5/20  
Tenisha Lorena McNish

5/21  
Jamey Lewis Tom  
Jennie Sasalle Martin  
Kyllanai Elizabeth Hodgson  
Richard Collen Harper

5/22  
Carly Rose Yes-Chid Peters  
Melissa Rae Grant  
Richard Monger Jr.  
Tamatha Dionne Ford

5/23  
Levi Lee Sanchez  
Michael S. Ogden  
Theresa Lee Sanchez  
Tiffany Ann York

5/24  
Alexandra Mirka  
Donald Franklin Hartwell Jr.  
Nicholas Scott Meyer

5/25  
Raymond Anthony Peters  
Spirit Rose Jones

5/26  
Craig Woodburn Parker  
Tyler Douglas Johns

5/27  
Elsie Ada Quinn Thale  
Jeremyha Steven James

5/28  
Cahsai Blueback-Robinson  
Kurt Ellsworth Poste

5/29  
Nanalaeya Untalan

5/30  
Iladee King  
Matayla Margie Krise  
Nicholas Francis Cooper Jr.

5/31  
Candace Lee Ehrhard  
Daniel Sigo  
Melissa Ann Day  
Milah May Hawks



**Culture Night**

**See you there!**  
**5:30pm Wednesdays**  
**@ The Community Kitchen**

**Button Robe Workshops**

**The Squaxin Community Culture Program is here to help Squaxin families with educational achievement regalia**

*The Museum & Culture Center is offering Squaxin families workshop time, fabric, buttons, use of sewing machines, irons, large project space, and knowledge*

**CONGRATULATIONS CLASS OF 2025!**

**Weekly workshops will begin on March 4th from 3pm-6pm**

Questions? Please contact Ruth Whitener 360-432-3841 [rwhitener@squaxin.us](mailto:rwhitener@squaxin.us)





# What's Happening

- SPRING MOTHER & DAUGHTER EVENT** May 1
- GENERAL BODY MEETING** May 3
- JAM SESSION** May 9
- FOSTER CARE/KINSHIP APPRECIATION** May 22

- WIC** May 5
- USDA** May 16
- COURT** May 1
- Family Court
- Criminal & Civil Court May 27



**AA MEETING**  
**Wednesdays**  
**7:30-9:00 p.m.**  
**Elders Building**

**Elders Menu**  
*Fruit and salad*  
*at every meal*



**MONDAY 5:**  
Taco Soup

**TUESDAY 6:**  
Biscuits and Gravy, Boiled Eggs

**WEDNESDAY 7:**  
Pork Lo Mein

**THURSDAY 1:**  
Pizza w/ Veggies

**MONDAY 12:**  
Orange Chicken, Rice, Veggies

**TUESDAY 13:**  
Split Pea Soup,  
Roast Beef Sandwiches

**WEDNESDAY 14:**  
Veggie Quich

**THURSDAY 8:**  
Salmon, Wild Rice, Brussel Sprouts

**MONDAY 19:**  
Shrimp Scampi, Asparagus

**TUESDAY 20:**  
Italian Sausage Potato Soup,  
Breadsticks

**WEDNESDAY 21:**  
Chicken Pot Pie

**THURSDAY 15:**  
Meatball Subs, Chips

**MONDAY 26:**  
CLOSED Memorial Day

**TUESDAY 27:**  
Seafood Soup, Buckskin Bread

**WEDNESDAY 28:**  
Twice Baked Potato Soup, Carrots

**THURSDAY 22:**  
Hot Dogs, Potato Salad

**THURSDAY 29:**  
Chicken Fried steak, Mashed Potatoes  
w/ Gravy, Mixed Veggies

**SPRING**  
**MOTHER & DAUGHTER**  
**EVENT**

Join us in making Cradle Boards, eating dinner and spending quality time together

MUST RSVP  
**MAY 1ST, 2025**  
**4:30 PM**

**Squaxin Community Kitchen**

RSVP & Questions Contact:  
 Twana Machado  
 trmachado@squaxin.us  
 360-521-3615

# DO YOU NEED HELP?

The Tribal Council SPIPA Representative would like to encourage any tribal member who needs help paying for things such as car repairs, insurance, work clothes, special tools or anything related to employment to apply at Family Services for the Work Force Development or Vocational Rehabilitation Program. Call 360-426-9781.



## In Washington State, Help is 3 Numbers Away

**211** maintains a comprehensive database of community resources and provides information and referrals for essential needs like:

- Food
- Housing and Shelter
- Utility Assistance
- Healthcare Services
- Government Services

Call for Information and Community Resources  
**211**

**211** also can connect people with information and referrals for:

- Transportation
- Legal Services
- Counseling
- Disaster Aftercare
- Everything Else

**988** provides crisis support for:

- Thoughts of Suicide
- Mental Health Crisis
- Substance Use Crisis
- Emotional Distress

Call for Suicide Intervention and Crisis Support  
**988**

**2-1-1**  
Washington

**911** provides first responder dispatch for:

- Medical Emergency
- Fire
- Reporting a Crime
- Disaster Response
- Life Threatening Situation

Call for Emergencies  
**911**

**2-1-1**  
Washington



Learn more at [Traumatic Brain Injury](#)



Next WIC date:  
Wednesday, May 5, 2025

### Squaxin Island WIC (Women, Infants, and Children)

provides healthy foods & nutrition information for you and your child up to age 5.

For appointments and questions, contact:

Debbie Gardipee 360.462.3227  
Email: [dgardipee@spipa.org](mailto:dgardipee@spipa.org)

or call 360.462.3224  
Email: [wicnutrition@spipa.org](mailto:wicnutrition@spipa.org)

SPIPA main number: 360.426.3990

We will offer both phone appointments and in person appointments. Date subject to change.



This institution is an equal opportunity provider.  
Washington WIC doesn't discriminate.



# EMERGENCY

CALL **9-1-1** FIRE POLICE MEDICAL RESCUE

## SQUAXIN ISLAND TRIBE

### Non-Life Threatening Emergencies

#### Emergency Operations Center (EOC) Hotline

(Information only - no voicemail)

(360) 432-3947

#### Community EOC Hotline

(Questions and voice mail message)

(360) 443-8411

#### Emergency Management Coordinator

(360) 443-8410

#### Community Emergency Response Team (CERT)

(360) 426-5308

#### Squaxin Police Department

Office Hours Monday - Friday 8:00-4:00

(360) 432-3831

#### PUD No. 3 Outage Hotline

(360) 426-8255

#### Mason County Police Dispatch Non-Emergency

(360) 426-4441

#### Mason County Fire Non-Emergency

(360) 426-3348

## NEED DIAPERS?

The Diaper Distribution On Reservations DDOR Program works with other SPIPA programs to deliver supplemental diapering supplies to eligible families.

Families that are eligible for other Family and Community Resource Programs are eligible for Diaper Distribution.

Scan this QR code to get started today.



P: 360.426.3990



[SPIPA.ORG/FAMILY-AND-COMMUNITY-RESOURCES](http://SPIPA.ORG/FAMILY-AND-COMMUNITY-RESOURCES)

