Voting is not only our right—it is our power.” Loung Ung
This year, we will have the opportunity to meet at the General Body to vote in person. We are very excited to see everyone again.

Voting gives us the opportunity to say how the Squaxin Island Tribal Council should work to govern our community. Voting gives us an active voice in the Squaxin Island Tribal government. It allows us to choose the Tribal Council members who will make informed decisions on important issues that impact the Tribe and its membership, while promoting a stronger community.

Every vote counts! Don’t give up the chance to choose leaders and/or representatives who will be an important asset to the community’s current issues and progressive momentum!

How do you know who to vote for?
Attend the Candidate’s Virtual Webinar
Thursday, April 14, 2022.
Learn who the candidates are. Ask questions and talk with your neighbors. Know what’s going on in the community. Stay up to date with current issues. Actively participate in choosing leaders and facilitating changes. Attend Talking Circles and the General Body meeting. Write to your current Tribal Council members about issues that are important to you. The point is… respect your right to vote! Voting is a privilege that many people do not have. Guide your community to a future supported by a true majority!

Candidate Virtual Seminar Information Guide
What is the candidate Webinar?
The Candidate Virtual Webinar is an avenue for those seeking a position on Tribal Council to express their views openly and answer questions from the Election Committee.

This will promote a better understanding of each candidate’s ideas and positions on various topics, thus encouraging informed voting choices.

Event Moderator (Election Committee)
The Election Committee will pose pre-determined questions to the candidates. The moderator will maintain the flow of the webinar, ensuring timeliness and respect for all during the event.

Forum Guidelines
Each candidate will have two minutes to provide a brief introduction of themselves and to make any opening statements. The Committee will pose questions covering a wide range of topics and issues of interest to the tribal community.

Following each question, candidates will have up to three minutes to respond. This time limit will ensure that all candidates have an equal chance to reply and that the event stays on track.

The Webinar is not a debate, so there won’t be interaction between candidates. The Moderator will not take questions from the floor during the pre-set portion of the event.

Each candidate will be given two minutes for closing remarks and to comment on any issues that may not have been discussed. Each candidate will have an equal and fair opportunity to express his or her position on issues. A time-keeper will be assigned to help maintain equity in discussion time. The time-keeper will use a flash card to indicate when the candidate’s time has elapsed.
Your voice your vote
Continued from page 1

The Elections Committee
The committee’s primary responsibility is to conduct a fair and legal election process. The Elections Committee members are appointed by Tribal Council. Annually, committee members elect the officers.

The General Body meetings are organized and facilitated by tribal administration at the request of the sitting Tribal Council Chairman who has the authority to ask the administrator to conduct the meeting.

The Election Committee assists with planning the meeting, but their focus is on a smooth election.

In order to make the election process as efficient as possible and to reduce any potential conflicts of interest, the Elections Committee hires an outside consultant each year to print and record ballot counts.

Candidate representatives, Election Committee members, and tribal law enforcement supervise the ballot counting.

Current Election Committee
Juana Nelson (Chair)
Vacant (Vice Chair)
Cassidy Gott (Secretary)
Tamatha Ford (Staff Support)
Mitzie Whitener
Terri Capoeman
Elizabeth Kuntz
Monica Nerney
Penni Restivo
Candace Penn
Jaimie Cruz
**Community**

**Election Process**

**Meeting Begins**

**Quorum Call(s)**

**Election Proceedings Begin**
- Chairman or designee (non-candidate) runs meeting.

**Nominations Taken**
- Nominations are taken from the floor in order from highest to lowest for available positions.

**Nominee Responses**
- Nominees each have 3 minutes to respond with an address to the General Body, accepting or declining the nomination.

**Number of Accepted Nominations?**
- 2 or More

**Nominee(s) Become Candidates**

**More Open Positions?**
- Yes

**Did a Candidate Receive Majority Vote?**
- Yes

**Candidate(s) Are Elected**

**Any Open Council Positions as a Result?**
- Yes

---

**Order of Positions**
- From highest to lowest by Election Year

**TERM 1**
- Chairman
- 1st Seat

**TERM 2**
- Vice Chairman
- 3rd Seat

**TERM 3**
- Secretary
- Treasurer

---

**When members are voting,** the Meeting Facilitator will give a 5 minute and a 1 minute warning prior to closing the ballot box.

**Ballots** are prepared for all positions and candidates. Time is allotted from those in attendance to vote. Votes are then tallied.

If a voter has not signed in and voted by the time ballot box is closed, voter can not vote.

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**Source:**
- SITC Chapter 2.50.010 et seq.
- Adopted June 10, 2000
- Amended February 24, 2014

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**Basketball Game**

**FRIDAY, APRIL 1ST**
- TU HA' BUTS YOUTH CENTER GYM
- 5:30 P.M.

**COME WATCH THE TEENS OWN THE COURT**

---

**Basketball Practice**

**EVERY WEDNESDAY**
- 8th-12th Grade
  - 4:00-5:00PM

**EVERY FRIDAY**
- 5th-7th Grade
  - 4:30-5:00PM
- K-4th Grade
  - 5-5:30PM

Have any questions contact
- Kenna Acosta - 360-432-3895
Here is a flyer and contact information about the program and how to contact Marcella.

We also took time to ask Marcella a few questions about the job.

Q: Why do you do this work with our incarcerated brothers and sisters and assist when they are re-entering life outside?

A: “Honestly (laughter)? It’s because I’ve been there. I hit my bottom. I know how it is. People deserve to get another chance. I got another chance. Plus, I like to help people.”

Q: What would you want the community to know about Family Services?

A: “Our team is always able and willing. We go above and beyond to find a way to help.”

Thanks for your time and work, Marcella!
Community

Are YOU graduating this year?
We want to honor you!

Please take a couple of minutes to fill out this form and make sure to upload a photo of yourself - right above your name on the form.

It will be in the July Klah-Che-Min newsletter! Thank you and CONGRATS!!!

https://squaxin.formstack.com/forms/2022_graduates

Attention Hunters:
TIME TO RETURN HUNTING TAGS
Please return your hunting tags to the Natural Resources Department as soon as possible. If you received tags and didn’t harvest an animal we still need the unused tags returned.

The Natural Resources Department needs these tags to finish our annual harvest report. Thank You!

Questions contact:
Joseph Peters
jcpeters@squaxin.us
360-432-3813
**New Employees**

**Human Resources**

**Tabatha Johnson**

**Tribal Gaming Regulatory Agent**

Hi, I’m beginning my journey with Tribal Gaming as a Regulatory Agent.

I have two amazing sons and three cats who all keep me busy and feeling young.

I’ve worked at LCCR for nearly four years.

I am excited to be part of a team and to get to enjoy a career dedicated to non-stop learning.

I look forward to meeting and working with you and learning new things every day.

**Trittany Heggie**

**Domestic Violence (DV) Coordinator/Recovery Support Supervisor**

Hello, for the past five years I have been a Peer Support/Network Developmental Specialist at Northwest Indian Treatment Center. I have worked closely with Alaskan Native and American Indian victims and/or survivors of domestic violence, sexual assault, dating violence, and human trafficking.

I enjoy connecting those in need with resources, including, but not limited to, housing, chemical dependency treatment, mental health and DV services, transportation, education, and employment.

Before entering the field, I received my BA in Children Studies with a Minor in Sociology. Then, later, I returned to school and became graduate certified in Addiction Studies.

Growing up in a home with substance abuse and domestic violence, I now work in this field to help educate and break the cycle for future generations.

I’m excited to continue to grow, not only as an individual, but with the Northwest Indian Treatment Center and the community under my new position as DV Coordinator/Recovery Support Supervisor.

**Erick Bussard**

**Recovery Support Assistant Northwest Indian Treatment Center**

Hi, I’m a step-dad to a wonderful five year-old daughter and a first time dad to a soon to be one year-old daughter. I have lived in Grays Harbor for the majority of my 44 years. I am a Marine Corps veteran who served four years in the infantry. I have been a contracted Recovery Support Assistant with NWITC for over five years. I am a Recovery Coach and Recovery Coach Trainer, Agency Affiliated Counselor, Certified Peer Counselor and Peer Counselor Bridge Trainer. I am a person in long-term recovery from addiction.

After working with the team here at Northwest Indian Treatment Center for over five years as a contracted Recovery Support Assistant, I am very excited to officially join the Squaxin Island employee family. I look forward to hopefully being a part of growing/expanding our already great program. This is truly a very unique job that I am fairly certain I would not be able to find elsewhere.

I am grateful for the opportunity to serve the Squaxin Island Tribe as well as all the tribes of the Pacific Northwest. I look forward to the opportunity to continue using the skills and tools I have learned along the way to help others. I look forward to working with you all.

**Scott Voisedpu/bshs**

**NWITC Counselor 3/4**

Hi, I have advanced my career at NWITC from a Counselor 2 to a Counselor 3/4.

I went to treatment here at NWITC in 2010 and came back as an intern in 2013. All of my professional training in trauma work came from NWITC. I achieved my Bachelor of Science in Human Service with an addictions certificate while working at NWITC.

The team at NWITC is a bonded family. The spirit this home has bonds us together so we can not only take care of the clients, but each other as well. I am very grateful for the opportunity to work at NWITC.

I look forward to the opportunities NWITC will bring my way. This place forever betters the life of so many as well as my life!
COMMUNITY

SQUAXIN ISLAND PARKS & REC

GLOW-IN-THE-DARK EASTER EGG HUNT

WEDNESDAY, APRIL 6, 2022
8:30-9:30PM
AGES: 10-16 YEARS

COME JOIN US AT THE T'Peeksin Playground

If you have any questions, please contact
Jerilynn: (360) 432-3992 or
Brittney: (360) 432-3873

EASTER PARTY

SATURDAY, APRIL 9, 2022
10AM - 12PM
SQUAXIN GYM

JOIN US FOR LIGHT SNACKS & FAMILY KARAOKE

EGG AGES:
0 - 4 Field at the Gym @ 10:15
5 - 8 Squaxin Playground @ 10:35
9 - 12 Tpeeksin Playground @ 10:55

Questions: Contact Brittney: (360) 432-3873 or
Jerilynn: (360) 432-3992
Parks & Rec "Congrats Kasia!"
We want to give a BIG Congratulations to Kasia! She was one of three recipients of the Child and Adult Care Food Program Excellence Award for Washington State!!

The After-School Program, Summer Program, and Squaxin Island Child Development Center are all participants in the Child and Adult Care Food Program.

It’s an honor for Kasia to have been selected! Kasia, thank you for all your hard work, dedication and everything you do!

Squaxin Island Tribe: Kasia Seymour

At the beginning of the pandemic Kasia Seymour was one of the staff who worked everyday in our emergency meal site. She prepped breakfast and cooked the lunches for the youth/teens in the Squaxin Island Tribal Community.

Tu Ha’ Buts Youth Center Calendar

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Monday</th>
<th>Tuesday</th>
<th>Wednesday</th>
<th>Thursday</th>
<th>Friday</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>4 Spring Break: 8:30am-3pm</td>
<td>5 Spring Break: 8:30am-3pm Cheer Clinic: 10-11am</td>
<td>6 No Basketball Practice</td>
<td>7 Spring Break: 8:30am-3pm Dance: K-12th @ 2pm-3pm</td>
<td>8 Spring Break: 8:30am-3pm No Basketball Practice</td>
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<tr>
<td>11 After-School Rec: 3pm-6pm Homework Help: 3pm-7pm</td>
<td>12 After-School Rec: 3pm-6pm Homework Help: 3pm-7pm Cheer Clinic: 6pm-7pm</td>
<td>13 BBall: 8th-12th: 4pm-5pm</td>
<td>14 After-School Rec: 3pm-6pm Homework Help: 3pm-7pm Dance: K-12th @ 2pm-3pm</td>
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<td>18 After-School Rec: 3pm-6pm Homework Help: 3pm-7pm</td>
<td>19 After-School Rec: 12pm-6pm Homework Help: 3pm-7pm No Cheer Clinic</td>
<td>20 BBall: 8th-12th: 4pm-5pm</td>
<td>21 After-School Rec: 3pm-6pm Homework Help: 3pm-7pm Dance: K-12th @ 2pm-3pm</td>
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<td>25 After-School Rec: 3pm-6pm Homework Help: 3pm-7pm No Cheer Clinic</td>
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- Pool is currently CLOSED due to Maintenance.

After-School Rec Program:
- Early Snack is offered: 3pm-3:45 pm
- Late Snack is offered: 4pm-4:45 pm

Homework Helpers in the TLC
- Monday, Tuesday and Thursday from 3pm-7:00pm
- Kindergarten and up!

All activities are drug, alcohol, e-cigarette and tobacco free.

*Activities and Calendar are subject to change at any time.*
Parks and Rec Youth Program
Kasia Seymour and Kenna Acosta - Wow! March was filled with so much fun! Here's a recap of all our fun activities . . .

Thank you to all the youth and the families who came and shared your ideas for our summer R.O.O.T.S. day camp. We will be using those ideas to enhance your program this summer, so thank you!

On Tuesday, March 1st, we made cupcakes in a cone from the book, *Put Me in the Zoo*, a Dr. Seuss story. On Thursday, March 3rd, we made *Cat and the Hat* slushy drinks and on Friday, March 4th, we watched *The Lorax*, all to celebrate *Read Across America* and Dr. Seuss’ birthday!

We celebrated Billy Frank, Jr. Day on Tuesday, March 8th, and Thursday, March 10th, by learning a little about his life and legacy while making medicine with Jerilynn. We had a mini slide show for the youth showing them Billy Frank, Jr., photos and historical images.

Our monthly and weekly drawing winners for March were Luke Rodriguez and Beau Henry Jr. Congratulations!

Early release days during March were fun. We were able to do some exciting activities, such as kickball, a very cool obstacle course, bread-in-a-bag, and kinetic sand!

Every Monday we will continue to learn about traditional medicines with Jerilynn and do activities relating to the plant of the month. In March, the kids learned how to make dandelion lattes and harvest Douglas fir tips to make infused water.

Here is what we have upcoming in April:

April's plant focus is big leaf maple and salmon berries.

We're open during spring break this month April 4th - 8th from 8:30 a.m. - 3:00 p.m. We will be having a few trips to the T'peeksin and Skalapin parks and on Friday, April 8, we will be going to the movie theatre! Please sign up and come hang out with us during spring break. To register your youth, contact Kasia, Jerilynn or Kenna (contact information below).

We kicked off our 2nd cheer clinic with Stephanie Conesa in March. Our girls are always excited for Tuesday's here at the Squaxin Recreation Center. Cheer clinic will be April 5th from 10:00 - 11:00 a.m. and on April 12th from 6:00 - 7:00 p.m. It's open for all Squaxin Island members and the community.

Our first dance class was with Maria Littlesun in March. We had a big turnout for the first dance class. The girls were excited to learn some dance moves. Maria is going to come up with a dance to the Encanto song *We Don't Talk about Bruno*. This month dance class will be April 7th from 2:00 - 3:00 p.m. and April 14th and 24th from 4:30 - 5:30 p.m.

Easter is almost here, and we are having an Easter celebration. The teen glow-in-the-dark Easter egg hunt will take place at 8:30 p.m. on Wednesday, April 6th, for ages 10-16. Also, our annual Easter egg hunt for ages 0-12 will be on Saturday, April 9th, from 10:00 a.m. - noon.

Super Summer R.O.O.T.S. sign-ups will be taking place in May, so keep an eye out for that!

Stay updated on upcoming events and activities on our Facebook page, Squaxin Island Parks and Recreation Dept. or join our Remind app! Text @ SquaxinRec to 81010.

Kasia Seymour, Youth Activities Lead
(360) 432-3801 or kseymour@squaxin.us

Kenna Acosta, Youth Recreation Coordinator
(360) 349-6414 or kacosta@squaxin.us
Ben Parker earns PhD in math

Squaxin Island tribal member Benjamin Parker is one of a few Indigenous mathematicians in the U.S. who have completed the field’s most advanced degree. He’s the first to graduate with PhD in Math from Portland State University.

Chris Aadland, Underscore.news and Indian Country Today - John Denver Squaxin Island Tribal member Benjamin Parker is one of a few Indigenous mathematicians in the U.S. who have completed the field’s most advanced degree. He’s the first to graduate with PhD in Math from Portland State University.

Benjamin Parker’s go-to ways to relieve stress and decompress from the rigors of completing a Ph.D. in mathematical sciences.

Now, with a doctorate in hand and a good job, he can start building a future in which that log cabin becomes more of a reality than a daydream.

Ben, a member of the Squaxin Island Tribe and also Turtle Mountain Ojibwe, Cree, Shoshone-Bannock, successfully defended his dissertation — entitled “Error Propagation and Algorithmic Design of Contour Integral Eigensolvers with Applications to Fiber Optics” — in December to become the first Native American to earn a Ph.D. in mathematical sciences from Portland State University, joining a small but growing group of Indigenous mathematicians with doctorates in the U.S.

After graduating, Ben took a month off before beginning a job in early February as a software research and development engineer at Intel. Despite giving himself a month to readjust to life outside of academia — a self-care effort that included going to a Portland Trailblazers game and joining a fitness group — Ben said it still feels strange to be done with school after more than five years of working toward his Ph.D. and years of higher education before that.

“It’s actually still a little surreal and still sinking in,” he said. “This was kind of a long journey in the making.”

Ben, 33, grew up in Washington and attended Dartmouth College for his undergraduate studies. He earned a master’s degree in New York, spending about six years on the East Coast. He wasn’t sure he wanted to continue in academia and returned to the Pacific Northwest for a couple of years to teach and work. Then he got an “itch” to get back into school because he missed research and solving problems “for fun” and decided to pursue a Ph.D.

In addition to daydreaming about his ideal log cabin, Ben unwound from the stress of his studies and kept motivated by sticking to a routine that included a balance between research and personal time, spending time at PSU’s Native American Student and Community Center and trying to compile a list of Indigenous people with doctorate degrees.

Ben then discovered that a website called Indigenous Mathematicians had recently done something similar by assembling a list of all Indigenous people with a Ph.D. specifically in math. Now Ben is among the 37 names nationwide — and the second added in 2021 — on that list. Another five are anticipated to graduate this year, with 56 projected by 2026.

Indigenous Mathematicians launched to give people like Ben a place to “connect, network, and inspire the next generation of Indigenous mathematicians” and to “share, narrate, and tell our stories on our journeys in math,” according to the website. The website hosted its first meeting, virtually, for Indigenous mathematicians last November.

Knowing that there are other Native Americans who have gone through the stress and challenges of completing a doctorate was reassuring, Ben said.

“It’s just that solidarity in the struggle,” he said. “It’s nice to know that other people have been through this and that they know what it’s like.”

Eventually, Ben said he’d like to help guide students like him in the future. For now, he wants to give himself some space to digest his experience.

Doctorates are different from other graduate degrees, according to Ben’s faculty advisor, Jay Gopalakrishnan. That’s because successfully completing a Ph.D. requires the student to contribute to the advancement of their chosen field. Math can be even more challenging because the student has to find a new solution to a problem.

Gopalakrishnan said Ben stood out because of his work ethic, efficiency and professionalism.

While Gopalakrishnan has advised eight other Ph.D. students, most of them from underrepresented backgrounds, he said there aren’t enough people from diverse backgrounds with advanced degrees in the math field despite his and PSU’s emphasis on working with those students.

Gopalakrishnan, a mathematics professor at PSU who studies scientific computation, numerical analysis, and multigrid and fiber optics, said Ben had a closer connection to his family than other students he has mentored. For example, Ben’s family attended his first conference presentation even though they probably didn’t understand much of his work.

“I could see how important it was for them to see Ben succeed,” Gopalakrishnan said. “And Ben himself takes a lot of pleasure and satisfaction in seeing that he is appreciated among his community. That was something that I had not seen in other students.”

Gopalakrishnan said the experience helped him better understand how important Ben’s Indigenous heritage was to him and how close many families are in Native American communities.

Ben said his new job is tangentially related to his Ph.D. research, which involved lasers and fiber optics, but he will still need time to learn the “ins and outs.” He chose to go into the private sector because of a better balance between work and free time while still giving him the opportunity to conduct research and solve problems.

Ben still lives in southwest Portland and plans to stay in the Pacific Northwest. He would like to have a house someday where he could build a longhouse in the backyard and hopes to take language lessons to learn more of the Lushootseed language, as well as some Ojibwe.

He doesn’t know where yet, but he also wants to someday build that log cabin. He envisions it as a place where he “can go or get some quiet peace and respite,” along with family and friends. But no different than finishing his Ph.D., he said he’ll have to be patient for that dream to be realized.

“I haven’t even got my first paycheck yet, so I have to save up,” He said.

This story is co-published by Underscore.news and Indian Country Today, a news partnership that covers Indigenous communities in the Pacific Northwest. Funding is provided in part by Meyer Memorial Trust.

Photos by Jes Abeita/Underscore.news

Funding is provided in part by Meyer Memorial Trust.
**Bordeaux**
Tamika Krise - This month has been great so far! As the kiddos wiggle their way to Spring Break, we have had fun, been inspired, and reached new goals. On March 2nd, we celebrated Dr. Suess day. There were some iconic looks, that’s for sure.
Lastly, a big shout out to the following kids for having 100% attendance for the Month of February! We know how impossible it feels sometimes and we appreciate you kiddos for working hard and getting that education everyday! We had a lot of friends who were very close to 100%, keep it up guys!

On March 9th, we celebrated Billy Frank Jr. Day! The kids played BFJ trivia games, watched some informative videos, and colored some fish with an idea of how they could be like Billy Frank Jr. We have a river going in the hallway for the kids and staff to see all month long!

_Breezy Cooper-Bush AKA “One Fish, Two Fish, Red Fish, Blue Fish”_  

I also would like to say how much it joys us to see the kids come up to the Education Center for Homework Help! Whether it is educational games or even just practicing our numbers, we have a good time. Here are some of our kinders practicing their 10 facts.

**Virtual Learning Center**
Keesha Vigil-Snook -

PM Student of the month
*Student of the Month* for our afternoon session is Alexis Wentworth. Alexis is working hard to finish up her classes and is always in the best mood. She encourages both our staff and her peers to always have a good day because her good vibes are contagious.

AM Student of the month
*Student of the Month* for our morning session is Keona Rocero. Keona has been working hard to stay on top of his schoolwork and is a very resilient student! We are so proud to see Keona and the determination he shows us every day. Keep it up, Keona, you rock!

A Round of Applause for:
Finn Dorland  
Ian Melton  
Olivia Henry  
Owen Dorland  
Gracelyn Wier

**Finn Dorland**  
Redwolf Krise
**Olympic Middle School**

Kiana Garberich-Wily

**ACADEMIC:**

It is not always easy to get up and show up each and every day, but these two students made sure to do just that every day, all day, all month long. A special shout out to Mason Ehler and Dominick Hartwell for getting to school every single day for the month of February! Way to be, guys. You set yourself up for success each and every day. Keep it up!

March was Women’s Month and, here in the OMS Native Ed room, we honored our missing murdered indigenous women. MMIW art was placed in the hallway and a poster of the statistics was put up. This was a means to help educate students and staff and bring awareness to this real-life problem that effects our women and people to this day. Another important day in March was Billy Frank, Jr. Day, March 9th. Kids spent time in their home rooms learning about the amazing things Billy Frank advocated for, the rights he helped maintain for natives and the positive ways his work impacted the salmon runs and habitats.

With spring and graduation season fast approaching, it quickly became that time of year to start thinking about and getting button blankets planned out. It came to my attention that many of our younger students are not familiar with button blankets so, here at OMS, we are helping to explain to the kids the significance and value of a button blanket. Our Native Ed teachers are working on a few button blanket activities that we’ll do before the end of the year to build excitement and understanding about the honor of a button blanket. Talk to the kids in your lives and tell them what your button blanket means to you!

**SPORTS:**

Our OMS girls basketball team has been killing it on the court. The girls ended the season with five wins and only two losses. The final game was against Pioneer leaving the spectators on the edge of their seats when the teams were neck and neck until the last second with Pioneer hitting a buzzer beater and taking the win by a single point. Carmela Valencia, Aliegha Johns, and Janelle Krise have been pushing hard and the coaches are proud of their attitudes in games and practices. Our girls have definitely earned their time on the court. Shout out to Janelle for getting elected Team Captain! Way to be team players, ladies!

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**Shelton High School**

Isabelle LeClair – Hello everybody! I am the new High School Advocate! I work at Shelton High School in the Native Ed room. As the high schoolers and I leapt into March, we tackled difficult finals, tryouts for spring sports, homework, jobs, and just being a teenager in a pandemic. It was a hard trimester for everybody. I am so proud of every student finishing the trimester!

Special shout out to Kiona Krise who, not only passed all of her classes, but also tried out for the Shelton High Climbers Fastpitch team. This was her first time ever trying out for a school sport and she made JV! I am so proud of her juggling a new sport along with keeping up with new material inside the classroom. Great work, Kiona, we look forward to cheering you on in the bleachers this fastpitch season!
Ravens
The Raven classroom has been investigating a black pipe. The children discovered that they can look through the pipe at each end. They figured out they can place objects into the pipe, but they first had to see what ones would fit by size. Exploring everyday items with no directions is a fantastic way to spark creative thinking and problem solving.

Teacher Jackie
knocked our socks off with the way she came up with creative ways to teach important life skills to the toddlers children in the Tree frog class room!

Teacher Maryssa
knocked our socks off with the way she always keeps us on our toes and spreads her love to everyone!

Teacher Savannah
knocked our socks off with the way she takes time to pay close attention to detail when it comes to Assessments for our River otter children!

Teacher Angelina
knocked our socks off with the way she is always so welcoming and caring to staff children and families!

Tree Frogs
The Tree Frogs took part in March 17th shenanigans with some colored foam exploration. Sensory play is important to brain development because it can strengthen sensory related synapses and brain function. Sensory experiences encourage the development of motor skills, supports language development, scientific thinking and problem solving. Plus, exploring the world with sensory is a blast!

Earth Day Art Walk & Luminary Parade
4/22/2022
6:00-8:00

This community event is sponsored by: Squaxin Island Child Development Center and Squaxin Island Parks & Rec

For more info Contact:
Kelly Aho, Interim Coach and Mentor, (360) 426-1390
Kaho@squaxin.us

The butterfly is a powerful symbol of life representing endurance, change, hope and life. These are all very relevant thoughts for the time that we want to spread on this day!
Planning and Community Development (PCD) Spotlight

The Utilities program is a critical function that provides the delivery of modern, sanitary, and safe fundamental infrastructure services to the entire Squaxin community and its enterprises.

The responsibilities of Squaxin Utilities include the proper operation, maintenance, and development of systems for electrical power, potable water, wastewater treatment, reuse water management, storm water control, and street maintenance, including snow and ice removal.

The Department of Planning and Community Development’s Utilities team has launched a long-overdue upgrade and expansion of the wastewater treatment facility and related communications support systems. This major improvement project is just one element of a three-part expansion of the utilities infrastructure the Tribe is undertaking to increase the water and power resources needed for community and economic development.

Accomplishments:

- Successfully operated the community water system - 24 hours a day, 365 days a year
- Successfully operated the community wastewater system - 24 hours a day, 365 days a year
- Participated in the planning process to expand the Tribe’s water resources
- Provided technical and hands-on support to the wastewater program repair and modernization project
- Managed and repaired all community water meters

Our program employees’ four (4) Squaxin Tribal members are developing a path to water treatment and operator certifications.

Jeromy Meyer, Utilities Manager: I have 10 years working in the maintenance and utilities program. Most of my life I worked in roofing, construction, and car repair. I have spent many years learning everything I can about water and wastewater management. I take every opportunity to camp and ride my side-by-side with my better half and our two dogs.

Beau Henry, Lead Operator in Training: I have worked with the Tribe for 12 years. Most of that time has been with the utilities program. I really enjoy working with the community and being able to help where I can. When I’m not working, I spend my time with family, hunting, fishing, and diving.

Alan Cooper, Utilities Operator Trainee: I have 12 years working with the Tribe, three years with utilities. I enjoy hunting, fishing, and all the family time I can get.

Casey Brown, Operator in Training: I have in 13 wonderful years with Squaxin Island Tribe. Two years have been working with utilities. I am learning all I can and working towards becoming an Operator One in water management. Adventures with family, carving, fishing, and diving are some of the things I do in my time off.
Planning and Community Development

invites qualified contractors to register with us.

Register at:
http://www.squaxinisland.org/contractor-registration

Contact:
Diane Deyette, Facilities Planner
ddeyette@squaxin.us or (360) 432-3833
10 SE Squaxin Lane, Shelton, WA 98584

New QR Code Gives Easy Access to Mason Transit Schedules, Maps

Mason Transit Authority customers now have a new way to find bus schedules and maps by using smartphones to scan QR codes posted on buses, in bus stop shelters, and, eventually, on bus stop signs along routes.

“The QR code makes it easier for people to get information. The code quickly takes you to route information, saving the time and frustration of online searching,” said Amy Asher, Mason Transit general manager.

To read a QR code, simply open the camera on your smartphone and hold the phone steady for a few seconds. The camera reads the QR code and prompts you to click on a web link. Older phones may require you to download a QR code reader from an app store.

The new QR code is clearly identified with the Mason Transit Authority logo.

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10 SE Squaxin Lane, Shelton, WA 98584

Attention Squaxin Island Tribal Homeowners

Have you been financially impacted by Covid-19 (on or off reservation)?

The Squaxin Island Tribe, Office of Housing, has applied for the Homeowner Assistance Fund (HAF) through the Department of Treasury and is waiting for approval on funding. We are accepting applications from Squaxin Island tribal homeowners (who live on- or off-reservation) who meet the following criteria:

1. You own the home, and it is your primary residence.

2. You have experienced financial hardship due to Covid-19 (after January 21, 2020) from one of the following:
   • Mortgage delinquencies
   • Foreclosure
   • Unpaid property tax
   • Past due utilities
   • Critical home repairs that would cause displacement

3. Your income falls at or below the following guidelines:
   1 person ($55,930 )
   2 persons ($63,920)
   3 persons ($71,910)
   4 persons ($79,900)
   5 persons ($86,292)
   6 persons ($92,684)
   7 persons ($99,076)
   8 persons ($105,468)

If you answer yes to all three questions, you may qualify for assistance through the HAF Program.

You may request a copy of the application from the contact list below.

If you have any questions or need assistance with the application, please contact:

Lisa Peters: lpeters@squaxin.us (360) 432-3871
OR
Liz Kuntz: lkuntz@squaxin.us (360) 432-3937

Please keep an eye out on the Daily Scoop for upcoming RFPs (Request for Proposals) or check this webpage periodically:
squaxinisland.org/community/request-for-proposals

Updated March 29
April is National Cancer Control Month
American Indian and Alaska Native people have some of the highest rates of getting certain cancers in the United States. What can you do to reduce your chances of cancer?

Prevention
Screening is one of the most effective ways to detect pre-cancerous cells and provide early treatment. Some of the most easily screened cancers include:

- Breast Cancer: screening includes yearly mammograms for women ages 40 and older
- Cervical Cancer: screening includes Pap tests at least every three years for women ages 21 and older
- Colon and Rectal Cancer: screening includes colonoscopies for men and women age 50 and older

In addition to screening, vaccinations are available to help treat and prevent certain types of cancers. These cancer vaccinations work to prevent specific infectious agents that cause or contribute to the development of cancer. Following are FDA approved cancer vaccines:

- Gardasil or Ceravix: these vaccines are designed to protect women against certain strains of the cancer causing human papilloma virus (HPV)
- Hepatitis B Vaccine: this three-shot series given to children is designed to protect both men and women against the Hepatitis B virus, which can cause liver cancer
- Provenge: approved by the FDA in 2010, this vaccine helps to treat metastatic prostate cancer

Other clinical trials are being performed to help develop additional vaccines to treat more types of cancer.

Along with medical prevention, the most effective way to prevent some types of cancer involve these lifestyle changes:
1. Don’t use tobacco products
2. Drink alcohol in moderation
3. Eat a healthy diet
4. Be physically active
5. Avoid overexposure to UV rays
6. Practice safe sex

Although cancer is one of the leading causes of death in the US, it is also one of the most easily preventable. Making an effort to protect your body and utilizing the available resources can help prevent a future cancer diagnosis, or even death.

SOURCE: Southeastern Medical Oncology Center, National Cancer Institute, CDC.gov
https://www.cdc.gov/cancer
Baby's Dental Health
Submitted by Carly Goltiani, Registered Dental Hygienist, Squaxin Island Dental Clinic - Congratulations on your new addition!

As your baby starts teething, taking care of those little chompers are going to be very important.

Teething usually occurs around six months of age, but every child is different. However, it is also important to take care of Baby's mouth, even before teeth show up.

Did you know that 75% of American Indian/Alaska Native children 0-5 years old have tooth decay? Tooth decay is preventable. See below about what you can do.

Childhood tooth decay is the most common chronic infectious disease. Decay will usually begin as white, chalky areas along the gum line and then breakthrough to brown or black areas of decay. If left untreated, the teeth will begin to break. This can cause pain and difficulty eating and talking for the child.

The most common cause of childhood tooth decay is putting Baby to bed with a bottle or allowing them to drink from a bottle or sippy cup throughout the day that is filled with milk or any liquid containing sugars.

Eating too much sugary and sticky foods are a huge contributing factor to decay.

Being diligent and establishing a regular home care routine can help prevent cavities.

Some tips to help prevent childhood tooth decay are:
Practice Good Oral Care from the Start! 0-36 Months: Gently use a cloth to clean baby's gums. Once teeth appear, use a soft baby toothbrush with a grain-of-rice sized smear of fluoride toothpaste to gently brush teeth. Do this morning and night each day. Increase time to two minutes each time after baby turns 12 months old. Children will need you to brush their teeth twice a day for many years.

Never Put Baby to Bed with a Bottle or Use a Bottle/Sippy Cup as a Pacifier. If absolutely necessary, then fill only with water. Offer a cup with water for your child starting at six months. Allow your child to practice so they will be ready to drink from a regular cup by their first birthday.

Serve Juice at Meals Only or Not at All. Diluting with at least 50% water is best. Also limit the amount of sticky or sugary foods given to Baby. Damaging sugars are in foods, such as cookies, crackers, chips, fruit snacks, etc.

Make an Appointment for Baby’s First Dental Visit Just before Age One. If you have any concerns though, do not hesitate to make an earlier visit. Call the Squaxin Island Dental Clinic at (360) 432-3881.

High Blood Pressure: The Silent Killer
These Blood Pressure Facts May Surprise You

WHY?
High blood pressure is often called "the silent killer" because most people do not have symptoms of high blood pressure.

You probably know that high blood pressure places you at risk for heart attacks and strokes, but these blood pressure facts may surprise you:

1. **Take blood pressure medication:** If you take medication for your blood pressure, it is best to take it the same time each day. If needed, set up a system to remember. Check with your provider about what to do if you miss a pill.

2. **High blood pressure and eyes:** Untreated high blood pressure can affect your eyesight and lead to eye disease.

3. **High blood pressure and sex:** A link between high blood pressure and sexual problems has been proven in men. More detail: https://www.mayoclinic.org/diseases-conditions/high-blood-pressure/in-depth/high-blood-pressure-and-sex/art-20044209

4. **High blood pressure and memory:** Evidence suggests that high blood pressure increases the risk of mild cognitive impairment, dementia and even Alzheimer’s disease.

5. **More reasons to quit:** Smoking increases your blood pressure, damages your blood vessels, and raises your risk for stroke and heart disease. Check with your provider about options to help you quit.

6. **High blood pressure and your kidneys:** High blood pressure can narrow and damage blood vessels in the kidneys. High blood pressure can make your kidneys worse. Over time, this can lead to kidney failure.

**What can I do to prevent or manage high blood pressure?**
In addition to medications, lifestyle changes listed below can help:

- Getting at least 150 minutes of physical activity each week (about 30 minutes a day, 5 days a week)
- Maintaining a healthy weight or losing extra pounds
- Not smoking
- Managing stress
- Following a healthy eating plan, including less sodium (salt) intake

Talk with your provider about your blood pressure goals and how often you should have your blood pressure checked.

**Sources:**
https://www.mayoclinic.org/diseases-conditions/high-blood-pressure/symptoms-causes/syc-20373410

https://www.health.harvard.edu/heart-health/blood-pressure-and-your-brain

https://www.cdc.gov/bloodpressure
Covid-19 Statistics

Vaccinations
Feb. 15 - March 15

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Vaccine</th>
<th>1st Dose</th>
<th>2nd Dose</th>
<th>Booster</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Moderna</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>10</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Pfizer (5-11 year-olds)</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>9</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Pfizer (12 and up)</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>J&amp;J</td>
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<td>0</td>
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</table>

Totals

Through Pandemic

<table>
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<tr>
<th></th>
<th>1st Dose</th>
<th>2nd Dose</th>
<th>Booster</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Fully Vaccinated</td>
<td>1,155</td>
<td>1,148</td>
<td>346</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Vaccines Provided</td>
<td>2,303</td>
<td>2,649</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
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Tests
Feb. 15 - March 15

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>Positive</th>
<th>Negative</th>
<th>Total Tests</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Total</td>
<td>7</td>
<td>37</td>
<td>44</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Vaccine Status
Feb. 15 - March 15

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>Non-Vaccinated</th>
<th>1 Dose</th>
<th>2 Doses</th>
<th>Boosted</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Positive</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Negative</td>
<td>17</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>9</td>
<td>9</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Vaccine Status Percentages
Feb. 15 - March 15

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>Non-Vaccinated</th>
<th>1 Dose</th>
<th>2 Doses</th>
<th>Boosted</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Positive</td>
<td>29%</td>
<td>0%</td>
<td>29%</td>
<td>43%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Negative</td>
<td>46%</td>
<td>5%</td>
<td>24%</td>
<td>24%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Mammogram Clinic
Thursday, April 21, 2022
7:30 am to 3:30 pm

To schedule an appointment or if you have any questions regarding your eligibility please contact: Traci Lopeman at (360) 432-3930.

Every Woman counts, please tell your Sisters, Daughters, Mothers and Friends to have a mammogram done yearly.

Beginning at age 40 Women should have a mammogram done yearly. Clinical breast exams should be done on a yearly basis by your medical provider. You should do your own monthly Breast Exams on a regular schedule.

Check in parking lot behind police station

Need Help While You Isolate or Quarantine at Home?

Supporting the people who stay home to stop COVID-19
1 (800) 525-0127

How does it work?

1. Get Tested
2. Stay Home
3. Call for help
4. Get Help

You qualify for Care Connect Washington assistance if:
- You tested positive for COVID-19 and are actively isolating
- You were exposed to someone who tested positive for COVID-19 and are actively quarantining

Groceries, Supplies, Finances

Thank YOU! for getting vaccinated!
- Squaxin Island Tribal Council
After School Snacks
Ideas for Healthier Options
Check this source for more details:
After-School Snacks (for Parents) - Nemours KidsHealth

After-school snacks can take the edge off hunger and boost nutrition. Parents can help their children choose healthy after-school snacks while still leaving room for dinner.

1. Create a list of Healthy Options
When it comes to after-school snacks, make chips, sweets, and other treats the exception rather than the rule. Talk to your kids and make a list of healthy options together. Include a variety of fresh fruits and vegetables, whole grains, and protein foods. An occasional treat is fine, but serve healthy snacks most of the time.

2. Figure out the Timing
A child who gets home at 4:00 and eats a large snack probably won’t be hungry if dinner is at 5:00. Instead, offer a light snack — perhaps a fruit or vegetable you’ll serve at dinner — to take the edge off. On the other hand, it may not be reasonable to expect a child to wait until 7:30 with nothing to eat since lunch. Offer a fruit or vegetable, but pair it with a protein, like apples and peanut butter or veggies and hummus.

3. Make Healthy Snacks an Easy Choice
Kids are more likely to eat what’s handy, especially when they are hungry. Make it easy to choose healthy after-school snacks. You can:
• Put healthy snacks out where kids can see them. Keep fruit on the counter and healthy items, like yogurt and cut-up vegetables, front and center in your fridge.
• Make healthy snacks ahead of time.
• Pack healthy snacks in lunchboxes or backpacks.

If you’re at home after school, your child might enjoy making snacks together. Some kid-favorite creative snacks include:
• Ants on a log (celery topped with peanut butter and raisin "ants")
• Egg boats (hard-boiled egg wedges topped with a cheese sail)
• Fruit kabobs (pieces of fruit on skewers with yogurt for dipping)

Older kids may enjoy making smoothies, home-made trail mix, or popcorn sprinkled with parmesan cheese.
Community

Elders Menu... Fruit and salad at every meal

**MONDAY 4:**
Hamburgers, Chips, Macaroni Salad

**TUESDAY 5:**
Navy Bean Soup, Ham Sandwiches

**MONDAY 11:**
Chalupas

**TUESDAY 12:**
Italian Sausage Potato Soup
Bread Sticks

**MONDAY 18:**
Tuna Melts, Chips

**TUESDAY 19:**
Pork Pozole, Tortillas

**MONDAY 25:**
Chicken Pot Pie

**TUESDAY 26:**
Chilli, Corn Bread

**WEDNESDAY 6:**
Meatloaf, Mashed Potatoes w/Gravy,
Mixed Veggies

**THURSDAY 7:**
Baked Potato Bar, Broccoli

**WEDNESDAY 13:**
Pork Chops, Red Potatoes, Carrots

**THURSDAY 14:**
BBQ Ribs, Mac-N-Cheese,
Baked Beans

**WEDNESDAY 20:**
Spaghetti, Corn, Garlic Toast

**THURSDAY 21:**
Chicken Strips, Fries

**WEDNESDAY 27:**
Pizza

**THURSDAY 28:**
Baked Chicken, Veggie Rice
1. Colby Robert Smith  
   Duane Arthur Cooper  
   Famie Marie Mason  
   Renee Andre Vigil  
   Seattle Dee Morris  

2. Bentley Daniel Gray  
   David Wayne Peters Sr.  
   Kaitlyn Rose Niel  

3. Deborah Jean Knott  
   Jacqueline Crenshaw  
   Tamiya May Krise  

4. Elizabeth Cooper-Campbell  
   Janice Nadine Leach  
   Joseph Nolan Harrell  
   Kathy Ann Brandt  
   Traci Jo Coffey  
   Tyler D. Hartwell  

5. Matthew Volker Peters Block  

6. Chauncey Eagle Blueback  

7. Carolyn E. Hoosier  
   Keesha R. Vigil-Snook  
   Marie Elaine Snyder  
   Michael W. Kruger  
   Rolando Lewis Rocero  

8. Marcella Rease Cooper  
   Michelle Emily Mach  
   Nolah Jean Cousins  
   Rodney James Krise Jr.  

9. Alexander Henry Blueback  
   Andie May Cousins  
   Cheryl Lynn Hantel  
   Juan Miguel Araiza  
   Kiana Jean Henry  
   Lila Mae Jacobs  
   William Howard Henderson  

10. Joanna Lynn Cowling  
    Kenneth Wayne Selvidge Jr.  
    Lily Ana Naranjo-Johns  

11. Anisaia Manu-Saenz  
    Talon Jacob Beattie  
    Tseeka Myrtle Lee Ackerman  

12. Dorinda Evon Thein  
    Elaine LeeAnn Roberts  

13. Allen Jovian Mosier  
    Latiesha Marie Gonzales  

14. Debra Jean Peters  
    Haelie Ana Hernandez-Smith  
    James Leroy Peters  
    Mary Josephine Mae Lewis  

15. Grace Elizabeth Pugel  
    Lorena Lynn Porter  

16. Maria Guadalupe Coley  
    Ronald Lawrence Schaefer  

17. April Ann Leonard  
    Dena Mae Cools  
    Skyler Monroe Henry  

18. Brooke Belle Henry  
    Daniel Edward Kuntz  
    Douglas Wayne Johns  
    Josiah Cruz Saenz-Garcia  

19. Dustin P. Greenwood  
    Elisha R Peters-Guizzetti  
    Sande Lee Smith III  
    Trinity Richelle Byrd  
    Walter Ray Hall  

20. Jolene R. Grover  
    Louise Agnes Rioux  
    Pamela Ann Peters  
    Vicky Lee Turner  

21. Emily Denise Sigo  
    Jon Kenneth Vanderwal  
    Joshua Henry Brady Whitener  
    Tracy Roy West  
    Tyrone Seymour  

22. Randy William Koshiway  
    Sarah Gloria Koshiway  

23. Rebecca Ray Keith  
    Ronald Francis Bell  
    Tristan Isaiah Villanueva  

24. Cameron Kyle Goodwin  
    Syncere Van Ho  

25. Casey Adrian Krise  
    Cynthia T. L. Parrott  
    Dawn Marie Caasi  
    Larain Rose Algea  

26. Bear Jon Lewis  
    Chauncey Roger Blueback  
    London Rain King  
    Richard Montano III  
    Russel Ramon Algea  

27. Becky Lynn Barker  
    Standing Raven  

28. Anthony Del Johns  
    Wesley Kyle Whitener  

29. Claudia Jeanette Josa-Meas  
    Redwolf S. Krise  

**COMMITTEES COMMISSIONS & BOARDS**

Please visit: https://squaxinisland.org/tribal-member-info/committees-commissions-and-boards

**Addiction is real. So is Recovery.**

**You matter and we care.**

Let us help you back to recovery. Make the call today, and find out what resources are available.

- Opioid treatment  
- Outpatient services  
- Treatment services, referrals & more

**Squaxin Island Tribe Behavioral Health Outpatient Services**

Business Hours  
Monday - Friday  
8:30 am - 5:00 pm  
360-426-1582
Community

What’s Happening

Candidates Virtual Webinar
Teens vs Exec Basketball Game
Easter Party
Glow-in-the-Dark Egg Hunt

April 22 at 5:00 p.m.
April 1 at 5:30 p.m.
April 9 from 10:00 a.m. - Noon
April 6 from 8:30 - 9:30 p.m.

Court:
FAMILY COURT: April 7th
CRIMINAL/CIVIL COURT: April 12th
VULNERABLE ADULT COURT: April 21st
(All in person subject to Covid-19 changes)

USDA FOODS
April 22
WIC
April 12

USDA FOODS
WIC

FRIDAY APRIL 15TH
DAUBIN IN THE DARK
8:30PM SESSION STARTS
DOORS: 6PM - EARLY BIRDS: 8PM
ELECTRONIC BINGO DEVICES NOW AVAILABLE FOR BLACK LIGHT BINGO!

SATURDAY APRIL 16TH
DOORS: 11AM - EARLY BIRD: 1:30PM
2PM SESSION STARTS

SUNDAY APRIL 17TH
DOORS: 11AM - EARLY BIRD: 1:30PM
2PM SESSION STARTS

BRING CANNED FOOD FOR FREE LEVEL 1 (6-ON)
Multiple winners split the paypnd. Call 360-427-5005 for more details.
Must be 18 or over to participate in BINGO. Ages 21 and over only for Friday session.
Squaxin Island WIC (Women, Infants, and Children) provides healthy foods & nutrition information for you and your child up to age 5. Please have available: Your child's height & weight, Provider One Card or paystub and identification for you & your child.

Contact at SPIPA for an appointment: Patty at 360.462.3224, wicnutrition@spiipa.org or Debbie Gardipee-Reyes 360.462.3227 gardipee@spiipa.org
Main SPIPA number: 360.426.3990

Next WIC: Tues., April 12, 2022
We are continuing remote phone appointments through July 2022 due to the COVID-19 virus.
We will call you on your appt day.

This institution is an equal opportunity provider.
Washington State WIC Nutrition Program doesn’t discriminate.

Squaxin Island Child Development Center
3851 SE Old Olympic Hwy, Shelton Wa 98584
(360) 426-1390

Now Accepting Applications for the 2022-2023 School Year!

PREGNANT TEENS & PARENTS OF INFANTS & TODDLERS (UP TO AGE 3) WITH DISABILITIES, IN FOSTER CARE, OR HOMELESS ARE ESPECIALLY ENCOURAGED TO APPLY.

To Apply
Call 360-426-1390
Email kkruz@squaxin.us
OR
Stop in at 3851 SE Old Olympic HWY Shelton Wa 98584
All applications will be done interview style