Squaxin Island Tribe, Partners Look to Revitalize Kelp

Trevor Pyle, Northwest Indian Fisheries Commission - A bull kelp forest in Squaxin Island Tribe waters has shrunk dramatically in recent years, with the population plummeting from thousands of plants to fewer than 100. Given bull kelp’s cultural and environmental importance - as an ecosystem bellwether, food web builder, and habitat for forage fish and other species - its reduction is a shock. But this spring the Tribe and partners, including Puget Sound Restoration Fund (PSRF), and Washington Department of Natural Resources (DNR), pooled their knowledge and resources to string 1,500 feet of kelp-seeded lines underwater, in their first effort to help the resource thrive again.

“As we watch all the other kelp beds reduced, especially in South Sound, to have one on the reservation is a big deal,” said Squaxin Island Tribe Environmental Program Manager Scott Steltzner. “We don’t want to study another kelp bed going into extinction.”

Scientists have been concerned about the pervasive loss of South Puget Sound kelp beds for years, consulting navigational charts dating as far back as the 1870s to bolster a recent study of the beds’ decline over more than a century.

But the kelp bed on the reservation seemed relatively hardy - until recently.

While the Squaxin Island Tribe’s kelp bed had been shrinking over the last decade, the loss accelerated acutely last year - following a heat wave between 2013-2017 - and spurred the Tribe and partners to action.

Helen Berry, who has monitored kelp for decades as part of DNR’s nearshore habitat program, approached the kelp forest’s anticipated location in spring 2022, only to find nothing.

“We went out to do annual monitoring and there were no bull kelp,” she said.

Further checks found only 85 plants, a number that could make it difficult or impossible for the population to survive without intervention.

“We were all shocked and traumatized about how small the bed was. Until now, the forest at Squaxin Island has provided hope that bull kelp can persist in some locations despite losses in many others,” she said.

The Tribe shared the shock, Steltzner said. “In other areas, when you have this dramatic of a collapse, it means you won’t have a kelp bed next year,” he said.

To save the kelp, the Tribe partnered with the nonprofit Puget Sound Restoration Fund, which is dedicated to restoring marine species and habitats, and has a particularly sharpened interest in bull kelp. As part of its effort to develop a bull kelp restoration practice, PSRF has been building a kelp seed bank in partnership with Filipe Alberto at the University of Wisconsin-Milwaukee and NOAA.

It was because of efforts to preserve seed that PSRF had the necessary material to seed a new kelp bed at Squaxin Island, an effort the tribe led in March.

“The Tribe is leading this, and we’re all assisting in whatever ways we can,” said Betsy Peabody, PSRF Executive Director. Peabody noted that State Senator Christine Rolfes and the Washington State Legislature have provided crucial funding for restoration, the seed bank, and critical research into conditions that drive decline.

Funding approved for 2023-2025 will provide continued support for the Squaxin Island kelp project. Additional funding for PSRF’s work with the Tribe came from The Builders Initiative, The Pew Charitable Trusts and NOAA.

The kelp outplants are a critical first step; they increase the potential for the bull kelp to successfully reproduce by increasing the size of the population. Other stressors also threaten the bed, notably water quality degradation, rising ocean temperatures, competition with invasive species and grazing.

Early monitoring hasn’t detected any juvenile bull kelp on the seeded lines, but it’s considered too early to judge success or failure in this multi-year effort.

The project’s partners continue to monitor the lines and the surrounding habitat to better understand both environmental conditions and kelp response.

The anchoring system installed this spring is in place for future restoration research. Further work to save kelp is slated for the months and years ahead, and the Tribe hopes to see benefits of concerted action for the health of kelp, as well as the marine creatures that feed in it, hide in it and benefit from it.

“We hope to see rapid recovery, but we’re committed for the long term. We know that ecological restoration is tricky, yet it’s also crucial to the well-being of both humans and the environment,” Steltzner said.
Evelyn Angel Hall
March 23, 1979 - May 26, 2023

It is with heavy hearts that we announce the passing of Evelyn Angel Hall, a beloved daughter, devoted mother, cherished sister, doting auntie, and a dear friend to all. Angel's untimely departure has left a void in our lives that can never be filled, but her memory will forever remain in our hearts.

Angel was born on March 23, 1979 to loving parents, Leanora Krise and Daniel Albert Hall Sr., who recognized her angelic presence from the moment she came into this world. Throughout her life, she embodied the true essence of an angel, radiating kindness, compassion, and an unwavering willingness to help others. Her selflessness knew no bounds, and she always went above and beyond to lend a hand to anyone in need.

As a mother of three beautiful children, Cristian Andres Hall, Walter Ray Hall, and Danielle Madison Hall, Angel's love and dedication were unparalleled. She poured her heart and soul into raising her children, ensuring they grew up surrounded by love, laughter, and valuable life lessons. Her unconditional love and unwavering support will forever be imprinted on their lives.

Angel's magnetic personality and infectious sense of humor drew people towards her like a moth to a flame. She had an uncanny ability to make everyone around her burst into fits of laughter, effortlessly lightening the heaviest of hearts. Her quick wit and clever remarks never failed to bring joy to those fortunate enough to be in her presence. Angel's caring extended beyond the physical realm, as she also offered emotional support and unwavering encouragement to those who needed it the most. She possessed a unique ability to bring comfort to those in pain, offering a shoulder to lean on and a voice of reason during challenging times.

A woman of strong convictions, Angel never shied away from standing up for what she believed in. She was the person everyone turned to in times of need, knowing they could count on her unwavering support and unwavering loyalty.

Though Angel's time with us was cut tragically short, her impact on our lives will continue to reverberate through the memories we shared and the love she showered upon us. She leaves behind a legacy of compassion, laughter, and authenticity that will forever inspire those who knew her.

Angel was a person who had a deep connection with her culture and valued the diversity of life. Angel actively participated in cultural practices associated with her strong heritage background. She found solace and meaning in all the faiths that she followed, such as praying with the Shaker Church, Canoe Journey, and Drum Group.

Angel is survived by her three children, Cristian, Walter, and Danielle Hall; siblings, Nathan and Julie Hall, Terri Capoeman, Santana Krise, Jaimie, Jessica, and Jackson Cruz, and Dayleann Hawks; step-parents Vernon Sanchez and Lori Hall; and numerous aunts, uncles, nieces, and nephews.

Angel was preceded in death by grandparents, Buddy & Evelyn Miller and Grace & Frank Hall; mother, Leanora Krise; father, Daniel Hall, Sr.; brother, Daniel Jay Hall; and niece, Madison Charley Hall.

In our hearts, Angel will forever remain the guardian angel she was destined to be. As we mourn her loss, let us also celebrate the vibrant life she lived and the profound impact she made on our lives. May her soul find eternal peace, and may we find solace in the knowledge that we were blessed to have had Evelyn Angel Hall grace our lives.

A wake was held on June 8th and a funeral service on June 9th with a final cruise around "The Loop." A meal followed at the Squaxin Community Kitchen.

Forever loved, forever remembered, forever missed. Rest in peace, Hoyt Putz.
Community

Removing barriers to fish under State Route 108 this summer

There have been changes to the work schedule for the WSDOT Fish Passage Improvement Projects on HWY 108

Anticipated mobilization and prep work will begin in August with full traffic revisions/closures anticipated in September.

We will provide more information as it becomes available.

Complete updates with road closure info, traffic revisions, and project sites will be in the August edition of the Klah-Che-Min.

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Calling all Squaxin Families!

Join us in celebration as we embark on a Huckleberry Harvest!

August 17-19th Cispus, WA

Whether you are an experienced harvester or new to this tradition, your presence and participation are invaluable.

Please express your interest and RSVP by July 31st to: Tribalgarden@squaxinus.

As there will be a great deal of coordination between several departments, having an accurate number helps with preparation.

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Construction is complete for the Tumwater project!

We are excited to share that we added a Elevation store as well as the Tumwater Trading Post Express where you will be able to purchase a variety of cigarettes, drinks and snacks.

Details on the opening will be coming soon!
Congratulations Graduates

GED

Jayden Holden
Jayden Holden, the son of Jennifer and Greg Holden, received his GED from the State Board for Community and Technical Colleges and the Office of Superintendent of Public Instruction for the State of Washington on August 22, 2022.

He plans to become either a Botanist or a Chemical Engineer.

He enjoys baseball, photography, and art.

HIGH SCHOOL

Jacob Bethea
Jacob Bethea, the son of Clayton and Katie Bethea and grandson of Laurinda and Roy Thomas and Steve and Cindy Bethea, graduated from Shelton High School in June.

His interests include listening to music and learning new things about his culture/where he comes from.

He is working in the Tribe’s summer youth employment program through the Child Development Center and is hoping to explore more career opportunities within the Tribe from there.

Justina (Tia) Hess
Justina (Tia) Hess, the daughter of Verda and Chuck Hess and Mike Krise, and sister of Redwolf and Caleb Krise, received her diploma through South Puget Sound Community College (SPSCC) in June.

She plays fast pitch and enjoys song writing, music composing, acting, modelling, and advertising.

She received awards for “Best Editor” and “Best Film Director.”

She is currently employed as a cocktailer, artist, and performer.

Justina plans to attend college for marketing, advertising, and music composition. She may also pursue law to become a detective.

Cavin Jacob Johnston
Cavin Jacob Johnston, the son of Britney and Daniel Jacob Johnston, grandson of Daniel Thomas Sigo and Susan Maniscalco, great-grandson of Dewey Sigo and Virginia Starns, and second great-grandson of Ed Sigo and Florence Bagley, graduated with his high school diploma in March from South Puget Sound Community College (SPSCC).

He works full time at Taylor Shellfish as a Boat Operator as well as Topside Tender for Skookum Diving, his family’s diving company.

When he isn’t on the water or racing dirt bikes, he is detailing vehicles, under his own company, and providing diesel mechanic skills to his community.

He has applied to Operating Engineers Regional Training Program in Ellensburg and plans to attend that in the fall.

Photos on these pages are from Sgwi’ Gwi Celebration
Congratulations Graduates

HIGH SCHOOL

John Krise III
John Krise, the son of John and Shayla Krise and grandson of Gloria and John Krise, Sr. and Roy and Kathryn Kenyon, graduated from Shelton High School in June.

John will be attending South Puget Sound Community College (SPSCC) this fall.

In his free time, he enjoys playing basketball, working on his car and hanging out with friends.

Kiona Krise
Kiona Krise, the daughter of Casey Krise and Jill Kenyon, and granddaughter of June and George Krise on her father’s side and Roy Kenyon on her mother’s side, graduated from Shelton High School in June with a 3.0 GPA.

Kiona was varsity fast pitch player for the Shelton High Climbers and was awarded “Most Inspirational” and “Most Improved” player.

She loves playing fast pitch, spending time with friends and family, exercising her treaty rights, and being involved in her community and culture. She is also very passionate about baking.

Her plans are to continue her education in the culinary program at SPSCC and eventually pursue her dream of owning her own bakery.

Kiona is currently working in the Tribe’s summer youth employment program.

Myeisha Littlesun
Myeisha Littlesun, the daughter of Crystal Edwards Chale Littlesun and granddaughter of Ron and Jess Edwards, graduated from Shelton High School in June.

During high school, she played volleyball and fast pitch.

She enjoys reading and podcasts, and novels. She also enjoys engineering tech and articulture.

Myeisha is currently employed at Little Creek Casino Resort as a Laundry Attendant.

She plans to start a business focusing on one of her hobbies.

Aaron Peters
Aaron Peters, the son of Roger and Leslie Peters and grandson of Cal and Ina Peters, graduated from Centralia College with an Associates degree in Business in September, 2022.

Aaron played baseball for two years at Centralia College and now plays for the University of the Southwest.

He plans to finish his Bachelors degree, then go on to law school.

Aaron loves, fishing, hiking, and spending time with family and friends.
Congratulations Graduates

HIGH SCHOOL

Monique Pinon
Monique Pinon, the daughter of Susan “Wicket” Laclair, Jeffery Pinon, and "wonderful step-dad," Patrick "Moose" Laclair, and granddaughter of Sue Henry, Larry McFarlane, Patty Pinon and Ernesto Pinon, graduated from SPSCC High School & Beyond in June.

Monique plans to work this summer, then enroll in community college this fall.

She enjoys playing basketball with her sisters, going on walks, hanging out with family, dancing, and listening to music.

Grace Pugel
Grace Pugel, the daughter of Juanita Pugel and granddaughter of Rose Davis, graduated from Cedar High School in June.

Grace plans to take a gap year from school and work, then work towards becoming a Veterinary Technician.

She enjoys artwork, nature walks, and listening to music.

Eva Rodriguez
Eva Rodriguez, the daughter of Lorane Gamber and Fernando Rodriguez, graduated from Cedar High School in June.

Eva is currently employed at Dairy Queen and enjoys hanging out with friends.

NOT PICTURED
Gannon Mcfarland
Christopher Brown

Fungi Fusion: A Cooking Class with Produce from Forest & Farm

Join the farm crew & Metamimicry to learn ways to incorporate more healthy foods from the farm and SPoRE program into your diet.
Morning: Medicinal mushroom desserts
Afternoon: Garlicky mushroom & greens sauté
July 16, 11am–2pm
AT THE SALISH ROOTS FARM
541 W. ST ROUTE 108, SHELTON, WA 98584
RSVP at tribalgarden@squaxin.us
Squaxin Tribal Community Only
Congratulations Graduates

ASSOCIATES

Keesha Vigil-Snook
Keesha Vigil-Snook, the daughter of Alexsii Vigil (Squaxin) and Heath Snook (Lummi Nation) and granddaughter of Lila (Skokomish) and Jose Vigil on her mothers side and Sharon Kinley (Lummi) on her fathers side, graduated from Shelton High School with a transfer degree from South Puget Sound Community College (SPSCC) in June.

Keesha participated in the Young Native Womens Leadership Academy and received a Washington Indian Gaming Association scholarship.

She is currently employed as the Squaxin Island Tribe Teen Program Coordinator and plans to earn a degree in Tribal Leadership and Governance.

“I want to bring my education back to our community and continue to build opportunities for our youth,” she says.

Keesha enjoys beading, attending cultural events, and being the Teen Program Coordinator.

Winter White
Winter White, the daughter of Roxanne White and granddaughter of Sharon Byrd, earned her Associates degree from South Puget Sound Community College (SPSCC) in December, 2022.

She is currently employed as the Squaxin Island Tribe ICW Case Aide and Prevention and Wellness Advocate.

She plans to attend UW Tacoma this fall to earn a Bachelor of Arts degree in Social Work and eventually a Masters degree in Social Work.

BACHELORS

Zoe Cooper
Zoe Cooper, the daughter of Kim and Anton Cooper and granddaughter of Emory and Ruth Peters, graduated from the University of Washington with a Bachelors of Arts degree in English with a 3.7 GPA.

Zoe has been involved with the UW choirs and the UW Canoe Family.

She will be working as a Paraprofessional Special Education Assistant at Ballard High School next year.

She plans to eventually get a Masters degree in teaching and work as a high school teacher.

Teagan Jones
Teagan Jones, the daughter of Whitney Jones and granddaughter of Julie Goodwin, earned her Bachelors degree in Sociology from Western Washington University in June. She had a 3.9 GPA, by which she earned a cum laude award.

Teagan played volleyball for WWU, and she enjoys hiking, reading, and spending time with family and friends.

She plans to attend law school and is currently employed as a Legal Assistant at GLP Attorneys Law Firm.

NOT PICTURED

Kelly Jones
Associates
Congratulations Graduates

MASTERS

MistiFawn Vigil
MistiFawn Vigil, the daughter of Andrea, Steve Sigo, and Chris Martinez, and wife of Dakodah Vigil, graduated from Walden University with a Master of Science degree in May with a 3.5 GPA. MistiFawn was a member of the Honor Society and is a NPC Bikini Bodybuilder. She is employed as a Health Coach for the Nisqually Health Fitness and Nutrition department and plans to build clientele and interest in health coaching at Squaxin Island Tribe. She hopes to travel as much as possible with her husband, Dakodah, and get her IFBB Pro Card “when the Creator thinks it’s my time.” MistiFawn enjoys living a healthy/active lifestyle, eating new foods, traveling the world, film, and everything bodybuilding.

Joe Seymour, Jr.
Joe Seymour, Jr. received a Master of Fine Arts Studio Arts from the Institute for American Indian Arts in Santa Fe, NM in May, 2023. Joe is the son of Joe Seymour, Sr. and Faye Seymour. He is married to Sandy Littletree. He plans to continue making art (Joe Seymour Art) and digging geoducks. Joe’s art has been commissioned for several major art projects in downtown Olympia. Check them out on his website: joeseymourart.com.

Addie Peters
Addie Peters, the daughter of Jim and Lisa Peters and granddaughter of Emery and Ruth Peters, graduated from Montana State University with a Masters of Science in Athletic Training in May with a 3.89 GPA. She is currently employed as a Teaching Assistant at Montana State University.

Addie’s plan for the future is to get a job as an Athletic Trainer back on the west coast so she can be closer to family.
Congratulations Graduates

SGWI' GWI
Congratulations Graduates

SGWI' GWI
Congratulations Graduates

SGWI' GWI

CONSTRUCTION BOOTCAMP TRAININGS

FREE

Training provided by:

OLYMPIA CAREER HUB

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AUG 14 - SEP 8

Funded by the City of Olympia and sponsored by the Thurston Chamber

REGISTER NOW

Space is limited!

- OSHA 10 Safety
- Forklift Operating
- Flagging

EARN CERTIFICATIONS

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Training is FREE to those who live within Olympia City limits or who are members of the Squaxin Island Tribe.
Family Services

Walk Against Violence
Charlene Abrahamson - Family Services was pleased to collaborate with many others on the Walk Against Violence held on Wednesday June 21, 2023, the summer solstice. The day was perfect for walking. Not only did we have great weather, but it was great walk, a great meal, a great speaker, and a great gathering to visit and share.

Elizabeth Krise graciously, and courageously, agreed to be our speaker. She shared her own story and facts about domestic violence, including victim blaming (how abusers make you feel you did something to deserve the abuse). It’s clear, no one deserves abuse. It can be a long journey to understand your worth and to escape and find safety. Elizabeth recounted getting tricked by her abuser and the common ability abusers have to fake being nice while still doing all they can to keep control of their victims. However, her indomitable spirit, intelligence, and not ignoring the miracles placed in her path at the right time, allowed her the means to leave safely. She demonstrated to all in attendance that it's possible to get away, create a thriving life, and actually save other lives by being dedicated to serving others and sharing the stories. Thank you, Elizabeth!

We had many sponsors, including the Little Creek Casino Resort, the 1% Committee, Java 101, Home Meats, and volunteers to help clean up.

We also thank the other the departments who collaborated with us, including Behavioral Health, the Museum Library and Research the Center, Child Development Center, and the 'Tu Ha' Buts Youth Center. Representatives Kasia Seymour, Jeremiah George, Morningstar Green, Twana Machado, Jessica Dolge, Gitta Clark, Jolene Peters, Kristin Penn, Marcella Cooper, Lettie Machado, and Will Marchant all spoke from the heart and provided information on the great resources available from youth to Elder supports. These resources enhance our community, including the safety and kindness shared between fellow tribal members and our departments. Thank you to the cooks. Redwolf Krise led the efforts, and no leftovers remained at the end.

Kasia took on the tie-dye activity for the youth, a big and fun job and one she’s been dedicated to doing for about 15 years! Thank you, to leadership for attending. Patrick Braese, brought his ATV to distribute water to the walkers. All in all, about 150 people gathered. The photo booth was busy, and it was fun to see the many family and friends getting photo memories. Last, but not least, thank you, to the Elders in attendance and to Rose Davis for opening with a prayer. Blessings to all.

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What’s happening at the Creek

The promotions calendar is in full swing this July!

• **Independence Day Giveaway** – Win your share of up to $150,000 in cash prizes! July 1 & 2 win up to $5k every other hour from 1:00 p.m. to 11:00 p.m. with a $10,000 drawing at midnight! July 3 & 4 win up to $5k every other hour from 1:00 p.m. to 9:00 p.m. with a $10,000 drawing at 10:00 p.m!

• **Crumbl Cookies are moving to Tuesday**! Seniors 50+ can claim their cookie voucher from 10:00 a.m. to 10:00 p.m. each Tuesday. Three winners of $250 in freeplay at 6:00 p.m. and one winner of $1000 cash at 7:00 p.m!

• **Luck Be a Lady on Wednesdays in July**. $1,000 cash drawings at 1:00 p.m., 3:00 p.m., 5:00 p.m., 7:00 p.m., and 9:00 p.m…ladies will win double the prize, if drawn!

• **It pays to play table games this July**! Earn 750 points on table games from 11:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. on Fridays and Sundays to receive a $15 dining voucher and an entry for a 6:00 p.m. drawing to win $500 in cash.

Entertainment on the Horizon

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Event</th>
<th>Date</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Cruise at the Creek Car Show</td>
<td>July 15th</td>
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<tr>
<td>Foreigner</td>
<td>September 23rd</td>
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<tr>
<td>Tone Loc and Ginuwine</td>
<td>August 12</td>
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</table>

One Cart

Visit the Book Now button on the homepage of the Little Creek Casino Resort website to visit our One Cart platform! Here guests can make hotel reservations, book a tee time for golf, make a reservation for the spa, and make a reservation at the Island Grille, all in one cart!

Salish Cliffs News

The golf course is undergoing bunker upgrades all summer. Near the end of summer, and upon completion of this project, the resort will take new photos and video of the course, weather permitting.

Salish Cliffs is bringing back two favorites! Mondays will be Ladies Wine and 9. Play nine holes of golf, enjoy a glass of wine, and participate in a golf clinic for only $50. Tee times are required to reserve in advance!

Thursdays are reserved for Beer, Brat, and Shot now through August 31st. For only $60, play 9 holes of golf, have a beer…a brat…and a shot! Again, reservations are required, so book in advance!

Starlight

Starlight remains closed, but the project is moving along as scheduled and will reopen soon!

Little Creek Casino Resort Mobile App

The resort officially launched an enhanced mobile app in May. The app showcases the dining venues, Salish Cliffs, and Seven Inlets Spa, as well as allows a direct link to make a reservation or tee time! Resort Reward members can also log into their players club account to view their tier status, see their resort points, and checkout the current promotions. Download in the Google Or Apple Play Stores today!
IRS Tax Tip

**When an IRS letter arrives, taxpayers don’t need to panic, but they do need to read it**

Getting a letter from the IRS can make some taxpayers nervous – but there’s no need to panic. The IRS sends notices and letters when it needs to ask a question about a taxpayer’s tax return, let them know about a change to their account or request a payment.

**When an IRS letter or notice arrives in the mail, here’s what taxpayers should do:**

Read the letter carefully. Most IRS letters and notices are about federal tax returns or tax accounts. Each notice deals with a specific issue and includes any steps the taxpayer needs to take. A notice may reference changes to a taxpayer’s account, taxes owed, a payment request or a specific issue on a tax return. Taking prompt action could minimize additional interest and penalty charges.

Review the information. If a letter is about a changed or corrected tax return, the taxpayer should review the information and compare it with the original return. Taking prompt action could minimize additional interest and penalty charges.

Take any requested action, including making a payment. The IRS and authorized private debt collection agencies do send letters by mail. Taxpayers can also view digital copies of select IRS notices by logging into their IRS Online Account. The IRS offers several options to help taxpayers who are struggling to pay a tax bill.

Reply only if instructed to do so. Taxpayers don’t need to reply to a notice unless specifically told to do so. There is usually no need to call the IRS. If a taxpayer does need to call the IRS, they should use the number in the upper right-hand corner of the notice and have a copy of their tax return and letter.

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Reply only if instructed to do so. Taxpayers don’t need to reply to a notice unless specifically told to do so. There is usually no need to call the IRS. If a taxpayer does need to call the IRS, they should use the number in the upper right-hand corner of the notice and have a copy of their tax return and letter.

Let the IRS know of a disputed notice. If a taxpayer doesn’t agree with the IRS, they should follow the instructions in the notice to dispute what the notice says. The taxpayer should include information and documents for the IRS to review when considering the dispute.

Keep the letter or notice for their records. Taxpayers should keep notices or letters they receive from the IRS. These include adjustment notices when the IRS takes action on a taxpayer’s account. Taxpayers should keep records for three years from the date they filed the tax return.

Watch for scams. The IRS will never contact a taxpayer using social media or text message. The first contact from the IRS usually comes in the mail. Taxpayers who are unsure whether they owe money to the IRS can view their tax account information on IRS.gov.

**More information:**

- Understanding Your IRS Notice or Letter
- Tax Scams/Consumer Alerts

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**Help for Homeowners in Need**

**Homeowner Assistance Fund (HAF)**

If you have experienced a financial hardship due to Covid-19 that resulted in mortgage delinquency, we may be able to help.

**Attention:** Squaxin Island Tribal Homeowners (on- or off-reservation)

The Squaxin Island Tribe, Office of Housing has received funding through the Department of Treasury for the Homeowner Assistance Fund (HAF).

We are accepting applications from Squaxin Island Tribal homeowners who meet the following criteria:

1. You own the home you live in and it is your primary residence, on or off reservation.
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
   - Home displacement due to critical home repairs (roof, structure damage)
3. Your income falls at or below these guidelines:
   1 person ($63,000)
   2 persons ($72,000)
   3 persons ($81,000)
   4 persons ($90,000)
   5 persons ($97,200)
   6 persons ($104,400)
   7 persons ($111,600)
   8 persons ($118,800)

Please go to: squaxinisland.org/government/departments/community-development to fill out the application. You may also request a copy of the application from the contacts listed below.

**If you have any questions please contact:**

Lisa Peters / lpeters@squaxin.us / (360) 432-3871

OR

Liz Kuntz / lkuntz@squaxin.us / (360) 432-3937
Tamika Krise - Happy July everyone! School is out and summer is here! Before we get too deep in summer vibes, I want to share some of our end-of-the-year memories with our K-4th grade kiddos.

The last few weeks of the school year 2022-2023 were a blast! Before we dive into our last days, I want to remind families with upcoming Kindergartners that it is always a good idea to get your kiddo(s) enrolled in Kindergarten as soon as enrollment opens.

We had a Native Education Awards ceremony honoring all of our tribal students. Our fourth graders got a little special something with their award, a beaded necklace with a charm that was handpicked to match their person. This was to honor their time at Bordeaux Elementary and to gift them something, as they move on up to middle school. After the ceremony and all the other grades went back to class, we kept the fourth graders and introduced them to their next Squaxin Student Advocate, Kiana Wily, and their next year Native Education Para. We want our kiddos, who are moving on to walk in 5th grade, to know who will be there for them in this next part of their educational journey. We are excited for all of our students moving up to their next year of school. Good job to you all!

Lastly, I want to share some pictures from our field day! It was so much fun. Slippy slides, snow cones, carnival games, and tons more! It was a really awesome way to end the year. I spent the whole day having a good ol' time with my students. They definitely deserved the fun! There are tons more photos on my work Facebook @Tamika Student Advocate.

See you this summer!

Aurelia with her snowcone! YUM!

Selfies with Gracie!

Rocklyn and Roselani getting ready to slip & slide!

Getting ready to rock out 4th grade!

Our soon to be 3rd graders!

Evelyn & Daniel cooling off

Higher Education

Don’t forget to turn your final grades and any receipts from spring quarter/semester. They need to be turned in by July 3rd.

If you are planning to apply to the Squaxin Island Education Commission for Higher Education Financial Aid, completed packets are due August 4th.

New and returning students will need to complete the packet for the 2023 fall quarter/semester. Packets are available now and can be picked up at the Education Department between 7:30-4:00 or they can be emailed by request.

If you have any questions or need assistance please don’t hesitate to ask.

Thank you,
Mandy Valley
mvalley@squaxin.us
(360) 432-3882

Good Moves Good Moods

IN-Person + Online
Monday’s 5pm, 2023

Squaxin Island Fitness Center (Studio)
Enroll for online sessions.
ZUMBA® with Ho’o & Paish.
For Tribal Members & Community
Sponsored by SIPPA

- No Fuss Fitness
- No Worries
- Yes to FUN
- Yes to Health

Courses are subject to change, please join our text updates.
Questions: Wholesaltt@Gmail.com
**Olympic Middle School**

Kiana Wily -

**See You Next School Year!**

Native Ed got to end the year with a big party involving both the 5th and 6th grades. Ms. Chappell had put together some end-of-year celebration certificates recognizing every 6th grader for the attributes and qualities their teachers had seen in them throughout the year. She also put together some gift bags for every single Native Ed student to send them off in a good way. We had a bunch of treats, including pizza, ice cream floats, and frybread. We really appreciated Ms. Bowcutt and Ms. Melanie for attending our party and passing out the floats to the kids! It’s always so much fun when we can get all the kids together. We’re already thinking about next school year and planning our welcoming ceremony to kick the school year off in the right way with our Native Ed students. This year was our first year of having these large group gatherings and we hope to be able to keep the tradition going and growing. We hope everyone has an awesome summer, and don’t forget to spend some time reading!

We’ll miss you guys!

The staff had a very nice end-of-year gathering after the last day of school. They recognized three of the substitutes who swooped in and helped save the year by being long-term fill-ins. A couple of our teachers who are moving on to new schools next year were also recognized as well as some very deserving staff who go above and beyond for our students and always give extra attention where it is needed. There were also some super special guests in the building to attend the big farewells for Mrs. Reimen and Mrs. Brady. Science teacher Mr. Beck, and English teacher Ms. Shrum showed up to welcome their longtime friend and colleague to the retirement club! We also wished Ms. Brady all the best on her new journey down at the district office. She has been an amazing Principal and we know she will do amazingly in her new role for the students of Shelton. Ms. Kundel, last year’s vice principal, secretly showed up, surprising everyone, but mostly Ms. Brady. It was a bittersweet moment as we said goodbye to our educators and staff members who are so very appreciated but all moving on to new and great parts of their stories.

Mr. Barkman presenting Ms Reimen with retirement check and gift

Ms Kendall surprising Ms Brady and wishing her the best

Wyatt Wentworth receiving his certificate and gift

Heather Perez, Jessica Ryker, and Alyssa Henry playing cards on the last day of school

Ms Melanie, Ms Bowcutt, and Ms Chappell at the end-of-year celebration
Learning Center

**Oakland Bay Junior High**

Caleb Kinzner - Hello everybody! The school year is finally over here at OBJH and the students couldn’t be more happy.

There was so much progress made this year, and I am so thrilled about the potential for next year’s students. I feel that the progress these students made over the course of the year is truly night and day and will be a building block for their academic careers. The students at OBJH have so much potential in terms of academic and cultural activities and will be able to achieve whatever they set their minds to as long as they truly want it.

In the month of June, we had a lot of students grinding out their last bit of homework/tests and raising their grades as much as they could before the end of the year. They showed so much determination in the month of June, and I received many compliments from teachers that were impressed by the progress that they made. During the last week of school, there wasn’t too much going on, but the kids were able to have some fun during Field Day and an assembly.

I am looking forward to the incoming 7th graders for the 2023-24 school year and hope that they can come in and make a positive impact. As for the 8th graders who graduated this year, I am so excited to see what they can achieve in high school. I was only able to be a part of their journey for one school year, but I was able to get to know each one of them. I hope that next year’s 7th and 8th graders can get off to a hot start, and I am looking forward to the next school year!

See you next year, or this summer in Stepping Stones!

**Shelton High School**

Isabel LeClair - Hello everybody! On Saturday, June 10th, I had the absolute honor of working at SHS’s graduation. I got to work inside the room the graduates got ready in. I helped our seniors get their button robes on just right. I was bobby pinning cedar caps, and I even held mirrors and phones up so everyone could look their best before they got ready to walk across that stage. It felt very special to help everybody one last time as their advocate.

To my four seniors, I am so immensely proud of you and all the hard work you put in over the last four years. As you guys branch out and explore the world, just know I am supporting you and rooting for you always! It was an honor being your advocate!

For our upcoming freshman class, you guys will have a two-day orientation! These two days are Wednesday, August 30th and Thursday, August 31st; both days start at 8:00 a.m! I am looking forward to meeting you all! I work in the 100 building in the Native Ed room! I also have a Facebook account for my advocate work! Students and their folks at home, feel free to shoot me a message on FB or my work phone. I am more than happy to help!

Facebook Account: Isabellethe Advocate
Isabelle’s Work phone: (360) 968-4453

As for our underclassmen and up coming senior class, I want to remind y’all that on Wednesday, August 30th, at 1:00 p.m., you guys have the High climber Bash. This is for 10th – 12th grade. You will be getting:

- Student ID’s
- Schedules
- Fees
- Lunch fee’s
- And free and reduced lunch forms

After orientation, y’all are free until our first day of school, which is Wednesday, September 6th!

Hope to see you this summer!

Bubba and Kiona Krise with Miguel Franco

Will Ogden

Kiona Krise SHS grad

Isabella LeClair

Will Ogden

Kiona Krise SHS grad
Squaxin Teens
Keisha Vigil- Hello Squaxin Family! Happy July! I am so excited for this month, because we start Stepping Stones on the 5th. This year, the Stepping Stones program is going to be focused on cultural immersion. I really wanted to make this program all about bringing back some culture to the teens. Due to covid, these teens missed out on the things that they love - Culture and Traditions. The first month is getting them prepped with regalia and teachings, then they will be on Canoe Journey for the last week. I have found our teens work best when I do cultural activities with them, so I am so happy my program can offer this opportunity to our youth. Below is a Stepping Stones calendar for July.

Film Project
In June, the teens got to work on another film project! This video is based around treaty rights. It was so awesome to see all the teens learn about the battle to have our treaty rights. This is going to be something our people can have to look back on for many years. All around, this is a great learning opportunity for our people and the community outside of Squaxin! Huge shout out to Vinny Henry, Jackson Cruz, and Pat Braese for being willing to help out with the boats, nets, expertise and, in Pat’s case, a ton of corny jokes. We literally couldn’t have done it without you three! And thanks to Sally Brownfield for sharing your stories; we appreciate you!

We are looking forward to seeing you all this summer!

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<table>
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<th>Important Info:</th>
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<tr>
<td><strong>STEPPING STONES WILL BE ON CANOE JOURNEY JULY 28TH- AUGUST 4TH</strong></td>
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<td><strong>CULTURAL CRAFTS EACH DAY TO PREPARE FOR JOURNEY</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>DAILY PROGRAMMING FROM 9-3:00</strong></td>
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<td><strong>FOR TEENS ATTENDING CANOE JOURNEY, BRING ENOUGH CLOTHES FOR 3 DAYS TO CAMPING ON THE 27TH</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>TENTS, SLEEPING BAGS, PADS AND HEADLAMPS WILL BE PROVIDED!</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>PRE-PROGRAM ORIENTATION MANDATORY!!</strong></td>
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Child Development Center

Arts Walk

Kaitlyn Krug - The Squaxin Island Child Development Center recently held an Arts Walk that showcased the creative talents of our young students. One of the highlights of the event was a stunning display of glow-in-the-dark Under the Sea themed art.

Art is visually appealing and an important part of early learning. It offers children a way to express themselves creatively and develop their imagination. Through art, children can explore different colors, shapes, and textures, which can help improve their fine motor skills and hand-eye coordination. Additionally, art provides an opportunity for children to learn problem-solving skills, such as how to mix colors to create new shades or how to arrange shapes to make a pleasing composition.

Art can also help to develop language skills as children learn to express themselves through visual means. It provides a way for children to communicate their thoughts and emotions in a non-verbal way, which can be especially beneficial for children who may struggle with traditional forms of communication. Under the Sea themes allow children to explore the world around them and learn about the different creatures that live in the ocean. It provides a way for children to learn about marine life and develop an appreciation for the environment.

We are proud of our students’ creative talents and look forward to nurturing their artistic abilities further in the future.
**Elders**

Elizabeth Krise and Kim Olson gifted some outdoor summer toys to the Child Development Center and have few other surprises up their sleeves.

Marge Witcraft, Kim Olson, and Elizabeth Krise honored our veterans with flags.
THE HONORABLE ANITA ESTUPÍNAN NEAL

SQUAXIN ISLAND TRIBAL COURT
YOUTH COURT
SQUAXIN ISLAND RESERVATION

IN RE:
L.K.-A.

Case No.: SQI-CW-2023-6-3

NOTICE OF FACT FINDING AND
DISPOSITIONAL HEARINGS

Indian Child

TO: Santana Krise and Janus Afo

YOU ARE HEREBY NOTIFIED THAT pursuant to the Squaxin Island Youth code, the Court has set fact finding and guardianship hearings in the above captioned matter. The hearing on this matter shall be held on July 20, 2023 at 9:30 a.m. at 10 SE Squaxin Lane, Shelton, Washington. FAILURE TO APPEAR AT THIS HEARING OR TO RESPOND IN WRITING MAY RESULT IN THE CHILD BEING PLACED IN A FOSTER HOME OR RELATIVE PLACEMENT. File your written response with Squaxin Island Tribal Court at the above listed address or call 360-432-3828 for more information regarding the hearing.

NOTE: PAGES 1 OF 1

SQUAXIN ISLAND LEGAL DEPARTMENT
3711 SE OLD OLYMPIC HWY
SHELTON, WASHINGTON 98584
360-4362-1771

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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

PRESCRIPTION DRUG
TAKE BACK BOX LOCATIONS

SHELTON
NEIL'S PHARMACY

MASON GENERAL HOSPITAL

SAFeway

Squaxin Island Tribe
Klah-Che-Min Newsletter
July 2023
Page 22
Dear Legal Aid Abby,

I got a letter from the Washington Healthcare Authority that I need to reapply for Apple Health. I’m worried about losing health insurance for myself and my kids. What should I do?

- Healthy Hannah

Dear Healthy Hannah,

I understand your concern. Maintaining your health insurance means you and your family can access the medical care you need. Prior to the pandemic, there was a requirement to re-apply for Washington Apple Health (Medicaid) every year. During the public health emergency, the State paused all terminations and eliminated the requirement to re-apply every year. Eligibility reviews, including potential terminations, are restarting now that the public health emergency rules no longer apply. Everyone that has Apple Health coverage will have a review during the next 12 months to confirm you still qualify for Apple Health.

If you receive a letter about your renewal date, you must send in information the State requests by the deadline in the letter, or they will stop your coverage. If you don’t have all the information the state asked for and you need more time to gather it, send in what you do have by the deadline. No matter what, be sure to respond by the deadline with as much information as you are able to gather.

If you lose Apple Health coverage as a result of this review, you have the right to appeal within 90 days. If you appeal within 10 days of the date of the notice or when your coverage ends (whichever is later), your coverage will continue while the appeal is pending. If you do not appeal within 10 days, you will lose coverage while the appeal is pending.


You can seek legal help if you lose Apple Health coverage. Contact a private attorney or, if you are low-income, you might qualify for free legal help from the Northwest Justice Project: apply online at nwjustice.org/get-legal-help or call CLEAR 1-888-201-1014 weekdays 9:15 a.m. until 12:15 p.m. This line is often busy. Keep trying!

-- Legal Aid Abby
What is Iron Overload?
By Rachel Espanto, BSN, RN - July is hemochromatosis month, also known as iron overload. You may be thinking; why do I need to know this? Well, there are studies that iron overload is more common in American Indian/Alaska Native patients.

So in short, your body is “too good” at storing iron. A person with iron overload will take in too much iron most commonly through food or vitamins. There are two main types of iron overload, primary and secondary. Primary iron overload is usually passed down from family members. It is important to know family medical history and talk to your doctor to see if you need to be tested. A routine blood draw can detect how much iron is in the blood.

Secondary iron overload can be caused by a variety of different medical problems. Some of these include anemia, alcoholism, and taking large amounts of iron.

Problems from iron overload can lead to health conditions that are affected by blood flow such as liver diseases, heart issues, and diabetes. If you have concerns about iron overload, please call you doctor to set up an appointment.
**SQUAXIN ISLAND TRIBE HEALTH & HUMAN SERVICES PRESENTS**

**A MEN'S HEALTHY COOKING CLASS**

**Nutrition Education with Hands-On Cooking Class**

3 - SERIES EVENT

**CLASS ONE:** JULY 11, 2023  TIME: 5:30 PM- 7:30 PM

**CLASS TWO:** JULY 18, 2023  TIME: 5:30 PM-7:30 PM

**CLASS THREE:** JULY 25, 2023  TIME: 5:30 PM-7:30 PM

**LOCATION:** SQUAXIN ISLAND COMMUNITY KITCHEN

**TO REGISTER USE QR CODE**

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**Kids!**

- Never allow young children to handle fireworks
- Older children should use them only under close adult supervision
- Sparklers account for 25% of emergency room visits

**Think!**

- Never use fireworks while impaired by drugs or alcohol
- Anyone using fireworks or standing near should wear protective eyewear
- Only light one device at a time and maintain a safe distance after lighting

**Distance!**

- Never hold lighted fireworks in your hands
- Never light them indoors
- Only use them away from people, houses and flammable material
- Never point or throw fireworks at another person

**Safety!**

- Never ignite fireworks in a container
- Do not try to re-light or handle malfunctioning fireworks

**Clean Up!**

Soak both spent and unused fireworks in water for a few hours before discarding
- Keep a bucket of water near by or a garden hose close to fully extinguish fireworks that don’t go off or in case of a fire

**Follow the laws!**

- Know your legal fireworks
- Don’t drive or light fireworks illegally

Squaxin Island Health and Human Services
Community

1. Azmira Ann Tom
Malynn A. Foster
Mark Louis Jones
Tully James Kruger

2. Janessa Faye Kruger
Milo Romeo Giles

3. Phinatue Lee Hodgson

4. Annie-Beth Whitener Henry
Jeremie Walls

5. Elijah Raul Garcia
Gary Shawn Brown
Jon Brady Whitener

6. Celeste Rene Forcier
Dale Allen Brownfield
Martin Regius Sequak Jr.

7. Todd Loren Hagmann

8. Andre William Anderson
Ariah Hazel George
Clayton James Edgley
Diana L. Van Hoy
Steve George Witcraft
Virginia M. Berumen

9. Keenan Vigil-Snook

10. Mary Jane Monahan
Nyla Elizabeth King

11. Leah Marie Gentile
Ruth Mildred Creekpaum

12. Terence Jevan Henry

13. David Michael Lewis
Donald Lee Daniel III
Elizabeth Ivy Yeahquo
Jennifer Ann Evans
Moody E. Addison

14. Antonio Alex Rivera
Cristian Andres Hall
Emery Isabelle Peters
Ivy Lynn Hawks
Shaiann Rene’ McFarlane

15. Adrianna Fawn Hartwell
Brett Devin Orozco
Seth William Thomas
Totton Ezera Dorland

16. Mary Lois Kuntz
Nikita Laudine Mowitch
Olivia Kinzee Henry
Viola Lorine Thomas

17. Kristina E. Bechtold
Matthew John Bell
Tiffany Faye Henderson

18. Alexander Long Van Horn
Charles Edward Mickelson Jr.
Isabel Rose Leonor Trinidad
Victoria Kruger-Neilsen
Violet R Garcia

19. Clara Rose Hernandez
Dana Marie VanCleave
Elena Capoeman-Johns
Jearid Duane Williams
Soren Emerson Jimmie

20. Allie Mae Ann Johns
Bailie Barbara Henry
Kamryn Carter Lutolff
Wilson Charles Johns Jr.

21. Corri Ciac Coleman
Eliza Mae Naranjo-Johns
Leila Lorine Whitener

22. Cara Marlene Price
Tyler Steven Morlock

23. Austin Pedro Solano
Bette Jo Peters
Chickie Mae Rivera
Jaelynn Jesse James
Richard William Pierson

24. Misty Manette Kruger
Sailor Midnight-Reign Tucker

25. Catori Jade Blueback
Eileen Renee Faye George
Hailey Ann Henry
Thomas Blueback III
Walter E. Lorentz Jr.

26. James Darol Brownfield
Kacen Jay Cooper
Loretta J. Case
Malia Red-Feather Henry
Shawnene Breezy Mae Cooper

27. Chas M. Addison
Dorian Alikia Williams
Jackson Cooper Napoleon
Marvin Stanley Henry

28. Angelica Francisco-Coley
Edward Wayne Sigo
Felicia Joy Berg
Kira Nakia Coley

29. Marissa Ann Morken
Markmiho Charles Johns
Nathan Jay Armas

30. Alex Paul Anderson
Billie Marie Lopeman-Johns
Marcus Imteus Johns
Tasheena M. Sanchez

31. Jaelin Christopher Campbell
Jordon Ray Lopeman-Johns
Michael James West
Nyah Rose Sicade
Serenity Masoner-Tucker
Stanton Todd Sicade Jr.
Fungi Fusion Cooking Class  
Mammogram Bus:  
Mens Cooking Class  

Court:  
Criminal/Civil Court:  
Vulnerable Adult Court:  

WIC  
USDA  

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@spipa.org  
or  
Debbie Gardipee-Reyes 360.462.3227  
gardipee@spipa.org  
Main SPIPA number: 360.462.3990  

Next WIC:  
Tues., July 11, 2023  
We are continuing remote phone appointments through August 2023 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.  

Elders Menu  
... Fruit and salad at every meal

**MONDAY 3:**  
Chicken Pozole, Tortillas

**MONDAY 10:**  
French Dips, Potato Salad

**MONDAY 17:**  
BBQ Ribs, Mac-N-Cheese, Baked Beans

**MONDAY 24:**  
Tuna Casserole, Peas

**MONDAY 31:**  
Salmon, Wild Rice, Broccoli

**TUESDAY 4:**  
CLOSED / Happy 4th!

**TUESDAY 11:**  
Chicken Rice Soup, Egg Salad Sandwiches

**TUESDAY 18:**  
Italian Sausage Potato Soup, Breadsticks

**TUESDAY 25:**  
Baked Potato Soup, Turkey Sandwiches

**WEDNESDAY 5:**  
Tacos, Spanish Rice

**WEDNESDAY 12:**  
Hot Dogs, Chips

**WEDNESDAY 19:**  
Shepherds Pie, Biscuits

**WEDNESDAY 26:**  
Hamburgers, Chips, Mac Salad

**THURSDAY 6:**  
Fish-N-Chips

**THURSDAY 13:**  
Cabbage Patch Casserole

**THURSDAY 20:**  
Grilled Chicken w/ Orange Sauce, Veggie Rice

**THURSDAY 27:**  
Steak, Ranch Mashed Potatoes, Brussel Sprouts
AA MEETING
Every Wednesday
7:30-9:00 p.m.
Elders Building

USDA Foods Program
July Dates

PT. GAMBLE S’KLALLAM 7/6/23
SQUAXIN ISLAND 7/12/23
SKOKOMISH 7/14/23
CHEHALIS 7/21/23
NISQUALY 7/19/23

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

Are you pregnant?
Breastfeeding?
A family with a child under age 5?

You may be eligible for
It is easy to get started at WIC with SPIPA:

1. Call WIC’s direct line 360.462.3224 and leave your contact information.
2. We will call back and set up a phone appointment.
3. Have available your child’s ID and recent measurements from their doctor, your photo ID with address, proof of income, and WA Medical/Provider One Card.
4. At your phone appointment, we will:
   - Check to see if you qualify
   - Check your child’s growth
   - Talk about your family’s health and nutrition needs
   - Tell you about other programs that may be able to help you
   - Explain how to shop with your WIC Card that we load with benefits at your appointments

2023-2024 WIC Income Eligibility Standards Effective May 2023

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