

# bá.yak The Talking Raven

A Quileute Newsletter



## Quileute rises against violence

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**THE DEADLINE FOR ALL SUBMISSIONS TO BE CONSIDERED FOR PRINT IN THE TALKING RAVEN IS THE 3<sup>RD</sup> FRIDAY OF EVERY MONTH.**



One in three women across the planet will be beaten or raped during her lifetime; that's one billion women and girls. Every February, supporters rise – in hundreds of countries across the world – to show local communities and the world what one billion looks like. Through dance, they rise to express joy and solidarity and celebrate that they have not been defeated by violence.

The Quileute Tribe organized their second annual One Billion Rising event at La Push on February 9, 2017. This year, the campaign's slogan was: "Rise. Disrupt. Connect."

Dave Jackson served as the master of ceremonies. After Quileute elder Tommy Jackson opened with a prayer, those in attendance joined in a choreographed dance to the song, "Break the Chain." Quileute community members and students and staff from the Quillayute Valley School District were present.

Youth and Family Intervention Advocate, Annie Crippen, explained the purpose of One Billion Rising. While she was traveling for school in Thailand in 2014, she was introduced to this event. One Billion Rising is used all over the world to bring people together; dance is a form of expression that you can do with others and it catches people's attention. Therefore, organizers of One Billion Rising chose to

raise awareness through this art form. Last year, Annie had proposed this campaign to Quileute New Beginnings Program Manager Liz Sanchez and Prevention Coordinator Ann Penn-Charles, and it took off from there.

Quileute Tribal Council Vice Chair, Tony Foster, welcomed everyone. He described the importance of events like One Billion Rising and programs such as New Beginnings and the Forks Abuse Program; they show that the communities are dedicated to ending violence.

Forks Abuse Program Director, Ann Simpson, spoke at the event, thanking the tribe for their welcoming spirit and the leadership role they have taken on in helping to nurture people back to wellness. The Forks Abuse Program has been working closely with the tribe and the two have collaborated

on events and activities during the past few years.

Nikki Finkbonner of Lummi shared her experiences as a survivor and how it led to her career as the Family Services Director for Lummi Nation and President of the Women Spirit Board. She drafted a letter with other survivors that was published in their local newspaper addressing abusers. Nikki said it is imperative to be open with your survival stories so others are comfortable in telling their own.

During lunch, an open mic was held. Elders like Sharon Pullen used the opportunity to share their wisdom. Sharon's advice to the youth was to treat everyone with kindness and be a good person. Don't call others names. Help others. Stay connected with family to show that you care and offer your support. These are healthy behaviors that need to be taught to build up a healthy community. After lunch, Sharon also led the Quileute love song. Those in attendance were invited to dance.

Forks Junior High School Principal, Elena Velasquez, spoke on behalf of the Quillayute Valley School District, expressing her gratitude for the Quileute community in extend-

ing the invitation of this vital work to end violence. She stated that she was a survivor who tried to speak up as a child, yet she was encouraged to keep silent. Her message to youth was to not be a bystander—break those patterns of violence and secret-keeping.

The 6th grade class from the Forks Intermediate School brought a chain they made of construction paper to symbolically and literally break the chain. Students then handed out a piece of the chain to individuals in the audience.

After dancing one more time to "Break the Chain," a closing prayer was done by Darryl Penn.

Each participant went home with a t-shirt that featured a design of the One Billion Rising international logo, but with some added details by local artist Kali Martinez who customized it last year for Quileute. The 2017 slogan of "Rise. Disrupt. Connect." was also translated into Quileute, "An Honorable Action Together," and printed on the backs of the shirts, showing the message of commitment and determination for wellness and safety in the community.



## From Council Chambers



Chas Woodruff, Naomi Jacobson, Tony Foster, James Jackson, Doug Woodruff

The National Congress of American Indians (NCAI) Winter Executive Session was held in Washington D.C. on February 13-16, 2017. Four of the Quileute Tribal Councilmembers were able to attend.

*Chairman Chas Woodruff: James, Doug, and I, along with Naomi who joined us for the beginning of the conference, traveled east to the winter session of NCAI. We heard from a wide variety of congressmen on both sides of the aisle—democrats and republicans. They delivered a message that brings comfort to tribal leaders regarding the current presidential administration. There are still concerns for the administration’s policies because their decisions will have impacts on all of Indian Country. During our free time, I showed James and Doug the Capitol area and we went to the National Museum of the American Indian. I have been impressed with these two men and their willingness to learn about the different programs, day-to-day business operations, and overall responsibilities of being a Councilmember.*

*Member at Large Doug Woodruff: This was my first*

*trip to Washington D.C. and it was a good learning and networking experience. I think for tribal members who get elected to Council, this NCAI conference should be mandatory for new members to attend. All the information from keynote speakers and breakout sessions were amazing, and there are so many tribes represented. After the first day, I could not wait to go back the next day and see what the next sessions had to offer so I could bring back my new knowledge to Quileute and incorporate it into our work at home.*

*Secretary James Jackson: One of the presentations that stood out to me was the drug trafficking issues facing the Tohono O’odham Nation in Arizona. Their reservation is located at the U.S.-Mexico border, so they have problems with drugs coming through their community. Their nation has made significant efforts to confiscate drugs on a regular basis to limit the amount of drugs coming into the U.S. Afterward, I went and shook their Chairman’s hand for the excellent job they’ve done. Tohono O’odham are leaders in getting drugs out of their community, a goal that*

### 2017 Tribal Council Election Results

Douglas Woodruff, Jr.	117
James Jackson, Sr.	72
Justin “Rio” Jaime	62
Charlotte Penn	31
Fern Penn	16
Marty Penn	10
Allen Black	7

### Our Condolences

*We offer our condolences to the families of Bill Grubb and John Sailto. These two men were friends of Quileute, and they will both be greatly missed.*

*—Quileute Tribal Council*

*we aim for with our Road to Wellness initiative and one that I am passionate about.*

On February 22nd, the Chairman and Human Services Director Nicole Earls traveled to Olympia for a roundtable discussion with the state.

*Chairman Chas Woodruff: Although we went for a meeting regarding the youth, we witnessed Governor Jay Inslee signing the first bill of the year that will improve dental health on reservations throughout Washington. The bill, which was introduced by Senator John McCoy of Tulalip, means that tribes may now hire dental therapists to do basic procedures and help with preventative oral care. This is exciting news.*

A Council retreat is coming up at the beginning of March. Following the retreat, the full Council will be attending Billy Frank, Jr. Day at the Stillaguamish Tribal Community Center in Arlington, WA.

*Vice Chairman Tony Foster: Not only is this a special day to recognize the late Billy Frank, leader of tribal natural resources, but a time to also honor our own local leader of Quileute Natural Resources: Mel Moon. Mel has been the QNR Director since 1982 and will be awarded for his life’s devotion to the natural resources. We all look forward to witnessing this moment and acknowledging Mel for everything he has done for Quileute.*



James Jackson and Doug Woodruff at Washington D.C. Photo by Chas Woodruff

### Council Listening Session

Monday, March 27, 2017

Listening Session begins at 9 a.m.

*Must sign up at the Tribal Office front desk between 8 a.m. and 9 a.m.*

First come, first served

## Students warned of the effects of drinking soda



Nicole Heckenlaible demonstrated the effects that different beverages had on hard boiled eggs

February is National Children’s Dental Health Month. In recognition of this month, Quileute Health Center’s Dental Hygienist, Nicole Heckenlaible, made presentations to Quileute Tribal School (QTS) classes on the negative effects that soda pop, energy drinks, and other sweetened beverages have on teeth.

After asking students to fill out a questionnaire several weeks in advance, Nicole found that 80% of QTS students said they drank soda or some other sweetened drink every week. Because of this feedback, she wanted to educate the schoolchildren on the danger of consuming too many sugary beverages.

Soda and sweetened drinks contain sugar and acid, a combination that can be

damaging to the body and teeth. Because Nicole is the Dental Hygienist, she focused on the effects these beverages have on teeth.

To demonstrate this effect of soda and other sugary drinks, Nicole soaked hard boiled eggs in the following beverages: Red Bull, Mountain Dew, Gatorade, Pepsi, Monster, milk, and water. The eggs soaked overnight. The children observed that the eggs left in Red Bull, Gatorade, and Monster were stained and decay was very apparent. In places, the shells were bubbly and they could scrape off a layer of the egg with their fingers. In the Pepsi, the shell was stained brown, soft to the touch, and starting to slough off, while in the water and milk, the eggs were un-

changed. Along with the presentation, Nicole filled plastic bags with the amount of sugar content that each drink contains to show how many tablespoons of sugar was consumed with each beverage.

She explained, “It takes your mouth 20 to 30 minutes to recover after the last sip of soda. Enamel is the hardest tissue—harder than bones—but acid from soda and sweetened drinks attack and damage the enamel. So if you’re constantly sipping on one of these beverages over a period of time while doing homework or playing video games, you aren’t giving your teeth a break to recover.”

She also described how if you do drink soda or sweetened beverages, do so in moderation and wait to brush your teeth after 30 minutes. By brushing immediately after consumption, you can damage an already-weakened enamel. Instead, drink some water, chew sugarless gum, or use a mouthwash until you may brush.

“The students were great! They had some great questions,” Nicole said. “Two students asked why companies sold these products when they’re bad for consumers’ health. It comes down to money. It’s a billion dollar business and [companies] don’t care if

you get diabetes, heart disease or you’re suffering from tooth pain and infection.”

Toward the end of the presentation, Nicole displayed impressions of patients to show what happens if people do not take care of their teeth; she demonstrated the proper way to brush using an oversized model of teeth and showed each child how to floss correctly. She also handed out sugarless gum, toothbrushes, toothpaste, floss, and apples, encouraging children to make healthy choices when it comes to taking care of their teeth.

### Bá·yak The Talking Raven

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Edited By  
Emily Foster

Phone:  
(360) 374-7760

Mailing Address:  
The Talking Raven  
PO Box 279  
La Push, WA 98350

Email:  
talkingraven@quileutenation.org

#### Quileute Tribal Council

Charles “Chas” Woodruff  
Chairman

Tony Foster  
Vice Chair

James Jackson Sr.  
Secretary

Naomi Jacobson  
Treasurer

Doug Woodruff  
Member at Large

#### QTC Contact Information

Mailing Address:  
Quileute Tribal Council  
PO Box 279  
La Push, WA 98350

Phone:  
(360) 374-6163

Roseann Fonzi  
Interim General Manager

## Jones catches first spring salmon



Quileute fisherman Zachary Jones caught the first spring chinook salmon of 2017. Following Quileute tradition of what his elders taught him, he shared the first springer with the community. Community members joined Zach to feast at the Senior Center on February 28th.

## Culture program thrives at QTS

Former Quileute Tribal School (QTS) students Lucy Ross and Sarah Larkin were hired one year ago as culture teachers for the Quileute Tribal School.

“Because we started our jobs at the beginning of April last year, we focused on the Welcoming the Whales Ceremony and Elders Week,” Lucy explained. “The kids didn’t have any culture class throughout the year, so we spent most of the time teaching them songs and dances.”

This year, they had more time to prepare and plan a curriculum. Currently, a typical class day looks like the following:

- Kindergarten – 2<sup>nd</sup> grade: learning the basics of Quileute language, including names, numbers, and animals
- 3<sup>rd</sup> – 6<sup>th</sup> grade: working out of a Quileute history book; dancing, drumming and singing on Wednesdays;
- 7<sup>th</sup> – 9<sup>th</sup> grade: working on quizzes and they recently interviewed Quileute elders;
- 10<sup>th</sup> & 11<sup>th</sup> grade: researching the needs for a smokehouse, a budget, and the best location;
- 12<sup>th</sup> grade: making crafts for gifting at events

Basing the program off their own experience as QTS students, Lucy and Sarah wanted to add more to the curriculum.

At the beginning of the 2016/2017 school year, each student and staff member made and painted their own drums. Lucy explained how



Welcoming the Whales Ceremony 2016 — Photo by Cheryl Barth

this type of project has never happened before, mainly due to budget restrictions. It means that each student has their own personal drum that they can use at home, community events, or bring back every Wednesday for drumming at school.

Sarah stated, “The other new things we’ve brought to culture class is teaching them more about living off the land by hunting, fishing, and gathering. Last year we gathered seafood for Elders Week, and when we get closer to the Welcoming the Whales Ceremony, we will teach them how to fillet and prepare fish. There are many hands-on projects added to the curriculum.” This spring when the weather improves, the students will also be gathering cedar bark, sprouts, berries, Indian tea leaves, and shellfish. There are also plans to build a smokehouse, which would not only

add to the educational component of the culture program, but allow the school to process food for giveaways at events like the Welcoming the Whales and Elders Week.

Lucy and Sarah come to this job with enthusiasm; they appreciate the involvement, excitement, and support the QTS School Board has for the program, as well as the eagerness shown by staff members.

“The other teachers have been really supportive of including culture in the classroom,” Lucy said. “They’re willing to learn Quileute history. A couple of them go to

drum group every Wednesday. The history teacher took home the Quileute by-laws to start incorporating that into her class, while the math teacher asks us for the numbers or correct pronunciations so he can display them. We also just made the staff CDs so they can play Quileute songs during class time.”

The culture program welcomes elders or community members to come into the classrooms to teach their skills, art, or Quileute history. Please contact the QTS front desk at (360) 374-5648 if you are interested in visiting the classroom.



3rd and 4th grade class with the drums they made



Sarah Larkin and Lucy Ross at Elders Week 2016



Kindergarten class and their drums

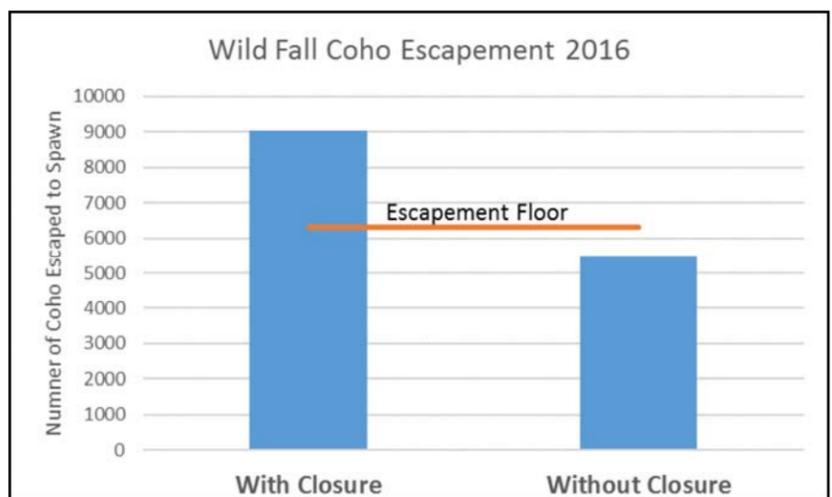
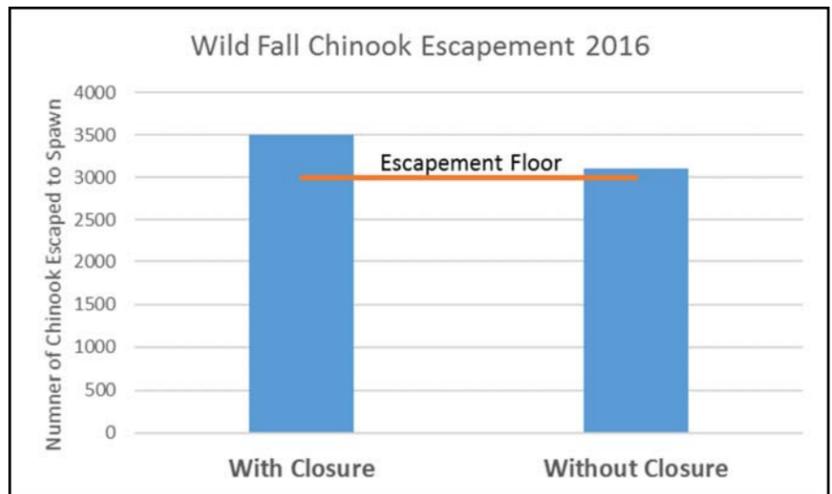
## State of the Fishery: Management Measures Effective

Over the past several months, the field crew at Quileute Natural Resources (QNR) has been working very hard to collect the data necessary to estimate how many wild salmon were able to return to the Quillayute watershed this year. All in all, a grand total of 3,508 wild chinook and 9,025 wild coho were able to return to the river to spawn in the fall of 2016. Using past catch records, it is clear that without closing the river to fishing from October 3rd to November 20th, the Quillayute watershed would likely not have met escapement goals for either wild coho or wild chinook.

Escapement is critical for the health of salmon runs, as it directly impacts how many smolts will travel to the ocean to become adults for future harvest. Quileute Tribal Council, Quileute Natural Resource Committee (QNRC), and QNR recognize the sacri-

fice that this community made in closing seven weeks of such an important fishery. Non-retention of coho in ocean fisheries was another critical piece to make sure escapement needs were met, along with the cancellation of the “Last Chance Derby.”

We want to make sure that everyone knows that it is because of the closures enough wild fish were able to return to spawn. Thanks to those of you who attended the Fishermen’s Meetings and became an important part of this process. Please continue to stay engaged by attending QNRC meetings and Fishermen’s Meetings. Technical staff and policy makers will continue to work hard to ensure that this run stays as healthy as possible in the hopes of providing fishing opportunity into the future.



## April Family Fun Activity Pack

**Sign up for a Family Fun Activity Pack for you and your family to take home and enjoy!**

This pack is meant to be a **starter kit** to give you and your family ideas of activities that you can do together (crafts, games, recipes, etc.) with some start-up materials included—however, you will need to purchase and provide some materials yourself. We hope this will give you some inspiration and help you spend some fun, quality time together with your families.

- Packs will go to the **first 30 families** to sign up.
- **Sign up** by calling the Human Services Front Desk at **360-374-4306**.
- Packs will be **available for pick up** at the Human Services building starting **Friday, March 31st between 8 a.m. and 4 p.m.**
- **No picking up for other people!**
- **If you do not pick up your pack by Wednesday April 5th, your pack will be given to the next person on the list.** After that, any remaining packs will be given on a first come, first serve basis.
- Take photos of your experiences/activities and upload them to the **Youth and Family Intervention Facebook** page to be entered into a drawing.



*Brought to you by:*

Quileute TANF, Youth and Family Intervention Program  
 Annie Crippen, YFI Advocate  
 Tara Huggins, YFI Advocate  
 Phone: 360-374-4306

## Hiba' Kwashkwash [HAY-buh quash-quash]: The Jay Squawks



Jay Powell transforming into kwashkwash, the Blue Jay.

### March, Fur Seal Hunting time Yashabáłktiyat

The “moon” that was **Yashabáłktiyat** was “*Fur Seal Hunting Time*.” And winter in the old days was called **títat** (TAke-tut), which means “time in the house.” In fact, the last few winters might better be referred to in Quileute as “Flu-sick season.” Although the flu epidemic that “visited” North America during 2016-2017 is not nearly as deadly as the Spanish Flu epidemic of 1918, many are talking about this as the winter when “everybody came down with the grunge.” In a rather stunning feat of acknowledgment, the Center for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) admitted that the 2014–2015 flu vaccine set record lows for effectiveness, reducing the risk of getting the flu by a mere 23 percent. And this year’s vaccine, though the statistics aren’t yet available, may also have been largely ineffective. Both Vickie and I had two rather awful weeks with the flu.

As I sat down to write this month’s *Kwashkwash Squawks*, I realized that the Quileute and Hoh tribal health history and population statistics are also a relevant issue, since for the last three months (December - February) I have been discussing traditional Quileute tribal shamanic medicine. Information about previous tribal health trends has to be pulled together from occasional published and archival references and the BIA’s Quileute archival files at the Seattle National Archives at Sand Point Way. The Indian Health Service was established in 1955 and has maintained a body of tribal health information since. So, here is what we know about early epidemics on the Washington

coast.

### Early Epidemics and Their Effects

Early epidemics that may have impacted the Quileute were smallpox, measles, and malaria. The first smallpox epidemic apparently happened during the 1770s. It is estimated to have wiped out at least 30 percent of the native population of what became western Washington Territory and the timing seems to have been consistent with the first direct European contact, the visit of Captain Cook in 1772. Historian Robert Boyd estimated that the 1770s smallpox epidemic killed more than 11,000 western Washington Indians, reducing the population from an estimated 37,000 to 26,000. The following description of evidence for that epidemic is taken from Greg Lange (Jan 23, 2003 posting, Historylink.org).

### Witness to Smallpox Devastation, The Vancouver Expedition

Two decades later, in 1792, members of the Vancouver Expedition were the first Europeans to witness the effects of the early 1770s smallpox epidemic along Puget Sound. On May 12, 1792, expedition member Archibald Menzies noted “Several Indians pock mark’d – a number of them had lost an eye” (Menzies, 29). Commander George Vancouver (1757-1798) stated that two days earlier members of his expedition exploring Hood’s Canal spotted “one man, who had suffered very much from the small pox.” He went on to say, “This deplorable disease is not only common, but it is greatly to be apprehended is very fatal amongst them, as its indelible marks were seen on many; and several had lost the sight of one eye, which was remarked to be

generally the left, owing most likely to the virulent effects of this baneful disorder” (Vancouver, Vol. 2, p. 241-242).

On May 21, 1792, Peter Puget discovered further signs of this disease on the Puget Sound residents. While Lieutenant Puget explored the southern reaches of the sound that would soon receive his name, he met some Indians in a canoe. He stated that “Two of the three in the Canoe had lost the Right Eye & were much pitted with the Small Pox, which Disorder in all probability is the Cause of that Defect...” (Peter Puget, *PNW Quarterly*, 198). On August 18, 1792, while near the Queen Charlotte Islands, Puget gave a summary description of the Indians of Puget Sound and the Strait of Georgia, “[T]he smallpox most have had, and most terribly pitted they are; indeed many have lost their Eyes, & no doubt it has raged with uncommon virulence among them.” (Boyd, 30).

The Vancouver expedition also encountered deserted villages, likely evidence of the havoc wrought by the epidemic. The expedition’s two ships, *Discovery* and *Chatham*, entered Juan de Fuca Straits and anchored at Port Discovery. On May 2, 1792, Commander Vancouver described the signs of a calamity at a nearby Indian village, “The houses ... did not seem to have been lately the residence of the Indians. The habitations had now fallen into decay; their inside, as well as a small surrounding space that appeared to have been formerly occupied, were overrun with weeds; amongst which were found several human skulls, and other bones, promiscuously scattered about” (Vancouver, Vol. 2, p. 229-230).

In mid-June, while exploring Semiahmoo and Boundary Bays on the east side of Puget Sound, members of the expedition landed near a large deserted village that they estimated was big enough for 400-500 inhabitants, “[T]ho,” Menzies stated, “it was now in perfect ruins – nothing but the skeletons of the houses remain’d.”

At the conclusion of this 12-day exploration Menzies wrote in his journal, “In this excursion the Boats went ... about a hundred & five leagues. They found but few Inhabitants in the Northern branches but if they might judge from the deserted Villages they met in this excursion, the Country appeared to be formerly much more numerously inhabited than at present, tho they could form no conjecture or opinion on the cause of this apparent depopulation which had not an equal chance of proving fallacious from their circumscribed

knowledge of the manners & modes of living of the Natives” (Menzies, 60, 63).

Menzies and other members of the expedition did not make the connection between the depopulated villages and the Indians “much pitted with the Small Pox,” but historian Robert Boyd did. Boyd conducted extensive research on the effect of European diseases on Northwest coast Indians. In his book, *The Coming of the Spirit of Pestilence*, he states that although there are several possible explanations for why these villages were void of human habitation (seasonal migration topping the list), the evidence provided by Vancouver and others who explored the Northwest coast strongly suggest a disease of epidemic proportions.

### Native American Accounts of the 1770s Smallpox Epidemic

A few Indian oral histories survive that may describe the 1770s epidemic. In the 1890s, an “aged informant” from the Squamish tribe, located near the mouth of the Fraser River, related the history of a catastrophic illness to ethnographer Charles Hill-Tout. He wrote, “[A] dreadful misfortune befell them. ... One salmon season the fish were found to be covered with running sores and blotches, which rendered them unfit for food. But as the people depended very largely upon these salmon for their winter’s food supply, they were obliged to catch and cure them as best they could, and store them away for food. They put off eating them till no other food was available, and then began a terrible time of sickness and distress. A dreadful skin disease, loathsome to look upon, broke out upon all alike. None were spared. Men, women, and children sickened, took the disease and died in agony by hundreds, so that when the spring arrived and fresh food was procurable, there was scarcely a person left of all their numbers to get it. Camp after camp, village after village, was left desolate. The remains of which, said the old man, in answer by my queries on this, are found today in the old camp sites or midden-heaps over which the forest has been growing for so many generations. Little by little the remnant left by the disease grew into a nation once more, and when the first white men sailed up the Squamish in their big boats, the tribe was strong and numerous again” (Boyd, 55).

During the first or second decade of the 1900s, Edward S. Curtis, the photographer of Native Americans, interviewed an Indian who lived on the northwest side of Vancouver

Continued on Page 7...

## Hiba' Kwashkwash [HAY-buh quash-quash]: The Jay Squawks

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Island. Referring to the time of his great-great-grandfather, the Indian stated that a disease beset the village, "So great was the mortality in this epidemic that it was impossible for the survivors to bury the dead. They simply pulled the houses down over the bodies and left them" (Boyd, 27). Although his informant told Curtis that the deaths were caused by an epidemic, others reported they were caused by warfare. So this may or may not refer to the late 1700s smallpox epidemic.

### The First Documented Smallpox Epidemic on the Washington Coast

The first of the documented smallpox epidemics was in 1837. Reports reached Fort Vancouver (Washington Territory) of smallpox in northern British Columbia. Before the disease reached Puget Sound, the Hudson's Bay Co. dispatched a doctor, William Tolmie, to vaccinate the Indians near Fort Nisqually since a smallpox vaccine was available. It had been discovered in England in 1798 and was first used in the Puget Sound area in 1837. By mid-July 1837, Tolmie had inoculated all the women and children and probably most of the men. However, it was HBC company policy to vaccinate only Indians who lived near their trading posts. Of course, the disease spread to other areas where none had been vaccinated. In 1853, Tolmie again helped vaccinate "large numbers" of Indians near Fort Nisqually during a smallpox epidemic centered along Washington Territory's Pacific coast. However, without continuing and widespread systematic vaccination programs, in 25 years a new generation of unvaccinated community members would have been born and grown to susceptible adulthood.

### The Smallpox Virus

Smallpox can be transmitted through the air by coughing and the virus can live on clothes, blankets, or other objects for some time. Once a person is infected there is an incubation period that lasts about 12 days with no symptoms and minimal chance of transmitting the disease. The first symptoms appear suddenly and include a high fever, headache, body pains, and perhaps nausea and vomiting. This continues for the duration of the illness. Two or three days later, two weeks after first exposure to the virus, a rash begins on face, hands, and feet. With the rash comes the most contagious period. The rash spreads over the whole body. In about three days, the rash turns into red spots or bumps, and then into raised pus-filled le-

sions. The lesions look like blisters and are about the size of a dime. In the worst cases, called confluent, there are so many lesions that they merge into one another, covering whole parts of the body. It takes about a month for the disease to run its course. The lesions on victims still alive become scabs and then slowly fall off. About six weeks after the initial infection most of the scabs are gone, leaving permanent scars or pockmarks on the body and for some, blindness in one or both eyes. Imagine the pathetic situation of a tribe where, essentially, everyone was severely ill, where there was no understanding of prevention or treatment measures and no healthy contingent to care for the sick or tend to the dead.

### The Smallpox Epidemic of 1862

The following description is taken from CSPN, L-7, *Pacific Northwest Quarterly*.

*The first smallpox epidemic on the Washington Coast that has been described in detail started in the Northwest in Victoria. It is a chilling narrative. In the late afternoon of March 12, 1862, the ship Brother Jonathan steamed into Victoria, at the southernmost tip of Vancouver Island. She had traveled from San Francisco carrying about 350 passengers, mostly gold seekers. In the late fall or early winter of 1861-1862, news of a large gold strike along the Salmon River (in eastern Washington Territory, later Idaho) had reached the nation, but an extremely cold and snowy winter had delayed the rush of hopeful prospectors until spring.*

*The Brother Jonathan, commanded by Captain Samuel DeWolf, was one of the first ships to leave San Francisco carrying gold seekers for the Salmon River mines.*

*The Brother Jonathan brought mail and the latest news published in the San Francisco papers. Included were February 25th to March 3rd 1862 dispatches from the East, dominated by news of the Civil War.*

*In addition to 100 to 125 passengers bound for Victoria, the Brother Jonathan carried 60 tons of freight for the town, including hats, cigars, butter, saws, books, glassware, furniture, "oil suits," fry pans, vegetables, hops, boots and shoes, plus 75 sheep and 21 mules (The Daily British Colonist, March 13, 1862).*

*During the one night layover, prospectors filled every lodging house and hotel in town. It was reported that they saw the sights, which likely included the insides of grog hous-*



The Steamship *Brother Jonathan*, whose arrival in Victoria on March 12, 1862, was referred to as "The coming of the spirit of pestilence."

es and brothels, some with Native American prostitutes.

*The steamship stayed at Victoria for 24 hours. On March 13, at 4 p.m., Captain DeWolf blew the whistle and the Brother Jonathan, "[h]er decks alive" with now 400 passengers, made a boisterous departure for the Columbia River. For three more years the steamer would ply the coast, carrying freight and passengers. During an 1865 mid-summer storm, the Brother Jonathan, still commanded by Captain DeWolf, foundered while seeking refuge near Crescent City. All but 19 of the 200 passengers and crew perished. This is considered one of the Pacific Coast's greatest ship disasters, but it pales in comparison to the death that the Brother Jonathan carried to the Northwest Coast during the last days of winter in the year 1862.*

### The Outbreak

*A day or two following the steamship's departure, rumors swept across Victoria of another "cargo" the Brother Jonathan had left behind – smallpox (Variola Major). On March 18, 1862, The Daily British Colonist confirmed that one of the passengers from the steamer had "varioid" (smallpox). Two days later the paper reported on another passenger with the disease. On March 24, another steamer from San Francisco, the Oregon, arrived at Victoria carrying at least one passenger infected with smallpox. Thus began the catastrophic 1862 epidemic (The Daily British Colonist, March 18, 20, 22, 25, 26, 1862)*

### Smallpox in California

*Apparently California had had smallpox infections for some time. On March 18, 1862, The Daily British Colonist reported that "small pox is very prevalent at San Francisco." Further reports stated that 150 people had died from smallpox in San Luis Obispo (The Daily British Colonist, March 25, 26, 1862, April 2, 1862). In*

*Olympia, the Washington Standard reprinted a portion of a letter received from California that stated, "The small-pox is raging throughout the city and county [of San Francisco], and indeed I might say in all the principal towns of the State [of California]. ... It is reported that over two thousand cases have occurred within the last week, though proportionately few have ... proved fatal" (Washington Standard, April 5, 1862).*

### Possibly the Quileute Weren't Affected in 1862-63

*It's not known how far south or up the coast the smallpox virus of 1962-63 traveled, but it apparently may not have gone beyond Puget Sound. At the Chehalis Reservation, located between Olympia and the Columbia River, Indian Agent A. R. Elder reported that the Indians health was "much better than that of those tribes who live adjacent to Puget's sound, from the fact of their being further removed from the vices of whites..." (1863, p. 469). That was clearly NOT a medical opinion.*

### Other Early Epidemics In and Around Washington Territory

The early epidemics that may have affected the Quileute and their territory were smallpox, measles, influenza and, surprisingly, malaria.

Measles was, in fact, epidemic during the early settlement period of the whole of the northwest. Early settlers in "Oregon," Marcus Whitman and his wife Narcissa, along with eleven others, on November 29, 1847, were killed by a party of Cayuse Native Americans who accused him of having poisoned with measles 200 Cayuse in his medical care. That measles incident started the Cayuse War. It took place in the area that is present-day southeastern Washington, near the town of Walla Walla. In August 1888, the annual report of the Neah Bay Agency reported measles con-

Continued on Page 8...

## Hiba' Kwashkwash [HAY-buh quash-quash]: The Jay Squawks



**MORTAL SICKNESS AMONG THE INDIANS.**

An early print attempting to show the pathos of smallpox in an early Indian community

...Continued from Page 7

tinued to be an issue:

*Last September, while the Indians were up the sound hop-picking, they were inoculated by the measles of a desperate character. Many Children died before they returned to the agency and some afterwards. Many of them who seemingly recovered from the measles were left with a hacking cough, which ran into the consumption, to which these people are so subject. In consequence of this death rate among the Makahs and Quilehutes, more having died within the last two years than during the previous ten years. I have been without a physician for two and a half months last year and have had none this year.*

Thus, measles was not only an issue of the early Contact period, but continued into the 20<sup>th</sup> Century.

Influenza is also referred to as an epidemic in Washington Territory, with special mention in annual reports occasionally, especially during 1889-1890, when it was suggested that the flu was an early appearance of the strain that later reappeared in 1918-1919 as the Spanish Flu.

Malaria first appeared in 1830, especially in the swampy area around modern-day Portland. It was introduced at the mouth of the Columbia by far-ranging sailors or traders who had spent time in the malarial Mississippi River valley. The illness wasn't immediately recognized as Malaria. Outbreaks recurred annually from 1830 until 1833 with devastating effects. They were most common in the Portland area where ponds and marshlands were common. Surprisingly, in 1834, there were few cases and it was never a problem along the lower Willamette again. The disease is

claimed to have killed surprisingly large numbers of the native population in a few areas of the lower Willamette Valley. It is interesting that the malaria epidemic simply died out after four years.

### **The History of Quileute Population**

The first actual reference to the number of Quileutes was in 1867. James G. Swan reported that no accurate census of the Quileute had yet been taken, but he estimated their number at 200-250 and presumably that didn't include the "Hoh branch."

Up until that time, tribal population was certainly affected by the early epidemics, but we have only regional references to rampant plagues. The Quileutes were certainly in contact with early explorers, traders, and others thrown up on their shores by shipwreck, and they were in contact with neighboring tribes, so we can presume that what their neighbors were experiencing, the Quileutes were undergoing, too. But, most references to the effects of early epidemics focus on the effects of the disease on the Puget Sound, lower Columbia River, and Victoria area tribes.

Thus, having no reliable population figures for the Quileute until 1870, we have no clear sense of the degree to which the tribe was decimated by the smallpox epidemics of the 1770s, 1862-1863 or other widespread illnesses in pre-Contact or early-Contact times. As mentioned, estimates are of 30 percent reduction in Quileute population previous to 1870. There have been guesses for other places on the coast as high as 90 percent die-off from the early epidemics. These are based on mythic and legendary sources such as the number of war canoes mentioned in a pre-Contact raid (x 18 [the number



A native child with rampant smallpox (tribal identity unknown)

of warriors per canoe] x 2 [only men were in the canoes] x 2 [the number of children and elders, since only adult males were in the canoes]; or, based on the probable number of houses in pre-historic tribal villages x 30 [the estimated number of inhabitants in multi-family long-houses.] However, such statistics are educated-but-improbable guesses. We simply don't know how many Quileutes there were in 1492 or 1770. We know that life was hard and dangerous in traditional times with raiding, unprotected canoe transport, occasional starvation, natural childbirth and shamanistic medicine, all of which may have resulted in lower tribal numbers.

The first census counts of the Quileutes and Hohs started in 1870, 14 years after they signed the Treaty of Olympia. Here are those statistics:

1870: 234
1883: 236
1885: 253
1886: 258 (61 Hohs)
1888: 248 (the year of the measles epidemic)
1889: 252
1890: 242
1898: 248 (71 Hohs)
1903: 234 (65 Hohs)
1907: 241 (83 Hohs)
1915: 227 (50 Hoh)
1920: 204 (two years after the flu epidemic) (46 Hohs)
1923: 196 (40 Hohs)

From that census evidence above, it seems apparent that from the 1870s on, there was no massive extermination of the Quileutes except for about a two percent decline in 1888, some of which may have been the result of the measles epidemic. The decline of about ten percent during the time of the Spanish Flu, a worldwide epidemic in 1918-1919, and another four percent decline be-

tween 1920-1923 is much more serious, but in line with the death toll from Spanish Flu worldwide.

In 1942 Quileutes numbered 322 with 266 on reservations and 56 off; 30 reported to be one-quarter to one-half Quileute bloodline, and 20 were more than one half but not full-blood. Birth and death statistics kept during the period 1933-1942 indicate a preponderance of live births over deaths in the ratio of 118 to 105. Of the deaths in the community, and 34 were of infants under one year of age, seven or eight of them were premature deaths.

Also interesting is that during that period (1933-1942), 50 or almost half of the deaths were reported as caused by tuberculosis, pneumonia or other respiratory diseases; these were the greatest threat to the Quileutes. Pettitt was interested in medical issues relating to Quileute life during the 1940s and wrote:

*In recent years the victims of respiratory diseases have been watched more carefully and a number of them have been sent to the Cushman Indian Hospital. It is still difficult to persuade them to accept medical treatment and advice. They do not like to go away for medical treatment, and there is no doctor at LaPush, though a school nurse visits at intervals and the Indian Service normally supplies a contract physician who makes visits from time to time. One child was placed in a cast in an attempt to correct a congenitally dislocated hip, but the parents removed the cast. One fifteen-year-old girl with tuberculosis was sent to Cushman Hospital in January, 1943, but she ran away in April and returned to LaPush. A Forks doctor reports that on occasion he has prescribed medicine and on returning, weeks later, has found the bottle carefully preserved but untouched.*

*I encountered one three-year-old boy with an infection of several months' duration on his face and in the glands of his neck. The school nurse had lost track of him when he was moved from Queets to LaPush in company of his foster grandparents. The foster grandmother lavished affection on him and expressed a pathetic hope that he would soon get better, but seemed confused by the suggestion that he be taken to a doctor. Concerning the Indian Agency doctor they said, "It is too far." Concerning the doctor in Forks, at that time treating the boy's mother who had been badly injured in an automobile accident, they said, "We have no money." The problem was clearly one that they were unable to meet on*

Continued on Page 9...

## Hiba' Kwashkwash [HAY-buh quash-quash]: The Jay Squawks

...Continued from Page 8

*their own initiative (page 82).*

Among reported causes of death during the period 1933-42, in addition to tuberculosis, pneumonia and other respiratory illnesses were the following:

- Dysentery: 3
- Venereal disease: 1
- Rickets and malnutrition: 1
- Death by childbirth: 2
- Accidents: 5
- Old age: 8
- Other causes: 33

Based on the inscriptions of grave marker stones, the earliest of which was dated 1913, Pettitt found that, in 1949, 56 percent of the Quileutes died before the age of 21. But 53 percent of Quileutes who survive their 21<sup>st</sup> year live to be 60 or more, and during the same period, eight of those who died were 80 years of age or older.

### Summary

There is a great deal of speculation about pre-Contact aboriginal populations on the northwest coast. There are estimates in the tens of thousands for tribes that had a few hundred inhabitants at the time of the first organized census, with readers left to assume that the rest had succumbed to the epidemics. As stated above, the new diseases weren't the only thing that resulted in low tribal populations. Life was tough and dangerous in traditional times.

The Quileutes can make up their own minds about tribal numbers in traditional times. I have suggested that the impact of the first epidemic, which was probably smallpox in the 1770s, killed about a third of the tribal members. Thus, when Captain Cook made landfall at Nootka Sound in 1772, possibly bringing the smallpox virus aboard, the Quileutes would've numbered about 400.

It is clear that shamanic medicine wasn't able to cope with the new diseases. And that is where we started this discussion of native medicine back in December, 2016.

### Quileute Words of the Week for March

March 6-12: **Hísta tála** [HAY-stuh TAH-luh]. *Give me a dollar or give me money.* The word **hísta** – *Give it to me* [HAY-stuh] is an important word by itself and you can add any word at the end.

March 13-19: **Wáli tála-ha** [WAH-lee TAH-luh-hah]. *I don't have any money.* Being broke is a bad situation to be in...unless somebody is trying to bum a dollar from you. Then it's a useful phrase to be able to say: **Wáli tála-ha.**

March 20-26: **Kwodák<sup>w</sup>a-bay** [quo-DAH-kwuh-by]. *Basketball.* The suf-

fix **bay** (pronounced like 'by' in English) means "basket" and the first part is the word for "a ball" (usually made in the old days from wrapped beach grass.

March 27-April 2: **Yálowaḥi** [YAH-lo-wuh-th-ee]. *It's Springtime!* Remember that there are five Quileute seasons: spring, summer, early fall, late fall and winter. It may be a hopeful mistake to include "It's Spring!" in the March Words of the Week. But considering how cold the winter has been, we can be forgiven for trying to rush the change of seasons.

Have a good month of March and stay well.

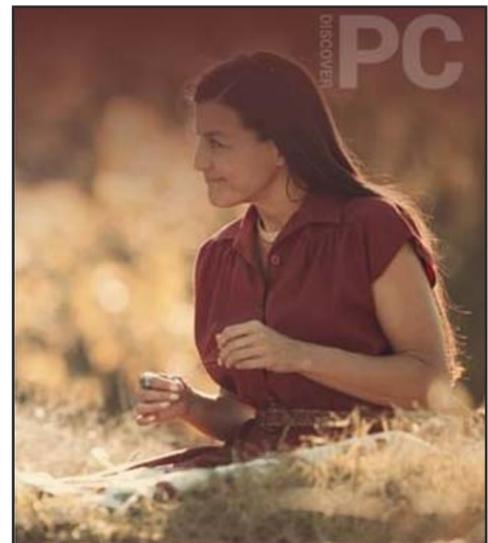
—Jay Powell, Kwashkwash  
[jayvpowell@hotmail.com](mailto:jayvpowell@hotmail.com)

## Film Screening: The Cherokee Word for Water

In honor of International Women's Day on March 8, 2017, Peninsula College Forks will screen *The Cherokee Word for Water*. This feature length film tells the story of Wilma Mankiller, the first modern female chief of the Cherokee Nation. Set in the 1980s, the film highlights the struggle for, and ultimate success of, a rural Cherokee community to bring running water into families' homes using the traditional concept of *gadugi*—working together to solve a problem.

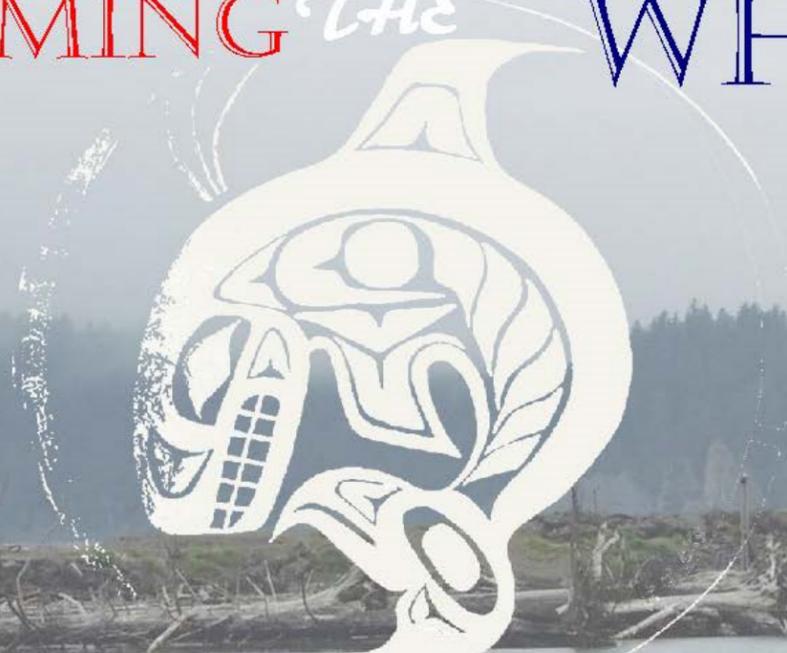
The screening will begin at 7:00 p.m. on Wednesday, March 8 at the Forks campus. More information about the film can also be found at its website, [cw4w.com](http://cw4w.com).

The event is free and open to the public, but donations are accepted.



# WELCOMING THE WHALES

10th Annual *k<sup>w</sup>ak<sup>w</sup>iḥa*



**FRIDAY • MARCH 31ST • 2017**

*First Beach 10:00AM . Akalat Meal & Storytelling 1:00PM*

Photo courtesy of Emily Foster

*Quileute Tribal School & Quileute Tribe La Push WA*

## QTS competes at Science Olympiad



By Alice Ryan

Science Olympiad has challenged students in hands-on, minds-on science for 33 years.

It is one of the premier science competitions in the nation, providing rigorous, standards-based chal-

lenges to 7,600 teams in 50 states. Science Olympiad has an ever-changing lineup of events in all science, technology, engineering, and math (STEM) disciplines which exposes students to practicing scientists and career choices.

This year, Quileute Tribal School (QTS) is competing at Vancouver, WA in 15 different events, with middle school students competing in seven events such as: "Wright Stuff," where two students have been building rubber band powered bass wood planes; experimental design where they will be faced with creating an experiment on the spot, testing it, calculating their data and writing the report in under 50 minutes; another challenge is called

"Mission Possible," where two students build a Rube Goldberg-style device to raise a flag. In the high school, we have events like: a balsa wood tower that must hold 15 lbs; a mini hovercraft where it must move down a track either fast or slow, and they don't know which until they get there; a

mad race to test and identify various rocks and minerals, just to name a few.

This is a challenging event and has thoroughly succeeded at pushing students beyond the comfort zone, and they will push that further at the competition itself.



Kevin Ryan, Lloyd Smith, Tanner Jackson, Jerrid Davis

## Tournament Action



Photo by Lonnie Archibald



Photo by Lonnie Archibald

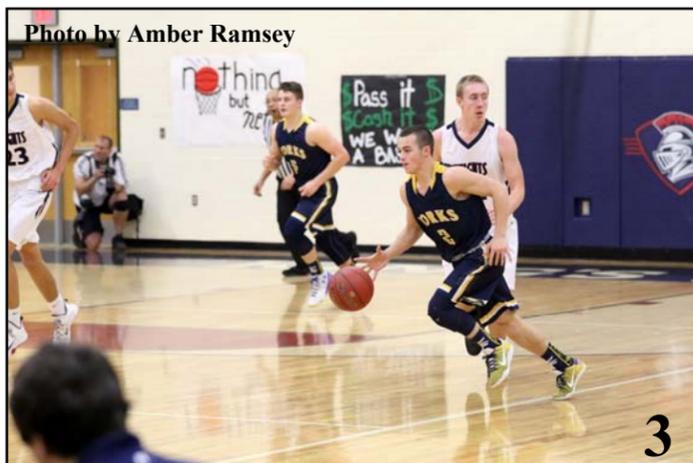


Photo by Amber Ramsey



Photo by Amber Ramsey



Photo by Tracy Eastman

1. Nathan Flores placed 7th at 285 lbs. at the Washington State Tournament
2. Garrison Schumack placed 3rd at 145 lbs. at the Washington State Tournament
3. Jeffrey Schumack in the District Semi-Finals against King's Way Christian
4. Keishaun Ramsey in the District Semi-Finals vs. Stevenson
5. Kenny Daman placed 2nd at the 2017 Chuck Bullard Memorial Folkstyle Championship

### FHS Honor Roll

Congratulations to these students at Forks High School who made the first semester Honor Roll:

- Brittney Woodruff** (high honor roll)
- Iris Pullen**
- Taegan Counsell-Geyer**
- Elizabeth Jackson-Cruz**

## Recognizing Quileute Student Athletes

### WINTER 2017 SPORTS

#### Forks High School Wrestling

- Garrison Schumack
- Nathan Flores

#### Girls Basketball

- Brittney Woodruff
- Cassandra Garcia-Vazquez

#### Boys Basketball

- Jeffrey Schumack
- Keishaun Ramsey
- Austin Flores
- Jerome Eastman-Williams
- Jerrid Davis

#### Forks Junior High School

#### Girls Basketball

- Jordan Jackson
- Leilani Eastman
- Beronica Penn

#### Wrestling

- Harley Schumack

#### West End Youth League

#### Basketball

- Noah Foster
- Kenny Daman
- Carlos Soto
- Elizabeth Soto
- Carter LaGambina
- Shaiz Ward
- Pedro Ward
- Kobe Ward
- Logan Ramsey
- Matthew Wallerstedt
- Katelynn Wallerstedt
- Samantha Brewer
- Jayden Brown
- Jocelyn LeClair
- Sophia Calderon
- Peyton Sablan
- Frank Jackson-Mckenney

#### Forks Wrestling Club

- Kenny Daman

## QTS MARCH STUDENTS OF THE MONTH



### Middle School

For the QTS Middle School Student of the Month, **Joseph Ward** was chosen. Joseph is a 7<sup>th</sup> grader who has become a community leader by showing his peers how to overcome the odds, striving to improve his work and his workmanship, and making great strides in his education. Joe's favorite classes are keyboarding and computer tech. He would like to give his thanks to his Grandma Sharon Pullen for having his back and pushing him forward.



### High School

For High School Student of the Month, **Dakotah Smith** has been selected. Dakotah has worked hard in all classes, overcoming fears especially with the Science Olympiad, admitting his fears and then buckling down and charging ahead. Dakotah enjoys math the most, a hated subject once upon a time, and he likes science, too. Dakotah raises his hands to his father, Dakotah Smith, Sr., with excitement and thanks for all that he has done for him, and is thankful for their close relationship.

## Quileute youth attend Squaxin pow wow

The Quileute Teen Center brought youth to the Squaxin Pow Wow Coastal Dinner and Jam on February 17, 2017. The following are words of appreciation from the youth:

The Coastal Jams and Pow Wow was really cool, especially since I have never been to a pow wow. I really appreciated being able to go. I saw really cool stuff, I hope we get to go to another one. I would really love to and want to go to another one. I love

dancing and I really like culture. I would like to thank Russell Brooks for helping fund our trip and helping us. I also really appreciate the Teen Center for giving us the opportunity to attend. I like learning new dances and new songs. -Adrianna Black

When we went to Squaxin I had so much fun. The dances from other tribes were beautiful and I just want to thank Russell Brooks and the Teen Center for letting us go. I really enjoyed learning new songs

and dances and watching the pow wow. -Aaliyah Dailey

We as youth traveled to Squaxin Island for a Coastal Jam and a Pow Wow. I would like to thank Russell Brooks for the funding so we could attend the event. The event was exciting to attend. I had fun throughout the weekend. -Michael Jackson

My name is Nathaniel Jackson and I was chosen to go with the Teen Center to the Coastal Jam and Pow Wow in

Squaxin Island. I would like to thank Russell Brooks' program for funding our trip. I would also like to thank the Teen Center for planning the trip and taking us. -Nathaniel Jackson

I had a great time at the Pow Wow. I watched Native people dance and sing. I got to see my sisters, brother, nephew, and little niece. It was really fun to be part of the coastal jams and watch the pow wow. -Joseph Ward



### NOTICE: QUILEUTE NATURAL RESOURCES COMMITTEE ELECTIONS

Elections will be held at:  
**Quileute Natural Resources  
Department  
Wednesday, March 15, 2017  
8:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.**

To run for one of the three committee positions, sign up at the Quileute Natural Resources Department

### DCS scheduled to be in La Push



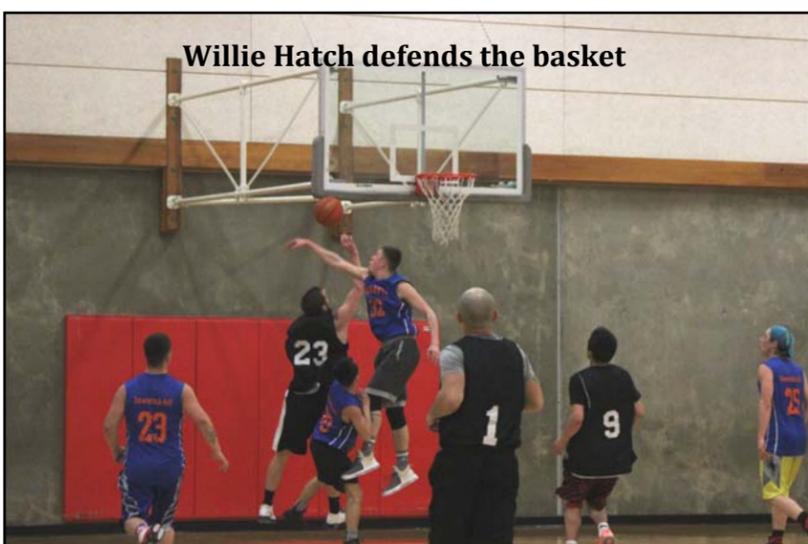
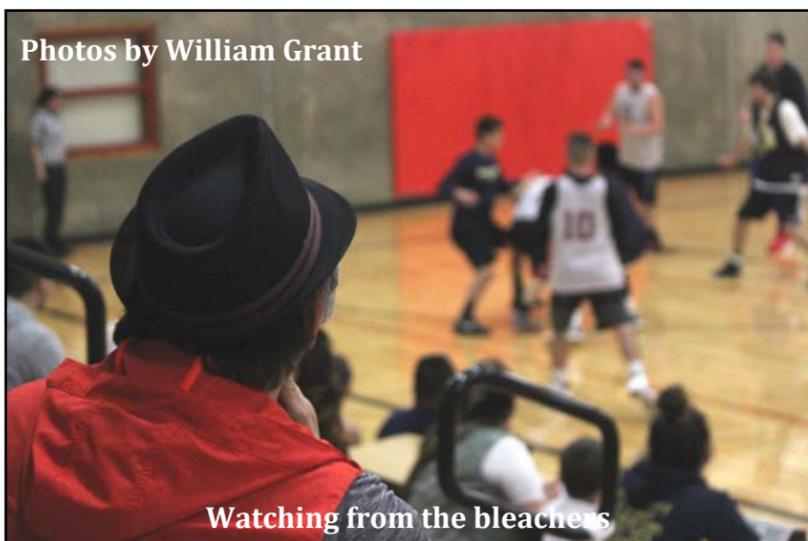
The Washington State Division of Child Support (DCS) will be available on Tuesday, March 28, 2017 at the Quileute Human Service Office. Lisa Vasquez, Quileute Tribal Liaison, and Stephanie Silberlicht, Hoh and Quinault Tribal Liaison, will be available. They can answer questions about child support cases (modification, debt charge off, etc.), provide information, and assist with child support paperwork. This opportunity is open to all community members, staff, and employees. You may either drop in during the scheduled time or set up an appointment with Lisa by calling 360-664-6859. If you are unable to meet on that date, please call if you have any questions about child support. We look forward to seeing you!

# Happy Birthday to Enrolled Quileute Tribal Members

## March Birthdays:

Michael Estrada	1	Pamela Morganroth	10	Rae Lynn Martinez	21
Carlos Soto		Randy Eastman Jr.	11	Beau Lawrence	
Keishaun Ramsey	2	Laura Wayne		Susan Penn	
Alexandra Navarrete		Jai Levitt-Ward		Vincent Rosander Jr.	
Allen Black	3	Douglas Wiedemeier Jr.		Jordan Davis-Jackson	22
Jasmine Wallace		Joshua Penn	12	Fawn Gabales	
Leo Williams		Catherine Ceja-Cisneros		Beronica Galeana-Penn	23
Jonah Black	4	Violet Williams		Douglas Pullen Sr.	
Joe Moore Jr.		Delores Woodruff		Kage Hoskins	24
Madison Burnside		Javier Roldan-Schmitt		Candra Baker	
Harold Jefferson		Theo Penn	13	Sheila Harrison	
Andria James	5	Cordell Black-Stillwell	14	Suzanna Black	
Zoe Zimmerman		Erik Sovde		Brandi Olson	
Deanna Hobson		Jacqueline Connell		Leilani Eastman	
Edwin Poulin		Walter Jackson		Camilla Guerrero	25
Ka Tarra Jackson	6	Philip Ward Jr.	15	Michael Stewart	27
Rosita Matson	7	Kali Martinez		Elizabeth Satiacum	28
Henry Morganroth Jr.		Odin Zimmerman		Eva Sanchez	
James Richeson-Penn	8	Isaac Lorentzen	16	Patricia Ward	
Roland Black		Janice Smith		Ronald Eastman	
Rieda Sparks		Jacob Smith		Ezekiel Gaddie	
Hailey Larkin		Miranda Jackson-Ward	17	Sarah Burnside	30
Nehemiah Gaddie	9	Rio Foster	18	Jason Lawrence	31
Serena lotte		Crysanina Morganroth		Keith Penn	
Angeline Baker		Ashlynn Jones		Bertha Wallerstedt	
Logan Hatch		Thomas Baker Jr.	19		
Darrin Rosander	10	Donald Colfax			

## Bob Ward Memorial Basketball Tournament 2017



### ***Bá·yaq The Talking Raven* welcomes feedback!**

Please feel free to share your opinions or suggestions with:

**Emily Foster**  
(360) 374-7760

[talkingraven@quileutenation.org](mailto:talkingraven@quileutenation.org)

Let us know what you think. We strive to improve your newsletter!