



Ha-Shilth-Sa



Canada's Oldest First Nations Newspaper - Serving Nuu-chah-nulth-aht since 1974

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haašit̓sa "Interesting News"

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Heavy rains wash out Zeballos road

By Denise Titian
Ha-Shilth-Sa Reporter

Zeballos—The first autumn rainstorm of the season drenched the northwest end of Vancouver Island, causing mudslides, flooding and washing out the only road linking Zeballos to the rest of the island. The heavy rains started Friday, Sept. 24 and didn't ease up until the following afternoon.

Several sections of the 26 km gravel road between the community of Zeballos and Highway 19 were washed away or buried by mudslides, blocking overland travel.

Nearly 200 residents of Ehattesaht, Ocluje and Kyuquot can only travel in and out of the community by boat or float plane and it may take up to a month to repair the road.

Officials, including members of the Provincial Emergency Preparedness Program (PEP), the Ministry of Forests, Ministry of Transport and Western Forest Products, met Sept. 27 to plan road repairs.

The communities still have power and are relatively comfortable with supplies reaching communities via freight deliveries from Gold River and Tahsis.

Medical emergencies that cannot be treated in the local clinics will be air lifted out.

A State of Emergency was declared in Port Hardy as roads and homes starting flooding following the dump of 200 mm of rain overnight.

On the mainland nearly 100 residents of Kingcome Inlet were airlifted to a welcoming centre at nearby Alert Bay after rapidly rising water levels broke the Kingcome River banks, flooding the community at the rate of one foot per hour. Reports say water reached the homes as residents left with little more than the clothes on their backs.

A State of Emergency was also declared in Port Alice, 53 km south of Port Hardy, when torrential rains caused a massive mudslide down Rumble Mountain, blocking Marine Drive. Reports say the debris pile was 4.5 m high and 30 m across.

By Sunday the Village of Zeballos was declared a State of Emergency in order to activate emergency services to the people of the community.

Four days after the storm, a barge was brought in to evacuate non-residents trapped in the area.

Ehattesaht Band Manager Darlene Lariviere said the washouts have caused hardships for her community. The road washed out on a Friday when community members were in town shopping for groceries. Nineteen Ehattesaht members were trapped in town while their families were stranded in Kyuquot with no groceries.

The provincial government provided two barges to bring grocery orders in, but prices are high and only those who can pay with major credit cards could place orders.

"We can only order groceries from the Gold River...and prices are high there," said Lariviere, adding that their caterer complained about spending \$40 for one ham.

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Assembly of First Nations National Chief A-in-chut Shawn Atleo (Ahousaht) threw out the first pitch at a tilt between the Toronto Blue Jays and the New York Yankees on Sept. 27. Blue Jays mascot Ace and Blue Jays pitcher Brett Cecil cheered him on. Atleo's grandmothers Flossy and Trudy, big Blue Jays fans, were flown in to Toronto by Atleo for the game. He said he had been hurling pitches at the AFN offices in Ottawa in preparation for his ceremonial stint on the pitching mound.

Stamp of creativity awarded

By Denise Titian
Ha-Shilth-Sa Reporter

Port Alberni— Gifted Nuu-chah-nulth artist Tim Paul's talent has been recognized by the provincial government.

Premier Gordon Campbell and BC Achievement Foundation Chair Keith Mitchell announced late September that Paul is one of six recipients of the 2010 BC Creative Achievement Awards for First Nations Art.

"We are proud to celebrate the outstanding work of these First Nations' artists," said Premier Campbell in a press release. "In their work, they tell their nations' stories and, in doing so, preserve the great cultural traditions of our province's First Nations heritage."

Paul said he knew that he had been nominated for the award but to win means a lot to the humble artist.

"This is really something," he said, as he sat in his living room with nine-month-old grandson Tom cradled

in his arms.

"The most important thing I've done all these years (as an artist) is to involve family...because it's all about cultural teachings, names and how they keep families together," he explained.

"When I go traveling to New Zealand, England, I always involve family," he said.

Paul credits the elders for giving him the gift of cultural teachings.

"Uncle Mo (Moses Smith), George Louie, Lillian Michael...they say everything comes from somewhere, has muḥmumc (roots) and has a name," Paul said.

These teachings, gifts, talents are passed down the generations through storytelling and sometimes through spiritual connections.

"I've always been told to remember the grandparents when I'm making poles and things like that and we refer to it as naniqsu (grandparent)," said Paul. He believes the ancestors come to some of us to help us create art or to teach.

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Nuu-chah-nulth Tribal Council
P.O. Box 1383,
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V9Y 7M2.
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Fax: (250) 723-0463

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Manager/Editor/Reporter
Deborah Steel
(250) 724-5757 - Fax: (250) 723-0463
deborah.steel@nuuchahnulth.org

Administration Assistant
Annie Ross-Watts (Ext. 226)
(250) 724-5757 - Fax: (250) 723-0463
hashilthsa@nuuchahnulth.org

Central Region Reporter
Denise Titian
* NEW (250) 724-5757 (Ext. 240)
(Fax) 250-723-0463
denise.titian@nuuchahnulth.org

Sports, Culture & the North
Deborah Steel
(250) 724-5757 - Fax: (250) 723-0463
deborah.steel@nuuchahnulth.org
Please cc all materials to Annie Ross-Watts.

Audio / Video Technician
Mike Watts
(250) 724-5757 - Fax: (250) 723-0463
mike.watts@nuuchahnulth.org

DEADLINE:

Please note that the deadline for submissions for our next issue is **Oct. 15, 2010.**

After that date, material submitted and judged appropriate **cannot be guaranteed placement** but, if material is still relevant, will be included in the following issue.

In an ideal world, submissions would be typed rather than hand-written. Articles can be sent by e-mail to hashilthsa@nuuchahnulth.org (Windows PC).

Submitted pictures must include a brief description of subject(s) and a return address.

Pictures with no return address will remain on file. **Allow two - four weeks** for return.

Photocopied or faxed photographs **cannot** be accepted.

COVERAGE:

Although we would like to be able to cover all stories and events we will only do so **subject to:**

- Sufficient advance notice addressed specifically to Ha-Shilth-Sa.
- Reporter availability at the time of the event.
- Editorial space available in the paper.
- Editorial deadlines being adhered to by contributors.

LETTERS and KLECOS

Ha-Shilth-Sa will include letters received from its readers. Letters MUST be signed by the writer and have the writer's full name, address and phone number on them. Names can be withheld by request. Anonymous submissions will not be accepted.

We reserve the right to edit submitted material for clarity, brevity, grammar and good taste. We will definitely **not** publish letters dealing with tribal or personal disputes or issues that are critical of Nuu-chah-nulth individuals or groups.

All opinions expressed in letters to the editor are purely those of the writer and will not necessarily coincide with the views or policies of the Nuu-chah-nulth Tribal Council or its member First Nations. Ha-Shilth-Sa includes paid advertising, but this does not imply Ha-Shilth-Sa or Nuu-chah-nulth Tribal Council recommends or endorses the content of the ads.



Communication a common concern

An update from the vice-president of the Nuu-chah-nulth Tribal Council

We had a successful Annual General Meeting (AGM) in Ahousaht on Sept. 21 and 22. I would like to acknowledge the Ahousaht Ha'wiih, elected leaders, administration and community for being such gracious hosts and taking such good care of all of us while we were in the community.

This year's AGM had the theme of Independence. Some of our main topics of discussion focused on education, social issues – including RCMP relations, health, and children and families.

In regards to education, a very full conversation was had about what our priorities need to be and how we can address getting our children educated in both a western way and in our own traditional ways. A motion was passed to provide support to the three nations negotiating jurisdiction over Education agreements as the resources being allocated to achieve jurisdiction are not adequate.

On the topic of social issues, I was able to deliver a report on the work I have been doing with our Executive Director Florence Wylie, and our social issues facilitator Shelley Royendyk on building better relationships with the local RCMP detachments in Nuu-chah-nulth territories.

Over the past few months we met with all of the detachments that serve our nations and have made recommendations based on these initial visits in how to move forward to continue strengthening those relationships.

Some of these recommendations include: assisting communities that do not have Community Tripartite Agreements to achieve such agreements with their local detachment; and supporting Nations that may want to implement a Restorative Justice Program. In total there were 10 recommendations that were passed at the AGM to move this work forward.

A separate meeting in regards to children and families was held in Ahousaht, the evening of Sept. 21. This meeting



Priscilla Sabbas-Watts

brought forward some excellent solutions in dealing with our issues around children in care and how we can begin looking at the traditional ways of caring for our families that may be struggling to make good decisions when it comes to the care and wellbeing of their children.

One of the most important issues that came forward was prevention and how we as communities and leaders can support families before they get to a point of crisis. Another point that was made consistently by many of the speakers was, that each of us in a community is responsible for the care and wellbeing of our children.

Essentially the point was made that if a child is in a questionable situation we should be able to address that within the family before it is taken to Usma, the Nuu-chah-nulth Nations' child services department, to be dealt with.

This meeting was an excellent stepping stone to develop and implement strategies in caring for our children and supporting the healthy development of families.

A motion was also made at the AGM the following day that calls for the establishment of working groups in individual nations to address issues on children and families within each Nation, and the concerns and input will be brought forward to the directors. It was also stated that

family values and teachings are incorporated into programming.

In regards to the Tribal Council evaluation I have been working on since my term began last year, a total of eight communities participated in providing feedback. Community meetings were held in six communities – Uchuelet, Tseshah, Huu-ay-ah, Ehatesah, Tla-o-qui-ah, and Hesquiaht. Two other communities distributed the table to their members and submitted members comments – Ditidaht and Hupacasah.

The areas of focus in the community meetings—communications, engagement/inclusion, organization and decision-making, and finance—were all linked back to appropriate communication at the NTC meetings held in June and July.

Our people want to know what is being done, who is making the decisions, what decisions are being made, what resources are available to them and if they have feedback for improvement who can receive that feedback. It is my hope and intention that we can develop a comprehensive communication plan and strategy in the coming months to address the needs of our communities and the diversity of our members.

In terms of other work that has been ongoing, I also sit on a number of boards and committees. These include the Nuu-chah-nulth Economic Development Corporation Board of Directors, First Nations Child and Family Wellness Council, Nuu-chah-nulth Employment and Training Program Advisory Committee (chair), and the Ahp-cii-uk Board of Directors.

It is our President Cliff Atleo Sr. and my hope that you find these updates informative and helpful and we are working on providing them on a regular basis as a means of letting the nations know what we are up to and what some of our priority projects currently are.

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Ha-Shilth-Sa

Ha-Shilth-Sa belongs to every Nuu-chah-nulth person including those who have passed on, and those who are not yet born. A community newspaper cannot exist without community involvement. If you have any great pictures you've taken, stories or poems you've written, or artwork you have done, please let us know so we can include it in your newspaper. E-mail hashilthsa@nuuchahnulth.org. This year is Ha-Shilth-Sa's **36th year** of serving the Nuu-chah-nulth First Nations. We look forward to your continued input and support.

Kleco! Kleco!

Nuu-chah-nulth receiving basic dental care without the travel

By Denise Titian
Ha-Shilth-Sa Reporter

Port Alberni—A dental health therapist is providing basic dental care and oral hygiene education in remote Nuu-chah-nulth communities in an effort to address the decline in oral health that began 15 years ago when Health Canada began a gradual reduction of services to the communities.

According to Simon Read, Nuu-chah-nulth Tribal Council's Community Human Services Director of Operations, Health Canada once had a dentist and dental therapist working on Vancouver Island with an emphasis on remote communities, but the service was gradually withdrawn.

"At the same time the cost of travel was increasing and many dentists began to demand extra payment for dental care," Read explained, adding the result was a decline in oral health, especially in the more remote communities.

Melanie Braker is a member of Tseshah First Nation and is a certified dental health therapist. She left her community in 2004 and trained for two years, graduating from the National School of Dental Therapy in 2006.

Braker went on to work in a private practice as a dental assistant for nearly



Inside dental health therapist Melanie Braker's SUV is a

four years in Saskatchewan before she moved back home with her husband and two children. She accepted the job with Health Canada and the NTC which takes her to remote Nuu-chah-nulth communities, like Kyuquot and Ditidaht, to provide preventative dental services to people of all ages, but with a special focus on the children.

Braker travels with an SUV filled with portable office equipment; the kind of equipment you'd find in a typical dentist's office. She says it takes an hour or

two just to set up her dental station.

Jim Rogers, Regional Dental Officer, BC Region, Health Canada, said in her role with Health Canada and NTC Melanie provides not only preventative dental services, but health promotion activities and some limited treatment services.

Patients visiting Braker receive treatments such as restorative procedures, extractions and preventative procedures. Braker's scope of work does not include extensive or complicated dental procedures like root canals, dentures and adult crowns.

"[I] do a lot of preventative work in an effort to stop the high number of people requiring general anaesthetic for dental work," she explained.

Melanie refers clients to local denturists, dentists and specialists as needed for treatment outside her scope of practice. She also takes part in health promotion activities in the communities geared to help children maintain strong teeth and healthy smiles.

In October Braker will roll out Health Canada's Children's Oral Health Initiative (COHI) in several of the com-

munities. The target group of this preventative initiative is children aged zero to seven, their parents/caregivers and pregnant women.

COHI provides annual screening, fluoride varnish applications, sealants to permanent molars, temporary fillings on very young children and oral hygiene counseling. This initiative works with young children with a goal of reducing or preventing the need for extensive dental treatment under general anesthesia.

"We are encouraging partnerships between Melanie and local dental professionals, both in private practice and public health, with a collective goal of improving the oral health of the Nuu-chah-nulth community members," said Rogers.

Braker said VIHA will partner her with a hygienist with whom she will travel on her visits to the communities. She said the two most remote communities in each region will receive these services.

Besides the services offered by Braker, participating communities will see one of their members trained as a COHI aide. These aides will have a constant presence in the communities and will be trained to teach infection control and proper dental hygiene.

"My goal is to have a big team like the NTC nurses," said Braker. According to Braker, in western Canada, tooth decay is the number 1 children's disease followed by asthma.

"We want to get to the kids early, not only kids but also pregnant women, so that we can reduce the numbers of people requiring GA (general anaesthetic)."

Kyuquot implemented their COHI program two years ago and Braker has noticed improvement. In the first year all the kids received all necessary treatment, and now most only require maintenance.

"Within one year the number of cavities have been significantly reduced," said Braker.

Usma Nuu-chah-nulth Family & Child Services
is seeking Nuu-chah-nulth individuals, families or couples to provide permanent homes for Nuu-chah-nulth children in (continuing custody) permanent care.

Those interested will need to participate in the home-study process and be willing and able to commit to raising children to adulthood, in a loving, caring, nurturing and safe environment.

For more information or to apply, please call Usma and speak to a Resource Social Worker, @ (250) 724-3232 or toll free 1-877-722-3232



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Tseshah woman celebrates year of accomplishment

By Debora Steel
Ha-Shilth-Sa Reporter

Victoria—Tseshah's Leisa Fred was one of 22 young people celebrating the completion of their year in the Aboriginal Youth Internship Program run by the Ministry of Citizens' Services.

Fred was part of the third intake of interns in the program. The completion ceremony was held in Victoria Oct. 4 and included a dinner and speeches from such luminaries as the Minister of Citizens' Services Mary McNeil, who presented the interns with certificates of completion, Minister of Aboriginal Relations and Reconciliation George Abbott, Grand Chief Ed John of the First Nations Summit, and Jody Wilson-Raybould, the BC regional chief of the Assembly of First Nations.

The interns were part of a nine-month

placement in a BC government ministry, and followed that up with a three-month placement in a BC organizations.

Fred did her internship with the Ministry of Child and Family Development and was placed with the Nuu-chah-nulth Tribal Council after that.

Fred said she entered the program with the words of Chief Dan George echoing in her ears. He said it was important to listen, not wait to speak. And what Fred heard during her year in the program was that there is a real need for relationship building, not between government and First Nations leaders, but between government and grassroots people.

Government, she said, needs to be in the community and speaking with the people to understand their needs and con-

cerns.

When asked if the program met her expectations, Fred, a straight shooter who is heading into her fourth year on Tseshah band council, said she actually thought she would learn more about the ministry, which was what the program is intended to do.

Said Chief Ed John, the program was born from a discussion with Premier Gordon Campbell about six years ago around providing Aboriginal youth with the opportunity to learn about how the province works.

"We're trying to spy on you," John joked with the members of the public service and government officials during his speech. "I hope that it's working."

He said by providing young people

these internships, government is taking another opportunity away from the street gangs, or other unfortunate choices that could be made.

"Nothing but good will come out of this program, said John. "It's a shining example of what good things can happen when government steps forward."

Fred said the program provided a really positive experience to her, though she had to, at first, overcome some of her worries about leaving home to pursue the internship. She moved to Victoria, and, though it was hard to move away, she came to love it in the provincial capital. She made good and lasting friendship, developed skills that will do her in good stead when she returned home, and "it made me a stronger person," Fred told Ha-Shilth-Sa, building her confidence for the work she will do for her community and the greater Nuu-chah-nulth community.

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Grandparents Marlene and Ron Dick Sr., Leisa Fred and mom Lillian Jensen celebrated a year of growth and accomplishment on Oct. 4 in Victoria.



Left: New interns Krystin Leon and Tarah Samuels is joined by outgoing intern Carrie Carty (all of Old Masset) for the Lyle Island song of the Haida as an honor song during the completion ceremony for the Aboriginal Youth Internship Program. The Haida will soon be celebrating the 25th anniversary of the Lyle Island logging protests.



Left: Mary McNeil, Minister of Citizens' Services, presents intern Leisa Fred (Tseshah) with her completion certificate. Fred completed a one-year internship with the Ministry of Children and Family Development as part of the Aboriginal Youth Internship Program.

Below: Nuu-chah-nulth Tribal Council Vice-president Priscilla Sabbas-Watts presents the inaugural Marshal Boucher Citizenship Award on Oct. 4 in Victoria while daughter Noelani Watts peers through the podium during a night of celebrating hard work and achievement.



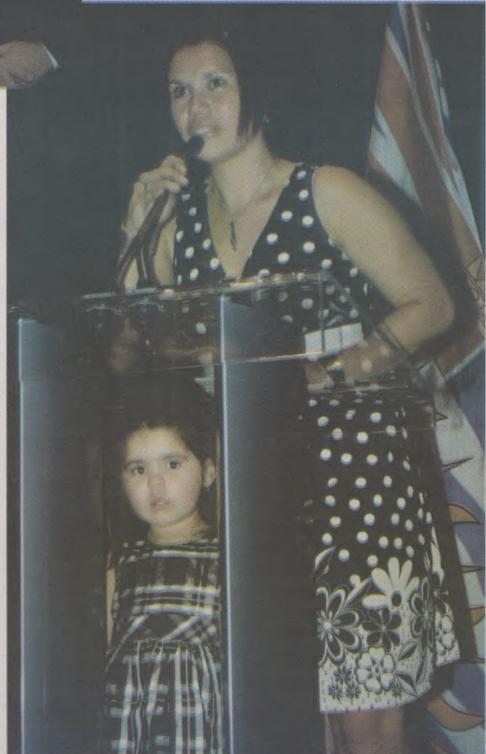
Above: Aboriginal Youth Internship Program Manager Sasha Hobbs tells the coming year's interns the program is hard work but they are going to be alright.



Above: Grand Chief Edward John described how the Aboriginal Youth Internship Program was designed to allow young people an opportunity to learn about the processes and policies of broader government.



Above: Aboriginal Relations and Reconciliation Minister George Abbott was once an intern too. He joked that that was back in the time of Noah's Ark.



Left: Assembly of First Nations Regional Chief for British Columbia brought congratulations on behalf of National Chief A-in-chut.

Photo by Debora Steel

NTC nurses are taking care of baby and the family

The Nuu-chah-nulth Tribal Council nurses are open for healthy baby business each Monday near the corner of 4th Ave. and Dunbar in Port Alberni. So, what's new about that? They've been operating there for years out of Knee Waas House.

Well, now you can find community health nurses Erin Walters-Sinclair and Sonya Somerville right across the street from Knee Waas in a nice cozy little unit where they offer a variety of services. It's a quiet place where moms and dads and babies can visit and take care of each other with the help of the experienced nursing staff well known in the downtown Port Alberni area.

Erin said the services offered in the Knee Waas location were always very well utilized, and she's expecting that even more families will take advantage of them now at 3416-4th Ave.

Does your baby need his or her inoculation? Well, the NTC nurses can provide that. How about some advice on how to care for baby as he grows and matures? Erin and Sonya are more than ready to share their knowledge and experience.

Make an appointment or just drop in during the morning to get baby weighed and measured or to discuss any concerns about baby's development.

In the afternoon, moms to be (and dads!) are invited to join Erin and Sonya for a series of workshops. Learn what to expect from the birthing experience. Build a birthing plan of how you want that experience to unfold at the hospital, and what to do if things don't go according to plan.

Talk about the cultural aspects of the birth—like what your family would traditionally do when baby's belly button falls off, or, in a cultural way,



what to do with the placenta after birth.

Talk about fears and hopes and dreams and just get yourself ready for the big day while making friends with other expectant parents and building a support team. And you can win prizes too by attending all the workshops.

If you have any questions about the services they offer, give Erin or Sonya a call. You can reach them through the NTC office at 250-724-5757 or call them directly at 250-731-5309.

Open for healthy baby business at a new location on 4th Ave and Dunbar in Port Alberni.

Festival featured Nuu-chah-nulth carvers and artists

By Denise Titian
Ha-Shilth-Sa Reporter

West Coast—Carving on the Edge, a festival which celebrates carving artists and their work, ran in Tofino and Ucluelet Sept. 16 to 26. The 10-day event featured carving demonstrations by talented artists, art shows, slide shows, storytelling and, of course, food.

The Pacific Rim Arts Society, in partnership with several sponsors, including Iisaak Forest Resources and the Province of British Columbia, invited visitors to take in carving demonstrations at the House of Himwitsa Native Art Gallery and Tin Wis Resort and in outdoor venues like parks and on the beach. First Nations artists gave demonstrations or displayed their work from model canoes and figurines to full size canoes. Visitors could see the works of artists George Manson, Qwayacig Sam, Cecil Dawson, Carl Martin, Joe Martin, Mark Mickey, Ray Brune, Billy Keitlah, Clifford George, Russell Tate, and Ray Sim.

Budding artist Hjelmer Wenstob, with the help of family members, put finishing touches on the canoe he plans to raf-

fle off to raise funds for a school field trip. As they worked on the bow sprit, young brother Tim sat nearby whittling a piece of wood, following in his big brother's footsteps.

Wenstob said artist Patrick Amos stopped by and donated a limited edition print to raffle off and another artist donated a carved mask for the raffle.

Ticket sales have been slower than he would have liked, but he continues the hard work and enjoys the learning experience and quality family time.

Organizer Norma Dryden said the rainy weather seemed to have put a damper on the crowd the first weekend of the festival. The week-long event culminated in a community cele-

bration and salmon barbeque on Sept. 26 at the Wya Welcome Centre.

Dryden hopes there will be enough interest in the carving festival to make it an annual event. She wishes to thank sponsors 2010 Legacies Now, Vancouver Foundation, District of Tofino, Tourism Tofino, Clayoquot Biosphere Trust, Tin

Wis Best Western Resort, Wickaninnish Inn, Wya Welcome Centre, Lee Valley Tools, BC Arts Council, District of Ucluelet, Coastal Community Credit Union, Tofino Parks and Rec, and White Raven Consulting.



Russell Tate of Ucluelet shows examples of his artistry at the Carving on the Edge Festival. He was one of several first nations artists giving carving demonstrations at the Tin Wis Canoe shed Sept. 18.



Tim Wenstob practices his carving skills at Carving on the Edge.



Hjelmer Wenstob still has tickets left for his fundraiser for a school trip. He is carving the canoe pictured above. Friends and family and other artists are helping.



Hjelmer Wenstob still has tickets left for his fundraiser for a school trip. He is carving the canoe pictured above. Friends and family and other artists are helping.

VIHA Patient/ Client Complaints

If patients on the West Coast have any concerns with the care they receive in hospital or in patient care, Please have them first phone, email, send a letter or come in person to see,

Kathryn Kilpatrick
Phone: 250-725-3212, loc. 223
E-mail: kathryn.kilpatrick@viha.ca
PO Box 190, 261 Neill St.
Tofino, BC V0R 2Z0

In order to continuously improve our services to all community members, we want to ensure that people know how to reach us for feedback. You are encouraged to speak to any site manager or the coordinator for the unit directly. If there is an issue that cannot be resolved locally, you can also contact the,

VIHA Patient Care Quality Office
Phone: 1-877-977-5797
E-mail: patientcarequalityoffice@viha.ca
Or mail to
Patient Care Quality Office
C/O Royal Jubilee Hospital
Memorial Pavillion
Watson Wing Room 315
1952 Bay Street
Victoria, BC V8R 1J8

Health and Wellness Fair

Where: House of Gathering,
Port Alberni, BC
When: November 4th, 2010
What time: 4 p.m to 8 p.m.
Who: All First Nation Peoples
Why: To create accessibility to Health and Wellness for First Nations Peoples on/off reserves

Hello Everybody!
Please join us in our semester 7 community focused placement. We thank you in advance for having us. There are four of us altogether, Krissy Gomez, Tseshah First Nation, Janelle Thornhill, Sonya Moeller, and Christine Sorgiovanni who are all fourth year nursing students attending the Bachelor of Science in Nursing Program at Vancouver Island University.

Here is a brief introduction about ourselves and we hope to see you at our Health and Wellness Fair.

We as students will have access to Blood Pressure readings, Body Mass Index screening, Diabetes teaching/ learning, Medication Information, Nutrition tips and more.

There will be food and door prizes as well so please spread the word around and bring a friend or two! Hope to see everybody there.

We have a large space available so please feel free to join us; we are looking for organizations to partake, and volunteers to help us make the night a success. If interested in booking a table or donating door prizes and/or volunteer services please contact Krissy Gomez at (250) 723-3379. Thank you.

My name is Krisandra Gomez and I am Tseshah First Nations. I am living on Tseshah territory with my husband John Gomez and our two daughters. I have completed a Nursing 410 Aboriginal Health and Wellness elective,

working with First Nation's from Ahousah and I have also finished a practicum with NTC in Semester 6 working in Ditidaht and Esowista territory. I am looking forward to working with Hupacasath and Tseshah First Nations for our Health and Wellness Fair.

My name is Janelle Thornhill, and I am originally from Alberta, but have lived in Nanaimo since I was a small child. I have completed Nurs 410: Health and Wellness in Aboriginal communities and spent some time in Ahousah with the community members during the field school for this course. I have great interest in learning more about First Nation's health and wellness, especially in the area of senior and elder care. I am very excited about the fair we're planning and I am honored to be working with Hupacasath and Tseshah First Nations.

Hello, my name is Christine Sorgiovanni and I have lived on Vancouver Island for the last eight years. Throughout my time within the nursing program I have been interested in rural and remote nursing. This past summer I was able to complete my practicum in Nepal where I worked within small rural communities in the Himalayas. I wish to increase my knowledge on First Nation health and I am very excited about the upcoming health fair. I look forward to working with Hupacasath and Tseshah First Nations.

My name is Sonya Moeller, I'm originally from Alberta but moved to Gabriola Island when I was 12. I currently live in Nanaimo while going to University. I have not had a lot of experience working within First Nations communities and I'm hoping to learn more about the culture and traditions of the First Nations people. I am very excited to have to opportunity to work directly with these communities.

Seattle police shooting update

Ditidaht carver shot four times in the side

By Denise Titian
Ha-Shilth-Sa Report

Seattle, Wash.—A King County medical examiner's autopsy report reveals that Ditidaht wood carver John T. Williams was killed by four shots to the right side of his body.

Seattle attorney Tim Ford, hired to represent the Williams family, reportedly said the location of the gunshot wounds indicate Williams was not facing Officer Ian Birk on Aug. 30 when the officer open fired on the man.

According to the same report, Ford questioned whether there was ever a perceived threat to the officer.

John T. Williams, 51, was spotted by Officer Birk crossing the intersection of Boren Ave. and Howell St. carrying a small carving knife and a piece of wood. Birk was on routine patrol.

The twenty-seven-year-old two-year veteran of the Seattle Police Department determined that the situation was unusual and Williams was potentially dangerous.

Birk pulled over and pursued Williams, gun drawn and ordered him to

stop at least three times, but Williams did not heed the commands.

Some say Williams had headphones on at the time and likely didn't hear Birk's orders.

Initially, the Seattle police said Williams lunged at Officer Birk, but then quickly withdrew that claim after eye witness reports stated otherwise.

At press time, Ditidaht Chief Councilor Jack Thompson traveled to Seattle immediately after the incident to assist the family and to meet with Seattle officials, who are conducting an investigation into the shooting.

In a recent interview with Ha-Shilth-Sa he said he hadn't yet heard about the autopsy results or the comments by Tim Ford. He said he would follow up with the lawyer.

Chief Thompson said he had heard reports of racism in the Seattle Police Department from people he met with during his stay in Seattle exist.

"I never experienced it myself, but there is racism according to what the people are saying," he said.

Thompson says he is not actively involved with the investigation into the shooting, but has been keeping in touch with the family and their lawyer to see how things are going.



John T. Williams



Artist Tim Paul with nine-month-old grandson Tom. Tim is the recipient of the 2010 BC Creative Achievement Awards.

Artist Tim Paul receives prestigious provincial award

Continued from page 1.

"It's about keeping the history...ceremony and song is important," he explained.

"When I was just about finished a piece, Uncle Mo would say, 'it's near finished, it's alive, now I will leave you alone so you can talk a bit,'" Paul remembered.

Paul says his grandmother was an artist and she was probably his first mentor.

"When an artist looks at his work he must remember there's always someone behind him, guiding him in what to do...thank you, Nan Esther," he said.

He remembers spending time in Nanaimo Hospital as a young boy. There he met carver Percy Jones from Nanaimo, now deceased.

"He used to make model poles and that was when I carved my first model pole," Paul said.

In 1975 Paul began carving at the Arts of the Raven Gallery in Victoria. Later he went on to become Senior Carver at the Royal BC Museum. There, and at other venues, he worked with renowned artists Henry Hunt, Dominic Andrews, David Matilpi, Ray Taylor, Art Thompson, Ben David and others.

During his years at the museum, Paul was tasked with creating replicas from photographs of Nuuchahnulth carvings, pieces that were part of the Captain Cook collection. There he developed a passion for portrait masks, a style that involves making human-like faces on the masks.

Having no formal training on how to make a portrait mask, Paul, on his own, developed a style from studying photographs and utilizing his own skills. His work was admired by his peers. When fellow artist Calvin Hunt asked Paul to teach him how to make a portrait mask, Paul said he was honored.

"I took in things from everybody," he explained, drawing from their talents to develop his own, unique and recognizable style.

"When I started I made it a point to reach for more," he said. "George Louie used to say I really respect you because you're not afraid to ask," he remembered.

"Uncle Mo was always there, too. He used to knock at my back door at Queens

Cove and when he walked in he would say, 'I really feel you needed to see me,'" he recalled.

Passing teachings on to Paul was important to Moses Smith.

"He would say I know you've heard this before but I need to tell you again because it is important to get it right," said Paul. A week before he died, Smith told his nephew, "You've been given lots, Timmers, don't hang onto it; share it," he advised.

Paul credits the unwavering support of his wife Monica for his successful career.

"Monica was always there, no questions, and having that means of support gives me an even keel," he said.

Over the years Paul has received several awards including the Royal Academy of Arts award from Canada, but his favorite recognition comes from his 10-year-old grandson Dylan.

Last spring Dylan took part in a major school project that involved the celebration of first nations culture. He chose to feature his artist grandfather in his presentation.

"He wanted to recognize me and understand what I do. He looked me up on the Internet," said Paul with a proud smile. "That will live with me and be with me for the rest of my life," he said.

The awards will be presented Oct. 22 in Vancouver. Tim will take his wife Monica and other family members as well as his mother, Josephine and Hesquiaht elders.

The recipients of this year's juried awards will receive \$2,500 and the use of the British Columbia Creative Achievement Award seal to signify their creative excellence.

The recipients are: Alvin Adkins, Haida, of Vancouver; Lisa Hageman, Haida, of Massett; Peter Morin, Tahltan, of Victoria; Tim Paul, Nuuchahnulth, of Port Alberni; and Richard Sumner, Kwakwaka'wakw, of Victoria.

The winners were selected by an independent panel chaired by board member Dr. Robert Belton, dean of creative and critical studies at UBC Okanagan. The jurors included Connie Watts of Port Alberni, another Nuuchahnulth artist.

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Nuuchahnulth Tribal Council Tii'q' Program Quu'asa Urban Healing Gatherings

"All Gathering in One Place"



October 21st from 1pm to 8pm

&
October 22nd from 9am to 5pm
Kakaamin Gymnasium
7830 Beaver Creek Road
Port Alberni

October 26th from 9 am to 5 pm
Laichwiltach Family Life Society
441 - 4th Ave, Campbell River, B.C.

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To register please contact
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Quu'asa Office (250)724-3939 or 1-888-624-3939

For Patient Travel contact your Nation's CHR
This event is coordinated and funded through the Nuuchahnulth Tribal Council's Tii'q' Quu'asa Program

Rosie Marsden, Indian Registry Administrator will also be available for those who need to update their status cards in Campbell River:

For those 16 yrs and older, please provide a valid (not expired) picture Identification or if it has expired, can't be expired for more than 6 months or it won't be acceptable ie: Status card, B.C.I.D. Driver's License, Firearms License or Student I.D. with digitized photo AND either birth certificate or care card - so 2 pieces of I.D. For those 15 years and under a birth certificate, care card or student I.D. and 2 pieces of parents I.D. Status cards cannot be issued without necessary Identification. Absolutely no photocopied I.D. or SIN cards accepted. For Nuuchahnulth members belonging to: Ditidaht, Hesquiaht, Huu-ay-aht, Tla-o-qui-aht, Toquaht or Ucluelet, please ask your IRA to fax your info to 724-5767 prior to October 22, 2010.



Charlotte Cote signed copies of her new book "Spirits of Our Whaling Ancestors" at UBC's Museum of Anthropology on Sept. 18 The book is available at the Curious Coho (in Port Alberni), the UBC bookstore, and on Amazon.com.

Relationship building is key next step between government and people

Continued from page 4.

She advises young people to get out of their comfort zones and explore every available opportunity that comes their way.

Priscilla Sabbas-Watts agrees. She was the first and only intern in the first year and helped to develop the program. She said it is really important for young people to leave their communities for a short time to learn about the larger world and bring that experience home to the people. That way they are better equipped to handle the challenges and concerns of their people.

Fred's mother Lillian Jensen was on hand to watch her daughter receive her certificate from the minister. She was undeniable very proud of the growth she's seen in Leisa over the year. She knows it was difficult for her daughter to leave home, and in particular, leave her baby sister, but the experience was

invaluable to her.

She said Leisa wants to be a role model for youth and she has always dreamed big and set solid goals for a better future for Nuu-chah-nulth.

When asked the advice she gave to guide Leisa to her accomplishments, Jensen said she told her to never say never and that if she were to put her mind to a goal that nothing is out of reach.

Grandparents Marlene Dick and Ron Dick Sr. traveled to Victoria from Port Alberni to celebrate with Leisa.

"We are very proud of her," said Marlene, adding that her granddaughter was proving to be a great leader for the young people and will be for many years to come.

Ron too is very proud of Leisa. His advice to his granddaughter...

"Just keep on doing what you are doing."

Community & Beyond

Naming Potlatch Oct. 9 Tseshaht

Marge White and family naming potlatch will be held at Maht Mahs on October 09, 2010 starting with lunch at 12 noon. Marge and her siblings Clarence Dennis, Simon Dennis Jr, Robert Dennis Sr. and Myrtle Williams will name all their children and grand children. This will include the off springs of their late brother David Dennis. All the siblings are survivors of the residential school and with the loss of their mother at an early age they separated as a family. The potlatch is to unify the family. They also want to give to the children what was denied them at the residential school, the right to practice culture, to have identity and to know who family is. Relatives and friends are invited to attend. Bring your drums, dancers and singers and join in and be part of this event.

Hittatsoo Youth Basketball Jam Oct. 22, 23 & 24 Ucluelet

A youth basketball tournament. Taking place at the Ucluelet Secondary School Gym. Four teams for each division: U17 Boys, U17 Girls, U14 Boys, U14 Girls. Entry fee of \$150.00 for each division. There will also be a U9 co-ed basketball game. More more information call Tyson (250) 735-3224 or Anita (250) 522-2432

Nuu chah nulth Language Fundraiser Oct. 23 Port Alberni

Port Alberni Native Friendship Center Loonie Twoonie and Nuu chah nulth Art Silent Auction October 23, 2010 8:30 am - 12:30 Pre bids Auction from 12:30- 4:00 Silent Auction of Nuu chah nulth Artists work: 8:30 am to 3:30 pm

Concession available
Tables rentals available for \$10. each or (a donated items)
Please contact Aaron Wells for tables and donation: 778-421-1831 or c: 250-730-0281
Donations gratefully accepted

Salmon nations pulling together Oct. 25 Vancouver

Inspired by Salmon Are Sacred, skippers and experienced paddlers are pulling together to 'Paddle for Wild Salmon' down the Fraser River in October. Paddlers from the Sto:lo Nation, Squamish Nation, Cowichan Tribes and Musgamagw-Tsawataineuk Tribal Council have already committed themselves to the journey from Hope to Vancouver (20th to 25th October). Darren Blaney of the Homalco First Nation will also lead a canoe team across the Salish Sea to join the paddlers in Vancouver on 25th October with other canoes considering making the journey.

Evan Touchie Legacy Tournament Nov. 5 to 7 Ucluelet

A Tournament of Health: Men's and Junior. Boys basketball at Ucluelet Secondary School Gym. Contact Melody Charlie by email at melodycharlie@mac.com for more info.

Young Entrepreneurs Symposium Nov. 22 to 25 Vancouver

Register for the symposium, the premier event in Canada for young Aboriginal entrepreneurs and aspiring entrepreneurs. We look forward to sharing this time to remember such an admired and loving person who touched many lives. Please email lady_vincent@hotmail.com or call (250) 332-5967.

Would you like to transform your love of Clayoquot Sound into action?

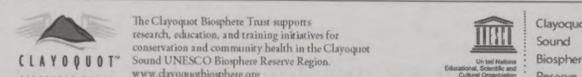
Members of all local communities are invited to express interest in a two-year volunteer term as Director-at-Large and Alternate Director-at-Large on the CBT Board of Directors.

As a Director-at-Large you will:

- Work with other community leaders to implement the spirit and intent of the Clayoquot Sound Biosphere Reserve designation;
- Bring skills and experience that support conservation and sustainable development, as well as knowledge about research, education and training organizations and initiatives in the region;
- Demonstrate eagerness to work in a consensus and team oriented environment with a committed Board and staff;
- Exhibit leadership on behalf of the CBT;
- Abide by the CBT Constitution, Bylaws, approved policies and guidelines.

Please see our website (www.clayoquotbiosphere.org) for more information about the CBT, our Mission and the role of the Board. Further inquiries can be directed to Curtis Cook, Executive Director at 725-2219 or by email to curtis.cook@clayoquotbiosphere.org.

Interested individuals are asked to submit a letter outlining their related experience by 4PM Friday October 1st to PO Box 67, Tofino, BC V0R 2Z0 or by fax to 725-2384 or by email to curtis.cook@clayoquotbiosphere.org.



Come on out, join us, share your opinions, ideas, etc.

Board of Directors Business Meeting
Thursday, October 7, 2010
6:00 p.m. - 9:00 p.m.
Ucluelet First Nation Community Hall
Itatsoo Reserve, Ucluelet, BC

* Note: Kindly notify the office if you plan to attend and we will ensure an information package is available. We look forward to seeing you at the meeting.

Jean Wylie, Office Manager 316 Main St., Tofino, BC V0R 2Z
Ph: 250-725-2219, Cell: 250-726-8300 Email jean.wylie@clayoquotbiosphere.org

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- Training in Marine and Land Use Planning & Office Administration Skills and Abilities,
- Must have computer skills,
- Good written and verbal communication skills,
- Ability to work with budgeting and accounting systems,
- Well organized, detail oriented,
- Ability to handle multiple tasks,
- Knowledge of Ahousaht First Nation Hahoolthee(territory) and History,
- Knowledge or willingness to learn government policies related to Crown Land Tenure, Resource Development Regulations,
- Knowledge of computerized mapping (GPS/GIS)
- Ability to travel – valid BC Drivers' licence,
- Confident public speaker with good presentation skills,
- Work under the direction of Ahousaht Hahiih, Chief & Council and Administration.

Salary negotiable – based on education, training and experience. Submit your cover letter, resume and three (3) letters of reference to Ahousaht Administration. For more information contact Pam Frank – Administrator @ (250) 670 9531.

DEADLINE: Tuesday October 12, 2010 @ 12:00 noon.

ONLY THOSE CONTACTED WILL BE SHORT-LISTED AND INTERVIEWED.

To advertise in
Ha-Shilth-Sa
call (250) 724-5757
Next deadline
for submissions is Oct. 15

Birthdays & Congratulations



Happy second anniversary to a special couple on Oct. 23. To Mr. Jordan and Mrs. Bridget Robinson in Edmonds, Wa.

Best wishes for good health, wealth and happiness in abundance. Sent with love and prayers from your family. We miss you lots. God Bless you both and be with you each day. From Dad, Mom, brothers and sister.



I'd like to wish my niece-pie Camille D.E. Fraser a very special happy 5th bday, on October 6th. I love you with all my heart sweetie, never forget that! Have the bestest day ever baby. I know you deserve it! Hugs and kisses. xoxo: Auntie Sunshine Savey.

We're Moving!

Nuu-chah-nulth Employment and Training Program is moving their Tofino office

October 1, 2010



New Location:

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AHOUSAHT FIRST NATION JOB OPPORTUNITY Administrative Assistant

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- Incumbent must have proficient knowledge of office administration and bookkeeping procedures,
- Must have understanding or experience with Capital Projects,
- Must have excellent writing skills,
- Must have excellent communication and organizational skills,
- Must demonstrate excellent interpersonal skills, analytical and problem solving skills,
- Ability to coordinate events – facilitate, order, recruit and implement plans,
- Demonstrate sound work ethics,
- Ability to work with a great team,

Reports to Ahousaht Administrator and/or Financial Controller.

Submit your cover letter, resume and three (3) letters of reference to Ahousaht Administration office. For more information you may contact Pam Frank &/or Daphne Robinson.

DEADLINE: Tuesday October 12, 2010 @ 12:00 noon.

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Canyon near Zeballos was washed out Sept. 26 leaving community members stranded or isolated, depending on which side of the damaged road they were on at the time.

One time only emergency food bank provided

Continued from page 1.

"She said she couldn't afford those prices and needed to get to Superstore to buy groceries," for a community event that had been planned, she continued.

INAC contributed just over \$1,600 to pay for food transport and storage costs and a onetime only emergency food bank for Ehattasht members who can't afford food.

Lariviere said Ehattasht members stranded in town are being looked after by First Nations Emergency Services (FNESS) with hotel rooms, meals and a small living allowance.

The Ministry of Transport announced crews were working toward making the road passable on a very temporary basis on Oct. 2. The road was to be open for one hour starting at noon and later in the evening at 6 p.m. and only to four-wheel drive vehicles.

"No Honda Civics, clearance will not be available," the notice warns. It also warns that the road will not be reopened to accommodate late arrivals.

Even with the road opening, Lariviere says it is unlikely families separated by the washouts will be reunited. FNESS says it is emergency services' prefer that those stranded in town stay in town where it is safe. She said they fear another storm event may force more evacuations.

But those stranded at home are not eligible for emergency services support if they get out town to join their families. If they self-evacuate they are on their own, at least financially.

There have been two medical emergencies since the washouts; one a motor

vehicle accident, the other, a sick child. Both were evacuated by helicopter. Under normal circumstances they would have been taken by ambulance to Port McNeill.

"The community is pulling together to take care of one another. We are fortunate to still have water, hydro and communication services; other communities in the north island are not as fortunate."

Councilor Tony Hansen of Kyuquot said his people are not stranded thanks to a little-known but very rough logging road. Artlish Rd., he says, joins up with highway but bypasses Zeballos.

"We had to move our trucks from Fair Harbor (where they normally leave their vehicles to board boats to get home) to Artlish Rd."

The road is in such poor condition that Forestry Services discourages its use.

"It's rough right now, but they're sending a grader in to fix it," he explained.

Artlish Rd. is shorter than Zeballos road and the community would like to use it regularly, but there is no place to tie up more than one or two boats there. The road isn't maintained unless there is active logging in the area and in the winter it is impassable when snow is on the mountain pass.

Hansen said he's received reports that the Zeballos road will be out anywhere from one week to one month. "The canyon road totally washed out, right by the river to way up top the hill," he said.

As for the people, "We're doing okay; we still have planes coming in and out," he noted.

Birthdays & Congratulations



Birthdays are like boogers, the more you have the harder it is to breathe! Happy Birthdays Jesse and Perry George!

Hello to all my family members and their families. Also hi to cousins, aunts and uncles! A very special greeting to auntie Josephine George. Love you and miss you! From Geraldine Wesa (Amos).

Congratulations to Kelly Thomas and Marilyn Prevost on the arrival of their baby girl. She weighed 7 lbs 3 oz. And she was born Sept. 14, 2010. Happy birthday to Peter Charlie on Sept. 25 and Eva Prevost on Oct. 2. Roberta Charlie.

October 6th - Happy Birthday to my beautiful niece Andrea R. Johnson!! I love you sooo much!! And CONGRATULATIONS on getting your driver's licence! It's about time eh?! Everyone better watch out and pull over when they see you coming!! LOL. Love your aunt Anita

Happy Birthday to Norman Watts on Oct. 13. From your brother David and family.



October 13: Happy 25th birthday to my beautiful daughter Angela Jack! Hola, now I feel old with a quarter century old daughter! LOL. Lucky I still have a good memory. I mean 'selected memory.' I remember the day you were born... most pain I felt in my life, ha ha. My life changed that day, as I had my own real life doll to take care of! I love you with all my heart my Angela Agnes April Jack! I wish you a happy birthday! May God bless you every single day! And happy birthday to your B.F. James on Oct. 6! You did good Cheechpa!! Chip off the old block, ha ha ha. Love your mom.



Happy XXXth Birthday to daughter Jen Watts on Oct. 8th. From Mom & Dad. Happy LVIIth Birthday to sis Gloria Ross on Oct. 10th and nephew Jimmy Ross on Oct. 17. From Y.K.W.



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2010-2011 Bursary and Scholarship recipients are not eligible to apply.

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If you have questions, please contact the Education Department of NAAF Telephone at 1.800.329.9780 Email: education@naaf.ca

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In Memory

Broken Chain!

We knew little that morning that God was going to call your name In life we loved you dearly, in death we do the same. It broke our hearts to lose you, you did not go alone For a part of us went with you, the Day God called you home You left us peaceful Memories, your love is still our guide And though we cannot see you, You are ALWAYS by our side Our Family Chain is broken and nothing seems to be the same But as God calls us one by one the chain will link again

In Memory of Beatrice Josephine Jack
August 14, 1992 - August 23, 2008
Always in our THOUGHTS and HEARTS

Grandmother Lenora Johnson, Grandfather Mike Savey, Mother Yvonne, Sister Briana, Nephew Ethan, Brother Drake, Auntie Dione, Uncle Jamie, Uncle Frank, Auntie Samantha, Uncle Jason, Auntie Cassandra, Auntie Hilary, Uncle Jimmy. Plus Mane, many more family and friends.

I, Lenora Johnson, and Mike Savey raised our late granddaughter Beatrice Jack since she was five months old, after we lost her twin sister Chantel Jack to a crib death. We took her to many meetings out of town when Mike had meetings. But turning school age she stayed home. We had unconditional love for her as she was growing up. Like some families, we've had our struggles, ups and downs, happy family or friends' time on different occasions. You will be FOREVER IN OUR HEARTS and SADLY MISSED. You are in a BETTER place with your Younger Sister, Grandparents, Great Grandparents & Ancestors. Till we MEET AGAIN!

Love Always Grandma Lenny & Grandpa Mike



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Alberta Williams (Unsolved Murder)

February 20, 1963 to August 25, 1989

On September 16, 1989, the murdered body of 26-year-old Alberta Williams was found outside Prince Rupert, B.C. She was a friendly, harmless, petite young lady.

On the night of Aug. 25, 1989, Claudia (Alberta's sister) last spoke with Alberta in Bogey's Cabaret and at closing time outside Bogey's Cabaret where Alberta asked Claudia to come to a House Party.

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Photo courtesy of Anjili Hunt

A Bolivian child sells oranges and bananas to help support her family.

Hesquiaht woman lends expertise to help developing countries

By Denise Titian
Ha-Shilth-Sa Reporter

Bolivia—Carol Anne Hilton, a Hesquiaht band councillor and business consultant, spent two weeks in Bolivia early September to familiarize herself with the people, their culture and the challenges they face accessing food.

Hilton earned a master's degree in Business Management and First Nations Studies. Besides her First Nation, she serves on many boards and councils, one of which is the World Fisheries Trust.

According to their Web site, World Fisheries Trust, created in 1995, is a Canadian non-profit organization dedicated to the equitable and sustainable use and conservation of aquatic biodiversity. It acts locally and globally.

"We are working on a proposal to develop a project between Canada, Bolivia and Brazil to engage indigenous communities around the topic of food security and sustainable fisheries," Hilton explained.

Hilton couldn't help but notice how little the average Bolivian citizen had.

"I am absolutely amazed at the poverty there and we have so much here," she said. "If a family has an orange tree, they rely on that tree to support the family," she added.

Hilton said she observed local fishermen attempting to build a small, primitive fish hatchery, digging ponds by hand and filling them with minnows.

She believes the country would benefit by working on aquaculture development.

She also noticed that Bolivia is a male-dominated society; she believes gender equity would help balance things out.

Bolivia has small scale fishing industry, whose fishermen are under resourced. The local university and its aquaculture development department are also under resourced.

"There's lots of politics around fishing there," she noted.

In Bolivia 85 per cent of the population is made up of indigenous people and Hilton says you can see their cultural values.

"Their president, Evo Morales, is the first Bolivian indigenous person to be elected president there and his people are very proud of him. They call him the defender of the earth," she shared. Hilton says he is also protector of the forest, the Amazon.

Hilton is helping the World Fisheries Trust to help developing countries like Bolivia and Brazil.

"We need to figure out how to create local food systems and aquaculture development," she said.

The Bolivian government and their university are getting together with like-minded people from other countries in an effort to develop a workshop that focuses on food security and aquaculture.

Hilton acts in a supporting role, lending her expertise on resource management and business to those that need it.

"We want to support a model that would work there using our experience with resource management, with sustainability at the core of that," she explained.

Hilton will go back to Bolivia this month to take part in the workshop.

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LOST: Gold necklace with a 1in X 1in Indian design butterfly pendant. Last seen on my niece at the Ucluelet Secondary School in March. Please call Jeannine Adams @ 670-1150 or email ballgrrl@hotmail.com. Thanks.
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Uu-a-thluk

TAKING CARE OF

Science Camps & Feasting



Although fall means “back-to-school” for most British Columbia students, there are some Vancouver Island youth who spend a portion of their summer holidays learning about science and culture at educational camp.

For five years running, Uu-a-thluk and the University of Victoria have combined their resources, skills, and talent to organize and execute Science Venture camps in several Nuu-chah-nulth communities. This year was no exception, with camps taking place in Ahousaht, Hittatsoo, Esowista, Hot Springs Cove, and Henderson Lake.

“This year we had the shared goal of incorporating traditional knowledge into the camps as much as possible,” says Uu-a-thluk capacity building coordinator, Norine Messer. “Nuu-chah-nulth elders and cultural teachers play a big role in these camps.”

Messer was pleased with record turnout numbers for all five camps, citing an average attendance of 30 youth. Ahousaht boasted 50 attendees to its science camp in mid-August.

The goal of the camps is to show students how science exists in everyday life. Science Venture

Camp partners University of Victoria graduate students with Uu-a-thluk staff. The teachers then travel to participating communities to engage students in the magic and beauty of science within a cultural context. The camps invite elementary-aged school students and older youth to participate.

“Our goal is to get kids excited about science,” says Messer, “We also try to marry that with validating, honouring, and including Nuu-chah-nulth beliefs.”

University of Victoria teacher, Steven Loneragan, believes that the science camps bring a unique opportunity to the communities for students to learn about science in a setting unlike a formal classroom.

“What we bring is the chance for kids to

think about how science applies to their life and how they might be able to use science in the future,” he says. “By getting them to think about science at a young age, we can open lots of doors for when they want to continue with their education later.”

Messer agrees.

“We hope that some of these kids will be future biologists,” she says.

To help make that happen, camp instructors led campers through a series of activities that explored the properties of water. Campers learned the difference between salt and freshwater by making a rainbow parfait in a test tube. Other water experiments helped explain how salt can be used in preserving foods. The campers also explored engineering concepts by building mini cherry pickers using tubing and syringes for hydraulics.

Uu-a-thluk intern and Ahousaht member Damon Rampanen helped integrate Nuu-chah-nulth practices with camp activities. His role was to bring culture to the students in the form of prayers, song, dance, and pit cooks.

“Having Damon involved allowed us access to an amazing story-teller so that we could also pair some of our activities up with relevant cultural stories,” says Loneragan.

“Our goal is to get kids excited about science... We also try to marry that with validating, honouring, and including Nuu-chah-nulth beliefs.”

—Norine Messer, Uu-a-thluk Capacity Building Coordinator

Loneragan gives the example of Rampanen telling the story *How Raven Stole the Sun* while camp students learn how to “make” their own star constellations.

“Damon’s stories were always a perfect compliment to our activities,” he says. “They always brought the lesson home for the kids.”

Rampanen was also responsible for introducing and helping with traditional pit cooks during the camps. In Esowista, camp participants were taken on a day trip to Echachis via boats. There Tla-o-quiaht member, Carl Martin, taught them how to pit cook using seaweed. Martin also demonstrated fish filleting for a traditional salmon barbeque.

“Everyone worked together to harvest traditional foods,” Messer says. “Much of the Esowista community came out. The campers had the opportunity to include and invite family and friends. They cooked for them, fed them, and showed them things that they had learned at camp.”

Looking forward to next year, Messer says that Uu-a-thluk and the University of Victoria intend to involve more elders in the execution of the science camps, incorporating even more traditional knowledge and use.



Science campers undo a pit cook.



University of Victoria instructor, Steven Loneragan, holds up a filleted salmon for barbequing.

Special thanks to the following organizations and donors who made the 2010 science camps possible:

- BC Capacity Initiative,
- University of Victoria,
- Nuu-chah-nulth host communities, Friends of Clayoquot Sound, Eileen Floody, Rainforest Kayak Adventures, Maryjka Mychajlowycz, Katie Beach, Kathleen Waddell, Huu-ay-aht First Nation, Douglas Ausman—Ratcliff and Company, Clee J. Roy, Mark Hobson, Norma Dryden, Allan Fullerton, Zoe Rodocanchi, Uchucklesaht First Nation, and Grieg Seafood.

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