

# Wiyot News

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Edited by Linda C . Woodin

Wiyot Tribe

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## Candlelight Vigil 2009



The weather was balmy, a little windy and not raining for the 18th Candlelight Vigil for the Wiyot Tribe. There was a good crowd of people wanting to share in the healing experience, a candle was lit by elder Leona Wilkinson and the luminescence began the ceremony over which Cheryl Seidner presided. There were songs sung, flute playing, the kayak in the background powered by Jerome Simone as a symbol of the journey back to the island. There was hot cider to help warm people up (great idea from Dick Wild) and the potluck that followed had a great variety of yummy food to sample. Thanks to all who made it happen.

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### Mark your Calendar

- \*April 4 Annual Meeting and Elections 10 am
- \*April 6 Wiyot Parent Committee 6 pm
- \*April 13 Business Council 6:30pm
- \*April 27 Business Council 6:30pm

2nd Annual Humboldt State University California Big Time & Social Gathering

Native American Student Ensuring Native Inherent Traditions (NAST) Indian Natural Resource, Science, & Engineering Program (INSEIP) Indian Teacher & Educational Personnel Program (ITEPP) Native American Studies (NAS)

Beta Sigma Epsilon (BSE) Native Fraternity Center for Indian Community Development (CICD)

FREE

Ensuring Native Inherent Traditions April 4, 2009 HSU's Kinesiology & Athletics Building

Public Event ◊ Native American Foods ◊ American Indian Arts & Crafts

Clark Museum  
Presents  
March-May 2009  
Pine Needle Basketry  
By Wiyot Tribal Member Lillie Johnston  
Location: Clarke Historical  
Museum  
240 "E" St. Eureka  
\*corner of 3rd and E  
More pine needle baskets by Lillie are in Nealis Hall/Native American Room



## Of Interest.....

### Meet the Candidates

#### LENARD ALAN MILLER

##### Running for re-election as Councilperson

I am a twenty-nine year old native of Wiyot Country who grew up spending much of my time on the Eel River hunting, fishing and eeling. The grandson of Evelyn Horn, a 93 year old Wiyot elder, I am a lineal descendent of Sarah Maguire ( maiden name Gwenivere) Evelyn's grandmother.

Currently, I reside on the Table Bluff Reservation with my wife Trena and our four children. Spending time with my family is a priority for me. I love taking my kids hunting, fishing, and eeling. This is not only a great way for us to spend quality time together, but for me to teach them self-reliance, traditional values, and cultural beliefs.

Also, as a co-founder of Men's Camp, it is my desire to teach cultural beliefs to the young men of our Tribe. Our purpose is to prevent them from losing their way in life by providing them opportunities to learn things such as singing, making regalia and acorn paddles, etc. Doing things that build character such as cutting up firewood to distribute to the elders and cleaning up our land, Men's Camp provides a great place for the spirit of unity to be established and to serve our community.

Currently, I hold a position on the TBR Tribal Council. I have held a position as your councilman since 2007. I would sincerely love the opportunity to serve another term for you. As before, it is my goal to see the needs of our tribe met and to consistently move forward!



#### BRIAN MEAD

##### Running for re-election as Secretary

My name is Brian Mead, and I am a candidate for Tribal Council. For the past 5 years I have been a member of the Tribal Council. I have grown in the position, and I want to continue to offer my services to the Wiyot Tribe.

I have learned a great deal about tribal government, and how to understand what's in the best interests of my tribe. I have attended all Council Meetings, and participated in Men's Camp. I want to continue my services to the government.

As a parent, I want to see the tribe grow and provide for our children because they will be our future leaders. I believe both the cultural and educational programs that the Tribe offers benefit the youth and prepares them for the future. I think it is also important to care for our elders in every way that we can.

I would like to encourage every member to participate in the Tribe. Each person has something to give and the Tribe is stronger when we work together. I invite you to attend Council meetings and come to Tribal functions. It is important that your voice be heard to help us better the Tribe.





## ...Of Interest

### Tribal Office needs your Help

Please help us get in touch with the following people:

Tracy Johnson

Charlene Cody

Amanda Moon

Terry Lange

We have either no address or the mail is being returned. If anyone has information on how to reach these folks, please call the Tribal Office at 707-733-5055

### Digital TV Transition

The digital television transition has been **postponed to June 12, 2009** to give US households more time to prepare for the Digital TV transition. A television receiver with only an analog broadcast tuner will require a converter box to receive full power over the air broadcasts with an antenna because of the Nation's transition to digital broadcasting. Analog-only TVs should continue to work as before with satellite and cable TV services, low-power TV stations, gaming consoles, VCRs, DVD players, and similar products. Information about the DTV transition is available from [www.DTV.gov](http://www.DTV.gov) or 1-888-DTV-2009

And information about subsidized coupons to digital-to-analog converter boxes

### For Sale by the Tribe

The Tribe is offering for sale a tractor "Great Dane for \$1000.00 OBO and a 12hp Rototiller for \$1500 used 2 times.

This notification will only appear in this newsletter in hopes someone in the tribe has a need for them. In May it will be advertised in local newspapers. If interested please call the Tribal Office at 707-733-5055.

### Library Corner

By Marilyn Wilson, Library Manager

Come to the library to check out some of our new books and movies. A few of the books I have added are "*The City of Ember*", which was a major motion picture that came out in 2008. "*The People of Sparks*," "*A Gathering of Days*," "*Brothers of the Heart*" and "*Letters from the Corrugated Castle*." For new movies, I have *Sleeping Beauty*, *The Ghost and the Darkness*, *Thunderheart*, *Last of the Dogman*, *The Last Unicorn*, *Kung Fu Panda*, and *Monster House*. I also have numerous paperbacks from the authors Sue Grafton, Lisa Jackson, Katie MacAlister, and Lisa Gardner. If there are any books or movies that you would like added to our library, please let me know and I will see what I can do.

### News from the Fiscal Department

MISC1099 tax forms were mailed at the end of January to all Adults who received more than \$600.00 in RSTF income in 2008. Minor children did not receive more than \$600.00 in 2008 and as a result the minors did not receive MISC1099 forms. If you did not get one in the mail please call the Tribal Office and we can mail you a duplicate. Please make sure we have your current address by filling out the change of address form on the back of the newsletter or by faxing a SIGNED change of address form to the Tribal Office.

### A little note from the Water Operator

By George Buckley

Water heaters need to be flushed out at least once a year and it is a simple process. Doing this will remove sediments collecting on the bottom of the heater heating up and forming a brick.

Attach a hose, lift the air intake valve to let air into unit and that will start the process of pushing the water out the hose.





## Cultural From the Ground Up...

### Would you like to take a walk?

The Wiyot Environmental and Cultural Departments are once again offering to take interested staff and tribal members out to Tuluwat.. Please leave a message at the tribal office 707-733-5055 and we will set up times with you.



### Sport Fishing Licenses

One-year FREE SPORT FISHING LICENSES are available for anglers who meet the criteria below:

Any American Indian or lineal descendant who is a resident of the State and whose total annual income does not exceed \$10,400 for the head of the household, plus \$3,600 for each additional family member living with them. Certification by the Bureau of Indian Affairs (BIA) or proof of being on a tribal registry is required. Verification of income on FORM FG371 is required annually. Tribal Office will have those forms available.



This year's **Elders Gathering** will be held Saturday, July 18<sup>th</sup> (with the option of overnight camping). The next cultural committee meeting will be devoted to planning this event. The meeting is April 13 at 5:30 p.m. Please come with your ideas. We are planning to have more food of course, but also would like to have dancers as well as drumming. Any other thoughts are most welcome.

### Several grant funded projects are moving along:

- The archive consultant will be on site April 6-17 to help with setting up our space, procedures, and policies. We continue to acquire new original materials that are missing pieces to Wiyot history, culture, people, and stories. My next goal is to go out into the larger community to do oral histories, and to find the grant funding to support the time and travel costs.
- The design and fabrication for the Preserve America funded Tuluwat signage has been finalized. I expect to receive the first concept drawings this month. Please free to stop by and check them out.
- The IMLS funded museum project recently allowed the Heritage Center to offer a basket care and conservation workshop to our museum staff as well as other tribal and museum representatives. This provides a solid base of skill and information to care for what is world class art.

- National Park Service THPO funding is once again providing the opportunity to go into public school classrooms and add the Wiyot voice to state curriculum standards. With Lynnika's help, I am including a language component in these presentations. Many of the kids have Indian heritage and are very interested in learning about Wiyot people and history.

- The Center for Indian Community Development and Far Western Anthropological Research Group are authoring a report on their excavation of contaminated midden soils at Tuluwat. The original field notes will be housed in our archives, and the report will be available to tribal members.

### Repatriation news:

The Board of Directors at the Clarke Museum has (closely) voted to deaccession the zoomorphs held in their collection. This is the first step in a formal repatriation process to return these objects to the culturally affiliated tribes, including the Wiyot. This was an extremely contentious and important decision. Thanks to Gail Green for representing the Tribe at the Museum's informational meeting last month. The Clarke Museum Board of Directors may have two openings. (con't page 5)



## ...Cultural From the Ground Up

If you are interested please talk to Ben by contacting the tribal office at 733-5055.

The department recently submitted a grant for Native American Graves Protection and Repatriation Act documentation and consultation. This will fund research, travel, and associated costs for more repatriation claims. The process is never easy (almost like insurance claims) and only perseverance produces results.

### Heritage Center Update:

The collection is nearly completely recorded! Once we have all the items in our system, and securely stored in our locking cabinets, we will look into the web based on line version to allow tribal members to view and research all the materials.

The next big purchase under our grant will be new display cases, custom built to our specs and needs. I hope to have more room in the main community center to display the permanent collection and new acquisitions. Be sure to check out the hall display as well.

### Phantom Treaty Rights in California

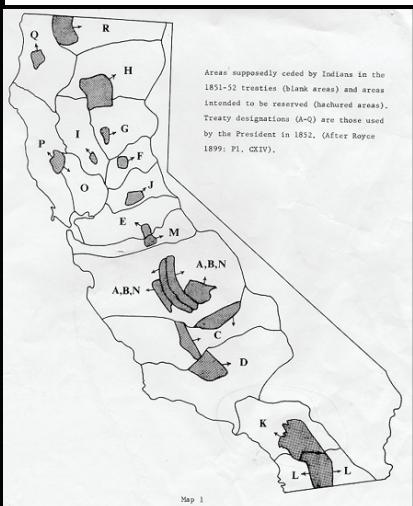
by Helene Rouvier, THPO

*Partly from the difficulty of communicating with the Indians, and partly from the jealousy with which each little band seems to view the rest, the efforts to collect them from the country around proved abortive, a few only visiting the camp from the nearest villages. It was an additional drawback that the head chief of Eel River, to whom the whites have given the name of "Coon-skin," and who is said*

*to possess considerable influence, was sick. To those who came in, small presents, together with hard bread, and beef, were distributed; but they could not be made to understand the object of our visit, and clearly remained to the last, in doubt whether the agent was simply a philanthropic individual, possessed of more red flannel shirts and cotton pocket-handkerchiefs than he knew what to do with, and who therefore indulged in the benevolent amusement of giving them away; or one who had some designs upon them, and was fishing for Indians with that particular bait.—George Gibbs's 1851 Journal of McKee's Klamath Expedition*

Redick McKee was one of three commissioners appointed by President Millard Fillmore. Their orders were to secure Indian land title to California – accomplished by “negotiating” with some Indians and then dividing all California lands west of the Sierra-Cascade crest into 18 cession areas. However, clearly the Indians with which the commissioners negotiated had little if any authority to make these agreements. So called California “tribes” were usually villages of extended families; “chiefs” were an arbitrary academic term, and even tribal leaders had no authority to cede commonly held territory. Language was also a barrier to communication: “Preparations were made to call in the Indians; but unfortunately only persons who spoke the language with any facility were absent. One or two others could barely communicate with them on a few subjects; but

too short a time had elapsed since the arrival of the whites generally to have created any considerable intercourse.”



Of the Lower Eel River Wi-yot, Gibbs notes that “as it had become evident that nothing could be effected with the Indians present, for want of interpreters; it was concluded to break up camp the next day, and proceed on.” The commissioners hadn’t the slightest idea of Indian concepts of land ownership or tribal government.

Despite these problems and controversy and the ambiguous scope and inadequate funding to negotiate, the need for treaties was recognized by the California State government. “Among the more immediate causes that have precipitated this state of [frontier hostilities], may be mentioned the



## Cultural From the Ground Up...

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neglect of the General Government to make treaties with [the Indians] for their lands. We have suddenly spread ourselves over the country in every direction, and appropriated whatever portion of it we pleased to ourselves, without their consent, and without compensation." – Governor Peter H. Burnett January 7, 1851. The Indian Commissioners negotiated 18 treaties with California Indian tribes, reserving 11,700 square miles (7 1/2 million acres) to the Indians, approximately 7 1/2 % of the state.

These inherently flawed treaties were met with organized resistance from monied interests. The California legislature, recognizing the land value of reserved areas, convened a Special Committee on the Disposal of Public Land. Predictably, the Committee proposed an alternate system of "missions" offering provisions and clothing, a small parcel for cultivation with privileges of grazing. "The Indians who are now residing on private lands, with the consent of the owners, or engaged in cultivating their soil, should not be disturbed in their position...They are already in the best school of civilization...The adoption of this plan would obviate the contemplated permanent disposal of a large portion of our mineral and arable land."

Acting on this recommendation, the California Assembly and Senate submitted resolutions to the United States Senators from California opposing ratification of the treaties; they were subsequently rejected by the United States Senate in secret session. The record of these treaty considerations was suppressed until 1905 when the injunction of secrecy was removed.

The impact of this decision is far reaching. California tribes lack the "reserved rights" which follow from treaties and agreements with the Federal government. Under treaty law, rights not specifically ceded are considered to be reserved; for example the doctrine of reserved rights dictates that a treaty silent on whether Indians retained hunting and fishing rights should be read as implying the continued existence of such rights. The landmark *Boldt* decision in U.S. District Court guaranteed Indians in Washington State fishing rights free of state regulations, and was based on such reserved treaty rights, and on "canons of construction" that interpret treaty language as the Indians would have understood its intent.

## SUCCESS OR FAILURE DEPENDS ON INDIANS



*The Ghost*

## ...Language

(continued from page 6)

Absent this protection, California tribes must rely on separate agreements with agency land managers. One codified state regulation is the right of enrolled tribal members to fish and hunt for their own use while on their reservation lands (California Fish & Game Code §123000) -

*Irrespective of any other provision of law, the provisions of this code are not applicable to California Indians whose names are inscribed upon the tribal rolls, while on the reservation of such tribe and under those circumstances in this State where the code was not applicable to them immediately prior to the effective date of Public Law 280, Chapter 505, First Session, 1953, 83d of Congress of the United States. No such Indian shall be prosecuted for the violation of any provision of this code occurring in the places and under the circumstances hereinabove referred to. Nothing in this section, however, prohibits or restricts the prosecution of any Indian for the violation of any provision of this code prohibiting the sale of any bird, mammal, fish or amphibian.*

Locally, there are several agreements with land managers (Bureau of Land Management, U.S. Forest Service, Fish and Wildlife, Fish and Game. Typically these require agency notification and a permit/key. Contact the tribal office for more information at 707-733-5055.

### Minors Savings Update

Here is a recap for the Minors Savings Account for the years listed.

Minors who were born and enrolled before inception of the Minors Saving Account (which was established in March of 2003) have accrued principal of \$3594.00 and interest of \$118.00

Enrolled April 2004

Principal \$2676.00

Interest \$72.00

Enrolled April 2005

Principal \$2076.00

Interest \$45.00

Enrolled April 2006

Principal \$1406.00

Interest \$27.00

Enrolled April 2007

Principal \$927.00

Interest \$9.00

Enrolled April 2008

Principal \$457.00

Interest \$3.00

**NOTE:** Interest rate 1% compounded monthly/amounts may vary depending on the enrollment date

If you have any questions please call the Tribal Office 707-733-5055

### I Say “Melh”, You Say “Velh”: Dialects of Wiyot

by Lynnika Butler, Language Program Manager

Everybody knows what a “language” is, right? We know that English and Spanish are different languages because people who speak only English can’t understand Spanish, and vice versa. But what is a “dialects”? The word *dialect* refers to a particular variety (way of speaking) of a language, and most languages have multiple dialects.

An obvious example of dialect difference is when people from different regions pronounce the same word different ways (this is called an *accent*): for example, in most of the U.S., the word *can’t* rhymes with *ant*; but in parts of the South, it rhymes with *paint* (my dad says it this way!). But speaking a different dialect can also mean using different words and phrases: a British speaker calls that storage space in the back of your car a *boot*, while in the U.S. we say *trunk*; and to *knock someone up* in England means to knock on their door, not get them pregnant! But different social groups in the same area can speak different dialects too: younger people speak differently from their parents, inner-city kids have a different dialect than suburban or country kids, and surfers speak a different dialect than bikers.



# Language...

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So what does all of this have to do with Wiyot? It turns out that when Wiyot was still widely spoken, there were a few different “versions” or dialects in use. Gladys Reichard wrote that Wiyot people living in the Humboldt Bay, Mad River, and Eel River areas each spoke slightly different dialects, and that even families within the same area often spoke somewhat differently: for example, in the Humboldt Bay area the phrase meaning ‘he began to fish for mussels’ was *gawuwichushilh*, but in the Eel River area it was *gawutsanilh* (Reichard 1925:8). In other cases, words differed by just one sound from one speaker to another:

Some people pronounced a final *k* after *sh* at the end of words, but others did not:

‘Strawberries’: *lash* (Della Prince, Amos Riley) ~ *lashk* (Nettie Rossig)

‘Slug’: *joumash* (Della Prince) ~ *joumashk* (Mrs. Buckley or Jerry James)

Many words that start with *v* could also be pronounced with *m*.

Reichard wrote that older speakers typically used *v* and younger speakers often used *m*:

*velh* ‘axe’ or ‘nettle’ (Della Prince), *vus* ‘fire’ (Della Prince, Amos Riley), and *vou’r* ‘shark’ were often pronounced *melh* (Jerry James), *mus* (Birdie James), *mou’r* (Jerry and Birdie James, Amos Riley)

In notes taken by John P. Harrington, Amos Riley and Birdie James often pronounced their vowels a little differently: where Mrs. James tended to say ‘u’ (as in English ‘bug’), Mr. Riley often said ‘a’ (as in English ‘hot’ or ‘caught’):

‘Eel’: *gou’daw* (Amos Riley) ~ *gou’duw* (Birdie James)

‘Yurok woman’: *na’qashk* (Amos Riley) ~ *nu’quashk* (Birdie James)

‘Eureka’: *durou’jijiw* (Amos Riley) ~ *darou’jijiw* (Birdie James)

The take-home message in all of this is that the Wiyot language was rich and diverse, even though it was spoken in a relatively small area. As we try to revive the language in the community, it’s good to remember that there may often be more than one way to say the same thing in Wiyot—just as there is in English.

## Just a Note

By Joycelyn Teague

Joycelyn Teague, Councilperson and volunteer Language person-says:

“Being the volunteer language person is an exciting and challenging position. Something new is happening all the time. I do research, look up place names, and in the process learn a little more about history and culture.

The language lessons are fun and at times a challenge. Some words are real tongue twisters. All in all, I really enjoy what I do.”

## Reminders

### Language Committee Meeting

April 27 @ 5:30...please attend!

### Language classes (5:00 in Library):

1<sup>st</sup> & 3<sup>rd</sup> Mondays (April 6 & 20)

Every Thursday

## Notice

I would like to hear from anyone who is interested in an off-reservation language class (in Eureka or Arcata). Classes would probably be on a weekday evening.

Please contact me with your preferred day/time!

[lynnika@wiyot.us](mailto:lynnika@wiyot.us)



## ...Environment Around Us

### Helpful Gardening Guide

By Tim Nelson

#### Planting Schedule

With April approaching and spring finally upon us, it is about time to begin planting some delicious dietary staples. April is the month to directly seed carrots, parsley, celery, and sunflowers while sowing starts for plants such as bok choy, artichoke, zucchini, squash (winter/summer), cucumber, and melons. Sow seeds in flats (3-5" of potting soil), cover with a thin layer of soil, pat gently and **keep moist** but allow to dry a little between watering. Remember, it is still not too late to plant early spring seedlings such as cilantro, dill, fennel, lettuce, broccoli, cabbage, cauliflower, kale, Brussels sprouts, spinach, chard, beets, peas, onions, green onions, leeks, potatoes, tomatoes, peppers, and tomatillos.

#### Compost Bins

- If you live in Humboldt County and are in desperate need of a compost bin for this growing season, visit <http://www.humboldtrecycling.org/default.php?a=garden> for a great discount (\$40 usually \$80 retail) on The Earth Machine located at the following facilities: Arcata Community Recycling Center
- Eureka Community Recycling Center
- Fortuna City Hall (725-7600)
- Humboldt County Division of Environmental Health (268-2225)
- City of Arcata Environmental

Services (822-8184) - (\$20 for Arcata residents with proof of residency)

Rio Dell City Hall (764-3532)

For those members who live outside Humboldt County but wish to purchase a compost bin, check with your local recycling/waste facilities as these businesses may have the best deals! Local garden stores and home improvement stores carry compost machines but are usually more expensive than your local disposal facilities.

Of course, you can always build your own compost structure but be careful to avoid the two most common problems: odor and rodents. Important aspects to think about when creating your own composting structure include placement, size, shelter from rain, wind and wildlife, air flow, and easy access when properly maintaining your pile. Usually, the placement of a compost structure will be tailored to the amount of space available but, if this is not the case, an ideal spot would be away from any window in your house where odor may be a potential problem. Next, the size of your compost bin should be large enough to hold no more than a 3' X 3' pile of a green/brown material mix. As mentioned earlier, be sure to shelter your pile from wind, rain and wildlife as most troubleshooting dilemmas involve these problems. Air flow is very important in a compost pile because the bacteria and fungus alive in your compost pile need oxygen to survive. By providing a constant air flow through your structure

( i.e. drilling holes) and by turning your pile every two weeks or so, you are ensuring the survival of the beneficial bacteria and are not delaying adequate decomposition. Lastly, you want to make sure that when you are building a compost structure that it will be easy to maintain your pile without any hassle. Make sure that you can "turn" your pile and not have to worry about any potential harm you can inflict upon yourself or the structure. Some helpful tips on building your own compost structure can be found in brochures available in the Environmental Department or on the following websites:

<http://www.extension.umn.edu/distribution/horticulture/DG5553.html>

[http://whatcom.wsu.edu/ag/compost/fundamentals/needs\\_placement\\_structures.htm](http://whatcom.wsu.edu/ag/compost/fundamentals/needs_placement_structures.htm)

<http://home.howstuffworks.com/composting2.htm>





## Environment Around Us...

### Tuluwat Village Contamination ... Gone At Last

By Tim Nelson

A day that many have been waiting for finally came last month: Eighty-seven 55-gallon drums of the most contaminated soil from Tuluwat Village on Indian Island were loaded on to two trailer trucks and shipped to a facility for incineration and disposal.

Thanks to the collaborative efforts of Wiyot Tribe staff members, SHN Consulting Engineers, Northcoast Environmental Construction (NEC), and Clean Harbors Environmental Services, the contaminated drums were properly loaded and transported to the disposal facility. Many thanks to the granting agencies as well.

Now that the majority of contamination has been removed the next steps will involve rebuilding the bulkhead, completing the sheet pile installation, and installing a geotextile and soil cap to protect visitors from the remaining contamination. Once funding has been secured, a new dock will be constructed and the remaining contamination will be treated in-situ by injecting an oxidizer through the cap.



### A Snapshot of Environmental Department Activities

By Jon Mooney, Environmental Director

#### Water Quality Monitoring

The Environmental Department continues to monitor water quality (ph, dissolved oxygen, turbidity, etc.) around the bay twice per month.

#### Humboldt Bay Management Plan

We are active on the advisory committee for the Humboldt Bay Management Plan.

#### Tuluwat Village

Recently removed most contaminated soil and are now looking ahead, planning the next steps for this summer.

#### Air Quality Monitoring

The Department is developing a monitoring program for both indoor and ambient air quality.

#### Community Garden

Planning for this year's organic community garden is under way, with planting in the coming weeks.

#### Well and Septic System Improvements

Both projects are moving forward: The well is drilled and a pump should be installed this year; the plans for the septic system are finalized and the project is now open for bidding.

### Motor Oil/Antifreeze and Cooking Oil Collection Sites on Table Bluff Reservation

For those who work on their vehicles and need a place to dispose of their oil and antifreeze, Table Bluff Reservation has a disposal site located at the maintenance shed. Drums are labeled for both "Motor Oil" and "Antifreeze" so please DO NOT mix either in order to ensure proper disposal.



## ...News and Notes from Social Services

(continued from page 10)

Any questions or concerns, please contact the Environmental department.

Cooking up some fry bread or deep frying a turkey? The Tribe is also accepting any used cooking oil. Waste Vegetable Oil (WVO) must NOT contain any food solids or congealed grease. This oil is collected in the Footprint Recycling bin located behind the community center and is made into biodiesel for vehicles. Please contact Linda in the office for access to the WVO bin.

For more information on household hazardous waste and proper disposal methods, please call or visit the Environmental department.

### Wiyot Parent Committee

The Wiyot Parent Committee will meet on April 6<sup>th</sup> 2009, at 10 am. The committee will be continuing its discussion of the Wiyot Charter school partnership, and the Boys & Girls Club



### Free Tax Preparation for Low Income Taxpayers!

This tax season, California Indian Legal Services is again partnering with the Legal aid society of Orange County to provide free tax return assistance to low income taxpayers using I-Can!™ E-file. I-Can!™ E-file is an online program designed to allow

eligible taxpayers to e-file or print out and mail tax returns. The service is available to most households with incomes under \$50,000. Tax return assistance will be available over the phone through CILS at 800-743-8941 or through a link on the CILS web-page at [www.calindian.org](http://www.calindian.org) beginning in January 2009.

The program helps qualified users claim the earned income tax credit, a special credit for low-income workers. The EITC is overlooked by many taxpayers, even though it can add thousands of dollars to their tax return. Many who qualify for the Earned Income Tax Credit don't know how to claim it or lose out on much of their return by paying high fees to commercial tax preparers who promote high interest Refund Anticipation Loans. Even those taxpayers not eligible for the Earned Income Tax Credit may still be able to complete their tax returns using the I-Can!™ E-file service if their household income is under \$50,000.

CILS has helped ensure that the I-Can!™ E-file system addresses many specialized issues faced by Indian taxpayers, such as reporting Per Capita and Revenue Sharing Trust Fund distributions correctly and determining what income earned in Indian Country may be exempt from state tax. Don't lose out on this great tax credit and don't pay commercial tax preparers

to help you get it. Call CILS's office at (800) 743-8941.



### Energy Assistance Program



The Low Income Home Energy Assistance program (LIHEAP) is available to Tribal members. This funding is to provide assistance to low-income households in meeting their home energy costs, particularly those with the lowest incomes and highest energy needs. Priority is given to tribal members who are elders, disabled, and families with young children. Applicants must complete an intake, a responsibility statement, provide proof of income for the entire household for the last 30 days, and an energy statement or an estimate from a firewood vendor. Energy assistance payments are made to the energy vendor on behalf of the clients household for no more than the amount due on the energy statement. No payments can be made to the LIHEAP client. The system of energy payments to the vendor will vary with the type of vendor and their location within the state. The maximum benefit per year is \$600 per household (October 1, 2008 through September 30, 2009) as funding lasts.

## News and Notes from Social Services...

### Scholarship Season is here

The goal of the scholarship is to assist tribal members who wish to pursue additional education. Scholarships are open to those attending recognized, accredited colleges, universities and technical institutions. These listed may help you get started: **1. United Indian Health Services Scholarship** Deadline April 18, 2009 High school Seniors from schools within Humboldt or Del Norte Counties that are UIHS registered or whose parents or guardians are registered UIHS clients who plan to attend a 2 or 4 year college or university in 2009/10. Contact information: UIHS 825-4123 **2. Wiyot Higher Education Scholarship**

Wiyot Tribal members attending a 2 or 4 year college or university full or part time in 2009/10  
Deadline August 1, 2009  
Contact Michelle Vassel, [michelle@wiyat.us](mailto:michelle@wiyat.us), (707) 733-5055.

### **3. BIA Higher Education**

**Grant** Wiyot Tribal members attending a 2 or 4 year college or university full or part time in 2009/10. Deadline: Prior to the start of classes. Contact Michelle Vassel, [michelle@wiyat.us](mailto:michelle@wiyat.us), (707) 733-5055. Contact your college, university, high school counselor,

or Michelle at the Tribal office for more information on how to find and apply for scholarships to attend college.

### Elder's lunch served daily

The Wiyot Elder nutrition program serves free lunch Monday through Friday to anyone over the age of 50. Drop in and enjoy a hot meal with friends on any weekday. Join us on Tuesdays and participate in a game or two of Language Bingo with fabulous prizes!!!

### Water Resources Technician Training Program Spring/Summer

Each year the Bureau of Indian Affairs' (BIA) Water Resources Technician Training Program offers training to American Indians. Applications for this program are being accepted now. The training will be held June 1-26 2009 (4 weeks) at New Mexico State University, Las Cruces, New Mexico.

Candidates must meet the following requirements to be considered for the training program:  
1) Endorsement letter from his/her federally recognized tribal government, preferably the Chairman;  
2) must possess a High school Diploma or GED; Have plans for future higher education or career development;

3) a brief, one-page statement on reasons for wanting to join the program; 4) complete and submit the application by the April 3<sup>rd</sup> deadline; pledge to remain alcohol and substance free during the program.

Tribal members interested in participating in this program are encouraged to contact Michelle for assistance in completing the application process.

### Step Up For Youth Jobs

Humboldt County young people (aged 14-21) interested in finding a summer job may be eligible for the Step Up Program. Step up is a program that helps young people find work and explore career options. This program may help you to discover the perfect job for you. Create an online resume....let employers find you! The two day workshop helps you to explore jobs that make sense for you. Workshops will be held March 26<sup>th</sup> and 27<sup>th</sup>, April 21<sup>st</sup> and 22<sup>nd</sup>. Mock interviews will be held on April 30<sup>th</sup> to prepare you for the real thing. In order to participate in the program you will need a photo ID and Social Security Card. Call 445-6532 and reserve a space.



## ...News and Notes from Social Services

### Support our Troops

The Wiyot Tribal Council recently began a program to support our tribal members. The program will send care packages to tribal members serving in Iraq or Afghanistan. If you know of any tribal members serving in the War on Terror, please send their name and APO/FPO Address to ATTN: Support our Troops, Wiyot Tribe, Loleta, CA 95551 or email to [michelle@wiyat.us](mailto:michelle@wiyat.us).



### Food Stamp increase and other stimuli

The California Dept. of Social Services issued implementation instructions to County Welfare Departments (CWD) in regard to the 13.6 percent temporary increase in Food Stamp benefits and other provisions due to the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act of 2009 (ARRA) signed into law by President Obama on February 17, 2009. The implementation date for issuance of the increased benefit and the provisions listed below is April 1, 2009.

The state intends to send out a mass notice

The Food Stamp Maximum Allotments for the households of **from one to four persons are \$200; \$367; \$526; and \$668, respectively.** Some, of the other matters changed by ARRA (the "stimulus package) were Unemployment benefits which will increase by \$25 per week;

A one-time payment of \$250 will be received by Supplemental Security Income/State Supplementary Payment (SSI/SSP), Railroad Retirement and Veterans and Veterans Disability Compensation or Pension recipients;

Tax credits of \$400 (\$800 for families filing a joint return).

### Native American Caregiver Training



The Wiyot Tribe will be hosting Native American Caregiver training this April at the Table Bluff Reservation Community Center. The training will prepare individuals to work as caregivers for Native American Elders. Upon completion of the program, the caregivers will be entered into a Native American Caregiver database which will be used for referrals to Native American elders in need of care giving services. The training will be held April 11, 18, and 25<sup>th</sup> at the Table Bluff Reservation Community Center. To register or for more information please contact Michelle at (707) 733-5055 or email [michelle@wiyat.us](mailto:michelle@wiyat.us)



Open Monday-Friday Noon to 6pm  
Except Holidays

### See's Easter Candy Sale

Get your **See's Easter candy** from Boys & Girls Club of Wiyot Country, a fundraiser for club supplies. The club is currently accepting orders for Milk Chocolate Foil wrapped Easter Rabbits (4 oz), Chocolate variety pack in a Easter Chick box (4 oz), Decorated Chocolate filled Peanut Butter Egg, Decorated Dark Chocolate filled butter egg. Each item costs \$5.00, proceeds will be used to purchase supplies and activities for the Boys & Girls Club of Wiyot Country. Items will be available for pick up the week of April 13-17<sup>th</sup>. **Call Michelle at (707) 733-5055** for questions and more information.



# Happy Birthday

Elaine Angell	Velva Angell	Marnie Atkins
Justin Atwell	Kaden Babcock	Jeffery Bartow
James Beach	Caleb Betzold	Irene Carlson
Lucinda Chapman	Melanie Cook	Henry Cooper Jr.
Andrew Cox	Guy Cox	Ramona David
Marjorie Davis	Cynthia Dutra	Rochelle Espinoza
Austin Evenson	Violet Farmer	Catrina Friend
Cassandra Hefte	Theodore Hernandez	James Holdner
Jared Johnson	Stacia Keisner	Rita Lane
Nina Lippincott	Randall Mead	Amanda Moon
Debra Neisius-Thompkins		Jacqueline Nelson
Stephanie Nex	Ruby Paul	Desiree Rasco
Thianna Reyes	Datrianna Robledo	Sally Rodgers
Melissa Sanches	June Schweigert	William Seidner
Cambria Sheets	Jadyn Sheets	Julencia Silva
Kylie Sperling	Elmer Springer	Oscar Stout
Thomas Tipton	Ernest Tomkins	Joyce Cyphers
Bobbi Wilson	Lola Woodhurst	Patsy Wright



## Newsletter Options

In light of being resourceful and conserving our precious natural resources, and utilizing technology to our advantage, you have a choice of the way you receive your newsletter. You can receive it through your email or even better.....visit the newly constructed website...

[www.wiyot.com](http://www.wiyot.com). You can download/print for your reading enjoyment or just read it on line...better yet saving the trees and using technology.

Any feedback...

Email me, [linda@wiyat.us](mailto:linda@wiyat.us)

## Congratulations

**Ashleigh and Stewart Atwell have a new addition to their family**

**TRISTON DANIEL ATWELL**

Born

**February 25th, 2009**

**Weighing 6lbs 9 oz and 18 1/2 inches long**



## Did you know...

Compact Fluorescent Lamps (CFL's) and pharmaceutical drugs are considered household hazardous waste?

CFL's contain a small amount of mercury that, if broken, will contaminate any surface they touch. Pharmaceuticals contains a variety of chemicals that, if flushed, contaminate waste water systems that will not be able to treated properly and pose a threat to drinking water systems, groundwater, rivers, bays, and the ocean. Please DO NOT THROW AWAY OR FLUSH these items as they need to be disposed of at a Household Hazardous Waste (HHW) facility.

For more information on proper disposal of questionable or regular items, please contact the Environmental department at your convenience. **AND DID YOU KNOW** ...The average Sub-Saharan African uses the same amount of water each day as someone in the U.S. uses when brushing his or her teeth for two minutes with the tap running? This on average uses about 5 gallons of water! The average American uses ~165-170 gallons a day or 33-34 times more than the average Sub-Saharan African!

Be more conscientious about your daily water use and learn about ways to conserve H<sub>2</sub>O and subsequently reduce your water bill. Contact the Environmental department for more information.



# April 2009

**Sun****Mon****Tue****Wed****Thu****Fri****Sat****1****2****3****4**

April Fools Day

Annual Meeting  
and Elections

10 am

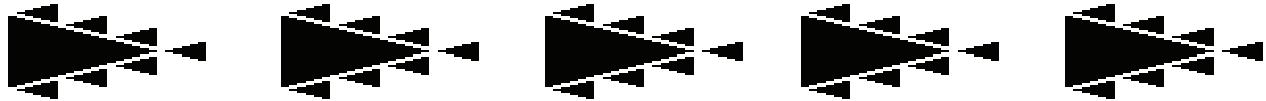
**5****6****7****8****9****10****11**Wiyot Parent  
Committee  
10 am**12****13****14****15****16****17****18**Business Council  
6:30 pm**19****20****21****22****23****24****25****26****27****28****29****30**Business Council  
6:30 pm

**Wiyot Tribe**

1000 Wiyot Dr.  
Loleta, CA 95551  
Phone: 707-733-5055  
Fax: 707-733-5601  
Email: [wiyat@wiyat.us](mailto:wiyat@wiyat.us)



PRSR STD  
US POSTAGE PAID  
LOLETA, CA 95551  
PERMIT NO. 2



**Change of Address Request Form**

**This is to confirm that my new mailing address is as follows:**

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_ City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ ZIP \_\_\_\_\_

**EMAIL** \_\_\_\_\_

Telephone# \_\_\_\_\_ Tribal # \_\_\_\_\_

Previous Names Used: \_\_\_\_\_

**Spouse and/or children who will be affected: (list legal name and date of birth)**

Signature \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_