

Village of Solomon Box 2053 Nome AK 99762 phone (907) 443-4985 facsimile (907) 443-5189

Tribal Member Moves into Home

Tribal member Tim Stettinger is a new homeowner. He and his grandson Michael moved into their 3 bedroom home in late December here in Nome soon after the Bering Straits Regional Housing authority (BSRHA) completed its final inspection. The Village of Solomon was slated one (1) home through BSRHA's acquisition program and worked with the Village of Solomon in accepting applications from qualified tribal members from Solomon.

BSRHA is a developer of affordable housing projects including new construction, acquisition and rehabilitation in northwest Alaska, serving 17 communities. BSRHA also provides weatherization services. Currently, the housing authority manages over 500 units of

affordable housing in the Bering Strait region. For more information on their programs, please visit their web page at www.bsrha.org or contact their office at 907 443-5256.



Tim Stettinger stands at the front door of his new home.

Annual Meeting Date Set for September 20, 2013 in Nome

The tribal council selected Friday, September 20th to have the annual meeting this year here in Nome at the XYZ Senior Center.

During the annual meeting tribal members will hear reports from the tribal council and VOS staff. Results of elections will also be announced.

Dinner will be provided at 5 PM and the meeting will begin at 6 PM.

Teleconference lines will be available to those that wish to attend telephonically.

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SAVE THE DATE!

Village of Solomon's

Annual Meeting is

Friday

September 20, 2013

**at 6 PM in Nome at the
XYZ Senior Center.**

DON'T FORGET TO VOTE!

Election day is

Friday

August 23, 2013

in Nome at the office

**located in the BSNC
building on Front Street.**

Hours: 8:30 AM

to

4:30 PM

**Contact the office if you
need a ride to vote.**

Interested in Serving on the Tribal Council?

There are three seats up for election this year. Ballots will contain a list of qualified candidates for voters to choose from. Voters will choose three (3) names from a list of candidates on the ballot. Voters will also be able to write in one candidate as an alternative to candidates on the ballot. The three candidates receiving the most votes will be elected.

Official notice will be mailed by July 22, 2013.

Letters of Intent Schedule

(2) Letters of Intent-Sixty (60)-Forty (40) days Prior to Election:

Candidates must declare their candidacy in writing through a Letter of Intent in accordance with Section IV of the election ordinance. Letters of Intent must be received by the tribal council no sooner than sixty (60) days and no later than forty (40) days prior to the election in order for a candidate to have their name included on ballots. Letters of intent must be received by July 15, 2013.

Absentee Voting

In addition to voting on Village of Solomon's election day, absentee voting is allowed. Absentee ballots will be mailed to each eligible voter 30 days prior to election day. Tribal members may choose to submit an absentee ballot prior to election day if they are unable to vote on election day or attend the annual meeting. Voters may only vote once.

The Annual Meeting notice with voting instructions will be mailed to every eligible voter (18 years and older). If you do not receive your notice, please call the office immediately at 443-4985 so a notice may be mailed.

Helen Larsen Steps Down as Solomon's Elder Representative

Helen Curran Larsen stepped down as the elder representative stating she is staying home to care for her elderly husband. Helen served her tribe, the Village of Solomon, in an advisory capacity as the elder representative, ensuring that our history, culture and traditional ways are passed between our elders and our youth. She is also very proud of her Native Corporation, and enjoys attending the annual shareholders' meeting every year. Helen Larsen was chosen as the Solomon Native Corporation's 2012 Elder of the Year and recognized during Bering Straits Native Corporation's annual meeting held in October. Helen and her brother were raised in Solomon by their grandmother Maude Moses and father Alfred Moses Sr. Alfred worked for Lee's Mining Camp in Solomon and later moved the family to Golovin. Helen attended boarding school in Oregon and MEHS in Sitka. While attending college in California she met and married her first husband, Robert Curran, Sr., also of Solomon. To-

gether they had 4 children, Elizabeth, Robert Jr., Cynthia and Helen. Helen served as Secretary of the Solomon Native Corporation along-



side Robert Sr. in the early 1970's, during and after SNC's incorporation. Her involvement and encouragement has led to each of her children serving on the SNC Board in various capacities.

After a long courtship, Helen mar-

ried Pete Larsen Jr. in August of 2006. Helen retired after more than 20 years of employment with the Norton Sound Health Corporation as a food service worker. She has spent many years camping, fishing and picking berries around the Solomon area, often referring to her "salmon berry patch" that she frequently checks in on. She enjoys sewing, knitting and crocheting at home and also enjoys spending time with her 10 grandchildren and 2 great granddaughters when they come to visit.

She speaks quietly about her humble life, but is a very proud elder from Solomon and loves to share that history with her family and friends.

RoseAnn Timbers was appointed as elder representative until the next tribal elections scheduled in August.

Solomon Youth Spirit Camp is August 5-10, 2013

Solomon's summer youth camp dates have been set for August 5-10, 2013 for Solomon's youth ages 8 to 18. Youth under the age of 8 is welcome to attend with parental supervision. Much of the activities will promote healthy spiritual wellness. Limited airfare is provided to those that live outside of the Nome area. A completed application must be submitted to VOS by the deadline of July 1, 2103 in order to be considered for airfare, this includes elders that may want to attend. We need volunteers to assist with activities. Contact the tribal coordinator if you're interested in volunteering to supervise youth during camp, or driving, cooking and cleaning.

VOS is not mailing applications to tribal membership this year due to high cost of postage mail outs. To request a camp application, contact the tribal coordinator at 907 443-4985 or send an email to tc.sol@kawerak.org.

Applications are due July 1, 2013.

Environmental Coordinator Hired



Richard sitting in his office at the VOS office.

Dear Tribal Members of VOS:

Hello my name is Richard Brian Tootkaylok Schulling, I'm the son of the late Russell and Betty Tootkaylok. My grand parents were Pete and Molly Curran of Solomon. I was born in Anchorage but grew up in Nome and spent summers in Solomon with my uncles Joe, Gummick, and Pumpkin Curran. I moved back to Nome after I graduated from Alaska Vocational Technical Center in the field of Facility Maintenance Program in May 2011. I started to work for Bering Straits Housing Authority in the fall/winter of 2011/2012 but decided to work for myself in the remodeling business.

When the position of Environmental Coordinator became available I applied for the position because I'm deeply concerned with the environmental issues that we have in Solomon. For example when I was growing up an spending summers in Solomon I could walk down to the river and fish all day long catching and releasing salmon, nowadays people are lucky to even see some salmon in the river. I would like to know what environmental issues are causing this and what the Village of Solomon can do about it. Salmon

enhancement is one of the LEDP village priorities that both the Village of Solomon and Solomon Native Corporation agree to. I am also very committed to the other environmental LEPD goals of waste management and ensuring our people have easy access to potable water and solid waste disposal.

Not only am I a shareholder in Solomon Native Corporation and a tribal member I'm usually camping down in Solomon during the Summer/Fall with my family so I do care deeply about our village and want to see us prosper not only for our Tribe now but generations to come.

I am here in The Village of Solomon office from 8am-5pm Monday-Friday ph# 907-443-4985 or fax#907-443-5189. Please feel free to call if you have any questions suggestions on environmental issues.

Sincerely,

Richard Schulling

Richard Schulling, Environmental Coordinator



Richard and his girlfriend Nancy and her children.

Solomon's Environmental Assessments Results Talled

<u>Topic of Concern:</u>	<u>% Outcome</u> <u>Ranked:</u>
1. Safe drinking water	84%
2. Salmon enhancement	83%
3. Trash left in/around village	77%
4. Community dump/landfill site	75%
5. Grave site land bank erosion	73%
6. Starting a recycling program for community center	73%
7. Fuel oil/hazardous waste spills and soil contamination	71%
8. Annual clean-up program	70%
9. Spring/fall storm damage	68%
10. A environmental planning team	65%
11. Old buildings like the collapsed covenant church	65%
12. Beach and river bank erosion	61%
13. Construction material left behind by contractors	60%
14. Indoor/outdoor air pollution (wood smoke/road dust)	60%
15. Dead animals and fish along river beds	57%

VOS's Environmental Coordinator Richard Schulling conducted an environmental assessment in April. The assessment was designed to obtain tribal members input to develop the tribe's village environmental plan. The goal is to make our community a healthier place to camp and subsist.

All participants were entered into a \$75 VISA gift certificate drawing that will be announced at our tribal membership gathering here in Nome on May 21, 2013.

These assessments will assist us in reaching our vision and defining our community's needs. The next step is to find possible solutions.

If you are interested in volunteering your time on Solomon's environmental planning team, please send an email to tc.sol@kawerak.org.



Village Environmental Planning Steps from the 7 Generations Manual, Updated 2012 by the AK Native Tribal Health Consortium Community Environment and Safety

Win \$100!! Solomon's Family Tree Charts Need To Be Filled Out

The Village of Solomon is updating their tribal membership database this year. This includes providing a family tree which is now a required document to be filled out and submitted with new tribal enrollment applications.

The tribal council has offered another chance for winning a cash drawing of \$100 dollar gift certificate. Here's what you have to do:

1. On page 10 of this newsletter, fill out the family tree chart. Fill one out for everyone in your family.
2. Mail, fax or scan and email and send to the Village of Solomon's office by December 1, 2013.

If you need more copies of the chart, please contact the office and more copies will be mailed or emailed to you. For questions, please email the tribal coordinator at tc.sol@kawerak.org or call the office at 443-4985 or 1-877-443-4985 for those that live outside of Nome.

Reduce, Reuse, Recycle to Save Energy and Conserve Resources!

REDUCE

At home, use the garbage disposal sparingly. When you compost vegetable food waste, you're conserving and using less water.

Appliances such as your TV, DVD player, cell phone charger, etc. consume energy just by being plugged in. Unplug them when you are not using them.

Use a lunch box or insulated cooler for lunch instead of a paper or plastic sack.

Copy articles double-sided when possible and request double-sided printing at copy centers

Save files and e-mails electronically, and don't print out a hard copy of everything.

Use as much natural light as possible. If you use indoor lights, switch to compact fluorescent light bulbs (CFLs). If you are stepping out of a room for more than 15 minutes, turn off the lights.

Simplify your life as much as possible. Keep only those belongings that you use and enjoy on a regular basis. Think before you buy - do you really need it? Try the seven-day rule: wait a week after you make a decision to buy something to eliminate impulse buying.

REUSE

Turn trash into crafts. Use popsicle sticks, newspapers, used office paper, and other reused materials for craft projects.

Use and reuse sponges and dishcloths instead of paper towels (you can sanitize sponges in the microwave or dishwasher).

Reuse boxes, bubble wrap, and packing "peanuts" for shipping things.

Use cardboard boxes or cloth bags instead of plastic shopping bags.

If you use plastic shopping bags, reuse them, then recycle them.

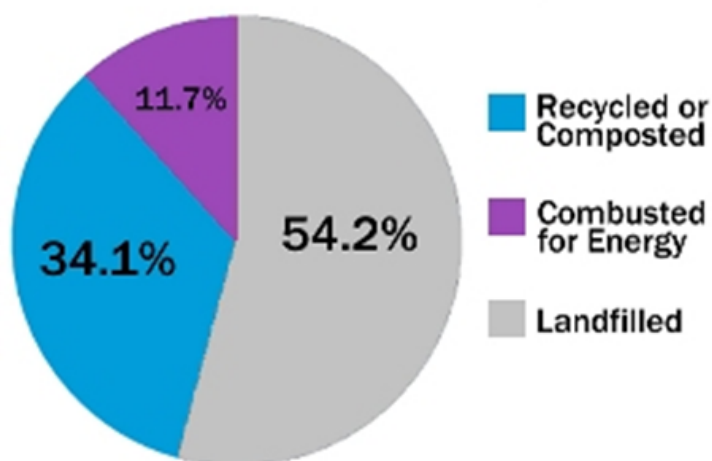
Use reusable products whenever possible: food and beverage containers and shopping bags, for example.

Donate your old clothing to charity.

Buy recycled products (paper, for example).

When you replace your cell phone, pass it on to new users.

What Happens to Stuff We Throw Away*?



*Based on the 2010 Municipal Solid Waste Characterization Report

RECYCLE

Rather than throwing away unused clothing and items that are in good shape, consider donating them to your local church, Goodwill, or other charity.

If your school doesn't have a recycling program, bring home items that you can recycle at home, such as cans, plastic bottles, cardboard, etc.

Encourage your family and friends to recycle...at home and away from home.

Use rechargeable batteries or recycle your used batteries.

Recycle your computer equipment, including your printer's ink cartridges.

Reducing and Reusing Basics

The most effective way to reduce waste is to not create it in the first place. Making a new product requires a lot of materials and energy: raw materials must be extracted from the earth, and the product must be fabricated and then transported to wherever it will be sold. As a result, reduction and reuse are the most effective ways you can save natural resources, protect the environment, and save money.

Benefits of Reducing and Reusing:

- Prevents pollution caused by reducing the need to harvest new raw materials;
- Saves energy;
- Reduces greenhouse gas emissions that contribute to global climate change;
- Helps sustain the environment for future generations;
- Saves money;
- Reduces the amount of waste that will need to be recycled or sent to landfills and incinerators;
- Allows products to be used to their fullest extent.

Recycling is the process of collecting and processing materials that would otherwise be thrown away as trash and turning them into new products. Recycling can benefit your community and the environment.

Benefits of Recycling

- Reduces the amount of waste sent to landfills and incinerators;
- Conserves natural resources such as timber, water, and minerals;
- Prevents pollution caused by reducing the need to collect new raw materials;
- Saves energy;
- Reduces greenhouse gas emissions that contribute to global climate change;
- Helps sustain the environment for future generations;
- Helps create new well-paying jobs in the recycling and manufacturing industries in the United States.

Recycling includes the three steps below, which create a continuous loop, represented by the familiar recycling symbol.

Step 1: Collection and Processing

Step 2: Manufacturing

Step 3. Purchasing New Products Made From Recycled Materials



For more information visit <http://www2.epa.gov/recycle/recycling-basics>

VOS Office Recycles & Reuses

Village of Solomon's office started recycling its paper products and aluminum cans by separating using the pictured recycling bins.

Copier paper is used as scratch paper and sometimes reused for the fax machine. Once both sides of paper is used, it is tossed into the recycle bin for paper products.

President Kirsten Timbers also started recycling at home using the same bins for paper and aluminum products.

The office has a few bins to provide to any tribal members who wish to recycle. Contact the environmental coordinator at 4443-4985 if interested.



A simple solution for keeping batteries from polluting the landfill is to reuse the plastic coffee cans, such as pictured below.

For the most up to date storage and collection information contact Total Reclaim in Anchorage or visit <http://www.totalreclaim.com/alaska.html>



BSRHA's Housing Preservation Program Available

The Housing Preservation Program provides a loan to fund services to repair or renovate housing owned by low income qualified families having substandard housing or housing and have no other source of funding the work.

The program is set up as a loan to be repaid over a five (5) year period, however if the family continues to occupy the housing there is a forgiveness of the payment based on 20% for each year the family occupies the home. Should the family move from the property prior to the end of the five-year period, the Housing Author-

ity may require the family to pay any unpaid outstanding balance.

The maximum loan award will be up \$5,000.00 to \$25,000.00 for materials, shipping, and labor. Labor must be paid at the Davis-bacon wage scale. For small purchases of \$5,000 or less, the grant will have no repayment provisions as long as it is for materials and freight.

Important Exceptions: Priority is given to Tribal Members of Solomon, King Island, Council and Marys Igloo who reside in the Bering Straits Region and are eligible to apply no matter where

they live in the state.

To apply for this program, a person may use one of the following as an application for this program: a BSRHA Housing Preservation Application, a HIP application for Kawerak Inc., a Weatherization Program from RuralCap, or the USDA Rural Housing Services application for their preservation grant program. The application must be completed, signed, dated and sent to BSRHA. For more information please contact BSRHA administrative office at 443-5256.

Tribal Membership Survey Results

Congratulations Wilma Amaktoolik for completing the survey which entered her name into a drawing for a \$75 Amazon gift card. “Preserving Solomon’s History & Culture” tribal membership survey results: 43 of 127 completed the survey. That’s 33% of the tribe that entered the drawing. 54.38% of the members who filled out the survey lack knowledge in the history of Solomon.

Are you under the age of 18? 35% Yes 65% No

Do you know what our traditional language is?
7% Yes 33% No

Out of the 67% that answered yes, only 14% knew how to speak it with 86% not knowing.

Do you know what our Community Center used to be before the renovations started in 2003?
37% Yes 63% No

Do you feel like Solomon is a part of your cultural identity?
88% Yes 12% No

Do you know any traditional Solomon values?
40% Yes 60% No

Do you know what year the Village of Solomon was federally recognized as a tribal entity?
16% Yes 84% No

Do you know at least three Solomon elders alive today?
37% Yes 63% No

Have you ever heard an elder tell a story about the way of life in the past?
77% Yes 23% No

Would you like to learn more about the history and culture of your tribe?
96% Yes 4% No

The Village of Solomon seeks to develop projects and activities which the tribe can use to enhance its local economy while building on our identified cultural values, strengths and heritage which will be discussed more at the annual meeting scheduled September 20, 2013 here in Nome.



ICWA Services Available

What is Indian Child Welfare Act? (ICWA):

ICWA was passed in 1978 in response to the high number of Native children who were removed from their families and tribes by non-tribal public and private agencies, and placed in non-Native foster homes or made available for non-Native adoption.

How does ICWA work? The main goal of ICWA is the protection of Native children. ICWA applies when a state court determines that a Native child is involved in a proceeding. This includes child custody proceedings, foster care placement, termination of parental rights, pre-adoptive and adoptive placements. A tribal court or tribe may properly exercise their rights in any and all of these types of proceedings. For ICWA services, please contact the VOS office at 443-4985 or email to tc.sol@kawerak.org.



Job Opportunities At VOS

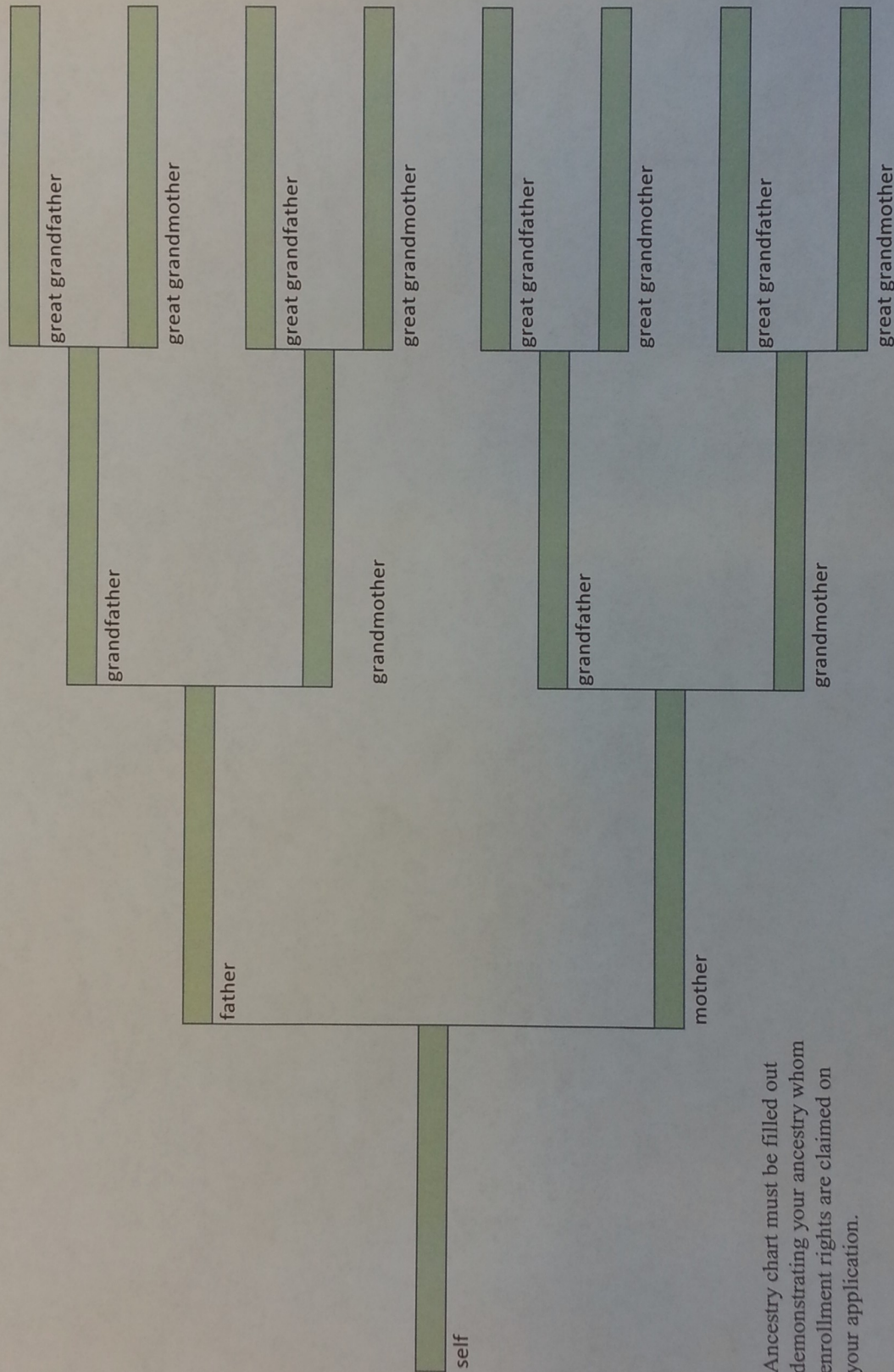
Upcoming jobs available this summer is a carpenter, maintenance and laborer workers to open and close the Solomon Community Center.

During youth camp, a camp coordinator will also be hired.

Contact the VOS office at 443-4985 for more details or send an email to tc.sol@kawerak.org.

ENTER A DRAWING TO WIN A \$100 VISA CARD GIFT CERTIFICATE BY FILLING OUT YOUR FAMILY TREE INFORMATION BELOW AND RETURN TO THE OFFICE BY DECEMBER 1, 2013.

Village of Solomon's Family Tree Chart



Ancestry chart must be filled out demonstrating your ancestry whom enrollment rights are claimed on your application.

MAIL TO VOS BOX 2053 NOME AK 99762 OR FAX TO 443-5189 OR SCAN AND EMAIL TO TC.SOL@KAWERAK.ORG



Solomon's Youth and Elders Attend Conference and Solomon Tribal Gathering in Anchorage



Wilma Amaktoolik and Andy Piscoya watch Francis Wright demonstrate using a ptarmigan snare during the elders and youth conference in Anchorage October, 2012.

Francis Wright Celebrated 95th Birthday



The community of Nome was invited to join the family of Francis Wright to celebrate her birthday at the Old St. Joe's community hall with coffee and cake on March 9, 2013 in Nome.



Welcome New Tribal Members

Sarah Huntsman, granddaughter of Walter Kalerak
 Cheryl Komakhuk, granddaughter of Francis Wright
 Sophia Piscoya, daughter of Cameron Piscoya
 (pictured above)



Village of Solomon
Box 2053
Nome, Alaska 99762

Dinner & Door Prizes!

**The Village of Solomon is hosting a tribal gathering
in Nome on Tuesday, May 21, 2013 at the XYZ Center
from 5-6:30 PM.**

**Meet our Environmental Coordinator and hear an
update on our IGAP program.**

**Please call the tribal coordinator at 443-4985 if you
need a ride.**

**RESCHEDULED TO
JUNE 17, 2013**