

Births

Kasamira Pasigo Johnson

Rhett Johnson and Michaela Camas Alire of Madras are pleased to announce the birth of their daughter Kasamira Pasigo Johnson, born on July 2, 2009.

Grandparents on the father's side are Clarence Jefferson and Shana Johnson of Warm Springs.

Grandparents on the mother's side are Michael Alire Sr. and Eugenia Alire of Madras.

Great grandparents are Delford Johnson and Marita Johnson of Warm Springs.

Grandparents on the father's side are Deanna Lynn Lamebear of Warm Springs, and Daniel Ortiz Arroya of Mexico.

Grandparents on the mother's side are Tyree Stormbringer and Cecilia Ann Winishut of Warm Springs.

Great grandparents on the mother's side are Virginia and Jameson Mitchell, and Patrick and Carm Mitchell, all of Warm Springs.

Anna Elizabeth Gano

James D. Gano and Terri A. Gano of Madras are pleased to announce the birth of their daughter Anna Elizabeth Gano, born on June 30, 2009.

Anna joins brother David, 3, and sisters Amberly, 12, Jaimee, 10, and Abigail, 1.

Grandparents on the father's

side are Robert Gano of Newport, and Don and Annette Fetter of Portland.

Grandparents on the mother's side are James Waley and Marjorie Waley of Newport.

Elizabeth Ann Ellis

Glenn Anthony Ellis and Mary Elizabeth Ellis of Wilsonville are pleased to announce the birth of their daughter Elizabeth Ann Ellis, born on July 3, 2009.

Elizabeth joins brother Larry, who will be 2 on September 20.

Grandparents on the father's side are Larry and Brinda Ellis of Roseville, Calif.

Grandparents on the mother's side are Jim and Carol Yeager of Canby.

Rafael Fidel Ortiz

Rafael Adan Ortiz and Loreen Grace Stormbringer of Warm Springs are pleased to announce the birth of their son Rafael Fidel Ortiz, born on July 2, 2009.



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\$90 Million in Recovery Act funds to bolster water services in Indian Country and create jobs

The U.S. Environmental Protection Agency and the U.S. Department of Health and Human Service's Indian Health Service announced \$90 million in funds from the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act of 2009 for improved access to vital drinking water and wastewater services in the American Indian and Alaska Native communities.

The funds will be invested in "shovel ready" infrastructure projects designed to better protect human and environmental health in Indian Country and to create jobs.

"This investment is win-win. Addressing long-standing water issues in tribal communities is also going to bring in new jobs and new opportunities, helping them get through the economic downturn and build a lasting foundation for prosperity," said EPA administrator Lisa P. Jackson.

"EPA is committed to working with our tribal partners on solutions that benefit our environment, our health, and our economy."

"This generous Recovery Act funding will make communities in Indian Country safer,

healthier and stronger," Health and Human Services secretary Kathleen Sebelius said.

"Everyone should have safe drinking water and sanitation facilities and we're committed to improving the quality of life in Indian Country."

Continuing a tradition spanning 20 years, EPA and IHS' combined effort to improve water services in Indian Country contributed to their identification of 95 wastewater and 64 drinking water priority projects to be completed by IHS' Sanitation Facilities Construction Program through EPA Recovery Act funds.

The projects exceed the Recovery Act requirement that 20 percent of the funds be used for green infrastructure, water and energy efficiency improvements and other environmentally innovative projects.

According to 2007 data from the IHS, approximately 10 percent of tribal homes do not have safe drinking water and/or wastewater disposal facilities compared with 0.6 percent of non-native homes in the United States that lack such infrastructure as measured in 2005 by the

U.S. Census. The water and wastewater infrastructure programs are a significant effort to improve tribal access to safe and adequate drinking and wastewater facilities. For example, a project to benefit the Tule River Tribe in Porterville, Calif., will replace failing septic systems, which threaten public health and the environment, with a community wastewater system. The White Mountain Apache Tribe in Whiteriver, Ariz., will benefit from an efficient surface water treatment facility which will provide the quality of drinking water needed to protect the health of residents in over 2,000 homes.

President Obama signed the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act of 2009 on Feb. 17, 2009, and has directed that the Recovery Act be implemented with unprecedented transparency and accountability. To that end, the American people can see how every dollar is being invested at [recovery.gov](http://www.epa.gov/water/eparecovery/).

More information about all the EPA Recovery Act water efforts:

<http://www.epa.gov/water/eparecovery/>.

Yakama Nation restoring fish run

SALMON LA SAC, Wash. (AP) - The Yakama Nation Indian Tribe released sockeye salmon into a lake on the east slope of the Cascades Tuesday, marking yet another effort by Pacific Northwest tribes to restore fish in areas where they have long been extinct.

A ceremony that included native song, dance and a prayer for the future of the fish ended with the release of 100 sockeye salmon into Cle Elum Lake in Central Washington. Biologists plan to release 1,000 fish in the coming weeks in hopes of restoring sockeye to the headwaters

of the Yakima River basin.

Phil Rigdon, deputy director of the Yakama Nation's Natural Resources Department, called Tuesday's event "an important milestone into what we are trying to achieve as a tribe."

Also known as the "blueback," sockeye salmon are revered by Pacific Northwest tribes. Juvenile salmon migrate to the ocean for about two years, then return upriver to spend several months in a lake before spawning in mountain creeks and rivers. They were eradicated in central Washington rivers when the rivers were dammed, barring fish passage.

Fidelia Andy, a Yakama Na-

tion councilwoman and treasurer of the Columbia River Inter-Tribal Fish Commission, remembers her grandmother's stories about drying salmon to get through the winter.

"We'd have bundles and bundles of it put away for winter," Andy said, recalling the telling of her grandmother's stories. "All she would put away was the blueback."

State and federal officials praised the Yakamas' efforts, saying sockeye restoration wouldn't have been possible without the tribe.

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