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Sen. Cantwell: 'He Was A Legend Among Men,' On Passing Of Tribal Fishing Activist Billy Frank Jr.

Posted: May 05, 2014 11:51 AM PDT
Updated: May 05, 2014 1:49 PM PDT

by Nichole Mischke, KHQ Local News Web Specialist - [email](#)

Cantwell Statement on the Passing of Billy Frank Jr.

Cantwell: 'Billy Frank was a legend among men'

WASHINGTON, D.C. – Today, U.S. Senator Maria Cantwell (D-WA) released the following statement on the passing of civil rights leader Billy Frank, Jr., a Nisqually Tribal elder and Chairman of the Northwest Indian Fisheries Commission.



"Billy Frank was a legend among men," said Cantwell, a member of the Senate Indian Affairs Committee. "Today, America lost a civil rights leader whose impact will be felt for generations to come.

"Billy Frank stood as a guiding light for Native people to stand up for their rights in a non-violent way. His bravery and leadership led to the breakthrough Boldt Decision, which forever changed the landscape of the Pacific Northwest. Today, because of the Boldt Decision, the state and Tribes are partners in the management and preservation of resources that are foundational to the economy of the state.

"Until the very end, Billy continued to fight for Tribes' Treaty rights, including fighting for a healthy environment that can sustain salmon and other resources for the next generations.

"I wish to send my condolences to Billy's family, many of whom continue his great work today. Indian Country will miss this giant of a man. I will miss my friend and the smile that he always brought to my face."

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PREVIOUS COVERAGE:

SEATTLE (AP) - Billy Frank Jr., the tribal fisherman who led the Northwest "fish wars" that helped restore fishing rights for American Indians four decades ago, has died at age 83.

The Northwest Indian Fisheries Commission on Monday confirmed his death.

Frank was first arrested for salmon fishing as a boy in 1945 - an event that led him on a long campaign for tribal rights. He and others were repeatedly arrested as they staged "fish ins" demanding the right to fish in their historical waters, as they were guaranteed in treaties when they ceded land to white settlers in the 19th century.

In 1974, U.S. District Judge George Boldt affirmed the tribes' right to half of the fish harvest - and the nation's obligation to honor the old treaties.

Frank continued to be an environmental leader and activist for salmon recovery.

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SPOKANE, Wash. - In

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Looking For A Home? New Listings Under \$200,000

Updated: May 06, 2014 7:25 AM PDT

SPOKANE, Wash. - Spring is the perfect time to purchase a new home, here are some new listings in our area to consider. These homes were found on www.WindermereSpokane.com. If you would like more information on any of these homes or would like to schedule a tour, contact your real estate agent with the correct MLS number.

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Fungus That Causes Fatal Illness Found In WA State But No Need For Worry

Updated: May 05, 2014 2:36 PM PDT

KHQ.COM - KHQ's Nichole Mischke spoke with Kim Papich with the Spokane County Health District and it sounds like this illness is really not a huge concern in our area. WSU recently tested soil from Benton County, Franklin County and Walla Walla County. One of the soil tests from one of those counties came back positive for the fungus, but they didn't specifically say which county.

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individual basis. But he received so many emails about new scams targeting University and College students and employees that he just wanted to get this information out as quickly as possible, to as many people as possible. se scams, which range from fraud to intrusions.

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Action Cam: Go Off-Roading At Liberty Lake ORV Park!

Updated: May 06, 2014 10:12 AM PDT

LIBERTY LAKE, Wash. - Liberty Lake ORV Park is a 350 acre park located in Eastern Washington next to Liberty Lake Regional Park. There are approximately 16 miles of trails in the park. Terrain ranges from beginner to advanced with a mixture of gentle to steep slopes including scenic trail rides, mud bogs, and hill climbs.

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Federal Report Warns Of "Climate Disruption"

Updated: May 06, 2014 9:46 AM PDT

WASHINGTON (AP) - A new federal scientific report says global warming is rapidly turning America the beautiful into America the stormy and dangerous. And those shining seas? Rising and costly. The new National Climate Assessment, released Tuesday, concludes that the harms of global warming will become more and more disruptive across the nation throughout this century and beyond.

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CRIME TRACKER: 9 Fugitives Captured, 5 Remain On Loose

Updated: May 06, 2014 9:12 AM PDT

KHQ.COM - Two more people who were on the run from the law are behind bars this morning. Aramis Turner and Cori Huartson were both featured in the KHQ Fugitive Friday segment and now they're both under arrest. Cori Huartson was wanted for identity theft. A tipster called Crime Stoppers of the Inland Northwest with information on Huartson's whereabouts.

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Vehicle Rollover Being Investigated As Hit And Run

Updated: May 06, 2014 8:16 AM PDT

SPOKANE, Wash. - WSP is searching for the driver of an SUV that crashed into a median between the on off ramp of US 195 causing the car to roll. The crash happened around midnight Tuesday morning just off westbound I-90 on the exit to route 195. The driver ran away from the crash left someone in the passenger seat and so, WSP is calling the one-car crash, a hit run.

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GREAT VIDEO: High School Football Player Catches His Own Pass!

Updated: May 06, 2014 8:15 AM PDT

A high school football player in Texas is quickly getting famous for a Vine video in which he throws a 50-yard pass - to himself.

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VIRAL VIDEO: We Guarantee This Will Put A Smile On Your Face!

Updated: May 06, 2014 8:06 AM PDT

KHQ.COM - Here is a viral video that will brighten the mood of anyone's day. While it might be a little hard to guess what this is a commercial for, we guarantee it will have you chuckling and wanting to share with a friend. What is it about babies? They can always make you laugh.

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MUST WATCH: Are We Turning Into A World Full Of Smart Phones But Dumb People? 'LOOK UP'

Updated: May 06, 2014 7:45 AM PDT

KHQ.COM - Since this video was posted on April 25th, 2014 it has already been watched over 20 million times.. "Look Up" is a good reminder to all of us to make real connections and form close relationships with those in our lives. Can you relate to feeling alone despite having hundreds or even thousands of "friends" on Facebook.

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Looking For A Home? New Listings Under \$200,000

Updated: May 06, 2014 7:25 AM PDT

SPOKANE, Wash. - Spring is the perfect time to purchase a new home, here are some new listings in our area to consider. These homes were found on www.WindermereSpokane.com. If you would like more information on any of these homes or would like to schedule a tour, contact your real estate agent with the correct MLS number.

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WATCH: Plane Crashes Into Colorado Home

Updated: May 06, 2014 6:43 AM PDT

NORTHGLENN, Colo. (AP) - A small plane towing an advertising banner has crashed into an unoccupied house north of Denver, setting the plane and the house on fire. The pilot walked away with minor injuries. >>>**SEE VIDEO INSIDE>>>**

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