



COWLITZ Tribal News

Yooyoolah
"One who calls"

May 2019
SEVENTH EDITION



A view of Cowlitz Crossing convenience store and gas station; located off I-5 and exit 16. See additional photos on page 18.

Cowlitz Crossing Now Open!

On Monday, April 22, 2019, the Cowlitz Tribe's newest enterprise, Cowlitz Crossing opened for business. This grand opening was preceded by a special soft opening on Saturday, April 20 exclusively for Cowlitz tribal members and their families. Cowlitz Crossing is a 5500 sq. ft state-of-the-art convenience store and gas station. Twenty four gas pumps and high speed diesel pumps for truckers give the tribe the ability to serve many customers simultaneously.

On Saturday, the day began with a cleansing ceremony led by spiritual leader Tanna Engdahl. A procession

of tribal members drummed, sang and swept the store and surrounding grounds during the ceremony. Shortly thereafter tribal chairman Bill Iyall introduced guests and gave opening remarks followed by a blessing and spiritual message by Tanna. ilani President Kara Fox-LaRose and tribal member Dave Barnett delivered messages about the Cowlitz Crossing development and future projects on our reservation including a new parking lot across the street from Cowlitz Crossing, a 2600 space parking structure attached to the casino and a future 300 room hotel. After the speeches, Cowlitz tribal

members were invited to receive up to \$50 of free fuel and their cars and trucks began to roll up to the pumps. Free samples of food and drink were offered inside the store during the festivities.

On Monday, local government leaders and the public joined our tribal leaders and ilani management for the grand opening ceremony. The drum group welcomed everyone with songs and General Council Vice-Chairman Phil Harju addressed the 150 or so guests follow by a spiritual message by Tanna and speeches by Kara Fox-LaRose and David Barnett. Distinguished guests included Mohegan Tribal Council

member Sarah Harris, Mohegan Gaming COO Michael Silberling, local mayors and city council members from Ridgefield, LaCenter, Washougal and many local first responders.

Cowlitz Crossing is open 24 hours a day and Cowlitz tribal members receive a 20 cents per gallon discount on fuel by showing their tribal membership card. Other fuel discounts can be had using Momentum cards or Safeway card. A discount is also available in the store for food and non-alcoholic beverages for Cowlitz Tribal members with a tribal ID, Cowlitz and ilani employees and Momentum Card holders.

Chairman's Corner

KLAHOWYA,

ilani

The success of the Cowlitz Tribe continues with the growth of ilani as demonstrated by the rapid increase in gaming volumes, the popularity of entertainment, and participation in the second anniversary celebration!



Chairman Bill Iyall

The sound financial performance and operation has paved the way for successful refinancing of all debt. This allows us to invest in the long-term success of the facility and in future development at ilani. Current master planning will lead to robust growth with expanded amenities and services at ilani. Plans include a new 4-star hotel, a parking structure, and additional food, beverage, and retail facilities.

I wish to offer many thanks to Kara

Fox-LaRose, president and general manager, who leads our ilani operations team. We are grateful for her leadership.

Strategic Planning

The General Council approved the Cowlitz Mission, Vision, Values and Comprehensive Plan. This plan will serve to guide decision making for years to come. You can find it on www.cowlitz.org; located under 'Announcements'. Our goal is and has always been to create a better Cowlitz

Indian Tribe that benefits all the membership.

We must continue to exercise our sovereignty to maintain and restore our inherent rights in our homelands; preserve, protect, recover, grow tradition, culture, and language to keep our cultural identity.

Thanks to the Strategic Planning Committee members who are invested in the outcomes for the Tribe.

Please see **CHAIRMAN**, page 2

Chairman

Continued from the front page

Education

Education is a priority for our youth, and key to the future of our tribe. We must invest in our youth. We continue to improve our education program by supplying tuition assistance for tribal members. With new gaming revenues we have increased the funding for the Tuition Assistance Program and have nearly one hundred and fifty students this year receiving tuition assistance.

I want to thank the Education Committee for all their dedicated work to provide education assistance that works for all tribal members. The program is aided by Carol Burnison-Khalef, our new Tribal Benefits Coordinator.

Tribal Center

Work continues on the Reservation Master Plan as we focus our vision on our tribal buildings. Planning for the reservation includes the new

tribal administration building, a future cultural community center-museum, an RV park, potential elder housing, and more diverse economic development. We are planning to build the tribal center on the southwest corner of the reservation. It will house tribal administration, tribal court and other various departments and operations. It will allow space for our growing programs and could include a multi-use gym/assembly hall with a full commercial kitchen. As we build out the physical infrastructure on the reservation, we are developing space for vital tribal government offices for health, housing, economic diversification, education, culture and our police department.

Public Safety

Emergency Coordinator, Bill Elliott and Tribal Planner, Christine Myers won an award of \$1.2 million in Tribal Homeland Security Grant Program funds. Congratulations to them and our Public Safety Department lead by Director Don Walkinshaw for the robust growth of the department and for their commitment to protect our tribe and our visitors. Our staff for police, courts, and public safety for the Cowlitz reservation continue to grow.

The Public Safety trailer is located on the reservation just south of Cowlitz Way next to the Cowlitz Tobacco Outlet. We are planning a permanent Public Safety building and a transit and maintenance facility on the south end of the reservation near the treatment plant.

Health and Human Services

Our Health and Human Services Department is growing faster than that of any other tribe in the entire northwest region, thanks to guidance from our Health Board and the capable management of our staff.

The department runs three clinic; one at our headquarters located in Longview, a second in Vancouver and a third in Tukwila serving the Seattle and King County Cowlitz tribal members and other American Indians and Alaska Natives.

With funds earned from the health care services provided at our Tukwila clinic, the tribe was able to purchase a commercial property adjacent to our existing clinic. Cowlitz Tribal Health Seattle has programs for adults and children's mental health, substance use disorder, and Medically-Assisted Treatment (MAT). The new site provides close access to the programs in the existing clinic, including utilizing child care there for clients receiving services on the clinic campus as well as Pathways to Healing and case management services.

Natural Resources

Our Natural Resource Department is rapidly growing, expanding our ability to protect our critical natural resources. We continue to add conservation lands to the control and ownership of the tribe.

We recently acquired an important piece of historic land in the Olequa area with river frontage at the mouth of the Olequa creek. The approximately 147

acre property is in the heart of Cowlitz territory where a village once existed. The tribes' family roots are tied to this land. The possibilities for reuse of this beautiful place are endless.

The Tribe owns four new parcels on the Cowlitz River, two parcels near Toledo and a large habitat parcel in Oregon near Astoria. Many prominent issues are before us including sea lions, Lewis River fish passage issue, and cultural resource management. We are planning a Cowlitz Tribal history project to update, document, and better preserve our history, with proper archiving, elder interviews, and eventually a Cowlitz museum on the reservation.

Housing

The Housing Board and staff are working hard to support programs as HUD funds are reduced. Our housing department has efficiency units at Saint Mary's and rental condo-style units as well. College students enrolled in a minimum 12 credits per quarter may apply to receive student rental assistance.

Veterans

Veterans, please sign up on the Veterans Sign Up form on www.cowlitz.org under 'Newsroom' tab in the 'Announcements' section or contact the Tribal Office.

Election Reform

The constitutional amendments needed to implement the new elections code for a first reading in last November' meeting have been forwarded to the General Council. The Second Reading is set for the June General Council meeting.

AMR
Chairman Bill Iyall



June 1, 2019

General Council Meeting

Our General Council Meeting will be held at the **Cowlitz Ballroom** at the *ilani* casino,

1 Cowlitz Way,
Ridgefield, WA 98642

Saturday, June 1, 2019 @ 10 am.

Please bring your enrollment card and photo ID to sign-in.

If you have questions call
(360) 577-8140.

If you need transportation contact Becky
360-232-8585

FREE!
Cowlitz Tribal Member General Council Meeting Event Transport
June 1st

Park and Ride style transport service

Pick-up Location	Board	Depart
St. Mary's 700 Spencer Rd., Toledo	7:50 AM	8:00 AM
Cowlitz Admin. Office 1055 9th Ave., Longview	8:40 AM	8:50 AM

Arrival time at **ilani** is **9:20 am** for the **10:00 am** meeting.

One return trip will be provided 15-20 minutes after the meeting.

Seating is limited, **RSVP** is required to guarantee your seat.



Cowlitz Tribal Transit
360-232-8585
Donations are greatly appreciated

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Vice Chairman Report

Greetings to all Cowlitz members and to all the Cowlitz family. This is becoming another great year for the tribe. The department staff and the ilani casino operations are doing a fantastic job for our tribe.

Land Expansion

As Chairman Iyall indicated, the Tribe recently purchased 146 acres of historic Cowlitz land near the mouth of Olequa Creek and the Cowlitz River in Cowlitz County. While we are working to safeguard this historic site and preparing for future cultural activities on it. We are in the final stages of getting an additional 3 acres of land into trust on our reservation. Half of this land was purchased from the city of La Center from the remnants of the old 319th Street and 31st Avenue on the east side of our reservation. The other 1½ acres was the old espresso stand and former gas station land previously on 319th Street, renamed Cowlitz Way by the Tribe. The Tribe is also in the process of purchasing additional property adjacent to our reservation.

Clark County

On December 18, 2018 the Clark County Commission finally rescinded

their 2015 written opposition for our reservation and our casino. We are grateful for this reversal. We have completed a 10-year extension of our intergovernmental agreement with Clark County Fire and Rescue. This agreement will ensure that we will continue to have first class fire and emergency response and protection for our reservation. We continue to work on a new long term agreement with Clark County for law enforcement, jail, and prosecution services to assist our Department of Public Safety on the Reservation.

Gaming Compact Payments

I would like to explain payments the Tribe makes under our gaming compact with Washington State and our Environmental, Health and Public Safety Ordinance (EHPSO) with Clark County. Most of these payments cannot be given to the Cowlitz Tribe or our members.

We can use the 2018 dedicated money for problem gaming (\$180,598) and the smoking cessation program (\$144,133) through our health clinic programs, as authorized on a yearly basis by the Cowlitz Tribal Council.

This year, the amounts will be \$308,960 for problem gaming and \$246,758 for smoking cessation.

In 2018 we spent over \$600,000 for outside police, fire, and emergency medical services, with money required under our gaming compact. We made \$277,178 in charitable contributions in Washington for 2018.

Under the EHPSO, the Tribe has a fund for Arts and Education in Clark County. That fund currently has over \$2 million. Awards will be made once the five-member committee finalizes policies and procedures.

The Tribe will make payments in lieu of the local property taxes in Clark County for the land taken into trust for our initial reservation (159 acres). The Cowlitz Tribal Council voted in March 2019 to make these payments retroactive back to 2015, when our land went into trust. The total amount was just over \$602,000 as follows:

- Clark Fire and Rescue \$111,371
- Clark County \$195,661
- Ridgefield School District \$252,158
- Fort Vancouver Library \$28,956
- Port of Ridgefield \$13,861



Vice Chair, Phil Harju with daughter Dr. Ellen Harju presenting the Tribe's charitable contribution to Lisa Gilbert for in behalf of Clark County College Foundation.

In 2020 these payments will total approximately \$125,000 for the year. All of the above required payments come from the ilani casino operations budget, not from any of the required payments to the Cowlitz Indian Tribe, which come from casino profits.

As always, it is an honor and a privilege to serve and work for the Cowlitz Indian Tribe.

Vice Chair, Phil Harju

Public Safety Department Update

The Cowlitz Public Safety Department has recently enrolled in the **Commission on Accreditation for Law Enforcement Agencies (CALEA)**. Making history by becoming the first tribal law enforcement program on the west coast to achieve this gold standard in law enforcement. We have a three-year window to achieve CALEA Accreditation standards This will be team effort which will require teamwork, dedication, and perseverance. The Governing body of the Cowlitz Indian Reservation has expressed their support and belief in the CALEA program by the passage of Cowlitz Tribal Council Resolution No. 18-22 (Commission of Accreditation for Law Enforcement Agencies).



Duane Garvais Lawrence's badge.

- **Reduced risk and liability exposure**
- **Greater accountability within the agency**

Cowlitz Tribal Chairman requested our police department to become involved in the recently passed "Savanna's Act". This directs the Attorney General to review, revise, and develop law enforcement and

justice protocols appropriate to address missing and murdered Indians, and for other purposes.

We have had a series of meetings with *ilani* executive management to discuss ways to bring attention and awareness to this unacceptable issue. We will be creating a music video to bring awareness through social media. Our intent it to work in cooperation with other established awareness projects such as but not limited to, Missing and Murdered Indigenous Women #MMIW. We have created an official Facebook page to keep everyone involved and in the information loop. You can find the page under "Sacmaw". We have several artists signed on to create and develop the song and video, the majority are Native American. The group of five is headlined by Crow tribal member SupaMan, Oklahoma's very own Lil Mike, Funny Bone and Emcee One. On the law enforcement side of things, we will be coordinating communication improvements to share information.

Please see **SAFETY**, page 4

Cowlitz Tribal News YOYOOLAH

Cowlitz tribal members to submit articles, photographs and events!

Articles

- ❖ **Must be in an editable format (Word or similar)**

Photos

- ❖ **High resolution original image**
- ❖ **Not embedded within pdf or word**

Submissions must contain the writer's name, email address and phone contact to be published. Articles may be edited at the discretion of the editing staff and become the property of the Cowlitz Tribe.

Newspaper Team

Bill Iyall	Jennifer Neal
Anna Conner	Tiffini Alexander
Amanda Workman	Becky Blue
Patty Kinswa-Gaiser	Allicia Quick
Dan Meyer	Nicole Meyers

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news@cowlitz.org

This publication does not reflect opinions of editorial staff and should not contain any defamatory, malicious, libelous statements or personal attacks on individuals, staff, tribal organizations, administration or the Cowlitz Indian Tribe as a whole.

VIEW DIGITAL VERSION: COWLITZ.ORG

Examples of benefits in participation of CALEA Accreditation:

- **Increased inclusion of the community**
- **Staunch support from government officials**
- **Stronger defense against civil lawsuits**

Saftey

Continued from the page 3

Remember, the idea of song and video is great, but the focal point of this entire project “Savanna’s Act Challenge Missing Native American Women” is to solve these horrific evil crimes and bring closure, restoration and healing to the families, communities and friends.

Public Safety Staff Update

Jon Pound, Lead Investigator

Jon is a veteran of the Clark County Sheriff’s Department with over 25 years of service and experience. In this role, Jon will supervise and manage all major crimes (federal, tribal, and state) on the Cowlitz Indian Reservation under authority delegated by virtue of 25 U.S.C. 2803. Investigator Pound will also help create, develop,



Jon Pound, Lead Investigator

and implement the Cowlitz Public Safety Department Honor Guard to pay tribute and respects to Cowlitz tribal members and military service veterans.

Brian Warren, Senior Officer

Brian is a veteran of the Centralia Police Department with over 20 years’ experience. He has served in the K-9-unit, SWAT as a team leader, narcotics unit and as a sergeant in the patrol division and served in the United States Army and is military veteran. . Officer Warren is a firearms instructor and will be creating and developing the Cowlitz Public Safety Department’s honor motorcycle guard detail.



Brian Warren, Senior Officer

Kevin Newport, Senior Officer

We also hired Okanogan County Sheriff Kevin Newport. A veteran of 27 years Officer Newport served in the North Central Washington Narcotics Drug Task Force and in the K-9 program.

Officer Newport is a veteran of the United States Army and was the youngest sheriff hired by Okanogan County. He still holds the one mile run time record at the Spokane Basic Law Enforcement Academy at 5 minutes 2 seconds. Certified as a Field Training Officer (FTO) Program Instructor. He will be creating and developing the FTO program specific to the Public Safety department.



Kevin Newport, Senior Officer

As a lateral officers hired by the Cowlitz Indian Tribe, Senior Officer Warren and Newport were required to pass an extensive background investigation, an oral board and take and complete successfully the polygraph and physiological tests.

Austin Moore & Seth Erhorn, Officers

The Cowlitz Public Safety Department Tribal Police recently completed a historic milestone hiring two Cowlitz tribal members for entry level police officer positions. The new officers, Austin

Moore and Seth Erhorn, hold associate degrees and attended the Federal Law Enforcement Training Center in New Mexico, both graduated May 3, 2019.

Entry level law enforcement positions involve a series of rigorous testing.

- Washington State Criminal Justice Training Commission physical fitness standards
- Basic law enforcement written examination.
- Extensive background check
- Evaluation by the director of Public Safety, an elder, an outside law enforcement official and legal staff
 - Successful applicants get rankings in order 1-20.
 - Austin & Seth ranked in spots 1 and 2.
- Polygraph and a physiological test



Austin Moore, Officer



Seth Erhorn, Officer

For more information visit us at www.cowlitz.org

Cowlitz Tribal Court

The Cowlitz Tribal Court is officially open and operational as of March 13, 2019. The day began with a blessing from tribal spiritual leader Tanna Engdahl followed by singing and drumming. The event was attended by tribal members, Cowlitz employees and visitors from the community and Clark County district court and probation offices.

The vision to open a tribal court began over two years ago and was set into motion by tribal attorney Phil Harju and paralegal Susan Andersen. It has always been the goal to have a court where tribal members can have a just, efficient, and unbiased resolution of conflict before the court.

Tribal court is an essential function of our government achieving our goal to further the Tribe’s sovereignty and to assist in the health, safety and welfare of all Tribal members and visitors to our lands. The Court’s staff, both judicial and administrative will ensure that

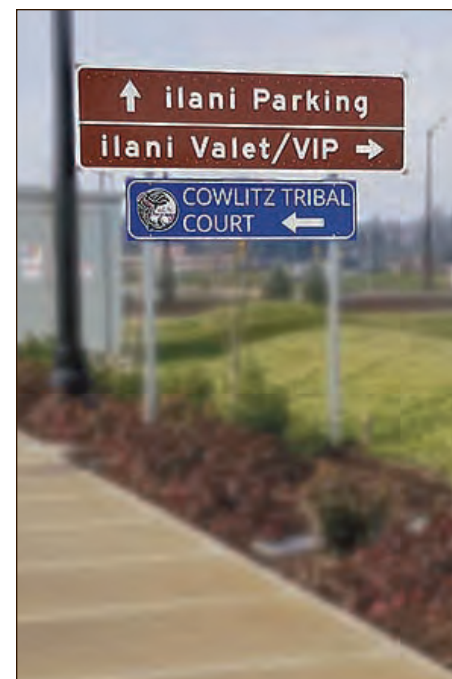
these principals of fair and equal justice are fulfilled. In 2018 the tribal court ordinance was adopted by tribal council establishing the tribal court as a court of limited jurisdiction. Cowlitz tribal court received a grant for \$325,000 in September 2018 from the Bureau of Indian Affairs to assist in funding the operations of the court to fund all of the needs in establishing a tribal court.

Cowlitz Tribal Court Information:

Tribal Court Judge,
Christine Pomeroy
Prosecutor/Legal Counsel,
Alicia Derry
Court Administrator,
Christine Duitman
31555 NW 31st Avenue
Ridgefield, WA 98642
(360) 353-9501



Cowlitz Tribal Court Judge Christine Pomeroy declaring court is in recess



The Department of Transportation installed directional signage for Cowlitz Tribal Court.

Legal Department Update

Last fall, the Legal Department at the Cowlitz Indian Tribe welcomed Alicia Derry who serves as the tribe's staff attorney and Prosecutor. Alicia joined Susan Andersen, paralegal and Phil Harju, attorney. Having additional in-house counsel is cost effective and will help the tribe's day-to-day legal needs as it continues to grow and develop.

Tribal Council recently adopted two codes:

The Rules of Criminal Procedure provide instruction to tribal; members, police, prosecutor, and judge on how the criminal legal system works in the tribal court.

The General Welfare Code (GWE),

establishes rules that assist tribal; council and employees in creating and maintaining programs that are intended to provide tax free assistance to qualifying tribal members under the General Welfare Doctrine of the United States Internal Revenue Service.

The Legal Department does not represent individual Tribal members.

For information on obtaining legal help in the state of Washington : www.wsba.org/for-the-public/find-legal-help.

Residents of Pierce County may qualify for free legal assistance. More information tacomaprobono.org/nalap.html or call (253) 244-7718.



(Left to right) Tana Engdahl, Cowlitz Spiritual leader blesses the court, with Bob Harju, Cowlitz Carver, Duane Garvais Lawrence, Assistant Chief of Police, Phil Harju, General Counsel/Vice Chair, Jennifer Jackson, Law Enforcement Admin. Assistant, Roy Duitman, Cowlitz Tribal Police Ambassador, Alicia Derry, Staff Attorney/Prosecutor, Christine Duitman, Tribal Court Administrator Christine Pomeroy, Cowlitz Tribal Court Judge, Jon Pound, Cowlitz Tribal Police Detective and Susan Andersen, Cowlitz Tribe Paralegal.

Getting Ready for the United States Census

The United States Census is a count of our country's population that occurs every 10 years. It is a vital statistical planning tool for the Tribe's programs and services. Much of the federal grant money that is allocated to tribes by the federal government is based on this count of the number of American Indians and Alaska Natives (AI/AN) by geographic area. For many of our programs, these counts are then used in a federal formula to allocate resources to the Tribe so we can serve Cowlitz Tribal members and the AI/AN community within our service areas.

Cowlitz Tribal members were counted in the 2010 Census for the first time after our official recognition from the federal government, but we were undercounted. One reason for this undercounting may surprise you. Many of us identify as American Indian, Cowlitz, and may also indicate some other race which is categorized as AI/AN and "Some other race" or even "One or more race" in the Census categories.

While this information could be reported for our use, it is not reported in a way that helps us make the case for obtaining grant funding. The "American Indian Alone" or "American Indian Only" designations are used by the U.S. Census to prepare

the most useful statistics reports for grant writing purposes. Therefore, how you identify yourself in the U.S. Census is very important. You should identify yourself as American Indian (do not check any other boxes under race) then indicate your enrolled tribe as Cowlitz Indian Tribe (the official tribal name).

Some United States Census Facts

The federal census is meant to be a count of everyone living in the United States every 10 years.

The census is mandated by the U.S. Constitution and is an important part of our representative democracy.

Your participation in the census is required by law.

It typically takes less than 10 minutes to complete.

The questions in the census create statistics that are used to allocate grant funds for transit and transportation infrastructures, health care, human services, child care, food benefits, and many other programs for your community, and the tribes in your area.

Federal law protects the personal information you share during the census.

Cowlitz Tribal Planning Update

The Forever People Planning Forever

The Forever People Planning Forever Cowlitz Tribal Council completed the Comprehensive Plan "Steps Towards the Future" in October 2018. Copies were handed out to all Tribal members who attended the General Council meeting in November.

Currently, the Planning Committee is working with our consultants REDW to continue the strategic planning process. We are working with the directors of the tribe's administrative organizations to help them develop strategic plans to identify how they can support and implement our Comprehensive Plan.

REDW and the Planning Committee will work with the Tribal Council to integrate our strategic planning into the Tribe's annual budget process. As part of the budgeting process we will develop a strategy for using the General Welfare Exclusion Act (GWE) to create programs that provide benefits to Tribal members that are not subject to IRS taxes and we will develop a Revenue Allocation Plan for future expenditures and savings. The General Welfare Exclusion Act is discussed in more detail on page 21 in this newspaper. Every year at their annual retreat the Tribal Council will review and modify the Comprehensive Plan as needed.

Additional copies of the Comprehensive Plan will be available at the June General Council meeting. Digital copies are also available at www.cowlitz.org.



[cowlitz.org](http://www.cowlitz.org). Just click on the Newsroom tab, and then the Announcements tab and scroll down to for the link with the title "Cowlitz Tribe Comprehensive Plan."

The Cowlitz Tribal Planning Committee members are; Tribal Planner Christine Myers, staff member Kim Stube and Tribal Council members Dan Meyer, Debbie Hassler, Phil Harju and Jerry Iyall.

If you have questions about strategic planning, contact any members of the Committee or you can email Jerry Iyall jiyall@cowlitz.org.

Enrollment Department Update

The current enrolled population as of November 2018 is 4188. Since May 2018 we have enrolled 49 new tribal members.

Our current enrollment criteria as follows: (applicants must meet ALL three)

A direct lineal descendant of a Cowlitz Indian;

1. Must have a parent (mother or father) currently on the Cowlitz Tribal Rolls
2. No older than 12 months of age (effective 01/01/2006)

3. or applicant is 18 years of age and less than 19 years of age (effective 06/06/2015).

The constitutional change made in June 2015 allows descendants whose parent did not enroll them by their first birthday to enroll themselves as an adult between their 18th and 19th birthdays.

For information, contact Cathy

Raphael, Enrollment Officer:
360-575-3310 enrollment@cowlitz.org.

We sadly report the following tribal members have passed away

Allen Mason
Barbara Bennet
Kenneth E Harden
Shirlie A Dickerson
Garlie T King
Justin Bass
Esther DeNobrega
Susanne Mummey
Samuel Nash Reijnen

David Roney
Darin L Braley
Verna Mae Thomas
Williams L Ellis
Donald A Parker
Brandon B Gidding
Claude Lakey
Deanne Morse

They are not dead who live in the hearts they leave behind - Tuscarora

Information Missing for the Following Tribal Members

Alvin E Abbott
Shelly Christine Albrecht
Katherine Ann Emily Amell
Ethan Michael Asbach
David Bradley Baker
Jannette Joan Beam
Jerry Norman Bennett
William George Boles
Nancy Jane Boles
Adam Oliver Bouchard
Erin Jessica Brandow
L. Jacob Eli Bridges
Charles Eric Burns
Brenyn Dawsen Cahill
Erick Ryan Campbell
William Bradley Campbell
Ryan Richard Carnes
Ryan Richard Carnes Jr
Robin LeAnn Casaw
Mary Lou Charvat
Cory Lawrence Charvat
Michael Andrew Ciarfella
Kenneth Virgil Clark
Chance Michael Cloquet
Alexx Hunter Cobb
Gary Lee Cobb
Megan Nicole Cobb
Emily Ciera Cobb
Caleb Ryan Cobb
Gavin David Connolly
Michelle Lee Cornett
Deborah Kelleen Corpuz
Shelly Rae Cota
Rebecca Lynn Crabtree
Makayla Maree Craighead
Robert Neill Criss
Yohana Gabryella Cualio
Barbara Ann Davis
Maurice R Dawson
Gary L Dawson
Deborah Leigh DeCamps
Cyndi Raven Rayn Dill
Tazzmen Justice Dill
Craig Martin Dominick
Pailsey Rain Fay Doneyson
Brittaney Anne Doolittle
Dustin Dean Dunckel
Brad Lee Dunckel

Meryl Wayne Duprey
Thomas Gerard Duprey
Suzanne Marie Duprey
Nicholas Sean Duvall
Aaron Dean Easley
Makayla Ann Easley
Sydney Marie-Kinswa Emerson
Lyla Marie-Kinswa Emerson
Syrus Wayne Joseph Emerson
Heather Dawn Fisher
Steven George Friese
Angela Michele Fulton
Barbara Jane Galloway
John Baxter Galloway III
Kelly LaDon Gilbert
Buddy Gene Gilbert
Darrell John Gilbert
William David Gilbert Jr
Lola Jean Gillespie
Taylor Rene Gillespie
Leslie Ervin Harris
Christy Anona Henry
Savannah Love Henry
Lisa Marie Hiebert
Jonathan Charles Hogue
Andrea Marie Huereca
Anita Marie Huereca
Jennifer Sue Iyall
Kristen Patrice Iyall
Andrew James Iyall
Zachary David Lee Jackson
William Julius James
Judith Ann James
Jacqueline Marie James
Zada Mae Jones
Janet LaVerne Judge
Benjamin James Kacmarcik
Jordann Brianne Keener
Edgar Lewis Kennedy
Arnold Boyd King
Brooklyn Sonny King
Courtney Rose King
Teona Marie Sims Kinswa
Sandra Lee Kniss
Joshua Douglas Koch
David Mark Lane
Lynnette Marlene Lane
Richard Stanely Lane

Stephanie Marie Lane
Gayle Darlene Lang
Sheryl Diane Link
Kaden John Ludwick
Heidi Pearl Ludwick
Gwendolyn Marie Lund
Kimberly Ann Mabry
Ronald Ellery Mason
Philip Scott McConnell
Micheal Allen McMillon II
Kimberly Michelle Mefford
Cierra Lerae Miller
Vincent William Miller
Nellie Rusan Miller
Reece Andrew Miller
Glenn William Minkel
Sandra Lee Morrill
Sharon Anne Morrill
Lee Hoyt Morrison
Patricia Frances Morrison
Shayna Lynn Mullins
Robert Wilson Mullins
Patti Lynn Murphy
Jason Ross Myers
Daniel Lee Myers
Steven Ross Myers
Stephanie Ann Myers
Ricky Dean Neilsen
Pepper Jean Nelson
Raymond Russell Newbaker
Daniel Thomas Pace
Betty Rose Pardee
Ellen Grace Pearson
Elizabeth Anne Pearson
Mark Stephen Pellegrini
Lori Louise Perez
Donald Arthur Pfohlman
Kimberly Dawn Phillips
Katrina Marie Phillips-Thayer
Dalene Kay Pineda
Anthony Micheal Putas
Joshua Zenos Ramsey
Jeremy Lewis Rayman
Debra Ann Richards
Sheila Marie Riggles
Travis Edward Wilson Riggles
Diane Rose Riley
Stephanie Lynn Robinson

Michael James Rockwood
Nicholas Andrew Ruemker
Lena Maureen Ruemker
Trinity Marie Ryan
Isabella Joann Ryan
Joshua Patrick Ryan
Michael James Samms
Troy Allen Saunders
Tracy Arthur Schwanz
Racquel Anne Shaffer
Dayle Marie Michelle Mefford
Ashley Page Shaw
Sarah Ruby Simmons
Karen Joyce Sims
Evan Danielle Sims
Esther Maria Smith
Melissa Roxanne Smith
Keaton Vaughn Jaeger Smith
William Winfield Smith
Andrew Edward Smith
James R Smith
Linda Lee Smith
Jesse Lee Smith

Elmer NMN Smith III
Joyce Leslie Stalcup
Donald Anthony Steffen
Jeneen Swaggard
Thomas Allen Swanson
Tara Ann Swanson
Daia Denise Swearingen
Eric V Thomas
Gwenith Christine Tucker
Kay Evelyn Williamson
Hannah Elyse Wilson
Jeffrey John Wilson
William Paul Wilson II
Lauren Michelle Zander
Vernon Lloyd Zawistowski

If you know of any tribal member or their families that are not receiving mailed tribal information or the newspaper, please have them notify us. Most likely they are on our Unknown Address List or the address is not correct. Please have members contact the Enrollment Office to verify the address we have on file for them.



Cowlitz Indian Tribe Enrollment



ATTENTION COWLITZ TRIBAL MEMBERS

Please remember: You must update information with the enrollment department.

- = **Change of Address**
- = **Births**
- = **Deaths**
- = **Phone number or contact information**

Cathy Raphael: (360)-575-3310, Email: enrollment@cowlitz.org

The Story of the Cowlitz Baby Blanket

“Wouldn’t it be nice...” A simple phrase. The beginning of a dream. A dream breathed to life by a small group of Cowlitz members who thought, “Wouldn’t it be nice to have a baby blanket for all of our young.” A dream that over many of years, and many talks, has finally come to fruition. A gift from our people to our people.

This blanket embodies our people. As it wraps our future, the story it tells is of our past. This is the story.

Starting with the boarder squares, from left to right, top to bottom. The triangles represent our cedar hats.

“(1st Square) In the beginning we were many. Happy on our river and in our way of life.

(2nd Square) Then the Settlers came. They saw what we had and wanted it for themselves. They wanted to remove us from our home. Sign a treaty. But we said

no. We would not leave our skies, our land, our river.

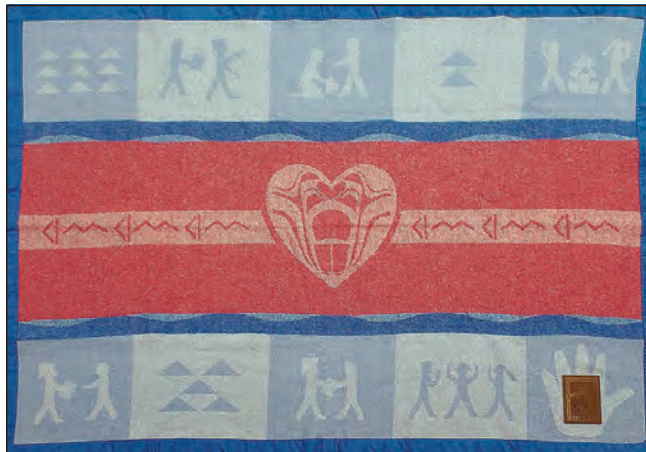
(3rd Square) But the Settlers forced us to our knees. Took away our culture, our land, our way of life. Gave us disease.

(4th Square) And then we were few.

(5th Square) The Settlers would no longer see us. Our native brother and sisters

would no longer see us. Those of us who remained could barely see ourselves.

(6th Square) But those who remained, those who remembered, gathered together. They rose up and said to the Government, we are still here, we are still a people, recognize us.



(7th Square) And our numbers began to grow. Our strength grew.

(8th Square) Until the Government could no longer ignore us.

(9th Square) Now the Government recognizes us, our native brothers and sisters recognize us and we stand tall and proud recognizing ourselves.”

The wave pattern in the blanket represents our connection to the water, to our sacred Cowlitz River, that was the life blood to our people and our first medicine.

To either side of the heart are three sideways triangles intermixed with zigzag lines. The triangles represent our three mountains, Tahoma (Rainier), Lawetlat’la (St. Helens) and Mt. Adams. The zigzags are the rivers that run from the mountains. Together with the heart they show the pulse of the Cowlitz people, still beating strong. The color red representing the blood of our people.

The heart, in a Salish design, shows our love for our youth, the future of our people. Within the design of the heart, a closer look reveals a stylized baby board. The baby boards were used to wrap and carry our young.

The use of blue and white. As it has been taught, back in the trading days, the Cowlitz women were attracted to the Russian Blue beads and white wool blankets. Russian blue, became Cowlitz blue, a color that is still associated with our people. White is to honor our women.

This is the story.



Cowlitz Indian Tribe and Cowlitz County’s New Year’s Baby, Maddux Meyers is wrapped in his Cowlitz designed blanket.

Wrap Your Baby in a Cowlitz Baby Blanket

Enrolled Cowlitz with an enrolled child born in 2018 will be gifted a blanket by mail, this will continue for babies born and enrolled after 2018 until supplies are depleted. These are available for purchase for \$50. Contact Cathy Raphael at 360-575-3310 or enrollment@cowlitz.org

Discover Passes

&

Northwest Forest Passes

Discover Passes for the State of Washington do not expire.

Northwest Forest Passes expires one-year from the issue date and is for day use only in Washington and Oregon.

Only one pass per household

For Passes & Questions

Cathy Raphael, Enrollment Officer:

P: 360-575-3310

E: enrollment@cowlitz.org

THE COWLITZ INDIAN TRIBE IS EXCITED TO ANNOUNCE THE 2019 OPENING OF THE THREE DEDICATED CAMPSITES AT THE

OHANAPECOSH CAMPGROUND
IN THE SOUTHEAST CORNER OF
MOUNT RAINIER NATIONAL PARK

EACH COWLITZ FAMILY CAN MAKE A SINGLE RESERVATION UP TO ONE WEEK AT A TIME

OPEN: MAY 24TH - OCTOBER 6TH
FIRST-COME/FIRST-SERVED

SMALL RVs ARE WELCOME ONLY IN COWLITZ 3 SITE

FACILITATED BY THE COWLITZ TRIBE
NATURAL & CULTURAL RESOURCES DEPARTMENTS

MORE DETAILS AT WWW.COWLITZ.ORG

First Udall Intern from the Cowlitz Indian Tribe

The Udall Foundation and Native Nations Institute selected 12 students from 10 Tribes and 10 universities as 2019 Native American Congressional Interns. These students were selected by an independent review committee based on academic achievement and a demonstrated commitment to careers in Tribal public policy.

The Udall Interns complete an intensive nine-week internship in the summer of 2019 in Washington, D.C. Special enrichment activities will provide opportunities to meet with key decision makers. From 1996 through 2019, 278 Native American and Alaska Native students from 124 Tribes will have taken part in the program.

Emma Johnson is a member of the Cowlitz Indian Tribe from Winlock, Washington and a 2018 Udall Scholar in Tribal Public Policy. She is the first student selected as a Udall Intern from Washington State University and the first

Udall Intern from the Cowlitz Indian Tribe. Johnson has worked in the Office of Self-Governance, for her Tribe's natural and cultural resources departments, and served as a BIA Pathways Program Intern. Johnson can often be found outdoors, setting up game cameras, conducting smelt research on the Cowlitz River, or mapping huckleberry bushes in the Gifford Pinchot National Forest. She will graduate with a Bachelor of Arts in cultural anthropology from Washington State University and intends to pursue a career that examines federal and state policies that preserve and protect Native cultural and natural resources.

The Native American Congressional Internship Program provides Native American and Alaska Native students with the opportunity to gain practical experience with the Federal legislative process to understand firsthand the government-to-government relationship between Tribes and the Federal



Emma Johnson, awarded Udall Intern and currently a Pathways Intern working with the Natural Resources Department

Government. The Udall Internship is funded and co-administered by the Native Nations Institute at the University of Arizona. Learn more about the Congressional Internship Program and meet the 2019 Udall Interns.

For additional information about the Native Nations Institute and the Udall Internship program, please contact Mona Nozhackum at 520-626-0664 or nozhackum@email.arizona.edu.

Cowlitz Tuition Assistance Award Today

In the 2018-19 academic year, 178 Cowlitz students in vocational, undergraduate, and graduate programs received a Tuition Assistance Award. Applications were submitted from January 2018 through April 2019. In July, when funding was exhausted a waiting list was created. From August 2018 through April 2019, 23 students on the waiting list received tuition assistance for the remainder of their academic year. This tribal benefit helped Cowlitz Tribal members, in 20 states and British Columbia, to earn vocational certificates and college degrees.

Tribal Council's continued support of this program will provide Tuition Assistance Awards to 200 Cowlitz students in the 2019-20 academic year (June 1, 2019 through May 31, 2020). As of March 31, 132 applications have been approved and awarded funding. Demand is high. Do not delay. Submit your application today!

Before you read this article, the Education Committee will have met and elected new officers for the 2019-20 academic year. The new officers will be at the June General Council meeting to

provide an update on the program and answer your questions. A list of Cowlitz students who have received a 2019-20 Cowlitz Tuition Assistance Award will be in your meeting packets.

I want to thank the Tribal Council, Carol Burnison, Tuition Assistance Coordinator, Cowlitz Information Technology and Accounting staff, and Education Committee members: Karissa Lowe, Becky Lowe, Celine Cloquet, Suzanne Donaldson, David Iyall, Dave Reichel, Gregg Ford, Dave Littleton, and my wife Joan. Without their help, this program would not happen.

To the parents of Cowlitz young people, encourage your children to stay in school and get good grades. The Cowlitz Tuition Assistance Award Program will help support their higher education whether they seek vocational certificates or college degrees.

For more information about Cowlitz Education, check out the Education page under Services on the Cowlitz website or e-mail us at education@cowlitz.org.

Mike Iyall, Chair
Cowlitz Education Committee

The Education Committee celebrates the Cowlitz students who have graduated this year. They are our Cowlitz family legacy. The student's hard work and dedication and the financial assistance from the Cowlitz Tribe has resulted in vocational certificates and degrees. Of the 49 Cowlitz students who graduated this year, the following gave us permission to include their names in this newspaper.

Vocational Certificate

David Doucette, Tribal Gaming & Hospitality Management
Reina Garcia, Licensed Vocational Nurse
Lisa Jones-Qualls, Licensed Massage Therapist

Associate Degree

Merisa Eisenberg, Communication
Zachary Havard, Applied Technologies
Kristen Kestner, Nursing
Kaitlyn Lane, Psychology
Olivia Myer, Psychology

Bachelor Degree

Tricia Bliss, Psychology
Cody Carlson, Nursing
Caleb Garrett, Geography & Environmental Science
Adam Groendyke, Business Administration
Jordan Iyall Jackson, Nursing & Spanish

Bachelor Degree

Emma Johnson, Cultural Anthropology
Shana Lombard, Journalism & Media Production
Sayana Lombard Chappell, Sports Manager & Sociology
James Ragan, Exercise Science & Psychology
Jolene Wicks, Business Administration

Master Degree

Kimberly Appelt, Cybersecurity & Leadership
Luke Bridges, Business Administration
Vanessa Gabbard, Accounting
Brooke Lamberson, Education
Xavier Webb, Business Administration

Doctorate Degree

Lindsey Foley, Nursing Practice
Angela Gossom, Veterinary Medicine

Cultural Opportunities

Canoe Group

This year's canoe journey will travel to Lummi Nation. We would like to invite all Cowlitz to get involved, there are practices for pullers. Ground crew is always open and there is much work to do. We make and purchase giveaways that we use as we travel in other tribes' territories.

Canoe Group Questions?

Ty Koch at 1-253-882-7592
Devin Reck at 1-360-513-5886

* If you are interested in becoming our next canoe princess, below is a list of requirements.

- Willing to learn songs, dances, and language
- Welcome and introduce yourself and say your family lineage
- Cut and prepare salmon for Elders.
- Have or commit to regalia,
- Be an example
- Help youth and elders as needed
- Able to attend Canoe practices, canoe journey, and Ft. Vancouver protocol
- Help at General Council sell raffle tickets

Drum Group

The Drum Group is open to all Cowlitz Tribal members. We practice at Cowlitz Culture Days which are monthly, to practice the songs that belong to Cowlitz families and that have been gifted. We follow the traditional protocols and sing to see not to be seen. We accept all who want to come and participate in a good way.

Huckleberry Camp 2019

Huckleberry camp offers a Cowlitz Indian Tribe camp focused on daily gathering and teachings on our traditional foods, crafts and drumming. We travel to Indian Heaven to gather huckleberries and foods. Come admire much beauty and spirituality up on the mountain.

The event is a tribal members family outing in a primitive setting without water or electricity. The Cowlitz kitchen trailer, bottled water, all food, and all drinks will be provided. Lanterns at night will throughout the site. Please bring your own camping gear and personal items, RV's and/or generators.

Camp will be August 23-25, at Swift Schoolhouse, a property near the Pine Creek Ranger Station, east of Woodland, WA.

Drum Group or Huckleberry Camp Questions?

Cassy Sellards Reck
P: 360-513-1243
E: csellardsreck@hotmail.com

The Cultural Resource Board (CRB) meets in the morning before Tribal Council at 7am. It is open to all Cowlitz Tribal members to attend. Updated information for events are available on cowlitz.org, the Cowlitz Culture & Canoe Facebook Group (open to all Cowlitz tribal members) and by phone to the leads of the groups/events.

Please see our Cultural Events Calendar to the right and for more contact information refer to Boards and Committees on page 20.

CULTURAL EVENTS

Date	Event
Saturday, May 18, 2019	Drum Group Culture Day – Canoe
Saturday, May 25, 2019	Cowlitz Canoe Princess
Friday, May 25- Sunday, May 26, 2019	Canoe Campout
Monday, May 27, 2019	Memorial Day - Offices are closed
Friday, May 31 - Sunday, June 2, 2019	Cowlitz Encampment at the Cowlitz Landing Property
Saturday, June 1, 2019	General Council
Sunday, June 2, 2019	Salmon Ceremony- TBD
Saturday, June 8, 2019	Youth Program Volunteer Training
Saturday, June 15, 2019	Drum Group Culture Day- TBD
Friday, June 21, 2019	Summer Solstice
Saturday, June 22, 2019	First Annual Youth Public Safety Event
Thursday, July 4, 2019	Independence Day - Offices are closed
Friday, July 12, 2019	Ft. Vancouver Canoe Landing Protocol
July 14th - July 29th	Cowlitz Canoe Journey - Paddle to Lummi
August 12th - August 16th	Cowlitz Youth Summer Camp
August 22nd - August 25th	Huckleberry Camp - Swift River School House
Monday, September 2, 2019	Labor Day - Offices are closed
Saturday, September 14, 2019	Youth Gathering Vancouver Tribal office
Saturday, September 21, 2019	Drum Group Culture Day- TBD
Friday, September 27, 2019	Indian Day - Offices are closed
Thursday, October 10, 2019	Intertribal Elder's Luncheon- St. Mary's at 12pm
Saturday, October 19, 2019	Cowlitz Pow Wow
Saturday, October 26, 2019	Drum Group Culture Day- TBD
Sunday, October 27, 2019	North West Spirit Run- TBD
Saturday, November 2, 2019	General Council
Friday, November 15, 2019	Elder's Harvest Dinner- St. Mary's at 12pm
Saturday, November 16, 2019	Drum Group Culture Day - Drumming Thanksgiving
Saturday, November 23, 2019	Youth Gathering Longview Tribal office
Saturday, December 14, 2019	Youth & Family Christmas Party
Saturday, December 21, 2019	Drum Group Culture Christmas Party

To stay up to date on events email : nmeyers@cowlitz.org or call 306.577.6962

Culture Day News

Nettle Pesto Class

In March Rhonda Grantham taught a nettle pesto class. She took the youth to harvest nettles on the Cowlitz Landing property. They also gathered different plants and herbs to process with the nettles to make the pesto. The nettle pesto was used on personal pizzas for everyone. Rhonda also provided a presentation and sampling of the bitters and herbs that sprout up in the spring. She shared our traditional practices and talked about the benefits of our spring plants.

Culture Resource Board

Cynthia Reck has applied and has been

approved to join the board. Cynthia is 14 and in 8th grade; she is currently on the Cowlitz Youth Council and was the 2017 Cowlitz Canoe Princess. She is a dancer for the Cowlitz Drum Group and enjoys learning about traditional foods and uses.

Canoe Group

March 23, 2019 the canoe awakening ceremony took place at Ike Kinswa boat launch led by John O'Brien and Ty Koch. Each year it's important to do ceremony for the beginning and end of the year. We circled around the Canoe and carried it to the water. A crew pulled on the lake while others stayed on the shore to sing songs.

Canoe Journey a Life Changing Experience

Cowlitz Tribal Canoe Journey began in the late 1980's, when Emmet Oliver (Quinault Nation) had a dream to bring the Potlatch way of life and traditional waterways of our ancestors back from the forced assimilation. Having just a handful of participants it quickly grew in the last few decades. Participating tribes range from Alaska to California; there are also participants from the Māori, Hawaii, and Japan. The Canoe Journey is a life changing experience.

Tribes, families, nations, etc., start at a specific point and travel towards the host tribe. Canoe families ask permission to come ashore at each stop (beach protocol) and are served an amazing dinner - often

offering traditional foods. After dinner formal protocol starts and continues until every canoe family sings their songs, dance, gift, and ask permission to untie their canoes.

I am an apprentice carver, canoe skipper, and singer. I have been participating in Canoe Journey since the first journey the tribe participated in 2008 Paddle to Cowichan. Prior to this had little knowledge about my culture. I had spent the earlier two decades using alcohol and other substances to fill an unknown void. My first Canoe Journey changed my life, I came home feeling a

Please see **CANOE**, page 10

Canoe

Continued from the page 9

little more complete; it felt as though some of that void had filled.

Canoe Journey is where I learned to sing; I cannot think of a better way to learn songs. When we landed in Suquamish in 2009 with about 105 canoes lined up all the way around the corner. It was six hours before we all got ashore. Most canoes used traditional language, some sang songs, and I really enjoyed Chief Nelson's speech. That night they fed 10,000 people. There was a five-foot tall mound of shellfish baking on hot rocks, and they had truckloads of shellfish on reserve.

Participating on many journeys, I find myself being able to identify different tribes by their regalia, songs, how their

songs sound, and how they dance. Protocol becomes important teachings when problems arise. Words could not describe it; Canoe Journey is truly a life changing experience

I hope that all of you get a chance to experience this within your lifetime. It is a part of your cultural identity, encoded within this way of life. Your ancestors lived this way since time immemorial. On Canoe Journey we do not represent the tribal members we currently have; we represent the millions that preceded us and the millions to come. Canoe Journey is a great place to develop or strengthen your cultural identity as a Cowlitz Indian.

I encourage you to participate; this year we head to Lummi on the 2019, Paddle to Lummi.

Jeremiah Ray Wallace



Cowlitz Tribe Event Transport



The Cowlitz Indian Tribe Department of Transportation's Event Transport Program provides rides for Tribal Members to Cowlitz Indian Tribe events through a park-and-ride system. Times and locations of pick-ups are based on each individual event.

Event's include but are not limited to:

- ◆ The Annual Cowlitz Indian Tribe Recognition Celebration Dinner
- ◆ Cowlitz Indian Tribe General Council Meetings (June and November)
- ◆ Cowlitz Indian Tribe Columbia River Canoe Landing at Ft. Vancouver
- ◆ The Cowlitz Indian Tribe Pow Wow
- ◆ The Cowlitz Tribe Elder's Harvest Dinner

Details for rides to each event are posted to the Cowlitz Indian Tribe Website cowlitz.org, the Tribe's official Facebook page and the Department of Transportation's Facebook page a few weeks prior to the event. More information can also be obtained by calling the Cowlitz Tribe Transit Service office. Seating is limited, RSVP is required for all events.



Look for us on Facebook

Cowlitz Tribe Transportation and Transit Services

<https://www.facebook.com/cowlitztribedotandtransitservices/>

360-232-8585



Our vehicles are equipped with lifts for any passengers with wheelchairs, mobility devices or who have difficulty negotiating steps. Donations are greatly appreciated!

20th Annual
2019 Cowlitz Indian Tribe Pow Wow

Celebrating 20 years of Community

Honoring the Spirit of All Cowlitz People

October 19, 2019

Clark County Event Center
 17402 NE Delfel Rd. Ridgefield, Washington

Head Staff **Grand Entries** **Contest**

MC – Carlos Calica
 AD – Ed Wulf
 Head Man – Owhi Littleleaf
 Head Woman – Keeli Littleleaf
 Head Judge – Kevin King
 Host Drum – TBA
 Invited Drum – TBA

1 PM & 7 PM

Golden Age 55+
 Women's Traditional
 Men's Traditional
 Women's Fancy / Jingle
 Men's Fancy / Grass
 Teen Boys Combined 13-17
 Teen Girls Combined 13-17
 Jr. Boys Combined
 Jr. Girls Combined
 Tiny Tots

Committee Specials

Team Dance Contest
 Hand Drum Contest

Salmon Dinner

Contacts
 General/Vendor Info – powwow@Cowlitz.org
 Facebook – Cowlitz Indian Tribe Pow Wow

THE COWLITZ INDIAN TRIBE OR CLARK COUNTY EVENT CENTER ARE NOT RESPONSIBLE FOR THEFTS, INJURIES, OR SHORT FUNDED TRAVELERS. NO PETS, DRUGS, ALCOHOL, OR FIREARMS ALLOWED

Wade McGee – New Youth Programs Manager

Wade comes to the Cowlitz Tribe from the Coeur d'Alene Reservation in Worley Idaho. Him and his wife Debbie have been married for 24 years and have three sons. They met at Haskell Indian



Nations University where they both obtained their Associates in Natural Resources. They continued their education at the University of Idaho obtaining their Bachelors in Organizational Leadership and Management. Debbie is currently the general manager for Kwataqnuq Resort and Casino and Big Arm Resort in Polson Montana.

Wade comes to Cowlitz with over 25 years of Managerial Experience in youth and adult programming. He's coached youth in athletic training and sports for almost 30 years. His programming style is one focused on cultural wellness, healing, balance and using native thinking in all that is done in life.

He lives his life with this thought in mind; "Have I made my ancestors proud today?"



Youth Board

Pictured from Left to Right: Melody Lopez (Youth Program Coordinator), Ty and Kasey Koch, Cassandra Sellards-Reck, Rachel Paige, Donna Bagley (Youth Board Members).



Santa Visits

Each family went home with a photo of their little ones with Santa.



Current Youth Council Members (left-right): Stacie Spahr, Vice Chair, Noah Reck, Treasurer, Myrihe Rohbock, Chair, Sandee Spahr, Meya Rohbock, Secretary, and Cynthia Reck, Culture Board youth representative.

Cowlitz Youth Council

Currently the Youth Council is working on their cultural community project. The Youth Council strives to act as a voice around youth issues while modeling positive attitudes and behavior. You can find your Youth Council at many events and gathering throughout the year. The Youth Council travels to leadership conferences and trainings.

Calling all Cowlitz youth ages 13-17!

There are currently two open seats on the Youth Council. Those interested in joining or would like to find out more info please contact Alexandra (Ali) Guerra - Youth Council Advisor at 360-947-2234, aguerra@cowlitz.org or visit our page.



YOUTH PROGRAM

VOLUNTEER TRAINING

ST. MARYS TOLEDO
SATURDAY JUNE 8TH
9AM-5PM

morning snack and lunch provided

CONSULTANT PROGRAM TRAINER
LAVINA LOUIE

CPR TRAINING
CASSANDRA SELLARDS RECK

To register call (360) 947-2235
or email Mpfeifer@cowlitz.org

Training provided at no cost to you
All volunteers must complete the training prior to overnight stays



Little Ones Weekend

16 Cowlitz youth, ages seven to twelve, traveled through the traditional trade routes of our ancestors following the Columbia river to the Washington and Oregon coast. March 8-10, 2019.

SAVE THE DATE

9th Annual
THRIVE Conference
June 24-28, 2019

Just
10
Spots!

Who: For American Indian and Alaska Native Youth 13-17 yrs old

Where: Portland State University
Portland, Oregon

What: This conference is made up of four to five interactive workshop tracks!

*Build protective factors and increase your skills and self-esteem!

*Connect with other Native youth!

*Learn about healthy behaviors!

*Strengthen your nation through culture, prevention, connections, and empowerment!

#WeNeedYouHere

Registration (FREE)
will open the first
week in April!

Contact information:

Cowlitz Youth Program Coordinator
Melody Lopez
360-947-2235
mlopez@cowlitz.org

2019 Cowlitz Youth Program

SAVE THE DATE and PLAN TO ATTEND

CHECK US OUT ON COWLITZ YOUTH FACEBOOK PAGE AND
WWW.COWLITZ.ORG FOR ADDITIONAL YOUTH EVENTS AND GATHERINGS

Melody Lopez Program Coordinator • (360) 947-2235

Alexandra (Ali) Guerra Youth Council Advisor • (360) 947-2234

7700 NE 26th Ave Vancouver, WA 98665

YOUTH GATHERING

YOUTH PROGRAM

Toledo Event April 20th
Vancouver Event September 14th
Tukwila Event October TBD
Longview Event November 23rd
Please plan to attend the event nearest your local area.
All gatherings will be hosted at Tribal Offices at each location.
Activities and Snacks Provided

LITTLE ONES WEEKEND

Friday March 8th - Sunday March 10th
Youth will explore traditional Cowlitz trade routes, while learning about our history and ancestors.
Sign up will be announced

FIRST ANNUAL YOUTH PUBLIC SAFETY EVENT

Saturday June 22nd noon to 3:00
Cowlitz Indian Tribe Reservation
Interstate I-5 Exit 16

YOUTH SUMMER CAMP

Cascade Camp & Conference Center
Yelm, WA 98597
Monday August 12th-Friday 16th
Youth between age 7-17
Space is limited please register by
Monday August 5th

YOUTH & FAMILY CHRISTMAS PARTY

Saturday December 14, 2019
11:00 am to 2:00 pm
Age 0-17 years old

YOUTH OPPORTUNITIES

YOUTH COUNCIL

Who is eligible, enrolled members of the Cowlitz Indian Tribe and/or direct descendant of a current enrolled member
Youth ages 13-17
Meet the third Saturday of each month in Vancouver

YOUTH LEADERSHIP & PREVENTION CONFERENCES

Youth Between age 13-17
(Watch for posting)

THRIVE CONFERENCE

Sunday June 23rd - Friday June 28th in Portland
Registration opens in April
Youth between age 13-17

CULTURE / EVENTS *AND*

GATHERING TRIPS
Cowlitz Recognition Day
Salmon, Smelt Ceremony
Harvest Wapato, Cedar Canoe Pullers Practice
Tribal Canoe Journey
Weavers Conference

Dates and times posted on Cowlitz Youth Facebook & Cowlitz Tribe Web Site
Sign up Required



COWLITZ YOUTH PROGRAM 2019

Youth Summer CAMP

AUGUST 12TH-16TH

MONDAY THRU FRIDAY

AT CASCADE CAMP

22825 PEISSNER RD SE,
YELM, WA 98597

& CONFERENCE CENTER

SWIMMING, CANOE, ARCHERY,
HORSES, ZIPLINE, CRAFTS, CULTURE,
WATERSLIDE, & MUCH MORE!

COWLITZ YOUTH 7-17 YO

TO REGISTER CALL
360-947-2235

FIND US ON FB
OR VISIT US AT COWLITZ.ORG



WE ARE PROUD TO PRESENT

HURRY!
LIMITED SPACE



INDIGENOUS 20-SOMETHING PROJECT

Expansion for Medication Assisted Treatment Program

Health and Human Services - Seattle has been operating a Medication Assisted Treatment (MAT) Program for over a year with great success. In 2018 over 125 American Indian/Alaska Native patients, many of whom are Cowlitz Tribal members, were able to receive medication, either Suboxone or Vivitrol, to support their recovery from Opioid Use Disorder.

American Indians and Alaska Natives have the highest overdose death rate in King County, three times higher than the next highest demographic cohort. Many people with Opioid Use Disorder became addicted to legal pain medications that were prescribed to them. Some who become addicted to pain medications turn to street drugs like heroin.

The MAT Program has been so successful that it quickly outgrew the Seattle clinic space. With surplus revenue from prior year's operations the Seattle clinic was able to prepay lease expenses to the tribe, which the Tribal Council used to anchor a real estate loan to buy the adjacent commercial building and property.

The MAT program will expand into one of the office suites in the new building and will continue to provide MAT services and co-occurring services to our American Indian/Alaska Native patients. MAT programming expanded to the Longview clinic site in 2018 and will expand to the Vancouver clinic site later this year.



Work progress on the new MAT office in suite 102 of the new tribal building in Tukwilla.

Health Clinic Introduces: Diabetes Days

Managing diabetes can be complicated. Aside from meal planning, exercising regularly and daily blood sugar checks, people with diabetes also must navigate a constantly changing medication landscape, staying on top of annual health checks and ensure to get all necessary specialist referrals and vaccinations.

The Cowlitz Indian Tribe (CIT) Health Clinic understands these challenges and want to help make the journey to wellness a little bit easier. Diabetes Days or clinic days are dedicated solely for routine diabetes checks. Providers and auxiliary staff can all work together to give top-notch care. Allowing clinicians to give focused, quality and team-based care. Diabetes Days also ease the burden on patients by giving access to a variety of services in a single visit. Patients who attend Diabetes Days can receive the following services during their one-hour appointment:

- Lab tests
- Complete foot exam
- Immunizations
- Referrals to specialists
- Medication adjustments
- In person visit with their provider
- Face-to-face visit with the diabetes educator

Anyone who attends a Diabetes Day visit during the 2019 calendar year can choose a gift of appreciation. Items range from Bluetooth headphones, to cookbooks, to gym equipment.

Starting in the beginning of 2019, patients who have attended these Diabetes Days have already expressed their appreciation for this innovative approach to care. Stating that they do

so much in such a brief time and feel they are getting full comprehensive care from a team of medical professionals whole heartedly invested in improving their overall wellbeing.

If you have diabetes and are interested in a Diabetes Day appointment, please call the Cowlitz Indian Tribe Health Clinic front desk to schedule: (360) 575-8275



CIT WELLNESS & DIABETES PROGRAM

DIABETES SUPPORT GROUP

Join us the last Thursday of each month at 9am.
Breakfast provided. No registration required.
1044 11th Ave.
Longview, WA 98632

Contact Alyssa at (360)575-8275 or
afine@cowlitz.org for more information.





Bree Johnson and Jessica Miller opening up shop.



Jessica Miller serving her very first customer at Five Feathers.

Hands-On Real-Life Espresso Stand

The Cowlitz Indian Tribe Vocational Rehabilitation Program (CITVR) has implemented a training program for our clients. This program is a hands-on real-life espresso stand. Clients will go through a six to eight-week training course working directly with customer

service, making espresso drinks, utilizing a point of sale system (POS), marketing, inventory, safety, soft skills and more. Bree Johnson, a member of the VR staff, is the Trainer and works with the client to meet industry standards in those areas. Once they have successfully completed the

training and met the standards, they are given a certificate and receive subsequent paid work experience of 40 or more hours for their work. Clients work at a pace that is right for them so training experiences may be different for each individual. The CITVR is funded through a five-year grant from the Department of Education, through the Rehabilitation Services Administration. All proceeds are used to sustain the training program and it may allow for additional paid work experience.

Five Feathers, the name of the coffee stand, was selected from names submitted by clients. Chance Carson gifted the name and logo to this program and stated it was to represent the five Vocational Rehab (VR) staff that helped him along his journey. Our first client, Jessica Miller has started and is exceeding expectations. She is well

on her way to mastering all the standards outlined. Future plans may include youth training for help with summer job search and retention. There are many possibilities for use of the program and as we get our feet under us, we look forward to implementing those possibilities.

Hot and cold coffee and a variety of other drinks are served. The coffee is purchased from a native-owned business, one of only three native-owned roasters in the United States. The blend is Dancing Rabbit and was the number one choice for those who attended the coffee tasting prior to opening. Five Feathers is currently open to clients, patients and tribal staff and will be operated by clients and VR staff Mon-Thurs 7:30am-5:30pm.

For more information, please call 360-575-3318.

Attention Cowlitz Tribal Members!

Klahowya! ilani is proud to announce the launch of a formal career development program. As the Career Development Specialist, I look forward to working with Cowlitz tribal members to develop career paths at ilani.

If you have been wondering what is offered at ilani or where you could fit in, contact me!

My hours are flexible, and I am happy to answer any questions you have.



David Doucette

Career Development Specialist
dbdoucette@ilaniresort.com
(p) 360.887.6736

See what's offered!
www.hrappily.com/ilani/setup.app

 **CAREER DEVELOPMENT**



 *Five Feathers* 

Counselor of the Year - Jennifer Neal



Jennifer Neal, Vocational Rehabilitation Counselor of the Year, is also a Cowlitz tribal member.

from a representation of many strong and capable nominees is a true testament to her abilities and the way she cares for our clients.

Jennifer has come full circle with VR, having help start the program to taking other roles and journeys and winding up back where she started and belongs. Using experience, education, training and life lessons, Jennifer can meet clients where they are; in that moment. She gets it. Her passion and compassion show in her counseling methods and the way her clients feel about her.

The VR Program uses a Holistic approach when working with our clientele. Jennifer makes sure to carefully assess the needs of her clients and work to address the barriers holding them back.

She partners closely with the Tribe's other Health and Human Service Programs, community organizations and contacts.

Her job is not easy, we often get the most broken of the broken. To have Jennifer work with and fight for a broken client brings them trust, hope and strength. Many times, she guides them on their way to employment and sadly, at times it doesn't happen. Even through relapses, jail time, and/or other "missteps", Jennifer is not judgmental, does not give up and welcomes them back.

She recently began hosting Tuesday evenings for our clients (and others) to have a drum circle. It has been truly amazing to watch. As our clients are from different Tribes, there is always a new song to learn and sing in a safe place with

others who are sharing their similar lives. Clients and others come together to share a meal and come together in song.

Clients come to VR because they know it is a safe place for them and that they are surrounded by people who care. Jennifer is the epitome of that.

Her supervisor nominated her and was told she had won, Jennifer was not scheduled to go to this conference. With the quick help of the Accounting office and others, we were able to get her there for the conference and banquet. It was such a pleasure to see her completely surprised, but so definitely worthy. The Cowlitz Indian Tribe is well represented. Congratulations Jennifer!

Article submitted by Shari Parker, VR Director

Needing Transportation?

Cowlitz Tribe Transit Service, Expanded Medical Transport and Tribal Medicaid Transport includes door-to-door assistance to and from the vehicle by one of our professional drivers. Our vehicles are equipped with lifts to make boarding easier for passengers who use wheelchairs, mobility devices, or have difficulty negotiating steps. We provide the only service of its kind in our area; rides should be scheduled a few days in advance to assure availability. Dispatcher make every effort to accommodate your requested trip schedule. Fares are funded primarily through donations and are appreciated.

It is our mission to enhance the quality of life for Cowlitz Tribal Members, and the general public, through the delivery of professional, friendly, safe, reliable, and efficient transportation services.

Cowlitz Tribe Transit Service

This is a public transit service available to rural residents in South Lewis (Centralia Amtrak Station) and Cowlitz Counties who live up to 20 miles from the Interstate 5 corridor. Rides include access to life sustaining and non-life sustaining medical appointments, shopping, cultural or quality of life activities.

Expanded Medical Transport Program

Is our public transport program available to rural residents in Clark, Cowlitz, and Lewis Counties who are over the age of 50 and/or individuals with disabilities. The Expanded Medical Transport Program provides rides north to Olympia and south to Vancouver to increase access to medical

appointments such as; specialty medicine, diagnostic facilities, cancer treatment centers and hospitals.

*Clark County residents must live outside of the C-Tran bus system and their respective Public Transportation Benefit Area (PTBA).

Tribal Medicaid Transport

This service is for Indian Health Services (IHS) beneficiaries and their descendants who hold a current ProviderOne card who need transportation to medically necessary appointment. Individuals must live within a 60-mile radius of the Cowlitz Indian Tribe Health Clinic, meet the Medicaid criteria and have exhausted all other transportation options.

Hours of operation: Monday-Friday 8:00am - 6:00pm *Closed New Year's Day, Martin Luther King Day, Cowlitz Tribe Recognition Day (February 14), President's Day, Memorial Day, Independence Day, Labor Day, National Indian Day (fourth Friday of September), Veterans Day, Thanksgiving Day, Day after Thanksgiving, Christmas Eve and Christmas Day.

The Cowlitz Tribe Transit Service and Transport Programs comply with all federal requirements under the Title VI law, which prohibits discrimination on the basis of race, color, or national origin.

Questions?

Phone: 360-232-8585

Email: transit@cowlitz.org

Facebook: facebook.com/cowlitztribedotandtransitservices/

Stay up to date by liking our Facebook page 'Cowlitz Tribe Transportation and Transit Services'

ATTENTION PARENTS!

Need help with your childcare cost?

Child Care and Development Program

Cowlitz Indian Tribe

[Apply Online Today www.cowlitz.org](http://www.cowlitz.org)

Enrolled in a Federally Recognized Tribe?

Do you reside in Lewis, Clark, Cowlitz, or Skamania

Is your child between the ages of 4 weeks and 12 years old?

Employed, Enrolled in school, Job training or Searching?

Contact us Today

Tanya Hutton: (360)353-9528 or tbeltz@cowlitz.org

Anna Connor: (360)353-9559 or awilliams@cowlitz.org



Maddux Meyers Born

The first Cowlitz baby of 2019 was born at 11:24 pm in Cowlitz County. Maddux Calvin Meyers weighed 8 lbs. 14 ounces and was 21.5 inches long. Maddux's parents are Nichole and Max Meyers of Castle Rock, Washington. Grandparents are Drucilla and Leonard (Cowlitz member) Lindquist of Castle Rock, Matthew Meyers of Toutle and Jewell Meyers of Shelton, Washington. Maddux was welcomed by his sister, Maylee, who calls him "Little man" or "Bud." Both children are Cowlitz members.



Lakelynn Peterson is Here

Cowlitz member Boston Peterson, wife Kaylee announce the birth of their daughter, Lakelynn Brie Peterson. Lakelynn was born in Longview at 6:36 pm, August 17, 2018, weighing in at 8.7 lbs. and 21 inches long. Boston is a Cowlitz member and the son of Allan and Becki Peterson of Longview. Lakelynn is the Great Granddaughter of Dale and the late Doris Peterson. Kaylee's parents are Scott and Heather Brown of the Kalama/Ridgefield area. Mom and Dad said, "She is such a happy and healthy baby and a blessing to our whole family".



Sherman Squires Arrives

Sherman Francis Squires was born March 7, 2019 at 12:09 PM. He was 18 inches long and weighed 4 pounds 15.4 ounces. His parents are Matthew and Anna (Dickerson) Squires of Yelm, WA. Sherman's Grandfather and Cowlitz member is Robert Dickerson, of Wauconda, Washington. Paternal grandparents are Rick and Sue Squires of Tacoma.



Vogler Graduates Academy

Mariah Vogler, daughter of Celine Cloquet, has graduated from the United States Naval Academy Preparatory School, located at Newport Naval Station Rhode Island, on May 10, 2019. Her performances as an outstanding leader and scholastic successes, Ms. Vogler has been nominated by both US Senator Maria Cantwell and US Representative Adam Smith to matriculate to the United States Naval Academy this fall, graduating in 2023. Last June, she graduated from high school and received an associate's degree.

Ms. Vogler will be attending the Naval Academy with her sister, Jenna Vogler, graduating class of 2021. Both of these young Cowlitz women plan to major in Physics and have a desire of serving their commissioned officer positions as leaders in the United States Marine Corps.

Forest and Lands Program

Food, Fiber, Firewood and Forest Gathering Program

Are you ready to improve your forestry gathering? We have coordinated with the Gifford Pinchot Nation Forest and have a program set up to specifically serve tribal members.

How do I get more information?

Call or email the Natural Resources Department at

(360) 353-9509 or talexander@cowlitz.org

Upcoming Birthdays & Anniversaries*

May

Kayla Kay VanRiper May 18th
Suzanne Donaldson-Stephens May 19th
Eric Smalley 19th
Jacob Aff May 28th

June

Michaela Guerra 2nd
Michael Hazel 2nd
David "Buzz" Dean Russell 3rd
Bleu Hazel 5th
Nick Meile 13th
Randy Russell 23rd
Kristen Albrecht-Kugan 29th

July

Seth Devlin 3rd
Melody Pfeifer 3rd
Jon Lindholm 16th
Elizabeth Guerra 20th
"Grandfather" Roy Wilson
Leonard Lindquist Jr. 22nd

August

Alexandra Guerra 1st
Holly Jorgenson 12th
Kenyi Barr 12th
Dianna Smalley 16th
Colleen Armstrong 19th
Crystal Leigh 22nd
Carolee Morris 23rd
Stevie Shiflett 26th
Maylee Meyers 26th
Jennifer Neal 27th

September

Melissa Shiflett 9th
Patrick Morris 11th
Leonidas Barr 12th
*Jolynne & Patrick Morris 12th
Sarah Aff 13th
Brett Morris 14th
Matthew Henish Sr. 15th
Teona Kinswa 20th
*Don & Cassandra DesRosier 22nd
Skye Morris 26th
Zennie Shiflett 28th
Whitney Mossback 29th
Nancy Osborne 29th

October

Taylor Gabbard 2nd
Tom Lindholm 3rd
Sheril Dea 11th



Gregg & Mary Ford Retire

Cowlitz Tribal Member, Gregg Ford and his wife Mary Ford retire this June after a combined 71 years of teaching in the Ridgefield, WA School District. Gregg Ford has also been a coach throughout his 41 years of teaching. He has coached View Ridge Middle School and Ridgefield High School football, View Ridge Middle School and Ridgefield High School girls' and boys' basketball (the Ridgefield High School Varsity Boys Head Basketball Coach for 27 years) and is on his 33rd year as the Head Track and Field Coach at Ridgefield High School. He is currently one of our Cowlitz Tribal Gaming Commissioners and serves on the Education Committee for the Tribe. Family and friends are invited to celebrate with Gregg and Mary on June 15th. If you would like to learn more specific details about this celebration please contact, Shannon Schuetze, at shannonccschuetze@gmail.com.

Eric Forsberg Scholar

Dear Cowlitz Education Committee,

Please accept my most humble and sincere gratitude for this year's tuition assistance award which I'm using to pay for my JATC apprenticeship school/training. I am quite certain that the opportunities and challenges that I am navigating would not be available to me without the generosity of our northwest tribal families.

I would also like to include some information which may be helpful to our Cowlitz brothers and sisters seeking better career opportunities. TERO is the Tribal Employment Rights Office. They provide advantages to tribal members by placing them into highly competitive skilled trades when there are construction projects on reservation lands. When I needed to change my career path there were many obstacles preventing me from reaching my desired goals. It wasn't until I became a candidate for Seattle's JATC apprenticeship program that I learned about TERO.

One of the committee members must have recognized that I would have interviewed into their program if I had just had more relevant



Ward-Moosa Married

Jessica Renae Ward and Tanaeem Muhammad Moosa were married July 14, 2018 at Lover's Point Park in Pacific Grove, California.

The bride is originally from Castle Rock, WA. She served as the 2008-2009 Cowlitz Pow Wow Princess. She is the daughter of tribal members Kevin and Beth Ward and granddaughter of Yvonne Ward and Margaret Melton. She received her bachelor's degree in Political Science from Stanford University in 2013 and master's degree in political science in 2015 from University of California, Berkeley.

The groom is originally from Chittagong, Bangladesh. He is the son of Dr. Sabera Khatoon and Dr. Muhammad Moosa. He received his bachelor's degree in Computer Science from Bangladesh University of Engineering and Technology in 2011.

The couple lives in San Bruno, California with their chihuahua. Jessica works in insurance and Tanaeem is a software engineer.

Save the Date

Friday, July 12 - Monday, July 15, 2020

I-5 at Exit 54

Toutle River Camp Ground
Castle Rock WA 98611

Cottenoir Family Reunion



As they were married

2019 Skloutwout Family Reunion

"Skloutwout" is the Indian name of Lucy Weiser. All Skloutwout descendants are welcome to attend. The gathering is not limited to Cowlitz tribal members. Please bring pictures, written family histories, and memories to share, plus a potluck dish to contribute to the meal.

When: Sunday, August 25th, 2019:
11 am until mid to late afternoon

What: Spiritual Gathering starting at 11 am, with potluck meal to follow at the same location

Where: Bear Raven Longhouse at the home of Roy Wilson near Winlock, WA

Directions:

Take exit 68 on I-5 and go west to the signal light.
Turn left on N. Military Rd and go south one mile.
Turn right on Antrim and go west approximately 1.5 miles, then turn left on Dorning Rd.
Drive to the end of the road.
Watch for the Wilson family sign and turn right. The long driveway will take you right onto Roy's property.

For further information, contact either:

Linda Foley, 206-276-6010,
llsfoley@comcast.net

Marsha Williams, 253-857-8832,
253-355-0368, mjmws@centurytel.net

Sincerely,
Erik C. Forsberg

Tribal Boards and Committees

Cowlitz Tribal Gaming Authority

Name	Role	Email
Sonny Bridges	Chair	sbridges@cowlitz.org
Bill Iyall	Vice Chair	wiyall@cowlitz.org
Jess Groll	Treasurer	jwgroll@cowlitz.org
Carolyn Medeiros	Secretary	cmedeiras@cowlitz.org

Cowlitz Tribal Gaming Commission

Name	Role	Email
Jerry Iyall	Chair	j.iyall@ctgc.cowlitz.org
Celine Cloquet	Vice-Chair	c.cloquet@ctgc.cowlitz.org
Kristen Hitchcock	Secretary	c.hitchcock@ctgc.cowlitz.org
Gregg Ford	Treasurer	g.ford@ctgc.cowlitz.org
Donald Walkinshaw	Commissioner	d.walkinshaw@ctgc.cowlitz.org

Health Board

Name	Role	Email
Cassandra Sellards Reck	Chair	csellardsreck@hotmail.com
Debbie Hassler	Vice Chair	debbie.cowlitz@gmail.com
Linda Foley	Secretary	llsfoley@comcast.net
Patty Kinswa-Gaiser	Member	
Charity Sabido-Hodges	Member	
Melody Pfeifer	Member	
Donna Bagley	Member	
Christine Hawkins	Member	
Rachael Paige	Member	
Carol Seholm	Committee Member	

Youth Board

Name	Role	Email
Cassandra Sellards Reck	Chair	csellardsreck@hotmail.com
Donna Bagley	Vice Chair	cowlitznative@yahoo.com
Heidi Simper	Secretary	simperca@yahoo.com
Devin Reck	Youth Advocate	reckdevin@gmail.com
Charity Sabido-Hodges	Member	
David Cottonware	Member	
Ty Koch	Member	
Kasey Koch	Member	

Economic Development Committee

Name	Role	Email
Tim Van Mechlen	Chair	tvanmechlen@cowlitz.org
Whiney Devlin	Vice Chair	wmosback@ilaniresort.com
Don Wakinshaw	Secretary	dr.walkinshaw@ctgc.cowlitz.org
Don VanMechlen	Member	
Rourk Monohon	Member	
Dan Meyer	Member	
Robert Harju	Member	
Taylor Aalvik	Member	
Melissa Johnson	Member	
Tom Childs	Member	

Cowlitz Canoe Family

Name	Role	Email
Ty Koch	Chair	tyedward4rt@gmail.com
Devin Reck	Vice Chair	reckdevin@gmail.com
Cathy Sellards	Treasurer	CathySellards@gmail.com
Rachael Paige	Secretary	rachael767@gmail.com

Drum Group

Name	Role	Email
Cassandra Sellards Reck	Chair	csellardsreck@hotmail.com
Steve Kutz	Vice Chair	skutz.health@cowlitz.org
Melody Pfeifer	Secretary	mpfeifer@cowlitz.org

Enrollment Committee

Name	Role	Email
Nancy Osborne	Chair	nosborne@cowlitz.org
Cathy Raphael	Enrollment Officer	enrollment@cowlitz.org
Lenore Monohon	Member	
Renee King	Member	
Karen Cota	Member	
Melody Pfeifer	Member	

Strategic Planning

Name	Role	Email
Jerry Iyall	Chair	j.iyall@ctgc.cowlitz.org
Debbie Hassler	Member	
Dan Meyer	Member	
Kim Stube	Member	
Phil Harju	Member	
Christine Myers	Staff	

Housing Board

Name	Role	Email
Kathryn Iyall-Vasquez	Chair	kivasquez@yahoo.com
Kevin Ward	Vice-chair	kbjward@msn.com
Pat Iyall-Barnes	Secretary	patiyallbarnes@comcast.net
Larry Coyle	Member	
Linda Turnbull	Member	
Tom Childs	Member	
Dustin Griggs	Member	

Cultural Resources Board

Name	Role	Email
Steve Kutz	Chair	skutz.health@cowlitz.org
Debbie Hassler	Vice Chair - HHS	dhassler@cowlitz.org
Cassy Sellards-Reck	Secretary - Drum Group	csellardsreck@hotmail.com
John O'Brien	Board Member - Canoe	
Claudia Tenney	Board Member - Youth Board	
Bob Harju	Board Member - Carving	
Michael Hubbs	Board Member - Language	
Tanna Engdahl	Board Member - Elders	
Phil Harju	Appointed - Tribal Council	
Taylor Aalvik	Appointed - Tribal Council	
Celine Cloquet	Appointed - Tribal Council	
Melody Pfeifer	Appointed - Cultural Board	
Greg Groves	Appointed - Cultural Board	
Christine Dupres	Appointed - Cultural Board	
Rourk Monohon	Appointed - Cultural Board	
Jeremiah Wallace	Appointed - Cultural Board	

Revenue Review Committee

Name	Role	Email
Bill Iyall	Chairman	wiyall@cowlitz.org
Dan Meyer	Treasurer	treasurer@cowlitz.org
Jerry Iyall	Member	
Katherine Iyall	Member	
Pat Iyall-Barnes	Member	
Patty Kinswa-Gieser	Member	
Suzanne Donaldson	Member	
Taylor Aalvik	Member	
Rod VanMechlen	Member	
Cassy Sellards-Reck	Member	
Debbie Hassler	Member	

Pow-wow Committee

Name	Role	Email
Nathan Hooten	Chair	cowlitz1@gmail.com
Jane Meyer	Member	jmeyer@cowlitz.org
Kris Dillehay	Member	krisdil43gmail.com

Education Committee

Name	Role	Email
Mike Iyall	Chair	mikenjoan@comcast.net
Gregg Ford	Vice Chair	g.ford@ctgc.cowlitz.org
Becky Lowe	Secretary	thinkaboutit3@gmail.com
Celine Cloquet	Member	
Karissa Lowe	Member	
Suzanne Donaldson Stephens	Member	
David Iyall	Member	
Dave Reichel	Member	
Joan Iyall	Member	
Dave Littleton	Member	
Committee Email:	education@cowlitz.org	
Committee web link:	https://www.cowlitz.org/resources/education.html	

Tribal Council Members

Name	Position	Term	Email
*William Iyall	Chair GC	2021	wiyall@cowlitz.org
*Philip Harju	Vice-Chair GC	2020	pharju@cowlitz.org
*Nancy Osborne	Secretary GC	2021	secretary@cowlitz.org
*Dan Meyer	Treasurer GC	2020	treasurer@cowlitz.org
Carolee Morris	Council Member	2019	candymorrocl@gmail.com
Taylor Aalvik	Council Member	2019	taylor.a@cowlitz.org
Celine Cloquet	Council Member	2019	ccloquet@cowlitz.org
*Cathy Raphael	Council Member	2019	craphael@cowlitz.org
*Jerry Iyall	Council Member	2019	j.iyall@ctgc.cowlitz.org
Tim Van Mechelen	Council Member	2020	vtimstow@aol.com
Karissa Lowe	Council Member	2020	karissa.lowe@gmail.com
Mike Iyall	Council Member	2020	mikejoan@comcast.net
Christine Dupres	Council Member	2020	christinedupres@gmail.com
Debbie Hassler	Council Member	2020	dhassler@cowlitz.org
*Robin Torner	Council Member	2020	r.torner@comcast.net
Rourke Monohon	Council Member	2020	r.monohon@ctgc.cowlitz.org
*Steve Kutz	Council Member	2021	skutz@cowlitz.org
Katherine Iyall-Vasquez	Council Member	2021	kivasquez@yahoo.com
Justice Rhodes	Council Member	2021	rhodes.justice@gmail.com
*Patty Kinswa-Gaiser	Council Member	2021	pattygaiser@gmail.com
Whitney Mosback	Council Member	2021	whitnycowlitz@gmail.com
Ty Koch	Council Member	2021	tyedward4rt@gmail.com

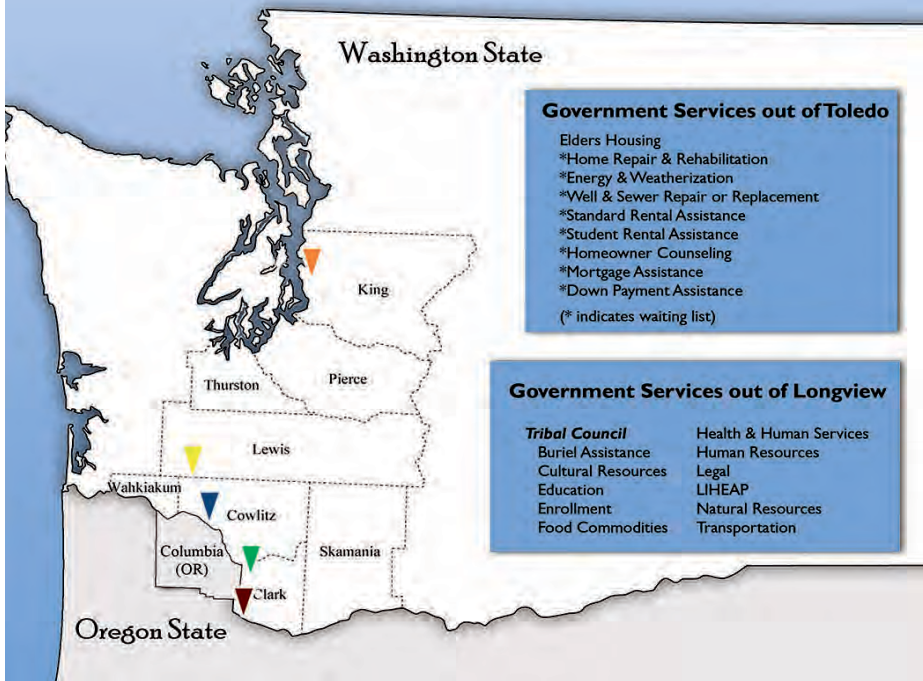
* Denotes Executive Council Member GC = General Council



Cowlitz Indian Tribe

Government Services by Site:

- Cowlitz Reservation**
 3710 NW 319th ST
 Ridgefield, WA 98642
- Seattle**
 15455 65th Ave S
 Tukwila, WA 98188
- Longview**
 1055 9th Ave
 Longview, WA 98632
- Toledo**
 107 Spencer Rd
 Toledo, WA 98591
- Vancouver**
 7700 NE 26th Ave
 Vancouver, WA 98665



Cowlitz Indian Tribe

Health and Human Services by Site:

- Seattle**
 15455 65th Ave S
 Tukwila, WA 98118

 Mental Health
 Chemical Dependency
 Co-Occurring Disorder
 Case Management
- Toledo**
 107 Spencer Rd
 Toledo, WA 98591

 Housing
 Elders
- Longview**
 1055 9th Ave
 Longview, WA 98632

 Primary Care Clinic
 Mental Health
 Chemical Dependency
 Vocational Rehab
 Health Education
 Dietician
- Vancouver**
 7700 NE 26th Ave
 Vancouver, WA 98665

 Mental Health
 Chemical Dependency
 Domestic Violence/
 Sexual Assault
 Vocational Rehab





Behind the Logo

Cowlitz, known as the “Forever People” were masters of shovel-nosed canoes, navigating swift currents tangled with dense vegetation and easily surged through shallow waters. The Cowlitz River has been the most important transportation route, connecting family and trade. The design of the logo comes from the bold lines and colors of Cowlitz tribal art and to celebrate the power of rivers and canoes that brings connections.



Members of the Cowlitz Drum Group participated at the Grand Opening of Cowlitz Crossing. L-R are Joseph Monohon, Randy Cottonware and Devin Reck



Cowlitz Vice Chairman Phil Harju and Spiritual Leader Tanna Engdahl address the guests during Monday’s grand opening

ilani

HOTEL PARTNERSHIPS

Discount on Rates!

BW-Woodland	(360) 225-1000
Heathman Lodge	(360) 254-3100
Springhill Suites	(360) 258-5904
Townplace Suites	(360) 258-5904
BW-Battle Ground Inn	(360) 687-8881
Hampton Inn and Suites	(360) 891-3000
Hilton Downtown Vancouver	(360) 993-4500
Sonesta Suites	(360) 253-4800



Cowlitz Tribal member Suzanne Donaldson celebrates being one of the first customers of Cowlitz Crossing during the Saturday soft opening.



Even Bigfoot loves Cowlitz Crossing!



Pictured left to right are: Jeff Walker, VP Ilani Gaming, Karissa Lowe, Tribal Council, Sara Englehart, Cowlitz Crossing manager, Taylor Morelli, ilani Procurement director, Bob Gutridge, Ilani project manager, Eric Williams, Swinerton Builders, Paul Tresnan, MGE, Jim Dougherty, ilani VP of Operations, Sarah Harris, Mohegan Council, Dave Barnett, Cowlitz tribe, Michael Silberling MGE COO, Kara Fox-LaRose, ilani President, Sonny Bridges, Cowlitz CTGA Chair, Phil Harju, Cowlitz Tribe Vice-Chair, Tanna Engdahl, Cowlitz Spiritual leader, Dan Meyer, Cowlitz Tribe Treasurer, Suzanne Donaldson, Cowlitz tribe and Don Walkinshaw, Jr., Cowlitz tribe and ilani Executive office manager.



Cowlitz Tribal Chairman Bill Iyall welcomes everyone to the soft opening event on Saturday, April 20, 2019.

Community Garden Continues to Sprout

The glory of gardening: hands in the dirt, head in the sun, heart with nature. To nurture a garden is to feed not just on the body, but the soul.

-Alfred Austin



Cowlitz spiritual leader Tanna Engdahl smudging the garden area during the cleansing ceremony.

elders were in attendance, and participants shared what the meaning of the garden meant to them.

Since the blessing, much of the preparations for the garden have been completed. A set of eight cedar raised beds, designed, and constructed by Donny Pappan, Facilities Department, and staff from the Natural Resources Department, are ready for placement. For ease of access for those with physical limitations, each of the beds is 30 inches tall and has four flip-down benches. An underground irrigation system will supply each bed with a water efficient drip line. In addition, a storage shed and fencing for the in-ground garden have also been purchased and are on-site.

Cynthia Callahan, a native of Toledo, was hired in April to serve as the full-time Community Garden Coordinator. she has over six years of experience in organic farming and comes to the position with a



Cowlitz tribal maintenance employee Donny Pappan puts finishing touches on one of the raised bed boxes.



After the blessing of the garden, all the attendees had a photo op!
Seated (left to right): Gwen Drummond, Juanita Clark, Don Van Mechelen, Lynn Engdahl and Standing (left to right): Dalton Fry, Sandy Marinsik, Wes Wright, Terry Ojala, Melissa Johnson, Tim Van Mechelen, Alyssa Fine, Tanna Engdahl and Steve Kutz.

wealth of knowledge and many wonderful ideas to help the garden grow. Even though the garden will have a full-time staff, volunteers are still needed. Please consider donating some of your time to this program and reaping some of the many health and wellness benefits that gardening provides.

Garden events will be advertised via mailings and on social media, so keep an eye open for upcoming activities. If you want to help or just want more information, please contact Alyssa Fine, Wellness and Diabetes Program Coordinator, at (360)575-8275 or afine@cowlitz.org.

General Welfare Exclusion Act

In 2014 Congress unanimously passed and President Obama signed into law the Tribal General Welfare Exclusion (GWE) Act Public Law N:133-168. This federal law allows the Cowlitz Indian Tribe and other Tribes to create programs to improve the General Welfare of Tribal members. Payments made under GWE program plans are not considered "gross income" by Internal Revenue Service (IRS) for tax purposes.

The Cowlitz General Council asked the Tribal Council to help our elders. As a result, we are implementing two new GWE programs for Cowlitz elders. The first will be a one-time benefit payment of \$5000 for elders who are 62 years old

and older. This program is intended to help elders with the high cost of housing. Cowlitz elders can only receive this payment once during their lifetime.

The second GWE program for elders will be an annual benefit payment of \$3000 for elders who are 65 years and older. The purpose of this payment is to help elders with the high cost of healthcare such as Medicare and with the costs of wellness programs. This payment will be made annually, after the first of each year, as long as funds are available.

At the time this newsletter is being prepared, applications for these two GWE programs are being prepared and will be mailed to Tribal elders. Once the

applications are completed and returned to the Cowlitz Enrollment office and eligibility is verified, we will begin to make payments. We will not issue IRS forms 1099 or other tax forms to elders for these GWE program payments. You do not have to report these GWE program payments as income to IRS.

While the IRS does not consider these GWE payments as "gross income" for tax purposes, other state or federal programs may interpret the GWE payments differently. It is up to each Cowlitz elder to determine if acceptance of GWE payments will affect other benefits you may be receiving.

The Tribal Council will continue to

look for other ways to use the GWE act to create benefit programs to improve the general welfare of the Cowlitz Tribe and Cowlitz Tribal members.

Questions about how GWE will affect other state and federal benefits you are receiving, please contact that government agency directly.

Cowlitz GWE benefit questions?
Cowlitz Enrollment Office
P: 360-575-3310
E: enrollment@cowlitz.org

Jerry Iyall
Cowlitz Tribal Council

Cowlitz Tribal Housing

Eligibility for most programs requires living in Washington State and being an enrolled member of the Cowlitz Tribe. U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) (<https://www.hud.gov/>) regulations and Cowlitz Indian Tribal Housing (CITH) policies regarding applicants and homes apply to all programs listed.

Student Rental Assistance

This is available to eligible full-time college students anywhere in the continental U.S. and the are standardized by Housing and Urban Development (see link in the beginning of the article).

Elder Housing

We welcome you to the Tribe's housing complex, located at St. Mary's, near Toledo, Washington. Housing choices are efficiency apartments and one-bedroom units. Rents are calculated on a sliding scale according to income. When available subsidies reach the lifetime limit, rents are 30% of the resident's income.

Down Payment Assistance

We are happy that more and more tribal members are applying for down payment assistance, so the Tribe can help you realize the "American Dream" of homeownership! We now can serve several states, just call us for more information.

Small pets (dog or cat) are welcome.

Applicants must pass a background check, reference check, and drug screening.

Rental and Mortgage Payment Assistance

Tribal Housing offers this help to qualified tribal members, for up to six months.

Help to Avoid Foreclosure

Tribal members with a mortgage crisis should call the Homeowners Help Hotline: 1-888-995-4673, or explore the Home Affordable Program website: www.makinghomeaffordable.gov.

Home Rehabilitation

Tribal Housing can repair qualifying tribal members' homes to provide a decent, safe, and sanitary place to live.

Well and Sewer Repair or Replacement

In certain geographical areas, the Indian Health Service (IHS) provides help

with sanitation facilities, such as sewer, septic, and water to tribal homeowners. Cowlitz Tribal Housing is the designated area representative for IHS Scattered Site projects—we issue applications and forward them to IHS.

Homeownership or Financial Counseling

For free homebuyer education classes in your city, go to the Washington Homeownership Resource Center:

visit: www.homeownership-wa.org

Supportive Housing

Coming soon to St. Mary's: We hope to open a building wing for families with children and who are in crisis. Housing and other tribal departments are working together to provide human services, as well as small apartments.

For applications or information:

Email us at: cowlitzhousing@CITH.US

Phone us at: (360) 864-8720



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EVENT

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FREE EMERGENCY AWARENESS AND PREPAREDNESS SAFETY EVENT

Veteran's Corner: Agent Orange

What is the Agent Orange Registry Health Exam?

If you served in Vietnam between 1962 and 1975, in the Korean DMZ between April 1, 1968 and August 31, 1971, or some locations in Thailand between February 28, 1961 and May 7, 1975 you may have been exposed to Agent Orange. The military sprayed millions of gallons of Agent Orange and other herbicides on trees and vegetation during the Vietnam War. Toxic chemicals such as dioxin that were part of Agent Orange have caused major health problems for many veterans who were exposed.

If you believe you were exposed to Agent Orange, contact your local Veterans

Administration office and ask for a free Agent Orange Registry health exam. It will include an exposure history, medical history, physical exam and any tests if needed. A VA health professional will discuss the results with you and will advise you regarding possible long-term health problems. Participating in the Agent Orange Registry Health Exam will facilitate resolution of any future health care or disability benefits concerns for issues that result from Agent Orange exposure.

If you have questions about this article, contact Jerry Iyall, Cowlitz Veterans Representative at jiyall@cowlitz.org.

Businesses Invite

The Tribe currently operates its daily business in five main locations at the; Cowlitz Indian Reservation, Longview, St. Mary's (Toledo), Vancouver, and Tukwila. Frequently we have the need to contract outside services to complete projects at our facilities.

We would like to invite all tribal members with building/maintenance businesses to give us your information to add to our Cowlitz Tribe Members Business Directory to share among other tribal members and have the ability to reach out to you for facilities contract work.

If you would like to be added to this list, please email your business contacts and information on services provided.

Aaron Workman: aaronw@cowlitz.org

Beaver Relocation

The Wildlife Program has initiated a beaver relocation project in cooperation with the Cascaded Forest Conservancy. Over the summer and fall of 2018, several sites were evaluated to see if they held adequate habitat and were in areas unoccupied by current beaver family groups. All the identified potential release sites were on either US Forest Service lands or Columbia Land Trust Lands.

Cascade Forest Conservancy developed a model that identified potential beaver release sites based on specific physical traits. Wildlife Program staff performed field reconnaissance to determine which of those sites might be suitable to release beaver at. Specific sites were evaluated based on a variety of physical features to determine how appropriate each site may be for release of beaver. Adjacent stream

reaches were surveyed to determine if any other beaver might be present in the proximity of the potential release site.

In February of 2019, the first pilot release of beaver occurred. One adult and 2 subadult beaver from the same family group were released at a release site in the Gifford Pinchot National Forest near Randle WA. The released beavers were obtained from USDA Wildlife Services personnel, who are partnering on the project. A makeshift den was constructed, and supplemental willow sapling branches were left at the site in the hopes that the beaver would remain at the site and build a dam where a derelict one had been located historically.

Two weeks after the release, project game cameras are documenting the continued presence of the released beaver

at the site. We will continue to monitor the site and document physical changes that beaver do to the area over the course of the next year.

Environmental benefits from beavers are:

- Reduced Stream Temperatures
- Reduced Nutrients and Toxins in Streams
- Sediment Capture
- Increased Water Storage Capacity
- Reduced Flooding
- Increased Fire Resiliency
- Increased Wetland & Riparian Habitat
- Increased Wildlife & Fish Habitat
- Carbon
- Mitigation of the Impacts of Climate Change

We will continue to evaluate new sites



to potentially relocate beaver to, release beaver at specific locations and monitor stream reaches where beavers are released, and document the physical changes that are occurring there. For more information about the Natural Resources Department contact Program Assistant, Tiffini Alexander email: talexandar@cowlitz.org

Abernathy Creek Habitat Restoration

The Natural Resources Department (NRD) continuously has habitat restoration projects taking place. Throughout 2018 two major ones were completed on Abernathy Creek and the Grays River. The Aquatics program never fails to bring the kind of chaos needed to waterways calling for enhancement.

Abernathy Creek has been an

ongoing project for the past seven years and restoration now covers six miles. Not only does this project improve fish habitat for spawning and rearing, it also creates wetlands for other species like beavers and a wide variety of vegetation. The end goal for all of this work is to create a sustainable habitat system and so far the restoration is doing just that!

As for the Grays River project, it is just the beginning for habitat restoration. River systems are unique and creating multiple kinds of habitat for species across the board requires a lot of time and thought. Thankfully, due to the experience of our staff it was not a problem to map out this project and there are already new sites planned out to restore on the Grays in hopes

to make the Grays River project as widespread as Abernathy.

Once construction is completed our NRD team then goes in to plant trees to further enhance vegetation. Our department as a whole plays a large role in preserving our natural resources and 2019 is looking to be yet another year of successful projects for our Aquatics Department.



Log jam created by the Natural Resources Department on Abernathy Creek

FISH DISTRIBUTION PROGRAM

Are you interested in receiving fish?

Cowlitz citizens who are interested in receiving fish through this program must call the Natural Resource Department (NRD) Fresh Fish Program Manager to be put on the distribution list. The NRD also manages a small frozen fish program at the Longview office for those who have low food security.

NRD Fresh Fish Program Manager, Kirk Russell
(360) 772-9935

or contact Tiffini Alexander (360) 353-9509

Email: fishdistribution@cowlitz.org

Cowlitz Elder's that would like to receive filleted fish

contact Deb Mizner at (360) 864-7006



Cowlitz Indian Tribe

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