



COWLITZ Tribal News

Yooyoolah

“One who calls”

Spring 2020

NINTH EDITION

Everyone is Helping However They Can



Deb Mizner filleting fresh fish in the Garden in Toledo.

Elders Program Manager and Cowlitz Tribal Member, Deb Mizner has a deep and abiding loyalty to meeting the needs of Elders.

The program has grown in 2020 with tribal support providing congregate meals in Vancouver, Longview, and Tukwila. The services were welcomed at all the sites and the elders were genuinely pleased in feeling

supported and in fellowship with each other.

In mid of March, the Coronavirus response from the program was extraordinary – the program staff and volunteers mobilized in a way that is to be admired. **The program had provided 120 weekly meals, and, in 10 days, that number jumped to 1,460 meals ready to go.**

The meals were frozen in packs of ten. Elders were identified, elders called into the phone number, and resources were rallied. Outreach was provided to Clark, Thurston, Pierce, Cowlitz, and Lewis counties. The Emergency Management Services team, headed up by Aaron Workman, dedicated a driver to the program needs. The load was distributed to cook and package, rather than cook, package and deliver.

During a time of great challenge related to COVID-19, many rose to the occasion. Volunteers came into the program offering sacred plants to make tea. Tribal Chairman Bill Iyall and Kara Fox -LaRose from ilani provided food donations from the casino resort. The gift of staples such as toilet paper, cleaning products, and potatoes were all given with a good heart and determination to help the tribe.

Amid the pandemic, Chairman Iyall maintained the position, “How can we sustain this great effort?” This perspective was vital in developing funding strategies and local resource lists for elders, a group best supported by practicing social distancing.



Cowlitz Cultural department employee, Emma Johnson, delivers food package to our elders. Photo taken at Cowlitz Crossing Convent Parking lot.

The community garden coordinator, Cindy Callahan, is a crucial source of support for Elders at St Mary’s. Cindy was most recently instrumental in keeping the residents engaged in the “help as you can,” garden efforts.

The efforts, made by so many, is the realization of personal values for service to the people – service to the forever people – is an honor to document and support.

Nadja Jones
Director of Human Services

COVID-19: Prioritizing Safety and Communication

2020 Annual Meeting

We are in very challenging times as we work together to maintain essential government services for the Cowlitz Tribe in the face of the rapid spread of the COVID-19 virus.

We will need to postpone the June General Council meeting. This matter will be discussed further at Tribal Council, with the proper notice to follow. The Cowlitz Tribe has been monitoring the progression of the novel coronavirus disease, COVID-19, and is following all guidance issued by the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention

as well as local health authorities in Washington and Oregon. The situation is fluid and we cannot predict how it will develop, with updated postings as we learn more.

Keep Safe Recommendations

At the time of this writing, the Governor in Washington and in Oregon have declared that all schools in Washington and Oregon will be closed for the remainder of the school year, public and private. The federal government has provided the following list of recommendations:

1. Listen to and follow the directions of your state and

local authorities.

2. If you feel sick, stay home. Do not go to work. Contact your medical provider.
3. If your children are sick, keep them at home. Do not send them to school. Contact your medical provider.
4. If someone in your household has tested positive for the coronavirus, keep the entire household at home. Do not go to work. Do not go to school. Contact your medical provider.
5. If you are an older person, stay home and away from other people.

6. If you are a person with a serious underlying health condition that can put you at increased risk (for example, a condition that impairs your lung or heart function or weakens your immune system), stay home and away from other people.

7. Even if you are young or otherwise healthy, you are at risk and your activities can increase the risk for others. It is critical that you do your part to stop the spread of the coronavirus:

- Work or engage in schooling from home whenever possible.
- If you work in a critical

infrastructure industry, as defined by the Department of Homeland Security, such as healthcare services and pharmaceutical and food supply, you have a special responsibility to maintain your normal work schedule. You and your employers should follow CDC guidance to protect your health at work.

- Avoid social gatherings in groups of more than 10 people.
- Avoid eating or drinking in bars, restaurants, and food courts – use drive-thru, pickup, or delivery options.

- Avoid discretionary travel,

continued on pg 14

Chairman's Corner



Klahowya! ilani

Because the health and safety of employees and guests is our top priority, we have been monitoring the progression of COVID-19 and following guidance by both the CDC and local health officials for businesses such as ours. It is with a heavy heart that the Tribal Council has made the difficult decision to temporarily cease operations at ilani due to this emergent public health crisis.

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Given the continued rapid evolution of the situation, this is clearly the most prudent step that we can take, to protect our staff and their families and as responsible members of a global community.

The shutdown of ilani commenced March 17, 2020, at midnight and continue at least through May 4. At the time of this writing, Cowlitz Crossing remained open and fully functional, with drive-thru service from their full-service deli and menu available 24/7. The Cowlitz Tobacco Outlet remained open and fully functional.

We will continue to watch for new information and guidance from the CDC, local public health authorities and Governor Jay Inslee's office, which the tribe works cooperatively with, and adjust our approach if necessary. ilani is committed to operating in a manner that ensures the wellbeing of its guests and team members. This will remain our guiding light as we evaluate decisions going forward.

Business at all ilani operations continued to grow for early numbers for 2020, exceeding our budget estimates.

CTGA Board Vacancy

The application process for candidates to fill the vacancy on the CTGA Board remains open. The CTGA Board is working with the HR Committee to review the applications, conduct interviews, and make recommendations for appointments to the Tribal Council.

Compact Negotiations:

We met with the state Gambling Commission in January to work on our proposed Gaming Compact changes. Overall their response has been positive, and we will continue to meet to hammer out the details. The next compact amendment will include sports betting.

Sports Betting

The tribal sports betting bills, House Bill 2638 and Senate Bill 6394, were both heard in Committee early March. It won a 60% vote of both houses to pass the legislation and has been signed by the Governor.

Tribal Tax Settlement

House Bill 2803 bill passed both houses and has been signed by the Governor. It is the result of the proposed settlement between the state and the Tulalip Tribes regarding taxes on Tribal lands. The bill authorizes compacts allowing tribes to retain all or a portion of the state \$0.065 sales tax and related B&O taxes. Tribes would receive 100% of the tax up to \$500,000 (approximately \$7.8m of sales), up to 50% of the tax over \$500,000 on current businesses, and 60% of the tax on new development.

Construction update

Swinerton Builders' work continues on the 6-story, 2600 space Parking Garage and the widening of Cowlitz Way, which is scheduled for completion in the fall of 2020.

We met again in March with Friedmutter Architects and our development partners to continue planning for our hotel, with a spa, pool, and rooftop bar. The hotel expansion will also include a Kids Quest center for our younger guests. We are planning for additional gaming and a sports bar in the currently undeveloped 17,000 sq. ft on the northwest corner of the casino.

20th Year Anniversary of Recognition

The tribe celebrated the 20th anniversary of recognition with the largest turnout ever. More than 500 people took part in a special program at ilani, on February 16, marking 20 years since the Cowlitz Indian Tribe gained official recognition by the federal government.

The day began with a prayer by Tribal Spiritual Leader Tanna Engdahl, songs by our drum group and great historical recollection by our guests: Stan


****Postponed and will be rescheduled****

General Council Meeting

ilani Casino
Cowlitz Ballroom

1 Cowitz Way
Ridgefield, WA 9864

Enrollment Card & photo ID required
Questions call (360) 577-8140



Speaks, who headed the Portland office of the federal Bureau of Indian Affairs during the period when the Cowlitz sought recognition and his signature for our initial reservation; Dr. Stephen Beckham, Portland State University professor who assisted the tribe in gaining federal recognition; Don Stose, mayor of Ridgefield; Greg Thornton, mayor of La Center; Clark County Councilor Julie Olson; and labor leader Ed Barnes, who helped organize union labor workers for the casino construction project.

Also, on hand were tribal council members Patricia LaPierre and Kathy Regan-Pyne, representing the Mohegan Tribe from Connecticut. Dr. Beckham, who worked with the Cowlitz on federal recognition effort for 21 years, recounted the delays between the time documents were submitted to federal officials and the time assessments of those documents were received, noting that years would go by before a notice of deficiency would be issued.

We officially submitted documents to the federal government seeking acknowledgment in 1978, although efforts were made to do that even earlier than that when the Cowlitz leadership did not sign treaties with the United States government in 1855.

We thanked the leaders of the past, including John Barnett's work in Washington DC and the work of others in the past, including Frank Iyall early in the 20th century as our delegate in Washington DC.

On Valentine's Day 2000, we gained official federal

recognition, with a document signing ceremony in Washington, D.C., attended by several tribal members, marked that milestone. Many of those present then shared the stories. In 2002, the federal government affirmed the Cowlitz recognition decision, after rejecting the Quinault appeal.

****Those in attendance received a plaque commemorating the 20-year anniversary. Additional plaques will be available at the General Council meeting. If you are unable to attend in person but would like to receive a plaque, please contact Selena at shansen@cowlitz.org.**

Native Vote

Washington State's Native American Voting Rights Act, or NAVRA, adopted by the state legislature on March 5, 2019, helped fix each of these challenges. Congress should consider similar provisions as they work to addresses voting rights issues nationwide.

Specifically, Washington's NAVRA allows:

- Tribal citizens in Washington State to use tribal I.D.s to register to vote.
- Tribes to request that at least one ballot box be located on their reservation. The tribe can choose the location.
- Tribal citizens to use nontraditional residential addresses for voter registration. The location of the tribally designated ballot box can serve as their address, which is especially important for homeless citizens and others without a stable residence.

Chairman's Corner

continued from pg 2

Tribal Manager



New tribal manager Orlando Moreno

We are pleased to announce that Orlando Moreno, MBA, MLS, CIMA was hired as the new Tribal Manager. Orlando has extensive tribal government operations and tribal business experience. Orlando, an enrolled member of the Fort McDowell Yavapai Nation of Arizona, has more than 28 years' work experience in diverse fields – Tribal Governments, Indian Gaming & Resorts, Tribal Business Development, Information Technology, Finance and Law. Orlando has 15 years' senior-level experience in Tribal government operations, Indian

Gaming & Resorts and Tribal business enterprises. Orlando has experience in health care, education, housing, employment and general welfare, planning and development of the Tribes' Strategic Plans. Orlando was CEO for Tribal Economic Development organization that consists of 10 Business Enterprises, generating approximately \$600M in revenue annually and over 1,000 jobs. Orlando earned two (2) Master's degrees – MBA from American Intercontinental University and Master of Legal Studies from Arizona State University. He received his bachelor's degree in Business / Management from the University of Phoenix. Orlando holds numerous certifications including: Certified Investment Management Analyst (CIMA®),

The Cowlitz Indian Tribe is committed to our people, our families and our community. The aggressive steps we are taking in the days and weeks ahead will help prevent the spread of COVID 19. Our proactive approach will help us to maintain essential government services.

AMR
Chairman Bill Iyall

Vice Chairman's Report



to date information from the Tribe.

Here is a brief update on other Cowlitz Tribal activities. The Tribe is working to take an additional 47 acres into trust. Those properties—now owned by the Tribe—are west of our current reservation. There have been several changes at the Bureau of Indian Affairs in the fee to trust process, with many federal agencies standing down. We are confident that we will be able to move forward on this matter.

The Tribe continues to work with Clark County on our inter-governmental agreements and with payments for services. We are currently working on an agreement to get our police officers commissions with the Clark County Sheriff for our police officers. I can report that our inter-local agreement

with Clark Fire and Rescue is working out well and our reservation and properties are well protected for fire and emergency medical services.

I am proud to report that the Cowlitz Indian Tribe now has a great Public Safety Department and Tribal Court. Many thanks to our tribal members, employees, and elected leaders for making this happen.

As I have always said, when the Cowlitz People work together, we will not be stopped. Again, I hope everyone is safe and healthy. It continues to be an honor and privilege to serve the Cowlitz Indian Tribe

Vice-Chair, Philip Harju

Planning Committee Update

Like so many other parts of Cowlitz Tribal operations, Strategic Planning has been delayed by the Coronavirus. Before this delay, the Planning Committee selected the Setting Sun Institute as our consultant to work with the Tribal Council on

the next steps of planning. The Setting Sun Institute is led by Tribal Leaders from the Lummi and Swinomish tribes. We are honored that they will partner with the Cowlitz Tribal Council to move our planning efforts forward. We have a number of

strategies we will be pursuing to improve the efficiency and effectiveness of the Tribal Council.

We will work to strengthen trust and enhance communication, develop a Tribal Council governance manual, develop job descriptions, and identify training needs for Tribal Council members, improve communication between Tribal Council and Tribal administrative units.

We recently selected two new members to the Planning Committee. The two new members are both Cowlitz tribal members. Kristopher Kitz is a healthcare consultant who lives in Gig Harbor. He has extensive strategic planning experience. Diane Riley is the second new member. Diane is a Cowlitz elder living at St. Mary's. She has extensive business experience, including managing a private business.

Most recently, the Planning Committee has played a key role in planning and hosting the Listening Sessions. We have had successful listening sessions in Tukwila and at Little Creek Casino. We will schedule additional listening sessions once we know that the Corona Virus is under control.

To facilitate communication among Tribal Council and to make Tribal Council more efficient, we have been issued Surface Tablets. Tribal Council will also have new email addresses and will be able to access most documents that are needed for Tribal Council meetings by using the Surface tablets. This is the result of an initiative from the Planning Committee.

Your Planning Committee members are Dan Meyer, Phil Harju, Kim Stube, Kris Kitz, Diane Riley, Christine Myers Secretary, Debbie Hassler Vice-Chair, and myself, Chair.

Jerry Iyall, j.iyall@cowlitz.org

Cowlitz Tribal News YOOPYOOLAH

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.

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www.cowlitz.org



Department of Public Safety



Harvest Meal: Jake Jackson (Ambassador) Susan Andersen, Brian Warren, Christine Duitman, Jennifer Jackson

The Cowlitz Indian Tribal Public Safety Department continues to grow and expand our services on the reservation. The Police Department currently has a staff of 19 employees, including 16 officers, two office staff, and one dedicated employee to Emergency Management.

In recent months we have obtained Aaron Workman as our Assistant Emergency Management Coordinator, Senior Officer Jeff Pfluger, Senior Officer Todd Hill, and Corina Curtis as Detective. All these officers come to us with years of experience and dedication to law enforcement.

Protecting the sovereignty of the Tribe is our first and foremost responsibility and ensuring that the public is safe while on the reservation. With the addition of our new officers and detective, we are now able to provide 24-hour coverage to

ilani and the surrounding areas of the C o w l i t z Indian Tribe reservation.

The Public Safety Department is very involved in the community and strives to build relationships with our neighboring cities, government offices and police departments.

We are involved in many organizations and events in Clark County, including most recently the Senior and Law Enforcement Talks (SALT) luncheon, where community law enforcement officers gather to serve lunch to the senior citizens of our community and answer questions. This is a very popular event and takes place monthly throughout the year in various locations in the county.

Assistant Chief of Police, Duane Garvais Lawrence,

Commander Brian Warren and Senior Officer Jeff Pfluger have all been cross deputized in Lewis county, which enforces and develops a strong bond between the Lewis County Sheriff's Department and us.

Our department had planned events such as a Drug Take Back, Law Enforcement Torch for Special Olympics and a basketball game between the Cowlitz Tribal Police Department and Ridgefield Police Department. However, due to the COVID-19 pandemic, event scheduling has changed. Contact our department for further details.

We are working with the IT department to develop a webpage for the Public Safety Department to include all of



Jennifer Jackson - Public Safety Administrative Assistant (Halloween Youth Event 2019)

our community events and calendar for the year ahead and look forward to rolling that out within the next sixty days.

I Have Blankets to Gift You

I know many of you have been patiently waiting, as is the Cowlitz way, and they have finally arrived! They are beautiful and I'm so happy to share these with you. It is the highlight of my life to be able to give back to the Cowlitz people and to fulfill the promise I made to my father, former Chairman, John Barnett.

Contact me **206-707-5765** or **jakeybelle@aol.com** I will ship them to you as soon as possible. Thank you, Dave Barnett, Founder of Ilani and Tribal Council Member.

If you are a tribal member who has not received this gift from me, please let me know. It makes my day when I hear from you after you receive it! I am dedicated to continue to provide these gifts to every Cowlitz member over the age of 18. It is a gift from my heart to yours.



Submit your news to Cowlitz Tribal News

YOYOOLAH

Send us your articles, art, business info, photographs, and events for our upcoming edition.

Submissions must contain the following to be published:

Articles

Word or similar format
Less than 500 words
Title of the article
Written by credits
Email
Phone Number
Pictures info (see below)

Photos

High resolution original
No embedded pictures
Clearly named
Numbered by preference
Photo Credits
Persons and description

Articles may be edited at the discretion of the editing staff and become the property of the Cowlitz Tribe.

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Next edition submissions due Wednesday, August 5th 2020

We are always accepting submissions

Thank you to the many submissions we received for this edition. We appreciate your time and hard work spent on your articles.

Legal Department Update

We hope everyone is as anxious as we are for Spring! Since the last publication, Alicia Derry has left our employ. We appreciate all of her hard work and wish her well in her future endeavors.

In February, we hired **Keegan Bordeaux as a Staff Attorney** for our department. Keegan is an enrolled member of the Rosebud Sioux Tribe, born and raised in Nebraska. He has a five-year-old son and enjoys watching soccer.

We also very recently hired

Sara Bagheri as a second Staff Attorney. Sara is a returning Cowlitz Indian Tribe employee, having worked for the Cultural Resources Department in 2007-2008. She was admitted to the Texas Bar in 2009 and enjoyed a decade of legal practice before returning with her husband and (almost) 2-year old daughter to the beautiful Pacific Northwest.

Please join Phil and Lori in welcoming them to the Cowlitz Legal Department.

Enrollement Updates

Current Enrolled Members

The current enrolled population as of

As of April 24, 2020 is 4251

Since February we have enrolled 33 new tribal members, with multiple pending approval.

Enrollment Requirements

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

1- Applicant must be a direct lineal descendant of a Cowlitz Indian;

2- Applicant must have a parent (mother or father) on the Cowlitz Tribal Roll;

3- Applicant shall be no older than 12 months of age (effective 01/01/2006) or Applicant is 18 years of age and no more than 19 years of age (effective 06/06/2015)

The constitutional change made in June 2018 allows descendants whose parent did not enroll them by their first birthday to enroll themselves as an adult between their 18th and 19th Birthdays.

We sadly report

The following tribal members have passed away

Bonsall, Landon Lee	Rohde, Lois Evangeline
Borte, Joseph Edwin	Roney, David
Deras, Theresa M	Smith, Diana Lynn
Myers, Steven Ross	Torner, Richard Dean
Moore, Nancy Kay	Weatherill, Louise
Nelson, Christal Lee	West-Hudson, Linda

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

If you know of any tribal member or their families that are not receiving mailed tribal information or the newspaper, please have them contact the Enrollment Department.

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.

Enrollment- P: 360-575-3310 | E: enrollment@cowlitz.org

Missing Contact Information for the Following Tribal Members

Abbott, Alvin E	Dill, Cyndi Raven Rayn	King, Courtney Rose	Rockwood, Michael James
Albrecht, Shelly Christine	Dill, Tazzmen Justice	Kniss, Sandra Lee	Roper, John Patrick
Amell, Katherine Ann Emily	Dobson, Roger Lee	Lane, David Mark	Ruemker, Lena Maureen
Arthur, Jaxton Lee	Dominick, Craig Martin	Lang, Gayle Darlene	Ruemker, Nicholas Andrew
Arthur, Justin Andrew	Doneyson, Pailsey Rain Fay	Lindsey, Mercedes Catherine	Russell, Debra Marie
Baker, David Bradley	Dunckel, Brad Lee	Link, Sheryl Diane	Ryan, Isabella Joann
Baker, Kaiden Christopher	Dunckel, Dustin Dean	Lorenz, Lindsey Ellen	Ryan, Joshua Patrick
Baker, Kamryn Danielle	Duprey, Meryl Wayne	Lorenz, Trinity Ellen	Ryan, Trinity Marie
Baker, Ryan Robert	Duprey, Suzanne Marie	Lund, Gwendolyn Marie	Samms, Michael James
Ballantyne, Benjamyn Charles	Duprey, Thomas Gerard	Mabry, Kimberly Ann	Saunders, Troy Allen
Ballantyne, Bryan Charles	Duvall, Nicholas Sean	McCoy, Clayton Wyatt	Schwanz, Tracy Arthur
Boles, Nancy Jane	Easley, Aaron Dean	McMillon II, Micheal Allen	Simmons, Sarah Ruby
Boles, William George	Easley, Makayla Ann	Mefford, Kimberly Michelle	Sims, Evan Danielle
Bouchard, Adam Oliver	Eichler-Miller, Hyacinth	Miller, Cierra Lerae	Sims, Karen Joyce
Bouchard, Stefanie Alta	Donna Maxine	Miller, Reece Andrew	Smith, Andrew Edward
Braley, Sean Ian	Erickson, Robert William	Miller, Vincent William	Smith, Esther Maria
Braley, Wendy Lee	Fulton, Angela Michele	Minkel, Glenn William	Smith, James R
Bridges, L. Jacob Eli	Galloway III, John Baxter	Morrison, Lee Hoyt	Smith, Jesse Lee
Brown, Addison Nicole	Galloway, Barbara Jane	Morrison, Patricia Frances	Smith, Keaton Vaughn Jaeger
Butterton Jr., Jason Allen	Gilbert Jr, William David	Morse, Jason David	Smith, Linda Lee
Campbell, Breanna Lynn	Gilbert, Buddy Gene	Mullins, Alecia Rae	Smith, Melissa Roxanne
Campbell, William Bradley	Gilbert, Darrell John	Mullins, Shayna Lynn	Smith, William Winfield
Carnes Jr, Ryan Richard	Gilbert, Kelly LaDon	Mummey, Cheryl Rae	Stalcup, Joyce Leslie
Carnes, Ryan Richard	Gomez, Danika Jaide	Myers, Daniel Lee	Swaggard, Jeneen
Casaw, Robin LeAnn	Harris, Leslie Ervin	Myers, Jason Ross	Swanson, Thomas Allen
Charvat, Mary Lou	Henry, Savannah Love	Neilsen, Ricky Dean	Swearingen, Daia Denise
Ciarfella, Michael Andrew	Hiebert, Lisa Marie	Newbaker, Raymond Russell	Thomas, Eric V
Clark, Kenneth Virgil	Humbertson, Gretchen Jo	Nichols, Marilyn Inez	Thompson, Lucas Craig
Clemente, Damon Hoisa	Jackson, Zachary David Lee	Norris, Shaylee Marie	Tucker, Gwenith Christine
Cloquet, Chance Michael	James, Jacqueline Marie	Otten, Delanie Mae	Valdez, August Analdo
Cloquet, Joshua Michael	James, Judith Ann	Pardee, Betty Rose	Whittle, Ronald Wesley
Connolly, Gavin David	James, William Julius	Pearson, Elizabeth Anne	Williams, Jesse Hall
Cornett, Michelle Lee	Jones, Zada Mae	Pearson, Ellen Grace	Williams, Raelene Ruth
Corpuz, Deborah Kelleen	Jordan, Antoinette	Pellegrini, Mark Stephen	Wilson, Jeffrey John
Crabtree, Rebecca Lynn	Christinia	Perez, Lori Louise	Young Jr., William George
Daniels, Chase Henry	Judge, Janet LaVerne	Pfohlman Jr., Donald Arthur	Young-Brown, Kitana Reign
Dawson, Gary L	Kacmarcik, Benjamin James	Putas, Anthony Micheal	Zawistowski III, Vernon Lloyd
Dawson, Maurice R	Kennedy, Edgar Lewis	Rayman, Jeremy Lewis	Zawistowski Jr, Vernon Lloyd
Denney, Victoria Lynn	King, Arnold Boyd	Richards, Debra Ann	
DeNobrega, Nio Arcenio	King, Brooklyn Sonny	Robinson, Stephanie Lynn	

Cowlitz Tribe's 2020 Census Outreach and Education

Klahowya!

By now you should have received a postcard invitation to do the 2020 Census, or a Census form in the mail. The United States Census is a constitutionally mandated count of all people living in the United States and is crucial for federal distribution of funds to the Cowlitz Tribe, local, regional, and state governments for infrastructure, programs, and services.

If you have not completed your Census, it is not too late to do so! At the time of this article, the Census is set to be open until August 14th, 2020. So, you can still log on to www.2020census.gov and respond, with or without the special code.

#COWLITZCOUNTS

Counting Individual Natives: To accurately count yourself as a tribal member, check the race question box as: "American Indian or Alaska Native" and add your Tribe's official name: "Cowlitz Indian Tribe". For the Census, please do not check any other boxes indicating any other race (or Tribe) even though you may identify with one or more other races or Tribes. Do this for

each "Person" in your household as appropriate.

For some data sets pulled by federal agencies, those who indicate more than one race are excluded from the statistics used to count American Indian or Alaska Native (AI/AN) individuals and families for purposes of funding Tribal programs. If you declare more than one racial identity, you are categorized as "Two or More Races" and placed into a separate category along with all non-Indians who also report multiple races.

Native Household Counts: To be considered a Native "Household," the "Person 1" on the Census Questionnaire needs to be any person living in your home, age 15 or older, who self-identifies as AI/AN. Person 1 on the Census form is not the same as the designated "head of household" IRS classification – it is simply the first person listed on the form. The race of the first person listed is what the Census uses to determine the racial demographic for the entire "Household." Your household will only be counted as an AI/AN Household if "Person

1" identifies as AI/AN American Indian or Alaska Native and does not check any other racial category boxes. The race of "Person 1" is used to categorize the entire household despite the individual race declarations of the other household members.

All individuals who self-identify as AI/AN on the Census will still be counted as Native individuals

but for the household to count as a Native "Household," a Native individual 15 years old or older must be "Person 1" on the form.

Who to Count: A total and complete population count for each household directly impacts our congressional representation

and future housing funds for our communities. Please include everyone living in your home on April 1st.

Count all children living in the home, including children under 1 year old (indicate their age as a zero), foster children, grandchildren, nieces and nephews, and the children of friends (even if they are living with you temporarily). If you have split custody of children, count those children on your form and indicate they live somewhere else part of the time. If you or anyone you know has Native foster youth in their care, please identify those youth as AI/AN and include their principle or affiliated tribe, if known.

Count adults who may live in your home part-time or are couch surfing, or those living in a vehicle or tent on your property. If someone in your house is in jail (or prison), institutionalized, off at college, or lives with another family member part of the time, you should count them and check the box to indicate that they live somewhere else part of the time to assure they are counted. The

Census can filter responses for duplicates, which makes sure that our relatives are counted. This is important because they may not be counted as Native in the Census group quarters counts.

Safe: Your response to the Census questionnaire is safe, secure, and protected by federal law. Your answers are only used to create statistics and cannot be used against you in any way. By law, U.S. Census surveys are kept completely confidential. Most of all, your response to the Census helps improve future funding possibilities for the Tribe and your local communities.

Go to www.2020census.gov and take just 10 minutes to fill it out.

Because Tribal events and meetings are temporarily postponed or cancelled, our Census Team is working in the digital realm to assist you. You can get help on the Census from our Trusted Messengers on the Cowlitz Tribal Planning Facebook Group linked to the main Cowlitz Tribe's main Facebook page.

Mahsie!

Christine Myers, Senior Planner



Cowlitz Language Corner

Father - Mán
"Mon" like 'dawn' replacing 'd' with 'm'

Mother - Tán
"Ton" like 'dawn' replacing 'd' with 't'

Grandmother - Káy
Sounds like the 'ky' in 'sky'

Grandfather - Kwúpa?
"Quo-pa" using 'quo' in 'quote' with 'pa' sounding like 'paw'

Cousin - Súc's
"Soats" Sounds like boats but with an "S"

Questions? Email: language@cowlitz.org

Language Conservancy Update

The Language Conservancy is the foremost organization currently working with endangered languages in North America. The Cowlitz Indian Tribe started a contract with them in January 2020 to start revitalizing the Lower Cowlitz Salish language.

They are currently in the process of digitizing and organizing the Dale M. Kinkade Cowlitz Salish Dictionary into a database. While also editing and cutting audio data to start aligning dictionary entries with the audio files.

All of this compiled data will be put into a Vocab Builder app that can be utilized by all tribal members. As language resources become available, tribal members will be notified.

Cowlitz Tribal Tuition Assistance Program

Tuition Assistance Program Update

Not long ago, Mike Iyall and I visited a classroom to talk to students about the Cowlitz Indian Tribe. At the end of the lecture, a young high school girl came up and told us that she was Cowlitz. We immediately told her about the Cowlitz Tuition Assistance Award Program, the importance of getting good grades, and the opportunity to go to a vocational/trade school, community college, or university.

It was beautiful to see her eyes light up.

Parents of our Cowlitz youth, please encourage your children to work hard in school and obtain good grades. Your encouragement can help them

to have plenty of options when seeking a vocational certificate or a college degree. Cowlitz parents, this option is open to you as well. As the Cowlitz Tuition Assistance Program continues to grow, we have seen a

growth in Cowlitz adults wishing to continue their education.

In the 2019-20 academic year, over 220 Cowlitz students in vocational, undergraduate, and graduate programs received a Tuition Assistance Award.

The Tribal Council's continued support of this program will provide Tuition Assistance Awards to over 220 Cowlitz

and are taking advantage of it.

The demand is high. Don't delay. Submit your application today.

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, David Littleton, Timi Russin, and especially the very hard work of Mike and Joan Iyall. Without their help, this program would not happen.

For information about Cowlitz Education, check out the Education page on the Cowlitz website www.cowlitz.org

under Services on the Cowlitz or e-mail us at education@cowlitz.org.

Gregg Ford, Chair
Cowlitz Education Committee

students in the 2020-21 academic year (May 1, 2020, through April 30, 2021). The application has been posted since early January, and 81 applications have been approved. More and more Cowlitz are aware of this program

Funding available for Cowlitz Tribal Members enrolled in the following programs:

Vocational Certificate- up to \$11,000 per year

Associate Degree - up to \$6,000 per year

Bachelor's Degree - up to \$11,000 per year

Master Degree - up to \$16,500 per year

Doctorate Degree - up to \$16,500 per year

The Education Committee Celebrates this Year's Cowlitz Graduates

They are our Cowlitz family legacy. The students hard work and dedication and the financial assistance from the Cowlitz Tribe have resulted in vocational certificates and degrees. Of the 31 Cowlitz students who graduated this year, the following students gave us permission to include their names in this newsletter.

Vocational Certificate

Cory Charvat
Danielle Lund
Courtney Simpson (nee Welty)

Associate Degree

Kelton Carter
Holly Keirns
Emily Shields
Hatthey Smith

Bachelor's Degree

Anabelle Barnett
Olivia Bouchard
Celine Cottenoir
Nate Cottnair
Christopher Dennis
Caleb Garrett
Adam Grondyke
Michaela Guerra
Lauren Kondrat
Mackenzie Lawrence
Kyle McCartney
Rebecca Swan

Master's Degree

Joel Swenson
Matthew Thomas
Mariah Westermarck
Jessie Dietz
Christine Dupres
Wendy Fisher
Frank Fox
Mikayla Lawrence

Doctoral Degree

Angela Barnick

Thank You Notes Received:

Thank you and the rest of the Tribe for everything you have done for me!

Thank you so much!! Couldn't have done it without you!!

Going back to school at the age of 50 was a real chore, but such a great experience. I am so grateful to the Tribe for its support in a lifetime milestone and goal!

Wow! I'm incredibly grateful. I plan to make the most of this opportunity. Thank you very much!

Thank you and the committee for awarding me this scholarship. I really do appreciate the support you are providing to me towards my education.

Thank you so much for the assistance in my future.

I can't thank the Tribe enough for the work they do for these students.

I can't express in words how grateful I am for these opportunities.

I would like to thank everyone for giving me this opportunity. I am extremely grateful that the Tribe has been able to help me get on track to reach my dream of becoming a Nurse.

I really appreciate the contribution my Cowlitz Tribe has made! On to the finish line!

COWLITZ TRIBAL DISCOUNTS

MICHAEL JORDAN'S / LINE & LURE

15% Off* And Tax Exemption

TOM'S URBAN

15% Off* And Tax Exemption

ROSE & THORN / LONGHOUSE

25% Off* And Tax Exemption

MARSHALL ROUSSO / RUBY BLUE

10% Off* And Tax Exemption

COWLITZ TRADING POST

15% Off* And Tax Exemption

THE MARKET

20% Off* And Tax Exemption

*Exclusions May Apply.

Cultural Resources Board

By: Cassandra Sellards Reck

The Culture Resources Board meets monthly before Tribal Council. We are always working on promoting, enriching, and offering opportunities for Cowlitz Tribal members. The Board is made up of 4 Tribal Council members, 4 Culture Resources Board members, and a representative from each Culture group. We work collaboratively and are supported by the Cowlitz Culture Department.

There is a Facebook page called Cowlitz Culture and Canoe that accepts all who are interested. The Culture Department has an email list that Tribal members can receive to include them in all events. Some sacred events will only come out via email to keep them private. You can email Emma Johnson at ejohnson@cowlitz.org or csellardsreck@hotmail.com to get more information.

The following events are subject to change related to the COVID-19 outbreak:

- There will be a ceremony for the new Canoe planned at the First Salmon Ceremony, June 7th at 11 am at the Cowlitz River. The Canoe will be available to witness and touch at the June General Council meeting outside on the concrete pad.
- The first big pull will be on the Sunday following General Council at the First Salmon Ceremony. All are invited to this event, which is located on the Cowlitz Landing property at 122 Mulford Rd. Toledo, Wa.
- The Drum Group has expanded to meet each week in Longview at the Ernie Donovan Wellness Center on Tuesdays at 6 pm with a Potluck. There is an additional Drum Group at the Vancouver building on the first Friday of each month at 6 pm. Jeremiah Wallace is the contact and coordinating the drumming practices.
- There are culture days each third Saturday at different Cowlitz Tribal locations. This is an opportunity to experience culture, drumming, and teachings all in one day. We gather in the a.m., have lessons and teachings, and finish with a meal and drumming. Culture

Day is open to everyone. There is gas assistance for each gathering to help our families. For more questions, please contact Jeremiah at (360)266-7720 or Cassandra Sellards Reck at (360)513-1243.

- The Journey to Nanaimo, Canada, will be in July (dates are still being determined) and the host in Canada will be July 27-August 1. This year, we will be pulling in our water practicing every month. There will be a schedule of practices to come out on Facebook. We start each Journey with a ceremonial event at Ft. Vancouver. This year, we will plan for July 10th at 11 am at the Columbia River. The Canoe landing will be at Marine Park on SE Marine Park Way, Vancouver, WA. Afterward, we gather at the lawn across from the Fort on East 5th Street. For any questions, please contact Devin Reck at (360)513-5886 or Dale Cottenware at (360)261-4977, John O'Brien at (360)880-4560, and Jeremiah Wallace at (360)266-7720.

- Huckleberry Camp will be August 20-23 at the Swift School House east of Swift Dam, located next to the Pine Creek Ranger Station. Please bring your berry bucket, camping gear, and personal supplies. The Cowlitz Tribe provides food, water, and the porta-potties. There are daily trips to the mountain and lake. There is room for RVs and Trailers. Please contact Cassandra Sellards Reck for more questions at (360)513-1243.
- The Language Conservancy contracts are signed and the program is evolving. There will be more information to come with more opportunities. In the contract, they will offer camps, gatherings, videos, YouTube, and so much more. We are really blessed to have this opportunity to restore our Lower Cowlitz language. The next step is to work on the Upper Cowlitz language. Michael Hubbs has been working with Steve Kutz and Nathan Reynolds on the project as well. For more information, please contact Steve Kutz at (360)731-2885 or Cassandra Sellards Reck (360)513-1243.

Drum & Culture Group Meets

Drum Group meets each **First Friday** at the Cowlitz Vancouver Building: 700 NE 26th Ave. Vancouver, Wa 98665

&

Each Tuesday in Longview at the Ernie Donovan Wellness Center at the Cowlitz Indian Tribal Clinic: 1055 9th Ave. Longview, Wa 98632

Culture Days are the **3rd Saturday of non-Summer months**. This includes teachings, meals and Drumming. Location is



Charity Hodges, Cathy Sellards, Ellen Harju, Robert Byrd, Efren Aries, Devin Reck, Ron Sellards and Jeremiah Wallace

All events are advertised on Cowlitz Culture and Canoe Facebook

determined by Need

Jeremiah Wallace

(360) 266-7720

Questions?

Cassandra Sellards Reck
csellardsreck@hotmail.com
or (360) 513-1243

Cowlitz Tribal Culture
email culture@cowlitz.org

Veteran's Corner

Cowlitz Veterans, come to the next General Council meeting if you haven't gotten your Cowlitz Rangers hat. We will have hats available for you.

The Smithsonian's National Museum of the American Indian is building a National Native American Veterans Memorial to recognize the service of American Indian, Alaskan Native, and Native Hawaiian veterans. The memorial will be dedicated on Veterans Day, November 2020.

From November 10th through November 15th, the Smithsonian will host various events, including the Native Veterans Procession, a dedication ceremony, and first access to the memorial. Some of our Cowlitz Tribal Leaders are planning to attend this event.

If you are going and would like to join fellow Cowlitz veterans, contact me by email. jiyall@cowlitz.org

If you haven't provided your contact information to us yet,

please complete the following and mail it to the Cowlitz Indian Tribe Cowlitz Enrollment Office at

1055 9th Ave. Suite B
Longview, WA 98632.

This information is used to record Cowlitz Tribal Veterans. Veterans' records will be kept confidential and will only be used as authorized by the Tribal Council.

Jerry Iyall, Cowlitz Veterans Representative

Veterans Sign Up

Name _____

Branch of Service _____ Date of Discharge _____

Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip Code _____

Email _____ Phone Number (_____) _____

Canoe Family

Kla-how-ya (hello), Səncáyał n skʷáct (my name is) Jeramiah Wallace and I am Lower Cowlitz, I come from the House of Tye Scanewa. As many of you know, the Cowlitz Canoe Family has been on the water for more than a decade.

Every year, the canoe family participates in the Inter-Tribal Canoe Journeys. Last year was the Paddle to Lummi. Cowlitz started in Squaxin and traveled from reservation to reservation doing protocol and traveling with more than 100 tribes, First Nations, and canoe families from Oregon to Alaska. Each tribe asks permission to come ashore, the hosts put on a dinner with traditional foods, and at night time, formal protocol starts.

Each tribe takes the floor and sings their songs, dances, speaks, and gifts

the hosts. We have seen even canoes given away as gifts. On Paddle to Quinault, the Quinault Indian Nation gave away 11 canoes.

In 2019, Dave Barnett hired Guy Capoeiman from Quinault to make a 36' cedar strip canoe to carry on the tradition of his father John Barnett, who bought the Sehu hi tithla (sa ho he teeth la) canoe.

The new canoe is the traditional style of an ocean-going canoe that Cowlitz ancestors would have used. The hull is reinforced and has more seats than Sehu hi tithla; it is also wide enough to seat three people in each seat. The bottom is flat and much more stable in the water.

The new canoe was woken up with Sehu hi tithla on March 1st at Ike Kinswa State Park. Now that Cowlitz has two ocean-going

canoes, more people are needed to fill them, with our tribe being so big, that shouldn't be an issue.

Canoe Journeys are a life-changing spiritual experience. They have helped me to learn a new way of life. I would encourage anyone struggling spiritually, whether it be from substance abuse, depression, grief, PTSD, etc., to reach out and get involved. I have struggled with drug addiction for the majority of my life. Journeys are what have helped me to stay in a good way. I have been involved with the canoe since I was released from prison in 2007.

If you know anyone who is struggling and may benefit from becoming culturally involved, please reach out to them. Feel free to contact David Cottenware (360) 644-8088 or myself at (360) 266-7720.



Canoe (Sehu'hi'tithla) on left going back to front: David Cottenware, Ricardo Rodriguez, Juana Rodriguez (daughter), Desani Rodriguez (Son), Lidia Hodges, Christine Hawkens, Mike Altaffer, Shannon Joseph, Victor McGill
New canoe going back to front: Jeramiah Wallace, Shawna Decker, Eathan Page, Matther Brewer, Noah Reck, Ci?dom? McGill, Kendra Joseph, David Barnett, Aloma Joseph, Sean Britt, Milly Joseph, Dale Cottenware (on the shore)

General Welfare Exclusion Act Updates

In 2014 Congress unanimously passed and President Obama signed into law the General Welfare Exclusion (GWE) Act. 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 the Internal Revenue Service (IRS) for tax purposes.

One-time Elders Benefit

In the last few years, the Cowlitz Tribal Council has implemented two GWE programs for Cowlitz elders. The first was a one-time benefit payment of \$5,000 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.

Annual Elders Benefit

The second GWE program for elders is an annual benefit payment of \$3,000 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 wellness programs. This payment will be made annually, after the first of each year, as long as funds are available.

Essential Needs Benefit

Most recently, the Tribal Council approved a GWE benefit of \$1,000

for tribal members who are 21 years old or older. This program is for Essential Needs such as housing, education, health care, culture, transportation, etc. If funds are available, these benefits will be made available annually.

At the time this newsletter is being prepared, applications for these new GWE programs are being prepared and mailed to Tribal members who are 21 and older.

Once applications are completed and returned to the Cowlitz Enrollment office and eligibility is verified, we will begin issuing payments.

These payments may take up to 90 days to process. We will not issue an IRS 1099 form or other tax forms to elders for these GWE program payments. You do not have to report these GWE program payments as income to the IRS.

Accomplishments and Hope

As of the writing of this article, Tribal Council has authorized, and the Cowlitz Administrative office has issued nearly \$8 million to nearly 700 Cowlitz elders. We anticipate that we will issue an additional \$3 million to 3,000 Cowlitz tribal members who are 21 and older. By using the GWE program for these \$11 million of benefits, we will save tribal members approximately \$1.6 million in income tax. This savings was calculated by using

the 2018 average tax rate of 14.2%, as determined by the Internal Revenue Service.

Affected Government Benefits

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.

If you have Cowlitz GWE benefit questions, please contact the Cowlitz Enrollment Office at

P: 360-575-3310
E: memberservices@cowlitz.org

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

Jerry Iyall, Cowlitz Tribal Council
E: jiyall@cowlitz.org

Contract Health Service or Purchase Referred Care

Enrolled Tribal Member Steps to Utilizing CHS/PRC

Complete Registration Process

Maintain Residency in the Service Delivery Area →

Receive Eligibility Determination

Make Your Appointment

Call for Prior Authorization as Soon as Possible

CLARK	PIERCE
COWLITZ	THURSTON
SKAMANIA	KING
LEWIS	KITTITAS
WAHKIAKUM	COLUMBIA (OR)

Some of the Services Available Through CHS/PRC

- » \$4000 Dental Allowance
up to \$1750 in Orthodontics -no age restrictions
- » Comprehensive Pharmacy Benefits
- » Cataract/Glaucoma Surgery
- » PT/OT/Vision/Speech Therapy
- » Medical Massage
- » Hearing Aids
- » Chiropractic
- » Sleep Disorders
- » Emergency Transport
- » Eye Glasses (up to \$1050) or Contacts

CHS/PRC offers assistance for a multitude of services, please call to discuss your specific needs and to find out if a referral is needed. Services subject to change.

Calling for Prior Authorization Benefits You

- Verification of Eligibility ✓
- Funding Allowance ✓
- Verification of Alternate Resources ✓
- Confirmation of Covered Service ✓
- Provider Set Up ✓
- Contracted Provider Confirmation ✓
- Proper Billing ✓

CHS/PRC is a payer of last resort. If you qualify for insurance at no cost to you, you will be required to accept it.

LET'S KEEP IN TOUCH

360-575-8275 x2 | cowlitzhealth@cowlitz.org | 1044 11th Ave Longview WA



Announcing the Newest Cowlitz Warriors

Greyson Riley Cottonware

Welcoming Greyson Riley Cottonware with love. By proud parents Nick and Sondra Cottonware and grandparents Don and Pam Cottonware of Hunt, Texas and Jenny Etienne of Kerrville, Texas. Born on November 11, 2019, weighing 8 pounds 5 ounces and 21.5 inches long.



Charlie Andrew Lowell

Joyfully introducing Charlie Andrew Lowell, with love by Brittaney Nelson (descendant of Lucille LeGarde) Charlie was born in Yakima, Washington on September 23, 2019 (12:29pm) weighing 8 pounds 12 ounces and 21 inches long.



Jade Lynn Harju

Cheerfully introducing, Jade Lynn Harju by adoring parents Lorence Orosco and Ellen Harju (daughter of Philip Harju and Claudia Tenney). Born on December 17, 2019 weighing 8 pounds 3 ounces and 20 inches long.



Carson Ray Rivard

William & Lacey Rivard are excited to welcome their son Carson Ray Rivard. Born in Redwood City, California on January 19, 2020 weighing 6 pounds 14 ounces.



Mauricio Mendoza Friend- Lopez

Kyle Lopez & Juanita Sanchez gave birth to their first son. Mauricio's proud grandparents Britney Sorensen & Jose Lopez Jr. & Great Grandmother Melody Lopez born April 25, 2020 weight at 7 pounds 3 ounces and 21 inches long.

Northwest University Graduate



Grace Marie Savage, Cowlitz Tribal Member, graduated in May 2019 from Northwest University in Kirkland, Washington.

Grace received her Bachelor of Arts degree in Music. Upon graduation, Grace was employed at DOXA Church in Bellevue, Washington, as Worship Ministry Associate.

Grace resides in Kirkland, Washington, and receives many requests to travel to foreign countries to minister to refugees.

She enjoys working with high school youth and trout fishing with her mom on Haven Lake in Tahuya, WA.

Dream Catcher Legacy Project



Ryan Hoage with autographed Superbowl football from Russel Wilson



Skye Morris on Trac Chair that takes her places like hiking trails

I have started this project on behalf of my father and myself, to give back to those Cowlitz members who have disabilities and other special needs. I want to make a difference in their lives, in a world that I sometimes feel is unfair.

I want to put smiles on their faces and bring them happiness. If you know of a special needs tribal member who could be uplifted with something special, please let me know and let's see if we can make it happen. Let's do this together.

Sincerely and on behalf of my father John Barnett and myself, Dave Barnett, Tribal Council Member

206-707-5765 | jakeybelle@aol.com

Engagement Announcement of Lindsay Avila



We are proud to announce Tribal Member Lindsay Avila's engagement to Jack Conrad!

We are excited to welcome Jack and his family to ours!

The happy couple made their engagement official in Santa Cruz, California

Cowlitz Youth Wins Music Award

Kaity Adkins is a flutist at Rogers High School and a Running Start student at Pierce Community College. She began studying the flute in elementary school and now plays several instruments in four bands, including the piccolo, alto flute, clarinet, and alto saxophone.



Adkins most enjoys the technical challenges and the sense of accomplishment when she works together with her team. She says that at both Kalles and Rodgers, the flue sections have been cohesive, friendly, and supportive. Anyone talking with this talented and well-spoken young lady could easily believe flutists are all those things and more

Written by: Karrie Zylstra

Wrestling Champ

Congratulations to Troy Cottenware for his successful year wrestling at Huntington High School in Kelso. We're so proud of you!!!



Cheer for Success



Cynthia Reck is a Freshman at Hockinson High School. She just finished her first year of cheer and has a 3.89 GPA. Cynthia is on the Cowlitz Indian Tribal Youth Leadership Board, a Former Cowlitz Canoe Princess, Canoe Family member, and Drum Group member. She is also on the Cowlitz Cultural Resources Board as the Youth Delegate. She volunteers tirelessly, and we are so proud of her. Congratulations, Cynthia!!!

Record Breaking Rebounds



Congratulations to Stacy Spar for another amazing 2B 2nd Team All-Area!

Stacy broke the school record for rebounds. The media has dubbed her the 'Board Beast.' She holds the post position on the 2B team and Toledo High School team.

Stacy is on the Cowlitz Indian Tribal Youth Leadership Board, the Cowlitz Canoe Princess, Canoe Family member, Drum Group member, and is an avid volunteer. Congratulations, Stacy; your ancestors would be proud of you!!!

2020 SKLOUTWOUT FAMILY REUNION

"Skloutwout" is the Indian name of Lucy Weiser. Please join other Skloutwout relatives from near and far for this ongoing annual extended family reunion, not limited to Cowlitz tribal members. Bring your genealogy knowledge, family pictures, written family histories, and memories to share, plus a potluck dish and beverages to contribute to the meal and a chair for sitting outdoors.

- **What: A family reunion gathering starting at 11 am, with a potluck meal to follow**
- **When: Sunday, August 30th, 2020 - 11 am until mid to late afternoon**
- **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 a mile and a half, then turn left (south) onto Dorning Rd. Go to the end of the road. Watch for Wilson family sign and turn right. This will lead you onto Roy's property at the end of the road (watch for the signs). You may also use Google maps to direct you; search for Bear Raven Longhouse, Winlock, WA.

For further information, contact:

Linda Foley
206-276-6010 (cell)
email: llsfoley@comcast.net

Marsha Williams
253-857-8832 (home)
253-355-0368 (cell)
email: mjwtms@centurytel.net

Tribal Member Portal

The Cowlitz Information Technology (IT) team has been hard at work preparing to make a website portal specifically for the members of the Cowlitz Tribe. During this process you will see a makeover of the main website (www.cowlitz.org). It will have a user-friendly look and feel along with detailed information on services and departments across the organization.

The secured connected portal will allow members to access special announcements, sign up for newsletters, update member information, view tribal Council meeting videos and more.

In part of getting things set up we ask that you visit the website and sign up for online access. You will need an email and your tribal member number to start. Go to www.links.cowlitz.org/ update or scan this QR code on your phone.



Cowlitz Tribal Council



Top Back: Cassandra Sellards-Reck, Debbie Hassler, Tim Van Mechelen, Steve Kutz, Celine Cloquet, Dave Barnett, Whitney Mosback, Dan Meyer, Christine Dupres, Karissa Lowe, Justice Rhodes, Ty Koch (resigned), Front Row: Phil Harju, Nancy Osborne, Robin Torner, Mike Iyall, Katherine Iyall-Vasquez, Patty Kinsaw-Gaiser, Bill Iyall, Rourk Monohon (resigned), Jerry Iyall, Don Walkinshaw Sr.

Name	Role	Term	Email	Name	Role	Term	Email
*William Iyall	GC - Chairman	2021	wiyall@tc.cowlitz.org	Robin Torner	Member	2020	rtorner@tc.cowlitz.org
*Philip Harju	GC - Vice-Chair	2020	pharju@tc.cowlitz.org	Katherine Iyall-Vasquez	Member	2021	kiyall-vasquez@tc.cowlitz.org
*Nancy Osborne	GC - Secretary	2021	secretary@cowlitz.org	Justice Rhodes	Member	2021	jrhodes@tc.cowlitz.org
*Dan Meyer	GC - Treasurer	2020	treasurer@cowlitz.org	Patty Kinsaw-Gaiser	Member	2021	pkinswa-gaiser@tc.cowlitz.org
*Steve Kutz	TC -Chairman	2021	skutz@tc.cowlitz.org	Tom Childs	Member	2021	tchilds@tc.cowlitz.org
*Debbie Hassler	TC - Vice-Chair	2020	dhassler@tc.cowlitz.org	Celine Cloquet	Member	2022	ccloquet@tc.cowlitz.org
*Whitney Mosback	TC - Secretary	2021	wmosback@tc.cowlitz.org	Tim Van Mechelen	Member	2022	tvanmechelen@tc.cowlitz.org
*Jerry Iyall	TC - At Large Rep.	2022	jiyall@tc.cowlitz.org	Don Walkinshaw Sr.	Member	2022	dwalkinshawsr@tc.cowlitz.org
*Karissa Lowe	TC - At Large Rep.	2020	klowe@tc.cowlitz.org	David Barnett	Member	2022	dbarnett@tc.cowlitz.org
Mike Iyall	Member	2020	miyall@tc.cowlitz.org	Cassandra Sellards Reck	Member	2022	csellards-reck@tc.cowlitz.org
Christine Dupres	Member	2020	cdupres@tc.cowlitz.org	Aaron Workman	Member	2020	aworkman@tc.cowlitz.org

*Denotes Executive Council Member | GC = General Council | TC = Tribal Council

Office Locations & Associated Services

LONGVIEW

1055 9th Ave,
Longview, WA 98632

Administration Offices
Enrollment & Benefits
Natural Resources
Cultural Resources
Primary Care Clinic
Contract Health
Mental Health Services
Substance Use Disorder
Healing of the Canoe
Pathways to Healing
Indian Child Welfare

Child Care Development
HHS Childcare
Vocational Rehabilitation
Transportation

ST. MARY'S

107 Spencer Rd,
Toledo, WA 98591

Housing
Elders Program
Youth Program
Community Garden

RESERVATION

1 Cowlitz Way 1
Ridgefield, WA 98642

ilani Casino
Tobacco Outlet
Cowlitz Crossing
Tribal Gaming Agency
Public Safety
Tribal Court

VANCOUVER

7700 NE 26th Ave,
Vancouver, WA 98665

Mental Health
Substance Use Disorder
Co-Occurring Disorder
Case Management
Pathways to Healing
Vocational Rehab
Indian Child Welfare
Natural Resources

TUKWILA

15455 65th Ave S,
Tukwila, WA 98188

Mental Health
Substance Use Disorder
Medically-Assisted Treatment
Pathways to Healing
Co-Occurring Disorder
Case Management
Indian Child Welfare

FOR MORE INFORMATION CALL (360) 577-8140 OR VISIT OUR WEBSITE AT WWW.COWLITZ.ORG

*PLEASE NOTE THIS IS NOT A COMPLETE LIST OF SERVICES PROVIDED AT EACH LOCATION

BOARDS
AND
COMMITTEES**Cultural Resources Board**

Steve Kutz	Chair HHS Representative	skutz@tc.cowlitz.org
Debbie Hassler	Vice Chair Tribal Council Electee	dhassler@tc.cowlitz.org
Cassandra Sellards Reck	Secretary Drum Group	csellards-reck@tc.cowlitz.org
Tanna Engdahl	Spiritual Leader Elders Represent	
John O'Brien	Canoe Representative	
Claudia Tenney	Youth Board Representative	
Bob Harju	Carving Program Representative	
Michael Hubbs	Language Program Representative	
Phil Harju	Tribal Council Electee	
Taylor Aalvik	Natural Resources Representative	
Celine Cloquet	Tribal Council Electee	
Melody Pfeifer	Cultural Board at Large	
Christine Dupres	Tribal Council Electee	
Jeremiah Wallace	Cultural Board at Large	
Cynthia Reck	Youth Representative	
John Forespring Jr	Cultural Board at Large	
Kris Dillehay	Pow Wow Representative	
Charity Sabido-Hodges	Cultural Board at Large	

Health Board

Cassandra Sellards Reck	Chair	csellards-reck@tc.cowlitz.org
Debbie Hassler	Vice Chair	dhassler@tc.cowlitz.org
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	Committee Member	
Carol Seholm	Committee Member	

Housing Board

Kevin Ward	Chair	
Dustin Griggs	Vice-chair	
Beth Ward	Treasurer	
Linda Turnbull	Secretary	
Pat Iyall-Barnes	Member	
Tom Childs	Member	
Kathryn Iyall-Vasquez	Member	

Youth Board

Cassandra Sellards Reck	Chair	csellards-reck@tc.cowlitz.org
Donna Bagley	Vice Chair	cowlitznative@yahoo.com
Racheal Paige	Secretary	simperca@yahoo.com
Devin Reck	Youth Advocate	reckdevin@gmail.com
Claudia Tenney	Member	
Charity Sabido-Hodges	Member	
David Cottonware	Member	
Ty Koch	Member	
Kasey Koch	Member	

Cowlitz Tribal Gaming Authority

Sonny Bridges	Chair	sbridges@cowlitz.org
Bill Iyall	Vice Chair	wiyall@tc.cowlitz.org
Jess Groll	Treasurer	jwgroll@cowlitz.org
VACANT	Secretary	

Cowlitz Tribal Gaming Commission

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

Canoe Family

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

Cassandra Sellards Reck	Chair	csellards-reck@tc.cowlitz.org
Steve Kutz	Vice Chair	skutz.health@cowlitz.org
Melody Pfeifer	Secretary	mpfeifer@cowlitz.org

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Celine Cloquet	Vice Chair	
David Iyall	Secretary	
Mike Iyall		
Karissa Lowe	Member	
Becky Lowe	Member	
Suzanne Donaldson Stephens	Member	
Dave Littleton	Member	
Dave Reichel	Member	
Joan Iyall	Member	
Timi Russin	Member	
Committee Email:	education@cowlitz.org	
Committee web link:	www.cowlitz.org/resources/education.html	

Economic Development Committee

Tim Van Mechelen	Chair	tvanmechelen@tc.cowlitz.org
Whitney Mosback	Vice Chair	wmosback@tc.cowlitz.org
Don Wakinshaw, Jr.	Secretary	dwakinshaw@ilaniresort.com
Don Van Mechelen	Member	
Steve Kutz	Member	
Dan Meyer	Member	
Robert Harju	Member	
Taylor Aalvik	Member	
Melissa Johnson	Member	
Tom Childs	Member	

Enrollment Committee

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

Teri Wright

David Kinswa

Revenue Review Committee

Bill Iyall	Chairman	wiyall@tc.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 VanMechelen	Member	
Cassandra Sellards Reck	Member	
Debbie Hassler	Member	

Strategic Planning

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Debbie Hassler	Vice Chair	
Christine Meyers	Secretary Staff	
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Pow Wow Committee

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Jane Meyers	Treasurer	
Nicole Meyers	Member	
Ali Guerra	Member	
Melanie Mariano	Member	
Vici Wulf	Member	
Kevin King	Member	
Beth Ward	Member	

COVID-19: Prioritizing Safety and Communication

continued from front page

shopping trips, and social visits.

- Do not visit nursing homes or retirement or long-term care facilities unless to provide critical assistance.
- Practice good hygiene:
- Wash your hands, especially after touching any frequently used item or surface.
- Avoid touching your face.
- Sneeze or cough into a tissue, or the inside of your elbow.
- Disinfect frequently used items and surfaces as much as possible.

* School operations can accelerate the spread of the coronavirus. Governors of states with evidence of community transmission should close schools in affected and surrounding areas. Governors should close schools in communities that are near areas of community transmission, even if those areas are in neighboring states. In addition, state and local officials

should close schools where coronavirus has been identified in the population associated with the school. States and localities that close schools need to address the childcare needs of critical responders, as well as the nutritional needs of children.

Older people are particularly at risk from the coronavirus. All states should follow Federal guidance and halt social visits to nursing homes and retirement and long-term care facilities.

In states with evidence of community transmission, bars, restaurants, food courts, gyms, and other indoor and outdoor venues where groups of people congregate should be closed.

The Cowlitz Indian Tribe (CIT), consistent with state and federal declarations, **announced an emergency declaration.** CIT is committed to approaching the COVID-19 pandemic with the utmost focus and resolve. Until further notice, CIT is instituting protections for its

tribal government employees. CIT staff are urged to work from home if feasible and exercise critical social distancing. This means staying at least 3-6 feet away from other individuals and not gathering in groups over 10 people.

CIT is a supportive member of multiple Washington communities impacted by COVID-19 and is aggressively doing its part to limit the spread of the virus. COVID-19 testing will be available in the Longview clinic this week for established patients.

The expanded 'social distancing' measures are designed to slow the spread of COVID-19 and blunt the looming spike in new cases. This is often called "flattening" the epidemiological curve - i.e., spread the number of cases out over time to protect hospitals, so they can serve the patients who need them.

by Chairman. Bill Iyall



cowlitz crossing
FUEL AND CONVENIENCE STORE

Use the Momentum Dollars you've earned at ilani for gas and your favorite Cowlitz Crossing Treats. Plus, as a Cowlitz Tribal Member, you receive 15% off in-store purchases and \$0.375 off per gallon.

Discounts not applicable for alcohol, tobacco or already discounted items. Must present Tribal ID to receive discount. ilani is committed to responsible gaming. If you or someone you know has a gambling problem, please call the Washington State Gambling Helpline at 800.547.6133.



Annual Cowlitz Indian Tribe Recognition Celebration

On February 16, 2020, the Cowlitz Indian Tribe held its Recognition Dinner at ilani to honor the tribe's 20th anniversary. This year's dinner had the highest attendance in history, with approximately 500 tribal members, family members, and Cowlitz supporters participating in the event. The recognition dinner was a celebration of twenty years of recognition by the U.S. Department of the Interior and Bureau of Indian Affairs.

Tribal members who attended the signing of the tribe's recognition in Washington D.C. shared their stories and memories in the traditional oral manner. This method of sharing memories is excellent for others to learn about the experience, as this was a critical first step in getting us to where we are today. Younger people need to hear the stories as one day, those who helped us get here will be gone, and they can say, "I remember when...". It is hard to believe that it has been 20 years already.

Our drummers, singers, and dancers started off the day, which only added to the already great energy! The songs filled the event center for all to enjoy. It is always wonderful to come together as a community and share songs, food, and stories.

Members were greeted with long stem roses, which is symbolic and fun since our federal recognition was granted on Valentine's Day, February 14, 2000.

There was a clip shared from CSPAN about the late Chairman John Barnett testifying for our recognition.

The staff at ilani, as always, went above and beyond to take care of us. Nate Dahrens, Meeting and Entertainment Center Executive Sous Chef, showed off his artistic side and crafted a fruit platter in the shape of the Cowlitz Logo. It tasted as good as it looked!

"Perseverance: In the confrontation between the river and the rock, the river always wins.... not through strength

but by perseverance." (Author Unknown)

All My Relation
Suzanne Donaldson
Cowlitz Indian Tribal Member

The Office of Tribal Council Secretary

On February 1st, 2020, Tribal Council made a motion to transcribe General Council, Tribal Council, and Executive Council meetings moving forward, and each of these meetings will follow the Roberts Rules of Order for meeting minutes. On March 7, initiated this new process.

Please note, all meeting minutes are available. Tribal Members have access to meeting minutes at the Longview Office,

1055 9th Ave. Longview, WA,
or call Whitney Mosback (360) 213-9848.

Respectfully submitted,
Whitney S. Mosback

Healing of the Canoe Resilience and Hope Building Prevention program is offering culturally relevant curriculum and activities.

Space is limited
Free Summer sessions.
Deadline to reg is May 22nd
Ages 9-17 yrs old

Native and non-native youth
Elementary (9yrs old and up)
June 15th-19th and July 13th-15th
Middle School (6th-8th grades)
July 27th-31st and Aug 10th-11th
High School (9th-12th grades)
July 20th-24th and Aug 12th-14th

Must attend first session to attend second session
10:00am-3:00PM

900 Fir Street
Longview, WA
98632

MORE INFO
360-353-9547
360-353-9535

Made with PosterMyWall.com

Amendments for Voting by Mail or in Person

The second reading and vote on Cowlitz constitutional and by-law amendments to allow for mail-in voting in general elections will be held at the upcoming General Council meeting. The re-scheduled date is currently yet to be determined.

Approval of constitution and by-law amendments requires a two-thirds majority of those voting.

If the amendments pass, Tribal Council will adopt an election code with provisions to implement the changes. A draft of the proposed election code was mailed to all Cowlitz tribal voters in February. They were invited to review it and make suggestions or submit comments which were then carefully considered by the elections committee, which has been working on the code for several years. Useful suggestions will be incorporated into the code before it is adopted by Tribal Council.

Key provisions of the proposed election code will:

- Allow all Cowlitz voters to vote in general elections for tribal officers, tribal council members, and constitutional and by-law amendments by mail OR in person at General Council meetings.

- Create an election board to oversee all phases of the election process, including soliciting nominations, vetting nominees, publishing campaign material and holding live-streamed candidate events, sending out and receiving ballots through an independent third-party firm, monitoring campaign conduct, hearing appeals, etc.

- Provide a mechanism for candidates to send their own approved campaign materials to tribal voters via the third-party firm, so that confidentiality of voter names and addresses is maintained.

- Prohibit outside parties from making contributions to campaigns.

- Define prohibited conduct related to elections including restricting campaigning on tribal properties.

- Provide a mechanism for the election board to deal with campaign infractions, with ultimate appeal to the tribal court if needed.

If the amendments are approved, the first election to be conducted using the new process as provided for in the election code adopted by Tribal Council will be in June 2021.

Tribal Member Services Office Opens

The Cowlitz Indian Tribe has established a program to help connect Cowlitz Tribal members with available services. Whether you live in Washington or out-of-state, we want to hear from you.

This new Tribal Member Services program came out of the Tribe's Comprehensive Plan: Steps Toward the Future 2019 – 2023. The Comprehensive Plan identified seven goals, the first of which is:

- Goal 1: Provide services to all Cowlitz Members, and,
- Goal 1A: Increase access for all Tribal Members.

A directory of Tribal services is available on cowlitz.org. Eligibility for services is different depending on the source of funding for each program. Certain programs have

restrictions on where the services can be provided. For example, health and medical services can only be provided to Cowlitz Tribal members living within the ten-county Contract Health Service Delivery Area (CHSDA).

However, enrolled Cowlitz members who live outside the CHSDA may be able to receive medical and health services from other tribes in proximity to their residence. Eligibility information for each service is included in the directory.

We are exploring opportunities to provide cultural support and teachings to Cowlitz Tribal members who live a distance from Tribal facilities or who are unable to attend Tribal gatherings. More on the opportunities to extend

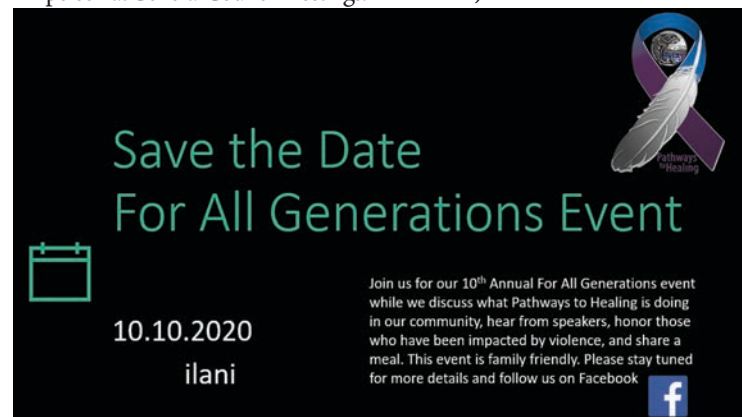
cultural services via technology will be reported in future newspapers.

The Cowlitz Tribal Member Services office is in Pierce County, WA.

All Tribal members are welcome to visit or call the office to talk with our Program Navigator and staff to learn about the range of services offered by Cowlitz, as well as services you may be eligible for through other Tribes or agencies.

As a Tribal member, what services are you interested in learning about?

For more information about this new office – Call 1-877-COWLITZ (877-269-5489) or reach us by email at: memberservices@cowlitz.org listeners@cowlitz.org



Save the Date
For All Generations Event

10.10.2020
ilani

Join us for our 10th Annual For All Generations event while we discuss what Pathways to Healing is doing in our community, hear from speakers, honor those who have been impacted by violence, and share a meal. This event is family friendly. Please stay tuned for more details and follow us on Facebook

Second Reading of Constitutional Amendment

Amendment to the Constitution Article 5, Elections; Section 4

General elections shall be completed at the next General Council meeting (date is yet to be determined). Tribal members shall be allowed to vote in person or by mail at their choosing for General Elections, Constitutional Amendments, and By-Law Amendments.

The Tribal Council shall adopt an elections code that shall include the option for tribal members to vote in person or by mail at their choosing.

The Tribal Council shall appoint an

elections board independent of the Tribal Council to conduct the elections under this section. Members appointed to the elections board shall be ratified by the General Council.

Amendment to the By-Laws: Title IV, Elections; Section 2

The election of the Cowlitz Tribal Council shall be called, organized and supervised by the government of the Cowlitz Indian Tribe at the next General Council meeting (date is yet to be determined) consistent with Article V, Section 4 of the Constitution.



Service Provided Monday - Friday 8:00 AM - 6:00 PM *excluding holidays

(360) 232-8585 | transit@cowlitz.org

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 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-lifesustaining medical appointments, shopping, cultural or quality of life activities.

Expanded Medical Transport Program is a 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 is for Indian Health Services (IHS) beneficiaries and their descendants who hold a current ProviderOne card who are in need of 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.

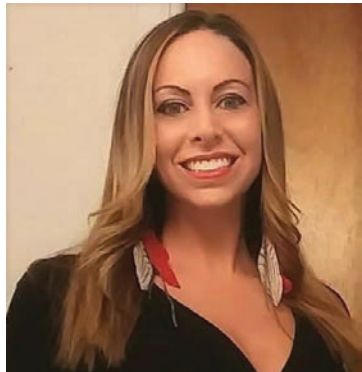
All services include door-to-door assistance to and from the vehicle when needed.

Our vehicles are equipped with lifts to make boarding easier for passengers who use wheelchairs, mobility devices, or have difficulty negotiating steps.

Rides should be scheduled a few days in advance to assure availability. The dispatcher will make every effort to accommodate your requested trip schedule. Fares are funded through donations are greatly appreciated donations.

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.

Welcome to our New Cowlitz Youth Program Team Members



Youth Program Manager.

Connecticut coast. I moved to Washington from New Mexico last Summer when hired to run the donations program at ilani casino, as a part of the Executive Team.

Prior to this, my résumé included managing multiple departments as AGM of the largest Health & Wellness Club in Albuquerque. I also served in the dual-roles of Human Resources Director & Tribal Youth Program Supervisor for the Cheyenne-Arapaho Tribes in Oklahoma.

I have always had a passion for working with Tribal youth, which has led me across the country as a visitor on many reservations the past ten years. When not focusing on my career, I've spent the majority of my free time advocating to youth about health and fitness across

Indian Country. I have been a guest presenter representing Indigenous Wellness at several major events, including the 2017 Unity Youth Conference, the 2018 Northern Navajo Nation Fair & Parade, and last year's first-ever Genocide & Healing Conference at the University of San Diego.

I look forward to getting to know our Cowlitz youth and families this year through our upcoming events. Please check out our Tribal Youth Program Facebook page for updates and additional programming info.

I can be reached directly at our Youth Program office
M-F, 8 AM-5 PM at:
107 Spencer Road,
Toledo, WA 98591.
Office line: 360-353-9915
Email: mmariano@cowlitz.org

Klahowya! My name is Melanie Mariano, and I am the new Tribal Youth Program Manager. As a Cowlitz Tribal member, I am thrilled to be working with an amazing team based in Toledo, gearing up to provide our youths the best programming and services possible.

I have a B.A. in Communications from Quinnipiac University, where I grew up on the



Youth Program Advisor

I am looking forward to passing on life skills allowing youth to enter adulthood with a strong, proud, cultural foundation. I love working with youth and have a passion for teaching our youth their cultural background.

I grew up in Chehalis. I have an associate degree along with a bachelor's degree in Humanitarian Studies. I am currently working on a master's degree in Business Management. I am a mother of three children, a dog, a cat, and have three

grandsons. I have been a skipper on a war racing canoe for many years. I am also a Master Basket Weaver and specialize in making pine needle baskets.

I see myself as a tree in the forest, one where strength is achieved by sheltering, yet exposing our youth to elements ensuring they grow tall! I'm filled with respect for the community and family, just like the forest. I am looking forward to meeting everyone!

Theresa Shortman
youth@cowlitz.org

My name is Theresa Shortman, and it is my honor to join the Cowlitz Tribe team as Youth Council Advisor!

National Eagle Repository

Interested in having eagle feathers for an upcoming ceremony? Native Americans for thousands of years have utilized eagle feathers for cultural and religious purposes. Enrolled members of Federally recognized tribes aged 18 and older can apply to the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service's National Eagle Repository for eagle parts.

You can order up to one whole Golden or Bald Eagle, loose feathers, wings, a whole tail, a head, talons, or a trunk.

Members can find more information and a link under the **Cultural Resources** tab on www.cowlitz.org.

If you need further information, please contact Emma Johnson in Cultural Resources
ejohnson@cowlitz.org | 360-577-6962

Child Care Development Program

The Child Care and Development Program staff have been working hard in creating culture kits for all classrooms whose children are enrolled in the program. Pictured are premade boxes, each with 12 native puppets. The other boxes, which will be made in the future, include native instruments/music, and native STEM activities. Since August of 2019, our entire program has doubled in size. During the COVID-19 pandemic, funding has allowed us to waive all parent copays and prepay the child care centers to keep them afloat.



If you have any questions or would like to see more program information in the next newspaper, please email CCDP@cowlitz.org

ATTENTION PARENTS!

We can help with your child care cost

- ⇒ Family Size of 2: **\$0-4,420**
- ⇒ Family Size of 3: **\$0-5,460**
- ⇒ Family Size of 4: **\$0-6,499**
- ⇒ Family Size of 5: **\$0-7,540**
- ⇒ Family Size of 6: **\$0-8,579**
- ⇒ Family Size of 7: **\$0-8,775**
- ⇒ Family Size of 8: **\$0-8,970**

Qualifications:

- ⇒ Enrolled in a federally recognized tribe.
- ⇒ Reside in Lewis, Cowlitz, Clark, or Skamania County.
- ⇒ Have a child between the age of 4 weeks and 12 years old.
- ⇒ Employed, enrolled in school, job training or searching.

It's
easy to
apply!

Walk-ins are welcome
Cowlitz Indian Tribe
Child Care and Development Program
1055 9th Ave. Suite D
Longview, WA 98632

OR Contact
Nichole Meyers at 360-353-9524
CCDP@cowlitz.org
Ann Little at 360-353-9528
CCDP@cowlitz.org



Expansions and New Programs Offered by the Wellness & Diabetes Program

Written by, Alyssa Fine, Wellness & Diabetes Program Coordinator and DeAnna Pearl, Tobacco Prevention Program Specialist

Since 2019, the Wellness and Diabetes Program has experienced exponential growth as new staff and programs have come on board. We anticipate that this progress will continue into 2020 and allow us to provide more great services to tribal members,

clients, and other programs.

Before embarking on any new initiatives for the year, we identified our guiding strategies, including leveraging resources, strengthening collaboration, and promoting wellness through a multi-dimensional lens. We

anticipate that our efforts will enhance the integration of cultural wisdom into services and practices, support individual and community wellbeing and minimize barriers to reaching whole health. We are excited to share with the tribal community how this vision has shaped our 2020 initiatives.

The Diabetes Program is continuing to offer Diabetes Days, during which patients can receive comprehensive diabetes care from their primary provider and diabetes educator in a single appointment. In addition, we are working on implementing a recurring foot care clinic to provide services such as nail and callus trimming. Group learning events, such as cooking classes, diabetes bingo, and grocery store tours, are held throughout the year at the Longview, Toledo, and Vancouver locations.

The Cowlitz Tribal Community Garden, established in 2019, is undergoing a major expansion thanks to receiving four grants in

addition to financial support from the Health and Human Services Department. We are doubling the size of our in-ground production garden, adding a high tunnel, and constructing a pole building to allow for cold storage and composting. This will increase our harvest, which will allow us to expand our produce distribution sites north to Tacoma and south to Vancouver.

We also are promoting community involvement through the establishment of a youth internship program, garden club, and weekly garden-based cooking demos. A food sovereignty assessment will also be completed in order to ensure the garden is appropriately addressing tribal needs.

Our newest program, the **Cessation Support and Tobacco Education Program (CSTEP)**, is designing and implementing a culturally appropriate basic tobacco intervention training for staff and interested parties. "All Tobacco is Sacred. Use It to Heal,

Not Harm" is the cornerstone of all program messaging and outreach.

While CSTEP is housed in the clinic, it is available to all tribal members, clients and employees of CIT. CSTEP is going full swing in setting up a program to distribute free nicotine replacement therapy to those who qualify and utilize the cessation support program. You will start to see new signage on all office buildings and entryways to support the tribe's alignment with WA State's 25ft rule to reduce exposure to secondhand smoke to employees, families, and visitors.

As a team, the Wellness Program is excited to continue planning the Health Walk (save the date for September 12!) and Spooky Harvest, along with various other cultural and wellness-related events. If you have any questions about our programs or what we offer, please contact Alyssa at (360)575-8275 ext. 2261. We hope we can support your journey to wellness throughout 2020!



Department of Transportation Increases Members' Event Access

In 2018, the Cowlitz Tribe Department of Transportation staff began designing a transport program that would increase tribal members access to events. With the development of the Cowlitz Reservation, and growth in tribal departments and programs, the department saw a demand for transportation services in evenings and on weekends.

To improve access to events, department staff began researching funding options and meeting with stakeholders to identify the scope of service. A successful program would need to be available on evenings and weekends, accommodate a larger number of people, utilize a handicap accessible vehicle at low to no cost to the rider. Within a few months the department created the Event Transport Program.

The Cowlitz Tribe Department of Transportation allocated funds for the operations of the Event Transport Program and the first time in department history, received funding from the Tribe to purchase

a 14-passenger bus. The Startrans Senator SSII is an Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) compliant vehicle providing room to transport two wheelchair passengers, 12 seated passengers and extra storage. Event Transport provides rides for tribal members, families and staff who wish to attend Cowlitz Indian Tribal events. The service is free and utilizes a park-and-ride system. Group pick-up locations and times are based on each individual event. The program is committed to providing services to significant tribal events such as the Annual Recognition Celebration, General Council Meetings, Columbia River Canoe Landing, the Cowlitz Pow Wow, and Cowlitz Elder's Harvest Dinner. Tribal departments and programs can request services for events and gatherings they host as well.

The Event Transport Program has provided services for other Cowlitz Tribal departments and programs. Some of them have included; the 1st Annual Spooky Harvest (Youth Program), For All

Generations Event (Pathways to Healing), the Elder's Polar Express trip (Elders Program), A Foray Into Fish Culture Day (Wellness and Natural Resources), the Abernathy Creek Restoration Project site visit (Wellness and Natural Resources), and first Friday of the month drum group gatherings in Vancouver (Cultural Department). Just over a year after implementing the service, and we have seen ridership steadily growing.

We encourage tribal members and their families to take advantage of this free service. From General Council meetings to cultural gatherings, Event Transport is improving access for tribal members. You can find out if the Event Transport Program is providing service to an event by checking the tribal website at <https://www.cowlitz.org/> under the calendar of events, the Cowlitz Tribe Department of Transportation and Transit Services Facebook page at www.facebook.com/cowlitztribedotandtransitservices/ or by call 360-232-8585.



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!



Cowlitz Health Board Report to General Council

The Health Board is made up of Tribal members focused on improving the health care for Cowlitz Tribal members. We are continuously looking at ways that we can improve and expand more services Tribal members. We are currently exploring additional services up north and have identified several sites and will provide more information as we get closer to narrowing our choices.

The tribe has added staff to Member Services who will coordinate services for Tribal members regardless of where they live. The hope is that we can expand health and human services to the area, so our members can have increased access to culturally sensitive personalized care for our Tribal members. We are striving to find a successful model to deliver those services in a financially responsible manner before we replicate services.

Our Longview Clinic is open at no cost to all Tribal members and their families; please feel free to make an appointment. However,

we encourage our Tribal members and family to seek out medical coverage to ensure that you have coverage for the unexpected. This allows us to stretch our Contract Health Care funds and provide additional services to Tribal members. We will be hiring additional medical providers to improve access to medical care.

The promotion of optimal health and wellbeing of Cowlitz Tribal members is in our Tribal Strategic Plan. With that, in a step to promote our first foods, we have appreciated the Clinic's Diabetes Program for providing food preparation classes, canning classes, and gathering. The October Harvest Event has grown into a best practice, and we are in the process of expanding our garden.

The Tribe has also started to look at options that will provide comprehensive coverage. As ilani continues to do financially well, it is in our Tribal strategic plan to expand healthcare coverage to all Tribal members wherever they live.

The Health Board has asked to do

more comprehensive prevention programs that are culturally focused. They would be available to the entire family. The Health Directors are looking to expand the reach and depth of this. Prior to the COVID-19 pandemic, we were hosting a Drum Group at the Ernie Donovan Wellness Center led by Jeremiah Wallace. It's open to all tribal members and works well with helping to promote a clean and sober lifestyle. We have had to pause and hope to bring that back as soon as this pandemic passes or becomes more manageable.

There is still a need to include virtual access for Tribal members to join remotely. The COVID-19 pandemic has pointed out how it's so important to have more telehealth and virtual access. We will be addressing these issues as we receive them.

Please reach out with needs and changes that will benefit our Tribal members to the Health Board Chair, Cassandra Sellards Reck, csellardseck@hotmail.com or (360)513-1243.

submitted by Cassandra Sellards Reck

Cowlitz Tribal Members Cowlitz Career and Employment Services

Are you unemployed? Under-employed? Feeling "stuck" in your current job or career? Have you always wanted to be self-employed? Are you craving college?

The Cowlitz Indian Tribe has a new program with services to help you answer these questions! This pilot program provides Case Management to guide you into a career, education, or employment. This program is available to any enrolled tribal member who needs assistance in these areas.

We will be ready for roll out on March 1, in the Southern region of WA. Please do not hesitate to call now for information.

We work with you to develop a plan that guides you to your goal. We can help you with your résumé, cover letter, conduct mock interviews, and assist you

with job readiness skills. We can also assist with tools, supplies, clothing, fuel cards, licenses, certifications, and other necessary things to get you where you want to be!

We will be able to provide services from Portland to Seattle in any of our offices, our pop-up office in Pierce county (when it opens), a home visit, or meet for lunch... why not? Let's make it happen! We will also be able to work with Cowlitz Tribal members across the nation using Skype and other video technology, for researching and providing information and resources specific to your area.

Those in the area near Tribal Administration might utilize the Five Feathers Training Program: learning on-the-job transferrable skills for retail, hospitality, and many other jobs. Members who

might not have job experience, members with felonies having a difficult time finding work, or youth who are transitioning from high school can learn skills, get experience, and have a work history! (And we have great coffee).

If you're familiar with the Tribal VR Program, the framework for this program is the same, except no eligibility criteria with other than being enrolled Cowlitz member wanting help in seeking career or employment assistance.

We are SUPER excited to get started.

For more information, please contact Shari Parker, Program Manager at (360)575-6220 sparker@cowlitz.org or Loke Hanby at (360)575-3318.

FOOD, FIBER, FIREWOOD AND FOREST GATHERING PROGRAM

ARE YOU READY TO IMPROVE YOUR FOREST GATHERING?
We have coordinated with the Gifford Pinchot National Forest and have a program set up to specifically serve tribal members.

HOW DO I GET MORE INFORMATION? CALL OR EMAIL NATURAL RESOURCES
(360) 353-9509 | ABOYD@COWLITZ.ORG

Spring Edible Resources:
Fiddlehead ferns, elderberry flowers, salmonberry buds, cow parsnip stalks, dandelions, cottonwood buds, salmonberries, camas bulbs.

Indian Child Welfare (ICW)

Cowlitz children identified as being an "Indian Child" per the Indian Child Welfare Act (ICWA) and Washington State Indian Child Welfare Act (WSICWA) or who have been verified by the Cowlitz Tribal Enrollment department as being a direct descendant to an enrolled Cowlitz member.

These cases may have current or previous involvement with the Washington State Children's Administration (CA). The ICWA and the WSICWA apply to children in dependency, meaning that children have been placed in the custody of the State.

ICW program can provide the following services based upon an assessment of the client family's needs:

- Family Preservation Services (FPS) – Services to keep families together
- Positive Indian Parenting (PIP) – Native American parenting classes delivered to the family's

home

- Independent Living Skills (ILS) – Skills for youth, who have been in foster care, to prepare them for living on their own
- Case Management Services (including in-home safety visits)
- Intensive in-home services – Home visits happen more frequently addressing the family's urgent need
- Referral to other tribal and non-tribal services as needed

The ICW program has limited services (due to distance) for Cowlitz children in dependency outside the state of Washington. Services provided are:

- Case Management Services.
- Coordination with host State's Social Services workers to coordinate family services

*The Cowlitz Indian Tribe does not become involved in custody cases between parents.

Longview:

Mike Yates
(360) 355-2835
myates@cowlitz.org

Tukwila:

Deanna Personius
(206) 491-9266
dpersonius@cowlitz.org

Vancouver:

Andrea French
(360) 831-1950
afrench@cowlitz.org

Cowlitz Tribal Housing

Some programs are provided only in Washington State; applicants must be an enrolled member of the Cowlitz Tribe or AIAN.

HUD regulations and CITH policies regarding applicants & homes apply to all programs.

*In addition to the programs listed below, with casino funding, we are currently able to help qualifying families with household incomes up to 150% of the median income with the following programs:

Elders - limited home repairs & rehab in Idaho, Oregon, & California as well as Washington State, down payment assistance anywhere in the contiguous United States for Cowlitz members, and student rental assistance. *(while funding lasts.)

SERVICES:

Down Payment Assistance

Your Tribal Housing Department is proud of our vigorous down payment assistance program, where qualifying tribal families anywhere in the 48 contiguous United States can receive up to \$35,000 as a down payment on their primary residence. This program is growing by leaps & bounds and has helped many Cowlitz families realize the American Dream of Homeownership! We are the only tribal department that serves members outside the state of Washington. Some restrictions apply; call for info, further information, and an application.

Student Rental Assistance

Student Rental Assistance is available for full-time college students, anywhere in the continental U.S. HUD rules apply, except income guidelines that are expanded by gaming funding.

Elder Housing Apartments

Cowlitz Indian Tribal Housing welcomes you to the Tribe's Housing complex, located in Toledo, WA. Accommodation choices are efficiency apartments and one-bedroom units. Rents are calculated on a sliding scale according to income. Small pets (dog or cat) are welcome.

Our location in Toledo is an independent living complex, not an assisted living facility. The minimum age requirement to live at the complex is 62.

In order to live at the facility, applicants must be an enrolled member of a federally recognized Indian Tribe and pass a background check, reference check, and drug screening.

Elder Rental Assistance and Mortgage Assistance:

Elders (age 62 +), we assist qualifying low low-income Cowlitz elders with a portion of their rent or mortgage payment each month until the lifetime limit of \$50,000 is reached.

Rental Assistance:

Tribal Housing assists qualifying low-income tribal members with rent for up to 6 months.

Mortgage Assistance:

We assist qualifying low-income tribal members with mortgage payments for up to 6 months.

Home Rehab:

With HUD funds, we repair qualifying low-income tribal members' homes to provide a decent, safe, and sanitary place to live. We serve most of the state of Washington with this program.

Help to Avoid Foreclosure:

In some cases, we can help low-income tribal families avoid foreclosure. Restrictions apply; call for further information and an application.

Well and Sewer Repair or Replacement

In certain geographical areas, Indian Health Services provides help with sanitation facilities such as sewer, septic, and water to Tribal homeowners. Cowlitz Tribal Housing is the designated area representative for Indian Health Scattered Site projects - we issue applications & forward to IHS.

New Branch Office in Pierce County:

More Cowlitz members live in Pierce County than any other county. To better serve our members, your housing department has purchased an office in central Pierce County, which will be opening soon.

**For applications or info, contact us at: cowlitzhousing@CITH.US
Call: (360)864-8720**

Elders Program & Services

Elders Lunch

Served lunch Monday - Friday at the St. Mary's Elders housing facility and every Tuesday at the Longview office.

Activities

Cultural and recreational activities from beading classes to, short trips, fishing and more!

Support & Help

Family support, routine assistance, and in-home assistance are available.

Yoga

Each Monday and Wednesday yoga is offered at St. Mary's at 2 PM

Community Garden

Elder's Program even has a Tribal community garden with events and community activities.

If you have questions

P: 360-864-8727

E: EldersProgram@cowlitz.org

5th Annual Elders Fishing Trip

Sponsored by Senior Nutrition & Natural Resources Department

Who can sign up? Any Cowlitz Elder!

Where: Final details will be provided by Deb Mizner

The tentative dates for these fishing trips are:

Tuesday August 27th 2020

Wednesday August 26th 2020

Thursday August 27th 2020

Contact Deb Mizner to get signed up!

Space is limited—Call today!

(360) 864-7006

Seeking photos, information, & more for the 2021 Cowlitz Calendar



Submit your photos, ideas,
special dates and more until
August 15, 2020

Advance requests welcome!
Contact amy.aboyd@cowlitz.org

2021 Calendars will be available at the November General Council

Did You Know?

Overdose rates in Indian Country are nearly TRIPLE the rate in any other community in the state of Washington? Opioids are the leading cause of injury/death in our state according to the Washington State Department of Health.

To help combat this crisis, Cowlitz Indian Tribe Health & Services Clinic is providing Medically Assisted Treatment (MAT) for Opioid Substance Abuse to those enrolled American Indian/Alaskan Native (AI/AN) of any Federally recognized tribe, who meet the program requirements and are age 18 or over.

Qualification details can be

found on the Cowlitz.org web site or by calling the Clinic at 360-575-8275 between the hours of 8am to 5pm Monday through Friday. The clinic is located at 1044 11th Avenue, Longview, WA.

Trained staff and Practitioners are available for consults and treatment in a non-judgmental environment during your Journey to Recovery. Funds for the program came from a 2018 SAMHSA Tribal Opioid Response Grant to specifically address the opioid crisis and its impact on the AI/AN population. Also available on the campus are counselors for addressing the Substance Use Disorder and Behavioral/Mental Health concerns that accompany opioid addiction.

Written by: Bridie Rogers, RN, BSN

Mindfulness and Academics

In the fall of 2018, an idea was developed and implemented by long-time Cowlitz Employee and Licensed Clinical Social Worker Kara Frizzell. Having worked with Native youth and their families for nearly seven years, Kara began to notice a missing piece in the holistic health of her clients. Namely, that the majority of the youth she worked with were struggling academically, which caused significant stress in other areas of life.

The idea was to create a therapeutic group where youth who were engaged in the mental health program could learn how to apply therapeutic skills to their academic lives. The group, now simply referred to by the youth as the "Homework Group," grew into a huge success within the first few months.

The group is structured in two phases. The first is the therapeutic phase, where the students learn skills like mindfulness and relaxation as well as general coping skills to reduce stress or create an outlet for pent up energy.

"The focus of the first part is getting the student in the right mindset to learn and study," says Kara, "however, sometimes that means that they just need to talk or process their day, so we make room for that as well."

After the mindfulness and processing, phase two, the academic portion, begins. Attendees are required to bring homework and to stay focused on completing it. In addition to the group facilitator, a part-time tutor was hired specifically for this portion of the group to make sure each student gets the one-on-one time they might need.

But phase two is not just about completing papers and doing math problems. Students are also supported in learning proper study skills such as taking a break when needed to stretch or get something to drink or eat (food is always provided) but then having the control to refocus and get back to work.

"They are also learning how to ask for help," says Kara, "something that

is hard for a lot of students to do. Many times, assignments at school will remain incomplete simply due to a lack of understanding, and once a student gets behind, it is hard to catch back up. Teaching students how to ask for help and that it is okay to raise your hand is something we hope to instill in them that they can take back to the classroom."

While the group is not designed to keep track of individual academic performance, Kara does report that of those students who have consistently participated in the group, nearly all of them have seen some improvement in school performance.

Regular participation has its rewards as the group is set up to reinforce positive study behaviors and the use of skills learned in the group. Students earn points each group session by doing the following: participating in the therapeutic phase, sharing at least one good thing that happened during the week, bringing homework to work on, and staying focused on it without distracting others. Accumulated points can lead to real prizes such as gift cards to a place of the student's choice.

Nearly two years in and Kara's idea of academic mindfulness continues to help youth find scholastic success.

"The best part is seeing them support one another," says Kara, "they are building skills and confidence but also friendships."

The Homework Group is available to youth engaged in mental health services at the Vancouver office; contact (360)397-8228 for more information.

by David Pulliam



Cowlitz Indian Tribe Pow-Wow

October 17th, 2020
Clark County Event Center

We are looking for volunteers to help
If Interested, contact
Kris Dillehay E: krisdil43@gmail.com

MURDERED Or MISSING COWLITZ

By Debbie Hassler

The Pathways to Healing (PTH) program needs your help. One of the focus areas for our Coordinated Community Response Team (CCRT) is data collection around Missing and Murdered Cowlitz members. We started asking this question about six months ago and since then have added three women to our list. PTH will have an honoring table up at our upcoming General Council meeting to honor these

members.

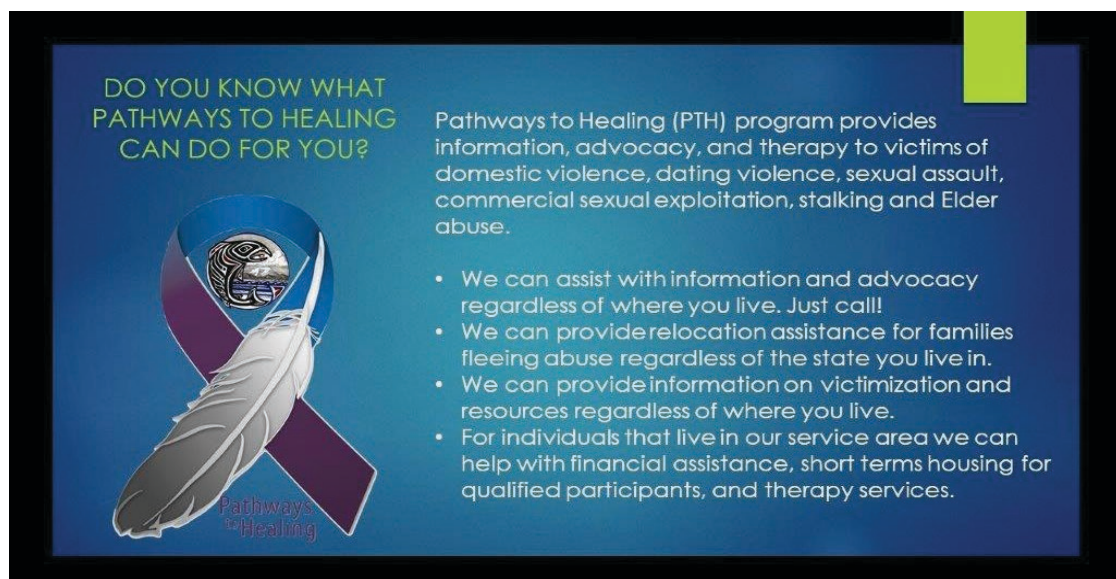
What do we need from you?



If you have a loved one or

know a family with a loved one, who is missing or has been murdered, please contact Debbie Hassler, Program Manager at dhassler@cowlitz.org (360)624-7040 or Karyn Kameroff, PTH Coordinator at kkameroff@cowlitz.org (360)397-8228 to share your story with us.

We are collecting information on men, women, and children. We also want to hear from you, as our community, about what is important to you regarding victim services and how we can help get the word out, help families, and strengthen our community.



DO YOU KNOW WHAT PATHWAYS TO HEALING CAN DO FOR YOU?

Pathways to Healing (PTH) program provides information, advocacy, and therapy to victims of domestic violence, dating violence, sexual assault, commercial sexual exploitation, stalking and Elder abuse.

- We can assist with information and advocacy regardless of where you live. Just call!
- We can provide relocation assistance for families fleeing abuse regardless of the state you live in.
- We can provide information on victimization and resources regardless of where you live.
- For individuals that live in our service area we can help with financial assistance, short terms housing for qualified participants, and therapy services.

Department of Transportation Receives CARES Act Funds

On Friday, March 27, 2020, the Coronavirus Aid Relief and Economic Security (CARES) Act was signed into law. The Act provides emergency assistance and healthcare response for individuals, families, and businesses affected by the COVID-19 pandemic. It also provides emergency appropriations to support federal Executive Branch agency operations, including the Federal Transit Authority (FTA). Cowlitz Tribe Transit Service (CTTS) has been receiving formula funds from FTA to support the operation of its transit services for many years.

CTTS is the only rural transit service in Cowlitz and South Lewis

Counties. We play a vital role in transporting individuals to life-sustaining medical appointments and basic needs (grocery shopping, pharmacy, etc.). FTA has allocated \$2.2 billion to rural area formula funds to support capital, operating, and other expenses to prevent, prepare for, and respond to COVID-19. CTTS received \$78,429 of the \$2.2 billion supporting our efforts in responding to COVID-19 in the community. These funds are being used to aid a temporary service the Department of Transportation and CTTS implemented on March 20, 2020, prior to the signing of the CARES Act.

The service provides food bank

and grocery pick-up delivery, as well as prescription drop off/pick-up for homebound individuals living within the CTTS service area. The receipt of the CARES Act funds will minimize the impact to our existing operating budget, allowing us to sustain essential rural transit services in our community once the threat of the COVID-19 pandemic has ceased.

More information about the temporary food/prescription delivery service can be found on the tribal website, Tribal Facebook page, and the Department of Transportation's Facebook page at www.facebook.com/cowlitztribedotandtransitservices/.

Childcare Program

We believe that childcare is a crucial part of the support needed to assist families as they engage in our services. Time spent with us will include playtime, crafts, games, storytime, and a healthy snack.

Childcare is available cost-free to anyone receiving services at our Longview campus. Parents must

remain onsite while children are under our care.

Drop-in childcare may be available depending upon staff cBefore we can welcome your child, the following forms will need to be completed.

1. Child Record
2. Health History
3. Signed Acknowledgment

SUD Child Care Services
OPEN MON-THUR
8:30am - 8:30pm
Friday
8:30am - 5:00pm

A CENTER THAT YOU CAN TRUST TO TAKE CARE OF YOUR PRECIOUS CHILDREN

For more information call Child Care room
 @ 360-575-3316

For clients at the Cowlitz Tribe Longview campus.



Smelt Ceremony

This year, the Cultural and Natural Resource Departments came together for two days of ceremonial smelt dipping for tribal members at Gerhart Gardens Park. Over the two days, all 50 tribal members who attended were able to take home 10 pounds of smelt.

Positive Indian Parenting

The Cowlitz Indian Child Welfare Program is participating in an evaluative study of the Positive Indian Parenting (PIP) Curriculum developed by the National Indian Child Welfare Association (NICWA). The PIP curriculum was developed over 30 years ago and is widely used across tribal communities. The Cowlitz Tribe has used the curriculum in various capacities in different departments and models.

The ICW team is using an adapted model to be able to provide the Positive Indian Parenting curriculum In-Home. The ICW team has 3 facilitators trained to provide this model.

At the end of 2019, Cowlitz ICW entered a partnership with NICWA to participate in this pilot study, which will help to understand whether Positive Indian Parenting promotes positive outcomes for American Indian and Alaska Native families. Information from the PIP study may also help other tribal programs across the country that want to offer PIP to make

important programming and funding decisions.

The Positive Indian Parenting curriculum itself was designed to support American Indian and Alaska Native parents and caregivers. The curriculum engages participants in culturally-based lessons over 8 to 10 weeks to support and guide parents in developing their own positive parenting style.

The sessions emphasize the strengths of historic tribal-child rearing practices. They also blend traditional values with contemporary skills. The study will help to understand how the curriculum works when it is delivered by a home visitor in a series of one-on-one sessions versus the group setting.

The PIP curriculum works best with parents who have children 8 years old and younger, as those are more formative years in child development and parent skill honing. Families with teenage children who are interested in receiving the PIP curriculum may

still be eligible to receive it.

By having Cowlitz families participate in the study, the Tribe could receive valuable information to help meet the needs of local families. If a parent or caregiver agrees to participate, they will be assigned either to a group that receives the Positive Indian Parenting curriculum right away or a group that receives it several months later.

Families that do not wish to participate in the study are still able to receive the PIP curriculum at home. For the families that are interested in the study, they will receive incentives for their participation.

If you are interested in participating in the pilot study of PIP or have more questions about eligibility and receiving PIP In-Home, please contact D.J. Personius

P: (206)491-9266
 dpersonius.health@cowlitz.org.

This is an exciting opportunity for your Tribe, and we hope to hear from you soon!

Natural Resources Policy Analyst and Forestry Lead



Amy Boyd, Natural Resources Policy Analyst and Forestry Lead, joined the Cowlitz staff in 2014.

"I was excited to join a growing team," she says. Amy came in with a background in salmon recovery, project management, communications, and land use planning. Her diverse skill set has set her up as lead for several tribal projects. She has set up the Gathering program, became the technical liaison with the Forest Service, led project reviews for Millennium Coal Terminal and other major industrial proposals.

"I really enjoy the diversity of my work, and the ability to do good," she continues.

Amy can be reached regarding the following:

- Issue your gathering permit.
- Develop the 2021 calendar using photos, information, etc, from Tribal members.
- Help you or your group find places to gather resources, such as cedar bark.
- Put together forestry education materials or information for youth projects.
- Review permits for project proposals throughout Southwest Washington.
- Coordinate certain responses with community-led groups, such as Clean Water Alliance.
- Provide information and data on projects, forestry, and gathering.
- Provide information on permitting processes at local, state, and federal levels.
- Recommend hikes!

Amy can be reached in person, via email or telephone at aboyd@cowlitz.org or (360)353-9202.



Happy 3rd Birthday ilani!

Cassy Reck, Suzanne Donaldson, Patty Kinswa-Gaiser, Devon Reck, Debbie Hassler, & Jeremiah Wallace.

April 24, 2020, was ilani's 3rd birthday. A last-minute small cultural ceremony was held to celebrate the day.

To honor the guidelines of a gathering and social distancing, ten drummers gathered to give prayer, offer songs and blessings while a small vehicle parade enjoyed hearing songs and words

from their vehicles.

The vehicle parade was led by the Cowlitz Indian Tribe Public Safety Department and followed by ilani Security Department. It was from the heart and without mainstream media, which is how culture should be. It was also without amenities as the building is closed and without catering,

as it should be, at times, just like the old days. It was a really nice gathering for cultural purposes, and it was not for the press.

This was not an ideal gathering; however, it was the only option given the current events of the world in which we all live. We look forward to a time when we can all gather,

hug, drum, and celebrate as we are accustomed to on our own terms. While there are indeed worse things in the world, it was heartbreaking to see kids sitting in vehicles, dressed in regalia, longing to participate. These kids are used to being immersed in our culture (just like we are) singing and dancing. Instead,

those children were confined to vehicles.

It is hard to believe that we opened our doors 3 years ago. We have come a long way from just a big field with a farmhouse. I am excited for what the future holds for us! Cowlitz Strong!

Suzanne Donaldson
Cowlitz Indian Tribal Member

Parking Garage Construction Reaches Half Way Point



Construction is moving along nicely on the state-of-the-art parking garage at ilani, with the lower levels of the structure now taking clear shape as the overall

project reaches the approximate halfway point in its development timeline.

Upon opening in 2017, ilani had

a 3,200-space surface parking lot, but that size and capacity fell short of what would be needed to support the long-term vision for ilani. A parking garage has

always been near the top of the priority list.

Following the opening of Cowlitz Crossing Gas and Convenience Store, construction began on a new 750-space expansion of the casino's surface parking lot. This expansion intended to replace the spaces on the north side that would need to be removed to make way for the garage site. Once the expansion was complete, the garage project broke ground.

Garage construction is expected to be finished by late summer or early fall of this year. When completed, the six-story garage will include approximately 2,600 spaces and allow for future expansion to bring that number up to as many as 4,000. The rooftop will be built to serve as an

outdoor event space during the summer months.

The garage will include "speed ramps" to give drivers fast access to the upper levels, as well as a monitoring system to tell drivers how many spaces are left on each level. The structure is located immediately northwest of the main ilani building and will include a covered walkway to the entrance.

The garage will raise ilani's total parking capacity. This increased parking capacity at ilani will allow us to host major shows and events at its Cowlitz Ballroom venue during peak casino hours on Fridays and Saturdays — something the casino has previously avoided to prevent congestion.

The Cowlitz Tribe Education and Arts Fund and the Cowlitz Tribal Foundation Statewide Fund

Tribal Grantmaking Focuses on Longstanding Partner Organizations and Community-wide COVID-19 Emergency Response

In 2019, most of the Tribe's charitable contributions came from its two central grantmaking funds – The Cowlitz Tribe Education and Arts Fund and the Cowlitz Tribal Foundation Statewide Fund.

The Cowlitz Tribe Education and Arts Fund was created by the Tribe's Environmental, Public Health and Safety ordinance with Clark County. It distributes a small percentage of ilani's profits to nonprofits in Clark County that are focused on the arts and/or education.

The board includes two Cowlitz members appointed by the Tribal Council, two members appointed by the Clark County Council, and one member appointed

by the other four. The Tribe's appointees are the Tribe's spiritual leader Tanna Engdahl and Tribal Council member Karissa Lowe. Clark County appointed County Commissioner Temple Lentz and County Commission Chair Eileen Quiring. The four board members appointed Jennifer Rhoads as the fifth member. Ms. Rhoads is the president of the Community Foundation for Southwest Washington.

In 2019, the Education and Arts Fund focused its large grants to organizations that established meaningful partnerships with the Tribe long before we had funding available. It also awarded smaller grants to organizations that served populations that Tribal members identified as high priorities, including children, elders, and veterans.

The Cowlitz Tribal Foundation

Statewide Fund was created by the Tribe's gaming compact with the State of Washington. It distributes a small percentage of ilani's profits to nonprofits across the state.

Its five-member board was appointed by the Tribal Council. Its members are Tribal member David Iyall, Tribal member and ilani staff member Don Walkinshaw Jr., Tribal Council member Karissa Lowe, Tribal member Melissa Halvorsen, and Tribal Council member Whitney Mosback.

In 2019, the Statewide Fund also focused its grantmaking on organizations that were already strong partners with the Tribe, with an emphasis on organizations that support the Native community. Organizations that received awards included the National Indian Child Welfare Association, Affiliated Tribes of Northwest Indians, the Potlatch Fund, and more.



COWLITZ TRIBAL MEMBERS

WOULD YOU LIKE FRESH FISH?

CALL OR EMAIL TO BE ADDED TO OUR DISTRIBUTION LIST
360.353.9509 | FISHDISTRIBUTION@COWLITZ.ORG

Elders wanting fish fillets? 360.864.7006

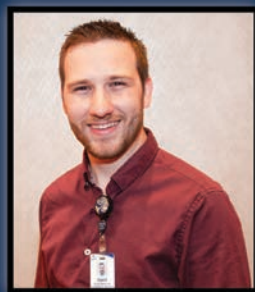
DONATIONS ACCEPTED & APPRECIATED!

Attention Cowlitz Tribal Members!

Klahowya! ilani is proud to offer a formal tribal career growth & 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.hrapply.com/ilani/setup.app

ilani | CAREER DEVELOPMENT

Education and Arts Fund and the Cowlitz Tribal Foundation Updates

In 2020, the Tribe's grantmaking is supporting community efforts to respond to the COVID-19 pandemic. The Cowlitz Tribe Education and Arts Fund has contributed \$500,000 to the **Community Foundation for Southwest Washington** for its COVID-19 Response Fund. This fund will provide flexible financial support to trusted nonprofit partners across our region who are responding to increasing needs as a result of the coronavirus (COVID-19). Grants will sustain and develop vital community services for residents who stand to lose the most from this unfolding emergency.

The Cowlitz Tribal Foundation Statewide Fund has awarded \$200,000 to the **Seattle Foundation** for its COVID-19 Response Fund. This fund will rapidly deploy resources to community-based organizations that are supporting local workers and families most affected by the coronavirus crisis.

The Statewide Fund has also donated \$25,000 each to three key community organizations to support their response to the pandemic:

The Boys and Girls Club of King County is focused on supporting families experiencing challenges due to school closures by ensuring youth have a fun, educational place to go during the day.

It is working to be as flexible and responsive as possible to its Club family and community needs in this time of upheaval. The Club offered support for the children of first responders, health care professionals, and other essential workers during the COVID-19 pandemic.

Northwest Harvest is leading efforts to address increased food insecurity across Washington due to the COVID-19 virus.

The health crisis is developing quickly, but one thing will remain constant – communities that struggle with poverty and access to services as a result of

inequitable systems have the most difficulty meeting their basic needs in times of crisis.

The Chief Seattle Fund is dedicated to physically and spiritually supporting American Indian and Alaska Native people.

Its day center in the Pioneer Square district of downtown Seattle provides food, medical support, housing assistance, an Urban Indian Legal Clinic, a Native art job training program, as well as frequent outings for members to cultural and community-building events.

It is keeping its day center open during the COVID-19 pandemic to provide support to Native people in need.

The Cowlitz Indian Tribe is committed to supporting our members and the community through the pandemic and beyond. Our grantmaking work is one part of how we live that commitment and is a continuation of a long tradition of gifting and taking care of each other.



Cowlitz Indian Tribe

P.O. Box 2547
Longview, WA 98632

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Seattle, WA
Permit #1827



Let's Rock



Let's Play



Let's Eat

Let's ilani.

The area's premier gaming, dining, entertainment and meeting destination is more than just the thrill of gaming. It's all the things you love to do, all in one place.

Outdoor dining with spectacular views

Restaurants from casual to exquisite

Live entertainment

More than 2,500 slots

75 table games

Exclusive VIP lounge

Open 24/7

Meeting & Entertainment Center

Best of all, it's all just off I-5 at Exit 16.
It's called ilani. And it's like nothing else.

ilani



1 COWLITZ WAY, RIDGEFIELD, WA 98642

ilani is committed to responsible gaming. If you or someone you know has a gambling problem, please call the Washington State Gambling Helpline at 800.547.6133.