



# COWLITZ Tribal News

Yooyoolah  
"One who calls"

Nov. 2017  
FOURTH EDITION



After a very successful opening, ilani Casino Resort continues to draw customers who enjoy our variety of food, entertainment and gaming experiences.

## Reservation Updates!

The Cowlitz Reservation continues to take shape with many ongoing projects. With the successful opening of the ilani Casino Resort, the tribe continues to develop the remaining reservation lands. Landscaping around the casino is being completed along with improvements to the overflow parking lot. Plans are also underway for the development of a hotel next to the casino. A portion of the large mountain of dirt on the south side of the reservation is being moved to fill in an area on the east side where a new convenience store is currently being planned.

Immediately north of the ilani mar-

quee sign, the Cowlitz Public Safety office has been established in a temporary building. Right next door to the public safety office, the Cowlitz Tobacco Outlet has been located and finish work including a paved driveway and parking lot are currently being readied for a fall 2017 opening. Planning is underway for a new Tribal Government complex that will be located in the southwest portion of the reservation. The tribe also purchased an 8.5 acre parcel of land adjacent to the reservation that will be used for future development. We hope you all have a chance to visit our reservation and see all the exciting activity there!

## Council member passes away

Leonard "Lenny" D. Bridges died from injuries sustained in an auto accident Friday, Sept 22, 2017. He had just recently celebrated his 68th birthday. Lenny was a long time tribal council member and is survived by his wife Coleen, his 4 children, Stacey, Jacob, Wendy and Charly, and 2 grandchildren. Lenny was first elected to Tribal Council in 2005 and was just re-elected in June 2017 for his 5th consecutive term. While on Tribal Council, he previously served as Tribal Council Chairperson and currently was serving as Vice-chair of the

Housing Board, was a member of the Economic Development Committee, the Education committee and a long time member of the Pow Wow Committee where he handed out smoked salmon to many of you. Chairman Iyall called Lenny "a persistent leader who was very dedicated to the tribe and family". Lenny will be remembered for always looking out for other tribal members and seemed to always know who needed help. The Cowlitz Tribe would like to thank Lenny for all his service and sends their condolences to his family.

## Chairman's Corner

*Klahowya*, it is time for our Cowlitz family to come together for our Fall General Council meeting. I look forward to seeing all who can attend on Saturday, November 4.

The United States Supreme Court marked an important landmark in our history upholding our historic 2016 land decision by the D.C. Court of Appeals, which said the Cowlitz Tribe was "under federal jurisdiction" in 1934, ending a 160 year fight for our land base, the Cowlitz Reservation.

Many of you shared the joy of the opening of the Cowlitz Tribe's ilani Casino at the soft opening on Saturday, April 22nd for Cowlitz Tribal members and our families from all over the country. The ilani Casino opened on schedule in April and on budget. Many tribal members, local dignitaries and thousands of patrons were at the grand opening of ilani on April 24th to view the cutting of the ribbon. At opening ilani employed 1,100 permanent employees and our tenants added hundreds of restaurant staff and bartenders. Our management team, led by Kara Fox La Rose, encourages Cowlitz members to apply for jobs at the casino. ilani Casino has been heralded across the west coast as one of the best gaming facilities with fine entertainment and customer service and has received many awards. We are thankful for our partnerships with the Mohegan Tribe.

Now that phase one of ilani Casino is in operation, construction on the 2500 seat event center has started with a projected opening of April 2018. We are also planning additional overflow

parking on the south side of the reservation. We plan to build a new gas station and convenience store just south of Cowlitz Way. A new ilani Resort hotel and parking garage are planned for phase two. We are about to open the new Cowlitz Tobacco Outlet store on the south end of the reservation. We are currently in planning for the new tribal administration building for the southwest side of the reservation. With the new administration building will come development of a cultural/community center, elder housing, and more diversified economic development.

We will have Kara Fox-LaRose, ilani President and General Manager and Erik Palmer, our Chief Financial Officer, available for an operations briefing at the General Council meeting to answer any questions you may have. We are very pleased to report continued solid performance of ilani since its timely and successful opening in April. Now that we are in the first full quarter and see that operations are stable we have begun planning our next phase of growth, the ilani Event Center and the back-of-house buildout. The opening has followed a typical regional property opening sequence with very strong demand out of the gate. Customers followed the property development during construction and the news prior to opening. As the months progressed and the initial trial period ended, we refocused our marketing efforts to support our growing database and our core customers. We are extremely proud of the progress we have made and the employees that have

*please see CHAIRMAN, page 2*

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## Chairman

*Continued from the front page*

helped us get here. We are confident that as the database grows and the remaining program elements are activated, the bottom-line performance will only get better. In terms of venues, Muze Lounge features live entertainment on the weekends and has been a hit with the local market and is making a name for itself. The restaurants have had some good exposure, receiving positive reviews from local food critics. Our next restaurant, Tom's Urban is scheduled to open at the end of October. In summary, ilani had a successful first several months of operations. The Cowlitz Tribal Gaming Commission oversees the Cowlitz Tribal Gaming Authority who licenses all ilani vendors and employees. Our management team continues to build momentum in the third quarter with direct marketing, entertainment, promotions,

and guest service programs. We appreciate the support of all who are working to make this a successful endeavor.

We look forward to working with federal, state and local governments and with our local neighbors on many important issues in the region including the I-5 Bridge Replacement Project. I sit on a committee of community leaders who are working together to advance this project. Recent legislation passed the Washington State Legislature allowing us to move forward with planning this important project.

Randy King, Superintendent of Mount Rainier National Park, signed an agreement with the tribe for a "Cowlitz Tribe Designated Use Area" at Ohanapeosh Campground in Mount Rainier National Park. This designated use area grants the Cowlitz people three improved camp sites and areas of cultural and spiritual significance including the hot springs for our exclusive use. Thanks to our Natural Resource Department and Cultural Resource staff for their work on the restoration of a Cowlitz Campsite by Mount Tahoma and the Hot Springs. Councilman John O'Brien lives nearby and will work with staff to help manage site use there.

Cowlitz Tribal Housing Services offers many HUD services for enrolled members of the Cowlitz Tribe who live in Washington State. Our housing department operates an Elder Housing complex located at St. Mary's. Other services include down payment assistance to help members realize the American dream of homeownership, student rental assistance to full time college students and rent or mortgage help to qualified tribal members. There are also funds for repairs to homes of qualified tribal members. Well and sewer repair or replacement in certain geographical areas is also available. HUD and IHS rules may apply.

The Strategic Planning Team is engaging the tribal governing boards, committees and departments to plan member services for all members regardless of where they live. The plan

will be designed to serve as a tool for the Tribe. Discussions with the Health Board and HHS leadership has begun to expand healthcare to Cowlitz members. We will continue to discuss other important services such as housing and education. Based on Tribal Council input, we developed a Mission Statement, a Vision Statement and identified our Core Values. All participants need to look at how we can better serve all Tribal members regardless of where they live. Patience is needed as work on planning expansion of services to all tribal members is evaluated. Elders must be our first consideration. They have been the backbone of our tribe. We have invested well in the future of our tribe and we must continue to plan carefully.

We have set a goal to provide equitable service delivery to all tribal members with a plan for per capita for members as appropriate with our economic success. We will develop strategic initiatives to improve our operations to better deliver tribal services to all tribal members. We must begin to help pay for health care, housing assistance, education and other basic services. During the 2016 Town Hall Meetings we heard that education was one of our priorities. We are planning for tuition assistance for tribal members available 12 months a year to replace our current scholarship program. The Education Committee and Tribal Council will continue to develop a strategy that will increase funding for education assistance in the future.

We also need to work on the restoration of our hunting and fishing rights. Many thanks to our Natural Resources Department who strive to protect and restore our homelands.

The Tribal Council took the official position that we do not support the proposed Kalama Methanol Facility within our homelands and will work to try and make sure this proposed development doesn't impact sacred first food resources. Tribal leadership adamantly opposes the proposed Longview, WA - Millennium Coal Terminal, and the proposed Port of Vancouver, WA - Tesoro Savage



Chairman Bill Iyall

Oil Terminal, also within our Tribal homelands.

The Cowlitz Canoe family traveled to Canada at the end of July arriving August 10, 2017 at Campbell River, British Columbia to complete the 2017 Canoe Journey. We are thankful for their safe journey and return home.

Our 18th Annual Cowlitz Pow Wow was on September 16th and led by Pow Wow committee volunteers to make our Pow Wow a huge success! We welcome your interest, your help, and your support at any time.

The Cowlitz Indian Tribe continues to build a better future based on Cowlitz Tribal heritage and traditions to unite and serve our people. The Cowlitz People will forever thrive in our homelands.

A.M.R.

Chairman Bill Iyall

### Cowlitz Tribal News YOOYOOLAH

PO Box 2547, 1055 9th Ave.  
Longview, WA 98632  
360-577-8140 | news@cowlitz.org

*The Cowlitz Indian Tribe News Team encourages tribal members to submit articles, photographs and events. All submissions of articles need to be in editable form such as Word document. Photos need to be sent in a separate attachment and should be high resolution, original photos. Submissions must contain the writer's name, address and phone contact to be published.*

*Submitted articles may be edited at the discretion of the editing staff and become the property of the Cowlitz Tribe. 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.*

#### Newspaper Team

Bill Iyall  
Whitney Mosback  
Anna Williams  
Aaron Workman  
Patty Kinswa-Gaiser  
Dan Meyer  
Jennifer Neal  
Tiffini Alexander  
Emily Gardner  
Abriel Johnny-Rodriguez

## Gifting of Tribal Pendleton Blankets

By David Barnett

I will be personally gifting hundreds of amazing Cowlitz Pendleton Blankets to Tribal Members at our 2017 November General Council meeting.

This comes at a great financial cost to myself but it is my way of saying thank you to all of you for hanging in there through our ob-

taining Federal Acknowledgement and now having our own reservation and Ilani!!

If you haven't yet received a blanket, please show up or get on the list by calling me at (206) 707-5765.

See you soon!

Go Hawks!





## Cowlitz Tribe Creates Public Safety Dept. *Jay Goss named Director*



J.A. Goss, Jr., was hired as the inaugural Director of Public Safety. He is a graduate of the FBI National Academy, the US Treasury Academy, the Washington State Police Academy and US Army

Military Police Academy. He comes to us with more than 45 years of law enforcement experience. Jay is a retired Federal Agent with more than 20 years as Tribal Police Chief for Quinalt, Coeur D' Alene, Colville and Tulalip tribes before coming out of retirement to create the Cowlitz Tribal Department of Public Safety. Director Goss is a member of the Blackfeet Tribe of Montana.

The first task was to purchase a 2014 Ford Police Vehicle. Adding the Cowlitz Tribal Police Logo decal now demonstrates that the Cowlitz Tribe has an active police department. The new department is housed on the Cowlitz Reservation in a modular building near the ilani marquee sign. A sign bearing the Cowlitz logo is on the side of the building and reads "Department of Public Safety - Tribal Police."

The new uniform badge design highlights the Cowlitz Tribal logo and is the center piece of our Cowlitz Tribal Department of Public Safety uniform. The uniform is complete with Cowlitz Tribal Police logo on each shoulder. The Department of Public Safety's Policy and Procedures and the Operations Manual have been completed and approved by the tribal council. It consists of 29 chapters of laws and operational procedures for a modern Department of Public Safety.

The department is currently working on obtaining a National Crime Information Computer system in partnership with Clark County and the Washington State Patrol to assist in safeguarding the Cowlitz Reservation and properties.

The department has partnered with the Cowlitz Tribal Gaming Agency and ilani Security and Surveillance Departments to ensure the Cowlitz premiere Casino is secure and safe. The Cowlitz Public Safety Department has joined the Clark County Law Enforcement Council and meets monthly with State Patrol, Clark County Sheriff, various city police chiefs, and the FBI to enhance the law enforcement partnerships. In October, the Cowlitz Tribal Department of Public Safety will be joining with the NW Tribal Law Enforcement Officers Association to ensure tribal policing is at the forefront of professionalism. Director Goss is a former president of this association.

**COWLITZ DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC SAFETY**, 31501 NW 31st Avenue, Ridgefield, Washington 98642  
Phone: (360) 727-2119

# Vice-Chair News



Philip Harju, General Council Vice-Chairman

The development of our Reservation continues with construction on roads and infrastructure.

Soon we will have a Cowlitz Cigarette Outlet open near our administrative trailer off 31st Avenue on the east side of our Reservation. The Tribe is working to take some additional land that we own into trust at the main entrance of the Reservation. We have also purchased another 8.5 acres of land west of the Reservation for future use by the Tribe.

There remains a lot of work, planning, meetings, and ideas for the Cowlitz Indian Tribe to discuss. Input from our general membership is vital to our success. I again look forward to see and talk to many of you at our November General Council Meeting. As always, it is an honor and privilege to serve the Cowlitz Indian Tribe.

## NOVEMBER 2017 GENERAL COUNCIL MEETING

NOVEMBER 4, 2017 AT 10 AM  
HELD AT ST. MARY'S  
MISSION

**107 SPENCER RD., TOLEDO**

PLEASE BRING YOUR ENROLLMENT  
CARD AND PHOTO ID TO SIGN-IN. SEE  
HOUSING WEBSITE FOR DIRECTIONS.

### POTLUCK LUNCH

PLEASE BRING THE FOLLOWING  
ITEM FOR THE POTLUCK ACCORDING  
TO THE FIRST LETTER OF YOUR LAST  
NAME.

A-G SALAD, H-N HOT DISH, O-U  
DESSERT, V-Z BEVERAGE



# Cowlitz Indian Tribal Census

Still Open!



Still Open!

## 2017 Tribal Census Update

We have a total of 1,047 responses of about 2,800 Cowlitz Indian Households. Of the 1,047, there are 751 completed and 296 partial or incomplete responses. We need everyone to respond. It is not too late to finish your Census.

**The Census is still open!**

Please go to [www.cowlitz.org](http://www.cowlitz.org) and log in with your Cowlitz enrollment number to complete your Census! If you need assistance with the forms you can call us toll free at 1-855-577-8140 or email your questions to the Tribal Planner, Christine Myers at [cmyers@cowlitz.org](mailto:cmyers@cowlitz.org).

# Strategic Planning Update

by Jerry Iyall

We have been working on Strategic Planning for several months now. I was asked to lead the effort and am joined on the Strategic Planning Committee by Debbie Hassler, Kim Stube, Dan Meyer, Phil Harju, Christine Myers and Abriel Johnny-Rodriguez. The last edition of the tribal newspaper included an article that explained the processes we are using. Recently we have been working with the Housing Board, Health and Human Services, Health Board, Youth Board and Culture Board.

The Tribal Council met several months ago to do a brainstorming session and developed key ideas for the Mission, Vision and Values. The Strategic Planning Committee took those ideas and formalized them into the Mission and Vision statements which were presented to the General Council in June. We were asked to include "sover-

eignty" in the Mission statement and it has been incorporated into the current version. The Values are included here for your review. Following is a draft of the Mission, Vision and Values statements that will be presented at the General Council meeting for approval.

## Mission

The mission of the Cowlitz Indian Tribe is to preserve and honor the legacy of our Elders and ancestors by empowering a tribal community that promotes our social and economic well-being, secures our aboriginal lands, respects our culture and sovereignty, and fosters justice, freedom, and our mutual welfare.

## Vision

We the Cowlitz are the forever people; who strive to stay connected to our land, water, and *Tamaniwas* to achieve a healthy prosperous community for all generations.

## Values

**Ethics** - Ethics are one of our most sacred values. Our actions, our behavior and our decisions reflect our high ethical values. We treat each other with honesty and respect and we act with integrity.

**Integrity** - Our sound moral judgment, individually and collectively, nurtures harmony in all our interactions. By supporting each other in the exercise of honorable principles, we flourish as a cohesive whole.

**Leadership** - It is with dedication, courage and wisdom that Leaders ensure the work needed to carry out the mission is accomplished. As Leaders, we are loyal to the needs of our people and we exhibit honor and humility in our actions.

**Respect** - Native American is not just blood, it is what is in our heart that defines respect. The love for the land, the

respect for it and those who inhabit it. Through respect and acknowledgement of our ancestors and Elders we teach our future generations the importance of respect.

**Family** - Through traditions, values, and teachings, we understand bringing families together is fundamental in honoring the generations that have come before, and in preserving the family structure for generations to come. Recognizing the importance of all members of the family empowers our community to heal and prosper.

**Next Steps:** We will continue to work with the groups described earlier and we will begin to focus on Strategic Planning with the Tribal Council.

*If you have any thoughts or questions about the Strategic Planning process or if you have comments on the Mission, Vision or Values, you can email me at [j.iyall@ctgc.cowlitz.org](mailto:j.iyall@ctgc.cowlitz.org).*

## Elections Committee

Tribal Council approved a committee to formalize the elections process and develop an Elections Code. In August, Tribal Members including Chairman Bill Iyall assembled at St. Mary's in Toledo. The group elected David Barnett as Chair, Sheryl Bertucci as Vice-Chair and Whitney (Devlin) Mosback as Secretary.

The goal of this committee is to generate a Tribal Elections Code that will ensure accurate and honest elections, broaden the electoral population, streamline the tallying process and elect Cowlitz Tribal Members who are in good standing with our tribal community.

We invite you to take part in the Elections Committee meetings!

Contact Dave Barnett at (206) 707-5765 or Whitney Mosback at (360) 353-6461 for information.



## NEW Distracted Driving Law

Effective July 23, 2017

### No hand-held cell phone use while driving.

- Even when stopped in traffic or at traffic light
- Includes all electronic devices even tablets, laptops and video games
- No typing messages or accessing information
- No watching videos or using cameras

### You CAN use your device if you are:

- Hands-free and can start use by a single touch or swipe of your finger
- Parked or out-of-the-flow of traffic
- Contacting emergency services



**Fines:**  
Standard traffic fine of \$136.  
Second offense:  
Fine increases to \$234.  
The ticket will be reported to your insurance company.

**Dangerously Distracted:**  
You can get a \$99 ticket for other types of distraction such as grooming, smoking or eating, but only if you are pulled over for another traffic offense.

For more information visit: [wadrivetozero.com/distracted-driving](http://wadrivetozero.com/distracted-driving)



## Cowlitz Youth and Family Christmas Party

Enjoy the Christmas season with Cowlitz family where good times & cheer are had by all. RSVP is requested to get on Santa's list to make sure he has a special gift

**Just for You!**

Santa is coming all the way from the North Pole to deliver gifts to Cowlitz youth from 0 to 17 years old. There will be crafts, games, cookie decorating, and have your picture taken with Santa.

**RSVP:** Melody Pfeifer - Youth Program Coordinator  
(360) 353 - 9497

**Where:** St Mary's 107 Spencer Rd.  
Toledo, WA 98591

**When:** Saturday, December 16, 2017

**Time:** 10:00 - 1:00 pm



# Enrollment Department Update

As of September 2017 our current enrolled population is 4097. In May 2017 we enrolled 29 new tribal members. 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; and 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 2015 allows descendants whose parent did not enroll them by their first birthday to enroll themselves as an adult between their 18th and 19th birthdays.

If you know of any tribal member or their families that are not receiving mailed tribal information or the newspaper, please have them notify us. Most likely they are on our Unknown Address List or the address we have is not cor-

rect. Please have them contact the Enrollment Office to verify the address we have on file for them.

We sadly report that the following tribal members have either crossed over since the last newspaper or we were recently notified of their death:

Rainford, Michael Lee  
Inderbitzin, Robert Allen  
Hardin, Marcus Thomas  
Davidson, Caroline May  
Whittle, Ronald LeRoy

Torner, Gary Robert  
Little, Casea Danielle  
Russell, David Arnold  
Wesserling, Richard Lewis  
Long, Marian Patricia  
Bridges, Leonard Dallas

*For more information please contact Cathy Raphael, Enrollment Officer by calling 360-575-3310 or email: cowlitzenrollment@cowlitz.org.*

## Unknown Addresses

*We do not have any contact information for the following 263 tribal members. If you know any of these people, please have them contact the Enrollment Office or let us know how we can reach them:*

Aalvik, Aaryn Lee  
Aalvik, Hayden Rhodes  
Aalvik, Zakory Dennis  
Abbott, Alvin E  
Albrecht, Shelly Christine  
Arthur (Pete), Edwin Joseph  
Baker, David Bradley  
Barker, April Marie  
Barnett, Nigel Elliot Taesoo  
Bellamy, Loretta Lori" Marlene"  
Beltran, Jamie Paige  
Bennett, Casse Allen Jacob  
Bennett, Jerry Norman  
Boles, Nancy Jane  
Boles, William George  
Bouchard, Adam Oliver  
Bowman, Sean Aaron  
Braley DCC 857520, Tia Evelyn  
Brandow, Erin Jessica  
Bridges, L. Jacob Eli  
Brien, Erica Love  
Brown, Hunter Reshae  
Buchmann, David Lee  
Burns, Charles Eric  
Byrd, Robert Lawrence  
Cahill, Brenyn Dawsen  
Campbell, William Bradley  
Carnes Jr, Ryan Richard  
Carnes, Ryan Richard  
Casaw, Robin LeAnn  
Casey, Ryan Robert  
Charvat, Cory Lawrence  
Charvat, Mary Lou  
Ciarfella, David Maitland  
Ciarfella, Michael Andrew  
Citron, Kimberly Jennifer  
Clark, Andrew John  
Clark, Kenneth Virgil  
Cloquet, Chance Michael  
Cloquet, Joshua Michael  
Cobb, Alexx Hunter  
Cobb, Caleb Ryan  
Cobb, Emily Ciera  
Cobb, Gary Lee  
Cobb, Megan Nicole  
Cornett, Michelle Lee  
Corpuz, Deborah Kelleen

Cota, Shelly Rae  
Cottonware, Dustin James  
Crabtree, Rebecca Lynn  
Craighead, Makayla Maree  
Crosby, Charles Patrick  
Crosby, William Dexter  
Cualio, Yohana Gabryella  
Cunningham, Jason Robert  
Dawson, Gary L  
Dawson, Maurice R  
DeCamps, Deborah Leigh  
DeNobrega, Nio Arcenio  
DeNobrega, Peter MNM  
Dill, Cyndi Raven Rayn  
Dill, Tazzmen Justice  
Dominick, Craig Martin  
Dominick, Garrett Edwin  
Dominick, Jackson Richard  
Dominick, Richard Edwin  
Doneyson, Pailsey Rain Jay  
Doolittle, Brittaney Anne  
Dunckel, Brad Lee  
Dunckel, Dustin Dean  
Dunn Jr, Carl Myron  
Duprey, Meryl Wayne  
Duprey, Suzanne Marie  
Duprey, Thomas Gerard  
DuRussel, Kourtanee Madison  
Duvall, Nicholas Sean  
Easley, Aaron Dean  
Easley, Makayla Ann  
Fehrenkamp, Levi Dean  
Fernandez-Herrera, Jazelle Amarie  
Fisher, Heather Dawn  
Florek, Alexis Lee  
Forsberg, Kurt Emil  
Fox, Franklin Rhodes  
Galloway III, John Baxter  
Galloway, Barbara Jane  
Gilbert Jr, William David  
Gilbert, Buddy Gene  
Gilbert, Darrell John  
Gilbert, Kelly LaDon  
Gilchrist, Joshua Brian  
Gillespie, Lola Jean  
Gillespie, Taylor Rene  
Glasgow, Jean Louise  
Graham, Richard Leon  
Harris, Carolee Kay  
Harris, Kisa Marie  
Harris, Leslie Ervin  
Helton, Brent Thomas  
Henry, Savannah Love  
Herrera Fernandez, Christian Xavier

Herrera, M. Christopher Garcia  
Hiebert, Lisa Marie  
Hodges, Victoria Anne  
Hogue, Jonathan Charles  
Howe, Kathleen Nicole  
Huereca, Andrea Marie  
Huereca, Anita Marie  
Iyall, Andrew James  
Iyall, Kristen Patrice  
Iyall, McKell Ray  
Jackson, Zachary David Lee  
James, Jacqueline Marie  
James, Judith Ann  
James, William Julius  
Jones, Emmett Jesus  
Jones, Zada Mae  
Jorgenson, Gary D  
Judge, Janet LaVerne  
Kacmarcik, Benjamin James  
Keener, Jordann Brianna  
Keener, Robert William  
Kemp, Ronald Jay  
Kennedy, Edgar Lewis  
Kniss, Sandra Lee  
Koch, Joshua Douglas  
Koob, Christina Marie  
Kramer, Justina Leslie  
Kubacki, Nicholas Lee  
Lane, Lynnette Marlene  
Lane, Richard Stanley  
Lang, Gayle Darlene  
Link, Sheryl Diane  
Lund, Gwendolyn Marie  
Mabry, Kimberly Ann  
Marquis, Kristopher Austin  
Mason, Ronald Ellery  
McCabe, April May  
McConnell, Phillip Scott  
McFarlin, Tess Elizabeth  
McGinn, Wesley Robert  
McMillon II, Micheal Allen  
Medley, Deborrah Louise  
Melvin, Raleigh Scott  
Michel, Noah Emerson  
Miller, Brett LeRoy  
Miller, Cierra Lerae  
Miller, Kristina Lea  
Miller, Nellie Rusan  
Miller, Reece Andrew  
Miller, Vincent William  
Miller, Wesley Hans  
Minkel, Glenn William  
Moriarty, Kevin Joseph  
Morrill, Helen May

Morrill, Paul Christopher  
Morrill, Sandra Lee  
Morrill, Sharon Anne  
Morrill, Terry Dean  
Morrison, Lee Hoyt  
Morrison, Patricia Frances  
Mullins, Robert Wilson  
Murphy, Patti Lynn  
Myers, Daniel Lee  
Myers, Jason Ross  
Myers, Stephanie Ann  
Myers, Steven Ross  
Neilsen, Deanne Reshae  
Neilsen, Ricky Dean  
Nelson, Pamela Ruth  
Nelson, Pepper Jean  
Newbaker, Raymond Russell  
Newbaker, William Lee  
Nickerson, Dorothea Agnes  
Ozier, Jordan Rayfield  
Ozier, Sierra Victoria  
Pace, Daniel Thomas  
Pardee, Betty Rose  
Parrish, Elicia Irene  
Pearson, Elizabeth Anne  
Pearson, Ellen Grace  
Pellegrini, Mark Stephen  
Perez, Lori Louise  
Pfohlman, Donald Arthur  
Phillips, Kimberly Dawn  
Pierson, Gabriel Arch  
Pineda, Dalene Kay  
Putas, Anthony Micheal  
Ragan, James Robert  
Ragan, John Thomas  
Ragan, Timothy John Brenden  
Ramsey, Joshua Zenos  
Rhodes, David Scott  
Richards, Debra Ann  
Riggles, Sheila Marie  
Riggles, Travis Edward Wilson  
Riley, Diane Rose  
Robertson, Cassie Michelle  
Robertson, Kristen Jamie  
Robinson, Stephanie Lynn  
Rockwood, Michael James  
Roney, David Anthony  
Ruemker, Lena Maureen  
Ruemker, Nicholas Andrew  
Russell, Tiona Nicole  
Ryan, Isabella Joann  
Ryan, Joshua Patrick  
Ryan, Timothy Edmund  
Ryan, Trinity Marie

Saunders, Troy Allen  
Schwanz, Tracy Arthur  
Shaffer, Dayle Marie  
Shaffer, Racquel Anne  
Shaw, Ashley Page  
Simmons, Sarah Ruby  
Sims, Evan Danielle  
Sims, Karen Joyce  
Smith III, Elmer MNM  
Smith, Andrew Edward  
Smith, Esther Maria  
Smith, James R  
Smith, Keaton Vaughn Jaeger  
Smith, Linda Lee  
Smith, Melissa Roxanne  
Smith, William Winfield  
Smithlin, Kayleena Gigina  
Smithlin, Korin Brian  
Smithlin, T. Mike" Michael"  
Stalcup, Joyce Leslie  
Stargel, Casey Kevin  
Steffen, Donald Anthony  
Stone, Xilion Chaos  
Stroyan, Connor James  
Swaggard, Jeneen  
Swearingen, Daia Denise  
Taylor, Patrick Junior  
Thayer, Kelsy Dawn  
Thomas, Eric V  
Thrasher, Hailey Elizabeth  
Tucker, Gwenith Christine  
Usher, Jill Marie  
Warriner, Gabriel David  
Watkins, Beau Matthew  
Weaver Jr., Tyree Henry Dizon  
Weaver, Gary Wayne  
Wetzel, John Marlan  
Wiggins, Brent LeRoy  
Williams, Benjamin Ray  
Williams, Jesse Hall  
Williams, Joshua Roy  
Williams, Raelene Ruth  
Williams, Robert Dale  
Williams, Timothy Alan Lee  
Williamson, Kay Evelyn  
Wilson II, William Paul  
Wilson, Hannah Elyse  
Wilson, Jeffrey John  
Wilson, Jeremy John  
Wilson, Latitia Ann  
Wilson, Tyson Scott  
Wilson, William Paul  
Wilson, Winston Roy  
Yellow-Wolf Knox, Vonnie Marine



Tanna Engdahl holding freshly dug camas.



Elders digging camas root. Pictured from left are: Sandy Miller, Emma Johnson, Nathan Reynolds, Deb Mizner (digging) and Tanna Engdahl.



Cowlitz Elders visit Scowltz First Nation in British Columbia and meet the canoe carver.



Madeline Gabriel of the Scowltz First Nation in BC. She is wearing the wounded warrior necklace gifted to her by Juanita Clark.



Marie Saerault visits ilani.



Elders enjoying a delicious lunch at ilani.



Elders day at ilani.



Doug Mahar (left) and Richie Byrd holding their catch after an Elders fishing trip on the Columbia River. Thank you Natural Resources Department!



Juanita Clark and Don VanMechelen at the Elders luncheon with Puyallup Tribe.

**We are here to help you and would love to have you join us. Please contact: Deb Mizner, Elders Program Manager, to discuss your needs. Call her at (360) 864-7006 or e-mail to: [dmizner.health@cowlitz.org](mailto:dmizner.health@cowlitz.org).**

## Cowlitz Indian Tribe Education and Arts Fund Will Launch in 2018

By Karissa Lowe, Chair

The Cowlitz Indian Tribe has committed to dedicating 2% of its profits from ilani to support nonprofits focused on education, arts, and cultural activities in Clark County, Washington.

This charitable funding will be distributed by the Cowlitz Indian Tribe Education and Arts Fund. The Tribal Chairman has appointed members of an Advisory Committee to develop the policies and procedures for our funding application and distribution process. The committee is meeting regularly to ensure that all the necessary infrastructure is in place in time for the fund to begin operating in 2018 and the committee is keeping Tribal Council apprised of its progress.

Tribal members will have the chance to learn more at the November General Council meeting, and there will be opportunities for Tribal members to provide input on the fund's development. It will be especially helpful for us to learn if tribal members would like to see an

emphasis placed on certain topics within a funding area (for example, if tribal members want more of our funding to support early childhood education, or environmental science, or college readiness programs, etc.)

Members' feedback will help us distribute our charitable funds in a good way that reflects Cowlitz values and priorities. This is a wonderful opportunity for the Cowlitz Tribe to continue and build upon its tradition of giving and community leadership, and to highlight ilani's commitment to being a great neighbor and supporting strong communities.

Advisory committee members are: Bill Iyall, Dan Meyer, Phil Harju, Chris Dupres, and Abriel Johnny-Rodriguez. Karissa Lowe is the committee chairman, David Iyall is vice chairman, and Whitney (Devlin) Mosback is secretary.

Please contact committee chairman Karissa Lowe with any questions or comments at [Karissa.Lowe@gmail.com](mailto:Karissa.Lowe@gmail.com) or 360.261.4683.

## A Connection to Cultural Heritage

Students enrolled in Kelso Indian Education have an opportunity to learn about Native American history, music, dance, legends and crafts. Parents are encouraged to attend culture classes, too, and many find the program, as well as the annual Pow Wow scheduled for the third Saturday of May each year, help bring Native American family and community together.

### A Path to Higher Education

Students enrolled in Indian Education, who meet the district criteria, are eligible to receive academic tutoring on a one-on-one basis. Students involved in the program improve academically and they place more value on education. A record number of Native American students graduate from Kelso High School each year.

### Isn't my child automatically enrolled in the Indian Education Program?

No. In order to be enrolled, we must have an Indian Education registration form on file. You can download this form from our website to your computer and fill it out and print it. It must have an original signature and be submitted to our department. This form only needs to be completed once for each student. Indian Education is federally funded. The amount of funding is determined by the number of eligible students registered in the school district and enrolled

in the Indian Education program.

### Program Services

- **Tutoring:** First priority is given to the tutoring program. Parents, teachers and counselors refer students in need of academic help. Students may also request help for themselves.

- **Culture Classes:** These classes provide an opportunity for students, parents and interested persons to learn Native American crafts, culture and history.

- **Native American Club (Teen Club):** This is for secondary students.

- **Information and Resources:** We send a quarterly newsletter that includes information pertaining to Indian life.

- **We also maintain a resource center** (at Wallace Elementary School) with reference books, compact disks, videos and more pertaining to Indian life.

- **Community Awareness:** We recommend guest speakers for classrooms and community groups upon request. We also hold a powwow for the community each spring.

**REMEMBER:** Your child's enrollment – whether or not he or she actively participates in the program – will help fund the program for other Native American children.

For more information, please contact our office at Wallace Elementary School, 410 Elm St. Kelso, WA 98626 Phone: 360-501-1655

## Tribal Education Committee Celebrates a Record-breaking Number of Scholarships and Looks to the Future

By Karissa Lowe, Chair

The Education Committee thanks all the tribal members who participated in this year's round of funding.

We awarded scholarships to 86 Tribal members and will distribute \$321,150 in total scholarship funding for the 2017-18 school year. The award amounts are \$5,000, \$3,450, and \$2,000. Applications were evaluated by the committee and those with the highest scores received the largest awards. We received a record 92 applications this year, and 6 were deemed incomplete.

As of September 7th, 2017, we have processed 52 scholarship payments totaling \$162,700 in funds disbursed. All payments are made directly to the students' schools.

All tribal scholarship recipients must send their schools' contact information to the Education Committee by April 17th, 2018 so that we can process payments. Failure to do so will forfeit the scholarship award. Please contact us before the deadline so we can distribute your funds!

This year's applications came from Tribal members in 13 different states. Two of this year's scholarship recipients are trade school students, 68 are undergraduate students, and 16 are graduate students. 62 of our applicants were age 18 to 22, 11 were age 23 to 27, and 19 were age 28 to 62. Our scholarships support both part-time and full-time students.

The 2017-18 school year is the final year of the annual tribal scholarship awards. In June 2018, we will transition to a Tuition Assistance program which will process applications on a monthly basis, so students can apply at any time throughout the year.

The changes in our distribution method means there will be changes to our application process. The Education Committee is working through those changes now to ensure that our new processes are in place before June 2018 when our next funding year will commence.

At our most recent meeting the Education Committee held elections for officers. Karissa Lowe was elected chairperson, Mike Iyall was elected vice chair, and Becky Lowe was elected secretary. The committee has been fortunate to retain the continued volunteer service of our longstanding members: David Iyall, Suzanne Donaldson-Stephens, Lenny Bridges, Celine Cloquet, and David Reichel. Also at our most recent meeting the committee approved – and is delighted to welcome aboard – our newest members: Gregg Ford, Dave Littleton, and Joan Iyall.

Please stay tuned to <http://cowlitz.org/index.php/resources/education> for updates on our application process. Please contact committee chairperson Karissa Lowe with any questions or comments at [Karissa.Lowe@gmail.com](mailto:Karissa.Lowe@gmail.com) or 360.261.4683.



All Women's categories exhibition song (Jingle, Fancy Shawl, and Traditional)

# Summer Camp

The Cowlitz Youth had an awesome Summer Camp June 15-18th. About fifty youth attended “Camp Vernonia” near Vernonia, Oregon. Camp owner Larry Steele played with the Portland Trailblazers during the championship years in the 1970s. The campers enjoyed exclusive use of the facilities. They enjoyed endless hours of swimming in the heated swimming pool, the 333-ft. water slip and slide and crafts including cedar weaving, beading, regalia sewing and making drum bags. There were also art supplies for those budding Cowlitz artists. A fun time was had by all!



330 Feet of slip & slide. Youth summer Camp 2017.



Pool Time! Summer Youth Camp 2017.



Ethan and Ellie presenting new medicine bags and the Cowlitz logo burned into a wood medalion during summer camp 2017.

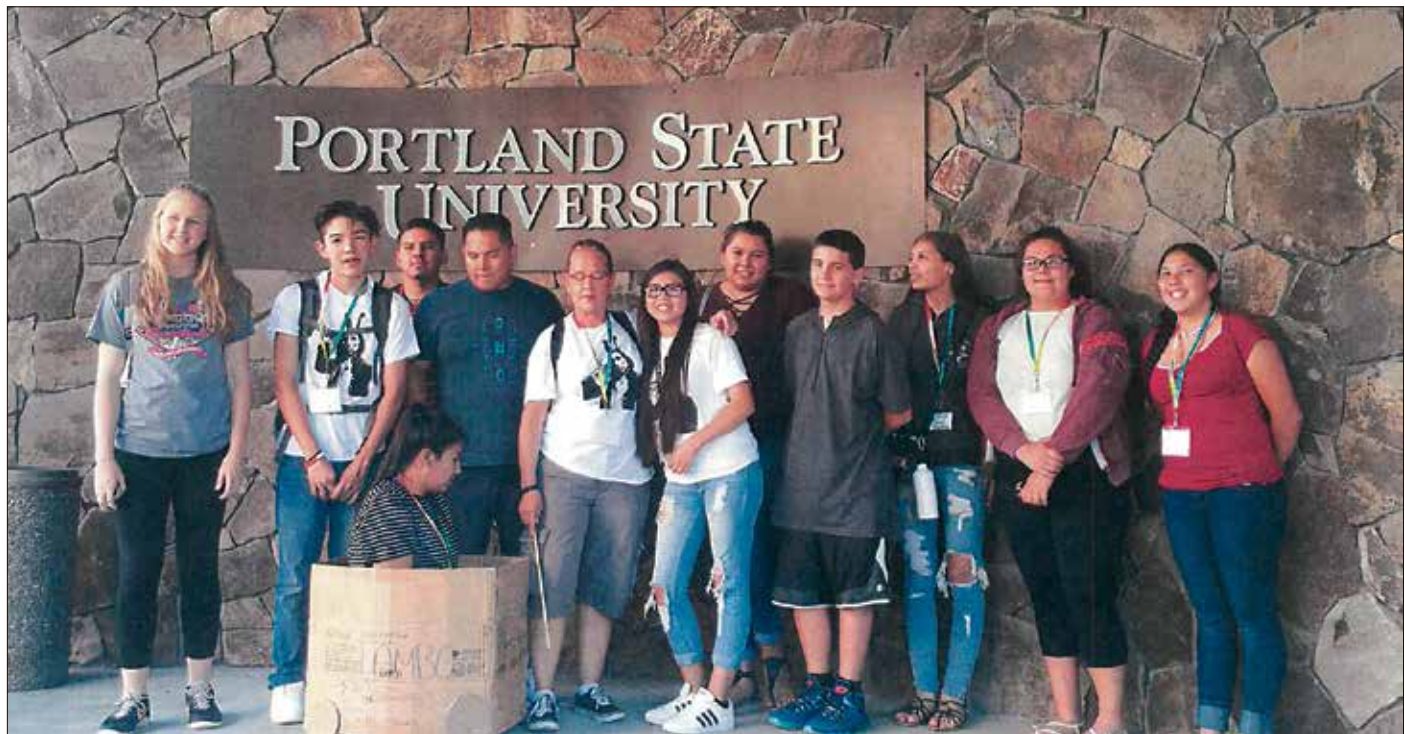


Lydia & Ellie Hodges (Far left) Gracie Graves, Cynthia Reck, Ben Reck and Kruz Lopez shopping for supplies for the Canoe Journey to Campbell River, Canada.



About fifty youth attended our summer “Camp Vernonia” near Vernonia, Oregon.

**Our Youth program is for children ages 7 through 17. For more information, contact Melody Pfeifer at (360) 353-9497, or check [www.cowlitz.org](http://www.cowlitz.org) for upcoming events and “Like” us on Facebook at Cowlitz Youth.**



Stacy Spahr (far left) attended the 2017 Thrive Conference in Portland, OR in June.



## WERNATIVE AMBASSADORS 2017

Sandee Spahr and Madison Simper, Cowlitz Youth, were selected by as WERNATIVE Ambassadors. Youth Ambassadors advocate for youth wellness and prevention.

For more Native Youth information please follow WERNATIVE on Facebook, Instagram, Twitter or text message: NATIVE to 97779 or wernative.org.



Canoe Princess candidates prepare to fillet salmon as part of their pageant requirements. Pictured (front Left to far right) Lydia Hodges, Lilyanne Cottenware, Dhredyn Hadley, Cathy Sellards, Ron Sellards, Juanita Clark, Sandee Spahr, Cynthia Reck, Troy Cottenware, Cedar Fender, Bailey Simper and holding the fillet knife is Gracie Graves.



Madison is most passionate about photography and nature, as well as helping and supporting others in difficult times. "I would really like to help inspire and encourage struggling youth so they can succeed, or to just feel like they are worth it. Nobody deserves to feel like a burden, and clearing your mind and giving attention to positive sources is a good way to lift yourself up. I want to do this through photography, because I know that focusing on things can be calming and cleansing, and photos may motivate people to connect with a part of the world that is less stressful and busy. I believe one day my photography will inspire others to follow their dreams and goals. You are not alone! We R Native".



Bobbi and Mark Cox with their son, Ryan at Summer Youth Camp. Ryan enjoyed participating in the fun with his squirt gun around the pool.



Sandee is a happy, positive person who wants to learn to be an effective change agent for Native Youth. "I would like to educate our youth on activities that are not expected or tolerated. I want to teach our youth the native traditions and culture for future generations".

# Welcome to a Walking Tour of Cowlitz Country in ilani!

ilani is a Cowlitz word that means “to sing”. Tribal members say the casino resort is a homecoming, a destination for the community and a place for Cowlitz People to return home. Here is a look at some of the decorative features inside ilani.

Remember to look up when entering ilani. You will see beautiful conceptual designs of cedar woven hats hanging from the ceiling as chandeliers. Today tribal members continue to peel bark from the trees in preparation to hand weave cedar hats, earrings and bracelets. Beyond the chandeliers is a ceiling artwork piece, creatively displaying berries which are native to the landscape. Cedar hats were often used by men, women and children to gather berries. Look closely! A wood panel surrounds berries in the shape of a cedar hat.

Next, at the south porte-cochere entrance, find the 40-foot circular map made of inlaid stone and rock. The territorial mosaic shows the lands where the Cowlitz once thrived. As you will see, the Cowlitz Reservation today is a small, tangible connection to the vast lands that we call our homeland. Shown here are regions where tribal ancestors traded, lived and explored. Take note of the mosaic where it reads, “Land of the Forever People” and “We are Here.” You will also see traditional native names for some of the landmarks.

Walk along the marble path outside of the casino floor to Muze, the entertainment lounge. Gold eagle wings act as a partial walk upon entering the room. The bar comes to a point in the shape of a beak and tail feathers are found at the far side on the wall near the stage. Leaving Muze, notice the large wood rounds made into lights! This room expresses elements of our cherished eagles!



Explore the casino looking up, down and all around. Take notice of the look and feel of flowing waters. Our rivers, streams, lakes, ocean and even the rainfall is incredibly important to the Cowlitz way of life. Access to water provided a means to travel and access to food and drink. ilani was designed with this concept in mind, highlighting flowing water, kelp, bubbles, fish baskets, and aquatic plants and flowers.



Continue onto the 100,000 square foot casino floor to find our beautiful, unique bright yellow and purple carpet. It features the flower of a plant important to the Cowlitz whose root was harvested for food and was used to make ink. This flower is the Camas Lily.

Porcelain fish are delicately suspended from the ceiling to represent schools of fish. Cowlitz hold separate Smelt and Salmon Ceremonies each year to honor these swimmers. At ilani, our facilities crew regularly clean each delicate piece.



Escape into the center of ilani to 360 Bar where light fixtures in the shape of bubbles suspend from the ceiling. Bronze kelp-like drapes partially surround the seating area and the overhead blue lights offer an illusion of running waters. The main focal point here is an art piece in the shape of a salmon swirl. Envision salmon swimming in circles as the scales reflect underwater in the shape of a tornado. This location is hard to miss!



End your walking tour by continuing to look up. Imagine you are standing in the Cowlitz River. You will see abstract fish baskets used as light fixtures. Fish baskets were designed to trap large amounts of fish with one scoop of water. As the line is tugged upwards the traps close to prevent the fish from escaping. If any piece of the fish was not consumed or used the remains were returned back into the water.



We hope you enjoyed this mini-tour until the next time you can come in person to really appreciate the beauty. Enjoy your time at ilani, a destination like no other!

*By Whitney (Devlin) Mosback*



## Fresh Fish Distribution Program

Cowlitz citizens who are interested in receiving fish through this program must call NRD Fresh Fish Program Manager to be put on the distribution request list. FFDP rules are as follows:

- Only Cowlitz citizens will receive fish. Identification may be checked, please bring your Cowlitz citizenship card.
- Fish will be distributed as equally as practical. Records will be kept to assure equal sharing. (Cowlitz citizens will be put on the distribution list in the order their call is received; citizens are called for distribution in the order they appear on the list. Once fish are received, you must call again to be put back on the list.)
- Families may designate a Tribal citizen to pick up fish for the family (but each ultimate recipient must be identified).
- Fish may not be sold or exchanged for gain. Donations to defray cost will be accepted but are voluntary. (Expected donation value is \$1.00 per fish.)
- Fish will only be transferred on Tribal properties, or at a Tribal citizen's home (limited to disabled or Tribal elder's home by pre-arrangement).
- Tribal citizens must sign (and provide enrollment number) to acknowledge receipt of fish.
- Fish distributed to Tribal Programs will be recorded as such.
- Records of fish received and distributed will be kept for review by Tribal leadership.
- A copy of these rules will accompany the fish program manager at all distributions.

In addition, Tribal citizens receiving fish must bring coolers, bags and ice as necessary; the NRD cannot currently provide these materials at all locations.

The NRD also manages a small frozen fish program at the Longview office and keeps a rotating inventory of up to 20 whole frozen fish for distribution only to Cowlitz citizens who are indigent or otherwise have low food security. This frozen fish program is restocked by the fresh fish program, and in 2016 distributed 82 fish.

The NRD's Fresh Fish Program Manager is Kirk Russell: cell phone 360.772.9935, or contact Tiffini Alexander at the NRD offices at (360) 353-9509

# The Cowlitz Tribe Hosted Another Successful Pow Wow This Year

The pow wow was held September 16th, 2017 at Toledo High School with approximately 1000 spectators. Attendees traveled from all parts of Washington, Oregon and California. The celebration included drumming, competitions, intertribal dances, vendors, raffles, and of course the salmon dinner. An estimate of 475 salmon dinners were served thanks to the Pow Wow Committee and many volunteers. Serving as Head Staff was JC Allen Tackett (Iroquois, Eastern Band Cherokee, Abenaki) as Head Man and Abriel Johnny (Cowichan & Tlingit) as Head Lady. Ken Gofer kept the pow wow running smoothly as Master of Ceremonies. Ken's traditional knowledge coupled with his of rich experience in pow wow culture made Ken a perfect choice for M.C. It is the M.C.'s job to announce the contests, which drums are to sing, and explain the ceremonies as they take place. The beautiful Grand Entry was led in by the eagle staff, multiple flags, veterans representing all branches of the military, Cowlitz Spiritual leaders, Roy Wilson & Tanna Engdahl, and Chairman Bill Iyall. The Grand Entry filled the entire gymnasium floor with approximately 80 dancers including, the joy of everyone's hearts, the tiny tots. Seeing the next generation out on the floor, learning the traditions of dance, and feeling the medicine of the drum is always moving. Head Judge William Branson kept the contests moving smoothly. Rockin' Horse kept the heartbeat of the pow wow as Host Drum. The Cowlitz pow wow was honored to have 11 registered drums in attendance traveling from Northern Washington and Southern Oregon.

The first session held a special acknowledgement for the veterans in attendance. All veterans were asked to join the Honor Guard in the circle and introduce themselves. Followed by intertribal dances, tiny tots, and contest songs for the Junior categories. The second session held the Head Man and Head Lady specials. The Head Lady special was held for all Women's categories with 3 finalists chosen after 3 songs. Then Head Man special was held for all Men's categories with 3 finalists chosen after 3 songs. Then the finalist from Women's and Men's categories selected their dance partner for a final owl dance song. Grand exit concluded shortly after 10pm, marking the end of another successful Cowlitz Pow wow.

We offer gratitude to the Pow wow committee members who spent countless hours preparing for this event: Na-



18th Annual Honoring the Spirit of All Cowlitz People Pow Wow Grand Entry.



All Men's categories exhibition song (Grass, Fancy bustles, and Traditional) .

than Hooton, Jessica Eyle, Cheryl Wilcox, Jane Meyer, Lenny Bridges, Kris Dillehay, Dave Littleton, Mai Littleton, Maddie Littleton, Tonja Hooton & Melanie Mariano. A special thanks to all the volunteers helping behind the scenes

cooking and serving salmon dinners.

Want to get involved? Find us at [www.cowlitz.org](http://www.cowlitz.org) or on Facebook: Cowlitz Indian Tribe Pow Wow. Please consider serving the Cowlitz people in this rewarding way.



Grass Dancer and daughter during "Tiny tots" dance.

# Long Forgotten Native American Medical Cures

**Alfalfa:** Relieves digestion and is used to aid blood clotting. Contemporary uses include treatment of arthritis, bladder and kidney functions and bone strength. Also enhances the immune system.

**Blackberry:** The root, bark and leaves when crushed and infused in a tea are used to treat diarrhea, reduce inflammation and stimulate the metabolism. Also used as a gargle treats sore throats, mouth ulcers and inflammation of the gums.

**Chamomile:** The leaves and flower are used as a tea to treat intestinal prob-

lems and nausea.

**Chokecherry:** Berries are pitted, dried and crushed into a tea or poultice to treat coughs, colds, flu, nausea, inflammation and diarrhea. The pits are highly poisonous in high concentrations, so need to be discarded.

**Ginseng:** Roots used as a tea and poultice to treat fatigue, boost energy, and enhance the immune system and help with overall liver and lung function.

**Honeysuckle:** The berries, stems and flowers are used topically to treat bee stings and skin infections. Also used as

a tea to cure colds, headaches and sore throat. Also has an anti-inflammatory property.

**Licorice Root:** Can be chewed for toothaches.

**Red Clover:** It grows everywhere and can be used to manage inflammation, improve circulation and treat respiratory conditions. Can be eaten as a topping on foods or made into tea.

**Rose hip:** Massive source of vitamin C, treats colds, coughs, intestinal distress and as an antiseptic to treat inflammation. Note: This plant is also used to cleanse the body when a person

is crossing over. Boil leaves and flowers, drain and cool. It is used in traditional final dressing of the deceased by many families

**Rosemary:** Used as a tea to treat muscle pain, improve circulation and as a cleanser for the metabolism. It is also used in many foods

There are many more that can be used. Follow this link for more information: <http://www.offthegridnews.com/alternative-health/31-long-fogotten-native-american-medical-cures>

*Respectfully submitted by Patty Kin-swa-Gaiser, Cowlitz Elder*

## Cowlitz Cultural Resources Board

The Cultural Resources Board is looking for a youth volunteer! We meet the first Saturday before Tribal Council at 7am. The board meets to discuss the culture and traditional issues of the Tribe, and updates are discussed about the different properties and events. There are many opportunities to learn about our teachings, traditions and ancestors. Roy Wilson is the Chair and Tanna Engdahl is the Spiritual Co-Chair. Under their leadership we honor our sacred ways.

### Summer Events:

Our Huckleberry camp held in August was very successful this year. The berries were plentiful and we had a first food ceremony.

The River Float was held over the Labor Day weekend. We traveled to visit village sites on the river.

### Fall Events:

Cultural Gatherings are scheduled every 3rd Saturday of the month. November 18th is the next gathering. The food will be provided by the Cowlitz Indian Tribe.

December 16th will be the Youth Christmas party open to all. There will be Christmas themed crafts made and a Christmas dinner with a dice game to end the day. Food and presents provided by the Cowlitz Indian Tribe.

Please contact Cassandra Sellards-Reck: 360-513-124 or [csellards-reck@hotmail.com](mailto:csellards-reck@hotmail.com) for more information.



## Cowlitz Canoe Family 2017

The Cowlitz Canoe Family traveled to Campbell River in Canada this year for the annual journey. The Wei Wai Kum First Nation hosted the gathering at their Big House. It was hot, dusty and smoke filled the air from the fires in British Columbia. Our support boat was led by Normal Clark the son of Juanita Clark. He was joined by our Support Board Skipper Don Van Mechelen. Paddlers pulled long and hard many days with winds that made the water swell. As a way to expand Youth presence and learning opportunities, Youth Program Coordinator Melody Pfeifer accompanied the youth who didn't have a parent attending.

Malakai Simpler decided to do his first journey. He persevered, even when it was easier to go home. We had many new Cowlitz members join us: Nick Brown who had energy that was always in good spirit. Steve Kutz a seasoned skipper, appreciated for his spirit and knowledge, mentored our new skipper Chip Saylor. We love the

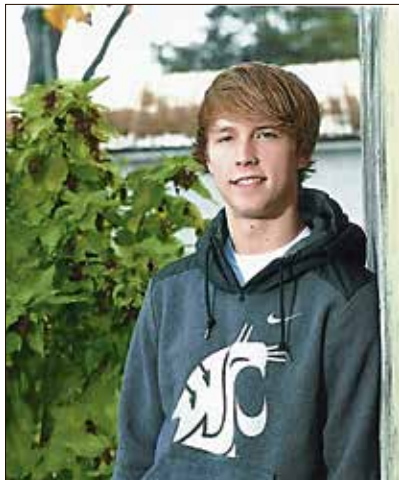


journey and how it blesses our life.

*The Canoe Family is open to all. If you are interested or need more information, please contact Devin Reck: 360-513-5886 or Melody: 360-353-9497.*



A canoe full of happiness!



Dakota Golden graduated from Castle Rock High School June 9, 2017. He lettered four years in football, basketball and baseball. Dakota received the Jere Cochran Basketball Scholarship, Friends of the Castle Rock Senior Center, MOU Tribal Scholarship and a Cowlitz Indian Tribal Scholarship. He is part of the Tribal Nation Building Leadership Program traveling to Coeur d'Alene, Idaho's Tribal Wellness Center. Dakota participated with WSU Outdoor Rec & CDA Wellness staff. They also learned how to make a Salishan sturgeon-nosed canoe.

Dakota is attending Washington State University in Pullman majoring in Sports Management and is a manager for the WSU Men's Basketball program.

He is the son of Tom & Tiffany Golden, grandson of Tom & Jodi Golden and great grandson of Yvonne Ward.



Justin Prozora graduated from Skyline High School, Vancouver, WA, June 2017.

He is the son of Jennifer and Tyler Venable of Vancouver and Jon Prozora. Grandparents are Donna and Dave Bagley and Bill Prozora.



### Welcome Baby Raegan!

Raegan Marie Hazel is the newest member of the Kinswa Family. Raegan is the daughter of Michael and Chrissy Kinswa. She was born at 7:40 June 22, 2017.

Raegan is the granddaughter of Bobbi Kinswa-Cox and great granddaughter of Barbara Kinswa-Lindhalm.



### Welcome Baby Ashley!

Shaina Okert and Russell Okert welcomed the arrival of their 2nd daughter Ashley Kaylea Okert, July 26th, 2017 at 1:34 pm. Ashley was born at Tacoma General Hospital and weighed 9 lbs 10 ounces she was 20 inches long.

She is the granddaughter of Wendy Oakes of Tacoma and sister Lexi Okert.



Tribal member Ashley Lancaster's children celebrate birthdays. Left to right, Leo, Sept. 12, Gavin, May 14, and Keyni, Aug. 12.

### Welcome Baby Gavin!



Learning healthy foods..

# Back to School Event

The Cowlitz Indian Tribe's Back to School Event was held August second, 2017 in the Ernie Donovan Wellness Center. Our team prefilled 200 backpacks with binders, 4 spiral notebooks, a package of notebook paper, a composition book, two pocket folders, scissors, glue sticks, Elmer's glue, note cards, pencils, erasers, highlighters, pens, pencil pouch or box, markers, colored pencils, crayons, ruler, and hand sanitizer. The children also collected disinfectant wipes, Ziploc baggies and Kleenex on their way out of the event and enjoyed the face painting from volunteers. Approximately 350-400 people attended the event. This would not have been possible without our donations from ilani, all HHS Departments, Housing, Transportation, and our retail partners.



Waiting for a ride on Iceman the pony.

Unfortunately, due to temperatures exceeding 100 degrees the inflatable obstacle course had to be cancelled. A very special thank you to Dana Eckland from Housing who brought her miniature horse and gave rides to the children.





Isha Aalvik (left) and Megan Schulz (right). Graduated with their Bachelors of Applied Science in Dental Hygiene June 2017



Tribal member, Josh Lancaster was married on September 9, 2017 to Taylor Farrar. His Mother, Jennifer Neal, wishes them many blessings for years to come!



## Celebration Calendar

### September

Patrick Morris Sept 11th  
Leonidas Barr Sept 12th  
Happy Anniversary Jolynne and Patrick Morris Sept 12th  
Sarah Aff Sept 13th  
Brett Morris Sept 14

Happy Anniversary Don & Cassandra DeRosier Sept 22nd  
Skye Morris Sept 26th  
Whitney Devlin Sept 29th

Isaac Hamm Sept 30

### October

Taylor Gabbard Oct 2nd  
Sheril Dea Oct 11th  
Denise Kay VanRiper Oct 23rd  
Elainah Salazar Oct 24th  
Morgan LeAnn VanRiper Oct 27th

### November

Bobbie Kinswa Cox Nov 14th  
Sabrina Boyer Nov 17th  
Kruz Lopez Nov 17th

### December

William Kinswa Dec 3rd  
Savannah Kostick Dec 8th  
Kasey Jorgenson Dec 13th  
Ashley Lancaster Dec 16  
Matt Brown Dec 17th  
Nic Brown Dec 17th  
Jose Lopez Jr. Dec 17th  
Logan Donaldson Dec 20th

**Happy 94th Birthday Verna Thomas Dec 25**

Jane Meyer Dec 29th  
Nick McCord Dec 28th

### January

Patty Kinswa-Gaiser Jan 4th  
Kyle Lopez Jan 6th  
Justin Allan VanRiper Jan 22nd  
Jeanne Copenhagen Jan 23rd

### February

Jackson Gabbard Feb 7th  
Michael Donaldson Feb 17th

### March

McCoy Gabbard March 2nd  
Wendy Lee Kinswa March 3rd  
Happy Anniversary Deena and Greg Aff March 22nd  
Dan Meyer March 27th

### April

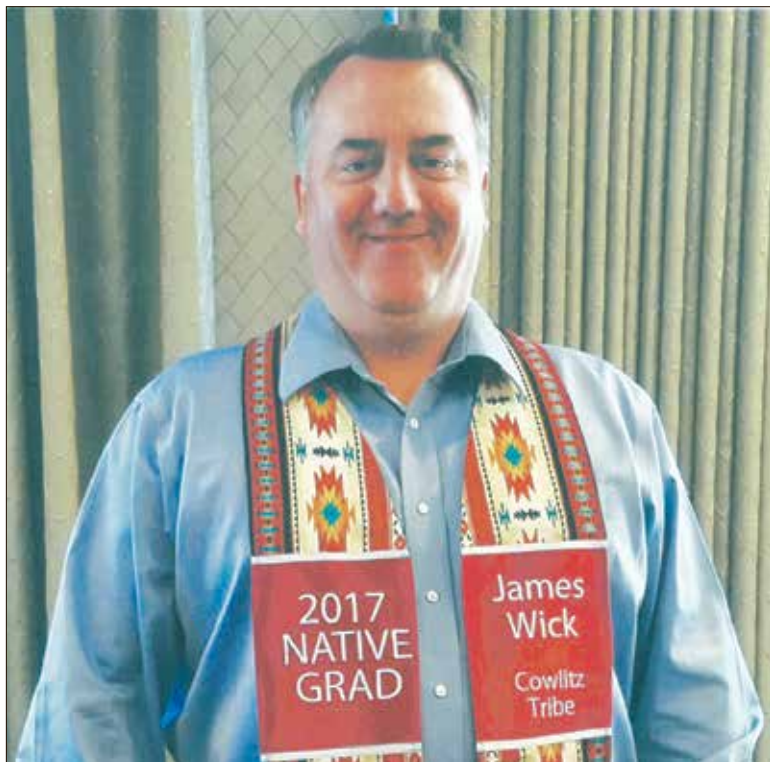
**Happy 91st Birthday Juanita Clark April 13th**  
Deena Aff April 23rd

### May

Richard Allan VanRiper May 5th  
Dave Burlingame May 9th  
Kayla Kay VanRiper May 18th  
Suzanne Donaldson-Stephens May 19th  
Jacob Aff May 28th



Happy 41st Anniversary Randy and Robin Cottonware.



June 17, 2017, Cowlitz Tribal member, James Wick of San Diego, CA, graduated with a Masters of Advanced Study in Architecture based Enterprise4 Systems Engineering from the University of California, Jacobs School of Engineering and Rady School of Management. James is a graduate of Chugiak High School, Alaska and Northern Arizona University in Flagstaff, AZ

James and his wife Pamela live in San Diego with their children Jaiden age 12, and Carson, 10. He is the son of Jim and Elaine Wick of Olympia, WA.

In celebration of his achievement, the Native American Student Alliance at UC San Diego presented James with a stole by Chancellor Pradeep Khosla. The stole was made by Carla Tourville of the Yokuts Tribe.



Matthew Mosback and Whitney Devlin were married October 7, 2017 at Pearson Air Museum. Whitney is the daughter of Cowlitz Tribal member Sheril Dea.

# Cowlitz Tribal Leadership Authorizes Launch of Medically-Assisted Treatment Services at Tukwila Clinic

The Cowlitz Indian Tribe has joined the battle against the opioid epidemic that is devastating our American Indian and Alaska Native community in Washington state. Tribal Council and the Health Board have authorized the launch of a new service at the Tukwila clinic beginning in October. Medically Assisted treatment, or MAT, an evidence-based practice. Just as the name implies, MAT is a program that uses medication to assist with opioid use disorder treatment. With the death rate from Opioid overdoses among American Indians and Alaska Natives triple that of the King County average the launch of this new service is being heralded by the State, King County and the City of Seattle alike.

The decision to offer MAT services came after many months of research by Health and Human Services staff and review by Tribal leaders. The interest in developing a MAT program arose from the work Cowlitz Tribal Health Seattle does with the King County Drug Diversion Court. Drug Court refers AI/AN participants to Cowlitz Tribal Health for Court-mandated treatment. Over the course of the work with Drug Court staff, Cowlitz learned how highly valued MAT is among Drug Court judges and

personnel, people deeply experienced in gauging the effectiveness of different treatment modalities. In cases where Drug Court participants asked for Medically-Assisted Treatment Cowlitz had to refer those prospective patients to a non-Native agency that provides MAT. In most cases there was a wait list of several weeks to receive MAT treatment at the non-Native agency.

Frustrated at not being able to serve those AI/AN court participants, and at the direction of the HHS Executive Director Stephen Kutz, Cowlitz staff began their research into MAT. During this period the Washington State Health Care Authority was conducting presentations on the Opioid epidemic and on the efficacy of MAT in treating Opioid Use disorder. Cowlitz staff scheduled Dr. Charissa Fotinos, M.D., Deputy Chief Medical Officer, Washington State Health Care Authority, to give a presentation to the Tribal Council and Health Board members in October, 2016. She reviewed the current research on the neurobiology of addiction, characterizing substance use disorders as chronic brain conditions, a position upheld by robust research and evidence that is, for some, a contradiction to earlier thinking. Dr. Fotinos presented a range of

evidence underpinning the recommendations on the benefits of incorporating MAT into traditional treatment programs.

Nationally and internationally research continues to support MAT as an effective element of treatment programs. Our own research was also conducted with the help of two local tribes that have been operating MAT programs successfully for several years. Staff visited the Muckleshoot Tribe and the Swinomish Tribe to gather information on their respective MAT programs. The Evergreen Treatment Services Agency also provided help and shared policies and procedures for Cowlitz staff to review. The generosity of these agencies allowed Cowlitz to develop informed policies and procedures for the implementation of a Cowlitz Indian Tribe MAT program.

In rolling out the MAT program HHS Executive leadership together with Health Board leadership have asked that the program incorporate Cowlitz culture and more broadly, Native culture, as integral elements of treatment. Currently Cowlitz Tribal Elder Patty Kinswa-Gaiser travels to the Tukwila clinic monthly to provide cultural support and teaching to clients receiving substance

use disorder services. Patty also works with client youth receiving mental health services.

People who are eligible to receive MAT at the Cowlitz Tribal Health Seattle Clinic are Cowlitz Tribal members and other American Indians/Alaska Natives that are assessed by chemical dependency professional staff as having an opioid use disorder. MAT services are overseen by Dr. Freida Eng, Medical Director of the Cowlitz Health and Human Services Department. Both Dr. Eng and Ross Wiebe, Psych Nurse Practitioner, have received the required training and have their Drug Abuse Treatment Act 2000 (DATA 2000) DEA waiver for prescribing. Dr. Eng will provide services one day a week at the Cowlitz Tribal Health Seattle clinic and Ross Wiebe, ARNP, will provide services four days a week at the clinic.

Questions about this program and any services provided by Cowlitz Tribal Health Seattle can be directed to the Clinic Director Elizabeth Tail at (206) 466-5401 or at [etail.health@cowlitz.org](mailto:etail.health@cowlitz.org). The Cowlitz Tribal Health Seattle clinic is located at 15455 65th Ave. S., Tukwila, WA 98188.

## Planning for the Future!

The vision of the Cowlitz Indian Tribe's Health and Human Services Department is, to become the service provider of choice of all Cowlitz Indian Tribal members and other American Indians and Alaska Natives living in southwest Washington and beyond. The department's mission is, to promote an optimal level of health and well-being for American Indians and Alaska Natives by utilizing traditional, modern, and culturally sensitive medical and social service practices which create balance in the physical, mental, spiritual, and social components of life.

We are looking forward to improvements in the services that are provided to our Cowlitz members and our community at large.

We are working on new initiatives that deal with the health of the whole person as Indian people have always known. We are looking to better integrate our behavioral and medical health services to make lasting and meaningful improvements. We are adding a new full time health educator/diabetes educator as part of our plan and have submitted a grant to Indian Health Service to facilitate a three-year process of improving our systems.

The Tukwila office has received approval from our health board to move forward with Medically Assisted Treatment. This program assists with drug addictions and helps people kick that habit.

## Health Board News

*By Cassandra Sellards-Reck, Chair*

It is a great pleasure to be able to serve the Tribe as the Health Board Chair.

The Health Board has been working hard in many aspects of Healthcare for Tribal members, working toward improving your patient care experience at all locations, delivering efficient care respecting your time, and identifying healthcare needs. The goal is to provide medical and dental insurance for our Cowlitz people.

We've looked at the options and with the funding we are receiving from the Casino. It is our belief that we can start with paying a portion of Medicare part B and D for our Elders. We are currently evaluating when this can be accomplished, and are confirming the age ranges for our Elders so we are able to determine when to start reimbursement. This process is in the early stages and you will be notified of the actual start date.

The amount we will be able to reimburse

is still to be determined. Ultimately, the goal is to pay all costs of healthcare. This is the process of giving back. One suggestion is that Cowlitz Elders will be asked to submit proof of their payment of healthcare and the Tribe can reimburse it. The decision to reimburse monthly or quarterly hasn't been decided yet.

This is an exciting time and Mohegan has partnered with us and is advising on how they assist their members. We are looking at the cost, choices and insurance plans that would cover all members. We want the best most flexible coverage for our members and are committed to honoring our Cowlitz Tribal members.

*If you have any concerns or questions please feel free to contact:*

*Cassandra Sellards Reck at 1-360-513-1243 or [csellardsreck@hotmail.com](mailto:csellardsreck@hotmail.com).*





Health Walk participants listening to drum group.



One of our sponsors, ilani, provided everyone with fruit, snacks and drinks!



New design for 2017 Health Walk Tee-shirt.

## When It All Seems Too Much

*Penney Wilson, Pathways to Healing Advocate*

I was driving home on a recent Friday after work thinking about all the things I had to do over the weekend. I became increasingly discouraged at the thought of all the yard work that needed to be done. I ticked off the household chores and I still had to pay the bills, make a grocery list and go shopping. By the time I pulled into my driveway I was angry, exhausted and feeling overwhelmed. Watching the evening news didn't help as I witnessed local and international crime, death, destruction, and global warming. I watched as image after image flashed across my television screen with no time to take a breath or process between one horrendous story after another. I went to bed wondering how we as a human race would ever survive.

Saturday morning came without enough rest, a change in mood or less to get done but as I swiffed my way through the house, I noticed my dog following me, ball in mouth. She dropped it at my feet and sat back with a goofy expression waiting for me to toss it down the hall. I tossed it and she immediately retrieved it, dropping it at my feet, tongue lolling tail wagging and at that moment I had an epiphany, what I was seeing was pure joy and gratitude. She wasn't concerned about global warming, politics, or if I finished the dusting, her entire world revolved around the enjoyment she got from chasing a little orange ball. Now I understand that as humans we are a tad more evolved than my dog, I think, but shouldn't we be able to have those moments of pure uninterrupted bliss? Moments when we let all the worry go and just enjoy? Is that even possible in a world where stress is the norm and society seems to be falling apart? When everything comes crashing down and seems too much to deal with, can we somehow keep our heads above water and find a way to continue to breath, relax and have hope? I think there is.

As humans we worry, stress, suffer anxiety, feel fear, but as humans we also have the ability to have hope, resiliency, positivity, and vision. We also have the ability to feel gratitude. No matter how cluttered our thoughts become, no matter how discouraged or frightened we are or how sorry for ourselves we are feeling we can usually find something to be grateful for. That day I was grateful for the distraction, the fact that I HAD a house to clean, and a goofy dog who thinks we are her world. For just a few minutes I wasn't focused on what I had

to do but on what I wanted to do. The work didn't go away, it was that I realized that the world wasn't going to end if I stopped housecleaning for a time and instead enjoyed a few minutes throwing the ball with a happy dog named Daffodil. She was happy I was happy and for just a while I didn't worry about all the things that usually swirl around in my head. When Daffy was finished she went to the shade to rest and I went back to my housework with a different mindset. I put on some music and finished the housework. I still didn't enjoy dusting and vacuuming but I was in a much better place when I went back to work, simply because I took a few minutes to play.

So is play the answer to anxiety, worry and stress? No, but it does lift the load a bit. It distracts us, releases endorphins and relaxes us and for just a little while we can forget about the things that are worrying us. It doesn't make them go away, they are still there and we know that, but for just a little while we put those things on the back burner and just enjoy. Enjoy, that is the key here, we are busy people, we have jobs, families, responsibilities, we are constantly doing things for everyone else but when do we do something that is just for us? Rarely. Isn't it time we slow down just a bit and take the time to do something just for ourselves? Play, spend time reading, writing, listening to music, just listening to the sounds of wind, closing our eyes for a few minutes and resting, taking a walk, watching a favorite movie, throwing the ball for your dog, spending time with your family, whatever makes you feel happy. Be silly, make up goofy songs, dance around the room, release your inner child. Do something that you enjoy doing, something that give you pleasure, relaxes you and just for a while takes you mind off of your daily worries and stressors. Unplug, put your phones down, turn off the television, put down your tablets, log off your laptops and computers and find your happy place. Its ok, give yourself permission to have fun, unplug, enjoy, breathe. So put down the duster, the broom, turn off the vacuum cleaner and throw the ball for the dog literally or metaphorically. It's ok. IT. IS. OK. The work will still be there, the laundry will still need folding; the world will still be a hot mess no matter what you do so for at least a little while, give yourself permission to let it all go, relax and breathe.

## 13th Annual Health Walk!

The 13th Annual Cowlitz Tribal Health Walk took place Saturday, September 16, 2017. Over 200 people participated in the walk on a beautiful Saturday morning at Lake Sacajawea in Longview. We'd like to thank our sponsors for this event: Cowlitz Indian Tribe HHS, ilani Casino Resort, Prime Fighting, Great Rivers BH and Advantage Screen Printing. A special thanks to all the volunteers who made this event a success! We hope to see you all next year!

**IF YOU ARE AN ENROLLED COWLITZ TRIBAL MEMBER IN NEED OF THE FOLLOWING SERVICES: COMMODITIES, FOOD VOUCHERS, BURIAL ASSISTANCE OR ELECTRICITY ASSISTANCE, CONTACT CATHY RAPHAEL OR RANDY RUSSELL AT (360) 575-3310.**

# Housing Services Offered

Applicants must live in the state of Washington and be an enrolled member of the Cowlitz Tribe to be considered. For applications or info please email us at [cowlitzhousing@CITH.US](mailto:cowlitzhousing@CITH.US) or call us (360) 864-8720

## Down Payment Assistance

Your Tribal Housing Department encourages more tribal members to apply for down payment assistance so the tribe can help members realize the American dream of homeownership!

## Student Rental Assistance

The Cowlitz Tribe has always encouraged education and is proud to offer Student Rental Assistance to full time college students. HUD rules apply.

## Elder Housing

Cowlitz Indian Tribal Housing invites you to the Tribe's Elder Housing complex located in Toledo, WA. A variety of accommodations are available from efficiency apartments to 1 bedroom condo-type units. Rents are calculated on a sliding scale according to income and unit size. Small pets (dog or cat) welcome. Applicants must pass background check, drug screen, & low income requirements.

## Rental and Mortgage Payment Assistance

Tribal Housing offers rent or mortgage help to qualified tribal members for up to six months.

## Help to Avoid Foreclosure

Tribal members affected by a mortgage crisis should call the following number to avoid foreclosure: 888-995-4673 or explore the Making Home Affordable Program website at [www.makinghomeaffordable.gov/](http://www.makinghomeaffordable.gov/). This website is VERY informational and will explain new options such as HARP (Home Affordable Refinance Program) and HAMP (Home Affordable Modification Program). It also explains other foreclosure alternatives such as short sale and a deed-in-lieu.

## Home Rehabilitation

Tribal Housing will repair qualifying Tribal member's homes to provide

decent, safe, and sanitary dwellings to our Tribal members. HUD low income rules apply to both homes and families.

## 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, etc. for these projects.

## Homeownership or Financial Counseling

For free home buyer education classes in your city, go to Washington Homeowners Resource Center <http://www.homeownership/wa.org>.

## News from Economic Development

It is an exciting time for the Tribe. By the time you read this our tobacco store, Cowitz Tobacco Outlet, should be open. We would like to thank Tribal leadership for their support on this project, the first of many profitable ventures possible for the Tribe.

At the August Tribal Council Meeting the Tribal Council named Tim Van Mechelen to be the Tribe's Native American Economic Development Authority Representative with the Skookum Creek Tobacco Company. Skookum Creek Tobacco is a cigarette and tobacco products manufacturer owned by the Squaxin Island Tribe. Our partnership with them is vital to maximize revenue for the Tribe.

Economic Development is also working on the strategic planning process. Once completed, this will help us develop a comprehensive economic development strategy to ensure that we fulfill our mission and vision.

As we move forward we will always stay true to our mission. The mission of the Cowlitz Indian Tribe's Economic Development Committee is to preserve the honor and legacy of our elders and ancestors by generating sustainable economic development for the prosperity of the Cowlitz Indian Tribe.



Economic development from the foundation up! The Cowlitz Tobacco Outlet in progress.



Economic Development committee members Whitney (Devlin) Mosback and Tim Van Mechelen leveling the concrete on a foundation footing for the Cowlitz Tobacco Outlet.

## Need help with child care cost?

Child Care and Development Program  
Cowlitz Indian Tribe

Are you enrolled in a federally recognized tribe?

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

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

APPLY ONLINE  
[www.cowlitz.org](http://www.cowlitz.org)

CONTACT US


Nichole Meyers  
Phone. (360) 353-9528  
Email. [nmeyers@cowlitz.org](mailto:nmeyers@cowlitz.org)



# Tribal Council

Name	Position	Term	Contact
William Iyall**	GC Chair	2018	wiyall@cowlitz.org
Philip Harju**	GC Vice-Chair	2020	pharju@cowlitz.org
Nancy Osborne**	GC Secretary	2018	nosborne@cowlitz.org
Dan Meyer**	GC Treasurer	2020	dmeyer@cowlitz.org
Katherine Iyall-Vasquez	Council Member	2018	kivasquez@yahoo.com
Steve Kutz	Council Member	2018	skutz@cowlitz.org
Randy Russell**	Council Member	2018	rrussell@cowlitz.org
Patty Kinswa-Gaiser	Council Member	2018	pattygaiser@gmail.com
Casandra Sellards-Reck	Council Member	2018	csellardsreck@hotmail.com
John O'Brian**	Council Member	2018	lobcanobe2@gmail.com
Carolee Morris	Council Member	2019	caroleemorris@gmail.com
Taylor Aalvik**	Council Member	2019	taylor.a@cowlitz.org
Celine Cloquet	Council Member	2019	ccloquet@cowlitz.org
Cathy Raphael	Council Member	2019	craphael@cowlitz.org
Jerry Iyall**	Council Member	2019	j.iyall@ctgc.cowlitz.org
Tim Van Mechelen	Council Member	2019	vtimstow@aol.com
Karissa Lowe	Council Member	2020	karissa.lowe@gmail.com
Mike Iyall	Council Member	2020	mikejoan@comcast.net
Christine Dupres	Council Member	2020	christinedupres@gmail.com
Debbie Hassler**	Council Member	2020	dhassler@cowlitz.org
Robin Torner	Council Member	2020	r.torner@comcast.net
Rourke Monohon	Council Member	2020	r.monohon@ctgc.cowlitz.org


\*\* Denotes Executive Committee Member



## Cowlitz Indian Tribe

Government Services by Site:

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



**Government Services out of Toledo**

- Elders Housing
- \*Home Repair & Rehabilitation
- \*Energy & Weatherization
- \*Well & Sewer Repair or Replacement
- \*Standard Rental Assistance
- \*Student Rental Assistance
- \*Homeowner Counseling
- \*Mortgage Assistance
- \*Down Payment Assistance
- (\* indicates waiting list)

**Government Services out of Longview**

Tribal Council	Health & Human Services
Burial Assistance	Human Resources
Cultural Resources	Legal
Education	LIHEAP
Enrollment	Natural Resources
Food Commodities	Transportation



## Cowlitz Indian Tribe

Health and Human Services by Site:

Site	Address	Services
Seattle	15455 65th Ave S, Tukwila, WA 98118	Mental Health, Chemical Dependency, Co-Occurring Disorder, Case Management
Toledo	107 Spencer Rd, Toledo, WA 98591	Housing, Elders
Longview	1055 9th Ave, Longview, WA 98632	Primary Care Clinic, Mental Health, Chemical Dependency, Vocational Rehab, Health Education, Dietician
Vancouver	7700 NE 26th Ave, Vancouver, WA 98665	Mental Health, Chemical Dependency, Domestic Violence/ Sexual Assault, Vocational Rehab



**School District MOU's**  
For behavioral health services for Native youth

Auburn	Federal Way	Renton
Battle Ground	Highline	Seattle
Castle Rock	Kelso	Toledo
Clark	Kent	Vancouver
Cowlitz	Longview	Woodland
Evergreen	Napavine	

\* The counties depicted comprise the Cowlitz Indian Tribe's HHS service delivery area

Cowlitz Tribal Health also provides:  
-Indian Child Welfare Services  
-Contract Health Services  
Throughout Washington State

# Tribal Boards and Committees

## HEALTH BOARD

Name	Position	Contact
Cassandra Sellards-Reck	Chair	csellardsreck@hotmail.com
Debbie Hassler	Vice-Chair	dhassler@cowlitz.org
Linda Foley	Secretary	llsfoley@comcast.net
Charity Sabido-Hodges	Board Member	charitysabido@gmail.com
Cathy Raphael	Board Member	craphael@cowlitz.org
Melody Pfeifer	Board Member	mpfeifer@cowlitz.org
Patty Kinswa-Gaiser	Board Member	pattygaiser@gmail.com
Donna Bagley	Board Member	d.bagley@ctgc.cowlitz.org
Teri Deras	Committee Member	
Christine Hawkins	Committee Member	spenceropal@comcast.net
Teri Graves	Committee Member	terigraves@comcast.net
Dave Burlingame	Committee Member	

*December elections*

## ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE

Name	Position	Contact
Taylor Aalvik	Chair	taylor.a@cowlitz.org
Tim VanMechelen	Vice-Chair	vtimstow@aol.com
Whitney Mosback	Secretary	wdevlin@ilaniresort.com
Don VanMechelen	Committee Member	
Rourk Monohon	Committee Member	
Dan Meyer	Committee Member	treasurer@cowlitz.org
Robert Harju	Committee Member	rharju@cowlitz.org
Robb Hayden	Committee Member	
Melissa Johnson	Committee Member	
Vacant	Committee Member	
Steve Kutz	Committee Member	skutz.health@cowlitz.org

*January elections*

## ENROLLMENT COMMITTEE

Name	Position	Contact
Nancy Osborne	Chair	nosborne@cowlitz.org
David Barnett	Vice-Chair	jakeybel@aol.com
Lenore Monohon	Committee Member	
Renee King	Committee Member	
Karen Cote	Committee Member	
Melody Pfeifer	Committee Member	mpfeifer@cowlitz.org

## YOUTH BOARD

Name	Position	Contact
Cassandra Sellards-Reck	Chair	csellardsreck@hotmail.com
Vacant	Vice-Chair	
Charity Sabido-Hodges	Secretary	charitysabido@gmail.com
Devin Reck	Youth Advocate	reckdevin@gmail.com
Claudia Tenney	Board Member	cttenney@gamil.com
Jennifer McCauley	Board Member	jmccauley.health@cowlitz.org
Donna Bagley	Board Member	d.bagley@cowlitz.org

## EDUCATION COMMITTEE

Name	Position	Contact
Karissa Lowe	Chair	karissa.lowe@gmail.com
Mike Iyall	Vice-Chair	mikenjoan@comcast.net
Becky Lowe	Secretary	
Celine Cloquet	Committee Member	Cowlitz@aol.com
Suzanne Donaldson-Stephens	Committee Member	suzanne@donaldson-enterprises.com
David Iyall	Committee Member	
David Reichel	Committee Member	
Link		<a href="http://www.cowlitz.org/index.php/resources/education">http://www.cowlitz.org/index.php/resources/education</a>
Committee Email		education@cowlitz.org

## HOUSING BOARD

Name	Position	Contact
Kathryn Iyall-Vasquez	Chair	kivasquez@yahoo.com
Vacant	Vice-Chair	
Pat Iyall-Barnes	Secretary	
Linda Turnbull	Board Member	
Sandy Marinsik	Board Member	
Kevin Ward	Board Member	
Vacant	Board Member	

## CULTURAL RESOURCE BOARD

Name	Position	Contact
Roy Wilson	Chair	itswoot@gmail.com
Steve Kutz	Vice-chair, HHS	skutz.health@cowlitz.org
Cassandra Sellards-Reck	Secretary, Drum Group	csellardsreck@hotmail.com
John O'Brien	Board Member, Canoe	
Teri Graves	Board Member, Canoe	
Claudia Tenney	Board Member, Youth Board	
Bob Harju	Board Member, Carving	rharju@cowlitz.org
Michael Hubbs	Board Member, Language	
Tanna Engdahl	Board Member, Elders	
Debbie Hassler	Appointed, Tribal Council	dhassler@cowlitz.org
Phil Harju	Appointed, Tribal Council	pharju@cowlitz.org
Taylor Aalvik	Appointed, Tribal Council	taylor.a@cowlitz.org
Celine Cloquet	Appointed, Tribal Council	
Patty Kinswa-Gaiser	Appointed, Cultural Board	pattygaiser@gmail.com
Donna Bagley	Appointed, Cultural Board	dbagley@cowlitz.org
Melody Pfeifer	Appointed, Cultural Board	mpfeifer@cowlitz.org
Greg Groves	Appointed, Cultural Board	

## POW WOW COMMITTEE

Name	Position	Contact
Nathan Hooten	Chair	
Jessica Eyle	Vendor Coordinator	
Cheryl Wilcox	Committee Member	

## DRUM GROUP

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

## COWLITZ CANOE FAMILY

Name	Position	Contact
Devin Reck	Chair	reckdevin@gmail.com
Don VanMechelen	Vice-Chair	
Cathy Sellards	Treasurer	
Christine Hawkins	Secretary	

## COWLITZ TRIBAL GAMING AUTHORITY

Name	Position	Contact
Sonny Bridges	Chair	sbridges@cowlitz.org
Bill Iyall	Vice-Chair	wiyall@cowlitz.org
Jess Groll	Treasurer	jwggroll@cowlitz.org
Carolyn Medeiros	Secretary	cmedeiros@cowlitz.org

## COWLITZ TRIBAL GAMING COMMISSION

Name	Position	Contact
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

## STRATEGIC PLANNING COMMITTEE

Name	Position	Contact
Jerry Iyall	Chair	j.iyall@ctgc.cowlitz.org
Debbie Hassler	Member	dhassler@cowlitz.org
Dan Meyer	Member	treasurer@cowlitz.org
Kim Stube	Member	kstube@cowlitz.org
Abriel Johnny-Rodriguez	Member	ajohnny@cowlitz.org
Christine Myers	Member	cmyers@cowlitz.org

# Aquatic Habitat Group Updates

The Aquatic Habitat Restoration Program of the Cowlitz Indian Tribe develops and implements projects that restore aquatic habitat throughout the historic area of the Cowlitz People. We have secured over \$22 million dollars in grant awards, funding 31 projects with 7 more projects in development. Our work has ranged from small projects such as replacing or removing culverts that impede fish passage, to large scale projects that restore hundreds of acres of floodplain.

**Grant News** – Cowlitz employees Eli Asher and Peter Barber successfully competed for nearly \$2 million in Salmon Recovery Fund Board (SRFB) and Pacific Coastal Salmon Recovery Fund (PCSRF) awards to design and implement habitat restoration projects over the next three years. Eli Asher's \$599,723 PCSRF award for work on the Cispus-Yellowjacket confluence is the largest single grant awarded to an individual Tribe in the fund's history.

- Erick Creek Restoration \$455,183
- Gobar Creek Design \$96,313
- Grays Pond Reconnection Design \$66,286
- Cispus-Yellowjacket Phase I Restoration \$ 1,199,446 (SRFB and PCSRF)
- Kwoneesum Dam Removal Design \$154,038

**Project News** – We are working on or have completed several projects and acquisitions this year. Here is a sample of projects we are currently working on.

- **The Shire:** We are working with The John Yeon Center for Architecture and the Landscape out of the University of Oregon, the Lower Columbia Fish Recovery Board and Bonneville Power Administration (BPA) to restore full access to this 40 acre floodplain which is across the river from Multnomah Falls. The site contains many springs which could provide much needed cold water and habitat for juvenile salmonids including Chinook and chum.

- **Colvin Dam Removal Design:** Colvin Dam no longer serves its function as a source of water for a fish hatchery built to mitigate for Merwin Dam on the North Fork Lewis River, and is blocking salmon and steelhead migration. We are

working through the Open River Fund of the Resource Legacy Fund and Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife (WDFW) to restore fish passage and provide a source of gravel and nutrients to the Lewis River.

- **East Fork Grays River Large Wood Retention:** This project proposes to design and construct log structures to improve habitat for salmon and steelhead. The structures are designed to capture small logs already in the system and create complex log jams that improve spawning and rearing conditions for fish.

- **Lower South Fork Grays River Restoration:** Working with grant funds secured from SRFB and PCSRF we are working with Rayonier Washington Timber Company and Northwest Hydraulic Consultants to construct engineered log jams that stabilize bars, promote riparian vegetation, and encourage the formation of side channels, while also directly providing channel complexity and cover in a mile-long reach to improve habitat conditions for coho and winter steelhead.

- **Abernathy Creek: Headwaters and Sarah Creek Restoration:** These projects, in the Intensively Monitored Watershed (IMW) of Abernathy Creek, are in the permitting phase this year, and are scheduled to be implemented in 2018. Once completed, the Tribe will have treated nearly half of the watershed. The Lower Columbia IMW is a long-term research program designed to understand any impacts habitat restoration actions have on fish populations. Fish going in and out of the system are counted as well as the fish nests (redds) and changes in the structure of the stream (wood placement, channel configuration, etcetera) are documented.

- **Coal Creek Slough Acquisition:** Working with BNSF Railways, the Tribe acquired 221 acres of tidal wetland and shoreline along Coal Creek Slough and the Columbia River mainstem west of Longview, Wash., near Willow Grove. These lands are to be managed as conserved wetlands.



Two Bridges Project photo taken "pre-project" before any work was started.



Two Bridges Project at completion 5 years ago.



Two Bridges Project today - 5 years after completion.

*Continued on page 23*

• Walooskee Youngs Tidal Reconnection: This 240-acre project south of Astoria, Ore., is nearly complete. In the summer of 2015, the interior of the former dairy farm was restored. The ditch and drain tile networks were removed and tidal channels were restored through excavation. This summer, the mile-long levee was lowered around the site to the mean high tide elevation, and the five interior channels were reconnected to Youngs Bay. For the first time in over 120 years, fish and other wildlife will have direct access to the site. Now that the restoration work is done we are completing the work to transfer the land into Cowlitz Tribal Ownership. The Tribe will manage the site for conservation and cultural purposes.

• EmRiver Table: Thanks to BPA for providing the funds for the purchase of an EmRiver River Simulation Table. The six-foot long aluminum table is designed to simulate river processes. Plastic medium is placed in the table and has water flowing into the top end, which drains at the bottom end. Folks can manipulate the table by changing the amount of flow, the slope of the table and place objects to divert

flows. This all combines to simulate how rivers work. It has been great fun watching kids of all ages work with the river and see how it reacts. Please join us at upcoming Tribal events and try for yourself!

Want to know more? Let us know or look for updates on the Tribe's Facebook page! The Aquatic Habitat Program is: Rudy Salakory (rsalakory@cowlitz.org), Eli Asher (easher@cowlitz.org), Peter Barber (pbarber@cowlitz.org), and Dalton Fry (dfry@cowlitz.org).

#### Useful Links:

• Salmon Recovery Funding Board: <http://www.rco.wa.gov/boards/srfb.shtml>

• Pacific Coastal Salmon Recovery Fund: [http://www.westcoast.fisheries.noaa.gov/protected\\_species/salmon\\_steelhead/recovery\\_planning\\_and\\_implementation/pacific\\_coastal\\_salmon\\_recovery\\_fund.html](http://www.westcoast.fisheries.noaa.gov/protected_species/salmon_steelhead/recovery_planning_and_implementation/pacific_coastal_salmon_recovery_fund.html)

• John Yeon Center for Architecture and the Landscape: <https://yeoncenter.uoregon.edu/our-locations/the-shire/>

• Video on the Washington State IMW program: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=yvZPlZArl7c>

• EmRiver Simulator Video: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Umt899bqrpM>



Mountain goats - Nanny and kids as captured by wildlife cam.



Black bear photo taken by wildlife cam.

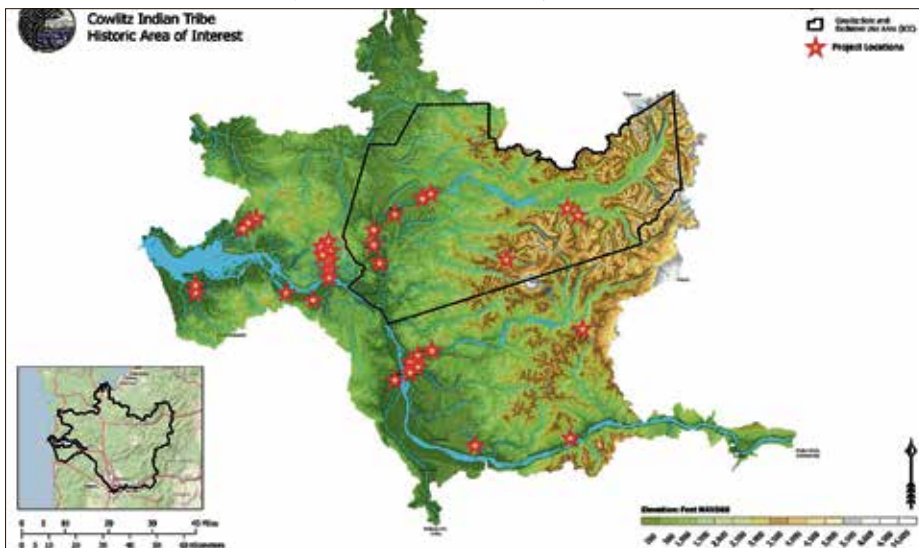
## Wildlife Program

The Wildlife Program is leading an ongoing effort, this summer and fall, to station infrared motion triggered cameras in the Mount St. Helens and Mount Margret back-country areas. Camera stations have been established and are being baited to survey for big game and predator species. This is the fourth year of this cooperative effort. The Wildlife Program has been collaborating with the Mount Saint Helens Institute and the U.S. Forest Service Pacific Northwest Research Station on this project.

## Huckleberry Restoration Project

Thin Leaf Huckleberry is a culturally significant food to the Cowlitz Tribe. Also known by its botanical abbreviation 'VAME,' thin leaf huckleberry is rich in vitamins and easily dried and stored. This summer, with grants from the USFS and Pinchot Partners, the Cowlitz Tribe Natural Resources Department (NRD) is participating in a huckleberry restoration project in the Gifford Pinchot National Forest (GPNF). The goal of the project is to identify high-return huckleberry restoration projects in the GPNF, leading to increased berry production. The crews participating in fieldwork visit randomly selected areas, or stands, in the forest to answer questions about the conditions surrounding the huckleberries. Some questions that are asked include, "Are there huckleberries? What species? Is the canopy cover high or low? Are there competing plant species?"

Answering these questions is the first step to developing a restoration plan for more berry production. The crews completing the fieldwork portion of the survey are dedicated to visiting as many of the 165 forest stands as possible with the time allotted to them this summer. Two of the crewmembers went as far as to bring their own bicycles to bypass three miles of washed out roads in an effort to save time and complete the project in its entirety. The Cowlitz Tribe NRD is dedicated to aiding in the restoration of such a culturally significant natural resource.



Project locations.

### OHANAPECOSH!! COWLITZ CAMPING

One of the more exciting things coming in 2018 is camping at the Ohanapecosh Campground southwest of the Mount Rainier National Park. Chairman Iyall signed a special use permit in May 2017, which designates three campsites for Cowlitz use.

We are presently working on a camp reservation system on a first-come, first-served system.

So—be prepared!

Further notice will be announced via website at [www.cowlitz.org](http://www.cowlitz.org) or call (360) 577-8140 for assistance.

Look to make your reservation

**January 15, 2018**

### Forest and Lands Program

#### Gathering Program

Cowlitz Indian Tribe

### Gatherer



Introducing a new program to improve your forest gathering. We coordinated with the **Gifford Pinchot National Forest** and have a program set up to specifically serve tribal members in the GPNF.

#### How Does It Work?

Contact Natural Resources to get your Gathering Booklet and Map. It is free, and easy.

#### Firewood, really?

Yes!

#### How Do I Get More Information?

Call or email Amy Boyd, Forest Land Steward, at (360) 355-2180 or [aboyd@cowlitz.org](mailto:aboyd@cowlitz.org).



**Cowlitz Indian Tribe**

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