

# *Yooyoolah*

ONE WHO CALLS



**COWLITZ TRIBAL NEWS**  
**FALL 2023 | 5<sup>TH</sup> EDITION**

# LETTER FROM GENERAL COUNCIL CHAIRWOMAN

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Patty  
Kinswa-Gaiser

## TOGETHER, WE GO FURTHER.

What an amazing summer for the  
Cowlitz Indian Tribe!

As we reflect on some of the remarkable progress made this year, I am reminded that we can accomplish together what we cannot do alone. And we can go further when we are pulling in the same direction, towards common goals.

My vision of these shared goals is clear: To care for our people and provide the needed support and assistance for children, elders, and families; to protect our sacred lands, cultural practices, and ancestral teachings; and to create new opportunities that lift up our members, their families, and our communities.

I was so proud of our Cowlitz Canoe Family, who showcased what can be achieved by seamlessly working together and supporting one another during the revival of the Canoe Journey this summer. I am also deeply grateful for the work of the Tribal Council and Tribal Government, CTGA (Cowlitz Tribal Gaming Agency), and our department

Cover Photo of Canoe Journey 2023 – Paddle to Muckleshoot by Cowlitz Tribal Member & Canoe Journey participant, Derick Wright of Derick Wright, Photography

### SUBMIT YOUR NEWS TO YOYOOLAH COWLITZ TRIBAL NEWS

Send us your articles, art, business info, photographs and events for our upcoming edition. Submissions must contain the following to be published:

#### ARTICLES

Word or similar format  
Less than 500 words  
Title of the article  
Author credits  
Email  
Phone number  
Pictures info

#### PHOTOS / IMAGES

High-resolution original  
No embedded pictures  
People, places, etc. clearly named  
Numbered by preference  
Photo credits  
Persons and description  
*Articles may be edited at the discretion of the editorial team and will become the property of the Cowlitz Tribe.*

#### QUESTIONS?

E: [News@cowlitz.org](mailto:News@cowlitz.org)  
P: 1-877-Cowlitz

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

- Yooyoolah Editorial Team

#### DISCLAIMER

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

#### 5TH EDITION EDITORIAL STAFF

Patty Kinswa-Gaiser	Tiffini Johnson
David Doucette	Lori Goodwin
Shaina Okert	Crystal Leigh



leads for working together on behalf of the Cowlitz Indian Tribe, and delivering results that make a difference in the lives of our people.

You will hear more about these amazing accomplishments throughout this magazine. Still, I wanted to share some of the highlights with you here, as well as my continued gratitude for all of those who dedicate their time and focus on service to the Tribe.

**Honoring Our Veterans:** We raise our hands to those who have served our country and pay tribute to those who have paid the ultimate sacrifice. The Tribe was honored to have received a POW-MIA table from AMVETS 16 of Woodland, WA, in remembrance of soldiers who are still Prisoners of War or Missing in Action. We also hosted the Patriot Guard Riders on Memorial Day as they accompanied an Alaska Airlines Fallen Hero cart to Texas. And in September, I will have the honor of traveling with



**ilani's Vision Becomes Reality:** On April 24, the anniversary of breaking ground on the ilani Casino, we celebrated the grand opening of the ilani Hotel and a new era for our Cowlitz people, our village, and our guests. We were also thrilled to announce a new partnership with Gene Simmons' Rock & Brews restaurant, bringing even more dining and entertainment opportunities to ilani!

the Patriot Guard Riders as they travel with the Fallen Hero Cart to Spokane.



**Celebrating Native Culture and Leadership:** This spring, we gathered with the Chehalis and Nisqually Tribes in a combined Culture Day that demonstrated the strength of Native Leadership from the Columbia River to the South Puget Sound, and featured cedar weaving, beading, language lessons, music, and connecting with family and friends.



**New Team Members:** In further service to our members, the Tribe recently announced hiring for three top-level positions, including Michael Watkins as Tribal Manager, Dalton Fry as Director of Natural Resources, and William Saunders as IT (Information Technology) Director. We know each of them are committed to providing a top level of service to our tribal members, and we are grateful for their work!

I am humbled to serve you as General Council Chair and remain deeply committed to advancing the work that is taking the Cowlitz Indian Tribe to all new heights. I raise my hands to you all and encourage you to reach out to me with any questions if I can be of assistance.

**Náxw̓tq̓wul'as** (thank you) to the nearly 200 neighbors and tribal members who joined us. Stay tuned for details about the next scheduled event.

All my relations,  
General Council Chairwoman Patty Kinswa-Gaiser  
pkinswagaiser@cowlitz.org • (360) 577-8140 ext. 2230

# LETTER FROM GENERAL COUNCIL VICE CHAIR



By Greg Hitchcock

## **Nákʷs and Greetings,**

I want to thank the General Council for your continued support for the good work that the Tribal Council is doing, and I personally want to thank you for the opportunity to continue to represent the General Council of the Cowlitz Indian Tribe as the Vice Chair.

It continues to be a busy time for the Cowlitz Indian Tribe. Our Chairwoman is doing an excellent job keeping the Tribe in the forefront amongst federal, state, and tribal leadership here and across the country.

## **Constitutional Amendments**

At the June General Council meeting, we discussed and had the first reading of four amendments to the Cowlitz Constitution that we will be voting on in November.

To quickly recap, the first proposed amendment is noncontroversial and is meant to explicitly fix eight typographical errors in our Constitution and Bylaws.

The second is more substantial. It is meant to clarify that an elected tribal officer who has been recalled from office is not eligible to immediately run again for office. The recalled tribal officer will be eligible for election once the term of office from which they were recalled is completed plus two additional terms. In practice, this would be a period of between six and nine years before they would be eligible to run again for office. Also, this amendment will clarify that tribal employees removed from their employment are eligible to run for tribal office.

The third proposed amendment is meant to clarify the role that the Tribal Council has in suspending a current tribal officer. There is suspension language in our constitution, but its usage is not defined. The proposed amendment would provide the Tribal Council with the power to temporarily suspend a member that has been charged or convicted of certain crimes. It requires a supermajority of the Tribal Council to approve the suspension, and it is not meant as a substitute for the recall process.

The fourth proposed amendment is potentially very consequential for all Cowlitz members, current and future. We are all aware of people of Cowlitz heritage that are constitutionally ineligible for Cowlitz tribal membership for many different reasons. The intention of this proposed amendment is for the Tribal Council to create an ad-hoc hardship enrollment committee that can only be enabled by a simple majority vote of the General Council. Once enabled, the committee can start to investigate membership issues and propose to the General Council a set of rules to address enrollment hardships. These proposed rules must then be approved by a two-thirds majority vote of the General Council. Immediately after the vote, the ad-hoc hardship enrollment committee is disbanded. If the vote passes, the membership rules will be in place for exactly one year, after which the membership rules will revert to those in Article II of our Constitution. Only one ad-hoc hardship enrollment committee can be active at a time. By requiring the two-thirds majority vote to approve the temporary enrollment rules, it sets the same conditions as amending our Constitution.

The proposed wording for these constitutional amendments will be made available before the second reading at our November General Council meeting.

**Wéenaxalxʷ.**

# BOARDS & COMMITTEES

## **Audit Committee**

Gayle Singleton *Tribal Council Treasurer*  
Patty Kinswa-Gaiser *General Council Chair*  
Kristen Robertson *Chair*  
Justice Rhodes *Tribal Member At Large*  
Jerry Iyall *Tribal Member At Large*  
Kim Appelt *Tribal Member At Large*  
Kris Kitz *Tribal Member At Large*  
Vanessa Gabbard *General Council Member*  
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## **Personnel Committee-Executive Committee**

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Greg Hitchcock *General Council Vice-Chair*  
William Erickson *General Council Secretary*  
Gayle Singleton *General Council Treasurer*  
Steve Barnett *Tribal Council Chair*  
Kim Appelt *Tribal Council Vice Chair*  
Vanessa Robertson *Tribal Council Secretary*  
Cheryl Bell *Executive Council At-Large*  
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Charity Sabido-Hodges *Ground Crew Lead*

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Cheryl Bell *Tribal Council Appointee*  
Maverick Ryan *Tribal Council Appointee*  
Larry Kestner *Tribal Council Appointee*  
Michelle Lawrence *Tribal Council Appointee*  
Robert Harju *Carving Program Rep.*  
David Cottenware *Drum Group Rep.*  
Racheal Paige *HHS Rep.*  
Dalton Fry *Natural Resources Rep.*  
Teri Wright *Weaving Rep.*  
Dakota Iyall *Language Program Rep.*  
Ronnie Mason *Pow Wow Rep.*  
Tanna Engdahl *Spiritual Leader/Elder Rep.*  
Melody Lopez *Member At Large*  
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Sahra Orozco *Tribal Member At Large*  
Open Seat *Tribal Member At Large*

## **Drum Group**

Jeremiah Wallace *Chair*  
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*Executive Committee*  
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Becky Lowe *Member*  
Dave Reichel *Member*  
Dave Littleton *Member*  
Crystal Leigh *Member*  
Open Seat (3)

## **Clark County Foundation Board**

Open Seat *Chair*  
Dan Meyer *Vice Chair*  
Jennifer Rhodes *Member*  
Karen Bowerman *Member*  
Open Seat *Member*

## **Cowlitz Tribal Gaming Authority**

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Timi Russin *Vice Chair*  
Dean Reynolds *Secretary/Treasurer*  
Patty Kinswa-Gaiser *Member*

## **Cowlitz Tribal Gaming Commission**

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Kristen Hitchcock *Vice Chair*  
Vacant *Secretary*  
Mitchel Cottenoir *Commissioner*  
Rachel Puckett *Commissioner*  
Shannon Schuetz *Commissioner*

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Amanda Moyer *Vice Chair*  
Shelly Baker *Secretary*  
Allan Peterson *Member*  
Corey Whitney *Member*  
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Tom Bennett *Member*

## **Statewide Foundation Board**

Racheal Paige *Chair*  
David Doucette *Vice Chair*  
Melissa Halvorsen *Secretary*  
Nancy Savage *Member*  
Whitney Mosback *Member*  
Teri Wright *Member*

## **Enrollment Committee**

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Cathy Raphael *Enrollment Officer*  
David Kinswa Jr. *Member*  
Shaina Okert *Member*  
Renee King *Member*  
Open Seat (1)

## **Health Board**

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Charity Sabido-Hodges *Secretary*  
Amanda Moyer *Member*  
Christine Hawkins *Member*  
Kris Kitz *Member*  
Melissa Halvorsen *Member*  
Patty Kinswa-Gaiser *Member*  
Melody Lopez *Member*  
Sahra Orozco *Member (non-voting)*  
Candi Ruckman *Member (non-voting)*

## **ICW Committee**

Debbie Hassler *Chair*  
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Peggy Sherbon *Member*  
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## **Pow Wow Committee**

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Cindy Smalley-Swenson *Treasurer*  
Angie and Ronnie *Secretary*  
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Melody Millner *Member*  
Vacant *Member (4)*

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Vanessa Robertson *Vice Chair*  
William Erickson *Secretary*  
Patty Kinswa-Gaiser *Member*  
Justice Rhodes *Member*  
Larry Kestner *Member*  
Kris Dillehay *Member*

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Teri Wright *Chair*

## **Youth Council**

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Open Seat *Vice Chair*  
Open Seat *Treasurer*  
Open Seat *Secretary*

## **Youth Board**

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Vacant *Vice Chair*  
Charity Sabido-Hodges *Secretary*  
Vanessa Robertson *Member*  
Jennifer Williamson *Member*  
David Cottenware *Member*  
Rosalie Fish *Member*  
Christopher Dennis *Member*  
Brandy Johnson *Member*  
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## **THPO Advisory Resource Board**

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Rita Asgeirsson  
Melody Lopez  
Robert Harju  
John O'Brien  
Greg Ladue Grove  
James Gordon  
Linda Foley

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Rod Van Mechelen *Member*  
Cheryl Bell *Member*  
Bill Erickson *Member*

## **Ad Hoc Employment Committee**

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Maverick Ryan *Member*  
Greg Hitchcock *Member*  
Timi Russin *Member*

## **Time Immemorial Curriculum Committee**

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Gregg Ford  
Shana Lombard  
Ellen Harju  
Dakota Iyall  
Laura Bowman  
Karissa Lowe  
Jacqueline Sund  
Sydney Erickson  
Carol Robertson

# COWLITZ INDIAN TRIBE HOSTS TRADITIONAL BLESSING OF NEW MOBILE TREATMENT VAN

By Michael Watkins, Tribal Manager

On Friday, August 25, I was honored to join General Council Chairwoman Patty Kinswa-Gaiser for a traditional blessing ceremony for our Tribe's new mobile Medication Assisted Treatment (MAT) van. The blessing was performed outside on our reservation. The Tribe received the vehicle on our reservation.

This mobile treatment center was funded through an Innovation Grant provided by Healthier Here and will be operated by the Cowlitz Indian Tribe (CIT) Health and Human Services Department. It is a natural extension of the Tribe's deep commitment to serving, healing, and uplifting our members and is a natural extension of the very meaning of the word Cowlitz. As the seekers of the Medicine Spirit, we will be utilizing this new resource to help save lives.

The van's mobile treatment model will eventually integrate primary care, behavioral health, MAT, substance use disorder treatment, and clinical and pharmacy services. Delivering this holistic care model in a mobile format will allow the Health and Human Services Department to provide critical treatment services in the rural and urban communities throughout the Cowlitz's network of clinics.

The Tribe operates several health clinics along the I-5 corridor in Vancouver, Longview, DuPont, and Tukwila, all of which continue to grapple with the growing impacts



of the opioid crisis. While no community is immune to the disease of addiction, treatment options can often be limited—especially for indigenous populations like ours. The Tribe's mobile treatment van will help fill this need by providing culturally appropriate care for Cowlitz Indian tribal members and other indigenous communities. While serving native populations remains the program's focus and priority, the mobile van will also be available to help members of the public.

As the program begins its operations, we will be hosting additional ceremonies to raise awareness of this incredible new resource and welcome the vehicle to the communities it is serving.





# TRIBAL COUNCIL MEMBERS

## COWLITZ TRIBAL FOUNDATION UPDATE

By Timi Marie Russin,  
Cowlitz Tribal Foundation Manager

Thank you for the opportunity to serve as the Cowlitz Tribal Foundation Manager. These past one and a half years have been an incredible honor, and I am grateful to represent our Tribe as we continue to serve communities in Washington.

The Cowlitz Tribal Foundation intentionally shares our excellent work and wants our membership to see the beauty of philanthropy through the work of the Tribal Foundation. Each Friday on our social media platforms, we strive to highlight a contribution and organization that the Foundation was able to serve.

Our efforts are spread throughout Washington through our obligation to the State Gaming Compact. At the same time, our efforts include Clark County through our commitment to the agreed-upon Ordinance.

Our guidelines prevent us from self-serving our tribal membership by directly funding or sponsoring independent sports teams or individuals. The Foundation seeks to be equitable in how we serve and review each grant application separately from one another.

As the Foundation Manager, I want ALL of you to know the difference we are making as the Cowlitz Indian Tribe. While we are in a position to give back and lift organizations, please understand that the relationship is reciprocal, and the organizations greatly appreciate our commitment to serve.

In closing, I genuinely want the message to our membership to be:

**We are making a difference, doing fantastic work, and are incredibly blessed as a tribal community.**

I encourage you to reach out to me, ask questions, and share an organization in your community doing good work.

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# CULTURAL CORRIDOR AND LOBBY AT ILANI

By Suzanne Donaldson



**Drum Inspired Lights:**  
Sara Folden



**Elk Drum:**  
Donated by Teri Wright,  
Artwork commissioned;  
Sara Folden

By now, you have most likely heard about our amazing new hotel at ilani on our reservation and about all the art that has been incorporated into the ilani Hotel, the hotel lobby, and the "Cultural Corridor". Since our members live all over the world, we are providing a sampling of photos of Cowlitz Tribal Member art that is on display in the hotel lobby and in the Cultural Corridor for all to enjoy. We are excited to be showcasing the amazing art located in the rest of the hotel in a future article, as there is so much to share that we could fill an entire magazine!

What started as a vision by our late chairman has evolved into a collaborative work of art of which we can all be proud. There was a time when the ownership of ilani was not apparent, as there were no signs indicating that the owner of ilani was the Cowlitz Indian Tribe. Those days are gone, as there is now a sign on the marquee that reads, "Cowlitz Indian Tribe." There should be no question that we, Cowlitz Indian tribal members, are the owners of this beautiful facility. Once our guests enter the hotel, they have the opportunity to witness elements that show our culture with the strategically placed artwork and commissioned pieces.

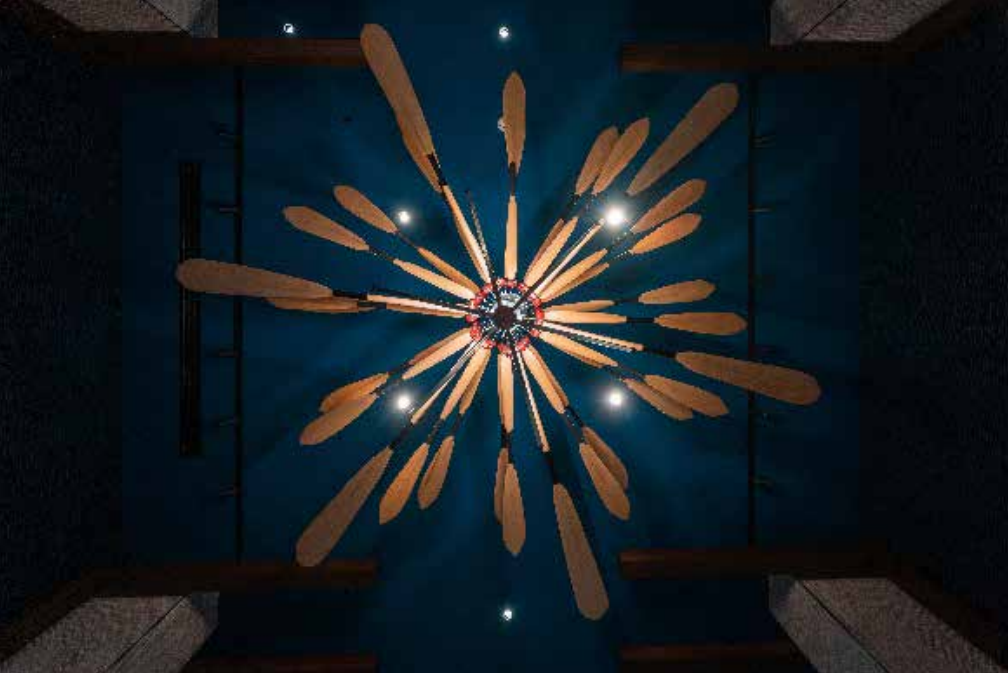
From the hand-carved cedar paddle light fixture in the Cultural Corridor, which was carved by Robert Harju and Jeramiah Wallace, to the light fixture artwork in the hotel lobby by Sarah Folden, to the cedar woven hats and button blanket created by several tribal members, along with several items on loan from our Tribes' collections, such as fishing net weights and woven cedar baskets, we have strengthened cultural ties and have fostered a deeper understanding of what it means to be a Cowlitz Indian.

The collaboration of many tribal members in this space, which hopefully is the first of many, has helped to preserve tradition



**Cedar Rattle:**  
Patty Kinswa-Gaiser, Emma Johnson





**Cedar carved canoe paddle light fixture:** Robert Harju, Jeremiah Wallace

and has fostered a sense of unity and shared heritage. The preservation of our cultural traditions, some of which (non-sacred) are shown on the four large video screens, have created visual representations of our cultural heritage and serves as just one method to bring awareness to those who pass through our doors as guests on our reservation. We currently have several scenes playing in continuous loops, including Mount St. Helens, huckleberry picking, cedar weaving, and various scenes from across our aboriginal territory.

Four additional scenes have been filmed and should be ready by Spring of 2024 which include, cedar harvesting, wild rose harvesting, camas harvesting, and traveling by canoe. Twenty tribal members were involved in the new scenes, and it will be so exciting to see with so many involved. (It takes time to edit and develop the corresponding text to be displayed over the videos).

Some of you have graciously offered to loan your precious family artifacts or your handmade cultural items for display in the Cultural Corridor. This is really exciting and emphasizes our need for a museum and cultural center with a professional curator. In the meantime, the plan has always been to rotate items from the Cultural Corridor, and we appreciate your patience while we set up a system to express interest and to determine how often to rotate items.

For those of you who have experienced the Cultural Corridor, you will be pleased to know that the final glass, which is museum grade, has been installed; it really elevates the experience. Thank you to the appointed committee members, including those who have moved on. This work could not have been done without collaboration on many levels.



**Cedar Hat:** Debbie Hassler, Judith Bridges, Christine Hawkins, Teri Wright  
**Button Blanket:** Corey Whitney, Debbie Hassler, Cheryl Wilcox, Sara Folden, Teri Wright, Patty Kinswa-Gaiser, Suzanne Donaldson  
**Button Dress:** Suzanne Donaldson

**“IT WAS AN HONOR TO BE  
A PART OF SOMETHING  
THAT WAS CREATED WITH  
GOOD INTENTIONS THAT  
WILL HELP VISITORS SEE  
HOW BEAUTIFUL OUR  
TRIBE’S CULTURE IS.”**

**- CHERYL WILCOX**

# SPIRITUAL LEADER



## BLESSING FROM THE NATIONAL CONFERENCE OF LAND TRUSTS Field Trip to Kwoneesum Dam – September 6, 2023

### Dear Friends, Colleagues, and Visitors,

Thank you for coming to our Cathedral. I am Tanna Engdahl, Spiritual Leader of the Cowlitz Indian Tribe, and Defender of our Faith in the Godforce—for the creation of Land, Water, and Sky.

When the High God commissioned Coyote to assist in the design of Creation, Coyote began his dance through Time and Space, drumming his medicine song. Mountains transcended the skies, canyons deepened, rivers began to flow, and ocean tides rolled in the rhythm of the moon. Sunlight baptized the earth. Species populated the verdant world.

All species became experts in their particular behavior but only one rearranged the work of the High God. It was understandable when two-leggeds worked to preserve or enhance life by slowing the force of the great rivers.

What is confounding, is the actions by a few to interfere with water flow and needed life forms merely for the purpose of recreation...on behalf of a privileged few.

Here, where we are standing, it was called an educational and learning experience and ever so much fun...for the privileged few.

What we native people learned is that our precious salmon, a first food of native people, lost their breeding grounds. In another instance, those involved in logging trades dynamited the river to widen narrow portions in order to float tree logs downhill to mills in the lowlands. Shorelines were savaged and scraped right down to bedrock, possibly eliminating plant life of any kind, from growing close to the waters—ever again.

We are standing in the mayhem of past human urges to seek capital or enjoyment—at any cost, right here, at the altar of creation.

We Cowlitz, in partnership with other missionaries of the earth, will take apart this painful monument of disrespect toward free-flowing streams, salmon habitat, aquatic life, and environmental balance.

We ask the Blessing of the High God to put divine life back into the destroyed lands and give us courage to continue healing the wounds inflicted on these fragile earth patches. We ask for our Spirit warriors to continue working toward healing, renewal, and transformation.

*And we ask you, most Holy Mystery, to accept our apology—for taking so long.*

# REGION 10 OPIOID CONFERENCE FOR HEALTH PRACTITIONERS

## Hilton Hotel, Vancouver, WA – July 19, 2023

### Excerpt of Remark

#### Dear Friends,

I am Tanna Engdahl, Spiritual Leader of the Cowlitz Indian Tribe. We are happy that you chose the land of the Cowlitz to hold this very important meeting. For generations we have persevered as a people, whose lands were so commercially valuable, they were taken from us. Scattered as we were, we maintained solidarity in pursuing federal recognition status. When that was gained, our solidarity turned toward acquiring land. We bought our own land back and pursued economic independence. Today, we are a major economic force in Clark County which feeds into the City of Vancouver.

We have a mental health clinic in this city, which addresses many mental health disorders, and subscribes to different programs to help clients return to stability and normalcy.

In another vein, as Spiritual Leader, I have been asked by individuals or families to engage in “fixing things” they believe were caused by unexplainable events.

A good portion of those requests were associated with houses or properties. I have been asked to provide a cleansing, a removal of the source of the unexplainable events. For years, I heeded this challenge but decided to refrain from this practice.

Too many wanted a “quick fix” without any effort on their part. I realized that many individuals were in a self-constructed negative buildup within themselves, and when the surrounding environment reflected that buildup, a Spiritual Leader was contacted to sweep it all away.

Negative buildup is an interesting condition, isn't it? As it pertains to addictions, you are working with all known methodologies to bring individuals out of a storm of their own making. Some by overt choice, some by becoming addicted in the aftermath of a trauma or pain-inflicted illness or surgery or for other reasons we cannot comprehend.

Whatever the reason for addictive results, I believe there is a negative energy attachment that requires some self-help by the client or patient. I think you will agree that working on self is probably the most difficult of challenges.

Your commitment to be here at this conference is commendable in your efforts to continue sharpening the learning curve of what works: best, fastest, safest.

But the degree of willingness for the client to engage in self-help is probably the baseline for wellness. One form of self-help can reside in simple meditation, prayer, quiet reflection—some component that combines a professional methodology with some sort of self-contemplation.

For myself, I resonate with sounds, whether it is from drums, bells, chants, or gongs. I like to hear the sun, as it crackles leaves on a hot day, or birdsongs at first light. Silence—real silence—has a loud impact on the brain.

The natural world encompasses wonderful healing sounds such as ocean waves, rain on leaves, wind through quaking aspens, and, who knows, maybe the songs of the humpback whales. I am told “singing bowl” vibrations can alter brain patterns. Spiritual vibration is the frequency at which the spirit is touched. Everything in the universe is made up of energy, including human beings and their thoughts and emotions. This energy vibrates at different frequencies, and each frequency has a different effect on our lives.

There is a whole science behind vibrations. My prayer for you today is that the vibration of this conference will inspire hope, the adoption of successful programs which are presented here, and I especially pray for the light at the end of the tunnel when you are so successful at what you do, that you will look for other things to do, to take up the slack.

# MEMBER UPDATES

## BIRTHS



**Ryan Ward** welcomed his son **Augustus Andrew Ward** on August 2, 2023.



**Sabbath Nova Lynn Burgess** was born on December 28, 2022 at 6:45 p.m., 21.5 inches long and weighing 9 lbs, 4 oz. He is the son of tribal member **Lindsay Maine**, grandson of **Karen Maine (Cassity)**, and great-grandson of **Jacque Cassity**.

**Aimee and Chris Miller** welcome **Melody Iris** to their family. She was born August 23, 2023 at 7:15 a.m. at 8 lbs, 14.4 oz and 21 1/2" long. Aimee is the great-granddaughter of **Jacqueline Wannasay**.



# MARRIAGES

Congratulations to **Jenna and Zachary Schwarz!** Cowlitz Tribal Member **Jenna Marcus** married **Zachary Schwarz** on June 23rd at Copper Gables Barn & Venue in Roy, Washington.



# ENROLLMENT INFORMATION

*Our current total enrolled population is 4,854.*

## ENROLLMENT CRITERIA

1. Applicant must be a direct lineal descendant of a Cowlitz Indian
2. Applicant must have a parent (mother/father) on the Cowlitz Tribal Roll.
3. Applicant shall be no older than 18.

## WE REMEMBER OUR TRIBAL MEMBERS WHO HAVE PASSED:

Allison Chappell	Allen Mason Jr.	Carol Lee Seholm
Andrew Dobbs	Christopher Blair	Christopher Herrera
Sandra Marcus	Eugene W. Thayer	Dennis Moore
Diane Riebe	Donna Osborne	Elmer Smith III
Edward Packard	Luka D. Clark	Geraldine Hogman
Mickey Kinswa	Samuel A. Baker	Wayne Rhodes
Patricia Sellards	Xaiden T. Jourdan	Dennis Robert Ryan

Discover Passes and Northwest Forest Passes are available for tribal members 18 and older. Please contact the Enrollment Department at 360-575-3310.

# PASSINGS

**In loving memory of Mary Rose Myer,  
January 1, 1932 - September 20, 2022.**



**Mary Rose Myer**, 90, a lifetime resident of Onalaska, Washington, went to be with the Lord on September 20, 2022. She passed away at Centralia Providence Hospital surrounded by family, including her children and many of her grandchildren.

# GRADUATIONS

**Congratulations to our recent and upcoming Cowlitz Graduates of 2023.  
We are proud of their commitment to their education.**

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## CERTIFICATES

Not pictured: Heidi Baney – *Dental Assistant*, Harley Bostick – *Culinary Arts*, Kennedi Irwin – *Esthetics*, Tana la Duncan – *CDL*, Caroline Lombard – *Applied Cybersecurity*



Marissa Day  
*Esthetics*



Jayden Baker-Barnhart  
*Mechanical Engineering*



Jordan Giddings  
*Trichology*



Jack Murphy  
*Welding*

## MASTER'S DEGREES

Not pictured: Randy Bouchard – *Legal Studies; Indian Gaming Law*, Thomas Olson – *Physics*, Rachel Ross – *Divinity*, Isaiah Welch – *Educational Leadership*



Mandy Caporali  
*Forensic Accounting*



Jaylene Cook  
*Business Administration*



William Erickson  
*Legal Studies*



Emma Johnson  
*Cultural Anthropology*



Jessica King  
*Elementary Education*



Katie Marie Kenyon-Appelt  
*Physical Education*



Tyren Thompson  
*Environmental Science*



Lilian Shropshire  
*Historical Preservation*



Donald Walkinshaw Jr.  
*Marketing*

## BACHELOR'S DEGREES

Not pictured: Kaitlyn Adkins – *Music Education*, Caleb Barnett – *Soil Science*, Brenden Cottenoir – *Psychology; Sociology*, Arianna Crusha – *Psychology*, Kaysa Lundberg – *Marketing /Real Estate*, Alexy Perreault – *Bio Health Sciences*, Laurel Perreault – *Radiologic science*, Susan Mary Swan – *Ceramics; Folklore*, Olivia Zurfluh – *Psychology; Counseling*



Ross Amell  
*Indigenous Communities*



Gabrielle Chappell  
*Psychology; Criminology*



Bradley Childs  
*Business; Entrepreneurship*



Emma Hudson  
*Public Health; Spanish*



Ryan McKee  
*Computer Engineering*



Chayci Russell  
*General Studies*



Emily St. Martin  
*Indigenous Nation Studies*



Hathey Smith  
*Elementary Education*



Heather Van Voorst  
*Marketing and Sales*



Hayley Walkinshaw  
*Humanities*

## ASSOCIATE DEGREES

John Newbaker – *Computer Science*,  
Trevor Smith – *Agriculture Production*

## DOCTORATE DEGREES



Carol Robertson  
*English Literature*



Not pictured:  
Andrew Barnett  
– *Law*

*Cowlitz Indian Tribe Pathways to Healing*

**sk'wəninuwasmítstawt † tit snxmántnkt**  
(We are thinking about our relatives)

With the guidance of our elders and ancestors and when we have the opportunity to say their names and honor their lives in a good way without interrupting their spiritual journey, it is Pathways commitment to do so. Their names are:

**Bryn Hartman (48, murdered August 219)**  
**Misty Copsey (14, missing September 1992)**  
**Tina Phillips (18, murdered 1987)**  
**Ryan Mayer (33, missing 2013. Remains identified 2021)**  
**Gina Purdy (42, murdered 2007)**  
**Clarence "Gene" Koch (18, murdered 1974)**  
**Zackary G. Brown (19, murdered February 2009)**

# GRADUATIONS

## HIGH SCHOOL



Kathryne Dunaway



Baylee Edison



Alexis Germaine



Corbin Jones



Henry Lamberson



Jacquelyn Michael



Kaylee Olson



Kennedy Myers



Janiya Ann-Marie Policarpio



Nicholas Reid



Mason Releford



Colten Reynolds



Brody Smith



Camden Wheatley



Jaiden Wick





# COWLITZ TRIBAL MEMBER SERVICES

## CTMS can assist you with:

- Navigation to Resources
- Assistance with Applications
- Notary Public
- Legal Aid Referrals
- Marketplace / Medicaid / Medicare Insurance Assistance
- Amazon Prime Business Memberships (Business not Required)

## Culture Items Available by Request:

- Sage, Sweet Grass, Tobacco, Lavendar, Smudge Kits, Tea Kits
- Dream Catcher Kits, Medicine Bag Kits, Rattle Kits, Beading Kits, Cedar Bracelet kits, Drum Group CD's, Drum Kits  
(Drum kits over 14 inch are available in-person only)

Contact CTMS by Phone, Email, or In-Person

1-877-COWLITZ  [ctms@cowlitz.org](mailto:ctms@cowlitz.org) 

## CANOE JOURNEY 2023 - CAPTURING COWLITZ TRIBAL MEMBERS' FIRST TIME EXPERIENCE

By Shaina Okert; photo credits: Derick Wright

As the Canoe Journey ended, it was important to capture the perspective from our Cowlitz tribal members that had never experienced a Canoe Journey prior to 2023. What was their inspiration? What were their challenges? What were their takeaways? What would you say to others that have not participated? Reading their testimonials shows the welcoming nature of a Canoe Journey, and the healing power that journey had on them. Here are Cowlitz Tribal Member testimonials in their own words:

### TRAVIS GRADY:

"This year's canoe journey was an opportunity I didn't think would be available to me, but I'm so grateful it was. I was able to travel the entire journey with the canoe family and was on the water every time the canoe launched. Prior to the Journey, I had spent limited time in the canoe, but I quickly found myself at home pulling with our crew.

"Canoe Journey is difficult to describe simply, but I think there's something to be gained by everyone. If you are willing or able to be in the canoe and pull from host to host, you have a chance to experience tradition in a way that's almost impossible to recreate in any other setting. If being on the water isn't the place for you, there's a chance to help make the Journey possible for everyone by moving camp, preparing meals, sharing stores, and celebrating individual and group accomplishments.

"One of the greatest challenges for (a) Journey is allowing yourself to step outside of your comfort zone, but the reward for doing so is a chance to find yourself, your place, and your people. I hope to participate in many more Canoe Journeys in the years to come, and I hope to do so with many more members of our community."

### CHRISTY ARNELL:

"My inspiration for going on (a) Canoe Journey was my son—he really pushed me to go, and I am so glad he did. I had the most amazing time. I have always wanted to go on (a) Journey but never had the time, and this year was

my year. It was also comforting to know that it was also so many others' first time.

"Some of my challenges were that I have rheumatoid arthritis, so I really had to pace myself. I got to go in the canoe only once because of this, and the other tribe members understood this and were okay with it. I then continued on the Journey as ground crew, which was a great way to really get to know everyone. It was very meaningful to me in the way that I feel a bit more connected to the Tribe and our people.

"I met more people than I thought I would and now feel more like family than I have ever felt before. I really enjoyed seeing all the children that were with us and how they were included in everyday life. I thought it was amazing how we really included them with the adult pullers, so that one day they will be leading as pullers.

"I would say to others that have never done a Journey to think about it very seriously. It is an amazing spiritual journey, and you learn so much about yourself and our Tribe. Everyone is there to help each other and learn from each other. It really teaches you how everyone is needed to be able to get through the Journey; everyone has a job to do. This is how a tribe comes together for each other. Thank you to everyone for a very special and loving experience that I got to have."





### **MAVERICK RYAN:**

"My inspiration for going on (a) Journey was about grounding myself to our culture. I find that participating in culture brings me a feeling of connectedness and contentedness that's really hard to put into words. Culture sets me up to make better and more informed decisions in life, whether I'm at home, at work, or on a council call. For that reason, I knew that this year—the first year in several years that Journey would be happening, and the first that I was physically present in Washington state to be able to participate in—I had to show up in a good way and pull my weight.

"Canoe Journey came with a lot of challenges, some unique to the Journey itself, but others just natural parts of going on a big trip. I had to coordinate getting dropped off up north at Tulalip (which was a several-hours-long trip for me), I had to sync up my timing to meet with the Canoe Family at Tulalip (without asking too many questions of them), and I had to be away from my home and my family for several days. Once I arrived and was with the Canoe Family though, the rest didn't really feel like a challenge. I felt at home and with family, and I was especially motivated after sitting with other members to go out, pull, and represent the Tribe well.

"From the experience as a whole, I'd say what I learned is that there is an immense amount of work that goes into ensuring our people are represented well and that tribal members can safely participate. Often, just by (the) nature of the Journey itself, information is not relayed in a clear and concise way, and last-minute decisions often drive where canoe families and people go. That movement of information is perfectly natural and okay.

"I see a lot of members get upset about not receiving clear answers when they ask about landing times or other specifics of the Journey, but from what I can see, most often it's because there is no answer yet. You get the answers when you're there and you're amongst family—that's part of the magic of the whole thing.

"What made Canoe Journey meaningful to me were the individual conversations and connections I got to make

with countless tribal members. Whether it was coffee with Travis at 3 a.m. or talking with Shane and Brandy in the afternoons, Journey provides such a unique opportunity to connect over a shared challenge and bond through time spent together. Without Journey, I wouldn't have had the ability to make that time, and for that I am very grateful.

"For those who have never been on Journey before, what I'd say as someone who was attending for the first time in my life is, 'Go. Specifically, do the whole thing if you can, bring sunscreen, and pack snacks.'"

### **DERICK WRIGHT:**

"I woke up early to hydrate. I made coffee. I took once-in-a-lifetime photographs. I learned the names of familiar faces. I was vulnerable with friends. I pulled hard. I told jokes. I listened to stories. I gave gifts. I got sunburned.

"The 2023 Canoe Journey to Muckleshoot was amazing! I'm glad to have had the opportunity to see the 'Ten Canoe Rules' in action. My hands go up to the skipper, ground crew, cooks, youth, and the other pullers for making every effort for a positive experience. I am also grateful to have had the opportunity to catch many precious moments as the photographer along the trip. I had hesitations about taking on a photography project as important as Canoe Journey. I also wasn't sure I had a place among those who grew up around Canoe Journey, having only pulled in the canoe a handful of times. I'm glad to understand and appreciate the full picture I was given, in exchange for some photographs.

"During my time on this journey, I found the space to remember many lessons worth repeating. Size can have very little to do with strength. Staying the course to some is complacency to others. We should ferry children to their destination to the best of our ability.

"I also relearned why I love art: because art always tells a story, and story is culture.

"The biggest thank you to my wife Lindsay who took time off work, parented our son Grayson, and made it to each



location along the way with our camping gear in tow. She was my ideal ground crew, and I couldn't have done it without her."

### **BRANDY JOHNSON:**

"My inspiration for going on Journey is that I wanted to be pushed out of my comfort zone and mentally and physically broken, so I could be put back together. I got that out on the water! Canoe Journey 2023 changed my life! I found my place in the canoe and on the water with a paddle in my hands. I found my medicine.

"I am thankful to my skipper Jeramiah Wallace! Jeramiah kept us safe on the water and encouraged us pullers to go hard and keep a great pace. My 8-year-old son Michael completed a 7-hour pull on the mighty Columbia! My little guy kept the pace with us adults; I am so proud of him. I am also thankful to our Canoe Chair Clay Koch and his amazing wife Jill! Without them, I and my children Michael and Charlee would not have had the experience! Clay and Jill kept Michael and Charlee safe while I was out on the water. I am thankful for our chef Kaipo Rhodes and his wife Jen! We were well fed on the Journey. I am thankful to Christy Amell for taking Charlee under her wing. I could not have had this experience without the support of our canoe family!

"If you have never been on (a) Journey, just do it! Take the leap and jump in! If you have been away for some time, it's your time to come back! Journey is a life-changing culture event!

"1, 2, 3.... TWENTY!!!"



# DRUM GROUP

By Jeramiah Ray Wallace

**Nákʷs (Hello),**  
**Səncáyał n skʷáct** (my name is) Jeramiah Ray Wallace, and I am Lower Cowlitz (**ł'púlmixq**). The Cowlitz Drum Group recently got back from the Paddle to Muckleshoot where many of our members supported the Olequa Spirit canoe and the Cowlitz Canoe Family on the Journey.

It was a good Journey with lots of people who were experiencing it for the first time. A majority of the group was new to the waters of the Salish Sea; thankfully, we were able to travel in the Olequa Spirit, which was an amazing experience. We even had the pleasure of traveling with Dr. Freeman from the language program; our hands go up to Dr. Freeman for everything they do for the Cowlitz people.

The Cowlitz Drum Committee is here to support the Tribe with opening songs at land acknowledgements in the public, at Cowlitz events, funerals, and any requests for assistance from Cowlitz community and families that are connected to the Cowlitz people. We support all the departments in the Tribe with their events in the community if they request assistance. The Cowlitz Drum Group supports the Cowlitz Youth Department weekly.

Developing a culture identity and experiencing the connection to the ancestors is what saved my life. Indian tribes, first nations, clans, families, etc. have active living cultures that have been subsisting since the beginning

of time. It is our duty to keep our culture going. If you are looking to get involved with our culture, there are many ways you could contribute. The Cowlitz Drum Committee co-hosts culture days with the Cowlitz Canoe Committee and works on giveaways for the Canoe Journey, Cowlitz events, etc.

2024 is the Paddle to Ahousaht, which is halfway up the big island in British Columbia on the West Coast. We will be working on regalia, dances, and songs and gifting items to prepare for this amazing experience with the Canoe Family and Cowlitz Youth Department. If you are looking for something life-changing, I encourage you to reach out to the Canoe Family and Cowlitz Drum Group and start getting ready—both are open to everyone, and I would like to take this opportunity to encourage everyone to come to some events this year. There will be Culture Days, canoe and drum practices, ceremonies, meetings, and numerous possibilities to get involved. The Cowlitz Drum Group still meets at the 900 Fir complex in Longview on Wednesday nights. The Youth Dance meets in both Longview and DuPont; you do not have to be a youth to get involved, and it would be an effective way to get some drum practice in. If you are interested in the Cowlitz Drum Group, feel free to contact me at 360-355-5255 or [Jwallace@cowlitz.org](mailto:Jwallace@cowlitz.org).

**Náxʷtqʷul'as (thank you).**





Photo by Teri Wright (vase woven by Christine Hawkins/  
beaded feather by an incarcerated native)

# ELDERS PROGRAM

By Trynity Manning and Katie Bowen

The Cowlitz Elders Program has had another wonderful year serving our Elders and their needs!

We have continued our efforts in battling food insecurity in our community, delivering care packages and frozen meals to our homebound Elders and their families! Our care packages are filled with staple goods, produce, dairy products, frozen meals, and paper products. We were awarded a grant from the USDA at the beginning of the year and have been purchasing local and fresh goods from disadvantaged farmers, producers, and vendors!

Our Tribal Food Pantry, **kə/káy?** (Grandma's) Kitchen, is open during the week at our Toledo location, and we are working diligently to open our second pantry at the DuPont office.

We are continuing our congregated meals Monday through Thursday at noon in the dining room at the Cowlitz Village / St. Mary's Mission. Native Elders over 60 and their spouses eat free; for everyone else, the cost is \$5 a meal. Please call (360) 864-7003 prior to 10 AM to reserve a meal! Our food is made fresh for your benefit!

Our Elder Care Advocate has continued to travel near and far for medical appointments, care package deliveries, and prescription pickups. We took the elders clam digging this year and have traveled for Elders luncheons to Chehalis, Muckleshoot, Swinomish, and Lummi. We look forward to what the rest of the year has to offer.

## GROWING THE WEAVING PROGRAM

By Teri Wright, Weaver's Program Coordinator

This has been an incredible year of growth and expansion for the Weaver's Program.

The biggest area of growth is that the Cowlitz Indian Tribe's Weaver's Program is becoming self-sufficient in harvesting, drying, and aging our own weaving materials. The Program, with generous donations from many Cowlitz people, now has our own cedar and cattails for the next year. We are still going to do a small tule harvest to determine the need and use of tule in weaving. We are working to keep this trajectory of harvesting every spring and summer to sustain the Program with our own weaving materials. Additionally, we had a wool weaving class and hope to expand the area of fiber weaving. There are many weaving materials, and we hope to include all traditional materials in our program.

The Cowlitz people have a strong desire to learn weaving skills, expand their knowledge, and become experts (and teachers). The Program was able to reach many people who have never woven before. In one case, this person wove for the first time and the instructor later told me that this person has natural ability that should be fostered. I relayed that compliment to this person, and they were excited and honored. This is just one of many examples of people learning a completely new, traditional practice that brings connection and belonging to the Cowlitz people. If you have your own story you wish to share with the larger Cowlitz community, please reach out to me at (360) 259-1745 or via Member Services at (877) 269-5489.

Please watch the Weekly Updates for invitations to all weaving events. If you hear of a weaving event, please let Member Services know to see if the Program can sponsor attendees.

We hope to see you soon.



We provide nutritious foods that include fresh produce, dairy, meats, proteins, and nonperishable items. We are happy to help those that need our services. No identification or proof of address is required. No proof of income is required. We are located at 125 Spencer Road, Toledo, WA. Our hours are 10 AM - 2 PM Monday through Thursday. If you have any questions, please contact (360) 864-7003.

# ELDER'S FISHING TRIP 2023

Every summer the Natural Resources Department and the Elders Program partner in taking Cowlitz Elders out on the department boat for a fishing experience on the Columbia River. This year was the **9th Annual Elders Fishing Trip**, and it was quite the success to say the least!

Staff had the privilege of taking 15 elders out on the river for 4 days of remarkable fishing unlike any other year. The boat limited out all 4 days, with all 15 elders going home with fresh fish they caught themselves.

A fantastic catch year like this doesn't come often, making this trip an even more unique and special one.

Both the Natural Resources Department and the Elders Program are truly honored to provide the elders with the opportunity for an experience such as this, and **we look forward to the trip every year!**



Left to right: Charlene McMullan, Bryon Rismoen, Carol Shaefer, Don VanMecklin, Marie Rabbie, Juanita Clark, Geraldine Red-Elk, Marty Lane, Katz Moriarty, Debra Crowley, Marie Lockwood, Jill Kelley, Brandy Manning, Trynity Manning, Doug Mahar, and Becky B



# ASPIRING ARTISTS



**KATELYN TAYLOR**

Raven in Cedar and Camas



Coast Salish Fairy

Flower



Salmon

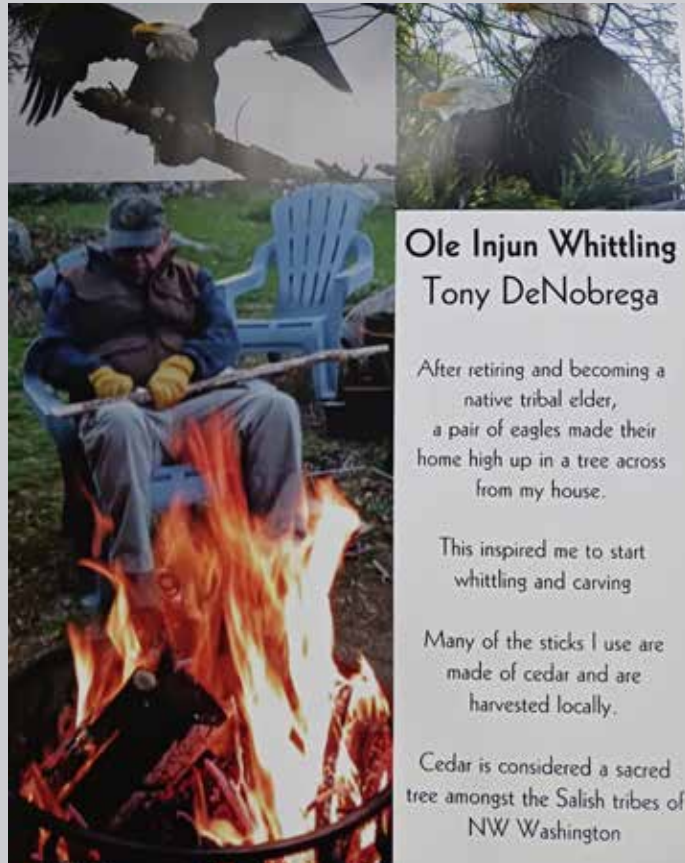


Bear



65

**TONY DENOBREGA**



**Ole Injun Whittling  
Tony DeNobrega**

After retiring and becoming a native tribal elder, a pair of eagles made their home high up in a tree across from my house.

This inspired me to start whittling and carving

Many of the sticks I use are made of cedar and are harvested locally.

Cedar is considered a sacred tree amongst the Salish tribes of NW Washington

Owl



60



Gracelyn Taylor  
showing her  
Cowlitz Pride



**JANET MYER**

*Above: Sentinel  
Right, upper: spiritual encampment  
Right, lower: Backlit field*



**HEIDI REDFIELD**

*Far left: Woman  
Left, upper: Crow  
Left, lower: Dear and owl*

# COWLITZ TRIBAL TUITION ASSISTANCE

By Gregg Ford, Education Chair

The Education Committee continues to work hard at meeting the needs of Cowlitz students, while continuing to be fiscally responsible with tribal money. During these difficult times, we realize that everyday expenses have risen for students. We also realize tuition costs are going to rise for the University of Washington and Washington State University, the two universities on which we have based our tuition costs. Because of these rising costs, we asked the Tribal Council to allow the Education Committee to adjust funds in our budget as follows: increase the amount of the annual Educational Costs GWE Benefit for the 2023-24 academic year from \$1,000.00 to \$2,500.00.

This benefit becomes available to all Tuition Assistance Award recipients in the first education term of the student's academic year. This annual benefit for educational costs may be used for, but is not limited to, books, computers, calculators, musical instruments, sports equipment, supplies for studies, tutors, clothing, room and board, and transportation to and from school.

A reminder if you are a high school graduate or have a GED and are enrolled in a certificate or degree program at an accredited vocational school, college, or university and are not receiving Cowlitz Tuition Assistance: you may be eligible for the Educational Costs GWE Benefit. For more information, contact the Tuition Assistance Office at [tuitionassistance@cowlitz.org](mailto:tuitionassistance@cowlitz.org) or 360-353-9588.

The 2023-24 academic year is the first year for the Running Start/Dual Enrollment GWE Education Cost Benefit. The amount is \$500.00. To help in future budget planning, we will ask parents to provide an estimated family cost for attendance in Running Start/Dual Enrollment. It takes the committee time to become familiar with the program and the committee's role in developing and managing the program. Time is needed to understand the different student experiences, nationwide accredited education program requirements, and certificate and degree requirements. Please contact the Education Committee Office for an application form.

The Tribal Council's continued support of the Tuition Assistance Program has provided tuition assistance to over 195 students as of August 25 for the 2023-24 academic year. Cowlitz members from 23 states received tuition assistance to attend vocational, undergraduate, and graduate programs.

Their area of study includes Accounting, Aerospace Engineering, Architecture, Archaeology, Biology, Business, CDL, Chiropractic, Communications, Computer Science, Cosmetology, Criminal Justice, Cybersecurity, Dental Hygiene, Diesel Mechanics, Divinity, Education, Electrical Engineering, Fashion Design, Forestry Conservation, Graphic Arts, Herbal Medicine, History, Hospitality and Gaming, Integrated Media and Communications, Kinesiology, Law, Lighting Production Design, Marketing and Sales, Native American studies, Nursing, Physician Assistant, Political Science, Psychology, Public Health, Sociology, Social Work, and Tribal Governance.

## ONE VOCATIONAL CERTIFICATE

Funding up to \$12,000 per academic year, with a maximum lifetime limit not to exceed \$30,000.

For those interested in an academic degree, tribal funding will support:

## ONE ASSOCIATE DEGREE

Funding up to \$6,000 per academic year, with a maximum lifetime limit not to exceed \$15,000.

## ONE BACHELOR'S DEGREE

Funding up to \$11,000 per academic year, with a maximum lifetime limit not to exceed \$50,000.

And if you wish to continue your education with a Graduate Degree, tribal funding will support you. There are three pathways to a graduate degree. In no case will a student's total maximum lifetime limit exceed \$70,000.

## ONE MASTER'S DEGREE

Funding up to \$16,500 per academic year, with a maximum lifetime limit not to exceed \$35,000.

## ONE DOCTORATE DEGREE FOLLOWING A MASTER'S DEGREE

Funding up to \$16,500 per academic year, with a maximum lifetime limit not to exceed \$35,000.

## ONE DOCTORATE DEGREE BYPASSING A MASTER'S DEGREE

If a student bypasses a Master's Degree and moves from a Bachelor's Degree to a Doctorate Degree program, funding will be up to \$16,500 per academic year, with a maximum lifetime limit not to exceed \$35,000.

In January, applications for the 2023-24 academic year became available. The academic year is May 1, 2023, to April 30, 2024, and many Cowlitz members have already applied. For more information about the Cowlitz Education Tuition Assistance Program, visit the "Tuition Assistance" page under Services on the Cowlitz Tribal website or email us at [education@cowlitz.org](mailto:education@cowlitz.org). Contact Carol Burnison at 360-353-9588 or Carissa Cothren at 360-353-9497; they will be glad to help. Please make sure you follow the application instructions completely so your application can be processed in an efficient manner. Students must be enrolled in a course of study leading to a certificate or degree from an accredited trade/vocational/professional school or an accredited college or university.

Thank you, Tribal Council, for your continued support and to the Education committee members who volunteer their time to help make dreams come true.

**MAY 1, 2023 - APRIL 30, 2024**

**COWLITZ TUITION ASSISTANCE Award**

**NEW! \$2,500 EDUCATIONAL COSTS GWE BENEFIT**

- \$12,000 - VOCATIONAL CERTIFICATE
- \$ 6,000 - ASSOCIATE DEGREE
- \$12,000 - BACHELOR DEGREE
- \$16,500 - MASTER/DOCTORATE DEGREE

\*check website for lifetime limit

CALL US: 360-353-9588  
EMAIL: [tuitionassistance@cowlitz.org](mailto:tuitionassistance@cowlitz.org)

For Student Housing Assistance  
360-864-8720 or [Housing@Cowlitz.org](mailto:Housing@Cowlitz.org)

Cowlitz 2022 WSU Graduate Kayci (Miles) Guzman

## 2023 TUITION ASSISTANCE GRADUATES

### CERTIFICATES

Heidi Baney - Dental Assistant  
Harley Bostick - Culinary Arts  
Marissa Day - Esthetics  
Tana la Duncan - COL  
Jordan Giddings - Trichology  
Kennedi Irwin - Esthetics  
Caroline Lombard -  
Applied Cybersecurity  
Jack Murphy - Welding

### ASSOCIATE DEGREES

John Newbaker -  
Computer Science  
Trevor Smith -  
Agriculture Production

### BACHELOR'S DEGREES

Kaitlyn Adkins - Music Education  
James Ross Amell - Indigenous Communities  
Caleb Barnett - Soil Science  
Gaby Chappell - Psychology; Criminology  
Bradley Childs - Business; Entrepreneurship  
Brenden Cottenoir - Psychology; Sociology  
Arianna Crusha - Psychology  
Emma Hudson - Public Health; Spanish  
Kaysa Lundberg - Marketing /Real Estate  
Ryan McKee - Computer Engineering  
Alexy Perreault - Bio Health Sciences  
Laurel Perreault - Radiologic science  
Hathey Smith - Elementary Education  
Emily St. Martin - Indigenous Nation Studies  
Susan Mary Swan - Ceramics; Folklore  
Heather Van Voorst - Marketing and Sales  
Hayley Walkinshaw - Humanities  
Olivia Zurfluh - Psychology; Counseling

### MASTER'S DEGREES

Randy Bouchard - Legal Studies; Indian Gaming Law  
Jaylene Cook - Business Administration  
William Erickson - Legal Studies  
Emma Johnson - Cultural Anthropology  
Katie Kenyon - Appelt - Physical Education  
Jessica King - Elementary Education  
Thomas Olson - Physics  
Rachel Ross - Divinity  
Lilian Shropshire - Historical Preservation  
Tyren Thompson - Environmental Science  
Donald Walkinshaw Jr - Marketing  
Mandy Caporali - Forensic Accounting  
Isaiah Welch - Educational Leadership

### DOCTORATE DEGREES

Andrew Barnett - Law  
Carol Robertson - English Literature

# FIRST NATIONS HONORING ISRAEL

By Laura Medley

חַוִּית'שׁ קֵה'חַמֶּשׁ (hwit-sh keh-humsh)

Arise, Shine

יְרוּאָה יְמוּנָה (Kumi Ovri)

As we arise and shine in our respective cultures the First Nations and Jewish people are coming together and leading in building the bridges between indigenous peoples. A headline of the Jerusalem Post, says: "Jews and Native Americans: Brothers in the Great Spirit." This is one among many out-of-Israel news sources that are highlighting the relational bridge-building work between the two cultures that is ever-growing. As Jewish people who are indigenous to Israel, have been given back their homeland, and have increasingly been regathering over the past many years, they are arising and shining, prospering in a multitude of ways, becoming fruitful and multiplying, while the land is being restored and built up. So too it is with the First Nations such as our own Cowlitz Indian Tribe, as we have been witnessing and part of the past many years since our recognition as a tribe by the federal government.

This past spring, I was blessed to go to Israel on a geographical study trip which was a required course for my degree. And I want to say thank you so much to the Cowlitz Educational Department for helping me with my tuition in this endeavor. It was then while in Israel that I met up with some of these people that are building these bridges with one another. Chief Joseph Riverwind and his wife Dr. Laralynn, from Tennessee, have been working with Ateret Shmuel, a Jewish woman living in Jerusalem. Shmuel is the founder of Indigenous Bridges, an organization that has come alongside and helped First Nations in the U.S. with needed resources and that works with indigenous groups throughout the world. What was most surprising to me is that she even has a member of the Cowlitz Indian Tribe on her board. When meeting with the Riverwinds in Israel, I was invited to represent my Tribe at the First Nations Honoring Israel conference in Richmond, Virginia.

It was an honor and privilege to represent our Tribe this past July at the First Nations Honoring Israel conference. Thanks to my sister, Debbie, I was even blessed with my first ribbon skirt she made for me. This conference was Hosted by Quaminique Suuquina, Chief Joseph Riverwind, and Dr. Laralynn Riverwind.

It brought together many First Nation tribes from the United States and Canada, and those from Israel where intercultural bridges are being built based on a common history of indigenous peoples. The conference also focused on education and the necessity of protocol and honor to have mutual relationships where respect for one another's cultures and differences are understood and honored. Along with that, there are others I have come to know within not only the First Nations people at large but within our own Tribe that have a rich dual heritage of both Native American and Jewish ancestry, such as myself and others I know, including our hereditary Chief Clay Koch, a fact he graciously gave me permission to share for this article.

Before attending the conference, I met with our hereditary Chief Koch, who also volunteers on the Cultural Committee. Chief Koch graciously helped me with questions I had about protocol before going, as having not grown up in the culture, I lacked training or understanding of the Cowlitz ways. Chief Koch generously prepared for me before we met, to my surprise, with more than I asked or hoped for, having ready for me a Cowlitz flag, protocol gifts to take to the hosts, and a drum he made, in addition to giving me some education and understanding on the protocol. He was so encouraging of me as I shared my journey with him over the past many years being involved in Jewish/Christian/First Nation relations which the Creator has put across my path here in the States and in Israel. I was deeply touched in my spirit and with some tears in my eyes as Chief Koch and I discussed our dual heritage in both these cultures and their common history, as a persecuted people, who faced genocide, loss of lands, and forced conversions, among other things. I was deeply touched when Chief Koch very passionately said in the end, "They couldn't get rid of us; we are still here." It was such a statement that came from a seeming place of strength and gratitude that brought a moment of pause.

I am so thankful and deeply appreciate getting to know Chief Koch for who he is, his service to our Tribe, and his time and generosity in equipping me for the next step in my journey with this conference and more to come.



Chief Joseph Riverwind, Dr. Laralynn Riverwind (Firekeepers International), Quaumaniq Suuqiina (Indigenous Messengers), Laura Medley (Cowlitz Indian Tribe), and Janice Enti (Israel)

When in Israel this fall, it is my hope that I can again represent the Cowlitz Indian Tribe in the parade of nations during the Sukkot (Feast of Tabernacles). This event and Chief Koch's statement above bring to mind a favorite passage of mine from the book of Psalms 122, which speaks to being glad when Israelites are invited to go up to Jerusalem where the tribes go up to the testimony of Israel.

In ending, I encourage you with a quote from a First Nations leader many years ago, Chief Crazy Horse: "The Red Nation shall rise again, and it shall be a blessing for a sick world; a world filled with broken promises, selfishness, and separation; a world longing for light again. I see a time of Seven Generations when all the colors of mankind will gather under the Sacred Tree of Life and the whole earth will become one circle again."

It amazes me that the words of this First Nations leader seemingly echo the sound of the Hebrew words found in the book of Isaiah 60 which begins with "Arise, shine, for your light has come, and the glory of Yahweh (this is the name of Creator sung in many First Nation songs) has risen upon you..." I'll let you finish reading through the passage if you wish.

May we all continue to gather in unity and strength of purpose, as we arise and shine on this journey in this day and the days ahead, that we may together be a light the world needs to see so that the whole earth can become one circle again.

If you have any questions or want more information on this growing relationship between First Nations and Israel, I would love to share more with you. Please email me at [laura.medley@aol.com](mailto:laura.medley@aol.com).

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# CHANCELLOR'S AWARD FOR SERVICE TO WASHINGTON STATE UNIVERSITY (WSU) VANCOUVER



**“The award recognizes and salutes selfless dedication and commitment to the WSU Vancouver community through participation in campus activities, leadership on behalf of WSU Vancouver, and dedication of time, talent, and resources toward advancing WSU’s mission.”**

**– Mike Iyall**  
Tribal Elder and Historian, Cowlitz Tribe

Mike Iyall is passionate about education, history, and ecology. All of those come together in his work with WSU.

He is a member of WSU’s Native American Community Advisory Board and WSU Vancouver’s Equity and Diversity Advisory Board. He has deep partnerships at Pullman in the Office of Native American Programs and Relations. In 2002, for the Cowlitz Tribe, he signed the Memorandum of Understanding between WSU and local tribes promoting cooperation and acknowledging that WSU-occupied land was formerly inhabited by Native American peoples. The MOU, first signed by six tribes in 1997, has now been signed by thirteen of them.

The goal of the MOU was to improve the university’s efforts to provide educational services to Native American populations and to better promote understanding of Native American issues. Iyall has committed himself to that effort. He started scholarship programs at WSU and ran a tuition assistance program for the Cowlitz Tribe, which today serves about 240 students all over the world.

Iyall has long been a trusted advisor to WSU Vancouver’s Chancellor. He mentors the new coordinator of Native Programs at WSU Vancouver. He has held WSU and WSU Vancouver accountable for building relationships of respect, trust, and reciprocity across tribal and Native American communities. He is working on signage for the Vancouver campus that will identify native plants by their traditional names and uses. He attends nearly all programs and events on Native and Indigenous affairs at WSU Vancouver.

After retiring from a 37-year career as a factory mechanic, Iyall went to work for the Cowlitz Tribe. There was a lot of

catching up to do—the tribe was not federally recognized until 2000 and did not have a reservation until 2017. He served on the tribal council for 46 years, founded the Cowlitz Natural Resources Department and the Cowlitz Transit Program, and managed the Cultural Resources Department. He is also the Cowlitz tribal historian.

Why did he get so involved? “Because it needed to be done,” Iyall said. “We’re a hugely understudied tribe. I wrote a grant and built a research library. We submitted 160 pieces of evidence for our reservation court case.” (That would be the 15-years-long struggle to establish a reservation and casino.)

A born storyteller, Iyall contributed to the Confluence Project’s Story Gatherings—videos featuring the stories of Native elders. These stories are part of the Plateau Peoples’ Web Portal, which represents the histories and cultures of the tribes and is archived at WSU, the Smithsonian Institution, the Library of Congress, and elsewhere.

In one video, Iyall addresses the question: “What is it like for you to be Cowlitz?” He said: “I believe it was always the hope for not just federal recognition but the acceptance that we were here, that we were once here, that we are still here.” The benefits of acceptance as a tribe, he said, would provide “the opportunity to protect our homelands. You know, protecting the environment... You’re born with an obligation to protect your environment, but you’re also born with a beautiful appreciation of your environment.”

*Iyall and his wife, Joan, live in Olympia. They have a grown daughter and son and three grandchildren.*

# PUBLIC WORKS LONGVIEW TEAM

What began as a small department consisting of a handful of employees has grown into a thriving public works department. Last year, Dean Reynolds, Public Works Director, had the audacious goal of getting our department into the unfamiliar realm of grant writing. We have applied for 12 different funding opportunities so far. Out of those 12 grants, we have been awarded 8 of them, bringing in \$2.8 million!

Two of those grants came from the WA State Department of Commerce for decarbonization projects. The first was \$150,000 to purchase and install a solar array onto the Cowlitz Health Clinic. These solar panels will eventually power two DC fast chargers that we will install outside of the Clinic for public access. These are the very first electric car chargers to be installed at Cowlitz Headquarters in Longview!

The second grant awarded to us was \$1.2 million for the purchase and installation of a full solar array onto our

transportation building in Longview. This solar array will not only provide power for the entire building—it will power 10 DC chargers that will also be purchased and installed with this grant opportunity. This would be the Transit Department's first step into transitioning our fleet away from petroleum-dependent vehicles. Along with that, we will be installing four 125 kW batteries to store backup power in the long term. With this backup battery power, the Transportation building may operate as a unified command center for the Cowlitz Indian Tribe and Cowlitz County emergency services during a major power disruption. This is a win not only for the Tribe, but for the local community we serve.

In the last year, Public Works added two more Tribal Members to the team, following the values that hold true for our Tribe. We have a passionate Public Works team that strives to make this a better place for our employees and Tribal Members.



## Did you know the Cowlitz Tribal Health Clinic has a Registered Dietitian?

If you are seeking more support in your health journey, we offer one-on-one sessions with a Registered Dietitian.

Some topics discussed include nutrition education for disease prevention, blood pressure support, cholesterol and heart health, weight management, mindful eating techniques, as well as senior and childhood nutrition.

### What can you expect during your visit?

Sessions are typically an hour long and can be held in-person at the Longview health clinic or via telehealth. Learn how to set SMART goals and improve your health and wellbeing with ongoing guidance and support. Get the feedback you need to maintain healthy habits and tackle barriers to your goals with focus and compassion.

*Visits are available by Cowlitz Tribal Health Clinic primary care provider referral.  
360.575.8275*



# COWLITZ HOUSING DEPARTMENT SUCCESS STORIES



## HOMEOWNER ASSISTANCE FUND

By Brooke Birkins

When the Cowlitz weekly email had an ad about home repairs, using the Homeowner Assistance Fund (HAF) authorized by the American Rescue Plan Act, I knew I had to reach out. Our deck was over 25 years old and past its prime. The decking boards were rotting out left and right, the railing was unstable and wobbly, and the stairs had become dangerously steep and sunken-in. It was becoming too dangerous to use and quite the worry with two young adventurous boys.

Being in Connecticut, I was a little worried about the process, but the Tribe worked with us every step of the way. After submitting the application, we were elated when we received the news we would be getting a new deck. After getting a few proposals from local companies and sending them to the Tribe, we were on our way to getting started. Jim Lowell coordinated everything with the company and kept us updated along the way. He was incredibly helpful and a pleasure to work with. Thank you, Jim, for all of your help along the way!

The work was started and before we knew it the deck was completed. Our boys watched every step of the way and were so excited to enjoy the new area. We couldn't be happier with our beautiful new deck. We are so grateful this program exists and we are able to have this new space for our family to enjoy. Our boys love having the new area to play and love being able to run down the sturdy stairs to play in the backyard.

We are so thankful to be a part of the Cowlitz Indian Tribe and so thankful for our incredible deck and all the new memories being made because of it. Thank you, Cowlitz Tribal Housing, for making this program available and providing us with a beautiful, safe new deck. We are forever grateful!





## DOWN PAYMENT ASSISTANCE RECIPIENT

By Michelle Bumgarner

At the request of my sister, Racquel (Rocky), I want to share that my experience with the down payment assistance program through the Cowlitz Tribal Housing office was just wonderful. The staff was so helpful and responsive to both me and my mortgage rep. I am incredibly grateful for this program and for the people that make it happen. They really care and it shows. Thank you!

## ELDER HOUSING

By Dawna Richardet

Hello everyone!  
My name is Dawna, and I am a resident with my husband Tim at St. Mary's and have lived here since October 2022. We have a one-bedroom apartment. It is actually bigger than we thought it would be when we moved up here from Oregon.

I was a bit apprehensive at first because it was "Elder" housing. We didn't know what it was going to be like, but we needed a place to live that we could afford.

Since then, we have come to love living here. It is such a great place where we feel safe and taken care of. We love that there are trips that we can go on with the Elders Program. There are craft classes once a month. There is also a garden that we can go foraging in whenever we want—and we do that almost every day!

There is such a sense of community here! All of the staff here are very friendly and caring! We love them all. We love our friends and neighbors here! We look out for one another and help each other when needed. I couldn't think of a better place to call home. I have learned so much more about our culture in the past ten months than I did before moving here. This is where I want to live the rest of my days here on this earth. Thank you.

## AGING IN PLACE – NEW TUB

By Kim Sanchez

I am quite impressed with the staff, willing to go that extra mile to get an elder what is needed. Staff have shown not only compassion, but that they really care.

Working with Jim was a great experience; he explained everything to me as well as letting me know that I make the decisions, and if I stay within budget, I can get what meets my needs. The contractors that are hired are professionals and are expected to be professionals while in my home. The tub-to-shower conversion I just had done had taken time, but the contractor was so meticulous with their work—that was something I haven't seen in a long time. Jim had advised not to go with one of the companies that state they can get it done in one day, and I am so glad he recommended that, since witnessing the work Bueno Construction has done has proven that taking your time makes it better.

Aging in Place staff are some of the most knowledgeable staff within the organization. Staff respond to emails and calls, don't leave you hanging, and just know what they are talking about.

Thank you all for simply caring! Your passion shows through your voice and your follow-up!

# CIT (COWLITZ INDIAN TRIBE) COMMUNITY WELLNESS GARDEN PRODUCE DISTRIBUTION GETS CREATIVE

By Megan Nussbaum, Registered Dietitian, and Alyssa Fine, Wellness & Diabetes Program Coordinator



Left: Megan hands out recipe samples and recipe books at a produce distribution in Longview.; Right: Recent shipment of produce and recipe sent with frozen fish fillets.

The produce season is in full swing for the CIT Community Wellness Garden. Garden staff have been busy making produce distributions to eight locations along the I-5 corridor, from Tacoma and Federal Way down to Ridgefield and Vancouver. Adding more to the produce distribution, the Wellness & Diabetes Program staff have featured the delicious produce in active recipe samplings at many locations. Megan Nussbaum, the Medical Clinic's registered dietitian, attends many of the distribution events and provides those picking up with a taste of some healthy and delicious dishes.

This year, the program put together a recipe book that includes the sample recipes as well as additional space to collect more recipe cards at future produce distributions. The program's goal is to help the community get ideas on how to use the produce in new and healthy ways and encourage individuals to prepare unfamiliar items at home. The Community Wellness Garden provides produce to Native Elders, all Cowlitz tribal members, and any members of the Native community experiencing food insecurity. In 2022, the Garden distributed produce to over 500 individuals.

In another recent innovation, the Garden staff have started including produce items in the Fish Distribution Program's shipment of frozen fillets to tribal members. Utilizing the excess space in the shipping boxes, the Garden ships a small selection of fresh produce along with a recipe card offering ideas of how to utilize the produce and fish to create a healthy meal. The Wellness & Diabetes Program is excited to connect geographically dispersed tribal members with the Garden and is grateful for our partnership with the Natural Resources Department which makes this possible.



Public Safety Administrative Assistant Jennifer Jackson and Tribal Court Administrator, Christine Duitman's grandson Bennett Bauman



Senior Officer Steve Harris

# TRIBAL COURTS

By Christine Duitman, Tribal Court Administrator

We continually build and strengthen our support for preserving peace, reducing crime, and seeking positive personal interactions on our reservation and within our community.

Summer months are a chance for us to participate in Tribal and community events, to establish ourselves in the community, and to build partnerships with our neighbors to make our surroundings safer.

Recently we assisted with the Canoe Journey and provided land and water support along the Journey utilizing our police boat, officers, and vehicles.

National Night Out is one of the biggest annual opportunities we have to show our support and meet our neighborhood partners. It is an annual community-building event that promotes police-community partnerships and neighborhood camaraderie to make our neighborhoods safer, more caring places to live. National Night Out enhances the relationship between neighbors and law enforcement while bringing back a true sense of community. Furthermore, it provides a wonderful opportunity to bring police and neighbors together under positive circumstances.



Sergeant Kevin Newport



# YOUTH PROGRAM

By Melissa Halvorsen

It is hard to believe that the end of summer is upon us. The past few months have gone by quickly, and the Cowlitz Indian Tribe Youth Program has been busy. In July, we were privileged to spend time with many of our youth and volunteers for our annual summer camp. We had great times swimming in the lake, meeting a K-9 unit, singing, practicing archery and even how to use an atlatl, and continuing to learn about some of our traditional first foods. Some volunteers shared with the youth how to make dehydrated berries, elk jerky, and even some horsetail spray for our hair. It was an enriching few days and will be cherished for a long time to come. It is always exciting to see friends and family each year at this camp and we are grateful for those who were able to participate. We hope to see even more participants next summer.

Some exciting news for the Youth Program is the addition of the Healing of the Canoe. This is a wonderful opportunity to expand the program and reach more of our youth, with the program now residing in DuPont where many of our youth reside.

The Youth Program continues to have our Tuesday night dance protocol group in DuPont that is growing in participation. This has been inspiring for program staff, and we encourage everyone to attend, as we believe this is continuing to build a sense of community and belonging for our youth.



This sense of community and belonging has also been introduced on Thursday evenings in Longview. During these evenings, the 10 Rules of the Canoe were introduced to participants, and Youth Program staff will continue implementing the Healing of the Canoe curriculum. These teachings were also continued during the Canoe Journey this summer. It was exciting and remarkable to see so many youths participate, and some were even able to pull in the canoe this year. The Youth Program staff is so grateful to see this implementation and see our youth grow and become such great examples for other youth.



# KEEPS THINGS EXCITING WITH EXPANSION, FESTIVALS, AWARDS, AND MORE



As summer comes to an end, there is so much to reflect on and so much more to look forward to at ilani. It has been a busy year for the property, which is a great sign of things to come. With the addition of the hotel, ilani is now more capable than ever of welcoming guests from all over to experience the world-class gaming, dining, entertainment, and meetings we have to offer.

The year started strong with a groundbreaking in February on a 10,000-square-foot expansion of the Meeting & Entertainment Center, set to be completed in early 2024. This milestone was quickly followed by the announcement of Rock & Brews, a one-of-a-kind, rock-inspired restaurant and concert bar. With the anticipated opening of early 2024, this addition will replace Muze Lounge and Rose & Thorn, evolving the space into a cohesive entertainment venue and restaurant to enhance the overall experience.

April was a month to celebrate, with not only ilani's sixth anniversary but also the grand opening of the much-anticipated ilani Hotel. The hotel gives guests the opportunity to extend their stays and enjoy more of what ilani has to offer. Most of all, the hotel carries out the timeless mission of ilani to preserve and celebrate the cultural heritage of the Cowlitz Indian Tribe. This is best reflected in the newly constructed Cowlitz Cultural Corridor which connects the hotel to the casino resort.

Then summer came, and the festivals and good times began to roll. ilani's BBQ Fest was a finger-licking success which featured some of the nation's top chefs and pitmasters. The ilani parking garage rooftop remained alive with the Hot Summer Fun rooftop concert series and the fiesta filled weekend that was Tacos, Tequilas and Taps Festival. ilani Wine & Food Fest capped off the summer festivals and brought in a crowd of happy wine lovers and celebrity chefs including Alton Brown and Maneet Chauhan. While we hold onto summer just a little longer, ilani has our sights set for the next celebration, Oktoberfest, which will take place September 29 and 30.

This year has truly been award-winning. In 2023, ilani won 25 awards from Casino Player's Best of Gaming, was named Best Casino for the sixth consecutive year by The Columbian's 2023 Best of Clark County, and received a Slots Player's Choice Award from Strictly Slots Magazine. We cannot wait to see what the rest of the year has in store.



## ILANI HOTEL WELCOMING GUESTS

New team members enhance ilani culture and guest experience

On April 24, 2023, ilani officially launched its much-awaited world-class luxury hotel. The addition of luxury accommodations welcomes an opportunity for guests to extend their stays and enjoy more of what ilani has to offer. From the staff to the design, the hotel carries out the timeless mission of ilani to preserve and celebrate the cultural heritage of the Cowlitz Indian Tribe.

The 14-story structure includes nearly 300 luxury guest rooms and suites. The hotel tower is the latest phase of the Cowlitz Indian Tribe's master development plan and offers luxury guest service and amenities, including a state-of-the-art pool experience with outdoor sundeck and a signature top-floor restaurant, Bella Vista, with views spanning from the beautiful Cascade Mountains to the foothills of the Coast Range.

"The opening of the hotel was the most organized and rewarding experience that I have been a part of," said David Porter, Director of Hospitality. "The many departments of ilani worked together as a cohesive team and created a focused culture that remains strong to this day."

With the added amenity to ilani, additional employees were needed. Over 120 new ilani team members have been added to the staff, a significant portion from the local area, and hold responsibilities ranging from housekeeping, bellhops, and receptionists to management. This is the first experience working in a hotel for much of the staff and has given the new team members the opportunity to train within the ilani culture. New team members prioritize the guest experience, ensuring all hotel occupants have a positive and welcoming experience at ilani and on the Cowlitz Reservation.

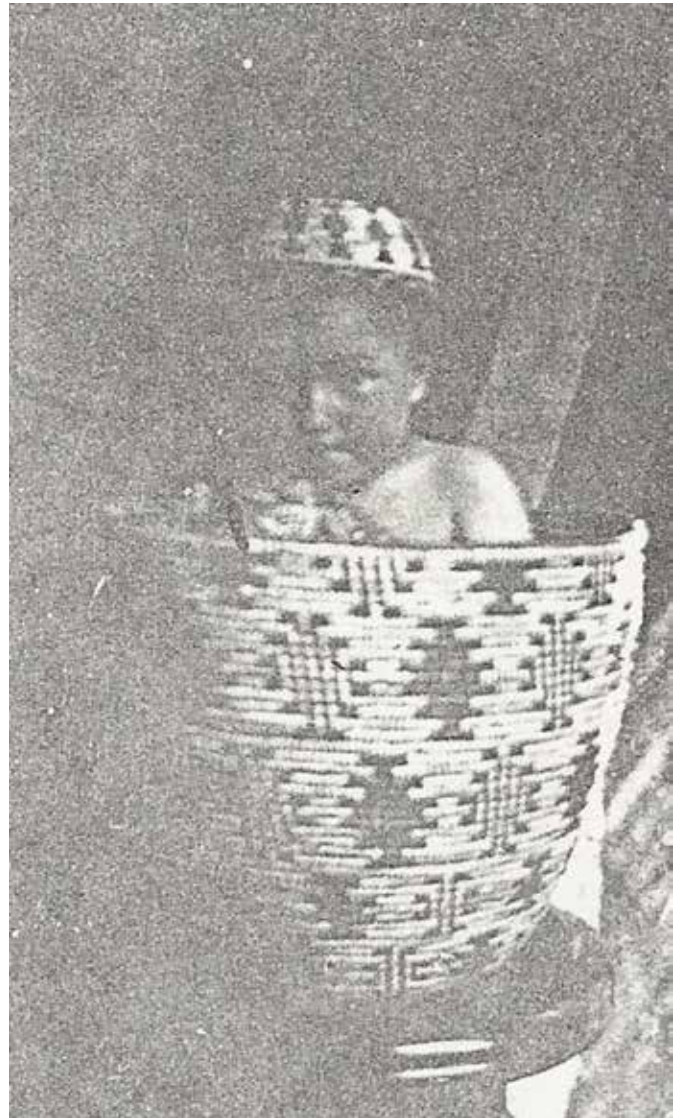
"Our team members are willing to work together regardless of position or title to meet our goals," said Porter. "Their work ethic and professionalism has allowed us to create memorable and lasting experiences for our guests."

Overall, the ilani Hotel is the latest addition to the ilani facilities and cements the facility as a premier travel destination. No stone was left unturned in creating a memorable stay for guests, and ilani hopes you plan to visit and experience it for yourself soon.

# SCRAPBOOK



Catherine Mounts and Indian Baskets (Great Grandmother)



Samuel Mounts in Indian Basket  
(Grandfather)



Jack Cassity and little  
Kris Dillehay 1974





Sam Mounts Scrapbook newspaper clippings



# Pathways to Healing Program



Order your "Thinking about our Relatives" MMIW shirt today!  
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[www.bonfire.com/store/cowlitz-indian-tribe---pathways-to-healing/](http://www.bonfire.com/store/cowlitz-indian-tribe---pathways-to-healing/)



If you know of a missing or murdered Cowlitz Tribal member,  
 please contact Amanda Workman at 360-397-8228



# PATHWAYS TO HEALING

If you or someone you know has experienced domestic violence, sexual assault, sex trafficking, dating violence, stalking, and/or elder abuse, Pathways to Healing can help. We offer a variety of services to victims/survivors and those impacted by violence.

## SERVICES

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- Information and Referrals
- Online Social Media
- Training
- Medical Advocacy
- Outreach and Prevention Services
- Safety Planning
- Therapy
- Legal Advocacy
- Support to Secondary survivors/victims

## ELIGIBILITY

- Enrolled members or direct descendants of ANY tribe regardless of gender identity or age AND has been a victim of: domestic violence, sexual assault, sex trafficking, dating violence, stalking, and/or elder abuse.
- CIT Employees
- Parental consent is required for children under the age of 13. Non-native parents of native children are eligible for services in certain situations, please call for more information.

## LOCATIONS

Vancouver  
(360) 397-8228

Longview  
(360) 575-6239

DuPont  
(360) 946-2455

Tukwila  
(206) 721-6288



PHONE: (360) 397-8228  
EMAIL: [PATHWAYS TO HEALING@COWLITZ.ORG](mailto:PATHWAYS TO HEALING@COWLITZ.ORG)  
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