ilani’s New Meeting & Entertainment Center Opens with Salute to Cowlitz Tribe

Ceremony Highlights Include Tribal Drums and Flag Raising

The Cowlitz Tribe flag was raised over its land in a poignant ceremony for the first time in 160 years. The ceremony was held to honor the Native American tribe by incorporating elements of Northwest sensibilities and design elements.

**Chairman’s Corner**

**Klahowya**, it is time for our Cowlitz family to come together for the June General Council meeting. Thank you for continuing to entrust me with the wellbeing of the Tribe. It is an honor to serve as the Chairman of the Cowlitz Indian Tribe as we look to our bright future and open a new chapter in serving our community.

We had many challenges in the past that seemed insurmountable, but we have prevailed. As we grow and prosper together, we should expect to face new challenges. We must come together as a tribal family, now more than ever, for the benefit of future generations.

We must honor and pay tribute to those who have helped us reach this point of growth. Words cannot explain the loss we feel as a Tribe from the untimely passing of Councilman Lenny Bridges. He will be greatly missed as a warrior and champion for education, housing, and economic development.

We must carry on his spirit of dedication and service as we work for the betterment of our tribe.

ilani Casino - Sonny Bridges serves as chair of the Cowlitz Tribal Gaming Authority. As part of my responsibilities, I serve as vice-chairman of the Cowlitz Tribal Gaming Authority. After the opening of ilani Casino on April 24, 2017, it has become our single largest asset and the largest source of revenue for the Tribe and our members.

I will always work to ensure that ilani is the premier gaming, dining, meeting and entertainment destination in the Pacific Northwest.

The ilani Casino doors have been open for over a year and we look forward to greater returns for the Tribe with the meeting and event center and the Cowlitz Ballroom now open. We have also opened the Cowlitz Tobacco Outlet and it has been very productive in yielding returns on our investment. We have improved access to the self-park lot by widening Cowlitz Way to three lanes and have added a new overflow parking lot to serve our customers during high demand events.

We are designing a gas station and convenience store which is scheduled to open next year. Phase II construction could take place as soon as 2019, subject to availability of financing.

We are beginning a Market Evaluation and Demand Study for a new hotel to be built adjacent to our ilani casino. This study will be used for predicting traffic needs, designing the hotel, and support financing of the project. We are in the early stages of planning the new hotel addition and related conference facilities. This next phase is planning to include a 4-diamond hotel building of up to 400 rooms, with conference facilities.

As we grow and prosper together, we may face new challenges. We must come together as a tribal family to come together for the June General Council meeting, thank you for continuing to entrust me with the wellbeing of our tribe.

We are always looking for greater returns for the Tribe and our members.

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new permanent jobs with the opening of ilani Resort Casino. We look forward to continuing a positive relationship with federal, state, and local governments, and with our local neighbors.

Community Government Center – We continue working on a Reservation Master Plan to bring focus to a vision for our Cowlitz Community and Government Center. Planning for the reservation includes the new tribal administration building, a future cultural community center/museum, an RV park, potential Elders housing, and more diverse economic development. We are planning to build the Cowlitz Community and Government Center on the reservation. The new building is planned for the southwest corner of the reservation. It could house tribal administration, natural resources, tribal court, enrollment, IT, transportation, child care development program, youth services, benefits services, Elders services and meals, planning, facilities, economic development, and legal affairs. It could also allow growing space for programs and a multi-use gym/assembly hall with a full commercial kitchen. As we build the physical infrastructure on the reservation, we are building vital tribal government infrastructure for health, housing, economic diversification, education, culture and now our tribal police department, led by Public Safety Director Donald Walkinshaw (see details, below). The public safety trailer is on the reservation, just south of Cowlitz Way, next to the new Cowlitz Tobacco Outlet. We are planning a permanent public safety building and a transit and maintenance facility on the south end of the reservation, near the water reclamation plant. We have purchased an adjacent 8.5-acre parcel that currently has a home and a barn that can be added to the reservation through the Bureau of Indian Affairs Fee-to-Trust process. We stand to protect our resources and preserve our traditions through the strength of our Tribe. The reservation is positioned for growth and development with critical infrastructure.

Cowlitz Tribal Police are now on duty patrol assignments as of March 1, 2018. I am proud of our new officers, who will enforce tribal, federal and state laws relating to operations within the reservation. Each of our new officers will be working with a Security staff, Surveillance, TGA staff to assist one another on roles and responsibilities and partnership development to protect the Cowlitz Tribe’s best interests on the reservation.

Please welcome our new Chief Don Walkinshaw (Cowlitz tribal member), Sergeant Duane Gervais, Senior Officer Brandon Molett, and Administrator-Investigator William (Bill) Elliott. Cowlitz Tribal police will also support public safety needs at all tribal facilities. We thank retired Chief Public Safety Officer J.A. Goss, Jr., for his leadership in building such an experienced team.

Strategic Planning – We continue to work on the strategic planning process for the Tribe, led by Jerry Iyll, Christine Myers, Kim Stube, Abriel Johnny-Rodriguez, Dan Meyer, Debbie Hassler, and Phil Harju. We began our process, after our previous extensive town hall meetings, meeting with Tribal Council and all parts of the tribal organization, including boards, committees, departments, and programs. This is a big effort and will take several months to develop a long-term plan. Tribal Council will be evaluating and prioritizing services through this strategic planning process. We will adopt a Mission Statement, A Vision Statement and identification of our values. We will develop strategic initiatives to improve our operations to better deliver services to all tribal members. We must take initial steps for Elders and for youth. Elders, education, housing, and health care all weigh in as needs as priorities for the council to evaluate. Strategic planning and financial planning are highly interrelated and interdependent disciplines that are the cornerstones of effective organization and financial management. The Tribal Council will be preparing a Revenue Allocation Plan to meet federal requirements so funds can be distributed to tribal members, subject to available funding goals. This could enable an initial one-time $5,000 distribution to Elders aged 62 years and over, once the plan is approved by the Bureau of Indian Affairs. The information gathered will be molded into a plan which will serve as a guiding tool for the Tribe.

Education - We continue to improve our education program by providing tuition assistance for Tribal members, available 12 months a year, and will replace our current scholarship program. Education is a priority for our youth. I want to thank the Education Committee– Karissa Lowe, Mike Iyll, Becky Lowe, Celine Cloquet, Dave Reichel, David Iyll, and Suzanne Donaldson-Stephens for their hard work to provide education assistance that works for all tribal members.

Health and Human Services – We are establishing a Medicare assistance program, for Elders’ Plan B coverage cost. The Tribe’s medical clinic in Longview has expanded hours on Wednesdays. Patients can make appointments between 7 am and 7 pm. This helps to accommodate those who are unable to take off work for health care visits. We are seeing more people taking advantage of these hours and hope that we can expand to other days with increased use of the clinic. We are integrating services for Pathways to Healing (PTH), Mental Health, and Indian Child Welfare (ICW) programs, to expand our efforts to help people heal after their traumatic experiences and lessen the risk of harm to vulnerable children, and improve coverage in the state. HHS is committed to the elimination of health disparities, to promote physical, mental, and emotional wellness that strengthens and empowers our Native community, while honoring our Creator, Mother Earth, our Elders, and our children.

Thank you to the Health Board, our staff and active Tribal leaders for their important work in HHS.

Natural Resources – The Natural Resources Department (NRD), led by Taylor Aalvik, continues to work to protect and restore our homelands with the numerous projects and programs that we do. Our Tribe has been engaged for over a year addressing much concern associated with a proposed methanol facility near Kalama, Washington. In addition, there are significant findings in the environmental impact statement (EIS) associated with the Millennium Coal proposal for Longview, Washington, where there is no offsetting mitigation possible to curtail impacts to our environment. Tribal leadership adamantly opposes this proposed development by Millennium Coal and the NRD will work to keep this proposal out of Tribal homelands. The Washington Department of Ecology has denied the project’s water quality permit. We have worked hard for an increased role regarding decision-making authority on this and other proposals in the region that may impact important resources. We advocate for resources in our homelands with Washington Governor Jay Inslee, as well as our tribal neighbors upstream on the Columbia. The Gathering Program in the Gifford Pinchot National Forest allows us to collect huckleberries, mushrooms, and firewood for personal use with the free permit. Amy Boyd, the Tribe’s Forest Land Steward, will assist you with additional specialty items. We are also working on Lewis River Fish Passage to ensure full fish passage. A new EIS for the operation of hydro-projects within the Columbia Basin is under way. We can be a party to this process in the drafting of this document before release to the public, to push to benefit culturally significant species. We are working with the U.S. State Department to update

please see CHAIRMAN, page 3
the Columbia River Treaty, which is a treaty between the U.S. and Canada that governs the flow of water in the Columbia River. National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA) Fisheries is overseeing a new biological opinion for the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers flood control project on the Toutle River Sediment Retention Structure. We are working on the process to restore our hunting and fishing rights. We are gathering historic-use information. We now have a “Cowlitz Tribe Designated Use Area” at Ohanapechus Campground, southwest of Mount Rainier National Park. We can have three improved camp spaces and two separate areas, including an area at the important cultural and spiritual resource, the hot springs, for our designated use. Tribal Council member John O’Brien is working with Washington Department of Natural Resources staff on the restoration of a Cowlitz campsite near Mount Takoma at the hot springs.

Chairman

Continued from page 2

Dear Tribal members,

I have personally gifted over 1,300 Cowlitz Pendleton Blankets to many of you over the last 18 months, and I have another 500 of them offered and being made as I write this letter. I am hopeful they will be ready in the next couple months and if I don’t have them by the time of the General Council meeting on June 2nd I will mail them to you! I want to thank many of you for your incredible responses to receiving the blankets, especially the pictures!! This adorable picture shows tribal member Quinn Gillis getting ready to do some drumming!! I love it!

Send me your best picture of you or a tribal member in the Cowlitz Blanket and win prize money! I don’t know if anyone can ever do Quinn, but you are welcome to try!

First prize $300
Second prize $200
Third prize $100
Most creative picture using blanket prize $200

If you want to participate please email your picture to Dave Barnett at jakeybelle@aol.com. Winners will be announced at the June 2nd Tribal Council meeting.

My Gifting of Blankets Continues!

If you haven’t signed up for a blanket, you can get on the list by contacting me at:

Phone: (206)707-5765 or jakeybelle@aol.com

Thank you for all of your support and appreciation of efforts in leading the way to our reservation and ilani.

Dave Barnett
Vice-Chair News

We continue our work to acquire more land in trust in our traditional area and we have assembled a team that includes tribal elders and tribal leaders to work on our hunting and fishing rights.

Our Public Safety Department development is progressing. We are in the process of negotiating a number of intergovernmental agreements with Clark County and the State for law enforcement, fire protection, emergency planning, and emergency services on and near the reservation. At our March Tribal Council meeting we swore in three new Tribal police officers. We now have Chief John Goss and four tribal police officers to work on our Reservation. Chief Goss has just announced he will be retiring at the end of April of this year. There is still much to be done to further build our Public Safety Department, exert our rights, and maintain our tribal sovereignty.

In April we hired our first Tribal Court clerk. We are in the planning and implementation phase for our first Tribal Court. My staff has been working with the Bureau of Indian Affairs (BIA) and their contracted consultants for technical assistance. The contractors did an assessment report for our future tribal court system which will hopefully help us get much needed funding, further technical assistance and training from the BIA and the Justice Department.

As a member of the Planning Committee, we have been involved with the Strategic Planning efforts going on across the Tribal organization. We are doing focused comprehensive planning with Tribal Council which the Tribal Council began during a two-day comprehensive planning session. As a member of the Cultural Resources Board, we are also going through strategic planning exercises and working on a philosophy statement and an updated Tribal Code.

I look forward to meeting and talking to many of you at our June General Council Meeting. Please plan to be there. This will be a historic event, our first General Council Meeting on the Cowlitz Indian Reservation! As always, it is an honor and privilege to serve the Cowlitz Indian Tribe.

Cowlitz Tribal Department of Public Safety

The Cowlitz Tribal Police Department of Public Safety has taken on a new face with the addition of two black and white patrol cars, which were donated to Cowlitz by the Tulalip Tribes through the Tulalip Tribal Police Department in a hand of friendship and welcoming the birth of the Cowlitz Department of Public Safety. Since the patrol cars arrival, we have placed the Cowlitz Tribal Logo on each patrol vehicle and these patrol cars now patrol the Cowlitz Reservation in a demonstration of the Cowlitz Sovereignty and governance as a tribal nation.

The Cowlitz Reservation is patrolled by Sergeant Duane Garvais Lawrence and Senior Officer Brandon Molett, both veteran police officers with many years of experience, and graduates of the Washington State Police Academy and multiple other law enforcement training courses, which include the Federal Law Enforcement Training Center Academy. The Officers uniform displays the Cowlitz Tribal Badge with the Cowlitz Logo proudly displayed in the center of the badge, and the official shoulder patch with the wording in gold lettering “Cowlitz Tribal Police Public Safety” on each shoulder of the uniform.

The Cowlitz Reservation and ilani Casino business enterprises have been operational for approximately eleven months with an average daily visitor population of an estimated ten thousand visitors per day. There is a law enforcement and security presence for the casino and reservation consisting of ilani Security Department, Cowlitz Tribal Gaming Agency, Clark County Sheriff contract, and Cowlitz Department of Public Safety.

31501 NW 31st Avenue, Ridgefield, Washington 98642
360-353-8633 or 360-727-2119
Cowlitz Tribal Councilwoman Debbie Hassler, Vancouver Mayor Anne McEnerny-Ogle and Chairman Iyall meet in Vancouver Tribal Offices.

Vancouver Mayor Visits

On Tuesday, April 3, 2018, The Honorable Anne McEnerny-Ogle, Mayor of Vancouver came to visit the Cowlitz Tribal Health and Human Services office in Clark County. Mayor McEnerny-Ogle met with Tribal Chairman Bill Iyall, Debbie Hassler tribal council member and Program Manager for Pathways to Healing, Karyn Kamerooff, Community Coordinator for Pathways to Healing, and Abriel Johnny, Government Relations and Affairs. Mayor McEnerny-Ogle was given a tour of the facility while being provided information on services offered at the Vancouver office. She was also provided information on projects the tribe is developing, natural resource projects, historical and current events and discussions on partnership opportunities with the tribe and the City of Vancouver. Mayor McEnerny-Ogle is Vancouver’s first ever female Mayor of the city and has shown a commitment to tribal communities through her engagement and support to local events in the area.

Where Are We With Strategic Planning?

By Jerry Iyall

We have made good progress with strategic planning since the last Newsletter. At the last General Council meeting, the Tribe’s Mission, Vision and Values were approved. Since that time, the Child Care and Development Program has completed their strategic planning and our Health Board and Health and Human Services have nearly completed theirs. The Housing Board, Cultural Resources Board, Youth Board, and the Tribal Transportation Department are moving right along and should be finishing in the next few months.

Our next big planning effort will be with the Tribal Council. We have an exciting two-day planning retreat scheduled with the Tribal Council to focus on big picture topics, and will schedule follow up sessions as needed. There are lots of important topics to discuss.

We have contracted with REDW, a native-owned consulting firm out of Arizona and New Mexico, to facilitate our planning efforts with Tribal Council. REDW works with tribes (nationally as well as several Washington Tribes), facilitating strategic planning efforts and doing other consultation work. The Committee has developed a good plan with REDW to work with the Tribal Council to take our planning efforts to the next level.

Our Strategic Planning Committee includes Debbie Hassler, Dan Meyer, Phil Harju, Kim Stube, Abriel Johnny-Rodriguez, Christine Myers, and I am the Chair. Christine Dupres, Whitney Mosback, and Robin Torner have also participated with the Strategic Planning Committee.

If you have any questions about the strategic planning process, you can contact me by email at jiyall@cowlitz.org.

Restoring Wetlands with Beavers

The Wildlife Program is currently in the planning stages of a cooperative project, with the Cascade Forest Conservancy, that will reintroduce beaver to areas of the Gifford Pinchot National Forest. The intention of the project is to allow beaver to occupy vacant but historically occupied habitat so beavers can provide ecological benefits. Beavers, as nature’s ecosystem engineers, produce long term benefits which include mitigating impacts due to climate change (like holding water in headwater areas longer), improving water quality (by trapping sediment from the water column), and improving salmon fish rearing habitat. Project implementation will begin this upcoming fall and continue through 2019.

The Wildlife Program is also coordinating on a couple of high level planning efforts. One effort is a Population and Habitat Viability Analysis, which is being performed to set policy and future management actions for ESA-listed Columbia white-tailed deer. The Wildlife Program is also participating in the Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife’s Statewide Beaver Working Group. The group is working to develop and codify new regulations related to the management of beaver in the State of Washington. Much of this group’s effort is a result of new legislation that was recently passed which allows relocation of beaver to occur in Western Washington.
Elders Program Digs Clams

The Elders Program transported an adventurous group to Copalis Beach, Washington, for the final clam digging as the season ends. Each person was allowed a limit of 15 clams.

Calling All Cowlitz Veterans

Please go to the Cowlitz website (Cowlitz.org) and click on the “Cowlitz Veterans Sign Up” link on the right side of the web page. Or complete the sign-up form below and mail it to the Cowlitz Tribal Office at 1055 9th Avenue Suite B, Longview, WA 98632.

This information will be used to create a record of Cowlitz Tribal Veterans. Veterans’ records will be kept confidential and will only be used as authorized by the Tribal Council. We will use Veterans’ records to notify veterans of upcoming events, and veterans news and services that may be available to veterans. We may also use the complete Veterans data base to apply for grants and funding opportunities that may come up. This sign-up is optional but we hope Cowlitz Veterans will sign up.

Veterans Sign Up

Name_____________________________

Branch of Service ____________________________

Date of Discharge ____________________________

Address ____________________________City __________________________________

State ___________________________________Zip Code ____________________________

Email address ________________________________________________________________

Phone Number – Area Code ( _______ ) ____________________________

If you have any questions about this form or its use, you can contact me by email at jiyall@cowlitz.org

Jerry Iyall
Tribal Council Veteran’s Rep

Once Again

Once again I have come home I couldn’t stay away from your mountains of trees that lead to the sea and the beauty of old highways
Your rugged mountains reaching to the sky so rugged always changing so bold and your trees of green standing tall and strong give comfort to my soul
Yes, I have wandered through the years seen beauty on my way but I won’t leave you once again, I have come home to stay

by Sandra Marinsik
Cowlitz native

Soozy Bridges is close to the 15 clam limit at Copalis Beach.

Lummi Elder, Jennifer Johnson showing her first clam.

Razor clams.

Don Dunckel and Nancy Cleaver enjoy the April clam dig.

Sandy Miller and Doug Mahar relaxing after a brisk day on the beach.

EMERGENCY EXIT
Enrollment Department Update

Our current enrolled population as of March 2018 is 4117. Since September 2017 we have enrolled 39 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;
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 is not correct. Please have members contact the Enrollment Office to verify the address we have on file for them.

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

Anderson, Gary Ken
Burlingame, David Lee
Byrd, Arnold Lewis
Chambers, Berly Ann
Clark, Andrew John
Daily, Roger Edward
Donlan, Lance Joseph
Farnsworth, Toni Lee
Glaze, Kirk Dale

Discover Pass and Annual Northwest Forest Passes are available from the enrollment office, only one per household. The Discover Pass does not expire and is good in the State of Washington only. The NW Forest Pass expires one year from date of issue and is good in Washington and Oregon for day use only.

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

Unknown Addresses

Aalvik, Zakory Dennis
Abbott, Alvin E
Albrecht, Shelly Christine
Arthur (Pete), Edwin Joseph
Asbach, Ethan Michael
Baker, David Bradley
Beltran, Jamie Paige
Bennett, Casse Allen Jacob
Bennett, Jerry Norman
Boles, Nancy Jane
Boles, William George
Bouchard, Adam Oliver
Bowman, Sean Aaron
Brandow, Erin Jessica
Bridges, L. Jacob Eli
Brown, Hunter Reshia
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
Charvat, Cory Lawrence
Charvat, Mary Lou
Ciarfella, David Maitland
Ciarfella, Michael Andrew
Clark, Kenneth Virgil
Cloquet, Chance 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
Crabtree, Rebecca Lynn
Craighead, Makayla Maree
Cualio, Yohana Gabryella
Dawson, Gary L
Dawson, Maurice R
DeCamps, Deborah Leigh
DeNobrega, Nio Arcenio
DeNobrega, Peter NNM
Dill, Cyndi Rayen
Dill, Tazzmen Justice
Dominick, Craig Martin
Doneyson, Paisley Rain Fay
Doolittle, Brittaney Anne
Duncel, Brad Lee
Duncel, Dustin Dean
Duprey, Meryl Wayne
Duprey, Suzanne Marie
Duprey, Thomas Gerard
Duvall, Nicholas Sean
Easley, Aaron Dean
Easley, Makayla Ann
Fisher, Heather Dawn
Florek, Alexis Lee
Fox, Franklin Rhodes
Galloway III, John Baxter
Galloway, Barbara Jane
Gilbert Jr, William David
Gilbert, Buddy Gene
Gilbert, Darrell John
Gilbert, Kelly LaDon
Gillespie, Lola Jean
Gillespie, Taylor Rene
Glasgow, Jean Louise
Hadley, Delaus James
Harris, Leslieervin
Henry, Savannah Love
Hiebert, Lisa Marie
Hogue, Jonathan Charles
Howe, Kathleen Nicole
Huerca, Andrea Marie
Huerca, Anita Marie
Iyall, Jennifer Sue
Iyall, Kristen Patrice
Jackson, Zachary David Lee
James, Jacqueline Marie
James, Judith Ann
James, William Julius
Jones, Zada Mae
Jorgenson, Gary D
Judge, Janet LaVerne
Kacmarcik, Benjamin James
Keener, Jordann Brianne
Keener, Robert William
Kemp, Ronald Jay
Kennedy, Edgar Lewis
King, Arnold Boyd
King, Brooklyn Sonny
King, Courtney Rose
Kniss, Sandra Lee
Koch, Joshua Douglas
Lane, Lynnette Marlene
Lane, Richard Stanely
Lang, Gayle Darlene
Link, Sheryl Diane
Lund, Gwendolyn Marie
Mabry, Kimberly Ann
Marquis, Kristopher Austin
Mason, Ronald Ellery
McCabe, April May
McConnell, Philip Scott
McGinn, Wesley Robert
McMillon II, Michele Allen
Medley, Deborah Louise
Mefford, Kimberly Michelle
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
Morrill, Paul Christopher
Morrill, Sandra Lee
Morrill, Sharon Anne
Morrill, Terry Dean
Morison, Lee Hoyt
Morison, Patricia Frances
Mullins, Robert Wilson
Murphy, Patti Lynn
Myers, Daniel Lee
Myers, Jason Ross
Myers, Stephanie Ann
Myers, Steven Ross
Nelsen, Ricky Dean
Nelson, Pepper Jean
Newbaker, Raymond Russell
Nickerson, Dorothea Agnes
Pace, Daniel Thomas
Pardee, Betty Rose
Pearson, Elizabeth Anne
Pearson, Ellen Grace
Pellegrini, Mark Stephen
Perez, Lori Louise
Pfohlman Jr, Donald Arthur
Phillips, Kimberly Dawn
Pineda, Dalene Kay
Putas, Anthony Micheal
Ramsey, Joshua Zenos
Reed, Morgana Ashley
Rhodes, Darlene Jo
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
Ruemker, Lena Maureen
Ruemker, Nicholas Andrew
Ryan, Isabella Joann
Ryan, Joshua Patrick
Ryan, Trinity Marie
Saunders, Troy Allen
Haworth, Mary Ann
Kimble, Judith Pauline
Lee, Stanley Leroy
Meyer, Robert Arthur
Thayer, Bruce Allan
Williams, Robert Dale
Wilson, Eldon Ray
Schwanz, Tracy Arthur
Shaffer, Dayle Marie
Shaffer, Rachael Quen
Shaw, Ashley Page
Simmons, Sarah Ruby
Sims, Evan Danielle
Sims, Karen Joyce
Smith III, Elmer NMM
Smith, Andrew Edward
Smith, Esther Maria
Smith, James R
Smith, Keaton Vaughn Jaeger
Smith, Linda Lee
Smith, Melissa Roxanne
Smith, William Winfield
Smithlin, Kaylea Gigna
Smithlin, Korin Brian
Smithlin, T. Mike “Michael”
Stlcup, Joyce Leslie
Steffen, Donald Anthony
Stroyan, Connor James
Swaggard, Jeneen
Swanson, Tara Ann
Swearingen, Daia Denise
Thayer, Kelsy Dawn
Thomas, Eric V
Thrasher, Hailey Elizabeth
Tucker, Gwenth Christine
Uscher, Jill Marie
Watkins, Beau Matthew
Weaver, Gary Wayne
Wiggins, Brent LeRoy
Williamson, Kay Evelyn
Wilson II, William Paul
Wilson, Hannah Elyse
Wilson, Jeffrey John
Wilson, Jeremy John
Wilson, William Paul

Please contact the Enrollment Office: cowlitzenrollment@cowlitz.org, or 360-575-3310.
Tribal Education Committee Update: New Tuition Assistance Program, Updated Bylaws, and More

By Karissa Lowe, Tribal Education Committee Chairman

The Tribal Education Committee has had a busy year, as we retire our Tribal Scholarship program and launch our new Tuition Assistance program. The final fiscal year of the Cowlitz Tribal Scholarship program will conclude in June 2018. In the final year of this program we awarded $321,150 in scholarship funds to 86 Tribal members.

The application for our new Tuition Assistance program was posted to cowlitz.org in January. Funds for this new program are available for tuition expenses incurred on or after June 1st, 2018. There is no application deadline for this new program, and applications are approved as they are received. Tribal members are encouraged to apply as soon as possible, as demand is high and our funds are not unlimited.

Tribal members who submit incomplete or ineligible applications will be contacted by the committee and will be given the chance to correct and resubmit their application. The committee has approved 67 applications for tuition assistance thus far. Tuition assistance recipients represent a broad swath of our membership, and include Tribal youth who will graduate high school this spring as well as Tribal members who are returning to school after spending time in the workforce. Support is available for vocational, undergraduate, and graduate education, and students may be enrolled full time or part time.

We are hiring a part-time coordinator to support the Tuition Assistance program. We are working with the Tribe’s Human Resources department to finalize the job description and to determine whether our part-time position will be combined with another part-time position to create one full-time position. When the job description is finalized it will be posted on cowlitz.org.

The education committee updated our bylaws and our policies and procedures to reflect our new program. Tribal Council ratified these documents, which are posted on our website. In addition to our own tuition assistance application, our website features a page listing Additional Education Opportunities and Internships and a “Looking for Scholarships?” page that lists other scholarships that might be of interest to Tribal members.

Please stay tuned to http://cowlitz.org/index.php/resources/education for updates on our application process. Please email committee chairman Karissa Lowe and vice chairman Mike Iyall with any questions or comments at education@cowlitz.org or call Karissa at (360) 261-4683.

Client Story

By Kera Burke

My name is Kera Burke and I joined Vocational Rehabilitation August 03, 2017. From the moment I joined VR I immediately started my process to employment. Coming into VR was hard for me, I was out of the work force for a few years, but Jen and Krys helped me to build a resume and cover letter. They helped me to see my strengths and work on my weakness, they provided me with tools to use to go out and look for work. Not only did they help with my employment process but they helped me with gas cards once a week, interview clothes so I would be ready and dressed accordingly. TVR also assisted me with rent, rent was a big one. If it wasn’t for VR my family and I would probably have ended up homeless. It still brings tears to my eyes just thinking about it. On Oct 23, 2017 I became employed with Cowlitz Indian Tribe’s Child Care and Development Program. I am so thankful for this program and for the ladies that go above and beyond to help me become better and stronger. I know I wouldn’t be where I am now if it wasn’t for the help of VR.

Kera’s supervisor, Anna Williams stated, “The program was looking for an individual that had prior relationships with tribal families and daycare providers and when we hired Kera, she was a perfect fit.” Anna went on to state, “Kera is an incredible employee that has a creative mind, is thoughtful & loves children, she is always early for work and is a person that is interested in assisting the CCPD program grow.”

THANK YOU VOC REHAB STAFF FOR REFERRING A GREAT CANDIDATE TO OUR PROGRAM!

Build upon your strengths and your weaknesses will gradually take care of themselves.

If you believe in yourself anything is possible
Pictured atop Coxcombe Hill, the Astoria Column, Astoria, Oregon, which overlooks the mouth of the Columbia River and gives an expansive view of trade routes of our ancestors as well as the Chinook, Clatskanie, Nehalem and Clatsop Tribes. Cowlitz Teens pictured from L-R: Kambriah Simper, Myrihe Rohbock, Meya Rohbock, Cynthia Reck in green sweatshirt, Sandee Spahr, Stacie Spahr, Carli Williams, Noah Reck, Malachi Simper, and Madison Simper.

Teen Youth at Officer’s Quarters, back row L-R: Sandee Spahr, Stacie Spahr, Carli Williams. Middle row L-R: Myrihe and Meya Rohbock, Madison and Cambria Simper. Front row L-R: Malachi Simper, Noah and Cynthia Reck with Youth Coordinator, Melody Pfeifer.

Cowlitz Youth Council

The future leaders of our great Tribe have been in workgroups preparing for their commitment as representatives of the Cowlitz Tribe Youth. Tribal council has sworn in our first ever Youth Council who will act as a voice for the youth while modeling positive attitudes and behaviors and speaking to youth issues. The 8 inaugural members are listed in the photo. They will be electing their own officers and begin regular Youth Council meetings in addition to attending Tribal Council meetings. Please check the Cowlitz Tribal website and Facebook pages for the schedule.

The newly elected Cowlitz Youth Council. Pictured l-r: Alexandria Guerra, Youth Council Advisor, Stacie Spahr, Noah Reck, Myrihe Rohbock, Sandee Spahr, Meya Rohbock, Cynthia Reck, Kambriah Simper and Melody Pfeifer, Youth Program Coordinator. Not pictured was Malachi Simper.

Cowlitz Youth Council Summer Camp
June 21-24, 2018

Cascade Camp & Conference Center is located near Yelm, Washington. Cowlitz Youth Program has reserved the unique train-themed boxcar cabins at Brightwood Station nestled in the valley near Mount Rainier. Brightwood Station is situated in a clearing amid tall timbers, setting the stage for a quaint railroad scene with Mount Rainer in the background. We have scheduled fun programs for our youth at no cost to Tribal members.

Box car themed cabins at Brightwood Station.

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The Cowlitz Drum Group hosts a Culture Day every month. We have partnered with Michael Hubbs to have language classes. This is helping bring back and support our need for language, the heart of our culture. Cedar weaving, beading and medicine classes have been taught.

Every month we feature different teachers. Rhonda Grantham is going to have gathering of herbs and medicine. It’s time we learn and use our first foods which can heal us. Most importantly, we offer the teachings of our Cowlitz songs and dances. Each of us can learn and teach our future generations our songs. If you would like to learn our songs, please let us know. They are available on CD. Please contact Cassy Sellards Reck at cellardsreck@hotmail.com or 360-513-1243, Steve Kutz: 360-731-2885 or Melody Pfeifer: 360-562-5185 for more information.

Double Exposure features over 150 iconic photographs by Edward S. Curtis, including famed portraits of historic figures such as Chief Joseph, Geronimo, and Princess Angeline. On view are rarely seen examples of his photos across many media: sepia-toned photogravures, platinum prints, sliver gelatin prints, cyanotypes, and orotones (goldtones), a process perfected by Curtis. The exhibition also includes one of Curtis’s cameras, lantern slides he used in multimedia lectures promoting his project, audio field recordings of languages and songs made on wax cylinders, and a projection of his docu-drama feature-length film made in British Columbia, In the Land of the Head Hunters (1914).

Threaded throughout the galleries of Curtis works are multimedia Installations by three contemporary Indigenous artists: Marianne Nicolson, Tracy Rector, and Will Wilson. Their work provides a crucial framework for a critical reassessment and understanding of Curtis’s representations of Native peoples and the complex response that Natives and others have to those representations today.

The Seattle Art Museum is located at 1300 First Avenue, Seattle, WA 98101 and at www.seattleartmuseum.org

Cowlitz Tribe Department of Transportation’s Youth Bicycle and Pedestrian Safety Event

Saturday, June 23rd
9:00 am - 12:00 pm
Ages 5 - 15
Cowlitz Indian Tribe Administration Parking Lot
1055 9th Ave.
Longview, WA 98632

Helmet fittings, bicycle and pedestrian safety education, sharing the roadway rules, resources, safety equipment, freebies and much more!

Registration is REQUIRED to ensure availability of supplies.

Registration is available via:
• Cowlitz Indian Tribe Website at https://www.cowlitz.org/
• Email Amanda Workman, Project Coordinator at aworkman@cowlitz.org
• Phone Amanda Workman, Project Coordinator at 360-353-9522
• Registration will also be available during the June 2nd General Council meeting at the Department of Transportation table.

Deadline for registration is June 6th
Cultural Resources Department Update

The Cowlitz Tribe’s Cultural Resources Department (CRD) is working to increase capacity, improve services, and assist the many cultural programs that benefit Cowlitz citizens. In late 2017, CRD worked with the Cultural Resources Board (CRB) to get approval for several revenue budgets through Tribal Council for 2018.

Culture programming for 2018 includes Drum/Weaving Group, Canoe Family/Canoe Journey, Powwow, Huckleberry Camp and a special Baby Blanket project for Cowlitz members. CRB also provided Docket 218 funding to support events such as the Q’áleesi (eulachon smelt) celebration held March 3rd in 2018, the First Salmon Ceremonies, and a Dakota harvest that is planned for mid-fall. CRB-allocated funding also supports the Elders, Language, and Carving Programs. Other cultural opportunities include possible camas root harvests and a summer trip to Elk Mountain near Mount St. Helens.

In November of 2017, the CRB, many Council Members, and Tribal members, also met for a Culture strategic planning session. This work aimed to gain insight into what specific focus areas the Cowlitz People would like the Culture Department and Culture Board to prioritize in upcoming years. Future Culture planning meetings are anticipated in 2018, and we hope to finalize planning and begin working on cooperatively redrafting the Title 11 Code that specifies how the Department and Board jointly operate.

The CRD is pleased to announce the hiring of Cowlitz member Nichole Meyers as Program Assistant for the Culture Department. Nichole previously worked in the Child Care and Development Program, and is excited by the opportunity to CRB to meet more people, learn more about traditional culture, and assist Tribal members. Please welcome her to the department!

Archaeological staff in the CRD continue to review and comment on projects and proposals in the region, in order to protect both the hard culture of archaeology, and secure the opportunity to access traditional cultural resources on lands that have previously been inaccessible to the Tribe. This includes agreements to be able to access areas on the Columbia River floodplain for wapato harvest. The Tribe has advertised for a registered professional archaeologist to join the CRD, in order to increase our effectiveness in consultation and representation. We anticipate filling that position soon.

The 2018 Culture Department is looking to better serve the Cowlitz People and the region in multiple ways. We will enhance the cultural events calendar on the website -- please contact us with any information and dates that need posting. We are looking to develop the Culture page on the Cowlitz website with additional information and heritage material. We are developing educational curriculum partnerships with Master’s in Teaching educators at WSU Vancouver that will eventually...

please see UPDATE, page 12

Tribal Canoe Journey Is Largest Gathering In Western Washington

The Intertribal Canoe Journey has grown to be the largest gathering of Native Americans in western Washington. Nations and Tribes from Alaska, British Columbia, Washington, Oregon, California and as far away as Australia have come together to celebrate. The Canoe Journey began in 1989, when the “Paddle to Seattle” took place as part of the 100th anniversary of Washington Statehood. The 2018 Canoe Journey is called the Power Paddle to Puyallup, with the theme being Honoring our Medicine. Practices have started for learning songs, dances and pulling in the Canoe. The Canoe culture is focused on sobriety and restoring our strength as a people. The Canoe will be pulling in our aboriginal area ion the Columbia River up to Puyallup. The planning and details are still being coordinated. The Ft. Vancouver celebration during the Cowlitz Canoe Journey protocol is being planned for July 26, 2018. Updates will be on the Cowlitz web page and Facebook Cowlitz Culture & Canoe page.

For more information please feel free to contact Devin Reck: 360-513-5886 or Vice Chair Ty Koch: 253-882-7592.
Cultural Opportunities for the Cowlitz Tribal Members

By Cassandra Sellards Reck

The Cultural Resource Board (CRB) meets in the morning before Tribal Council at 7am. It is open to all Cowlitz Tribal member. The CRB is currently looking for a Cowlitz youth to become a CRB member. The requirement is a commitment to attend, ages 13-17 and an interest in Cowlitz culture. The following list is cultural opportunities for all Cowlitz Tribal members.

May 24-27 Canoe Campout
June 1-3 Cowlitz Encampment at the Cowlitz Landing Property
June 3 Cowlitz Salmon Ceremony at the Cowlitz Landing Property, First Salmon Dinner at noon at St. Mary’s
June 8 Youth Board Meeting at the Longview Ernie Donovan Wellness Center at HHS at 6pm
June 10 Cowlitz Canoe Pull
June 21-24 Cowlitz Youth Summer Camp
July 6-8 Canoe Camp Out
July 13 - Cowlitz Youth Board at the Longview Ernie Donovan Wellness Center
July 19-August 6 Cowlitz Canoe Journey
Tentative Plan July 19 Travel to Nez Perce to participate in the awakening for their first carved canoe
July 20 Nez Perce Pow Wow
July 21 New Perce Canoe Awakening
July 22 Travel to Beacon Rock
July 23 Dallesport to Hood River
July 24 Hood River to Cascade Locks
July 25 Bonneville to Camas
July 26 Camas to Ft. Vancouver-Protocol and camp at Ft. Vancouver
July 27 Travel to Puyallup- Camp at Puyallup
July 28-Nisqually to Puyallup
July 28-August 4 Protocol at Puyallup
August 5 Travel to Cowlitz
August 23-26 Huckleberry Camp at Swift River School House
September 14 Youth Board at Longview Ernie Donovan Wellness Center
September 15 Culture Day
October 20 Culture Day and Drumming at 10am
November 17 Culture Day and Drumming Thanksgiving at 10am
December 15 Youth Christmas Party then the Cowlitz Culture Drum Day

The information for these events are available on the Cowlitz tribal website, Cowlitz Culture and Canoe Facebook which is open to all Cowlitz tribal members and by phone to the leads of the groups/events. For Canoe info, Devin Reck Canoe Chair: 360-513-5886, Ty Koch Vice Chair: 253-882-7592, Steve Kutz Lead Skipper: 360-731-2885. For Culture Day/Drum Group, and/or Huckleberry Camp, contact Youth Board Chair, Cassy Sellards Reck: 360-513-1243. You may also contact Melody Peifer Youth Program Coordinator: 360-562-5185.

Pow Wow Committee

As another spring has arrived, the Pow Wow Committee has had a busy winter planning the 2018 Cowlitz Indian Tribe Pow Wow. Amazingly, this year marks the 19th annual event, and we are thrilled about this coming year’s pow wow. We are excited to announce a location and date change to this year’s event. As a testament to the quality of event and the hospitality or our Cowlitz people, due to the popularity of the event by both dancers and spectators, we have outgrown the Toledo High School gymnasium. We are very thankful and appreciative for the years of love and support we have received from the Toledo School District, its employees, and students as each of them have played a significant role in the success of our pow wow.

This year’s Cowlitz Pow Wow will be held on October 20, 2018 at the Clark County Convention Center. As the committee discussed the necessity to expand to a new location, we have found that the convention center offers an outstanding facility that will accommodate everyone in an expansive and safe location. We are happy to announce that not only will we be improving safety for our Elders and visitors, we will be adding additional parking, and event security. There will be bleachers for spectators, a dedicated seating area on the floor for our Elders, we will have all of our wonderful vendors selling their goods indoors and out of the elements. Most importantly, this move will allow us to continue to provide our famous salmon dinner following the afternoon dance session in an indoor environment. In what has become a Cowlitz Pow Wow tradition, we will honor all Veterans in attendance with a handmade gift following the afternoon grand entry. There will be various dance contests and many opportunities for all spectators to dance together throughout the day.

We offer gratitude to the Pow Wow Committee members who spend countless hours preparing for this event throughout the year, and during the event itself: Nathan Hooton, Jessica Eyle, Cheryl Wilcox, Jane Meyer, Kris Dillehay, Dave Littleton, Mai Littleton, Maddie Littleton, and Abriel Johnny-Rodiguez. We are always looking for additional committee members and welcome any and all volunteers. Without the love and support from volunteers this wonderful event cannot take place. Mark your calendars and be sure not to miss the 2018 Cowlitz Indian Tribe Pow Wow! Come prepared to enjoy the day reconnecting with friends and family and sharing this day of celebration with song and dance in this outstanding event!

Want to get involved? Find us at www.cowlitz.org or on Facebook: Cowlitz Indian Tribe Pow Wow. Please consider serving the Cowlitz people in this rewarding way.
Jim Sherrill Retires After 14 Years of Service

Recognizing 14 years of service to the HHS Department, we honor Jim Sherrill and wish him farewell and a happy retirement.

Jim began work as the Health & Human Services Director in 2004 with a mere four person staff. Jim’s achievements are many and include the growth of several new programs, the addition of 2 other locations with over 150 staff and so much more. Jim’s vision for the department inspired and motivated. His compassion and leadership have touched all who worked with him.

Working with someone who inspires, teaches and motivates is a gift! Thank you Jim Sherrill for the many gifts you've bestowed upon us.

Ohanapecosh Campsites!

Cowlitz Tribal members may now book reservations for tribal campsites in our own special section of the campground.

Ohanapecosh, or áw.ax.na.payk-ash in Taytnapam Upper Cowlitz language, translates as "standing at the edge-place", and refers to the cliff edges of the bedrock gorge through which the Ohanapecosh river flows.

Ohanapecosh Campground, on the southeast side of Mount Rainier National Park, is surrounded by old growth forest and crossed by an exceptionally beautiful snow-fed river. Close to Ohanapecosh are popular hikes to Silver Falls and the Grove of the Patriarchs.

The main attraction at Mount Rainier National Park is the mountain itself, a glacier-clad volcano of immense proportions. At 14,411 ft., it dominates the skyline for hundreds of miles. Visitors travel through majestic old-growth forests, past tumbling waterfalls and historic buildings to reach sub-alpine meadows, where world-famous wildflower displays are seen in July and August. Popular activities in the park include sight-seeing, hiking, climbing and camping.

Ohanapecosh campground has an elevation of 1,914 feet. Weather is dry, cool and sunny in the summer with daytime temperatures in the 60 to 80-degree range. Even though the eastern side of the park can be sunnier than other areas, weather can be variable and visitors should come prepared.

Book through www.cowlitz.org by clicking on Cultural Resources link on bottom of main page or use this link to go to full website: https://www.webreserv.com/cowlitzindiantribe

2018 Skloutwout Family Reunion

"Skloot Wout" is the Indian name of Lucy Weiser. Lucy Skloot Wout was born in 1821 in the area now known as Longview. Her Father was Oh-Ne-Quat-Nan and her Mother was Haquit. Both parents were full blooded Cowlitz, so she was as well. Her first husband was Louis Gerard and her second husband was John Weiser. She had children by both so our reunion is open to all descendants. Lucy died in 1908 and is buried at the Cowlitz Prairie Catholic Cemetery on the same property as St. Mary’s. Her name on the gravestone is Lucy Weiser. [please note that in times past, spellings varied, so I have used the spellings that we have commonly adopted in the family]. I believe that she lived in the Vader area, but cannot prove it.

Among the family lines that are descended from Skloutwout are Reynolds (including Williams, Miller, and Aalvik), Wilson as in Roy Wilson, descendants of Julian Bernier (including Roney, Hoering, Smith, Duprey, Nelson, and Ragan), Sophie & Joseph LeGarde, (Earl, Baker, and Reed), Brandle and Charles. The closer you get to the present, more names get added. Listed above are the major forbears of the Skloutwout Families.

We have been working on a large family tree on poster board which will be on display at the picnic. Additional names are always needed to make it more complete. If you think that you may be a Skloutwout descendant but are not sure, come and find out. Please bring pictures, written family histories, and memories to share, plus a potluck dish to contribute to the meal. All Skloutwout descendants are welcome to attend; the gathering is not limited to Cowlitz tribal members.

When: Sunday, August 26th, 2018 - 11am until mid-afternoon
What: A Spiritual Gathering starting at 11 am, with potluck meal to follow at the same location
Where: Bear Raven Longhouse at the home of Roy Wilson near Winlock, WA

Directions: Take exit 68 on I-5 and go west to the signal light. Turn left onto N. Military Rd and go south one mile. Turn right onto Antrim Rd and go west approximately a mile and a half; then turn left onto Dorning Rd. Go to the end of the road. Watch for the Wilson family sign and turn right. This will take you right onto Roy’s property.

For further information, contact:
Linda Foley
206-276-6010 (Cell)
lfsfoley@comcast.net

Marsha Williams
253-857-8832 (Home)
253-355-0368 (Cell)
mjwms@centurytel.net
Walking On
dAVE Burlingame
May 9, 1966 — December 8, 2017

dAVE was an exceptional person. He was the first child that could read and write when he went to kindergarten at Napavine. There was a big write up about it in the local newspaper, I was so proud! He won many excellence awards throughout his school years such as: Knowledge Bowl Competition, Most Creative, Spelling, Art Awards, Outstanding Junior Art, Artistic Excellence in Regional High School Art Show, and achieving a rating of Excellent in Expository from Evergreen College for the year 1984, while he was still in high school. dAVE began collecting comic books when he was about 12 years old. These were #1 certified collector items. He also enjoyed his Match Box collection. He attended Centralia College. When the Tribe went to Washington, DC, for the signing of the federal acknowledgement documents, he was able to attend.

dAVE worked at the Chehalis library for a number of years before moving to Renton to work at the Seattle Public Li-

Spring Celebration Calendar

January
Patty Kinswa-Gaiser Jan 4th
Kyle Lopez Jan 6th
Justin Allan VanRiper Jan 22nd
Jeanne Copenhaver 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

April
Happy 91st Birthday Juanita Clark
April 13th
Deena Aff April 23rd
Debbie Hassler April 25th
Nancy Osborne April 29th

May
Richard Allan VanRiper May 5th
Kayla Kay VanRiper May 18th
Suzanne Donaldson-Stephens May 19th
Eric Smalley May 19th
Jacob Aff May 28th

June
Michaela Guerra June 2nd
David "Buzz" Dean Russell June 3rd
Randy Russell June 23rd

Former Intern Studies Abroad

Cowlitz Tribal member and former Natural Resources Department Intern Emma Johnson, decided to continue her studies abroad. Emma was recently awarded the prestigious Udall Scholarship. The Udall Foundation awards scholarships to college sophomores and juniors for leadership, public service, and commitment to issues related to Native American nations or to the environment.

Emma has toured Fiordland National Park, Mt. Cook in New Zealand, and the Kuranda Rainforest in Australia. She has also taken a cruise through Milford Sound in New Zealand, and did some scuba diving in the Great Barrier Reef near Australia. When asked about her travels and how it has impacted her chosen profession, Emma said this:

“One of the key aspects of being an anthropologist is being non-ethnocentric, meaning trying your best to not compare your culture with others. It’s human nature; everyone is biased to their own cultures. But while studying other cultures and conducting field research it is vital for anthropologists to immerse themselves into said culture and do their best to portray the culture from the peoples’ perspective, sharing its true identity and not an outsiders view. Studying abroad has pushed me to be unbiased. I witness new cultures (what feels like every day). I live in a very diverse city with endless cultures. Not only have I been able to expand my anthropological skills, I have also been able to learn about the Maori, the indigenous peoples of New Zealand. I am currently in a Maori song and dance class and I absolutely love it. It honestly makes me feel like I’m home, their language is absolutely beautiful. This experience has not only benefited me academically, it has taught me an immense amount about myself. I have met so many wonderful people from all over the world and look forward to the rest of my time here on this beautiful island.”

Emma Johnson scuba diving at the Great Barrier Reef.

19TH Annual
Honoring The Spirit Of All Cowlitz People

POW WOW

October 20, 2018
Clark County Fairgrounds
Ridgefield, Washington

New location, New date, Same Cowlitz hospitality All under one roof!

~ Singing ~ Craft vendors~ Dancing ~ Salmon Dinner

Contacts
General/Vendor Info – powwow@cowlitz.org
Facebook – Cowlitz Indian Tribe Pow Wow
Will Hooton, son of Nathan and Tonja Hooton, achieved the rank of Eagle Scout, the Boy Scouts of America’s highest rank, in December 2017. To achieve this rank, he was required to complete a service project for his community. He built an informational kiosk on the Missouri State Fairgrounds that holds information on the local area, as well as the history and influence of Native Americans in the county and state. Will recently was accepted into the Missouri Scholars Academy, a summer academic program for the top 330 high school sophomores in the state of Missouri. This academy helps students who strive for excellence to have an opportunity to find their full potential. Throughout his life, Will has represented his Cowlitz heritage with pride and honor. He attributes his success to his faith in the Creator and support of his family and community.

Whitey Devlin and Matt Mosback Wed

Sunday, August 20, 2017, Spiritual Leader Tanna Engdahl blessed the union of Matt Mosback and Whitney Devlin. Whitney is the daughter of Cowlitz Tribal member, Sheril Dea. The ceremony was held Saturday, October 7, 2017 at the Pearson Air Museum in Vancouver, WA. The wedding was officiated by Pastor Giovanni and followed by a reception with Cowlitz Spiritual Leader, Tribal leadership, friends and family.

Left to right: Honor roll students Amellia McCauley, Braeden McCauley, Carli Williams, Mike and Diane Hause, grandparents of the Williams, Hause and McCauley honor students, Hunter Williams, and Michael Hause. Mike Hause’s Cowlitz family are the Wannassays.

Honor Students

Hunter Williams, 6th grade student at Coweeman Middle School, Kelso, Washington made a perfect 4.0 GPA. He loves all sports, participating in football, wrestling and is a pitcher, catcher and 2nd baseman with Kelso Youth’s Major’s Baseball team.

Carli Williams is a freshman at Kelso High School and has earned a 3.88 GPA. She recently lettered, as a freshman, on the Varsity swim team. She went to districts competition and placed in the 200m Individual Medley and 100m backstroke. Carli is a Scholar Athlete for the Greater St. Helens League and Kelso High School. She has recently enrolled in Driver’s Ed. Hunter and Carli are the children of Jill and Charles Williams of Kelso, Washington.

Michael Hause earned a 3.5 GPA. He is in 8th grade at Coweeman Middle School in Kelso. He participates in football, wrestling and plays for Babe Ruth Baseball as a pitcher, catcher and 1st baseman. He enjoys riding his 4-wheeler on the Oregon sand dunes.

Chloe Hause is a junior at Kelso High School in Kelso. She has earned a 3.6 GPA and has lettered in Varsity swimming. She is an artist, specializing in Charcoal and water colors. She is in her 2nd year of American Sign Language and became a peer tutor this year. Chloe will graduate next year and plans on becoming a labor and delivery nurse.

Michael and Chloe are the children of Michael and Heather Hause of Kelso, Washington.

Braeden McCauley is in the 6th grade at Coweeman Middle School in Kelso, and has earned a 3.24 GPA. He participates in football and enjoys baseball. Braeden is a catcher, pitcher and 1st baseman. He is a motorcycle enthusiast and loves to ride. His parents are Brad McCauley of Kelso and Jennifer McCauley also of Kelso.

Amelia McCauley attends Kelso High School and earned a 3.4 GPA. She recently enrolled in Driver’s Ed and is known as a friendly, kind person.

Proud Grandparents of the children are Diane and Michael Hause of Kelso.

Congratulations Kayla Mae Aalvik

Cowlitz Tribal member Kayla Mae Aalvik has made it on the Honor Roll for the second trimester at Coweeman Middle school in Kelso, Washington. She demonstrates impeccable perseverance and dedication to succeed, with numerous talents in which she strives to excel. Last year Kayla was given the President’s award for her outstanding academic achievements and recently was inducted into the National Junior Honor Society. She is also in the Hi-CAP program for Washington State. This highly capable program is for students who perform or show potential for performing at significantly advanced academic levels when compared with others of their age, experiences, or environments. She also received the Bronze Award as a Girl Scout, which is the highest achievement she can make for her activities and excellence in serving the community and learning to become a strong young lady.

Kayla also strives to excel in the Arts of Ballet and Singing. She has recently been in the leading role as Clara in the “The Nutcracker” performance at Columbia Theatre in Longview, WA through the Evergreen Dance Center. She has attended summer ballet programs at Oregon Ballet Theatre two years in a row, and was recently selected to attend the American Ballet Theatre summer intensive program this summer in Alabama. Only about 25% of young ladies who try out for the program ever make it in. Way to Go Kayla! She has also received an honorable mention from the State for her singing abilities. Kayla is the daughter of Tracy and Taylor Aalvik. They are very proud of her achievements and work hard to support her activities in helping her to achieve her full potential.

Mariah Vogler, daughter of Celine Cloquet, will be graduating from North Beach High School with a diploma and an Associate’s Degree from Grays Harbor College this June. Her desire is to emulate her tribal ancestors and family members’ commitment to military service and follow their footsteps in serving her country. Due to her outstanding grades, athletic ability and display in leadership, throughout her middle and high school career, Mariah has been accepted to the United States Naval Academy Preparatory School – class of 2019 and will matriculate to the United States Naval Academy, class of 2023. Her goal is to graduate as a commissioned officer serving in the Marine Corps.
Complete Your College Internship At ilani

We are dedicated in partnering with outstanding individuals who share in our commitment and passion in serving our guests. Ambition, dedication, attention to detail, and a warm smile are all winning characteristics that lead to the spirit of who we are. As an intern you are also a team member, and part of your experience will be representing ilani with our mission, vision, and values. It is with the spirit of Tâlícn “to help” that we welcome you.

Applications for summer 2018 internships will be accepted from April 30, 2018 until May 31, 2018.

For this opportunity or other open jobs please apply online at https://ilaniresort.com/about-ilani/jobs-careers.html/

Please note the application for Internship will be available starting on April 30, 2018. For consideration you must apply online. For questions and/or assistance please call Molly Maloney, Employment Manager at 360-887-6590.
Based on an observed need for more tribal information, Cowlitz members working on the property can now attend meetings that have been setup. Many team members asked about resources available and expressed a desire to learn about our culture. They also wanted development opportunities and to connect with committees. In January, with the support of Chairman Iyall and President and General Manager, Kara Fox-Larose, ilani employee and Cowlitz liaison Whitney Mosback implemented Cowlitz Socials and Cowlitz Meet and Greets. All Cowlitz working at ilani, tenants, and commissioners are encouraged to attend.

Each month, tribal members have the opportunity to attend Cowlitz Socials to get to know each other and learn about resources available in Tribal Government, Health and Human Services, and ilani. Socials are informal to provide a comfortable space for conversations and inquiries. Tribal members discuss professional development opportunities, upcoming events, and tribal amenities. In these roundtable discussions, all are learning from each other's experiences. Team members share knowledge gained from involvement in tribal government, committees, tribal council, as well as their respected employment. In March, ilani President and General Manager, Kara Fox-Larose provided a general overview of past, present, and the future of ilani. Also in March, Vice-President of Human Resources and Guest Services, Al Muma joined to give insight into an upcoming development program. Tribal members inquired about business operations, career development opportunities, and the next meet and greet.

Four times a year, Cowlitz Tribal Members gather in the VIP Lounge for Cowlitz Meet and Greets. Representatives of our Tribal Government, Health and Human Services, Spiritual Leaders, Cowlitz Tribal Department of Safety Police, Cowlitz Tribal Gaming Authority, Cowlitz Tribal Gaming Commission, and ilani will attend. The purpose is to provide team members the opportunity to meet representatives in person and hear firsthand about resources that are available, learn about our culture, and understand how to get involved.

Tribal Members who participate in the socials and meet and greet gatherings said they had not attended a Tribal meeting before. “This is my first Cowlitz meeting!” announced one tribal member. They are now involved in committees and utilizing resources. One tribal member was even elected as an official on one of our government committees. All are inspired to continue attending events, learning about career development opportunities and getting involved in our culture.
Health and Human Services

**New Diabetes/Health Educator**
Cowlitz Department of Health is happy to introduce our new Diabetes/Health Educator, Lieutenant Alyssa Fine. Alyssa is an officer in the United States Public Health Service (USPHS). She has a Bachelor’s Degree in African Studies and a Masters in Nursing. She is also completing her hours to become a certified diabetes educator. Alyssa began working with us December 2017, and has already implemented diabetes prevention classes in Longview and Vancouver, weekly fitness classes during the lunch hour, employee wellness activities and has been working in the community to make others aware of Tribal activities. You can find out what activities are planned by joining the Cowlitz Tribal Health and Services Page on Facebook.

**Clinic Donation**
It’s always nice to hear that your work is appreciated. Dr. Eng recently received a $5,000 donation from a grateful patient. It is intended to be used for equipment for the Longview Cowlitz Indian Tribe Medical Clinic. We have already purchased a new scale and an automatic blood pressure machine. We are honored and humbled by this act of generosity.

**Workplace Wellness Award**
Cowlitz Indian Tribe received an award from the Washington State Health Care Authority. We were acknowledged for our continued commitment to employee wellness. Special thanks to the efforts of Melissa Kirk, Dietician, who has provided opportunities and education to employees in improving and maintaining our wellness.

**Overdose Kits Acquired for Cowlitz Tribal Clinic in Tukwila**

We would like to thank Manny Pablo, RN, for his work to collaborate with King Co Behavioral Health and Addictions Division, to acquire 50 two dose Narcan overdose kits for the Cowlitz Tribal Health Clinic in Tukwila, Washington. This medication is one small but critical piece in helping slow the devastating effects of our current opioid epidemic. Manny along with Ross Wiebe, ARNP, are growing our MAT program. Patients and their family members are grateful for the services.

**Healing of the Canoe**

What Is The Healing of the Canoe Program:
The Healing of the Canoe Program is a collaborative project between the Suquamish Tribe, Port Gamble S’Klallam Tribe, Alcohol and Drug Abuse Institute, and the University of Washington. Identifying the need for the prevention of youth substance abuse, the need for a sense of cultural belonging and cultural revitalization and life skills for Cowlitz County youth. The Healing of the Canoe program has sought to address these issues through a community based, culturally grounded prevention and life skills curriculum for native and non-native youth that builds on the strengths and resources in Cowlitz County. The curriculum uses the Canoe Journey as a metaphor, providing youth the skills needed to navigate their journey through life without being pulled off course by alcohol or drugs. We use a mix of lecture, discussion, dialogue, multi-media, student presentations, cultural activities, field trips, team building and group activities. Emphasis is placed on active participation and a commitment to the course. This course is customized around the Cowlitz Indian Tribe with a host of guest speakers from Tribal members and other community members that share on a wide variety of topics to increase exposure to the culture, resilience and teaching Cowlitz tribal traditions.

Up and Coming Gatherings:
- **Longview** — June 18th - July 13th (no classes the week of the 4th of July) ages 9-12 yrs old
- **July 16th** — Aug 3rd ages 13-17 yrs old
- **Vancouver** — June 25th - July 13th (no classes the week of the 4th of July) grades 6th-8th
- **July 25th** — Aug 3rd grades 9th-12th

Did You Know?
2017-2018: 60 Youth enrolled and 53 Youth completed this program successfully!

Want to learn more? Contact Program Coordinator, Vashti Langford: vlangford.health@cowlitz.org, 360-575-3316 or Sonya Packard: spackard.health@cowlitz.org, 360-575-3316.
Steven Kutz Awarded The Adeline Garcia Community Service Award

It is our pleasure to announce that Steven Kutz, our Executive Director of Health and Human Services and Council Member for the Cowlitz Indian Tribe, was awarded an Adeline Garcia Community Service Award. This award from the Seattle Indian Health Board, honors leaders who have made significant contributions to the Seattle Indian community and continued dedication toward the health of Native people. Steven Kutz has worked to include the Urban Indian voice through his work as the Chairperson of the American Indian Health Commission for Washington State. We congratulate Steven on his continued efforts to promote health for Native people.

Cowlitz Heath Board – Medicare Part B and D Reimbursement

By Cassy Sellards Reck

The Health Board tirelessly strives to offer comprehensive healthcare for our Cowlitz Tribal members. Recently the Health Board approved and forwarded to Tribal Council a plan to pay for Medicare Part B and D deductibles for our Elders 65 years and older.

Many of the tribes in the Pacific Northwest are able to reimburse their Elders for the money taken out of their Social Security. We wanted to do the same. Our Elders have fought and stood for our Nation while many of us were just growing. It’s with great honor that the Health Board, with our Executive Director Steve Kutz, could put together a comprehensive plan. It was approved unanimously by the Health Board in November 2017. It was then forwarded to the Tribal Council in December 2017 and approved.

Through our work with the North Portland Area Indian Health Board, we have developed many allies. In early March, the Cow Creek Band of Umpqua shared with us their written policies and procedures for their Medicare reimbursement program. We are so grateful for these collaborative relationships that build up and benefit each Tribe.

Currently, the Tribe is creating and posting for the position of benefits counselor. When the staff member is hired, they will create the policy which will be used for reimbursement. At the last Tribal Council meeting when it was discussed, it was talked about going retroactively to January 2017 for reimbursement, giving tribal members over age 65 time to collect the needed information to be able to be ready when it is time to submit applications for their reimbursement.

Medication Assisted Treatment

With the impressive work of the Tukwila (Seattle) Health and Human Services office, Medication Assisted Treatment (MAT) was approved. There was a business plan and presentation to Health Board and Tribal Council. They brought in Medical providers to educate leadership about the growing need in our community to help our tribal members with opioid addiction. This program does same-day assessments, offering Suboxone and other medications to assist with substance abuse treatment. There are wraparound services including case management, mental health therapy, family support, and assistance getting insurance and healthcare services that are needed for success in staying substance-free. Director Elizabeth Tail is continuing to expand services, including looking for housing to help people in crisis.

Under the leadership of Debbie Hassler, Pathways to Healing Program Manager, the program now has staff in the Tukwila facility. The PTH advocates can provide a range of assistance to Tribal members and other American Indians and Alaska Natives who have been victimized by crime, including domestic and/or sexual abuse or Elders abuse. They can offer help with legal, housing, and other challenges. Services in Tukwila are growing and open to all Cowlitz Tribal members and other American Indians and Alaska Natives in the area. The services are culturally based and focused on the wellness of our people.

Contract Health Services (CHS) New Benefits

• There are new benefits that continue to increase as we can afford them. The goal is comprehensive health, dental, pharmacy, and human services care for all tribal members. Another example of our benefits expansion is coverage of massage and chiropractic services (personal choice, with physician referral), for up to 12 visits a year and/or $900, utilizing insurance first and CHS as the payer of last resort. Drug prescriptions are being added, too, and assessed based upon need.

• The latest prescription topical pain medication, Voltaren, was approved to address the needs of our members. The Health Board can review and approve medications based on our budget and the need for medications.

• Fitness (gym) membership reimbursement continues to be used by tribal members. We cover the costs of sign-up and monthly membership, with proof of twice-weekly attendance. This is a great benefit for our members who want to improve their physical fitness and reduce the burden of diseases due to obesity.

• We now cover cataract lens surgery with intracocular lens placement. This benefit is for enrolled Tribal members who live in the CHS Delivery Area of Skamania, Clark, Cowlitz, Lewis, Thurston, Pierce, King, Kittitas, and Wahkiakum counties in Washington, and Columbia County, Oregon.

The Health Board is dedicated to serving our Tribal members. We are continually assessing the budget and trying to expand services to our tribal members. We attend many state, tribal and federal meetings, striving to learn how we can improve and grow. If you have questions or ideas, please call Chair Cassy Sellards Reck: 360-513-1243 or Vice-Chair Debbie Hassler: 360-397-8228.
### Tribal Council

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Name</th>
<th>Position</th>
<th>Term</th>
<th>Contact</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>William Iyall**</td>
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** Denotes Executive Committee Member
# Tribal Boards and Committees

## Cowlitz Tribal Gaming Authority

<table>
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<tr>
<th>Name</th>
<th>Position</th>
<th>Contact</th>
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## Cowlitz Tribal Gaming Commission

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<tbody>
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## Health Board

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## Economic Development Committee

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## Youths Board

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<thead>
<tr>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Cassandra Sellards-Reck</td>
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## Education Committee

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</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

## Housing Board

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Name</th>
<th>Position</th>
<th>Contact</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Kathryn Iyall-Vasquez</td>
<td>Chair</td>
<td><a href="mailto:kivasquez@yahoo.com">kivasquez@yahoo.com</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Kevin Ward</td>
<td>Vice-Chair</td>
<td><a href="mailto:kbward@msn.com">kbward@msn.com</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Pat Iyall-Barnes</td>
<td>Secretary</td>
<td><a href="mailto:patiyallbarnes@comcast.net">patiyallbarnes@comcast.net</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Linda Turnbull</td>
<td>Board Member</td>
<td><a href="mailto:l.turnbull@aol.com">l.turnbull@aol.com</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sandra Marisnik</td>
<td>Member</td>
<td><a href="mailto:smarisnik@ctg.gov">smarisnik@ctg.gov</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Larry Coyle</td>
<td>Treasurer</td>
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<td>Board Member</td>
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</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

## Cultural Resource Board

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Name</th>
<th>Position</th>
<th>Contact</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Cassandra Sellards-Reck</td>
<td>Secretary</td>
<td><a href="mailto:csellardsreck@hotmail.com">csellardsreck@hotmail.com</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>John O’Brien</td>
<td>Board Member</td>
<td><a href="mailto:jojoben@toledotel.com">jojoben@toledotel.com</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Claudia Tenney</td>
<td>Board Member</td>
<td><a href="mailto:ctenney@gmail.com">ctenney@gmail.com</a></td>
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<tr>
<td>Michael Hubbs</td>
<td>Board Member</td>
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<td>Tanna Engdahl</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>Melody Pfeifer</td>
<td>Appointed Culture Board</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>Greg Groves</td>
<td>Appointed Cultural Board</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>Christine Dupres</td>
<td>Appointed Culture Board</td>
<td><a href="mailto:christinedupres@gmail.com">christinedupres@gmail.com</a></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
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## Pow Wow Committee

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Name</th>
<th>Position</th>
<th>Contact</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Cassie Sellards-Reck</td>
<td>Chair</td>
<td><a href="mailto:csellardsreck@hotmail.com">csellardsreck@hotmail.com</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Steve Kutz</td>
<td>Vice-Chair</td>
<td><a href="mailto:skutz@ctgc.cowlitz.org">skutz@ctgc.cowlitz.org</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Cathy Sellards</td>
<td>Treasurer</td>
<td><a href="mailto:cmedeiros@cowlitz.org">cmedeiros@cowlitz.org</a></td>
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## Drum Group

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Name</th>
<th>Position</th>
<th>Contact</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Iyall</td>
<td>Member</td>
<td><a href="mailto:wiyall@cowlitz.org">wiyall@cowlitz.org</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ty Koch</td>
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<tr>
<td>Abriel Johnny-Rodriguez</td>
<td>Member</td>
<td><a href="mailto:ajohnny@cowlitz.org">ajohnny@cowlitz.org</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Milly Joseph</td>
<td>Secretary</td>
<td><a href="mailto:milly@joseph.us">milly@joseph.us</a></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

## Strategic Planning Committee

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Name</th>
<th>Position</th>
<th>Contact</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Jerry Iyall</td>
<td>Chair</td>
<td><a href="mailto:j.iyall@ctgc.cowlitz.org">j.iyall@ctgc.cowlitz.org</a></td>
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<tr>
<td>Debbie Hassler</td>
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<td>Dan Meyer</td>
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<td>Kim Stube</td>
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<td>Cathy Sellards</td>
<td>Member</td>
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<tr>
<td>Debbie Hassler</td>
<td>Member</td>
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</table>

## Revenue/Budget Review Committee

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Name</th>
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<th>Contact</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>David Barnett</td>
<td>Chair</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>Bill Iyall</td>
<td>Chairman, Standing Member</td>
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<tr>
<td>Jerry Iyall</td>
<td>Member</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>Katherine Iyall</td>
<td>Member</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>Pat Iyall-Barnes</td>
<td>Member</td>
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<tr>
<td>Patty Kinswa-Gieser</td>
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<td><a href="mailto:pattysgier@gmail.com">pattysgier@gmail.com</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Taylor Aalvik</td>
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<td>Rod VanMeeehlen</td>
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<tr>
<td>Debbie Hassler</td>
<td>Member</td>
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</table>

## Elections Committee

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Name</th>
<th>Position</th>
<th>Contact</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>David Barnett</td>
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<td>Sandy Marisnik</td>
<td>Secretary</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>Linda Foley</td>
<td>Treasurer</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>Katherine Iyall-Vasquez</td>
<td>Vice-Chair</td>
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<tr>
<td>Marsha Williams</td>
<td>Member</td>
<td><a href="mailto:mjwms@centurytel.net">mjwms@centurytel.net</a></td>
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<tr>
<td>Rob Torner</td>
<td>Member</td>
<td><a href="mailto:rtorner@comcast.net">rtorner@comcast.net</a></td>
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<tr>
<td>Whitney Mosback</td>
<td>Member</td>
<td><a href="mailto:wmosback@ilaniresort.com">wmosback@ilaniresort.com</a></td>
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<tr>
<td>Becky Low</td>
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<tr>
<td>Carolee Morris</td>
<td>Member</td>
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<tr>
<td>Fred Eckenberg</td>
<td>Member</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>Patty Kinswa-Gieser</td>
<td>Member</td>
<td><a href="mailto:pattysgier@gmail.com">pattysgier@gmail.com</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Abriel Johnny-Rodriguez</td>
<td>(Rep of Chairman)</td>
<td><a href="mailto:ajohnny@cowlitz.org">ajohnny@cowlitz.org</a></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Cowlitz Tobacco Outlet Opens

By Tim Van Mechelen

The Economic Development Committee and Economic Development Department celebrated the grand opening of the Cowlitz Tobacco Outlet (CTO) at a ribbon cutting ceremony April 6, 2018 on the Cowlitz Reservation land.

The Outlet, which first opened for business in January 2018, offers a large selection of affordable tobacco products such as cigarettes, loose tobacco, cigars, chewing tobacco and tobacco accessories, and single pack cigarettes. The outlet also offers smoked Salmon, snacks, beverages, and candy.

Cowlitz Tribal Members age 18 and over with Cowlitz Tribal ID, receive a 30% discount on cigarettes. Other tobacco products and items in the store are already at wholesale prices and are not discounted. Cowlitz Tribe employees and employees of the ilani resort and casino receive a 10% discount on cigarettes.

The Cowlitz Tobacco Outlet employs 5 full-time and 3 part-time employees and is managed by Marie Murray, who comes to the store with over 20 years of experience in retail marketing, including 14 years with the Swinomish Tribe. The Outlet is located under the ilani sign that can be seen from I-5.

Weekday Hours: 6 a.m. to 9 p.m.
Weekend Hours: 8 a.m. to 9 p.m.
Hours are extended during evening events.

For more information, please contact Marie Murray at (360) 727-2161.

Tribal Housing Services Offered

You must live in Washington state and be an enrolled member of the Cowlitz Tribe.

For applications or info please email us at: cowlitzhousing@CITH.US or call us: (360)864-8720.

Down Payment Assistance

Your Tribal Housing Department is happy that more and more tribal members are applying 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 welcomes you to the Tribe’s beautiful 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. 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 6 months.

Help to Avoid Foreclosure

Tribal members affected by the current mortgage crisis should call the following number to avoid foreclosure: 1-888-995-4673, or explore the Making Home Affordable Program website: 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 Rehab

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

Global Cooling: Are You Ready for the Real Climate Change?

By Rod Van Mechelen

September 2017 Olympia, WA: Truckloads of government money have gone to prove that you are responsible for global warming climate change and, like in the movies, we have to sacrifice virgins to the weather gods to...sorry, wrong epoch. Correction: we have to sacrifice your standard of living to Al Gore to save the planet 100 years from now. Except that they’re lying.

The truth is that global warming paused in 1998. Global cooling began in 2015. And within a few years at most the world is likely to experience crop-destroying extreme weather events.

At worst this could be the end of the current interglacial period, also known as the Holocene, and a resumption of the ice age. The middle case is that the solar hibernation will be as extreme as it was during what is called the Little Ice Age, which began around 1645 and ended around 1850.

Whatever the case, the global climate is going to grow dangerously colder. It’s not the cold that will pose the danger, however, but the unseasonable weather it will bring.

Some parts of the world, like Cowlitz Country, could actually get milder. East of the Cascades, however, it will probably get much colder. And with increasing frequency, growing seasons around the planet will be interrupted by extreme weather events, like devastating frosts, snow, hail and flooding in late spring or early autumn that will destroy crops and cause food shortages. It has happened before, and it has already started to happen again.

Global cooling and coincides with an increase in earthquakes. So John Casey, former NASA scientist, White House adviser and author of Dark Winter, warns that the New Madrid and San Andreas faults, and the southern end of the Cascadia Subduction Zone will be most at risk.

Making Ready

With risk comes opportunity. Tribal Council can take action to mitigate the risks, help our members to survive and thrive, and to leverage the opportunities. To learn more, read the full version of this article here: www.cowlitzcountry.com/climatechange/2018

Rod Van Mechelen served on the Cowlitz Indian Tribal Council from 2002 to 2012.
The Fish Program Moving Along

The fish program within the Natural Resources Department made it a goal to get filleted and sealed fish into the hands of Elders. Over 60 fillets were distributed among elders in the month of February.

We were so often hearing “We would love to get some fish but it is just so hard to fillet.” The Natural Resources Department has teamed up with the Elders kitchen to do just that!

Taylor Aalvik, NRD Director mentioned, “The goal here is to continue to improve our program by establishing fish to be processed and delivered to the Elders program for disbursement on a monthly basis. This is something that has and continues to require a great deal of coordination to make possible.” He also states “Nothing is more rewarding than seeing one of our first foods be placed back into a Cowlitz Household.

We hope to improve and broaden the program as time moves forward.” A big thank you goes to Deb Mizner & Staff in coordinating these efforts.

For further questions regarding the filleted fish please call Deb Mizner (360) 864-7006.

2018 Qwáleәsti? (eulachon smelt) update

The 2017/2018 Qwáleәsti? (eulachon smelt) spawning stock biomass survey is almost complete with one month remaining. We are sad to say that the run was very dismal this year. Our fyke net harvests on the lower Cowlitz River have fallen to 0, and have been consistently low all year. We never caught more than a few tens of fish in any week of our survey work. Overall, the return was so poor that the commercial test fishery in the Columbia River only harvested 250 pounds of smelt, and both Washington and Oregon States canceled any chance of a recreational dip net fishery. The Tribe did not have any opportunity for our annual Qwáleәsti? ceremonial dip.

In place of the usual Smelt Celebration, Cowlitz Spiritual leaders gathered at the Cowlitz River on March 3rd, offering prayers, drumming and a calling to the smelt so the Qwáleәsti? nation would know they are respected and wanted by the Cowlitz People.

This is the fourth year the Natural Resources Department has conducted this scientific research, and when fieldwork and analysis is complete, we will be able to compare the size of this year’s return with that of the previous three years. Our results will let us know specifically how poor this year’s return has been.

Fossil Fuel Proposals Update

- Millennium Bulk Terminals — Longview

Millennium Bulk terminals and their parent company, Lighthouse Resources, Inc., have begun a series of court challenges against the State of Washington in both State and Federal Court in regard to their proposed development. This comes as no surprise and tells us that they are serious in making every effort to try and get this coal terminal established. Even Cowlitz County is challenging Ecology over the water quality permit denial. We are planning to meet with project opponents next week and develop strategies moving forward to try and keep this coal project from gaining any traction. We have invested a lot towards recovery of salmon and other species in our homelands. It is challenging to see these continued threats when we are trying to recover from past environmental damages. We will continue to fight for our first foods from these potentially devastating industrial developments.

- Tesoro Savage Oil Terminal — Port of Vancouver

The WA State Energy Facility Site Evaluation Council (EFSEC) submitted a recommendation to the Governor on denying the proposed oil terminal in Vancouver, WA. That was made official on December 20th. Governor Inslee subsequently made a final decision killing the proposal. We were strong opponents of this project; as it could have been a potentially devastating development along the Lower Columbia River. This is great news, as we were able to keep a potential catastrophic oil spill out of the Columbia.

We are also trying to work with the various Port Authorities along the Lower Columbia, to address our concerns and reason for our position regarding certain proposals. We intend to try and work with them to find more environmentally sound economic opportunities for the region that values jobs for the economy, and doing so in a very environmentally conscious manner.

Mining Concerns — Goat Mountain Mine Prospecting

The Forest Service is moving forward to allow exploratory drilling on Goat Mountain near our sacred Mt. St. Helens. The next decision comes from the Bureau of Land Management. We have worked hard to keep this “exploratory drilling” from happening because it could then lead to a potentially harmful open pit mine near an important salmon bearing stream. We are now looking at alternatives in the future regarding thwarting any mining establishment in the area. Plans are being initially made on trying to work with our Representatives in Washington, DC to see about changes in laws and other options to prevent this mine on in our Forest. We will also work with the Cascade Forest Conservancy (CFC) organization on considering other options for the future as well.

The NRD continues to do a lot of work and are having a positive impact towards the health of our environment and community.
INTRODUCING A MEETINGS DESTINATION LIKE NOTHING ELSE.

A brand new, state-of-the-art convention center featuring:

- 22,000 square-foot Cowlitz Ballroom.
- Well-appointed Cedar Board Room.
- Flexible pre-function and event space to accommodate multiple groups of various sizes.
- And more.

Located just steps away from the area’s premier gaming, dining and entertainment destination.

And to help you celebrate, tribal members will receive a 25% discount on food orders when you book your event at the Meeting & Entertainment Center. You’ll also have access to exclusive, pre-sale Cowlitz Ballroom event tickets 24 hours before anyone else to get up close and personal with your favorite artists in the most intimate setting in the region. Keep an eye out for the latest entertainment news at ilani.

Visit ilaniresort.com or cowlitz.org to see who’s coming next.

To obtain your exclusive presale code, please contact the Cowlitz Tribal Office.